



# FISKE GENEALOGICAL FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER-ANNIVERSARY ISSUE\*

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## FROM GENEALOGY RESEARCH TO NOVEL

Contributed by Claire Gebben

The packet of letters found in Dad's closet, letters written in *Alte Deutsche Schrift* (Old German Script) were illegible. In hindsight, the discovery would lead me on an amazing three-year journey. "I'll bet the relatives would like to have those," Dad said. By "the relatives," he meant several families in Germany; our families had been in correspondence for five generations.

The oral history went as follows: my great-great-grandfather Michael Harm, of Freinsheim (a village in present day Germany west of Mannheim), emigrated at the age of 15, alone, to travel with a music band and came to Cleveland, Ohio, where he apprenticed as a blacksmith and later owned Harm & Schuster's Carriage Works. Michael Harm married Elizabeth Crolley, had three children, and died in 1910 after long illness from gout, around the time the horse-and- buggy era was fading to obscurity. Michael's wife Elizabeth, my dad's great-grandmother, continued to write letters to the German relatives, descendants of Michael's older brother. Later, my grandmother took up the correspondence. Later yet, in 1949, while studying architecture for a year in France, Dad visited Freinsheim to look up our third- and fourth-generation relatives. According to the family, he was the first American to visit Freinsheim following WWII. Since then, descendants of the two Harm brothers have continued to exchange letters and visits.

When Dad and I mailed the old letters (written in the 1920s) to the Freinsheim descendants of the writers, I thought little of it. But then a year later, my distant cousin Angela Weber, ten years younger than me, came to stay with us on Mercer Island.

Photo of Harm & Schuster Carriage Works courtesy of Claire Gebben and Craig Patterson



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**\*THE SUMMER OF 2012 MARKS THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FISKE LIBRARY'S BEING HOUSED IN PIONEER HALL IN THE MADISON PARK NEIGHBORHOOD OF SEATTLE.**

# GRANDMA'S TRUNK

Contributed by Sandra Warren

Fifty years ago Grandma left her trunk to me. After a review of the contents and removal of some keepsake items, I returned the volumes of paperwork and photographs and closed the trunk. Many years passed and the trunk was always with me. I knew it held a value, but had no idea how great that value would turn out to be.

Grandma's stories told me how patriotic and proud of her family she was, and I knew this brought her much happiness. But genealogy had not found a place in my life. Frankly, at that time I thought it was names, dates on a tree hanging in the hallway. Putting it into a category of "snoopy stuff."

Five years ago, I re-opened the trunk with an interest inspired by my 8-year-old great nephew. He knew his father's family ties and wanted to know of his mother's.

MY OH MY! Grandma had included records produced by her brother, a historian and genealogist who had worked in this field from a young boy (1871-1954). The contents included his completed index cards, research documentation, letters and newspaper articles written by him. Also, pictures of his local area, political satire, and articles of interest. The list goes on and on.

This trunk has given me real people, from nobility to blacksmiths, weavers, farmers, and fishermen; from a noted suffrage worker to newspapermen and a young woman running her own photographic studio in a frontier town of California. It has given me history from the time of Charlemagne to the woods of the Cascades where family members worked as loggers and railroad workers of the 1920's. It has illustrated the challenges of the Revolutionary War on the eastern coastal areas to the frontier areas of the Old Northwest. And as they continued to progress westward it didn't get any easier.

The people who contributed to Grandma's Trunk worked so very hard, putting hours into their works. They gathered interviews by writing or travelling to areas to track family histories. Retrieval of Courthouse records consisted of copy work by hand writing word for word, the only way to copy in those days. Can you imagine finding time to hand copy?

This trunk has given me so much! Imagine opening a letter still in it's envelope to find a letter written home to wife and family about the day's encounters on the battlefield at Chattanooga, Tennessee on November 30th 1863. And the writing (how beautiful!). You can almost feel the ink upon the paper.

If only they had had the tools of the computer age! BUT there is such a beauty to their work which cannot be matched. A copy of an original is just not good enough to compare.



Thanks to the trunk, history has become alive and a very personal experience to me. I feel attached to the people of the past in a personal way. As time passes, the need to know more and more grows and expands beyond its contents. This led me to The Fiske Genealogical Library for the many needed answers.

The Fiske is indeed another very special gift to all who seek the answers.

## FISKE BOARD MEMBERS

<b>President</b>	<b>Gary A. Zimmerman</b>
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<b>Directors</b>	<b>Gretchen Furber Karl Kumm Mary Peters</b>

## SURVEY NEEDED

Contributed by Karl Kumm

A survey has been compiled to determine the interest and need for Fiske classes in 2012/2013.

We need your help in planning our educational program. Already fifteen Fiske patrons have completed the Education Need Survey which was distributed at the final classes of the Spring Semester.

This is an opportunity to request detailed information and methods for a specific location, religion, occupation, military service and/or brick wall to be presented in a future class.

An interactive edition of the survey appears on the Fiske website at [www.fiskelibrary.org](http://www.fiskelibrary.org). You may download a copy, click on the items of interest in the survey and send to [gzim@fiskelibrary.org](mailto:gzim@fiskelibrary.org). Your name need not appear on the survey if you prefer.

Hard copies of the survey are available at the front desk at The Fiske Library. Completed copies may be placed in the SURVEY box in the same location.

## USE OF FISKE COPIER

Contributed by Joan Wilson

The Fiske Library charge of 25¢ per black & white copy (50¢ for color) is more than charged by some franchised copy centers. However, it is exactly what our supplier charges for paper and toner. The price is the same for all sizes of paper up to 11" x 17".

The honor system container for donations is located beside the copier and includes costs for all pages printed, whether satisfactory or not.

A terrific cost-saving technique is to scan and send copies to your e-mail address at no charge. Instructions are posted beside the copier, and volunteers are available for assistance.

## LOST & FOUND

### FOUND:

- This postage-stamp-sized photo was found at The Fiske loose behind a desk when it was moved recently. It is labeled "Cragmoore CO 1931." Cragmor was not a town, but a groundbreaking sanatorium for the treatment of Tuberculosis, attracting "notables and celebrities."



Cragmor is located outside Colorado Springs. Names on the back are M.E. Brown and Anne Creighton (Momma). Research located an Anne Creighton in Colorado who is too young to be the lady pictured, but might be a descendant. Another person of a more accurate age was located in New York. No information was found for Ms. Brown.

We would be very grateful to any reader recognizing this photo and/or data for information which will enable placing these ladies with the correct collection.

- A very nice thermal travel mug has been found on the floor under one of the study tables and placed in the Lost and Found basket.

### LOST:

- A scrapbooking-type paper cutter about 11" x 17" used in trimming pre-printed labels has wandered away from The Fiske's postal preparation center. If seen, please assist him in finding his way home.

### FREE:

- An HP printer has died and left behind 2 new-in-the-box HP 60 ink cartridges (1 black, 1 tri-color) which need a new home. Available at the front desk.

## FROM RESEARCH TO NOVEL, CONT'D.

Continued from Page 1

“Tante Inge found a tin of old letters from Cleveland in her attic,” she told me. (Angela’s English is excellent.)

Angela was so interested in what the letters said, she taught herself to read the old German script. Together, we sat down to decipher about ten or so letters with dates spanning 1841 to 1907.

### **Immigrant letters**

Family letters hold many clues. For instance, an 1850 letter instructed the Harm family to travel overland to the port at Le Havre, France, take a ship to New York City, then travel by canal, paying for each leg of the journey on the way so as not to be cheated. This narrowed considerably my initial search for Michael Harm’s port of departure and arrival when he emigrated seven years later.

Not everyone has such a treasure trove. Or do you? Don’t overlook old boxes in the attic – you might be surprised. An often untapped resource in the hunt for documents is living relatives – write or call even distant relatives and let them know of your interest – who knows what might turn up?

Failing the specific family letters, for a flavor of experiences, thinking and cares and concerns of the times, immigrant letters, diaries and journals can provide much insight. To broaden my understanding of what life was like on the immigrant journey, I read letters published in *Palatines in America* (Paul/Scherer, ISBN 3-927754-29-3) and in the 2008/2009 magazine of the Rhineland-Palatine Genealogy Association (*Pfälzish-Rheinische Familienkunde*). In fact, there are ongoing efforts to make such materials available. The University of Minnesota’s Immigration History Research Center is assembling and digitizing immigrant’s letters at <http://ihrc.umn.edu/research/dil/index.html>, just one example of a growing online archive.

### **One person’s life is knitted together with others**

One surprising thing about the letters Angela brought was the start date: 1841. Since Michael Harm had emigrated in 1857, who had written these letters explaining how to travel to America? It did not take us long to discover that Michael Harm’s grandparents, two aunts and two uncles, had emigrated together to Cleveland in 1840, a year before Michael was born.

We may think of our family stories in isolation, but they are usually knitted together with others. The genealogical term for it is “chain migration” – first-wave emigrants sent thousands of letters just like the ones in our possession encouraging family and friends to follow them.

I was hooked: at the time, I had entered a graduate school in Creative Writing through the Northwest Institute of Literary Arts on Whidbey Island. I needed to write a book-length thesis to complete my MFA, and my historical fiction novel *Harm’s Way* was born.

### **Compiling the basic facts—census data, vital records, ship manifests—form the bones of the story**

To get started, I tapped the usual sources: the National Archives and Records Administration on Sandpoint Way, online searches for vital records of the LDS familysearch.org, Heritage Quest (via the King County library online genealogy database) for vital records in both the U.S. and Germany. On a visit to Fiske Library, Gary Zimmerman helped me navigate Meyers-Orts for the village of Freinsheim to give me an inkling of the population and industries of this very small rural village.

### **Fleshing out the story**

But I had some big hurdles ahead. First, I knew so little about 19<sup>th</sup> century history. I began (somewhat improbably) by reading Herman Melville’s *Moby-Dick*. Not such a bad idea after all. The book is an encyclopedia of sorts, with chapters on shipping, economics of trade, blacksmithing, etc. Charles Dickens

## FROM RESEARCH TO NOVEL, CONT'D.

wrote about his travels in America (*American Notes: And the Uncommercial Traveller*), and James Fenimore Cooper wrote about his travels in the Rhineland-Palatinate (*The Benedictines: A Legend of the Rhine*). Cooper also wrote extensively about travels in Italy in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Don't forget the poets: Goethe, Schiller and Heine, or whoever was popular in the time period of your ancestor's story.

Second, blacksmithing and carriage-making had become quaint historical footnotes. I found the Northwest Carriage Museum in Raymond, Washington (<http://nwcarragemuseum.org/>) with impressive horse-drawn buggies and information. Via a thesis published on the Internet, I found Professor Thomas A. Kinney, author of *The Carriage Trade*, who has been a tremendous asset to me as I learned about the wagon-making craft.

But book learning will only go so far. In order to learn about blacksmithing, I enrolled in a four-day intensive workshop called Beginning Blacksmithing I at Old West Forge in White Salmon, Washington. We used modern-day steel stock and propane forges, not old-style wrought iron and coal fires, but hour after hour of pounding, chiseling, hole-punching and scrolling gave me a glimpse into the heat, danger, and intensity of the craft. As a bonus, I went home with a basic set of hand-forged blacksmith tools, a fireplace poker, and a wreath hanger, plus new, rosy muscles in my forearms and one mild arm burn.

### The tides of history

To learn about the broader forces at play in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, I recommend some terrific reads. *What Hath God Wrought: The Transformation of America, 1815-1848* (Daniel Walker Howe) gives valuable insights into the accelerating transportation and communication technologies. *Passage to Cosmos: Alexander von Humboldt and the Shaping of America* (Laura Dassow Walls) explores the impact of an influential scientist and explorer of the day, and Peter Watson's *The German Genius: Europe's Third Renaissance, the Second Scientific Revolution, and the Twentieth Century* is packed with information about German cultural influences prior to WWII. The book *1848: Year of Revolution* (Michael Rapport) is a thorough account of all of Europe's revolution for democracy in 1848-1849.

### Immigrants spoke a foreign language

I became frustrated in searching 19<sup>th</sup> century newspapers (King County Library online databases) such as the *Cleveland Daily* for mention of Michael Harm. I knew he existed. Why didn't he appear? When I made a research trip to Cleveland, at the Western Reserve Historical Society (WRHS) archives (<http://www.wrhs.org/>), I uncovered at least part of the reason: in the 1800s, Cleveland consisted of three "clans" – English, Irish, and German – each accounting for about one-third of the population. The Germans had their own newspapers, their own churches, schools and societies. None of this material had been digitized, but in the 1990s, seventy years of Cleveland German newspaper articles were condensed and translated into English in a bound publication called, *The Jubilee Edition of the Cleveland Wächter und Anzeiger: 1902*.

### Walking in the footsteps

A year after my research, and 150 pages into the first draft of *Harm's Way*, I was able to travel to Freinsheim where my incredibly kind and gracious German relatives hosted me for an entire month in the village of my great-great-grandfather's formative years. My relatives took turns showing me around the region, acting as guides, translators, recounters of village lore. On my own, I woke early and rambled the rolling vineyards and fields, listened to bird songs, smelled the acrid aromas of pressed grape skins and autumn leaves, sunlight dawning from behind the sculpted black hills.

### Fact and Fancy

Before I arrived in Germany, my cousin spent hours researching the archives in Speyer for old family records--land deeds, baptismal records and such. Some records were in French, since Napoleon ruled the region from

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## FISKE LIBRARY—RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Newly acquired books are processed by cataloging, entering the Fiske Library holding information into WorldCat, affixing ownership barcodes to bound books (on the back cover and on the title page). Once they are finally on the shelving in the library, they appear in our “acquisitions list” in the Newsletter. Library of Congress call numbers [in square brackets below] will quickly lead you to the material on the shelf at the Fiske Library. If the LC number is followed by PAWA, the book must be retrieved from other library collections within the building. Ask a volunteer for assistance.

### NEW ENGLAND

- Ipswich in the Massachusetts Bay Colony Vol 1 1633-1700; Vol 2 1700-1917 [F74.I6 W3]
- History of the town of Lancaster MA from the first settlement to the present time 1643-1879 [F74.L2 M3 1879]
- History of Salem, Massachusetts Vol 2 1638-1670; Vol 3 1671-1716 [F74.S1 P4]
- Cemetery Inscriptions in the town of Preston [CT] [F104.P9 P74 1990z]

### MIDDLE ATLANTIC STATES

- History of New York City [F128.3 .H27 1989]
- Granger Homestead, Canandaigua NY [F129.C2 G7 1979]
- History of Woodbridge, New Jersey [F144.W56 W64 1970]
- Woodbridge and vicinity – story of a New Jersey Township [F144.W8 D1 1989]
- Ladies at the Crossroads – Eighteenth Century Women of New Jersey [HQ1438.N5 A47 1978]
- The Keyhole 22 years – an index to vols 1-22 of the Quarterly Publication of the Genealogical Society of Southwestern Pennsylvania [F148 .K48 Index]
- Wilmington, Delaware Directory of 1814 [F174.W7 A18 1814x]

### ATLANTIC SOUTHERN STATES

- Bladen County North Carolina Tax Lists Vol 2 1775 through 1779 [F262.B45 B97 1998]
- Collection of Upper South Carolina Genealogical and Family Records, Vols II and III [F268 .Y59]

- Journals of the House of Burgesses of Virginia 1727-1734, 1736-1740 [J87 .V6 1727-1740]

### MISSISSIPPI DRAINAGE STATES

- History of Bourbon, Scott, Harrison and Nicholas Counties, Kentucky [F451 .H53 1979]
- Cemetery Inscriptions of Jackson County, Ohio Vol II (Madison, Milton, Scioto and Washington townships) [F497.J2 H59 1982]
- Henry County [IN] Past and Present – a brief history of the county from 1821-1871 [F532.H6 P54 1967]
- Randolph County, Indiana, 1818-1990 [F532.R3 R34 1991]
- History of Randolph County, Indiana, with illustrations and biographical sketches (by E. Tucker) [F532.R3 T83 1985]
- Surname Index for Tucker’s “History of Randolph County, Indiana” [F532.R3 T83 Index]
- Modoc: the first 100 years 1883-1983 (Randolph County IN) [F532.R3 W58 1984]
- Abstracts of the records of the Society of Friends in Indiana, part 2 (by Willard Heiss) [F532.W5 A27 1965 pt 2]
- Tombstone Inscriptions of Wayne County, Indiana (volumes 1, 3 and 4) [F532.W5 Y68]
- History of Wayne County, Indiana [F532.W5 Y7 1976]
- Chicago and Cook County – a guide to research [F548.25.C5 S98 1996]
- Only One Man Died – the medical aspects of the Lewis and Clark Expedition [F592.7 .C543 1997 PAWA]
- Story of Mitchell County 1851-1973 [Iowa] [F627.M7 M58 1973]
- St. Ansgar Centennial History [Iowa] [F629.S13 S2 1953]

### WESTERN STATES

- Pioneer Stories (Idaho Writers’ League) [F746.5 .S7 1947x]
- Pioneer Days in Idaho County [ID] Vol 1 [F752.I2 E4 1965]
- Julian City and Cuyamaca Country [CA] [F869.J85 L46 1992]

## FISKE LIBRARY—RECENT ACQUISITIONS, CONT'D.

- Oregon Geographic Names (with accompanying CD of maps and supplementary information) 7<sup>th</sup> Edition [F874 .M16 2003 PAWA]
- Camano Island [WA] [F897.I7 P73 2006]
- Seattle Telephone Directory 1930 [F899.S43 P33]

### MAPS

- Township Atlas of the United States [G1201.F7 A5 1991]
- Atlas of Erie County, Pennsylvania 1865 [G1263.E6 B44 1865a]
- Landranger Map of Vale of Glamorgan and Rhondda [Wales] [G5764.V3 1982 .G7]

### PUBLISHED AMERICAN GENEALOGIES

- Genealogy of the Baily family of Bromham, Wiltshire, England...settled in Chester County, PA [CS71.B15 1992]
- Bonham and Related Family Lines [CS71.B713 1996]
- Ancestry of Allen Grinnell Cleaver and Martha Irene Jessup [CS71.C6226 1989]
- Genealogy of the Edsons [CS71.E25 1989]
- Valiant Virginian – the story of Presley Neville O'Bannon 1776-1850, to which is added the O'Bannon family [CS71.O1216 1994]
- Taft Family Gathering – at Uxbridge MA August 12, 1874, reprinted with additions, corrections, notes and an index [CS71.T124 1979]

### RESOURCES FOR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

- Guide for Genealogical Research (by Archibald Bennett) [CS16 .B4 1951]
- Genealogical Research in England's Public Record Office: a guide for North Americans [CS49 .R45 1996]
- Lincoln City Marriage Index 1813-1837 (Lincolnshire, England) [CS435.L7 1983]
- Map Guide to German Parish Registers, Vol 7 (Württemberg III – Schwarzwaldkreis) [CS614 .H36]
- Norwegian Research Guide (by Herrick and Uncapher) [CS912 .G47 1998]

- Research in Norway (by Olstad and Bøe) [CS 913 .O46 1989]
- American Place Names of Long Ago [E155 .A58 1998]
- Frontier Living [E161 .T85 1976]
- How the States Got Their Shapes [E180 .S74 2008]
- Census: the expert guide (British census information 1841-1911) [HA37.G72 C47 2008]
- Annals of the Pool, 3rd Edition (by Eve McLaughlin) [HC260.P6 1986]
- Latin Glossary for Family and Local Historians [PA2895 .M67 1989]
- McKay's Modern Norwegian-English English-Norwegian Dictionary [PD2691 .G9 1953]
- Norwegian-English Dictionary (by Einar Haugen) [PD2691 .N6 1996]
- Pioneer Photographers of the Far West – a biographical dictionary, 1840-1865 [TR139 .P35 2000]

## FISKE WRITING AIDS

Contributed by Joan Wilson

The word "writing" placed in the window to Search the Fiske Library Catalog on [www.fiskelibrary.org](http://www.fiskelibrary.org) brings 873 results. Included are the following:

- Writing family histories and memoirs [CS16.P645 1995]
- Life writing: a guide to family journals and personal memoirs [CS16.H62 1982]
- A manual for writers of term papers, theses, and dissertations [LB2389.T8 1967]
- If I can, you can decipher Germanic records [PF3097.B46 1983]
- Bringing your family history to life through Social history [CS16.S862 2000]
- Land of their choice: immigrants write home [E184.S3 1955]
- The historical writings of Henry A.M. Smith: articles from the South Carolina historical (and genealogical) magazine.

## FROM RESEARCH TO NOVEL, CONT'D.

Continued from Page 5

1801-1815. I toured several museums, including the *Heimatsmuseum* in Bad Dürkheim, with its displays and relics of historic culture and viticulture. I also tipped several glasses of sparkling *Sekt* at the Bad Dürkheim *Wurstmarkt*, a wine and sausage festival that has been celebrated for over 600 years.

In this Rheinpfalz region of Germany, my relatives made arrangements for me to hand-harvest grapes with the town council of Freinsheim, to attend church in the parish church of my ancestors, to visit a smithy in nearby Friedelsheim where men demonstrated ancient blacksmithing methods.

I also met with Dr. Roland Paul (<http://www.roland-paul.de/html/zur-person.html>) at the Institute for Palatine History and Folklife Studies (Institut für Pfälzische Geschichte und Volkskunde, Benzinoring 6, 67637 Kaiserslautern, GERMANY, Tel. +49 (0) 631 / 3647-302). *The Institute indexes over 300,000 records of emigrants from the Rhineland Palatinate region and is very helpful to researchers of Palatinate genealogy.* I also visited the German Emigration Center Bremerhaven (<http://www.dah-bremerhaven.de/english.php>), a fabulous resource for researching family history.

The help from the German families was incredibly generous, but not entirely selfless. I was writing their story, and they wanted me to get it right. My cousin Angela kept quizzing me about my conclusions; for instance, why did I think Michael Harm left alone for America? I told her I had decided he preferred music to farm work, and had run away. “It couldn’t have happened like that,” Angela said. “To do that would have meant severing his ties with his family. If that had happened, we would not know one another today.”

When I returned from Germany, having seen and experienced so much, I took my own advice – the tip about living relatives being an unexpected resource. I asked my brother if he had any documents about Michael Harm. That simple question turned up over a dozen more letters. And these letters divulged the truth: Michael had been sent by pre-arrangement to apprentice as a blacksmith in his uncle’s wagon-making shop. But whether or not I had found those letters, by that time I had concluded the same thing.

Writing a novel about family history is a journey within a journey, and, in a mysterious way, a journey within oneself: of what one thinks one knows versus what actually took place; of how people long gone still have something to tell us about who we are.

Claire Gebben’s blog about genealogy, immigration, history, 19th century German names in Cleveland, and the writing of *Harm’s Way* can be found at <http://clairegebben.com>.

## ARE YOU INSPIRED TO WRITE?

If the emphasis in this issue on “writing your family history” has inspired you, you may find some of the following resources to be of value:

Cyndi’s List – Writing Your Family’s History [www.cyndislist.com/writing/](http://www.cyndislist.com/writing/)

Writing a History [www.byub.org/ancestors/records/familyhistory/extra.html#section4](http://www.byub.org/ancestors/records/familyhistory/extra.html#section4)

Writing Your Way to the Past [www.julietarr.blogspot.com/2011/08/4-resources-for-writing-your-family.html](http://www.julietarr.blogspot.com/2011/08/4-resources-for-writing-your-family.html)

YouTube videos by storytellerchris [www.youtube.com/user/storytellerchris](http://www.youtube.com/user/storytellerchris)

There are many learning opportunities on YouTube – just do a search on any YouTube page for Writing Family History or for Publishing Family History, and you will find hundreds of possible links – not all will be grade A, but you will find some that will intrigue you and suggest new avenues for your reflection.

Storytellerchris has posted 40 videos over the past two years, and many of them are about writing your family history, indexing your finished history, creating footnotes and endnotes, or creating a good table of contents. For a different slant, be sure to watch his short video on “The Day My Dad Came Back to Life.”



## SPRING WRITING CLASS

Contributed by Mary Peters

Can you write a story about your family? I didn't think I could until I took the class taught this Spring by Karen Sipe and Karl Kumm. From the beginning, class members were put at ease about "doing it right" and made to realize starting is the most important effort; later comes refinement. We learned to give each other helpful suggestions. Many people had very interesting ancestors whom they were writing a book about. My ancestors didn't seem to fit into this group so what could I write?

Karl taught us to do warm-up exercises for writing just as an athlete would do before an event. We looked at a pictures and described it using all five senses and emotions, not just who, what, why, when and how. What a gift for my children to have more than the names of the people in the pictures they will eventually inherit, but also a story with them. Another time, we just wrote for ten minutes on any subject we wanted. No correcting punctuation or spelling or grammar or anything—just write!

My favorite exercise was to take a family legend or an artifact and write the story. Being an only or oldest daughter for six generations, I now have many family artifacts that need to have their story told. So my goal from this class was to write up each story with the picture of the artifact and put them in a notebook for my children. Hopefully, they will understand why there is so much "old stuff" hanging around our house.

Another exercise was examining your family in the 1860 or 1870 census. We took six pages on both sides of the page on which our family was recorded and looked at each column to compare with our family. Was it a farming community or a town? How did my ancestor compare to others in personal and real property value? Where were people born—foreign-born or which state? There was so much more to the census than I had ever thought about before. Then that information could be written into a paragraph about where your ancestor lived.

When this class is offered again, I encourage everyone to take it. It was enjoyable, and I came away with wonderful ideas for writing my family stories.

## SUMMER WRITING SESSION

Contributed by Karl Kumm

The Fiske Genealogical Library will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on the third Wednesday of July and August for a Writing Laboratory. As a result of the seven sessions of writing held this Spring, many members wanted to continue their writing. Each open Lab session will include some free writing exercises, some fairly informal instruction but mostly we will trade our writing and give positive feedback to each other. Free to annual Fiske Library Patrons, others \$5 for each session.

Lab is open to all who want to write. Karen Sipe and Karl Kumm will act as facilitators.

Labs will be open on the following Wednesdays:

- July 18, 2012
- August 15, 2012.

## YOUR PUBLISHED FAMILY HISTORY AND THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Contributed by Gary Zimmerman

The Library of Congress has been collecting genealogies and local history books since 1815. It now has over 50,000 compiled family histories and over 100,000 US Local Histories. If you have published your compiled genealogy, you might want to consider donating a copy to the Library of Congress. You will find the details on how to make such a contribution at their website at <http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/gifts.html>.

If you register your copyrighted work with the Copyright Office, then a copy of your work automatically has been sent to the Family History section of the Library of Congress. You don't have to register your copyright to donate your work to the Library. Details are on the same webpage as shown in the previous paragraph.

## FISKE LIBRARY HOURS

<b>Monday</b>	10:00 am to 3:00 pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	Noon to 8:00 pm
<b>Thursday</b>	3:00 pm to 8:00 pm
<b>Friday</b>	Reserved for research groups (greater than 8 persons) from outside the greater Seattle Area. Contact the Library to make reservations.
<b>Saturday</b>	10:00 am to 3:00 pm
<b>Sunday</b>	1:00 pm to 4:00 pm, 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month

## OUR APPRECIATION FOR BOOK DONATIONS

We appreciate the contribution of books, journals, and other genealogical materials that complement the collections of the Fiske Library. Due to the magnitude of recent donations, it takes time to get these materials catalogued and in place for public use. Since our last newsletter, the following persons had bibliographic materials processed and made read for your use. You will find their donations on the shelves and in the catalog. Where duplicates have been received the library retains the best copy and makes the surplus copies available to benefit the book fund. This leads to additional resources for the purchase of new or the repair of old books.

Kathi Judkins Abendroth

Gretchen Furber

Mary Peters

Jackie Cedarholm

Judith Gunderson

Snowhomish Stake FTC

Elizabeth Davis

Judith &amp; Karl Kumm

Jimi Vernie

Mildred Eaton

Ann Owens

Gary A Zimmerman

## FISKE GENEALOGICAL FOUNDATION PATRON AND NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

The Fiske Genealogical Foundation is a nonprofit service organization that provides genealogical training and resource materials.

The Fiske Genealogical Foundation Newsletter is published four times per year by the Fiske Genealogical Foundation, 1644 43rd Avenue East, Seattle, WA 98112; phone (206) 328-2716.

email [gzim@fiskelibrary.org](mailto:gzim@fiskelibrary.org)

web site <http://www.fiskelibrary.org>

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Gary A. Zimmerman

### FISKE GENEALOGICAL FOUNDATION FEES

Daily Use Fee \$5.

Annual Library Pass \$50.

Annual Family Pass \$70.

Wednesday Seminar Series

(10 sessions) \$35.

Annual Library Pass

plus Full Year Seminar Series

(30 sessions) \$85

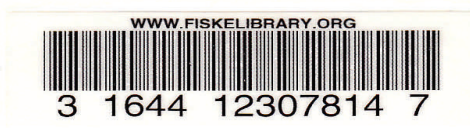
Newsletter—Mail Subscription

\$6 for 4 Issues

# AMNESTY AT THE FISKE LIBRARY

Contributed by Joan Wilson

Due to revisions in book rental policy and costs, during the month of July, The Fiske Library will accept the return of any book borrowed before June 1, 2012, forgiving all rental costs. If uncertain whether you have overdue Fiske items at home, sign-out sheets indicating what books you have rented are available at the front desk. Also, all books catalogued at The Fiske have an identification sticker on the back cover, as illustrated here.



A count of library materials in May showed 16 rented items with overdue charges of approximately \$300. Director Gary Zimmerman hopes the amnesty effort will encourage the return of anyone who's been avoiding The Fiske Library because of lost or overdue materials.

Fiske Board Members recently reviewed the existing rental/loan process and approved the following changes and/or revisions:

<b>FISKE RENTAL POLICY</b>						
<b>ELIGIBLE TO BORROW</b>	<b>BOOK LIMIT</b>	<b>RENTAL PERIOD</b>	<b>RENTAL COST*</b>	<b>RENEW PERIOD</b>	<b>RENEW COST**</b>	<b>RECALL MESS.</b>
Fiske Annual Patrons	5	4 weeks	\$1 week	4 weeks	\$2 week	Cert. Mail
Pioneers of WA Members	5	4 weeks	\$1 week	4 weeks	\$2 week	Cert. Mail
* Payable in advance at checkout			**Total payable on return			

- Books must be checked out by the library volunteer on duty;
- Patrons are responsible for return of items in satisfactory condition;
- Reference books and materials used with high frequency do not circulate;
- Rare books in the glass case never circulate; and
- Not available for rental are CDs, maps, and periodicals.

Also, the Fiske Genealogical Library participates in the WorldCat Inter Library Loan (ILL) program, sending volumes to other libraries (which accept responsibility for their patrons), and bringing in additional revenue for our library.

The Fiske Genealogical Library has developed a reputation for its collection of hard-copy volumes (which other libraries have disposed of after digitalizing), creating a demand nationwide.

Overdue items may be brought into the library during the hours posted on our website ([www.fiskelibrary.org](http://www.fiskelibrary.org)) and on Page 10 of this newsletter. Please place the items in the cabinet at the end of the glass counter marked "Please place books here to be reshelved." Library volunteers will clear the record of overdue charges.

Billing for outstanding rented volumes will begin August 1.



Fiske Genealogical Foundation  
1644 43rd Avenue East  
Seattle, WA 98112-3222

Return Service Requested

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US POSTAGE  
PAID  
SEATTLE WA  
PERMIT NO. 1210

## HOW TO FIND US!



**Fiske Library is located on the lower level of the Washington Pioneer Hall.**

- Drive east on E Madison Street to the third crosswalk after reduced speed zone of 25mph. The crosswalk has a yellow blinking light. A one-way street sign is on your right.
- Turn right and follow E Blaine Street to the end of the street.
- The Washington Pioneer Hall faces onto 43rd Ave. E. The Fiske Genealogical Library is located on the lower level of the building.