



Volume 25 Number 2

President: Dottie Chandler

Newsletter pro-tem Dottie Chandler
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Library Report - Spring 2012 Newsletter

CHANGES TO THE LIBRARY:

For the next few weeks (except March 19 and 26) the SVGS library volunteers will be busy early on Monday mornings before the Burlington Library opens. Now that the new shelves are installed we are developing an alpha/numeric system for organizing the collection. The process is time consuming as each book is examined as to how it coincides with the entry on the master database of the library holdings. Standards and procedures are being developed for the shelving and location of the books. The goal is to present to our users an efficient and easy to navigate collection. If you would like to help with this project please contact Margie Wilson at wilsongm@frontier.com or leave a message (757-6224). It would be fun to have you join us on the team!

NEW BOOK:

A new local history book, *Croatian Fishing Families of Anacortes* by Bret Lunsford has been added to the Skagit County section of SVGS' collection. Here is a brief review of the book:

"Spanning a hundred years of Puget Sound maritime history, *Croatian Fishing Families of Anacortes* fills an important gap in the northwest bookshelf. 193 vintage photographs and numerous collected oral histories create a fully detailed portrait of everyday life in a small island community in a unique time and place.

Bret Lunford, author of *Images of America: Anacortes* has compiled a new book on his hometown's unique place in the history of the Pacific Northwest. The book contains: Collected rare historic photographs of maritime Anacortes, Washington and its Croatian fishing community; Maps of historic house locations; Names from the Seafarer's Memorial; Directory of early purse seiners."

This fascinating book is the newest addition to SVGS' Skagit County book collection.

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

OTHER LIBRARY NEWS:

There will be an **Orientation/Training for new and current volunteers on Monday, March 26, 9:00 -11:00am at the Burlington Library**. The orientation/training will begin at the Burlington Library conference room and then move into the library. There have been many new changes to the library so current volunteers will also learn a great deal about the collection. Shirley Christenson will discuss some resources in the library that are good places to start when helping visitors to the genealogy section. Volunteers are always needed to help on Mondays from 11-1pm so please consider joining our fun team.

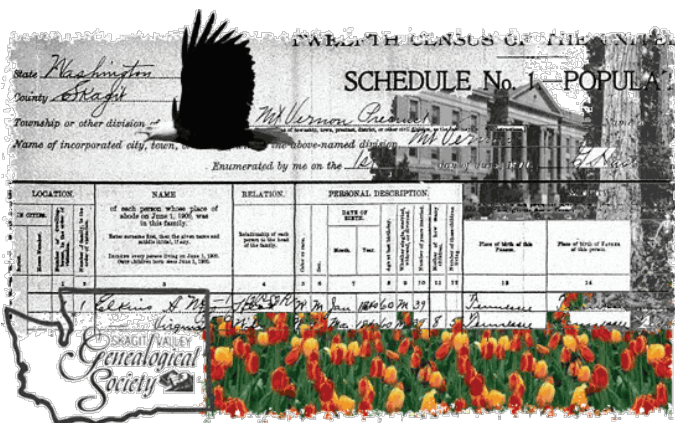
The Burlington Library now offers laptop computers to be reserved and checked out by the genealogy library volunteers to assist visitors to the genealogy library with online searches. Familysearch.org is a free website and could be used by the volunteers to help visitors on the spot with their research. We'll find out more about this at the Orientation/Training session.

To sign up for a Monday volunteer shift at the Burlington Library genealogy section please contact Nancy Bonafede, the library volunteer scheduling manager. **Nancy Bonafede: 360-856-2581, or Email: nbonafede@comcast.net**. All of the volunteers would appreciate another member on the team as "many hands make light work." Thank you for signing up!

Monday 29th December 1862—Old Mr. Parker died yesterday morning. He has been to see his son in the 60th Reg. & came home sick. Only lived a few days after he returned. Yom Parker died whilst he was there. George Boyd died a short time ago in the same Reg. I crochet some on Hattie's glove today & went to Parker's burial, but few people there. I went in the buggy. Charlie drove. The children rode as far as the mill & then came back. Zona cried a little to go with me. Miss Mathies brought home Harrie's socks this evening not kniw as I directed, so I only paid her 50 cts.

This is an excerpt from the book *Fear in North Carolina, The Civil War Journals and Letters of the Henry Family*. Compiled by Karen I. Clinard and Richard Russell

Check out our redesigned web page at
<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasvgs/>



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Refreshments: OPEN

Raffles/Door Prizes: Sharon Johnson

Obituary Index: Nancy Bonafede

Special History Projects: Dan Royal

SOCIETY EMAIL: genealogy0715@gmail.com

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. Cost is: \$1.00 per book to cover supplies.

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*

Hamilton Cemetery Reflections

A cemetery is a quiet place of peace where the soft breezes blow. Even the birds sing in hushed song not disturbing the silence. The few shrubs and trees bloom year after year not noticed by anyone of earthly life. The long green expanse is broken sharply by upright and low lying rectangles of marble and granite. Monuments blackened by the timeless battle with the elements strain to stand straight and tall. The hard cold granite and marble soften with the green-brown moss along the with the gray-black lichen growing in the crevices of symbols. Look closely at the symbols; brush away the bits of dust and pieces of grass. The symbols are names and dates, craved deeply into the markers defying the elements to erase them. The warmth of the past surrounds those names in a loving caress. The names are connected to each other in a time and place, in a long ago past and in the present. People not known come alive in the history of the stone. The sun is warm upon my face as I go from stone to stone recording names and dates—a reader of stones.

By RS
May 2011

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.

Christine Cooper
Membership Chairperson

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 Volunteers
available on Mondays from
11:00—1:00 to assist with questions.
Margie Wilson—SVGS Librarian



Skagit Valley Genealogical Society Upcoming Programs 2011- 2012

March 27 –1940 Census – Carol Buswell from the National Archives and Records Administration in Seattle will fill us in on the soon-to-be-released 1940 Census.

April 24 –Mary McGoffin – “Under the Red Roof” – Mary will discuss her book about Northern State Hospital and its fascinating history and architecture. She suggests one read the book prior to our meeting. She’ll be signing copies of the book. She suggests one read the book prior to our meeting. She’ll be signing copies of the book.

May 22 – Sharon Johnson – Land records – Sharon has been researching for years and has great tips on searching through land records.

June 23 – Barbara Allen – Updated familysearch.org – What’s the latest about the New And Improved Family Search web site? Come and find out. (This is a Saturday from 1:00-3:00 at the library)

We meet from 7:00-9:00 pm on 4th Tuesday of the month at Burlington Senior Center, 1011 Greenleaf Avenue, Burlington, Washington, during the months of September, October, March, April, May and June;

We meet on the 4th Saturday, from 1:00-3:00pm at the Burlington Library, 820 East Washington Avenue, Burlington, Washington during the months of November, January and February.

Upcoming Live Webinars - Free: Go to <http://www.legacyfamilytree.com/Webinars.asp> to read the synopsis and register for new free webinars by Legacy Family Tree. Always try to register ahead of time and run the test of your system to ensure you can participate. If you register for a webinar, but then miss it for some reason, you will receive an email notice telling you when the video recording of the presentation is available to be viewed online.

The February and March weinars, all starting at 11:00 AM Pacific Time on Wednesdays (except as noted), include:

- March 21: *DNA Research for Genealogists: Beyond the Basics.*
- March 28: *Obituaries: Clues to Look For.*
- Friday, March 30: *Digital Writing Tools for Genealogists.*

Taken from the Washington State Genealogical Newsletter

March 17, 2012 The South King County Genealogical Society will present a Mini Seminar: —Records of the Blue and Grey: Civil War Era Records. The Bounty Lands: Early Military Pension and Land Records,|| by Eric Stroschein. Time is 9:30 am. Location: First Baptist Church of Kent, 11420 SE 248th St., Kent, WA. For more information: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~waskcgs/>

SGS SPRING SEMINAR WITH GEORGE G. MORGAN
OF THE GENEALOGY GUYS PODCAST

Internationally known genealogist, George G. Morgan, will headline the Spring 2012 Seminar presented by the Seattle Genealogical Society from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 19, at the Museum of History and Industry, 2700 24th Avenue East, Seattle.

Morgan will talk about how to develop an ancestry profile, methods for advanced research, and "sidestep genealogy," or creative ways to solve problems. He is the author of 10 books and hundreds of articles published in magazines and on websites, as well as president of Aha! Seminars, Inc., a company that provides continuing education for libraries and genealogical societies around the world.

Fees for seminar participants are \$40 for SGS members and \$50 for non-members who pre-register. Walk-ins will be charged \$10 more. Learn more about the Spring 2012 Seminar on the new SGS website. See <http://seattlegenealogicalsociety.org/content/seminars> for the brochure and registration information. Registration deadline is May 11. More information is available by calling SGS at (206) 522-8658 or e-mailing sgsseminar@gmail.com.

National Conference Spotlightwww.rootstech.org/

May 9-12, 2012, The National Genealogical Society's Family History Conference will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio at the Duke Energy Convention Center. For more information visit http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conference_info Registration is now open.

August 29 to September 1, 2012, The Federation of Genealogical Societies Annual Conference will be held in Birmingham, Alabama. More information to follow at <http://www.fgs.org/2012conference/>

Help Index the 1940 U.S. Census Online: On April 2, 2012, NARA will provide access to the images of the 1940 United States Federal Census for the first time. Unlike previous census years, the 1940 U.S. Federal Census will be released made available as digital images without charge. However, it will take weeks, at best, before an every-name index will be available. You can help speed up the process.

Upon its release, the 1940 U.S. Census Community Project, a joint initiative between Archives.com, FamilySearch, findmypast.com, and other leading genealogy organizations, will coordinate efforts to provide quick access to these digital images and immediately start indexing these records to make them searchable online with free and open access.

You can make a difference by receiving online training to use the FamilySearch indexing system, and then joining in the project to index the 1940 census, all in the comfort of your own home and at your own pace. For more information, go to <http://the1940census.com/>.

President's Message

Spring is almost here and it is time for the flowers to start to grow and flourish. Take all your seeds and plant them in your family so they can grow and grow. All that information needs cultivated to make your family tree get big and strong.

Well, this year looks good so far. The Society is planning a 25th Anniversary, it was started in 1987. We have classes being planned and a seminar, trying to get some cemetery books done.

The Society would like to thank Sylvia for her volunteering as publication chairman. She has resigned this position so it is currently in need of another volunteer. Remember it only takes a couple of hours a month. Societies runs on volunteers and they are much in need, not only in our s but in others. Don't be shy or afraid you can't do it, we have procedures to follow or just ask. The chairperson has a committee to help her or him.

We are planning field trips also. Some local and eventually maybe to places further away. If you are interested let us know if you would like to attend or give us an idea of where you might like to see a field trip to.

Dottie Chandler, President

Tuesday, March 27, 2012 - Skagit Valley Genealogical Society - SkVGS - Back to Summer meeting time & place: 7 PM: Program: **1940 Census** – Carol Buswell from the National Archives and Records Administration in Seattle will fill us in on the soon-to-be-released 1940 Census. Meeting at the Burlington Community Senior Center, 1011 Greenleaf Ave, Burlington.

Monday, April 2, 2012 - Camwood Genealogical Group - CGG - Meets first Mondays at 1 PM at Stanwood Historical Society Museum, 27108 102nd Ave NW, Stanwood, WA

Wednesday, April 4, 2012 - Sno-Isle Genealogical Society - SIGS - Back to Summer meeting time & place: Program: **Carol Buswell**, Education Specialist from NARA, will speak about the just-released 1940 census, giving us hints and clues on how to deal with the lack of an index. Meeting at 7:00 pm, at AMHA Cottage, 19903 Poplar Way, Lynnwood

Monday, April 9, 2012 - Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island - GSSWI - Education classes at 11:45 AM: Beginning Class: Before this class, please read pages 111-133; Courthouses and why you want to go there. Handouts: Probate Terms; Types of Land Surveys in the U.S. - Rectangular Survey System; State Archives Referral List; Military Websites. Intermediate Class: What's your name? What should I call you? **Program at 1:00 PM: Gary Zimmerman** will present an interesting program (to be announced). Gary Zimmerman's work in genealogy began with a fifth-grade assignment, and his exploration of family history has been continuous since that time. In the early 1960s he began teaching other people how to do genealogy. Today, most of his work is through the instructional programs of the Fiske Foundation and in supervising the responses to genealogical questions asked of the Pioneer Hall organizations. Gary is a fourth-generation resident of Seattle and the President of the Fiske Genealogical Foundation. He is retired from a professional career as a university administrator, with thirty-three years of service to Seattle University and Antioch University Seattle. Meeting at Trinity Lutheran Church, Hwy 525 & Woodard Road, Freeland.

Monday, April 9, 2012 - Whatcom Genealogical Society - WGS - 7:00 PM: Program: Topic to be announced. Meeting at St Paul's Episcopal Church Parish Hall, 2117 Walnut St, Bellingham.

Tuesday, April 10, 2012 - Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society - StVGS - 1 PM: Program: *Stuck in the Mud - A History of Warm Beach* by **Penny Buse**. Meeting at the StVGS Library, 215 S. French Street, Arlington.

Tuesday, April 10, 2012 - Whidbey Island Genealogical Searchers - WIGS - 1 PM: Program: **Jim Johnson (Director of Heritage Quest Research Library)** on Military Records on the Internet. There will be information for all, refreshments and raffles. All are welcome. Whidbey Island Genealogical Searchers meet the second Tuesday of the month at 1:00 PM until around 3:00 at 2720 Heller Rd, the fire station just north of Crosby Road, Oak Harbor. Contact Ruth Hancock, 360-675-4086 or randr.hancock@frontier.com for more information.

Tuesday, April 24, 2012 - Skagit Valley Genealogical Society - SkVGS - 7 PM: Program: **Mary J. McGoffin**, author of "Under the Red Roof: One Hundred Years at Northern State Hospital" – Mary will discuss her book about Northern State Hospital and its fascinating history and architecture. It chronicles the true story of the rise and fall of an insane asylum in the frontier town of Sedro-Woolley. She gathered interviews with medical staff, patient families and townsfolk. The book describes a unique interdependency between patients and staff whereby meaningful work contributed to a patient's recovery from mental illness, where possible. (Read the reviews on Amazon.com.) Mary suggests one read the book prior to our meeting. She'll be signing copies of the book. Meeting at the Creekside Retirement Community, 400 Gilkey Rd, Burlington.

Wednesday, May 2, 2012 - Sno-Isle Genealogical Society - SIGS - Business meeting, with election of officers and refreshments at 1:00 PM at Heritage Cottage (next door to Humble House), 19903 Poplar Way, Lynnwood. Program at 1:30 PM: to be announced. Come and be surprised!

Monday, May 7, 2012 - Camwood Genealogical Group - CGG - Meets first Mondays at 1 PM at Stanwood Historical Society Museum, 27108 102nd Ave NW, Stanwood, WA

Tuesday, May 8, 2012 - Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society - StVGS - 1 PM: Annual Society Meeting. Meeting at the StVGS Library, 215 S. French Street, Arlington.

Tuesday, May 8, 2012 - Whidbey Island Genealogical Searchers - WIGS - 1 PM: Program: **Denise Bradshaw** will speak to us about the history of Oak Harbor. There will be information for all, refreshments and raffles. All are welcome. Whidbey Island Genealogical Searchers meet the second Tuesday of the month at 1:00 PM until around 3:00 at 2720 Heller Rd, the fire station just north of Crosby Road, Oak Harbor. Contact Ruth Hancock, 360-675-4086 or randr.hancock@frontier.com for more information.

Serious Changes to Northwest Regional Archives

Legislative efforts to get the State's budget under control is leading to significant cuts to the State archives system. The Washington State Archives Northwest Regional branch at Bellingham is now staffed by only one full-time records management specialist and a part-time archival management specialist. This branch covers Clallam, Jefferson, Island, Snohomish, Skagit, San Juan and Whatcom counties. James Copher, our super archivist of many, many years, was saved from layoff by filling a position in Olympia. He commutes to and from his Bellingham home on weekends. Effective March 5, 2012, the NW branch archives will be closed on Mondays and Tuesdays, but Allison Constanza, who used to work at the NW branch, has been brought in to perform the archivist function on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. To provide security and assistance, only four researchers at a time will be permitted to work in the archives. Those wishing to do research in the archives will have to make an appointment. Telephone (360) 650-7930 or (360) 650-3125; email: NWBranchArchives@sos.wa.gov. To provide operating funds for a bare minimum of full-time staff at each archive, perhaps some of the \$1,028,000 funding for the Washington State Heritage Center could be sacrificed, but it is rather late in the current legislative session to start a campaign to reinstate funds for staffing the branch archives. Thursday, March 8, is the last day allowed for a regular session under the state constitution, and Monday, February 27, is the last day to read in opposite-house committee reports from the House fiscal committees and the Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees. Frankly, I think it would be extremely hard at this point to justify shifting funds to allow access to records five days a week instead of three days. Unfortunately, supporting genealogical research is not a critical mission of the archives. (Heresy, you say!) The higher responsibilities are to provide access to originals of historic legal records (land, courts, etc.) and to monitor open government, but even for those purposes pushing for a last minute floor fight is asking a bit much of our legislators.

This is an article that was published in the Weekly Genealogist Volume 15 #7

Spotlight: Skagit Valley Genealogical Society, Washington

by Valerie Beaudrault, Assistant Editor

[Skagit Valley Genealogical Society, Washington](#)

Skagit County is located in northwest Washington, about fifty miles south of the Canadian border. Mount Vernon is its county seat. The Skagit Valley Genealogical Society has made a number of resources available on its website. Click on the Ceme-

tery Index link in the contents list on the left side of the page to access the database.

Obituary Index

The database indexes Skagit County obituaries that have been extracted from a variety of weekly newspapers in the county's small communities and from the daily editions of the *Skagit Valley Herald*. The Skagit Valley Genealogical Society has been collecting obituaries since 1987. There are approximately 29,000 records in the index. The database includes some obituaries from the 1970s and early to mid-1980s, with more consistent coverage from 1987 through September 2008. You may request copies of the obituaries for a small fee by writing to the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society.

Click on the Databases link in the contents list on the left side of the page to access the following resources.

Skagit County Death Index

This alphabetical-by-surname database contains 679 records. It is drawn from a Skagit Valley Genealogical Society publication, *Skagit County, Washington, Death Records 1891–1908*. The records in the index were extracted from records on file with the Skagit County Auditor's Office. The data fields in the index include name, date of death, and age at death.

Pioneer Book

This alphabetical database is an index to more than 4,000 early residents of Skagit County who died between 1926 and 1955. The records are drawn from *The Pioneer Book of Skagit County, Washington*, a publication of the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society. The data fields in the database are surname, given name, age, and date of death.

Union Cemetery, Sedro-Woolley, Washington

This alphabetical database is an index to the records of Union Cemetery, Sedro-Woolley, Washington. The burials indexed here cover the period from 1889 through 1992. The data fields in the index are site (burial location), name, birth date, and death date.

You will also find links to an every name index to the 1910 federal census for Skagit County, an every name index to the 1910 federal census for all counties in Washington State, and the Skagit County District Clerk's Report on the Birdsvew School (1888–1932), including a name index to children who attended the school. Please note that the Washington State index was completed in 2005 and has since been moved to *The Washington State Digital Archives*.

Magazine Report by Sharon Johnson

About Archives.com

Archives.com is a leading family history website that makes discovering family history simple and affordable. The company has assembled more than 1.5 billion U.S. and international historical records in a single location, including vital, census, newspaper, immigration, military, and more. Archives.com is free to try for seven days, allowing anyone to explore the benefits of membership without risk or obligation. Archives.com is owned and operated by Inflection, a fast-growing data commerce company, chosen by the National Archives to host the 1940 Census. Find more information at <http://www.archives.com/1940census>.

About FamilySearch

FamilySearch International is the largest genealogy organization in the world. FamilySearch is a nonprofit, volunteer-driven organization sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Millions of people use FamilySearch records, resources, and services to learn more about their family history. To help in this great pursuit, FamilySearch and its predecessor organizations have been actively gathering, preserving, and sharing genealogical records worldwide for over 100 years. Patrons may access FamilySearch services and resources free online at FamilySearch.org or through over 4,600 family history centers in 132 countries, including the main Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah.

About brightsolid and findmypast.com

Since 1994, brightsolid group has been delivering online innovation and pioneering the expansion of the genealogy market with leading family history websites including the findmypast global network, Scotland-people, GenesReunited, and britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk, together servicing over 18 million registered customers worldwide. The sites connect people via their innovative family tree software and deliver access to over a billion records dating as far back as 1200. Family historians can search for their ancestors among global collections, relating primarily to people with UK and Irish ancestry, of military records, census, migration, occupation directories, newspapers, as well as birth, marriage and death records.

NGS Magazine January / March 2012

American Colonies in Cuba (*apparently in the early 1900's many American citizens migrated to Cuba. This is an annotated bibliography to aid others in their search*); Problems Reading German Immigrant Passenger Lists (*finding the ship and it's important to know something about the family in their home country before drawing conclusions from a passenger list*); Picture the Past at Your Convenience (*adding to your research with picture postcards and how to find them*); Compiled Military Service Records Part I: The records inside the CMSR jacket (*information on the jacket and the cards inside are abstracts of various original records*); Treating the Southern Sick and Wounded: Confederate Hospital Records at the National Archives (*confederate hospital system, records about patients, administration and personnel*); Online Census Indexes (*various places they can be found*); Questionable Marriage Information in Death Certificates; NeatDesk Scanner (*advertised and designed for the business market...author states "for genealogists seeking an all-purpose scanner that can handle a greater variety of objects, books, etc. NeatDesk is not currently what you're looking for."*); Cloud Computing (*a deeper understanding*); Scrapbooks: A Neglected Resource.

Internet Genealogy February / March 2012

Tablets & Your Family History (*differences and how they can be used in your research*); Getting More Than You Bargained For! (*researching a black sheep ancestor*); In Praise of Evernote! (*a free notetaking tool for genealogy and writing projects*); Tale of the Hickory Baskets; Genealogy Sources of the American West (*what was determined to be "the west" differs before and after the Civil War....states covered are divided into those two groups and resources listed*); Tracking Ancestral Time, Online! (*using timelines discusses www.fold3.com/pages; www.ourtimelines.com; www.preceden.com; www.timeglider.com; and www.timetoast.com.*); 1000memories: The Way We Were (*sharing and preserving stories of ourselves and our ancestors online*); MacFamilyTree: A Review (*a new Mac version*); Knocking Their 'Eds' Together! (*two different people or one person with two name variations?*) Not Just on the Desktop: Webtrees! (*innovative way to back up your data*); Home Children to Canada: An Introduction (*online resources for orphaned, abandoned, or pauper children that came to Canada from Great Britain*); Wild About Webinars! (*what is about*)

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 - 2011

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
Post Office Box 715
Conway, WA. 98238-0715

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED