



Pacific Northwest Cornish Society

Volume 8 Number 4

FALL 2006

WELCOME TO OUR NEW VICE PRESIDENT



The annual meeting was held at Ft. Borst Park in Centralia on July 22, 2006. It was a good meeting that included confirming that the officers for President, Secretary and Treasure will serve another term. In addition, Bill Marshall was nominated for and accepted the position of Vice President for the coming year. Bill has been very

helpful in the past year with several jobs that he volunteered for and some he did not. All his hard work has been appreciated and we are looking forward to working together in the year to come. Please welcome Bill by forwarding any ideas you have about what you would like to see in the way of programs at the meetings: dreckly to Bill at 40ford@lewiscounty.com

NEXT MEETING

October 21, 2006 Noon To 4 Pm
Clark County Genealogy Society Annex
715 Grand Boulevard
Vancouver, Washington

PROGRAM

At this time we have not decided on a program but I guarantee that it will be a good one. Please let me know if you have any ideas or are willing to present something that will be interesting and useful to the membership.

POT LUCK LUNCH

There is no kitchen at this location however they will allow us to have Coffee, Tea etc. and any food not requiring preparation. They do have a microwave.

You can reach me at softwalk2@yahoo.com Alene Reaugh, President

Picture from Past Opens Present-day Doors

By Bonnie Ladoe in Portland, Oregon, USA

I broke down a brick wall and found a living cousin!

It started with a 1935 snapshot taken in Santa Monica, California of my parents and grandparents while they were visiting my grandfather's Aunt Sadie. Also in the photo were Mabel and Francene, Sadie's daughter and granddaughter.

No one in my family knew what happened to their California cousins. I knew that Sadie was actually Sarah UPTON, born about 1858. I obtained her California death certificate and found the informant to be a Mabel Francine WRIGHT -- Obviously the daughter, I then obtained a death certificate for Mabel and the informant was Francene.

Next I tried to obtain a death certificate for Francene. But, no luck. By "guesstimating" her age at about 82, I realized that she might be still alive. So I started posting the information I had on all the RootsWeb sites and lists with Francene's last name.

After about two years, I got an answer that merely said "my grandmother's name is Francene." I wrote back with more questions and was told by this young lady that she wasn't supposed to be "talking" to any one she met on the Internet.

After many futile attempts to assure her I was not a predator and emailing her many family photos and documents, she told me she was 16, and "believed me." But at her age she had no sense of history and refused to tell her parents of my existence or relay the information on to them.

Finally, after many months, she told me that she lived in the Los Angeles area and that she had given the information to her parents. And she e-mailed a photo of her and her family with Francene. (Her father is Francene's son). But I never heard back from her parents. After a few more months, she apparently changed her e-mail and I lost contact completely.

End of story? No! I found that Francene's husband was a Robert and began searching for him. I found a phone listing in the Los Angeles area and gave it a try. To my surprise, Francene answered the phone!

As is common with widows, the phone listing had remained in Robert's name. Francene told me she had received all the documents and photos I had sent and enjoyed them. She said her daughter would like to contact me "when she's not so busy".

So far, that day has not come. But at least I was able to talk to a long-lost cousin who is still amazed that I could actually find her. So am I.

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far from 'ome

Immigrant Experiences on the Keweenaw Peninsula - The 14th
Gathering of Cornish Cousins

July 25 to 29, 2007

Michigan's Upper Peninsula in Calumet
and Central Mine Location

Sponsored by:

Central Mine Methodist Church Board

[Cornish American Heritage Society](#)

[Keweenaw County Historical Society](#)

[Keweenaw Kernewek, the Cornish Connection
of the Copper Country](#)

with assistance from

[Keweenaw National Historical Park](#)

[MainStreet Calumet](#)

If there is anyone interested in making this a group trip, please contact me at softwalk2@yahoo.com Alene Reaugh, President PNCS

Cornish EBAY

Have you ever searched for Cornish on EBAY? Well I tried it and was amazed at what came up for auction that is Cornish, 501 ITEMS just with Cornish in the title. I thought it would be fun to name a few of them: Cornish sea glass; Cornish pottery; a bag of stones charged at Cornish Ley healing crystalsthey explain "Ley lines named Apollo & Athena, cross Cornwall from the north coast of Penwith, 'unite' with the Michael and Mary ley lines at St. Michael's Mount and then flow south-east through the Lizard (dragon of ancient 'serpentine' rock), and over the sea to Mont St. Michel, onwards through France, Italy and Greece to the 'Holy Land'"; MACKEREL FEATHERS TIED IN THE TIME HONOURED TRADITION CORNISH PATTERN; A Cornish Pixie Horse Brass; Cornish Postcards; Cornish Surf Shorts; Cornish Flags; Cornish T-Shirts with logo - [**cornishmusic.com**](http://cornishmusic.com) "Yn-dann nerth a bastiow" - Which is Cornish for "Under the power of pasties!"; **large piece of old Cornish fishing net from the Cornish sea complete with** ; Cornish Driftwood Art; Cornish jewelry; Cornish candles; Cornish paintings; Cornish books; Cornish Thimbles; a Cornish teapot; Cornish clocks; Cornish rocks; Cornish Paper weights; Cornish necktie; playing cards; bar towels; cufflinks; charms; featherdusters made with Cornish lambswool; 100% proper Cornish clothing; even a Cornish Beenie Baby!



Have I got your curiosity up? Check it out, you never know what you will find.

California Cornish Cousins get together open to all!!!

Hello Listers - The California Cornish Cousins will have its annual fall luncheon this year at the Orange County Celtic Festival, Saturday November 18, 2006 at Irvine Meadows Fairgrounds. The luncheon is open this year to non-members. We are hoping to be able to have an informational booth at the festival for our group and if we sell a minimum of 20 tickets in advance the booth fee will be waived. The admission fee is \$15 per person and you are welcome to join us for lunch in the food concession area, where we will have a reserved section. The menu choices include pasties and haggis, among other items, I am told, and the choice and cost of lunch will be up to you. You can learn more about the festival at www.occelticfestival.com. If you are interested, please contact me privately and I will tell you the address where to mail a check for the tickets. If we don't sell the minimum of 20 tickets, I will return the checks. Hope to see you there! Jan Davis jandavis3@cox.net

UPDATE FROM GAY KNUTSON

Michael Matheson-a good Scot so Bob Bruce should approve!-and I married on that grand Celtic holiday, Cinco de Mayo. We DID have a very Celtic ceremony aboard the sailboat upon which we crew-another good Celtic name-Zen. The day was gorgeous and we "decorated" with the Cornish and Scots flags. We did the stone tossing ceremony, read a traditional Celtic pledge on a pledging stone, and I recited the blessing that Yowann had written for my house naming ceremony-with a few tweaks here and there-in Cornish. We then drank Drambuie from a Scottish craich-two sided silver cup. The ceremonial ideas came from a booklet that Steve Blamires (the fellow who represented Scotland at Celtic Encounters) gives out at his store in Port Townsend-Wandering Angus. Our rings are Celtic knots from Steve's store. After the ceremony we sailed to Port Townsend for a couple of days but the "real" honeymoon was a three and a half week trip to central China and Tibet. It was a lovely journey by train, river boat, and plane.

We've been working on the farmlette here, Treveth an Dowrlam-named by Yowan, Homestead by the Waterfall. We are rebuilding the pond,gardening and have got the grandiose idea of creating a place for Celtic weddings, near the falls. Slowly but surely we're clearing small, "secret" spots for benches, Green Men, and Celtic pots of flowers (Steve sells some great stuff). The plan is to make a gazebo near the falls and then have a large, covered deck area for about 40 guests...the plans get grander, as I have always wanted to build a little Cornish cottage-faced with cultured limestone-and Michael wants a Hobbit house!

Anyway, between the garden and pond and work and family, we're pretty strapped for time. I certainly haven't forgotten any of you and would love to host a meeting when things take on better shape around here. As for Celtic Encounters, I wouldn't mind thinking about it...but not right this

minute! WHO COULD REPRESENT CORNWALL WITH YOWANN GONE? I know Steve would come back, and suspect the Welsh and Irish guy would too...Would try harder for a Breton this time, too! Anyway, hope all are well down south!

Sincerely, Gay



Yowann Byghan
Townhead of Glengaber Cottage
Dunscore
Dumfries & Galloway DG2 0JQ
Scotland, Great Britain
01387 820595
ybyghan@yahoo.com

I suppose our biggest adventure is just living here. Dumfries and Galloway is packed with antiquities. We've had lots of expeditions, mostly involving castles, stone circles or border towers (these are peculiar to Scotland - in the Middle Ages, rich folks weren't safe in ordinary houses, and couldn't afford huge castles, so they built something in between, a fortified tower with a walled farmyard attached, and most of them are still in excellent condition, even though they're six or seven hundred years old). We're like kids in a candy store here - there are so many ancient and historic sites all around us that we just jump in the car, and head at random down a country lane until we stumble across the next adventure. Siaron has christened these trips "weebles", from "wee" and "ramble". We weeble every weekend, in between fetching and chopping logs from the forest and/or pootling about in the garden.

Siaron's doing lots of conference work - she was at the Trades Union Congress national conference in London a few weeks ago, and she's going to be covering the major political party conferences later in the summer. Sean is doing wonderfully at his special school. All of us are loving the house, the garden, the 100-acre wood, the village, and lovely Dumfries. We've taken the caravan (trailer) on several weekend trips.

We have two specific journeys planned. We have two respite nights for Sean in July, so we're going over to Whitby and York, to look at the Abbey and the Cathedral respectively - both fascinating places. Then in August we're taking the caravan up to the Isle of Skye - I've been before, but Siaron never has. I've started learning Scots Gaelic (or Gaidhlig), so I'll have a chance to practise with the locals!

We still haven't been down to Cornwall - just too busy with work, the house, the garden, and enjoying Scotland. We'll get there soon - maybe for Christmas.

Love to all at PNCS, and the invitation is still open if anyone wants to come over and visit and stay with us a for a while.

Gans ow gwella gorhemynadow,

Yowann

The Pascoe Name

The family name "Pascoe" (or Pascow, Pascaw, Pasco, Pascaud, Paskowe, and other variations) goes back at least to the Middle Ages. It was originally a common Cornish boy's forename, indicating a boy born at Easter time, but later became a very familiar surname. Until about a thousand years ago, surnames were scarce in Britain, but by the late Middle Ages surnames had become commonplace. Because of its seasonal origin, not all Pascoes are descended from a single ancestor; however, all Pascoes are of Cornish ancestry. In fact, to narrow it down further, "Pascoe" seems to have originated in the far west of Cornwall and spread outwards from there, eventually around the world. Presently, there are alleged to be approximately 5600 Pascoes in the UK, 8600 in Australia and New Zealand, 4000 in the US (particularly in mining regions such as Michigan and California because of the Cornish miner immigrants), and 1300 in Canada (mainly Ontario); there are very few anywhere else. The western parish of Wendron has been "Pascoe headquarters" for as far back as records exist. By far the most common spelling nowadays is our own "Pascoe".

Along with Ireland, Scotland, the Isle of Man, Wales, as well as Brittany in France and Galicia in Spain, Cornwall is a land with very strong Celtic roots. The Celtic peoples were known all across Europe in ancient times, and probably arrived in the British Isles between 900 BC and 500 BC, displacing and assimilating (and being assimilated by) the earlier inhabitants who had already built Stonehenge and other prehistoric standing-stone sites. There are more ancient sites concentrated in West Cornwall than anywhere else in Britain. When the Romans arrived in Britain in 55 BC, some of the Celtic peoples gradually became partly Latinized, although less so in the west and the north. Even though the Romans made relatively little impact in the west, there are many borrowed Latin words in the Cornish language. Almost as soon as the Romans left in 436 AD, new invasions from Angles, Jutes, and Saxons from present-day Denmark, Norway, and Germany began, pushing the Celts further westward. In ancient days there were strong Cornish ties with Wales, and Cornwall was known for a time as "West Wales", but these successive European invasions severed the land ties around the Severn estuary about a thousand years ago, whereupon the Cornish and Welsh languages diverged. Nevertheless, Cornish, Welsh, and Breton are comparatively closely-related languages, though no longer mutually understood. The Welsh, Breton, and Cornish people are very closely-related and share much history, many Cornish people having migrated to Brittany. To this day, such ancient Celtic practices as May Day, hilltop bonfires, and the annual gathering of the Bards of the

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Cornish Gorsedd are revived and celebrated. In fact, "Celtic awareness" is on the upswing in Cornwall and elsewhere.

Meaning of "Pascoe"

The underlying meaning of the name "Pascoe" is more complicated than most; it is necessary to know a little more British history and church history to really grasp the background. Britain had begun to turn Christian (with a heavy Celtic flavour) surprisingly early, beginning likely in the third century AD (fourth century for Cornwall), long before Constantine had made Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire. It took a surprisingly strong hold in Ireland, which at times sent missionaries eastward to Wales, Cornwall and Scotland. When the Thor- and Woden-worshipping Saxons and other invading tribes arrived, they de-Christianized much of Britain until European or Irish missionaries arrived again from east or west. For a while, until 664 AD, two rival flavours of Christianity existed side-by-side in Britain: the local Celtic form drawing its inspiration from Ireland to the west, and the Roman form taught by later missionaries from the continent, containing all of the "updates" from Rome. One of the great controversies between Celtic and Roman Christianity in Britain concerned the calculation of the official date of Easter celebrations, although this now seems fairly silly. The ancient Celtic "pagan" religion was also still strong at this time. It took hundreds of years for Christianity to become dominant, and even then it often existed as a thin veneer on top of the ancient traditional beliefs and practices. Nevertheless, it is to this somewhat divided Christianity that we owe the name "Pascoe". The story goes like this: the Christian Easter is historically related to the Jewish Passover, although the dates are no longer calculated in the same way. The Last Supper of Jesus and his disciples took part at Passover time in Jerusalem. In Hebrew, "Pesakh" means "passing over". This word for Passover, in Latinized form, actually came to refer to the related Christian festival of Easter rather than Passover, and came into the Celtic and Latin languages in this sense (Pasg in Welsh, Pask or Pasc in Cornish, Pascua in Spanish and Italian, Pâque in French). Therefore, a boy-child born during the Easter season in Cornwall might well have been named Pascoe (his only name), just as children born at other times were given the names of various saints whose holy-days were being remembered. There was also a feminine form for girl-children, Pascas or Pascatte, no longer used. Later, Pascoe came to be used as a surname, as mentioned above. Incidentally, the association of eggs with Easter is a purely Celtic carry-over, in much the same way that Hallowe'en is. More oddly, the

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word "Easter" is really the name of another pre-existing Saxon festival having nothing whatever to do with Christianity. Written by Den Pascoe

November 16, 1996 South Burlington, Vermont

Ten years ago I went on a fact finding trip to Cornwall, England to learn more about the Pascoe family name. The trip was inspired by an old picture of Falmouth, England that I think Uncle Donny took in about 1948 (I could be wrong). That, and the notion that some of our family came from there, caused me to go and check it out for myself. Nancy and I arrived in that beautiful harbor town in the evening and checked into a bed & breakfast. After we got settled, I found a local phone book (typical size, about an inch thick), and looked up our family name. It wasn't very hard to find...I counted 600 entries under the name Pascoe! There was only one way to proceed. We went to a pub. On the way, though, we matched up the scenery with the photo and found the spot where the photo had most likely been taken from (a rock outcropping on the west side of the harbor), and noted all that was the same and all that had changed.

I spoke with several folks about our mission, and while all agreed that Falmouth was "Pascoe country," there was little else to say about that topic. But then the next morning we met an older gentleman who said he had lots of Pascoes in his extended family and claimed to know the history of our name. He said that the name originated among the Spanish fishermen ("Pescadores") who sold fish ("pescado"), and sailed their fishing boats (barcas de pesca) up the coast all the way to Brittany (directly across the English Channel from Falmouth). It does seem that at least some Spanish seafarers used the name in the "New World" Spanish colonies, since there is a province and provincial capital named Pasco in central Peru (there are quite a few "Pascos" in the Lima phone book as well).

Anyway, the man from Falmouth said that the Spanish Pascos intermingled with the French in Brittany, and in the French tradition, obtained an "e" at the end of the name in the process. As more time passed, he went on to say, the fishermen eventually started crossing the channel regularly and intermingled with the Cornish folks (he actually said that this became frequent in the 1500s). The geography (and history of boating) certainly is consistent with this scenario. What I cannot confirm is that there are numerous Pascoes in Brittany (anyone?). It seems that there would have to be if the above is correct (though it wouldn't be proof since the Pascoes could have started in the North and moved south). (Written by a unknown Pascoe) Ordering information for "Pascoes around the World" by W H Pascoe: Send your cheque for US \$12.10 (including p&p, US personal cheque is fine) payable to CFHS, with a cover

letter, to CFHS, 5 Victoria Square, Truro, Cornwall, TR1 2RS UK

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 [ww.nwcornish.org](http://www.nwcornish.org) You can place an order by emailing me at softwalk2@yahoo.com .

PNC S WEB SITE

<http://www.nwcornishsociety.org/>
Webmaster: Mickey Sieracki
Contact the Society
softwalk2@yahoo.com

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.

PNC S LIBRARY

The PNC S Library exists, and is being kept by 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 Aleen at softwalk2@yahoo.com. The books and tapes are available to all members to be checked out at the meetings or contact Aleen to make other arrangements.

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! Joan@Tregarthen.com or phone 360-613-1718. Or go to www.archivecdbooks.com and check out all their CDs.

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: mjrothman@comcast.net
Or mail to: **Marcia Rothman, 5345 April Dr, Langley, WA 98260**
Make sure they get to us 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:

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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

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