



Volume 19 Number 1
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President's Message

Welcome to 2006; hope it began wonderfully and that it fulfills its promise of respect, reward, and recognition for each of us.

Keep track of the seminars coming this spring, they promise to be wonderful and include the Washington State Genealogical Society's on April 7th and 8th and the Genealogical Society of South Whidbey's on May 13th. Check out the WSGS website to keep track of those and similar events, or better yet join that society to get your private copy of their newsletter.

Dues are due for our society membership, so be sure not to miss coming issues by sending in your dues or coming to a general meeting (with the next one being January 24th) to pay in person and to have the advantage of hearing the wonderful speakers Hazel has lined up for us to learn from.

I want to thank all of our volunteers—we have an extremely active society compared to others. A new addition is Tom Robinson, Ph.D, who will be serving as the chairperson of our new standing committee called "Heritage Historian". Welcome aboard Tom. He will be ably assisted by Dan Royal and Hazel Rasar.

Another fairly new volunteer is Maureen Royal. She is always searching for grants for society, but she has also agreed to be our ways-and-means chairperson. She is looking for people who might like to serve on that committee, as she has events planned clear into 2007. Contact Maureen, Dan or me to serve on this committee—we will gratefully accept any assistance.

There are so many volunteers I won't list them all here, but I'm so grateful for their participation. I'm also grateful for all of you that attend our super meetings. Keep coming!

Hugs and smiles, *Laura*

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

The New Year of 2006 is here. All society dues are payable by January 1. If your dues have not been paid by the end of February you will be removed from the society mailing list.

Society News

Heritage Historian

The Skagit Valley Genealogical Society [BOARD OF DIRECTORS] is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Tom Robinson to a new [BOARD] position with the title of 'Heritage Historian'. This position will currently include being historian not only for the society but for 'Special History Projects' such as the current ongoing book project "Skagit County Washington and Its People".

New to Family History?

Maybe you've gotten interested in your family history, talked to older relatives, gathered some pictures, searched some Internet sites and made some amazing discoveries. You feel you are well on your way to producing your family history but wonder if you are missing something. Some things aren't adding up or you've run into problems. Where do you turn for help?

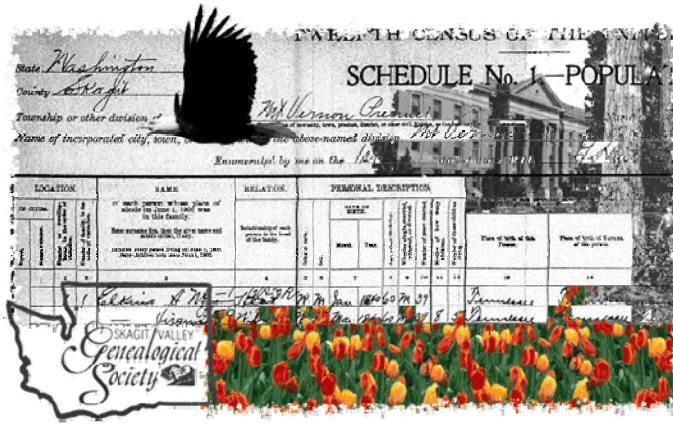
Join your local genealogy society! Why the local society? Your family may never have lived locally and all of your research is in another state, or even another country. Chances are great that you're not the only one. You may find family connections in New England, the MidWest, the Southern States or even in another country. Others have found society members researching the same counties, states and foreign countries. You can form special friendships or establish interest groups to share information and help others.

Your local society may own resources for other parts of the world. They may exchange newsletters with other societies, possibly the ones where you are searching. Also, members of your local society may be able to guide you to new resources. We all love sharing success stories.

Have you asked a distant society for research help and gotten good results? Pay it forward. Help your local society provide the same services to others. Volunteer to do lookups, assist others at the library, volunteer to serve on committees, get to know your fellow society members.

Whatever your research needs, your local genealogical society is a great resource as well as a great opportunity to expand your skills. Get involved today.

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SVGS Board of Directors 2005

- President: **Laura Pemberton Sparr**
1-425-231-6945 centre4randr@hotmail.com
- Vice President: **Hazel Rasar**
360-424-6528 h.rasar2@verizon.net
- Secretary: **Rita M. Schulze**
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- Past president: **Hazel Rasar**
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- Membership: **Donna Hinds**
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- Newsletter/Webmaster: **Dan Royal**
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- Projects : **OPEN**
- Publications: **Candice Soine**
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- Printing Publications: **Arnold Stewart**
- Raffles/Door Prizes: **Sharon Johnson**
- Ways & Means: **Maureen Royal**
360-826-6141 dmoroyal@earthlink.net
- Publicity: **OPEN**

Special Committees

- Telephone: **Yvonda Anderson**
360-757-0052 vondavid@fidalgo.net
- Fund Raiser for Special Projects: **Maureen Royal**
360-826-6141 dmoroyal@earthlink.net
- Special History Projects: **Hazel Rasar**
co-chairs **Dan Royal**

Calendar of Events

Upcoming 2006

General Meeting:

Start time 7:00 p.m. at the Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church 1511 E. Broadway; across from S.V. Hospital

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”**

28 March 2006 SVGS Member Sharon Johnson will be sharing **“Using Land Records”**

Welcome New Members

- Bruce Matson
- Lee Matson
- Richard Ball
- Harold Christenson
- Shirley Christenson
- Doris Rowe
- Margie Kott
- Joyce Liston
- Tami Sneddon
- Eva "Christina" Hildebrand
- Jody Peterson [Joan]

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

27 Jan, 2006, Lynnwood, WA

Fred Lighter will give SIGS members a free goal setting seminar, 9am to 3pm., location announced later.

26 March 2006 Vancouver, WA

Clark County Gen Soc presents "Searching for Your Female Ancestors" by Sharon DeBartolo Carmack. For registration info send email to CCGS Programs@ hotmail.com

March 10-11, 2006. Provo, Utah. Computerized Genealogy Conference. More info at: <http://ce.byu.edu/cwgeneal/>

March 18, 2006. Jefferson County Genealogical Society Seminar. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.: Speaker Beverly Rice, associate of the PastTracker Association and Certified Genealogist SM. Ms. Rice will speak on "*Missing Pieces: Solving Your Family Puzzles by Developing Timelines, Discovering the Occupations of Your Ancestors, Using Courthouse and Land Records, with a Special Feature: Continuing Educational Opportunities.*" Cost is \$25 before March 12, 2006, after is \$30. To register, send your check to JCGS, Attn: Treasurer, PO Box 627, Port Townsend, WA 98368-0627. Enclose a note indicating "Seminar" and your phone number and e-mail address. Please check website for all other seminar details. <http://www.rootsweb.com/~wajcgs/meetings.html#seminar>

Mar 25, 2006. Seattle Genealogical Society Seminar. Speaker: Bill Utterback. More info at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~waseags>

March 26, 2006, - Seattle WA

Museum of History and Industry; 12:30-4:30 pm; \$20.00 per person.

Want a better understanding of the new medical advances in genetics and DNA technology? How information in your genes affects your health? How your genes reveal information about your genealogy?

An exciting program entitled "*DNA, Genetic Health and Genealogy*" will examine these issues and more! This event promises to bring together three experts to examine these issues in a community-wide informational symposium. *

DNA- the Basis of Inheritance-Dr. Marshall Horwitz, Departments of Medicine, Genome Sciences and Pathology, UW, will provide a basic explanation of DNA, genes, inheritance, and how ancestry is buried in your DNA.

* *Genetic Counseling and Family Health Tree*-Robin Bennett, MS,CGC, Genetic Counselor, Division of Medical Genetics, UW

* *DNA and Genealogy*- Dr. Tia Aulinkas, Chief Technical Officer, Genelex Corp., Seattle, will explain how DNA technology may be used to advance genealogical research.

For additional information about the program, please visit www.jgsws.org or contact JGSWS board members Myra Rothenberg at (425) 868-5577 or Barbara Conta at (206) 275-3848.

Apr 1, 2006— Richland, WA Spring Seminar sponsored by the Tri-Cities Genealogical Society—Margie Belden speaker.

April 7-8, 2006 - Olympia, WA *Washington State Genealogical Society Annual Conference and Business Meeting will be held at the Olympia High School. Host society is the Olympia Genealogical Society. Watch for more details or check the WSGS website www.rootsweb.com/~wasgs*

May 13, 2006. Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island Seminar. Speaker: Mystery Speaker
This a **date change** from April 8, 2006.

June 7-10, 2006 NGS Conference in the States to be held in Chicago, Illinois—National Genealogical Society

JUNE 9-11, 2006 Kennedy Co. Wagon Train of 1862 descendants would like to invite all descendants of the Wagon Train to their Reunion in Baker City, OR and at the Oregon Trail Interpretative Center. If you think your family may have been on this train but aren't sure, contact us and we will help you determine if they were or not. Reconstructed Roster Surname List is available. If you know they were:

WE WANT YOU!!!!!!

Best Western Sun Ridge Inn, 1 Sunridge Lane, Baker City, Oregon. For more information please contact: Ella Jane (Jayne) Allison McCarley jaymccarley1@comcast.net

July 12-16—Portland, Oregon Germans from Russia Heritage Society Convention

August 13-18 - International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies IAJGS Annual Conference in New York City

September 6-13, 2006 - Vancouver, B.C. Cruise

Millennia Corporation presents a seven-day cruise from Vancouver, B.C., Canada to Juneau, Glacier Bay, Skagway, Ketchikan and back to Vancouver. Genealogy classes taught by Dave Berdan, Ken McGinnis, Geoff Rasmussen and Jim Terry will be offered on the days out to sea. Learn the features of Legacy 6.0. For reservations and information visit website at www.legacyfamilytree.com/Cruise2006Info.asp

Thank you Hazel Rasar, newsletter editor for W.S. Gen Soc.



Sharon A. Suhr

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Genealogy News

Washington State 1910 Federal Census Index Project.

The Washington State Genealogical Society decided to take on the project of indexing the Washington State 1910 Census. This census was not soundexed and has been a problem for many people with families who moved into the state and then seemed to disappear. It was decided to make an every name index and to include the age and birth place for each person. The enumeration district, page and line number was also collected for quick location on the microfilm. There are 39 Counties in Washington, and **all counties have been completed.** The index has been turned over to the Washington Secretary of State Historical Records (Digital Archives) website. Some counties have not yet been added to their database, but it should ALL be available "right after Thanksgiving." To search the index, go to their website at <http://www.digitalarchives.wa.gov>.

German Information Center

Dear Colleagues, Partners, Friends, Ladies and Gentlemen, Many of the Genealogical or Historical Societies, German-American Clubs, research units, scholars or individuals active in the field of German-American culture and the migration experience know about our activities in research and travel. Be it on seminars, lectures, presentations, exhibits or as customers and guests on our heritage tours to Germany. Today I would like to introduce two recent projects that had been carried out and published in cooperation with the German National Tourist Office (GNTO) in New York City and the German Information Center at Washington, DC.

"Discover your Roots in Germany"

A six side brochure introducing heritage destinations, attractions, sights and places to see and visit in Germany. It is prominently presented on the GNTO's website and can be downloaded as a PDF file:

http://www.cometgermany.com/roots_flyer.pdf

Find your Roots in Germany

A joint website blends research and travel information. You can navigate with links and tools for researchers and travelers likewise and access resources, publications, projects, databases etc. related to the migration experience as well as to tourist information: <http://www.roots-in-germany.de>

Heritage Travel and Research Services

Our heritage tours, services for pre-trip research, personal itineraries and customized group tours are listed on our website: In 2006 we offer all our tours as driver-guided tours in a van for a minimum of just 6 travelers. With a party of six you may even go on a customized itinerary at any time for almost the same price. Welcome to Germany on exciting field trips. <http://www.routes.de>

Kind regards from the Old World
Research and Travel

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Email: routes@t-online.de
<http://www.routes.de>

The Washington State Genealogist

The WSGS Board has agreed to produce a journal of articles submitted by societies and individuals from all regions of the state. Titled "The Washington State Genealogist," the journal should be especially useful for small societies or groups who do not have their own journal in which to publish genealogical records of their local area.

The journal will not replace the WSGS Newsletter, which will continue to announce activities, programs, workshops and conferences around the state, along with short articles of genealogical news.

Our pioneers traveled throughout the state using coastal and river boat routes, following the advancing railroads, looking for gold or productive farm land and more timber to cut and mill. Without air conditioning and cruise control, many early families moved from one region to the next, leaving records helpful to today's family historians. Records from the upper Columbia may be of value to a Skagit Valley researcher and vice versa.

To fill the 30-40 pages planned for each journal, we would like to receive articles up to 4 pages in length. Longer articles may be split among two or more issues. The articles should be sent to Bob Witherspoon at rgwspoon@aol.com as a Word or WordPerfect document or in RTF (Rich Text Format). For more information please email Bob at **RGWSPOON@AOL.COM** or call him at 360-734-9835.

Family History Center Microfilm Rental Fees Increase

The following is an excerpt from an announcement to all Family History Center Directors from the Family History Support department of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints:

The microfilm circulation loan fees will be changed effective 15 January 2006.

Loan fees for microfilm will change from \$3.25 to \$5.50.

Microfiche fees will remain at 15¢ per fiche.

All renewals, including films ordered at the \$3.25 fee, will be renewed at the new rate of \$5.50.

This fee change, the first since February 1997, is needed to keep pace with increasing costs. Continue to use the current Microfilm and Microfiche Order Card (35068) and Microfilm and Microfiche Order Sheet (31895)

Please note that the new fees still include return postage

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Sno-Isle Genealogical Library

The **Sno-Isle Genealogical Library** is now open. Hours will be Tuesday 10-2, Thursday 1-5 and Saturday 10-2, also open by appt. SIGS@alderwood.org ; 19827 Poplar Way, Lynnwood, WA 98036. Phone is 425-775-6267.

Contact grammythul@aol.com for society queries.

National Archives and Records Administration

Genealogy Workshops

6125 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115

phone 206-336-5115

Seattle.archives@nara.gov

<http://www.archives.gov/pacific-alaska/seattle>

Thurs, **Jan 5, 2006** Using the "*Chinese Exclusion*" Case Files 10:00 M (Sue Karren) \$10 donation;

Thurs, **Jan 12, 2006** "*Brick Wall*" Genealogical Workshop 11:30 AM (NARA Staff & Volunteers) Free

Sat, **Jan 14, 2006** *Beginning Computer Genealogy* 10:00 AM (Carol Buswell) \$10 donation

Methods of Searching the National Archives

Records 1:30 PM (Candace Lein-Hayes) \$10 donation;

tion;

Thurs, **Feb 2, 2006** *American Indian Records - Northwest Tribes* 10:00 AM (Carol Buswell) \$10 donation;

Thurs, **Feb 9, 2006** "*Brick Wall*" Genealogical Workshop 11:30 AM (NARA Staff & Volunteers) Free;

Sat, **Feb 11, 2006** *Federal Resources for Photographs Online* 10:00 AM (Karl Kumm) \$10 donation; *Using Land Records in Your Research* 1:30 PM (Patty McNamee) \$10 donation

Joan the Librarian



Good news regarding the new public library for Burlington. Work has been started on the preparatory work; removal of existing structures, road work necessary etc. The new Public Library will have a greatly expanded section for our genealogy collection including computer access and areas for research. More information on the particulars will be forthcoming.

Recent issues of the following publications are in the top file drawer.

Magazines

- Gift issue of Ancestry
- Family Chronicle
- Genealogy Bulletin (from Heritage Creations)
- Heritage Quest
- National Genealogical Society News

Quarterly Journals

- Genealogists' Magazine (UK)
- Hawkeye Heritage (IA)
- New York Genealogical & Biographical

Record

- Olympia Genealogical Society
- Whatcom Genealogical Society

All of these publications have interesting and informative articles that can help with your research. Take some time to brows through them .

**STERN
NARA
GIFT
FUND**

Since its inception in 1983, the Malcolm H. Stern NARA Gift Fund (named for the first chairman of the fund) has contributed nearly \$100,000 to the National Archives and Records Administration to create finding aids and produce microfilms of interest to the genealogical community. It has been funded primarily by \$1 contributions from you, the family historian, through the commitment of your society to contribute \$1 to the fund for each member.

**Contribute now to the
DOLLARS FOR DOCUMENTS DRIVE**

Yes! Count us in! Enclosed is our society's donation of \$ _____ for the Malcolm H. Stern NARA Gift Fund's Dollars for Documents drive.

Name of society

Make check payable to "Stern NARA Gift Fund"
Mail to: Stern NARA Gift Fund/Federation of Genealogical Societies;
P.O. Box 200940; Austin, TX 78720-0940

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 - 2006

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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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED