

Pacific Northwest Cornish Society

Volume 4 Number 4

Fall 2002

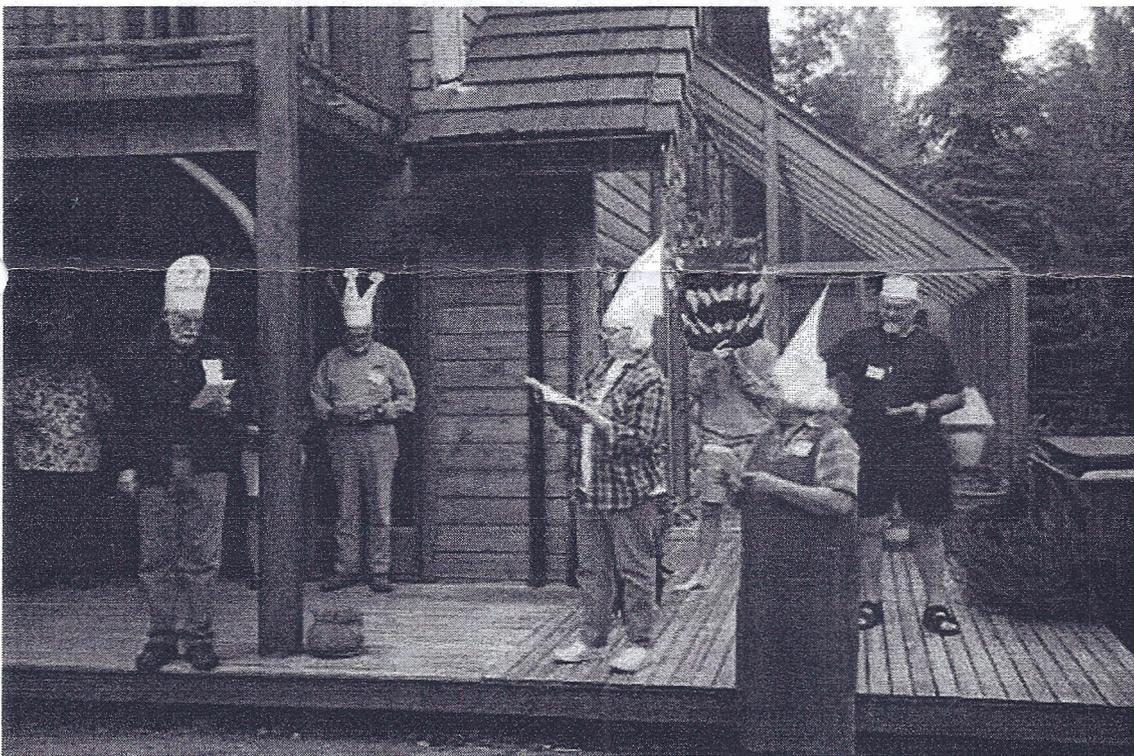
ANNUAL MEETING TURNS INTO 3-DAY AFFAIR!

A first for the Pacific Northwest Cornish Society took place August 16-18, when members gathered, not for the usual three-hour potluck and meeting, but for a whole weekend. Vice-president Gay Knutson opened her home in Joyce, Washington, west of Port Angeles.

Thirty people were there for part or all of the weekend, including first-timers Diane Freethy of Sedro Woolley, Judy Falk of Vancouver, and Gene and Jean

Spargo of Sequim. Bert and Lynne Trerise, members of the California Cornish group who now live near Joyce, visited Saturday afternoon.

Several members arrived on Friday evening for a social gathering, bonfire, and singing of Cornish songs. Saturday morning, members and guests actively participated in a pasty-making seminar conducted by Yowann Byghan, while others joined



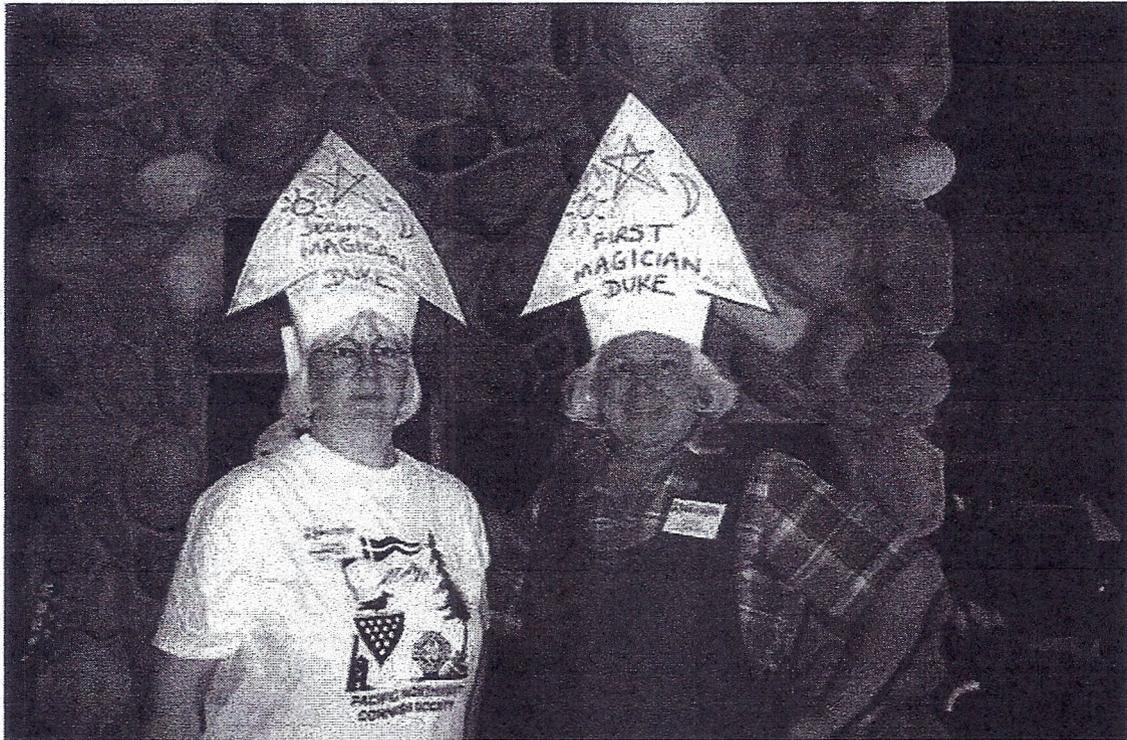
Bonnie LaDoe in a genealogy class focused on family research methods and use of the Internet.

A Saturday evening barbecue was highlighted by members' participation, as role players, in a Cornish play directed by Yowann. The script for "Sylvester and the Dragon" was representative of the miracle plays by which the gospel was presented to a largely illiterate audience centuries ago. Gawan King played a convincing dragon, tamed and expelled by Sylvester (Gay Knutson).

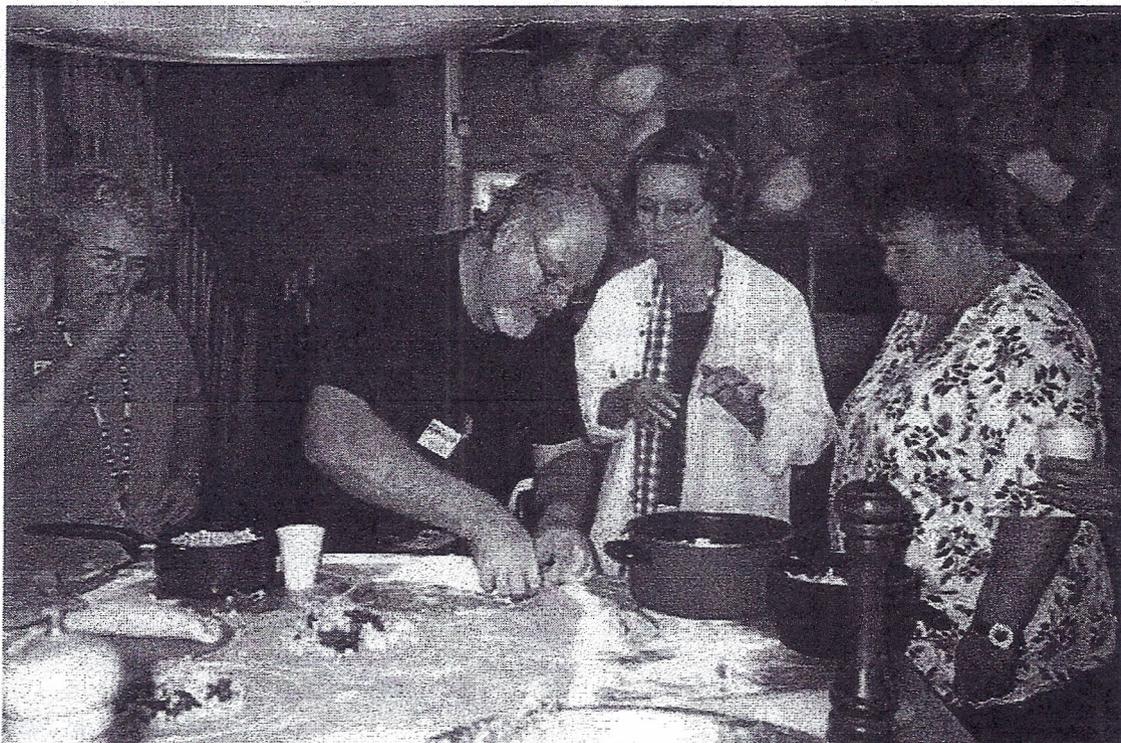
On Sunday morning, remaining members helped Gay in conducting a formal Cornish house-naming ceremony. This was followed by a brunch of the pasties made the day before.

The ample time for visiting left many with the same sentiment: this may have been the first PNCS weekend, but it shouldn't be the last.

PICTURES FROM THE PNCS 3-DAY CORNISH GATHERING IN AUGUST



Mary Sisson and Ann Holiday in their costumes for the Cornish Play.



Yowann demonstrating how to make pasties.

Message from Mary.....

We tried a grand experiment with our annual meeting this year—expanding it to fill a weekend at the lovely wooded farmlette home Gay Knutson designed herself, in Joyce on the Olympic Peninsula. It was a fair trek for many folks, especially Grace Cooper who came all the way from Pasco, but others were happy to finally have a PNCS meeting in their neck of the woods. Since this was a first, we didn't know what to expect. But altogether, 30 people showed up. Several were first-timers, and we look forward to seeing them again. From Friday's campfire to Sunday's house naming, people were involved in activity and, best of all, had the chance to talk and get to know each other. Of course, genealogy and pasties were key elements of the weekend. Several brave souls performed a medieval play directed by Yowann Byghan, who has acted in such plays in Cornwall. (My sister, upon dying, was attacked by a small pack of dogs who wondered what she was doing on the deck. It's hard to stay dead when the dogs are all over you.)

The best part of the weekend was that everyone was so enjoyable to be with.

We had invited our Canadian Cornish cousins for tea Saturday afternoon, but none could make it. Well, one person tried, but he had lost the directions and had planned to look up Gay's address in the phone book once he got to Port Angeles. Unfortunately, her number's unlisted. Royston and Mary Brunst extend greetings to PNCS. She is president of the Vancouver Cornish Association, and he leads the Okanogan group. In inviting them, I had bragged that we even have a bard in our group. Well, we're beat. The Vancouver group boasts five.

Many thanks are due for making the weekend a success:

- To Gay Knutson, who shared her home, her love of Cornwall, and a bucket of llama poop for the garden;
- To Yowann Byghan, who taught pasty-making; supplied script, costumes and direction for the play; planned the schedule; and shopped Costco;
- To Bonnie LaDoe, who created a beautiful scrapbook of PNCS's history, led the genealogy workshop, and also shopped Costco;
- To Betty Scott, who made some calls to Cornish folks in Sequim;
- To Gene and Jean Spargo, who responded to Betty's call and came for the first time, then offered to look into a place for next July's meeting;
- To all who came, first-timers and long-timers alike. Journalists never write, "A good time was had by all," but I think it's safe to say it in this case.

If there was any disappointment, it's that no one thought to get the annual picture of the entire group, and that those who couldn't come were missed.

By the way, we elected officers at the annual meeting. It's a repeat of last year, listed on the back of this newsletter.

Mary Sisson
President

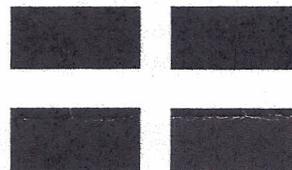
IMPORTANT NOTICE!!!

If you haven't paid your annual subscription yet, please do so. We depend on your subscription to pay for this newsletter and all of our other activities as a society. Dues for the year 2002-2003 remain \$10 single and \$15 for a couple. Please make checks payable to PNCS and send to:

Yowann Byghan
9009 NE 22nd Circle
Vancouver, WA 98664
tel: (360) 901 7688
email: yowannbyghan@attbi.com

New Volunteer Look-Up Library

At the Annual Meeting, it was decided that the members of the PNCS have, collectively, sufficient resources to develop a look-up library similar to the one associated with the Cornish-L site. For those who have never seen this invaluable resource, go to <http://www.cornish-ancestors.co.uk/clul/cornishlib.html>. This format—in the "Bookroom" section—is similar to the one we hope to establish for our Society. People with e-mail will soon be receiving a memo asking for a commitment from those willing to use their own books, censuses, and other information to do volunteer look-ups. For each resource, you will be asked to write a one- or two-sentence description of the type of information available. Stay tuned for more on this exciting project!



NEXT PNCS MEETING OCTOBER 12, 2002

On **October 12, 2002**, we will meet at **11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.** at the **Olympia LDS Church at 1116 Yew Ave. NE. Directions to the church:**

From the North:

- 1.) Take the Pacific Ave. exit. Pacific merges with State.
- 2.) State is one-way. As you start down hill to Olympia proper, (approx. 1 mile) the last light is PUGET.
- 3.) Turn right. The church is 4 blocks on your left at 1116 Yew Ave. NE. Pass the church to the parking lot. Enter by the side door to your left as you face the church. Our room is at the top of the stairs.

From the South:

- 1.) Take exit 105. Turn left on Plum Ave to the light at 4th (one-way going East).
- 2.) Turn Right, go thru the first light, stay in the left lane, and turn left on the next street (Puget). Cross the one-way street. Go 4 blocks to the church.

Any who wish to may stay and use the Family History research facility.

Mark your calendar for 2002-03 meetings

You can mark your calendar now for this program year in PNCS. Dates were set at the annual meeting for the next three regular gatherings of the Society. All are on Saturdays, and all involve a potluck lunch.

October 12 – 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the LDS Church in Olympia (see directions on page 3)

March 8 – St. Piran's Day celebration in the Portland/Vancouver area

July 19 – Annual meeting in the Sequim area

In addition, we have two special dates in January for a Cornish concert (see story below).

More details will follow on program, time and exact location for upcoming meetings, but you're safe in reserving these dates for PNCS.

Bard Harry Glasson to perform here

A bit of Cornwall is coming to warm our January nights. Harry Glasson (bardic name: Gwas Canoryan Kernow), who is gaining a worldwide reputation as a writer of contemporary Cornish songs, will give two concerts for PNCS: **Wednesday, January 8 – Portland/Vancouver area** (time and place are yet to be arranged, so stay tuned). **Friday, January 10 – Seattle/Puyallup area** (in Puyallup, Doug and Vickie Wolford, and Bob and Shirley Bruce will host a soup-supper at the Presbyterian Church at 5 p.m., Friday Jan. 10th, with Harry to follow).

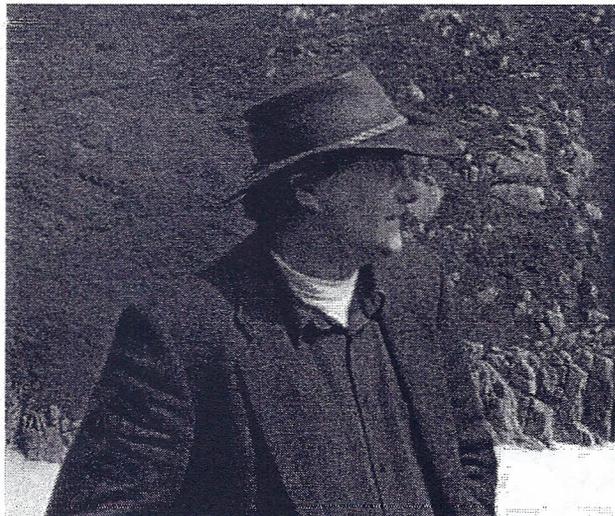
Harry will be on tour of the United States, starting in Detroit Nov. 24. He'll wind through Pennsylvania, Maryland, Kentucky, Tennessee, Colorado, California, and Nevada before heading for PNCS territory. From here he heads to Montana, South Dakota, Nebraska, Illinois, back to Michigan, and home to Cornwall Feb. 16.

Normally Harry and his wife are on the other end of a tour, offering tour guide services in Cornwall. Check them out on the Web at www.harrysafari.co.uk.

Harry's songs reflect his passion for Cornwall, its people, its landscape, and its history. Cornish choirs sing his material, and it has been played on British radio and television. His CD, "Because I Was Born Here," features 15 original songs concerning Cornwall.

Mark Harry's visit on your calendar, invite some friends, and pray for no snow!

Don't miss the chance to hear Harry Glasson!



ANCESTRAL POETRY CORNER

The Celts are renowned for their clever tongues, lilting voices, and poetic spirits. This new newsletter feature will allow our "inspired" departed ancestors an opportunity to speak to us of their lives, their joys, their loves, and their sorrows. Please submit poems and songs written by or about your Cornish forebears to Joan or Marcie for future publication. None may make the next edition of Norton's Anthology, but collectively they will give us insights into the hearts and minds of our families. Include a brief introduction about the people, places, and events noted in the work.

The winter of 1857 was a fierce and merciless one. The Cornish settlers in Linden, Wisconsin, struggled to keep their families and stock alive, with erratic success. Richard Wearne, born in Hayle at the end of the 18th century, came to Linden in 1848. He and his family worked ceaselessly in an effort to build a productive farm, challenging the inhospitable climate. Richard introduced this poem with the following (original spelling) : "No cash, much in dept, we killed two young cows. Been rather small for stock, and cannot do any thing for the depth of the snow which is three feet deep. Yet we have much to be thankful for, for behind a frowning Providence, hides a smiling face. May we never mistrust Providence for the Gold and Silver is his and the Cattle on a thousand hills."



Cold and Hard Winter

(from January to June 1857) by Richard Wearne

Fetterd with ice on every side
Boath men and beast and featherd tribe
Frostbitten limbs sustain.

Many from their famlies leave
Their friends lementing and bereavd,
Never to see again.

Such is the case in this sad clime
Winter and bleak one half the time
Colder then tongue can tell.

The other third of time is very hot
Many sun smitten on the spot
How disagreeable.

One month in spring may glide away
Tho hot to cold most every day
With storms of thunder bowl.

Drenched with rain you must begin
Your different crops for to get in
To have them out gainst fall.

Now one month left to make the year
The Indian summer for to chear
The man that strive so hard.

From bottom to parry then he go
Raking the grass and likewise mow
And pile it in his yard.

Wrecks of shades, houses to repear
Labour and toil through all the year
Lumber and nails to bye.

Machines of kinds is coming out
Doing the work about about
A better Plan to try.

(Transcribed from the original diary by Jack Robertson in 1987.)

HOUSE-NAMING CEREMONY

Yowann Byghan, Bard of the Cornish Gorseth, wrote and spoke the following invocation at the house naming of Craig and Gay Knutson's home:

Treveth an Dowrlamm

Yn lowen my a re an hanow "Treveth an Dowrlamm" dhe'n chy tek ha grasses ma. Re dheffo omma hwarth yn dan an Howl, Lagas an Jydh, ha kosolet h yn dan an Lor, Lagas an Nos. Re minhvertho an sterennow kler war bub huni eusi ow tryga po ow kortos omma. Re bo lamm an dowr fenten lowender pupprys. Re bo omma gwynsow byghan yeyn erbyn toemnder an Hav, ha tan jolyf erbyn yeynder an Gwav. Kyns oll, re bo omma Kres, re bo omma Kowethas, ha re bo omma Kerensa, trank hep worfenn.

With pleasure I give the name of "Treveth an Dowrlamm" (Homestead of the Waterfall) to this beautiful and gracious house. May there come here laughter under the Sun, Eye of Day, and quietness under the Moon, Eye of Night. May the stars smile clear on all who live or tarry here. May the leap of the water be a fountain of happiness always. May there be here small cool winds against the heat of Summer and a merry fire against the cold of Winter. Above all, may there be here Peace, may there be here Companionship, and may there be here Love, for all eternity.

Yowann Byghan
Bardh an Orsedh Kernow
August 18, 2002

NEW WEBSITE FOR PNCS

MEMBERS

groups.yahoo.com/group/pncs/

I am excited about this new website. Members can share with other members by posting letters, pictures, messages and more to the website, and you can do this YOURSELF very easily. Please join and add Cornish culture, genealogy and history to PNCS.

Post message:

pncs@yahoogroups.com

Subscribe: pncs-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Unsubscribe: pncs-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

List owner: pncs-owner@yahoogroups.com

DEWHELANS 2002

Dewhelans was held in Falmouth at Pendennis Castle. There was a lot of entertainment by various singing and dancing groups, including the Holman Climax Choir, and the St. Keverne Youth Band. (Both were amazing!) We had opportunities to take various tours of Cornwall before and after the 3-day event. Entertainment also included the play "Cry of the Neck," a tour of St. Michael's Mount including wine and private tour with Lord St. Levan and his brother and sister, talks from Moira Tangye, Phillip Payton, and many others. They also held the 2002 Gorsedd where several new Bards were initiated. The CFHS's computer library and lookups were available to us at the Castle. There were lots of booths by various Cornish merchants and lots and lots of great food, including a banquet and entertainment at the end. Wonderful experience!

Simply Cornwall on the Web

A small cottage industry, Simply Cornwall, has taken to the Web. "We are dedicated to this magical land of Cornwall," writes manager Jeremy R. Williamson.

The site features bookmarks, memo boards and other products adorned with scenes of Cornwall. The product line is expanding all the time, Williamson said.

Simply Cornwall was involved with the Dehwelans festival in Falmouth earlier this year.

Check out the site at:

www.simplycornwall.graphyx.co.uk

Bonnie Faull wins Cornish Quilt raffle held at the 11th Gathering in Mineral Point!

During our annual meeting in July, at Fort Borst Park, Bonnie purchased two raffle tickets for a Cornish quilt to be given away at the 11th Gathering. During the Banquet phase of the Gathering, Bonnie was announced as the winner. A few days later she received an e-mail informing her of her good fortune, and the lovely quilt arrived a week later. Bonnie and Jim were both delighted with the quilt and are making good use of it as the main cover on their bed in their 5th-wheel RV. All proceeds from the raffle (\$666.00) went to benefit the Steven R. Curnow Memorial Award.

Know any high school students?

Juniors and seniors in high school are eligible to enter the Steven R. Curnow Memorial Award Essay Contest sponsored by the Cornish American Heritage Society. While details are not yet out on this year's contest and the entry deadline isn't until spring, now is the time to let students know about this scholarship as it requires a fair commitment of time and thought. Students can build an essay around a person, a family, a profession or trade, or regional aspects that relate to the Cornish experience in North America. The maximum length is 3,500 words with appropriate documentation (citations, references, illustrations, maps and graphs).

Prizes are \$500 for first place, \$100 for second and \$50 for third.

The essay contest was started in memory of Steven Curnow, the youngest member of CAHS, who was killed at Columbine High School April 20, 1999.

PNCS WEB SITE

www2.whidbey.net/kernow/pncs/pncs.html

e-mail PNCS123@aol.com

QUERIES and MEMBER'S INTERESTS

Please send me your queries to put in the newsletter: Marcia Rothman, PO 43, Langley, WA, 98260 USA or E-MAIL marci@whidbey.com

"Two Carlyon Researchers" by Bonnie LaDoe



Thanks to the membership posting of family ties, I had the privilege of meeting fellow PNCS member Dorothy Haenle of Spokane this summer. She wrote to me in Portland when she found that we are both descendants of the Carlyons in Cornwall.

I had found my Carlyons through a Pearl Montrose of New Zealand on the Cornish-L e-mail list. Dorothy was coming to the Portland area to visit relatives, and she was able to come to my home for a visit on June 18, 2002. She brought all her Carlyon information, and when we looked at the genealogy file I had from Pearl, there was Dorothy's family too! Unfortunately, we could never find exactly where our lines cross, but we are certainly having fun trying to find out!

A CORNISH AMERICAN HERO

Rick Rescorla was born in Hayle, Cornwall, in 1939 and died September 11, 2001. His life's story reads like a Super Hero novel, full of bravery and bravado on four continents. He moved to Rhodesia as a young man and later came to the United States where he joined the US army. His service in Vietnam is, in part, the subject of the recent film "We Were Soldiers" starring Mel Gibson. In 1993, while employed at the World Trade Center in New York, Mr. Rescorla "bounded into action" as he helped evacuate the building following the garage bombing. According to a friend, "He was literally the last one out of the building." It was no surprise, then, that when a plane struck the tower housing his 44th-floor office last year, Rescorla again used his experience, skill, and courage to help evacuate hundreds from the toppling building. He sang Cornish songs and said "Peace to you" as he led frightened, battered people to the lower levels of the building.

The story of Mr. Rescorla can be found at <http://www.lzxr.com/>.

The New Yorker and Post articles are touching tributes to this remarkable man. You will note that there is an opportunity to sign, online, a petition requesting that President Bush posthumously award the Medal of Freedom to Rick Rescorla. Please sign!

Trip to Cornwall 2002

by Joan Tregarthen Huston

Last year my father sold his house and gave all of us children (he had seven) some money as our our "inheritance," so he could see us enjoy it! My siblings were all practical and paid bills, bought cars, carpet, etc. But with mine, I WENT TO CORNWALL!!!

My husband and I flew into London and rented a car and drove down. Our first night in Cornwall was spent at Jamaica Inn on Bodmin Moor! Great fun! Then we drove down to Truro, and happened to be there when the Queen was there! We saw her when she arrived going into Truro Cathedral and again when she drove out in her motorcade. I was even interviewed by Radio Cornwall while I stood there with the crowd! Then we went to Falmouth for Dewhelans (see separate article). We drove around Cornwall for 3 weeks and saw almost all of the important things on my long list! We ate pasties galore, and lots and lots of fish! My husband really enjoyed the B&B's we stayed at, with their full English Breakfasts! I enjoyed the Cream Teas in the afternoon! Love that Clotted Cream.

My main Cornish lines are Colenso and Tregarthen, and the highlight of our trip was visiting Colenso Farm in St. Hillary Parish and Tregarthen Farm in Ludgvan Parish. The places are still mostly original and date back to the 1500's! The people who live in them now were very nice and gave us tours! We also visited Tregarthen in Gorran, which has been turned into a Holiday Camp (RV Park), and drove around Tregarthen in St. Ives. We spent 3 nights in Penzance following Dewhelans, then to the Isles of Scilly (lots of my ancestors from there!) for 5 days. We both really enjoyed our stay on the Scillies as it was so peaceful and beautiful. We also were a couple of unusual tourists there, as most of their tourist trade is from England and almost none from the USA. You are really missing a great part of Cornwall if you don't include it in your trips! We took the helicopter both ways and then went to St. Ives for 2 nights, and Padstow 2 nights. We drove everywhere in Cornwall from wherever we were staying. Some of the highlights were Lamorna Cove, Land's End, the Merry Maidens standing stones, Lanyon Quoit, the Old Celtic Well and Chapel at Madron (where I'm sure I saw piskies!), Cornwall History Museum, Cheesering, Furry Day dancing in Helston, and of course, the beautiful towns of Penzance, Falmouth, Helston, St. Just, St. Ives, Padstow, Mousehole, Truro, St. Austell, Gorran, Isles of Scilly (especially St. Agnes and Tresco), Perranporth, Tintagel, and lots of tiny villages and lots of very narrow roads with very high hedges! We had a wonderful time, and because my husband was good enough to drive me around, I didn't make him do genealogy research. Aside from visiting ancestral homes it was strictly a tourist visit! Now I want to go back and do research. If you would like to see some pictures of my trip, please visit my webpage at www.tregarthen.com.

Pacific Northwest Cornish Society Application for Membership

Name:

Address:

City:

State/Province:

Zip:

Phone:

Email address:

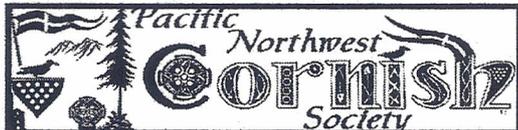
Webpage:

\$10 Individual member, \$15 Dual Membership

List Cornish names and areas or Parishes interested in?

Send form filled out to:

Pacific Northwest Cornish Society
9009 NE 22nd Circle
Vancouver, WA 98664



BUMPER STICKERS FOR YOUR CAR OR...? AVAILABLE NOW! \$1.00 EACH, OR 6 FOR \$5.00! Contact Joan Huston at joan@tregarthen.com or call 360-613-1718, or mail money to 10116 Stoli Lane NW, Silverdale, WA 98383.

OUR NEWSLETTER DEADLINES:

Second week in January

Second week in May

Second week in August

Second week in November

Send articles, pictures, ads, notices, whatever, to: Marci@whidbey.com

Or mail to: Marcie Rothman
PO Box 43
Langley, WA 98260

Make sure they get to us prior to the above deadlines to be included in the next newsletter.

PNCS ANNUAL MEETINGS

Members unanimously voted to conduct three meetings each year. The normal schedule will be for a meeting in March (St Piran's Day recognition); July (Annual meeting for election of officers); and October. For planning purposes, the July meeting will normally be at Ft Borst Park and the March and October meetings will be divided between a location in the Olympic Peninsula area for members located in the northwestern parts of the state and the Puyallup-Olympia area for those in the southern locations.

PNCS Officers

President: *Mary Sisson*
Vancouver, WA
(360) 695-9148
sissonrm@qwest.com

Secretary: *Jim Faull*
Vancouver, WA
(360) 254-0461
jimfaull@juno.com

Newsletter & Webpage:
Marcia Allen Rothman
Langley, WA
marci@whidbey.com

Vice-President: *Gay Knutson*
Port Angeles, WA
(360) 928-2607
cknutson@olympus.net

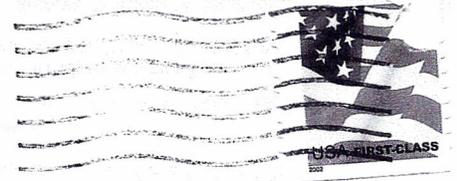
Treasurer & Membership: *Yowann Byghan*
Vancouver, WA
(360)901-7688
yowannbyghan@attibi.com

The purpose of this society, organized as a non-profit Corporation, shall be educational. It shall be devoted to furthering Cornish heritage genealogical research in the states of Washington, Oregon, and Idaho.

MEMBERSHIP: Individual Membership: \$10.00
Dual Membership: \$15.00
Lifetime Membership: a one-time payment of dues equal to fifteen (15) times the current annual dues.
Annual dues are payable as of 1 July.
Send dues payable to: Pacific Northwest Cornish Society

Address: Pacific Northwest Cornish Society
9009 NE 22nd Circle
Vancouver, WA 98664

Pacific Northwest Cornish Society
10116 Stoli Lane NW
Silverdale, WA 98383-8826



Bonnie LaDoe
4335 NE 69th Ave.
Portland OR 97218

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