

Volume 19 Number 5
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Newsletter Editor: Dan Royal
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SVGS Library Collection:
900 E. Fairhaven
Burlington, Washington

Presidents Message

Wow! What an exciting board you have working for you this coming year. It should be a dynamite time and I'm sure each of you will be requested to be involved even more than you have been. What a fortunate organization we are to have such top-notch representation.

I want to take a moment to personally thank each of you for your participation in our society, whether as my personal supporter, as a volunteer on a project, as a board member, as a participant in any of our events, or as an attendee at our meetings. Each of you has given strength to our organization and to me personally, and for that I am eternally grateful. Thank you for allowing me to represent our society, thank you for seeing the best in all of us and for forgiving me my downfalls. Happy holidays.

With hugs and smiles, Laura

Society News General Elections

Elected this past month at the October General Meeting to fill the upcoming two year terms as President & Secretary of our Society are Hazel Rasar & Barbara Johnson—respectively. The board and membership wish our heartfelt thanks and respect to Laura Pemberton-Sparr and Rita Schulze for their time and volunteer work in these positions.

Recent chair positions have also been filled by the board welcoming Dale Hastin in Publication and Shirley Christenson in



Publicity. We still have **open** and need to fill Education & Projects chairs.

Incoming SVGS President Hazel Rasar helping teach at her table at the recent October Heritage Festival.

Former Members Pass

The Skagit Valley Genealogical Society wishes to extend to the family of Jane Russell its heartfelt condolences for the passing of a wonderful woman. The board of directors enjoyed the time she spent as Treasurer for the society and the times she could attend field trips to Salt Lake City along with her daughter and granddaughter. She will be greatly missed. Obituary reprinted with the permission of her family. We also extend our condolences to the family of former SVGS member Charlene Smith. Donations to the Malcolm H. Stern NARA Gift Fund will be made in both their names.



Jane Elizabeth Russell, 93, of Mount Vernon, Washington died peacefully on Wednesday, September 27, 2006 at her home with loving family around her.

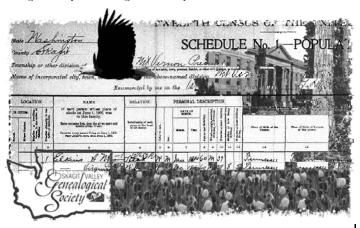
She was born Elizabeth Jane Russell on June 8, 1913 in Medford, Wisconsin, the eldest daughter of Lyman Davis and Helen Devereux (Urquhart) Russell and granddaughter of Augustus Sumner and Nancy Thomas (Davis) Russell and Elias Leonard and Catherine (Devereux)

Urquhart. She grew up in Medford and attended Medford High School graduating in the Class of 1931. She attended college in Stevens Point, Wisconsin. It was while she was at Stevens Point that she married her first husband, Rev. Donald O. Mills. They had a family of 5 children, the oldest born in 1933. They moved from Wisconsin in 1948 to Kirkland, Washington. The family moved to Seattle in 1951. Shortly afterward, this marriage dissolved. Jane began working as a bookkeeper at the United Church of Christ (Congregational) Conference offices in Seattle in November 1951 to support her family that she was raising on her own. She retired from there in 1983, after 31 ½ years of continuous service. In September 1962, Jane married Louis A. Pedersen, and resided in Bellevue, Washington, next door to her daughter and son-in-law Marian and Jim. Jane and Lou were happily married until his death in 1986. She later

Continued on page 7

General Meetings now held at the Burlington Senior Center.

All meetings will be held at the **Burlington Community Center**, 1011 Greenleaf Ave., Burlington MEETING AT 7:00 PM—Meetings now held at Left Wing of the building/Speaker presented first.



SVGS Board of Directors 2006

President:

1-425-231-6945

Vice President:

360-424-6528

Secretary:

360 - 856 - 2826

Treasurer:

360-293-2962

Past president:

Archivist:

360-856-1874

Education:

Genealogist:

360-336-5832

Librarian:

360-757-7907

Membership:

360-724-3882

Newsletter/Webmaster:

360-826-6141

Projects:

Publications:

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Printing Publications:

Raffles/Door Prizes:

Ways & Means:

360-826-6141

Publicity:

360-757-7772

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Shirley Christenson

ShirleyC@wavecable.com

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Yvonda Anderson

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Fund Raiser for

Special Projects:

360-826-6141

Maureen Royal

dmoroyal@earthlink.net

Special History Projects: Hazel Rasar

co-chairs

Dan Royal

Heritage Historian:

Dr. Tom Robinson

antrim@wavecable.com

Calendar of Events

Upcoming 2006

General Meeting:

Start time 7:00 p.m.

All meetings will be held at the **Burlington Community Center**, 1011 Greenleaf Ave., Burlington No change in date or time.

November 28 - **George Ridgeway,** member, USING INTERNET SEARCH ENGINES

December No meeting

January 23, 2007 **Darrell Trudeau** - (Stillaquamish Soc member) Identifying and Using Irregular Sources

February 27, 2007 **Bob Witherspoon** - Using Non Population Census Records

Burlington Public Library

900 East Fairhaven Avenue 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.



Welcome New Members 158 members

Gordon & Portia Stacey Concrete, WA

Deirdre Ridgeway LaConner, WA

Mary Ellen Dellinger Quincy, WA

The Skagit Valley Genealogical Society Newsletter does accept 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 . 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

2 Nov 2006 - Tenino, WA

Librarians Lynn Red and Kathryn Devine of the Washington State Library are hosting a **Beginning Genealogy** class for adults from 6:30pm-7:30pm, Thursday November 2nd, 2006, at the Tenino Timberland Library. They will guide you through basic genealogy research and introduce some genealogical resources available at the Washington State Library. Library computers will be available to use after the program. Refreshments provided by the Friends of the Tenino Timberland Library. Space is limited; call the **Tenino Timberland Library** at 360-264-2369 to sign up.

11 Nov 2006 - Bellevue, WA

The Family History Expo 2006, sponsored by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, will be held on October 21, 2006 in the Church's Bellevue Stake Center located at 14536 Main Street, Bellevue, Washington. We have produced this Family History Expo for the past several years. About 30 classes will be taught throughout the day on a wide variety of genealogical subjects. Classes will be available for the beginners as well as intermediate and advanced genealogists. Instructors come from our Church, the Eastside Genealogical Society, the African American Genealogical Society, the Hispanic Community, University of Washington and other individuals. And finally, this Expo is free to the public. For more information, contact the event chairman, Mark Hoover, at

markhoover64@hotmail.com

18 Nov 2006 - Richland, WA

Tri-City Genealogical Society and the Kennewick Stake of the LDS Church are co-sponsoring a Family History Fair and Conference, Families, Trees and Pedigrees on Saturday, November 18th from 8:45am to 4pm. The conference will take place at the LDS Church at 895 Gage Blvd, Richland, WA. The Theme will be "Capturing Your Past with the Tools of Today." The keynote speaker will be Tim Cross, from the Family History Department of the LDS Church, who will be describing the new FamilySearch.org that the LDS Church is revamping, updating and improving. Donna Potter Phillips will be our featured speaker, presenting 3 classes, and there will be 22 other classes from beginning genealogy to computers, the internet and other present-day technologies. Check their website for further information.

16-26 Jan 2007 - Salt Lake City, UT

The Fiske Genealogical Library will host a trip to Salt Lake City for 10 days. Call the Fiske Library, 206-328-2716 or Betty Kay Anderson, 360-898-2537, for more information and reservations.

17 Mar 2007 Seattle, WA

South King County Genealogical Society will hold its upcoming Gene-A-Rama—watch for details.

13-14 April 2007 - Wenatchee, WA

The Washington State Genealogical Society will hold their 2007 Annual Conference and Business Meeting at the We-

natchee Center Hotel & Conference Center, hosted by the Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society. The theme will be, "Climbing Your Family Tree." More information will forthcoming, but you should think about getting your reservations at the hotel now as there are other activities going on that weekend in Wenatchee. The hotel telephone number is 1-800-663-1144 and tell them you are with the Washington State Genealogy group. The rate of one night (1 or 2 people) is \$93.00 plus taxes. We have 40 rooms reserved and can get more, if needed and they are available. Details will be posted as they become available, but be sure to mark your calendars now, so you don't miss the date!

19 May 2007 Mount Vernon, WA

Skagit Valley Genealogical Society—Spring Seminar with guest speaker **Sandra Leubking** will be held at the Burlington Community Center. More Information later.

DID YOU KNOW?

SVGS has WorkLife Rewards thru Office Depot and MaxPerks thru Office Max

You can help SVGS earn rewards at any store the next time you shop. SVGS earns 5-15% credit for accumulated purchases. These credits can then be used by SVGS to purchase needed supplies or for printing services. It's easy and you can help. The password is 4438, account # which is 4005-73328 or use Hazel's phone number (360-424-6528). If you shop regularly for office supplies, school supplies, etc, ask Hazel about getting a keychain card with society account numbers.

Thanks for supporting your society.

FGS Update

The Malcolm H. Stern, NARA Gift Fund, established in 1983, is a nationally supported program to finance the creation of finding aids and the microfilming of valuable research materials from the holdings of NARA in Washington, D.C. The microform copies, produced without government funding, are distributed to all National Archives Regional Archives for use by researchers. The films are also available through any LDS Family History Center worldwide.

See page seven for cut out coupon

Letter to the SVGS Board,

We have written this letter to show our gratitude for the work that **Skagit Valley Genealogical Society** has done. On a weekly basis we receive requests for information about the whereabouts of loved ones. The first tool we use in our search is the Index to Funeral Home Records. We have at our disposal a book that has references from up to 170 different volumes of funeral home records. One must also take into account that this information comes from 6 different homes. Two of which no longer exist. With this book we save many hours, and are able to serve the community with accurate information in a short period of time. Thanks again for all you hard work.

Connie LeSourd Kern Funeral Home

QUIERIES & SURNAMES

Surname, location, era for newsletter

Robertson,

VA ca 1795-1818

OH, Harrison Co ca 1817-1907

NE Nemaha & Johnson Cos. ca 1887-1907

MN Aitken Co. ca 1900-1927

Perkins.

KS, PA, VT, MN????? before 1850

WI ca 1858--1873

Parker

TN, Stewart Co ca 1820

Benton Co. ca 1860s

Henry Co ca 1846

TX, d. Jones Co, 1908

Myirke/Merrick

TN ca 1820s

Lewis

NY Saratoga Co. ca 17802-1850s

Ide

WI Monroe Co. 1855 possibly ME or VT

Hagood/Haywood

VA, Surry Co.? ca 1700s

Brunswick Co. ca 1715-1742?

NC (where?????)

Francisco

NC (where?)

TN. Benton Co. ca 1850s

Hawkins Co. ca 1830s

Henry Co or Carroll Co. up to 1901

Dent

SC, Lexington Co. ca 1782-

1848???????

NC, ca 18005

KY, Marshall Co. 1850s-70s

Denning

VA ????

OH, Harrison Co. ca 1818

Tuscarawas Co.

Creed

Surry Co, VA ca 1660s-70s

Couch

OH, Harrison Co. ca 1830s

Wade

VA, Mecklenburg Co. ca 1760s-80s

Sedoris

OH, Harrison Co. ca 1813-1860s

NE, Nemaha Co 1860s-1890s

Submitter: Ms. E. Dale Hastin, 2610 E. Section St. #92, Mount

Vernon, WA, 8274, 360-424-0540

This person looking for the family of **Mason Wilcott Thayer** who lived and died in Skagit County Washington.1997. Would like to make contact if possible. Email at:

$mother dearest 48 @\,hot mail.com$

Looking for any info on **William Bronson**, born Michigan, shown in the 1910 and 1920 census for Skagit County. Wife is

Alice, and children Mattie, Wayne, and Myra. Is this the William Bronson who was a buffalo hunter in Texas in 1877? Will trade any info I have. **Judy Womack altolady33@aol.com**

Looking for information on **Andrew and Ida Grenn** (brother and sister) who settled in Skagit county after 1920. They emigrated from Sweden and lived for a short time in Mississippi and Alabama before settling in Washington. I believe they lived near Mt Vernon or Anacortes.

Hal Olson halolson@comcast.net Aurora CO

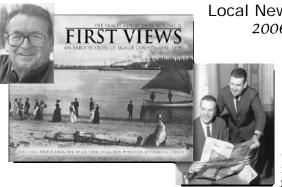
Does anyone on the list have access to the yearbook for Burlington High School from 1927? My grandmother, **Ruth Florence Davenport**, graduated from this high school in 1927. I would very much like to have copies of any pictures and/or articles. Anything from 1926 or 1925 yearbooks would also be appreciated. Thanks,

Jacque jacquel@prodigy.net California

Would someone please do obit lookup for:

Roland K. Farlow, b. 8 Sept 1917, d. 8 March 2006; residence Mount Vernon, Skagit Co, Wash;

Michael Burdge mburdge@woh.rr.com



Local News from Skagit County 2006 Heritage Award

The Skagit County Historical Society Board of Trustees has awarded this years Heritage Award to Wallie V. Funk of Anacortes. Presented by Vice President Bud Moore for outstanding contributions to the preservation, interpretation and promotion of Skagit County history.

Wallies grandparents Valentine & Barbara Funk came to Anacortes in the early 1890's to become prominent in the Anacortes business community with their purchase of the Wilson Hotel by the end of the nineteenth century.

Born to Wallie Sr. & Irene (Brown) in 1922, Wallie Jr. following WWII found himself back in Anacortes working as a small town journalist and purchased the Anacortes American newspaper with partner John Webber by 1950. Wallie very much used his paper to help advocate historical preservation locally, on both Fidalgo Island & Whidbey Island.

Culminating in a lifetime of thoughtful works and following retirement in 1989, Wallie gathered together a huge store of photographs collected including some shot by himself since 1950— he wrote a weekly column for the Anacortes American from 1994 to 2001 to tell stories that reflected social changes in the previous century.

In his honor the Skagit Valley Herald produced its second volume of The Skagit Collection titled First Views in 2002 with Wallies Funks immense collection of photographs.

Currently the Anacortes History Museum is running his Focus on Community: The Wallie Funk Collection exhibit that will run through March 2008. This exhibit showcases the extensive photos collected by the publisher and city historian.

Congratulations Wallie.

Genealogy Groups

Genealogists are accustomed to finding information in the most unlikely places. One of those places is on the internet. Microsoft Networks (MSN) has thousands of groups of every interest that one could have or even imagine. To narrow your search to genealogy groups, you begin by selecting your favorite search engine and then typing MSN groups "genealogy". You will get about a million responses. To further focus your search you can add a state or even a city. MSN groups + genealogy + Waterloo, Iowa.

These groups are well organized and are run by a manager and often 1 or 2 assistant managers. You will need to join the groups to be able to access the information that you may seek. I would suggest looking over each group first, reading some of the messages offered on the message board, viewing some of the features on the left hand column. If you like what you see, and then you can apply to join the group. Most MSN groups encourage open enrollments; however some groups are very fussy and may ask you to give them information verifying who you are. Just remember, do not give out any personal information that can compromise you or your family. I would never divulge my address, phone number, social security number etc. Probably not a good idea to use your real name.

Here is a link that will give you a list of MSN genealogy groups. http://groups.msn.com/Browse?Catld=107

The page says there are 2993 genealogy groups. Here are some quick examples of what you will see.

Irish Ancestral Pages (4694 members)

We dedicate this site to the promotion and encouragement of Irish genealogy and in our own way try and help those researching the Irish Ancestral Past.

Canadian Genealogy (1123 members)

A place for anyone with Canadian Ancestry to post their surnames and maybe find that one little piece of info that they have been searching for.

Victorian Genealogy (376 members)

A site dedicated to help people searching for their Victorian Ancestors.

Good luck and I hope you find the information you seek. One thing I know for sure. You will find many nice people will to help you in your genealogy ventures.

Submitted by George Ridgeway 4george30@comcast.net

Joan the Librarian

New items for the Library Since these are really booklets they will be located in the vertical files under the appropriate subjects, i.e. Passenger lists.



Finding Your Ancestors on Passenger Ship Lists

How to determine when they arrived and which ports they departed from and sailed to in North America, includes details on the National Archives microfilms available locally, reference books and sources by port and county of origin. Also glossary of ship terms.

Civil War Military Records

Lists hundreds of books and microfilms available locally. Stateby-state sources, plus addresses and hours of libraries. Also tips and notes to help you capture the spirit of the times.

State and Territorial Censuses

A state by-state guide of nonfederal population censuses - original records and on microfilm or in transcribed booklets - available in our area.

*The above are the items our recent speaker, Evelyn Roehl, had for sale at the General Meeting.

Children of the Pioneers was authored by members of the Whidbey Island Chapter of the Daughters of the Pioneers of Washington and donated to our Society Library collection by Darlene Libbey. Thank You! This collection of 25 stories shows that the children of the original pioneers were resourceful and enterprising too. Black and white photographs accompany the articles along with an index (there are several Libbey's listed) and a few maps. This neat little volume will also be in the file cabinet along with Whidbey Island items.

Do you know where the phrase "getting stumped" comes from? William Dollarhide has another article on the website "genealogical .com" that talks about one of the early trails called Zane's Trace, a trail that early settlers used in the western migration. The answer is found at the end of the article. This is another of the informative and interesting articles you will find on this website, along with books and CD's for sale, some at bargain prices.

The Library Volunteer sign up list has been filled for the remainder of this year. The following people will serve: Deidre Ridgway, Joyce Liston, Colleen Thulen, Walt & Dorothy Johnson and Shirley Christensen.

Thank you to these members and all the others that fill in from time to time, you are appreciated. New members, this is a great way to find out what is available right here.

You can help the Society by buying your favorite genealogical item of interest from our website through an affiliate program with the publishers. Simply click on the links to the magazine or website of your choice, pay for whatever you are interested in and the society will receive a small commission for you doing so.

A simple way to help contribute to Skagit Valley Genealogical Society and their ongoing works.











FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH METHODS



Presented by the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society Mount Vernon Senior Center Wednesdays January 3 – February 21, 2007

Instructor all classes – Iona Raney **\$45.00** for the series of 6 classes

- 1. January 3, 2007 2:00 4:00 pm Mount Vernon Senior Center Introduction to family history or genealogy and home sources Some tools we use
- 2. January 10, 2007 2:00 4:00 pm Mount Vernon Senior Center Primary Sources What they are and where to find them
- 3. January 17, 2007 2:00 4:00 pm Mount Vernon Senior Center Secondary Sources Are they any good?
- 4. January 24, 2007 2:00 4:00 pm Mount Vernon Senior Center Using Census Records What do they tell?
- 5. January 31, 2007 2:00 4:00 pm Mount Vernon Senior Center Organizing materials and keeping records Oh, my!
- 6. February 7, 2007 2:00 4:00 pm Mount Vernon Senior Center Evaluation of evidence and sharing research Two very important steps.

FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH METHODS ON THE COMPUTER

Skagit Valley Genealogical Society – A two part sequel to the basic genealogy course Wednesday February 14 and 21, 2007 **\$10.00** per session

- 1. . February 14, 2007 2:00 4:00 pm Mount Vernon Senior Center How and Why of Computer Genealogy: Programs and Accessories Laura Sparr
- 2. February 21, 2007 2:00 4:00 pm Mount Vernon Senior Center Genealogy on the Internet Hazel Rasar

moved to Mount Vernon next door to Marian and Jim; living next door to them for a total of 47 years.

After retirement she began to travel, first to Hawaii and Alaska several times with Lou. After his death she took many trips on her own and many trips with various family. She did many trips with the Elderhostel. In 2002 she accomplished a goal of having visited all 50 states in this country, including Hawaii 20 times. She also had the pleasure of visiting several provinces of Canada, Mexico, all of the British Isles (with Ireland and Scotland multiple times), Austria, Switzerland, Germany, Turkey, Greece, France, and Italy. Her most recent trip was to Medford in June for the occasion of her 75th High School Reunion and to visit family and friends along the way. Jane was an avid reader, loved working crossword puzzles and very much enjoyed sports, especially baseball and football. She loved her Seattle Mariners, Chicago Cubs, Seattle Seahawks, and Green Bay Packers. She loved collecting dolls, elephants, turtles and cut glass. She also enjoyed the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

Jane was an active family historian/genealogist. She was a member of the **Skagit Valley Genealogical Society** since 1996 and served as its **treasurer** for three years. She received an award from the **Washington State Genealogical Society** in June 2004 for her dedication and service to the local society. She was also a member of the New England Historic Genealogical Society.

Jane is preceded in death by her parents, her husband Lou (1986), her sister Nancy Ruth (Russell) Doriot (1999), her son David Russell Mills (2001), her nephew Paul Kurt Scharrschmidt (1999), her nephew James Russell Doriot (2000), her grandson David William Mills (1987), her great-grandson Shaun Phillips (1984) and her son-in-law Dean M. Caldwell (1986).

Jane is survived by her sisters and their husbands: Ursula Helen (Russell) and William P. Scharrschmidt of Medford, Wisconsin and Catherine Ann (Russell) and Armin A. Lindow of Wichita, Kansas. Her children: daughter Nancy Jane (Mills) Caldwell of Pittsburg, California, daughter and son-in-law Marian Joan (Mills) and James D. Rivers of Mount Vernon,

Washington, son and daughter-in-law Jonathan Lee and Lucille J. (Segan) Mills of Lake Havasu City, Arizona, and daughter Melissa Jean (Mills) Hall of Mount Vernon, Washington. She is also survived by 16 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren, 3 nieces and 3 nephews and their children.

There will be a private graveside service where Jane will be buried next to her husband, Lou, at Acacia Memorial Park, Seattle. A Celebration of Jane's life will also be held. For date, time and location, please call 360-428-2833.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be made to the Skagit Hospice Foundation, P.O. Box 1376, Mount Vernon, Washington 98273-1376.



Charlene Marie Smith, a loving and much loved wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother went to be with her Lord in the wee morning hours of October 16, 2006 at United General Hospital in Sedro-Woolley, surrounded by her family. She was born in Seattle, WA on October 31, 1928 where she grew up and attended school.

Charlene was united in marriage to Clarice Lee Smith on February 14, 1956 in Burlington where they made their home for a number of years, interspersed with Clarice's military duty posts. They ultimately settled in Oak Harbor where they have resided for the past several years.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Susan Smith; her mother, Thelma Butler and a granddaughter, Shauna Lemmon. She is survived by her husband, Clarice, at the family home in Oak Harbor; a son and two daughters; grand children and great grandchildren. She will be forever missed and forever loved by her family. Her family requests memorials be made to the Cancer Research Institute memorial/ benefit fund established through the Sedro-Woolley Wells Fargo Bank.

Funeral services for Charlene will be held on Saturday, October 21, 2006 at 1:00pm at Lemley Chapel in Sedro-Woolley, followed by a graveside committal service at the Burlington Cemetery.

STERN NARA GIFT FIIND

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 his orical research, preservation and publications of genealogical interest.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2006

APPLICANTS NAME ADDRESS STREET, CITY, STATE & 9 DIGIT ZIP CODE		
AREA CODE () TELEPHONE NUMBER		
New Member	Renewal	Previous Member
FAMILY \$ 12	INDIVIDUAL \$10	INSTITUTION \$10



SKAGIT VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MAILING ADDRESS Post Office Box 715 Conway, WA. 98238-0715

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED