



SKAGIT VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

PO BOX 715, CONWAY, WA 98238-0715

Web site: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~wasvgs>

SVGS Library Collection: 900 E. Fairhaven, Burlington, Washington

Volume 16 Number 3

President: Laura Pemberton-Sparr

May June 2003

Dan Royal: Newsletter Editor

President's Message

The annual meeting of our society is coming on the 27th of this month. We are hoping that each one of you will attend, in order to show support for our society and to give our accolades to the countless volunteers that give time and energy to our organization. Each of you is important to the whole and this is one way in which you can participate. We will be electing both a vice president and a treasurer (the incumbent's are willing to run again, but there will also be nominations from the floor). We will NOT be looking at our bylaws this year. We will be reviewing the budget for the coming year and looking at all of the progress we have made during the past year; what a delight. Join us for the fun!

At the May meeting Sharon Johnson will be giving us great information about the Soundex created for use with the federal census, and then in June another of our members, Janet Armbrust, will give us insight into using church records. You won't want to miss the lectures given by either of these knowledgeable speakers, and in addition you can have the great camaraderie of fellow "ancestor detectives".

A reminder that during July and August our society does not meet, which should give you time to get your personal research and household in order (hee hee) and then come back to our society meetings refreshed and ready to volunteer to work on a cemetery project, the obituary files, as chairperson of the education committee (set up field trips and line up any education classes desired by the society), or working on any of the other committee projects currently underway or soon to be initiated. We would also like to have your submission to this newsletter; there is information available that begs to be shared with others . . .

Speaking of sharing: attending a seminar or conference is a great way to learn new information - the FGS, NGS, and WSGS conferences are talked about elsewhere in this publication; plan to take a look and then to attend. In June the Germans from Russia conference will be held in Yakima; that should be another wonderful way in which to participate, so check that out as well.

If you haven't recently used the National Archives and Records Administration website you might want to do some surfing; they have added new information. The same is true of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin and the National Archives of Canada. Don't know how to find those web addresses? Go to the Google search engine website (www.google.com) and then put in the title of the organization and you should be ready to click onto that site and then right into the great waves of information available. Happy wave running! Have a SUPER SUMMER SURF and come join us in the fall.

Hugs and smiles,

Laura

Remember to bring your spare change to the May meeting as we will again be having books and magazines for research purposes. There are still many good choices left to choose from.

Are You Using Legacy?

If you are using the genealogical database program Legacy to record your genealogical material, would you be interested in attending a special interest group? Member Arnold Stewart would like to initiate a discussion group related to this program.

Arnold is willing to coordinate the interest group, and if you are interested give him a call at 360-466-3288.



Calendar of Events

General Meeting:

27 MAY - ANNUAL MEETING with Election of Vice President & Secretary.

Member Sharon Johnson will give a lecture and discussion on *The Origin of and Utilization of the Soundex System*.

24 JUN - Member Janet Armbrust will speak on *The Importance of Church Records and How to Use them*.

No meeting in July or August

SVGS Website:

Visit our website at <<http://www.rootsweb.com/wasvgs>>

Do you have a family or personal website you would like to have listed with a link on our website, let us know. If you would like to have a website, our webmaster **Dan Royal** will be glad to assist you in setting one up.

Database for the Sedro Woolley Cemetery is completed and now online. Look for more databases in the future.

Newsletter: As this newsletter goes to press, our new editor is putting together what is hoped to be items of interest to our membership. If there are specific items you would like to know more about, contact Dan at dmoroyal@earthlink.net with suggestions. We appreciate the effort that is being put forth to provide us with society communications. Hazel

Education:

We are still in need of someone to coordinate our classes and special events. If you are interested, contact any board member or come and visit us at our monthly board meeting.

If you are interested in being a mentor for new members of our society, please let Donna Hinds in membership know so we can put your name on the list.

Traveling Library:

New for circulation is a CD Rom of Heritage Quest Magazine from Sep 1985 thru December 1999, containing 10,000 pages of genealogical expertise, donated by Hazel Rasar. See Shirlee Fisher at the next meeting if you would like to borrow any of our traveling library materials for your research.

Library:

Joan Udd librarian reported the last book sale at the meeting generated \$40.00. She ordered cemetery records on CD from Whatcom Co Genealogical Society for the traveling library. The library activities are proceeding well. She will bring books and old quarterlies again next meeting to see if there are other people who want them.

Telephone Committee:

A **BIG THANK YOU** to Yvonda Anderson for volunteering to chair the telephone committee. Hopefully, many of you will be hearing from this committee again in the near future.

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Centre for Resource & Research

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 • Laura Pemberton Sparr announces the opening of her Source
 • Library for Genealogy, located in the Prime West Complex
 • at 2203 Highway 99 South, Suite #10, Mount Vernon, WA
 • 98273.
 • Open 9:00 am to 9:00 pm Wednesdays & Thursdays. She
 • will be offering Genealogy Classes, Workshops and
 • individual instruction at the Centre. She can be contacted by
 • cell phone at 425-231-6945 or leave a message at
 • 360-424-5783

Membership:

Donna Hinds reports that total membership is down to about 120. If you know of members that have not renewed their membership but still want to receive the newsletter, remind them to send in their dues. As of February 28th, anyone who had not paid their dues was removed from our mailing list. Membership badges are available, contact Donna if you need to order a new one or to order a replacement. Members are being asked to wear name badges at SVGS meetings.

Projects:

John Fisher, projects, reported Bow cemetery is continuing and no new information has been developed on other cemetery readings. Hazel Rasar continues to index Concrete and Bayview Cemeteries. After Hamilton, Lyman cemetery will be the next reading.

Publications:

Hazel reports that the Mount Vernon Cemetery publication is in the final stages. **Volunteers are needed** to assist with computer entry, proofreading and reading of additional Skagit County cemeteries. Concrete, BayView, Bow and Hamilton cemeteries are all in progress. **Thanks to Molly and Leroy Sackman for the many hours they have spent in reading cemeteries this past year.** Mount Vernon publication should be out within the next month.

Whatcom Genealogical Society has announced the planned release, on April 15, 2003, of the CD-ROM Version of their publication, Cemetery Records of Whatcom County, Washington, Series II, Volumes 1-12 & Master Index. Price will be \$15.00 + \$2.00 s/h.

Features include:

- + Records through 1985
- + Records from all 56 cemeteries (1600+ pages)
- + Records of remains shipped to locations outside of Whatcom County (300+ pages)
- + An every-name Master Index (700+ pages)
- + Searchable by keyword
- + Road maps to the cemeteries
- + Images of Japanese tombstones in Bayview Cemetery, Bellingham, WA
- + Universal Adobe Acrobat format

System Requirements:

Windows/Macintosh/UNIX

Pentium® -class processor

CD-ROM drive

64MB RAM

30MB Hard Drive space (to install the Adobe Reader)

Adobe® Acrobat® Reader® 5.x (5.1 included on this CD)

NOTE: Paper, softbound version is still available. The set of Volumes 1-12 is \$140.00 + \$8.00 s/h. The every-name Master Index, in 2 volumes, is \$49.00 + \$5.00 s/h. Write for details.

(Adobe, Acrobat and Reader are either registered trademarks or trademarks of Adobe Systems Incorporated in the United States and/or other countries.)

Orders may be sent now to Whatcom Genealogical Society, PO Box 1493, Bellingham, WA 98227-1493.

Coming Events

May 28-31, 2003 NGS Conference in the States For many the choices in Pittsburgh will be tough. As an example, genealogists with Pennsylvania ancestors can spend the entire conference attending presentations that discuss nothing but Pennsylvania research. But if some of those ancestors spilled over into Pennsylvania from Maryland, Virginia, New Jersey, New York or perhaps New England, then you'll be tempted to hear those presentations too. There are lectures on English and German and research too! Of course there is the problem of finding those collaterals—you know, the ones who went down the river from Pittsburgh to places like West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Illinois or even as far away as Missouri. They will all be discussed, right here in Pittsburgh! What is a genealogist supposed to do, so many sessions to attend over four days!

Sep 3-6, 2003 FGS/FSGS 2003 Conference, hosted by the Florida State Genealogical Society at the Renaissance Orlando Resort adjacent to SeaWorld in exciting Orlando, Florida. attend over four days! Conference theme is *Countdown to Discovery: A World of Hidden Treasures*. Visit the FGS Website at www.fgs.org

Sep 19-20, 2003 Tri-City Gen Soc Autumn 2003 Conference, with the WSGS Annual Meeting. *"Trails and Heirs of Our Ancestors"* - hosted by the Tri-City Genealogical Society in Pasco, Washington. Details in upcoming newsletter and on the WSGS website.

Jun 15-22, 2003 34th International Convention of the **American Historical Society Of Germans From Russia** will be held in Yakima, WA

NARA AAD

Access to Archival Databases

You may have already read or heard this elsewhere, recently, in mid-February, the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) launched its AAD [Access to Archival Data Databases]. Of primary interest to genealogists is the "Famine Irish Immigrants Database" version covering 1846-1851 which is an electronic Filby's published "Famine Irish" series. There are also various databases relating to WW2, Korean Conflict, Vietnam Conflict, etc.

To get started, here's a URL to go to:
<http://www.archives.gov/aad/index.html>

Volunteers Needed

Education Chairperson Board Position

Your help is needed to fill this empty seat on the governing board of your society. Please help us out. Also, remember that our board meetings are open to all members, so come join us the first Tuesday of each month at Washington Federal in Burlington at 10 a.m.

Long time member George Hamilton II passes

George Thomas Hamilton II - born 15 January 1920 in Columbus, Ohio, son of Henry and Myrtle Hamilton, died 28 March 2003 at his home in Seattle with his family around him. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Janet Ann Burns Hamilton, his two sons, George W. (Pam) and Robert J. (Geri) and two daughters Therese (Kristopher) Larson and Norie Hamilton. Also six grandchildren, eight great grandchildren and one nephew William (Carol) Hamilton.

On Thursday, 3 April 2003 we drove to Seattle to say goodbye to our dear friend George Hamilton. at the very formal service in the St Marks Catholic Church in northern Seattle and the touching graveside service in Calvary Catholic Cemetery, complete with bagpipes playing his favorite music.

George was very proud of his Scot ancestry. But the portion of the entire day that would have had George's full approval was the 10 mile procession from the church to the cemetery...complete with three motorcycle police personnel who stopped traffic at every intersection to give George and his 23-car motorcade the right of way through red lights and all! Also, as George had been a firefighter in Seattle and elsewhere for many of the years following his days in the US Navy during WWII, the honor guard was made up of six members of the Seattle Fire Department (The license frame on George's car read: "My other car is a fire engine".) Navy personnel presented the military honors and we sent George off in the finest manner!

George and Janet have been members of Skagit Valley Genealogical Society for a number of years and have traveled to various parts of the country -including several trips to Salt Lake City - and a few years ago to Ireland and Scotland pursuing their family histories.

Shirlee and John Fisher



<http://www.rootsweb.com/~waskagit/>

In case any of you haven't been to this site for sometime, Darilee the Bookstore Lady, who is the webmaster and coordinator of Skagit Co. for the U.S Gen Web Project has updated the site a great deal, check it out.

Whidbey Group to Cloverdale Branch of Surrey Public Library, Vancouver, BC has been cancelled due to lack of patron signups.

New Information: June 13, 2003

The bus will be going to National Archives - Sandpoint Way, Seattle and Fiske Library in Seattle. Also the Seattle Genealogical Society Library is directly across Sandpoint Way from the Archives giving a bonus for the trip. The bus will leave from behind Denny's in Mount Vernon at 8:30AM and return, leaving Fiske at 3:00PM
Cost: \$15 plus a donation for the driver.

Submit your money (check payable to the Oak Harbor Senior Center) and reservation before May 16 to

Janice Hatton
 700 W Crosby Ave # 151
 Oak Harbor, WA 98277
 (360) 679-1722
jhatton@pioneernet.net

It is expected that many WIGS members will be interested in this trip so plan to reserve your space soon.

I am the gopher for Janice, and you can talk to me, also. I don't know much more than what I've told you here, but you can talk anyway. Iona Raney

Genealogy Scams are back

Beware! Seems as if those genealogy scams will survive, no matter what. They keep springing up all over the Internet.

If you receive an unsolicited email in Spam FORMAT, claiming to provide "billions and billions" of genealogy records for a fee, you will find you are paying for access to information that merely points to free web sites. You can obtain far better and **FREE** information at

The publication committee received a request from the Jackson County Genealogical Society in North Carolina to exchange newsletter bulletins. We have received the first issue "**JOURNEYS THROUGH JACKSON**" and it can be found in our library in Burlington.

Ancestry.com

You may already be familiar with Ancestry.com as a provider of resource books, charts, software, CD-ROM databases, forms & other family history tools. Our society is able to place a group order from Ancestry and offer a 10% discount to our members. Check out the catalogs at meetings, or visit the Ancestry book store online. Find something you would like, write the following information on a piece of paper and give to Sharon Johnson (or email). Title of book, catalog number, price, your name & phone number. We need to have a group order of \$200 before we order. In order to receive the discount, the order must be placed through the society.



Media Advisory

State Library paves the way for online genealogists

The Washington State Library is developing an interactive, online catalog to give genealogists access to more than 1,500 Washington State newspapers. The collection of historic newspapers is the most comprehensive Washington newspaper collection in the world and spans 150 years.

The two-year project offers online bibliographic information to more than 35,000 reels of microfilm. The catalog allows users to search Washington newspapers by title, city or county and includes an interactive map of Washington. Genealogists can also chart the complicated publishing history of more than 500 Washington newspapers in 82 charts.

[Visit](#) the publishing history for The Olympian.

<http://wslnet.statelib.wa.gov/iii/olympianmap.htm>

[Search](#) for newspapers by county.

Comb Binding .. For members

The society owns a comb binding machine. If you call John Fisher at 360-293-4986 he will make arrangements to bind your pages into a book for you. Cost is: \$1.00 per book to cover supplies.

This was posted on the GA-CEMETER PRESERVATION list and I thought some of you might find it interesting. It is from the Chicora Foundation, Inc on Cemetery preservation.
<http://www.chicora.org/cemetery.htm>
 Pat Bartelmey

The preservation of graveyards involves a wide range of disciplines, including landscape architecture, historic and archival research, conservation, and at time even a structural engineer. In other words, it is unlikely that any one organization can do everything on any cemetery preservation project. **Chicora Foundation, however, can put together the team your project needs -- and deserves. And it is that team which will ensure that your cemetery is appropriately treated.**

BORROWABLE ITEMS IN STORAGE

Equipment may be borrowed by SVGS members
for Society functions

Use sign-out sheet on wall

Notify Secretary if borrowed for extended time

Tape recorder with tapes

Folding table 30"x100"

Cash Box

White slate board w/pens

Audio tape transcriber

Julie boxes (as used in library)

Overhead projector

Coffee urn & supplies

Collapsed shipping boxes

SVGS brochures & plastic holders

"How-to" Beginner's Genealogy Booklets

Microfiche reader

Traveling Library audio cassette holders

Easel & flip charts

Electric calculator

Microsoft Office 97 Professional Edition – complete program

Microsoft Publisher 98 Graphics Studio – complete program

Message from Joan the Librarian

A big thank you to those members who volunteer to serve at our library on Monday mornings from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. May 12 - Diane Partington, May 19 - Linda Ream, (May 26 the library is closed for Memorial Day Weekend) June 2 - Yvonda Anderson, June 9 - John & Shirlee Fisher, June 16 & June 23 are open, June 30 - Diane Partington. Dates in July and August are open also, so, make a date with yourself to serve on Monday morning and give Joan a phone call to say when. 757-7907. Thanks.

Please wear your nametag when you volunteer. If you do not have one or forgot to wear your SVGS name tag, you may make one from the supplies located in the volunteer folder. This folder is located in the middle of the top drawer of the file cabinet.

There are new items in the library as well as a new item in the traveling library. The four drawer vertical file also has new additions. Typically these items are too small for the book shelves, or are better suited to be stored in file folders. A new section of items about Skagit County in the Washington State drawer include pioneers of Skagit County. If anyone is doing research on the Anderson or Bowman pioneer families from Skagit County please see me.

For the past year a trial program for the SVGS library was to allow members to check out books for a one week period. However, because not many members utilized this, the program has been discontinued. So, book checkout is no longer available.

The Burlington Library has computers for anyone to access the internet. You do not need to have a Burlington library card. Ask the very helpful Burlington librarians to show you the procedure. So, when you find an internet address that looks interesting in our library you may look it up right then.

**SVGS BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2003**

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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 - 2003

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