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National Genealogical News

Petition for Funding: the National Archives and NHPRC

The following is an announcement from the Council of State Historical Records Coordinators (COSHRC):

Most of you probably already know about this petition for funding for the National Archives and NHPRC.

As part of the effort to continue to express to Congress the interest in restoration of funding for NHPRC [National Historical Publications and Records Commission, which is part of the National Archives and Records Administration], the Council of State Historical Records Coordinators (COSHRC) has created an online petition. Please consider signing this petition, and please forward it to any listservs, email groups, or organizations and people you feel would be interested in helping with this effort. It is a quick and easy way for many people to assist.

The petition will be forwarded to the House Appropriations Committee and Subcommittee on Treasury, Transportation, HUD and the Judiciary in late May. The petition can be accessed at: <http://www.savearchives.org> and click on the "petition" button.

For more information on NHPRC, see http://www.archives.gov/grants/about_nhprc/about_nhprc.html

For more information about the Fiscal Year 2006 budget proposals for NARA and NHPRC, see <http://www.coshrc.org/issues/NHPRC-NARA-06budget>

Dick Eastmans Newsletter

Social Security Death Index (SSDI) UPDATED at both Rootsweb and Ancestry.com

RootsWeb now offers the most recent version of the Social Security Death Index (SSDI), which includes records through June 2005. This database contains several important bits of information on the more

75,163,608 persons whose deaths are on file with the U.S.'s Social Security Administration, including: social security number, date of issuance, state of issuance, date of birth, date of death, and last residence address of record.

<http://ssdi.rootsweb.com/>

RootsWeb Review, 25 May 2005, Vol. 8, No. 21

The Social Security Death Index (SSDI) at **Ancestry.com** has been updated to include the most current information available, including deaths reported through July 2005. The Social Security Death Index on Ancestry.com is generated from the U.S. Social Security Administrations Death Master File. It contains the records of deceased persons who pos-

President's Message

October of course is **FAMILY HISTORY MONTH** and what better way to celebrate it with your genealogy society than at our yearly **Skagit Valley Genealogical Society Genealogy Fair** Saturday, October 15th at the Burlington Community & Senior Center.

Tentitive tables are as listed below...

Table 1— Iona Raney "Getting Started with Genealogical Research Using Family Group Sheets"

Table 2— Diane Partington "Advanced Research Techniques Records: Census—Land—Cemetery & Funeral Home"

Table 3—Dan Royal "Scanning of Photos & Documents" \$1.00 per photo— saved to CD. Photos for History Project scanned for free.

Table 4— Hazel Rasar "Basic & Advanced Internet Research Assistance as time permits.

Table 5— Laura Sparr "Using Computerized Genealogy Programs Family Tree Maker & Legacy."

Table 6— Sharon Suhr "Scrapbooking for Genealogy How to Organize, Finished Product"

Table 7—History Project "Let us help you ... Assistance in filling out forms"

Table 8— Book Sale in Craft Room Heritage Quest/ Our Own Books

Please note the following chairs are OPEN and in need of volunteers to fill these positions:

Education, Projects, & Publicity

Laura

sessed Social Security numbers and whose death had been reported to the SSA. In most cases a report of death was made in connection with Social Security death benefits.

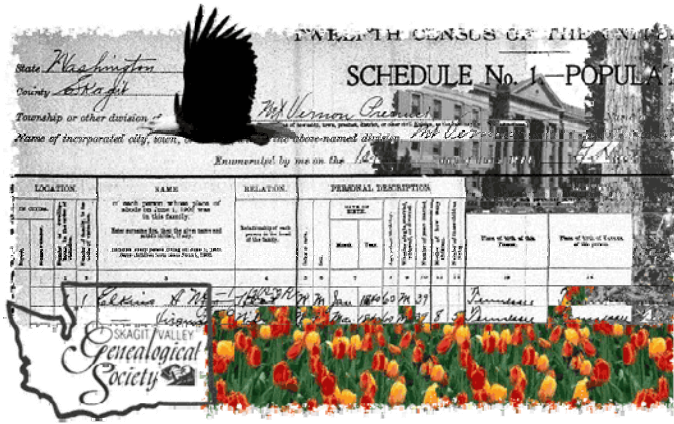
<http://www.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?sourceid=4717&dbid=3693>

ZabaSearch.com

is one of the most comprehensive personal-data search engines on the net. Enter a person's name on ZabaSearch.com, and a wealth of information is returned: residential addresses, phone numbers (both listed and unlisted), birth year, and even satellite photos of people's homes. ZabaSearch can probably find you.

NORTH CAROLINA BIRTH INDEX, 1800-2000
 (New database)

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SVGS Board of Directors 2005

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- Special History Projects: **Hazel Rasar**
co-chairs **Dan Royal**

Calendar of Events

Upcoming 2005

General Meeting:

Start time 7:00 p.m. at the Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church 1511 E. Broadway; across from S.V. Hospital
Note: Please be aware; Hospital Employees are using the church parking lot while construction is going on.

27 September Sharon Suhr, a SVGS member, will provide us with a program entitled “Scrapbooking-for Genealogy and Family Heritage”.

POTLUCK! Starts at 6:00 p.m.

25 October Hazel Rasar, a SVGS member and expert internet user, will expand our genealogical research possibilities by telling us about “Using RootsWeb Website”.

22 November Stephan Eric Baylor will be “Reviewing Basics of the Federal Census Research”.

December—No Meeting Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

24 January 2006 SVSG Genealogist Diane Partington—“What Funeral Home & Cemetery Records Tell Me” also tidbits from her trip to Italy.

28 February 2006 SVGS Member George Ridgway...
Tentative- “Search Engines: Using A Boolean Search”

Welcome New Member(s)
Chistopher Barnes Mount Vernon, WA

The Skagit Valley Genealogical Society Newsletter is now accepting business card size advertisement. The cost will be \$10.00 per issue and the editor can help put one together for you if you don't have something ready.
If anyone would like queries to be posted in the newsletter again , I certainly wouldn't be opposed to it. *Ye Editor*

Comb Binding ... For members
The society owns a comb binding machine. If you call Arnold Stewart at 360-466-3288 he will make arrangements to bind your pages into a book for you. Cost is: \$1.00 per book to cover supplies.

Coming Events

Beginning genealogy classes are offered, beginning in September, by the **Skagit Valley Genealogical Society**. The series begins **Monday, September 26 at 10 a.m. at the Burlington Senior Center**. The six week sessions will cover the basics of genealogy, and a two week additive deals with computers and genealogy.

Among the topics covered are: An introduction, primary sources and their locations, secondary sources and their value, the uses of census records, organizing and keeping records and finally, the evaluation and sharing of records. In the computer segment, topics include the how and why of computer genealogy and internet resources for genealogy;

To register for the classes, call the **Burlington Senior Center at 755 0102** or **Iona Raney at 424-6027**. Cost for the six series is \$30, and for the two week computer session, \$10.

See page seven for schedule

Whidbey researchers invited Skagit people to accompany them on a research trip to Cloverdale, BC where they will visit the Surrey Public Library, a well known and respected research facility in Canada. The trip is planned for either **Oct 25 or Oct 31**, the final date to be announced soon.

Those who want to go may call **Janice Hatton in Oak Harbor (360-679-1722)**, or **Iona Raney (360-424-6027) in Mount Vernon**. The bus leaves the GI Joe Parking lot in Mount Vernon at 8:30 a.m. and returns about 5 p.m. Cost is \$20.

7-10 Sept 2005 - Salt Lake City, UT

The Federation of Genealogical Societies presents their 2005 National Conference, in cooperation with the Utah Genealogical Association. Details are available at <http://www.fgs.org/>

14-15 Sept 2005 - Burnaby, BC, Canada

The Scandinavian Special Interest Group of the British Columbia Genealogical Society and the Scandinavian Cultural Society are very pleased to jointly sponsor Swedgentour Lectures & Workshops, September 14-15th, 2005 at the Scandinavian Community Centre, Burnaby, B.C., Canada. Members of the Federation of Swedish Genealogical Societies will be on hand September 14-15th in Burnaby, B.C., Canada to give workshops & demonstrate current resources for Swedish genealogy, including Genline for digitalized Swedish church records from the 16th to the 20th century & the DISBYT Swedish genealogical database with over 20,000 members, (both available on the Internet), as well as the EMIBAS database of emigrants from Sweden & the 1890, 1970 & 1980 Swedish census CDs & the Swedish Death Index 1947-2003. These sessions will be of interest to anyone with Swedish ancestry or those whose family members lived in Sweden, for instance, Finns. Watch for details on the B.C.G.S. website or contact Lillian Svendsen, B.C.G.S. Scandinavian Group Co-

ordinator: (604) 439-9202 or email: ljsvendsen@shaw.ca29

Sep & 1-2 Oct 2005 -

Kelowna, BC, Canada

The Kelowna and District Genealogy Society invites you to attend our 2005 Seminar "**Harvest Your Family Tree**" to be held in Kelowna, BC, Canada on Sept. 30, Oct. 1, 2, 2005. (Kelowna is less than 5 hours from Bellingham). Acclaimed speakers from Scotland, England and Western Canada. Reception & Panel of Experts; 24 concurrent lectures, Genealogical Marketplace, Guided tour of Kelowna City Cemetery. More information about early bird registration, seminar schedule, map and presenters is available on the society website <http://www.rootsweb.com/~bckdgs/seminar2005.htm>

1 Oct 2005 - Spokane, WA

The Eastern Washington Genealogical Society

will hold their Annual Fall Workshop. "**Reviewing the Basics - Have I Missed Anything**" on 1 October 2005 at the Corbin Community Center at 827 W. Cleveland, Spokane, WA. 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. There will be 14 speakers and 14 topics. \$22.00 before 20th Sept. 25.00 after and at door. Bring your own lunch for the 60 min. break and there will be snack trays in the afternoon. The flyer lists all the topics and can seen on the EWGS web site <http://www.rootsweb.com/~waewgs/>

29 Oct 2005 - Tacoma, WA

The Tacoma-Pierce County Genealogical Society announces their Fall Seminar, featuring nationally recognized and popular speaker, Paul Milner. Topics are: Lutheran Archives - ELCA, LCMS and WELS; Buried Treasures: What's in the English Parish Chest; Irish Emigrants to North America: Before, During and After the Famine; and Scottish Church Records: How to Access, Use and Interpret. Location: Tacoma Elks Lodge, 1965 Union Ave South, Tacoma. Registration 8-8:45 am. Lectures 9-4. Cost is \$25 if registering by Oct 14; \$30 after Oct 14. Lunch by the Elks, \$10 payable in advance (soup, sandwich and salad bar.) Make checks payable to TPCGS and mail to: Marie Hayden, Registrar, 4010 N 36th St, Tacoma, WA 98407. Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you wish a confirmation. See their website <http://www.rootsweb.com/~watpcgs/>.

7-8 Apr 2006 - Olympia, WA

The Washington State Genealogical Society will hold their **2006 Annual Conference and Business Meeting**. Theme is, "**Invading the British Isles**." It will be hosted by the **Olympia Genealogical Society**. Details will be posted as they become available, but be sure to mark your calendars now, so you don't miss the date!

DNA...IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU!

WANT A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE MEDICAL ADVANCES IN DNA TECHNOLOGY? AN EXCITING PROGRAM ,DNA,GENETIC HEALTH AND GENEALOGY WILL OFFER THREE WORLD RENOWNED

Continued on page 6

A Great Time to Celebrate History and Heritage in Skagit County

Dan Royal & Hazel Rasar Co-Chairs 'Special History Projects'

Since the inception of Skagit Valley Genealogical Society's book project '*Skagit County Washington and Its People 150 Years of Rich History & Heritage*' in late 2003; the society has received up to 130 submissions from early Skagit Valley families which included their family biographies and stories.

The idea early on was to create a book that was a sequel of sorts to the classic history of Skagit County, "An Illustrated History of Skagit & Snohomish Counties, Washington." - hereafter called the 1906 History. Published by Interstate Publishing Company in 1906 to outline the early history of the counties with biographies of pioneers, it has become one of the most valuable resources to local historians.

The Skagit Valley Genealogical Society in conjunction with the Stillaquamish Valley Genealogical Society of Snohomish County re-published the 1906 History in hardbound and sold out fairly quickly. The society also produced an '*Every Name Index for the 1906 History*' in 2000 that had not been included in the original work, making it easier to find an ancestor; this index is still available for purchase.

Unfortunately, while the biographies of the early pioneers in the 1906 History are an important resource to family historians, they were paid submissions. Thus, not all pioneers and early settlers were represented, most just couldn't afford the price of being added to the book.

With this new volume we not only wanted to add those pioneer families and settlers who were absent from the 1906 History, we also have no interest in being paid for adding these biographies. Also, with close to 100 years since the 1906 History came out, there are far more people who have moved to Skagit County from all areas of the United States and other countries. All have contributed a great deal to the growth and economy of the county; not only as business elite or politicians, but also as farmers, loggers, fisherman, builders of homes, roads and dams, homemakers etc.

It is the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society's desire to have a fair representation of the cultures and ethnic backgrounds that make up the backbone and lively composition of Skagit County and its growth.

Our goal is to have as many historical and present family stories as we can gather. We would like to have your contributions slanted toward the life of the primary ancestor you have chosen, i.e., a grandparent, great grandparent, parent, yourself and/or a sibling, with connections to Skagit County. Please identify the location in the county, if known. You may enter as many names with life stories as you choose, as there is no charge for submitting your information. The questionnaire is a guideline for the information we are seeking, however, you may submit a narrative if you choose. Narratives may be sent via email if desired. We reserve the right to edit all information for publication.

Photos of family groups, individuals, businesses, churches or schools may also be submitted. Group photos should have identification of those included in the photos as well as a written consent for publication of anyone that is still living.

We are accepting submissions for this new publication thru the end of December 2005. A questionnaire is available on our website at www.rootsweb.com/~wasvgs or by email request at genealogy2@verizon.net. A request may also be sent to **SVGS, P.O. Box 715, Conway, Washington 98238-0715** or by calling **360-424-6528 ext 4**. We look forward to receiving many more biographies and/or family memories for this publication. Our society would like to thank everyone for submitting your own or your ancestors' information. We look forward to celebrating with you our mutual history and heritage in Skagit County.

Page five is a preliminary layout of our first 'Special History Projects'. Currently slated for a late 2006 or early 2007 publication date.

Continued from page 1

<http://www.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?sourceid=831&dbid=8783>

This database is an index to over 7 million births occurring in North Carolina between 1913 and 2000. Delayed births are included as well and extended as early as 1800. For a list of the counties and years covered in this database, please see the bottom of this page. Information contained in this index includes: child's full name; gender; race or color; birth date; birthplace; occasionally one or both of the parents' names; and source information (usually includes a book or volume number and page number. Sometimes a certificate number will also be listed.) **NORTH CAROLINA MARRIAGE COLLECTION, 1741-2000** (Update adding some new data and combining several

databases)<http://www.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?sourceid=831&dbid=8909>

This database is an index to individuals who were married in various North Carolina counties between 1741 and 2000. The database is a compilation of several indexes obtained from multiple agencies, including the North Carolina State Archives and Liahona Research. Information provided in this index includes: names of bride and groom (Sometimes on an image in a name field you will see "NMN." This stands for "No Middle Name."); genders; birth dates; ages at time of marriage; race or color of bride and groom; marriage date; marriage place (usually a county); and source information (compiler, microfilm number, location of county court, etc.)

Skagit Valley Genealogical Society

Rasar, Peter

The RASAR Family in Skagit County
Washington

By Hazel Walters Rasar

"Pete" Rasar was born in Carter County, Tennessee in 1853, the family migrating to Blount County around the time of the Civil War. Peter's father, Daniel Rasar served the Union Army during the Civil War, and his mother Sarah Peters Rasar was left at home to raise their family of 9 children. Peter came to Washington State between 1882 and 1884.

It is believed he traveled across country by train to Seattle and then by boat/steamer to LaConner. From LaConner he traveled to Edison and settled in the Skagit County. Pete settled on the Samish flats near Edison, returning only twice to his native Tennessee.

He returned to Tennessee to wed his first wife, Allie Kerr. They had two children. William and Carl were toddlers when their mother died in 1896. William died at an early age from Diphtheria.

Peter returned to Tennessee, marrying his second wife Docia Elizabeth Blevens in 1898. Peter and Docia had four more children, all born in the Edison area. Sons Daniel and Robert, and daughters May (Hanstead) and Jessie (Dowen).

In 1900 Peter purchased farmland in the Samish flats. Over the many years, the property was cleared, and Peter had a small sawmill on his property, with a train stop for the Interurban railroad. Many of the neighbors and farmers in the area, helping each other to clear the land and prepare it for farming, utilized this venture. Peter ventured forth with raising a small herd of cattle, and raising crops on the land once it had been cleared, and was an active member of the Darigold association.

Peter carried a family knowledge of the lumber industry, as his father Daniel Rasar was in partnership in many grist and sawmills in the Montvale to Alleghany vicinities in Tennessee.

All of the Rasar children grew to adulthood, married and raised families in Skagit County. The last survivor of this generation of Rasars passed away in 1999. Carl married Anna Petersen of Iowa. They had three children; Raymond, and Alice are both deceased, and there is one living daughter.

Daniel married Goldie Adema of Michigan. They had five children, all

of whom are alive and living in Washington State. Daniel's son Dan Rasar donated the property for Rasar State Park.

Robert married Myrtle Long of Tennessee. They had five children. Robert, Jr and Ernest are deceased, and there are 2 sons and 1 daughter still living. May married (1) Harold Gower and (2) Ernest "Tony" Hanstead. She had two children. A son Robert "Bob" is deceased and there is 1 living daughter.

Jessie married Frank Dowen of Michigan and two sons, Ronald and Claude, both of whom are deceased.

Each of the children married and had families. Many of their descendants are still living in Skagit County. Peter's nephews, Raymond Rasar and John Carl Rasar also emigrated and settled in other areas of Washington State. Raymond Rasar and his family eventually settled in Skagit County while John Rasar settled near the Oregon border. A niece Eliza Holder also emigrated to Skagit County and was married to Lon Harrison, in the Lyman/ Hamilton area.

Sources:

Royal, Thomas Edward & Mabel Florence (Boyd)

Born in Wisconsin 1871; Thomas Edward Royal was born of Irish immigrants by way of New Brunswick. Owen and Catherine Jane Royal migrated to Wisconsin



Back: Daniel, May & Docia Front:
Peter,
Jessie & Robert
Photos with permission from
Hazel Rasar

Here are shown piles of lumber produced at The Rasar Family sawmill, near Edison, Washington, on the old interurban rail line, which is now Chuckanut Drive. Residents of the Bow/Edison area brought in their own trees to have the mill cut it for use in building their homes.



Continued from page 3

EXPERTS, TWO FROM THE UW, PROVIDING INFORMATION ON DNA AND INHERITANCE, THE BENEFITS OF GENETIC COUNSELING, AND DNA TECHNOLOGY WITH RESPECT TO GENEALOGY. ALL QUESTIONS ANSWERED, REFRESHMENTS SERVED. JOIN US ON SUNDAY, **MARCH 26TH**, 12:30 TO 4:30 AT THE **MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND INDUSTRY**, 2700- 24th AVENUE EAST, SEATTLE. THE COST IS \$15.00 PER PERSON/\$25.00 PER COUPLE AND YOU RECEIVE THE SURGEON GENERAL'S FAMILY HEALTH TREE. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL MYRA ROTHENBERG, 425-868-5577 OR CHECK **WWW.JGSWS.ORG**. ADMISSION AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR.

Condolences

COLONEL CHARLES EDWARD CLAGUE, JR. USAF (Ret.)

Charlie has, in the past, been a very active, lifetime member of SVGS and for many years took the responsibility for arranging flights and housing for the society annual trips to Salt Lake City. Anyone that travelled with him to Salt Lake was given a great tour of the facility and he was always available to assist and was very knowledgeable about the Salt Lake Family History library. On many occasions he would charm us all with his sessions at society meetings. The last few years, due to health problems, he has not been able to carry out this chore, but has remained active with the Whidbey Island Genealogical Society, serving as their program chairperson with the very able assistance of his good friend, Margaret Self. Charlie has been a delight to know. He will be missed by many in the genealogical field, especially at the Skagit Valley society. Hazel Rasar

*** Thank you for your cards, notes of encouragement and attendance at Charlie Clague's memorial service. He was an enthusiastic genealogist; we will miss his humor as well as his concern for accuracy when he'd ask, "Did you document that?"*

Margaret M. Self

Colonel Charles Edward Clague, Jr. USAF (Ret.), age 81, of Oak Harbor, died Saturday, July 9, 2005, in Coupeville.

Col. Clague was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on September 24, 1923, to Charles E. Clague, Sr., and Georgetta Cook Clague. He was educated in Cleveland, where he graduated from West High School in 1941, and attended Baldwin Wallace College a year before enlisting for World War II, in which he served as Bombardier on thirty-two combat missions in the Eighth Air Force B-24 Liberators. He later completed pilot training and saw service in both the Korean and Vietnam Conflicts. Colonel Clague retired as Base Commander of Dover Air Force Base, Delaware. During thirty years of service, Charles earned the Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal, Combat Readiness

Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with 3 bronze stars, World War II Victory Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unity Award with one Oak Leaf Cluster and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Following discharge, Charles relocated in Washington State, where he obtained his Bachelor's Degree in Sociology from Saint Martin's College, Lacey, WA. He worked nine years for the State of Washington, as a payroll officer in the Department of Social and Health Services, and as a technical engineer in the Department of Labor and Industries, Division of Safety and Health. He retired in September 1986.

He was married to Jo Evelyn Dorrell Bonner, with whom he had sons Robert, Charles III and John and daughter Nancy Anne Roblow. Divorced in 1974, he married Betty Jeanne Piatt Hinds in 1979. She died in 1988. In addition to his four children, Charles is survived by fourteen grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren. Charles was a Master Mason and a life member of AARP, the Daedalians, and the Second Air Division.

Col. Clague enjoyed his last years in retirement on Whidbey Island as a member of the First Reformed Church, the An-O-Chords barbershop chorus, in pursuing his genealogy hobby, and in writing and publishing four books.

A Memorial Service will be Friday, July 29, 2005, 11:00 a.m. at First Reformed Church, with Full Military Honors by the McChord AFB Honor Guard. Donations may be made to the An-O-Chords Scholarship Fund, 2610 W. San Juan, Coupeville, WA 98239, or to the First Reformed Church Memorial Fund. Arrangements under direction of Burley Funeral Chapel.

Published Tuesday, July 26, 2005 Skagit Valley Herald

The Skagit Valley Genealogical Society extends its condolences to longtime Skagit County Historian **Dick Fallis** who's wife Bernice passed away this past June 22. Dick has mentioned that she was very instrumental in him being able to even accomplish being a memorialist and historian for the Skagit County Historical Society and Pioneer Association. Any success he's had in this vein he credits all to her. We wish Dick well in all his future endeavors.

Local News from Skagit County

Honored this year at the **101st Pioneer Picnic as the "Pioneer Family of the Year"** were the descendants and families of the **William Munks family**. The William Munks descendants have essentially been on the March Point homestead since the 1850's; this includes current County Commissioner Don Munks and his wife Cathy.

Chosen as **"The Family Contributing to the Pioneer Spirit"** this year was the **Issac Dunlap Family**; descendant James Dunlap was famous for Dunlap Towing. In 1877 the Issac Dunlap family came to the Swinomish Flats area of Fidalgo Island and within five years had close to six hundred acres of property for farming. Issac also served as one of the earliest county commissioners.

This Newsletter is published by the Members of SKAGIT VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY and is distributed free of charge to members. A non-profit organization, membership is open to all persons interested in historical research, preservation and publications of genealogical interest.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2005

APPLICANTS NAME _____

ADDRESS STREET, CITY, STATE & 9 DIGIT ZIP CODE _____

AREA CODE () _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

New Member _____

Renewal _____

Previous Member _____

FAMILY \$ 12 _____

INDIVIDUAL \$10 _____

INSTITUTION \$10 _____



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October is...
Family History Month