



President's Message

Now that was quick! What happened to 2016? Here we are face to face with2017.

I know our board has been busy during 2016. We held a mini-retreat in late January to re-group and strengthen our society. Our 2017 seminar planning moved forward step by step, month by month. We received a grant from the City of Burlington's Lodging Tax Fund 2017 which allowed us to expand our normal one day event to three days. As we prepare for our April 21-23 seminar, we'll be looking for assistance so volunteer to help where you can.

Also in 2016 we offered beginner genealogy classes during the month of October. Besides teaching these classes, outside speaking gigs by George Ridgeway and Barbara Johnson have kept them busy. Excellent programs throughout the year at our monthly membership meetings have kept us educated with more to come. Thank you, Margie Wilson! Through our education classes and programs we are gaining new members.

All through 2016 our library volunteers and our Genealogist Diane Partington have worked with the public to educate and assist them in their genealogy research. All phases of our society's educational program are important for enhancing our mutual interest in genealogy. I give a special "Thank you" to all of our officers, board members and volunteers who keep our society moving forward. Let's keep it fun and continue to grow.

Volume 31 Number 1
President: John Hayes
Newsletter: Dottie Chandler
PO BOX 715, CONWAY, WA 98238-0715
Web site: skagitvalleygenealogy.org

As we step into 2017, publicity releases will be made to promote and encourage attendance to our April 21-23, 2017 seminar with the theme of "O Canada! Children of a Common Mother" Heritage Weekend. Friday evening includes a reception and keynote address by Dave Obee a well-known genealogist from Victoria, Canada. On Saturday our Genealogy Seminar features two speakers Dave Obee and Mary Kathryn Kozy, a popular genealogist from Kent, WA. Our weekend concludes on Sunday with a Historical Walking Tour of downtown Burlington. Watch for more detailed information on this seminar weekend.

Hope you enjoyed your Christmas holidays and survived an early peek of winter. Our board wishes you all a bright and shiny 2017!

John Hayes

President
rosie@valleyint.com
360-424-4608

Comb Binding ...

For members, The society owns a comb binding machine. If you call Dan Royal @ 360-826-6141 he will make arrangements to bind your pages into a book for you.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Just a friendly reminder that dues are now due for the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society. In the event you may have already paid, it is possible that they were sent in and just haven't reached me yet. Our year goes from Jan. 1st through Dec. 31st. Dues this year have raised to \$15.00 for single membership and \$20.00 for family membership.



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Sunshine:

Carol Nersten

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Rotating with volunteers

Raffles/Door Prizes:

Sharon Johnson
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Seminar:

Board Members

SOCIETY EMAIL:

genealogy0715@gmail.com

Check out our redesigned web page at
skagitvalleygenealogy.org

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 the newsletter, please send to... *Ye Editor*

Skagit Valley Genealogical Society

Monthly Meetings Program Calendar 2017

Meetings: 2nd Saturdays, 1-3pm | Burlington Senior Center | 1011 Greenleaf | Burlington
skagitvalleygenealogy.org | genealogy0715@gmail.com

Sat., January 14 – The Scandinavian Immigrant Experience – Linda Duffield

The Pacific Lutheran University (PLU) is home to the “Scandinavian Immigrant Experiences” Collection. The collection, stored in their Archives, is accessible for research in person or using an on-line database and includes oral interviews, taped conversations, and photographs. The presentation will inform and assist you in navigating access to documentation of the 282 immigrants interviewed by PLU students. At the end of the presentation, you should be able to use the online database, or visit the archives to retrieve pertinent information.

Discover the fascinating oral histories Norwegian and Swedish families of the Pacific Northwest. *Update:* Former college dean and SVGS member, Bill Langworthy, has been researching his family roots for many years. His topic hasn't been revealed yet, but it is sure to be an educational program for all of us in SVGS.

Sat., March 11 -- Physical and Mental Health in Your Family Tree - Janice Lovelace, PhD

Our ancestors lived in times where medical science was not as advanced as it is today. The names of illnesses, what people thought caused them, and how their illness were treated will be discussed.

Sat., April 8 -- SVGS 30th Anniversary and Speaker – Donna Potter Phillips

Location Update: Meeting to be at Burlington Library, 820 E. Washington, Conference Room

Spokane area genealogist, and sought after speaker, Donna Potter Phillips, will be traveling across the mountains to bring SVGS a timely and informative program. Stay tuned for details. Join us for a festive afternoon celebrating SVGS' 30 years of supporting the genealogy community.

Fri-Sun, April 21-23 – O Canada! Heritage Weekend – Dave Obee & Mary Kathryn Kozy speakers

Reception/Keynote: Fri. Apr. 21, 7-9pm, Burlington Senior Center

Genealogy Seminar: Sat. Apr. 22, 8-4:30pm, 1st United Methodist Church

1607 E. Division, Mount Vernon, WA

Walking Tour of Historic Burlington: Sun. Apr. 23, 10am-noon

Burlington Chamber of Commerce, 520 E. Fairhaven.

On-line registration opens Jan. 2, 2017. For details and registration: skagitvalleygenealogy.org

Sat., May 13 -- Time Will Tell: Using Timelines to Understand Our Ancestors – Mary Kircher Roddy

Mary Kircher Roddy returns with her program about designing timeline to place our ancestors in place and time. This is a research technique that all family historians can use to deepen their understanding of world and local history and how it influenced their ancestors' lives and decisions.

Sat. June 10 -- **What's in a Name? The Origin of Surnames – Margie Wilson**

Ethnic groups vary in their naming traditions and patterns. Discovering these diverse traditions just may help you with a brick wall. Learn the roots of our surnames and why they varied over time.

July-August – no meetings -- back the 2nd Saturday in September

Library Report

Every now and then I come across a book that I just need to rave about. I've always been a bibliophile but taking up the hobby of genealogy has really exposed me to some very fine authors and print materials. Since SVGS is going to be hosting a seminar this spring on the theme "O Canada! Children of a Common Mother," I purchased for the SVGS collection a sorely needed resource book on the subject of French-Canadian Sources. In fact, that's the title of the book, *French-Canadian Sources: A Guide for Genealogists* compiled by several authors from the French-Canadian/Acadian Genealogists of Wisconsin.

The hardbound book is attractive, well organized and the material spot-on helpful. One aspect I appreciate is the inclusive of an image of a handwritten vital record, that is in French, but below the photograph of the document the author's wisely include the original French text and a side-by-side English translation. Oh, if all my German and Polish documents could be so nicely presented with a translation, now that would make life a whole lot easier.

And that's not all, the book has Appendices from A-H. Covering a dictionary of key French words for genealogists, addresses for libraries and archives in Canada, Charts of Canadian Census records, time lines, a bit of history...its incredibly comprehensive. Makes me wish I had some French-Canadian ancestors so I can regularly browse through its pages.

So, come visit the SVGS collection at the Burlington Library. The book is in the "Other Countries" section, in the Canada books area. You'll be delighted with the books helpful guidance.

Also, thanks to Carol Nersten for her donation of a book on the history of Clear Lake, Sharon Johnson for her donation of a British book on *Tracing Your Ancestors at the Public Records Office*, and to Dan Royal for his donation of two family history books on the "Bumpus", and "Thorp" families.

Remember, the 1st Saturday of the month (except holiday weekends such as July 4 and Labor Day), there is a genealogy volunteer stationed at the Burlington Library in the SVGS book section. Bring your questions and data and the volunteers will orient you to the collection and be of assistance.

For those of you who enjoy making New Year's Resolutions, here's one for you....include a regular visit to the SVGS collection to see what materials there may further your research. Good luck!

--- Margie Wilson



Burlington Public Library

820 E Washington Ave
Burlington, WA 98233
Phone (360) 755-0760
Email:
blibrary@ci.burlington.wa.us
Hours: Monday – Thursday
10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Friday & Saturday
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday – Closed
SVGS Library Collection
located here. SVGS Volunteers available
on 1st Saturday from 11:00—1:00 to assist
with questions.

Diane Partington from our society says that if anyone is looking for funeral or burial records from someone who died in Skagit County she can retrieve those records from 1908-1994.

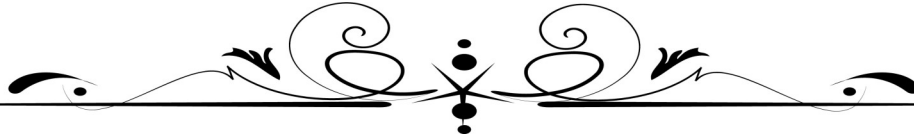
If you are needing help with your genealogy give her a call. Her phone number is in our newsletter on page 2 under genealogist.

Murphy's Law

You finally find the wedding record for gggrandfather only to discover he married Mary SMITH whose father was John SMITH and mother was Mary JONES!

You have finally found the information you needed to solve the family mystery you have been working on for 2 years and your elderly aunt says "I could have told you that!"

You learn there is a county history on microfilm of the county your ancestors originated. It has 16000 pages and is not indexed.



Dear Abby:

Genealogy

I have always wanted to have my family history
Traced, but I can't afford to spend a lot of money
To do it. Any suggestions?

Sam in California

Dear Sam: Yes, Run for public office!

Genealogy begins as an interest,
Becomes a hobby;
Continues as an avocation,
Takes over as an obsession,
And in its last stages,
Is an incurable disease.

Author Unknown

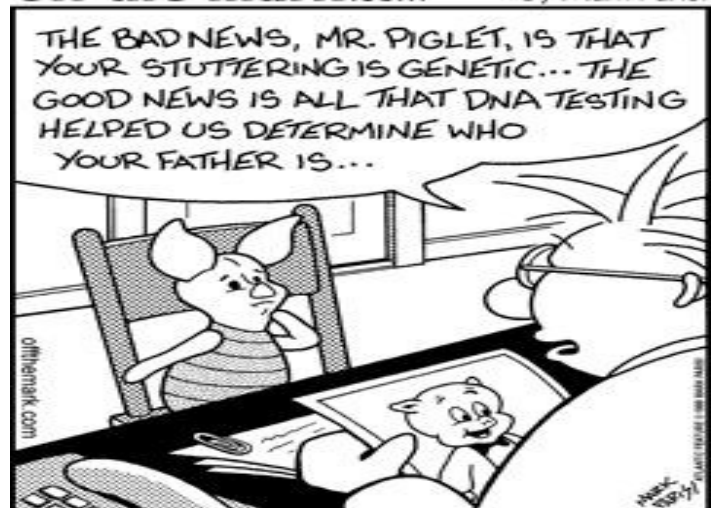
The
black
sheep
keeps the
best info
on the
family!



Twisted Twigs on Gnarled Branches

- Family history is all about recording "his story & her story."
- Definition of mythology: genealogy without documentation.
- Genealogy is all about chasing your own tale.
- Famous quote that applies (all too often) to questionable genealogy: "Get your facts first, then you can distort them as you please." —Mark Twain

off the mark .com by Mark Parisi



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SVGS Members,

We have a new BLOG on our website. If you are interested in participating in our blog go to skagit-valleygenealogy.org/BLOG to see how you can register and log in.
Thank you.

Skagit Valley Genealogical Society's **HERITAGE WEEKEND**

April 21-23, 2017

O Canada!

CHILDREN OF A COMMON MOTHER

featuring Canadian & U.S. Genealogists:

Dave Obee and

Mary Kathryn Kozy

Fri. April 21 • 7pm-9pm

RECEPTION / CELEBRATION

Dave Obee, Keynote Speaker

Burlington Senior Center

1011 Greenleaf Ave. • Burlington, WA

Sat. April 22 • 8am-4:30pm

O CANADA! GENEALOGY SEMINAR

1st United Methodist Church

1607 E. Division St. • Mount Vernon, WA

Sun. April 23 • 10-Noon

WALKING TOUR OF HISTORIC BURLINGTON

Burlington Visitors' Center

520 E. Fairhaven • Burlington, WA

skagitvalleygenealogy.org • genealogy0715@gmail.com

In honor of
**Canada's 150th
Anniversary**
of Confederation
we invite our
Canadian and Pacific NW
cousins and friends
to join us for a

HERITAGE WEEKEND

Enjoy a weekend of
genealogy activities in
Skagit Valley, Washington
during the Tulip Festival!



Register on-line: skagitvalleygenealogy.org or contact: (360) 755-9071 or genealogy0715@gmail.com for a mail in form to be sent to you.
O Canada! Heritage Weekend is made possible by the City of Burlington's Lodging Tax Fund 2017. See reverse side or skagitvalleygenealogy.org for a listing of Burlington's accommodations.

About the Seminar Speakers:

Dave Obee

is the Editor-in-Chief of the *Times Colonist* in Victoria, B.C., a contributing columnist for *Internet Genealogy Magazine* and *Family Chronicle Magazine*. He has written a dozen books on both history and genealogy and given over 400 presentations in the U.S. and Canada since 1997. Dave has received numerous awards for his historical research, community volunteerism, and professional journalism. He has visited 17 European countries conducting genealogy research. He is a past-president of the Federation of East European Family History Societies and continues his service as FEEHS' webmaster. Dave brings his extensive research, historical perspective, wit and wisdom to this Canadian themed seminar.

Mary Kathryn Kozy

is one of the most popular genealogy lecturers in the Puget Sound area. She will be presenting the U.S.' perspective on immigration research and overcoming its many challenges. Mary Kathryn has been a genealogist for over 30 years. Over the years her research has focused on the United States and both Western and Eastern Europe. She currently serves as the Region 2 Representative for Washington State Genealogical Society and serves on the Jewish Genealogical Society of Washington State board. She also coordinates five USGenWeb counties, and teaches seminars to whoever will listen! She recently completed her second bachelor's degree, in Information Technology and Systems and has started serving as a part-time FamilySearch.org Support Missionary for the LDS Church.

P.O. Box 722

Mount Vernon, WA 98273-0722

U.S.A.

CHILDRENOFA

Skagit Valley Genealogical Society

invites you to a special heritage weekend in celebration of the 150th Anniversary of Canada's Confederation. Weekend activities include: An opening reception with keynote speaker, Dave Obee; a full-day genealogy seminar; and a living history walking tour. Plus, while in the Skagit Valley, take time to also enjoy the Skagit Valley Tulip Festival's many activities or outlet shopping.

Thank You to the City of Burlington

O Canada! Heritage Weekend's three days of genealogy and history events were made possible by the City of Burlington's Lodging Tax Fund 2017.

Burlington Lodging

CANDLEWOOD SUITES

1866 South Burlington Blvd.

Burlington, WA 98233 | 360.755.3300

candlewoodsuites.com/burlingtonwa

COCUSA MOTEL

370 W. Rio Vista Avenue

Burlington, WA 98233 | 360.757-6044

cocusamotel.com

FAIRFIELD INN AND SUITES

9384 Old Highway 99 North

Burlington, WA 98233 | 360.757-2717

marriott.com/otsfs

HAMPTON INN AND SUITES HOTEL

1860 So. Burlington Blvd.

Burlington, WA 98233 | 360.757-7100

burlingtonsuites.hamptoninn.com

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES*

900 Andis Road

Burlington, WA 98233 | 360.755-7338

hiexpress.com/burlingtonwa

*For your convenience, Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites is reserving a block of rooms for SVGS' seminar attendees. A credit card is needed to make your reservation. Just mention "O Canada! Seminar and SVGS."

For more visitors' information contact:

Burlington Chamber of Commerce

& Visitors' Information Center

burlington-chamber.com • 360.757-0994

For the Tulip Festival visit: tulipfestival.org

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 - 2017

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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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED