

Tenth Annual Picnic of the PNCS



The Tenth Annual Picnic was held at Recreation Park, Penny Playground in Chehalis, Washington on July 21, 2007. There were about 25 people in attendance including new people and returning new people.

The Nominating Committee report was given by Dot Hosking-Huntley. Alene Reaugh agreed to continue as President; Carole Lower volunteered to serve as Secretary (see picture above of both Alene & Carole); Dot offered to continue to serve, but as acting Treasurer. Craig Pedler was nominated as Vice President, although he was not in attendance. No other nominations were made from the floor. We accepted this slate of officers. A suggestion was made to change the by-laws to make the term of office two years, instead of the present one year. Information will be sent out at least one month before the next meeting so that this can be considered as a by-laws change at the next meeting.

(continued on page 2)

OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD OCTOBER 20TH AT THE CLARK COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY LIBRARY IN VANCOUVER, WA. BETWEEN MILL PLAIN & EVERGREEN BLVD) 715 GRAND BLVD. TIME: 11:00 A.M. FOR BUSINESS MEETING; 12:00 NOON POTLUCK LUNCH; 1:00 P.M. FEATURED SPEAKER (see page 2 for further details on the featured speaker)

Continued from page 1

We also discussed a new project for memorializing members who have passed away. The people have been identified and the project is well under way. In addition to a plaque for the names, each person will be remembered in the newsletters and then compiled in a book. In an effort to know more about our members and have information available, Carol Lower has put together a member profile form which will become part of the application for membership. Several members have already completed the form, if you have not yet done so, it is located on the website; please complete it and either E-mail it or US mail it to me for the project. The newsletter was sent out via email to all who wanted it in that format. We also changed the distribution to three times a year to correspond to upcoming meetings. Please make an effort to jot down a family story or something you want to share and submit it for publication. You do not have to be a professional writer. It is just about what you have to say that matters. In this issue I especially enjoyed the colorful graphics and pictures. I heard a lot of good comments about it.

Finally at the July Picnic the presentation of the day was made by Jim and Debbie Johnson representing Heritage Quest Research Library, in Sumner, WA., HQRL. a non profit bookstore to help in genealogical research. We appreciate them volunteering their time to speak with us and making their books and expertise available to us.

Alene Reaugh

FEATURED SPEAKER AT OCTOBER MEETING

Connie Lenzen is a certified genealogist. She is actively involved in client research and lecturing. She has lectured at the national, state, and local level. She is a National Genealogical Society (NGS) director, president of the Board for Certification of Genealogists, and on the education committee of her local genealogical society, the Genealogical Forum of Oregon. Connie will speak to us on Family Traditions.

Family Traditions; the Search for the Truth

Family traditions are one of the least reliable genealogical sources. Sometimes, they are the only lead a person has. Learn how to evaluate family traditions and verify them with documentary evidence. This session appeals to everyone who has been told a story that seemed to be too good to be true.



CORNISH HARP ENSEMBLE

We received an email from a Cornish Harp ensemble in Bude, Cornwall. There are seven members of this group and they put on concerts throughout Cornwall. The American Harp Ensemble based in Seattle has invited them to visit and to do a concert in Seattle and one in Vancouver/Portland. One of the members of the group speaks Cornish and will be introducing the pieces in Cornish.

I have been in contact with Beth Kollé the Vice President of the "Puget Sound Folk Harp Society" (PSFHS) based in Seattle. She is the person who organized the visit and said that they are expecting to put on a concert in 2008 - April 19th in Seattle and April 20th in Vancouver, WA.

In addition, Beth arranges music tours where her group travels to other countries to play their music. This fall they will be touring the UK, starting in Cornwall and then going to Cardiff, Wales and Edinburgh, Scotland. They welcome anyone who wants to travel with them. They are welcome even if they are not musical but they must keep in mind that it is a musical tour and that will be the main focus.



Charlestown harbour, picture taken by Joan Huston

THE 14TH GATHERING, CORNISH AMERICAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

By Alene Reaugh

My cousin, Margaret Porter and I attended the 14th Gathering of the Cornish in Calumet, Michigan July 24th thru the 29th. The gathering included Great Food, Entertainment and informative seminars. The opening ceremony included the Flora Day Dance as done in Helston. The seminars covered everything from Rug Braiding, Cornish Cooking; Cornish History; Mining; Religion; Cornish Dancing; Cornish Language; Immigration; Genealogy Research on the Internet and much more. On Thursday night we were treated to a concert by the Holman-Climax Male Voice Choir from Cornwall. The concert was held in the beautiful and historic Calumet Theater, a perfect venue with unbelievable acoustics. In addition we made a trip to Central Mine, a copper mining ghost town, which included the Bardic Ceremony, a tour of the town site; a visit to the Central Mine M.E. Church for a look back on the Christmas Holiday 100 years ago. Rev. Dr. Dan Rosemergy led a special service on Saturday afternoon at the church to full capacity that spilled over onto the lawn outside the church. After the church service we all headed for the Pasty Picnic and a Sing-Around with Jim Wearne and Harry "Safari" Glasson. The gathering was a wonderful experience and I urge everyone to consider attending the next one to be held in 2009 at Grass Valley, California.



Above is the Holman-Climax Male Voice Choir from Cornwall, and to the right is a picture of Alene with Harry "Safari" Glasson.



CELTIC SOUNDER

We were the "Featured Group" in this Quarter's edition of the Celtic Sounder, the Newsletter for the Celtic Society of South Puget Sound. What they said about us was "This is a group that is very proud of their history and culture and is a vital part of the Celtic peoples of our region." They want us to know of their existence and welcome anyone who might be interested in participating in their group. Also they would like to hear of our activities and will include articles in their newsletter.

RECENT DONATIONS TO THE LENDING LIBRARY

Thanks goes out to Shirley Ewart, Gord'n Perrot and Jack Smith for their recent donations to our library.

Shirley will tell you she is not Cornish but she lived for awhile in Cornwall as a young girl and woman and she did extensive research and wrote a book about the Cornish in Grass Valley. She donated a copy of her to book, Highly Respectable Families to our library over a year ago. This book is a very popular one checked out of the library regularly. At the meeting in July, Shirley donated some of her personal collection of books and they are as follows:

"Cornwall and its People" by A.K. Hamilton Jenkins

"Life in Cornwall" a four book collection including the Early, Mid and Late 19th Century and "At the End of the 19th Century." These books are extracts of the West Briton Newspaper from 1810 thru 1899.

Gord'n is a new member of the group and he too lived in Cornwall and is researching his grandfather. Gord'n donated three Ordnance Survey maps which include Map 1359 Camborne (North); Map 1364 St. Ives & Penzance (North); and Map 1365 Camborne (South) & Hayle. For those who are not familiar with these maps, they are very detailed and include not only Towns, Villages and roads but also Farms, Manors, Elevations, Vegetation and location of Churches. It is well worth a look if your people came from any of these places.

Jackie Smith (Colenso) of Puyallup donated her copies of Cornwall Today Magazines, February, March & April 2007.

I have also made a decision to donate the remaining books from the Cornish Country Store to become a permanent part of the Library. To see what is in the Library go to our website www.nwcornishsociety.org The books are available at all of the meetings and can be checked out and returned to the following meeting. —Alene Reaugh



A Piskey's Face Amiss

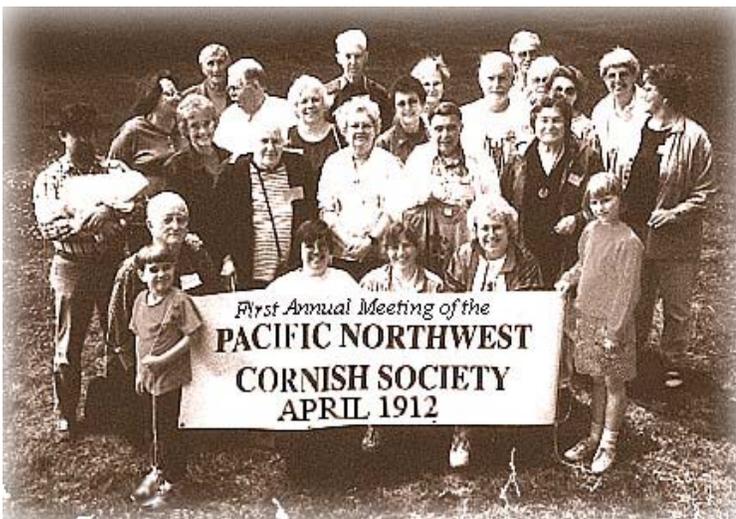
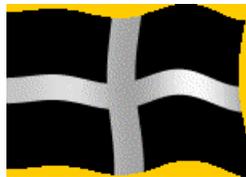
By Thomas Tregarthen Huston

**I sat upon the moor,
The dewy grass 'neath me,
An remarked with delight,
"I spy a Piskey!"**

**He was a dinky fellow,
An a good one for sure,
Who went about his work—
If pluckin' squills is labour!**

**I watched this for a while,
Not knowing what to do,
I'd ne'er seen a Piskey
work,
An that's for certain true!**

**So calling out to him I did,
An standing 'top the mead,
Said, "Ay there little man!
Whence do ye tread?"**



**O what a sight indeed,
When the Piskey did me
hear!
He dropped all his flowers,
An flounced about with
fear!**

**I said, "Ay dinky fellow,
Don't ye be afeard!
I am but a cheeld, see,
Wee meekly as a bird."**

**When the Piskey calmed,
He turned to me to face,
An ivers a thing to see!
His nose was out o' place!**

**"O Piskey, deary me," said I,
"Your face is all amiss!"
An then the Piskey laughed,
Disappearing in the mist!**

**So I tell thee now,
When on the moor be-ware,
Ye best not insult a Piskey,
Or give 'im such a scare!**

This was our first annual picnic taken in July 1998, but my son, Thomas, who wrote the poem above, decided to make it look like an antique photo from 1912. How many familiar faces can you pick out! 6

Transcription, by Fran Anderson, of anecdotes about Joseph Drew's blind horse, from pages 48 through 52 of the biography of Samuel Drew

It has been already stated, that the father's time was partly occupied in conveying the Sherborne newspapers, and other publications sent into Cornwall by that establishment. He was also a contractor for carrying the mail between St. Austell and Bodmin. In this, the eldest son [Jabez Drew] was commonly employed, and Samuel, during his temporary residence with his father, occasionally rendered his assistance. Once, while he was an apprentice, his brother being ill, he was called on to perform the duty. His adventure, on that occasion, he thus related to a friend.

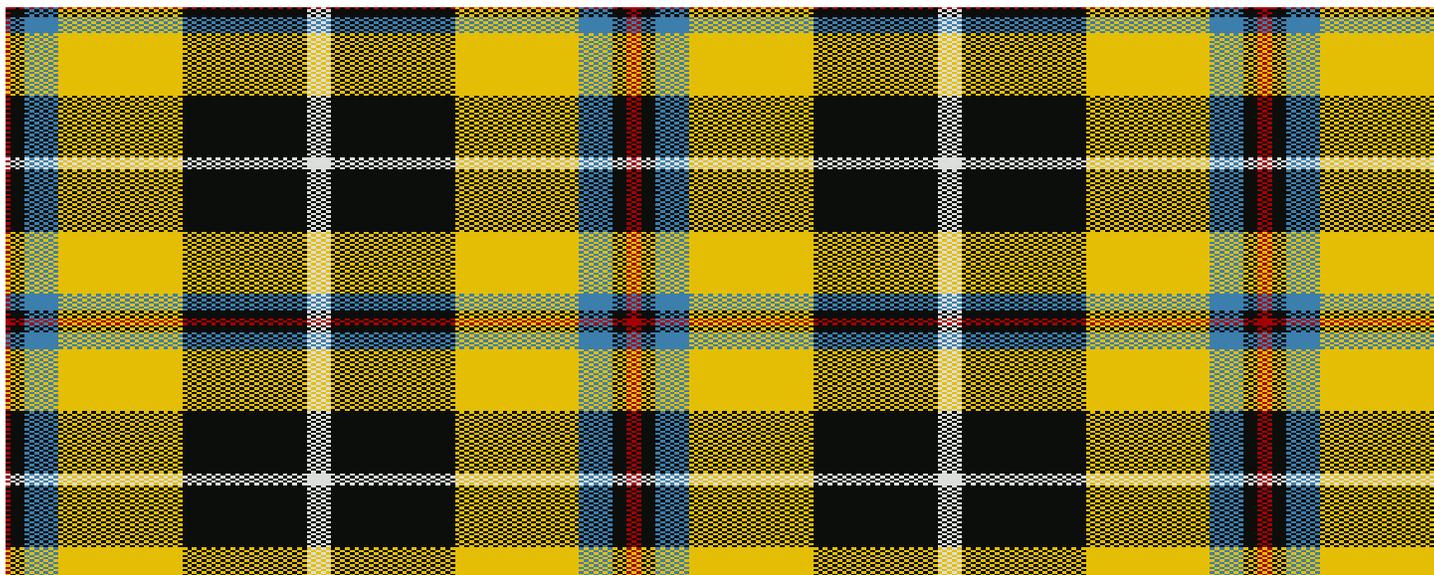
"At one time, in the depth of winter, I was borrowed to supply my brother's place, in carrying the mail; and I had to travel in the darkness of night, through frost and snow, a dreary journey, out and home, of more than twenty miles. Being overpowered with fatigue, I fell asleep on the horse's neck, and when I awoke, discovered that I had lost my hat. The wind was keen and piercing, and I was bitterly cold. I stopped the horse, and endeavoured to find out where I was: but it was so dark that I could scarcely distinguish the hedges on each side of the road; and I had no means of ascertaining how long I had been asleep, or how far I had traveled. I then dismounted, and looked around for my hat; but seeing nothing of it, I turned back, leading the horse, determined to find it, if possible; for the loss of a hat was to me a matter of serious consequence; and my anxiety was increased by the consideration, that if it were not recovered, I should probably have to wait a long while for another. Shivering with cold, I pursued my solitary way, scrutinizing the road at every step, until I had walked about two miles, and was on the point of giving up the search, when I came to a receiving house, where I ought to have delivered a packet of letters, but had passed it when asleep. To this place the post usually came about one o'clock in the morning, and it was customary to leave a window unfastened, except by a large stone outside, that the family might not be disturbed at so unseasonable an hour. I immediately put my letter-bag through the window, and having replaced the stone, was turning round to my horse, when I perceived my hat lying close to my feet. I suppose, that the horse, knowing the place, must have stopped at the window, for me to deliver my charge; but, having waited until his patience was exhausted, had pursued his way to the next place. My hat must have been shaken off by his impatient movements, or endeavours to awaken me: but how long he waited, I cannot tell. Though blind, that horse had more sense, and needed less guidance, than any one I ever rode."

By all the family this sagacious and valuable animal was much prized; but Samuel's father felt for it an especial regard; and the attachment between the master and his faithful servant was, to all appearance, mutual. Many years before, the poor beast, in a wretched condition, from starvation and ill usage, was turned out on a common to die. The owner willingly sold it for little more than the value of the skin; and his new possessor, having, by care and kindness, restored it to strength, soon found that he had made a most advantageous bargain. For more than twenty years, he and his blind companion traveled the road together; and many were the proofs of its intelligence and attachment. After the horse was past labour, it was kept in the orchard, and attended with almost parental care. Latterly ⁷

it had become unable to bite the grass; and the old man regularly fed it with bread soaked in milk. "I remember," says the present survivor of the family, "that when the sagacious creature would, early in the morning, put his head over the orchard railing, towards his master's bed-room, and give its usual neigh, my father would jump out of bed, open the window, and call to the horse, saying, 'My poor old fellow, I will be with thee soon.' And when the animal died, he would not allow its skin or shoes to be taken off; but had the carcass buried entire."

The road by which the old Mr. Drew was accustomed to travel, to and from Plymouth, passed along a very dangerous place, known by the name of Battern Cliffs; where, for about half a mile, a few false steps might cause the traveller to be dashed in pieces on the rocks, or plunge him, from a dizzy height, into the surges of the foaming ocean. Here, on his return from Plymouth, he was once assaulted by two horsemen, who commanded him to deliver his money. His horse being heavily laden, escape was hopeless; yet he resisted their demand. Upon this, one of the men presented a pistol, threatening to shoot and throw him over the cliff; and both of them, laying hold of him, attempted to execute the latter part of the threat. He called for help; and the sound of approaching horses caused the robbers, before they had executed their intention, to gallop off by a cross road. Presently, two young men, who had heard his cry, came up, and learning how he had been attacked, urged him, by way of mutual protection, to turn, and accompany them to Plymouth. This he declined, being not far from Looe, his usual resting-place. His horse, however, was missing; and he feared, that, being blind, it might have fallen over the cliff, during the scuffle with his assailants. He sought for it for some time, in vain; when, calling it loudly by name, he was answered by its welcome neigh, and following the sound, found the careful animal securely lodged in a recess of the road, whither it had instinctively retreated."

After the good man had been thus in jeopardy, he, at the recommendation of his family, procured a Newfoundland dog, to be the companion of his journeys; for arms he would not carry. (more on this story in the next issue)



CORNISH AMERICAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

I attended the meeting of the CAHS which is a group of Cornish Societies. Their Statement: *Organization of Cornish descendants and lovers of Cornwall throughout North America - preserving Cornish-American heritage and culture through biennial Gatherings at historic Cornish locations.* As a member of that group, PNCS has a vested interest in the activities and benefits of this group. Everyone was urged to get their members to join the CAHS as individuals and families rather than just as part of our group. Membership is \$10 Individual; \$15 Family; \$150. Lifetime. They reported that the money for the Lifetime Memberships is placed in a Money Market to "grow" the money for future use. Right now they are reporting membership down. For that small amount of money you get the *Tam Kernewek*, their newsletter four times a year. There is also an interactive website at www.cornishjack.org When you are a paid member you are assigned a number to use to access certain parts of the website.

Another item worth noting is that CAHS has available funds for organizations to use when attending Celtic Festivals. There is also a Festival Kit available for loan when groups get involved with Celtic Festivals. We have talked in the past about getting involved with other Celtic Groups and with the help of CAHS we can make this a reality. One person had an idea to make a large poster of a Pasty that says: "If you know what this is, we want to talk to you." **I am looking for a volunteer** that will research and follow-up with groups for us to get involved. Please email me if you are interested in being that person.

The **Steven R. Curnow Competition** was established to honor the memory of a fourteen-year-old boy whose Cornish ancestors settled in Colorado. Steven Curnow died at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado in the 1999 shooting.

The competition asks students to do **research** about **areas** in North America settled by Cornish immigrants or about **contributions** to North American culture, history or technology made by Cornish immigrants. Students may **present the results** of their research in a variety of methods, including (but not necessarily limited to):

- 20-25 minute Multimedia (Power Point presentation, combined video or CD, etc.)
- Script for one-act dramatic presentation
- Poetry (no more than 100 lines)
- Essay of 1500 to 3500 words
- Musical work (up to 10 minutes duration)
- Dance work (choreography and performance up to 5 minutes duration)
- Work in Cornish dialect
- Photographic essay
- Painting

Mechanical depiction of technology used by Cornish, e.g. working model of Cornish pump (must be able to be mailed).

A \$1000 prize will be awarded to the winning entry. Second (\$300) and third (\$250) prizes will also be awarded. CAHS members will work with the prizewinners to help them copyright 9

their work and to market their projects at the Biennial Gatherings of Cornish Cousins. Students do not have to be Cornish to enter.

We need to get younger people involved and this is one way to get it started.

The 15th Gathering will be held in Grass Valley & Nevada City, California July 19th-23rd 2009, the theme "Other Oceans, Other Worlds. As this is "our neighborhood" I would like to see a lot of us attend, maybe we can put together a special trip. Let me know if there is interest in this and we will see if we can put it together. The Gathering was fun and educational and the food was the best.



I had my son ask the Graphics Artist at his magazine to add some color to our logo, and he came up with some alternates also. So I used the 4th one (changing the flags to be white & black) for the newsletter logo, the 5th one being our standard logo. If anyone has a preference for any of the others or a combination of any, let me know! Joan

CORNISH COUNTRY STORE IS OPEN
WE HAVE A GOOD VARIETY OF ITEMS THAT YOUR CORNISH COUSINS WILL LOVE.
Please check the website to see pictures of all of these items www.nwcornish.org You can place an order by emailing me at softwalk2@yahoo.com .

PNC'S LIBRARY
The PNC'S Library exists, with the President. The PNC'S Library will always welcome donated books about the Cornish. If you have a Cornish book you would like to donate to the PNC'S library you can bring it to one of the meetings or contact Alene Reaugh at (503) 775-9653 or email her at softwalk2@yahoo.com

PNC'S WEB SITE
<http://www.nwcornishsociety.org/>
Webmaster: Mickey Sieracki
Contact the Society
softwalk2@yahoo.com

HISTORY OF CORNWALL on CD
We have copies of the Parochial History of the County of Cornwall, a four volume set of books with lots and lots of information on old Cornish families. This set of books was donated to us from our Cornish member, Ron Lake, and we had them put on CD, so that all our members could enjoy them! They are available to borrow or purchase. Contact Joan Huston if interested in obtaining a copy! Tregarthen@gmail.com or phone 360-613-1718. Or go to www.archivedcdbooks.com and check out all their CDs.

PNC'S 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.

OUR NEWSLETTER DEADLINES
First week in February
First week in June
First week in September
Send articles, pictures, ads, notices, whatever, to:
Tregarthen@gmail.com
Or mail to: **Joan Huston, 10116 Stoli Lane NW, Silverdale, WA 98383.** Make sure they get to me prior to the above deadlines to be included in the next newsletter.

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
4335 NE 69TH AVE. PORTLAND, OR 97218

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*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 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, 486 Plat B Road, Sutherlin, OR 97479-9799

*Pacific Northwest Cornish Society
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Silverdale, WA 98383-8826*