



President's Message

It is an honor to be elected and serve as president of our society. I was persuaded by our friend Hazel to consider doing this and have a twisted arm to prove it. Since we have a very professional and dedicated group of genealogists in our society, it looked like I would have good help. Also changing our monthly meetings to Saturdays allows me to be available. So let's go for it! Over the years I've had a mentor from our society who has encouraged me to keep up with my own genealogy research. I feel I owe the society for this extra effort so it is payback time. Thank you! I look forward to working with all of our officers and committee chairs. Much has changed since I first got involved in the late 90s. The internet is now huge but in depth research involving trips to archives and libraries, micro films, newspapers, census records, certificates for birth, naturalization and death, and family papers and bibles are not to be overlooked. Our recent series of classes was a great refresher and I look forward to learning more. Education through an annual series of classes and our annual seminar are critical to maintain and increase our membership. Our library volunteers and our Genealogist assist in this endeavor. I have found in my other hobby of square dancing that continued lessons is a must to overcome the natural attrition in club memberships. Education and keeping it fun are a real boost to friendships and our mutual interest in genealogy. Our dedicated group of genealogists are doing the legwork to keep education at the forefront. I'm impressed with their drive. It is my goal to keep education at the forefront to keep our society growing. Publicity is the other area we need to maintain. Our website, newsletter and communications are important elements of our society's Publicity. When our classes and seminar need publicity we need to advertise. Although newspaper announcements are necessary, in square dancing we found that "word of mouth" draws in about 90% of our new dancers. Our society has our website and networking with other genealogical societies to promote. Of course, inviting friends, neighbors and other acquaintances should not be overlooked. Monthly meeting announcements in our local papers to promote attendance at our educational programs needs to be checked out. I plan to pursue this avenue to increase our society's exposure to the public. Our members may have other ideas we can pursue.

Volume 29 Number 1

President: John

Newsletter: Dottie Chandler

PO BOX 715, CONWAY, WA 98238-0715

Web site: skagitvalleygenealogy.org

Let me know your thoughts. I really appreciated the work of George Ridgeway our outgoing president who has maintained and continues to update our website. His leadership in spearheading fall classes was just the tip of the iceberg of what he has led our society through these past two years. Well done, George, and thank you!

So 2015, here we come!

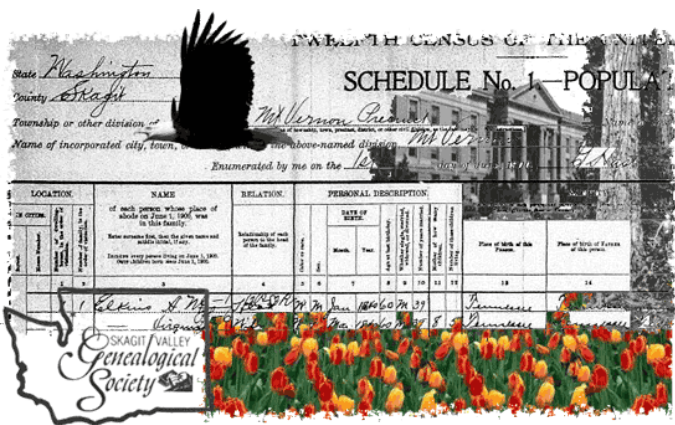
John Hayes

Newly elected President

JOHN HAYES ; was born in Sedro-Woolley, raised in Acme, and graduated from Mt. Baker High School. He graduated from the University of Washington with a BS in Civil Engineering. After 35 years as an engineer with the WSDOT he retired in 1995. John has been an active, long time member of Skagit Valley Genealogical Society. John and Rosie belong to and are active in the three local square dance clubs and he assists with the local beginners square dance program year round at the Mount Vernon Senior Center. They usually square dance at least twice a week and Rosie teaches clogging twice a week. John has two daughters and three grandchildren and wife Rosie has three sons and five grandchildren. Together they have six great-grandchildren.

John says: I took up genealogy about 1997 and served as the V.P. for Programs for our local genealogical society for three years (2003-05). With the support and encouragement from members of the society I have had good luck tracing all my lines back to Europe and beyond for my Hayes line. Traveling is not my thing but we have ventured to North Dakota and Montana to search for and visit graves of my ancestors. I look forward to working with members of SVGS and assisting the society to move forward with society goals.

I remain busy with square dancing, gardening, genealogy, family, pinochle playing, high school class reunions and keeping an eye on the sports scene.



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360-424-4608 rosie@valleyint.com

Vice President: Carol Torset
360-856-2410 torset@comcast.net

Secretary: Muriel Neely

Treasurer: Lois LeBlonde
360-293-7447 leblojf@frontier.com

Past President: George Ridgeway
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360-826-6141 dmroyal@earthlink.net

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360-798-1681 wilsongm@frontier.com

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360-202-9451 cooper2chris@yahoo.com

Publications : Dan Royal

Newsletter: Dottie Chandler
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Projects : OPEN

Ways & Means: OPEN

Publicity: OPEN

Member at Large: Rita Schultze

Special Committees

Communications: Hazel Rasar
svgsgenealogy@gmail.com

Nominating: OPEN

Audit/Budget: OPEN

Bylaws/Standing Rules: Joe LeBlonde
360-293-7447 leblojf@frontier.com

Refreshments: OPEN

Raffles/Door Prizes:

Special History Projects: Dan Royal & Hazel Rasar

SOCIETY EMAIL: genealogy0715@gmail.com

Your advice is needed. If you have suggestions of program topics for next year. Or if you just can't wait to present a program yourself, please contact Carol Torset at torset@comcast.net or 360-856-2410. She will happily take your ideas to heart.

The Skagit Valley Genealogical Society Newsletter accepts 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 or surnames to be posted in

Needed New Volunteers

Our genealogists is looking for new volunteers to train to help with research requests when she is gone. If interested please give Diane Partington a call at 360-336-5832 or send her an email at nonie.dl@comcast.net



SVGS Member,

If you have been to our website, you can see that it has alot of useful tabs. I am looking for some people who would like to learn how to create pages and posts on the site. If you have an interest or if you know someone who would like to learn a little about wordpress. Let me know at george-wayjr@gmail.com.

Thank you.

Burlington Public Library

820 E Washington Ave
Burlington, WA 98233
Phone (360) 755-0760
Email:
blibrary@ci.burlington.wa.us
Hours: Monday – Thursday
11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Friday & Saturday
11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday – Closed

SVGS Library Collection
located here. SVGS Volun-
teers available on Mondays from 11:00—1:00 to assist with
questions.

Margie Wilson—SVGS Librarian



HAPPY NEW YEAR everyone!

I would like to take this opportunity to **WELCOME** John Hayes to our board of directors as our newly elected President and to also thank Muriel Neely for stepping forward to serve another term as our society secretary. We would find it difficult to move forward without your assistance in leading this society.

This also brings forth a big **Thank You** to George Ridgeway for the past 2 years. As our president he also was instrumental in designing, improving and building our website including a society blog. I sincerely hope that everyone is visiting the site at www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org.

You may also have the opportunity to pay your yearly dues by using PayPal which you will find a link at that site. Dues for 2015 remain at \$15 for individuals and \$20 for families.

As your communications person I would like to have you consider your co-members in the society. Are you aware of one of our members that have an upcoming birthday, or have been ill and in the hospital? Has a member lost a family member? If any of these are known by you, PLEASE contact me at svgsgenealogy@gmail.com. It is my job to keep in touch with our membership. On behalf of the society I would like to be able to send a card acknowledging these events.

If you have an article or a website that you think may be of interest to others, pass it on and I will gladly share it with our membership.

Dan Royal, our publications chairperson would welcome your help in reading Hawthorne Cemetery and possibly other projects while Barbara Johnson will be asking for assistance in preparation for our annual seminar. Several have noted the absence of coffee, juice or refreshments at meetings. Would you be able to share in providing this service occasionally?

The holidays are behind us and we look forward to numerous and interesting programs planned each month. We need volunteers and hope that you will step forward to assist with the many events and projects planned for 2015.

As we move forward I hope that each and everyone of you will have success in searching your ancestors. Happy searching!

Your Communications board member.

Hazel Rasar

Skagit Valley Genealogical Society 2015 Programs



January 10th Preservation Techniques for books and documents: Presented by Barbara Johnson. Do you have books such as a family bible that you wish to preserve? How about letters from Civil War ancestors? This program will show you the step-by-step way to make your own custom-sized boxes to preserve those precious family memorabilia inexpensively.

February 14 Tugboats, Log Rafts, and River Rats - Tugboats on the Skagit River: Presented by Danny Vandenburg, Captain of the Patsy D tug boat used on the Skagit River in the 1950's. This 40 minute presentation is a good example of documenting local/family history before it is too late.

March 21st You Found It ...Now Flaunt It: Presented by Teresa Schulze. Tessa has been scrapbooking for 20 years and family research for 15. She will demonstrate techniques in digital scrapbooking to showcase your important documents and photos.

April 11th

May 9th

June 13th

July: **No meeting**

August: **No meeting**

September 12th

October 10th

November 7th **Year-end meeting. Brick Walls**

<https://rootstech.org/about/videos/>

The link above is to the RootsTech 2014 Conference in Salt Lake City. Scroll down through the various session/video selections, click on the ones you wish to view. I thought perhaps some of you would be interested in these educational sessions. -- Margie Wilson

Using WorldCat to Find Genealogy Books

[Dick Eastman](#) · [November 29, 2014](#) · [Books](#) · [4 Comments](#)



WorldCat is the world's largest network of library content and services. It is an online library catalog that lets you look up items in libraries around the world. The items available include books, electronic documents, journals, microform, and audio and video recordings.

Best of all, WorldCat is available to everyone free of charge. WorldCat libraries provide access to their catalogs on the Web, where most people start their search for information. By using the WorldCat.org catalog, you can search the collections of libraries in your community and thousands more around the world.

Please keep in mind that these are catalogs of available books, not the text of the books. WorldCat is useful in at least three situations:

1. You know which item you want, but you don't know which libraries have it
2. You want to know what items exist on a particular subject (or by a particular author)
3. You need more information about an item (for instance, to get information for a proper citation in your bibliography)

<http://blog.eogn.com/2014/11/29/using-worldcat-to-find-genealogy-books/> Visit the above link for the remainder of this article

- **An Unofficial guide to Ancestry.com**
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- **Delve into the card catalog.** Far, far into it. Explore the categories and subcategories of databases, and type ancestral towns and counties into the Keyword search box. You'll find such obscure collections such as "California Narratives: The Adventures of a Forty-Niner," "General Business Review of Highland County, Ohio" and "Burlington Court Book" (court records and historical information on Quaker, Swedish, English and Dutch settlers in West New Jersey from 1680 to about 1709).

Mocavo Acquired By Findmypast

Findmypast, the leading British family history company, announced today that it has acquired Mocavo, the fastest growing genealogy company in the US.

Findmypast, the leading brand in the DC Thomson Family History portfolio, has been at the forefront of the British family history market for over a decade. It has an established collection of 1.8 billion historical records and an extensive network of partners including the British Library, the Imperial War Museum, the Allen County Public Library and Family Search.

Founded by Cliff Shaw in 2011, Mocavo is a technological innovator in the genealogy industry. Its highly sophisticated search engine brings together, in one place, a diverse range of sources, such as family history record indexes, school and college yearbooks, church records and biographies, which help millions of family history enthusiasts to fill in blanks in their family trees and add colour to their family stories.

This acquisition, coupled with the recent tender win of the 1939 Register for England and Wales and the purchase of Origins.net, forms an important part of the growth strategy set out by Annelies van den Belt, CEO of Findmypast, and her new team.

Together Findmypast and Mocavo will create one of the fastest growing global genealogy businesses. The two companies will provide customers with easier access and more relevant information to help add colour and depth to family history.

Additionally, they both remain committed to delivering on Mocavo's promise to provide free access to family history records on an individual database level forever. Toward that commitment, Findmypast is announcing today that the full indexes to the US Census from 1790 to 1940 are available for free at Mocavo.com.

Mocavo will become a fully-owned subsidiary of Findmypast. It joins the Findmypast family of brands including the British Newspaper Archive, Genes Reunited and Lives of the First World War

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 - 2013

APPLICANTS NAME

ADDRESS STREET, CITY, STATE & 9 DIGIT ZIP CODE

AREA CODE ()

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

New Member _____

Renewal _____

Previous Member _____

FAMILY \$ 20 _____

INDIVIDUAL \$15 _____



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MAILING ADDRESS
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Conway, WA. 98238-0715

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED