



Volume 17 Number 3
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Hoping many of you took advantage of the numerous seminars offered in April, and that May brings new knowledge and awareness. Then in June I hope you plan to attend the Washington State Genealogical Society conference, to be held in Kirkland, featuring Sharon DeBartolo Carmack; she is both a knowledgeable and entertaining speaker. See you there!

My apologies to any of you that have been unable to reach me these past several months; a bout with the flu brought on pneumonia, which resulted in another clinical depression foray. When this happens one is unable to think, and therefore to function. Recovery has been slower than I'd hoped, but is finally on its way. Hope you've never had the pleasure of this 'wonderful' journey, but if you have I know you understand. I'll try to be more accessible in the near future.

The society's annual meeting is in May. We would like your participation and input, so please plan to attend. We would also love any contribution you can make to the raising of funds to support our publication of "Skagit County and Its People; 150 Years of Rich History and Heritage.. We have the dot project donation plan, one of our members has made dish clothes to sell, and one has made a quilt to raffle. If you have a grant or fund-raising idea we'd really appreciate any assistance you can provide, as all contributions are graciously and gratefully accepted!

Happy ancestor hunting this spring and summer!!!



THE STRAYED TOMBSTONE See story on page 7

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Notification of membership as required by SVGS Society Bylaws Annual Meeting May 25, 2004

**VOTE
 CHANGE IN BYLAWS
 & ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Recent circumstances, in attempts to request grant funding for our Special History Project, have identified a need for a change in our Society Bylaws. After discussion at the April Board Meeting the following changes were suggested. The Board of Directors voted unanimously to present these changes to the membership for approval at the Annual Meeting.

Present reading of Article I is: (The name of this organization is the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society, a nonprofit organization.)

Proposed change in bylaws for Article I
"The name of this organization is Skagit Valley Genealogical Society, a 501(c)3 non profit organization, using the following identification numbers: Internal Revenue Service issued 1987 91-1359846; State of Washington Office of the Secretary of State, Non Profit corporation 601-480-724. 30."

Present reading of Article VI, Section D – Board of Directors is: (Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors, *with the exception of the President*, may be filled until the next Annual Meeting by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors);

Proposed change in bylaws for Article VI

Treasurer Resigns

Cards & letters will be appreciated.

It is with regret that the Board of Directors have been notified of the resignation of Jane Russell, our society treasurer. Jane has recently suffered some medical problems, which have necessitated her resignation. The Board of Directors on behalf of the membership extends many, many thanks to Jane for her dedication to the Society and her work as treasurer of this organization for the past three years.

THANK YOU, JANE.

SVGS BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2004

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Special Committees

TELEPHONE: *Yvonda Anderson*

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HISTORY PROJECT:

Hazel Rasar & Dan Royal (see above)

Calendar of Events

Attention !!

May, June & September 2004

General Meeting:

May 25 Hazel Rasar, an active SVGS member, will speak on "Using the Internet for Genealogical Research".

Election of Officers for President and Secretary

Jun 22 Members will be invited to speak on the subject of "If I Had An Opportunity To Talk To One Ancestor, Who Would It Be And Why?" Maximum time to speak will be 2 to 5 minutes depending on the amount of participation.

Used Book Sale at this meeting.

Sep 28 After a summer of family research, do you still have a brick wall to break through? A "Question & Answer Session" will be offered to help you overcome your brick walls. A panel of experienced genealogists will handle the "Answer" part of this program. **Pot Luck Dinner 6:00 p.m.** Watch for further details next newsletter

The Skagit Valley Genealogical Society Newsletter is now accepting 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 to be posted in the newsletter again, I certainly wouldn't be opposed to it. *Ye Editor*

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.

Volunteers Needed

Treasurer Board Position

You have experience? Please help us out!

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 Wednesday of each month at Washington Federal in Burlington at 1:30 p.m.

Fund Raiser Chairperson Board Position

We are looking for a volunteer (s) for fund raising and/or grant writing, particularly in relation to the new history book project.

Featured Article

Do We Still Need Genealogical Societies In This Internet Age?

By Donna Potter Phillips

In this exciting Internet age, will the local genealogical society go the way of dial telephones, #2 pencils and CPM computers? Will the need disappear for those living in a given area, and who want to do genealogy, to come together, work together and learn together? Can aspiring family historians learn on their own everything they need to know---every skill necessary---to further, enhance and complete their research?

My answer, gleaned from reading and interviews, is a resounding "No way!"

"It's like being educated...there are those who are self-educated and get the information *eventually* (emphasis mine) or those who go to school and get the information directed at them," said Bernard Montanari. (1)

"Genealogical societies often have *the most intimate knowledge of the records in an area* (emphasis mine), and they know what gaps exist in the records due to courthouse fires, floods, etc. Societies also know about accessibility to the records---which ones are held locally, which have been moved to archives, and which are closed to the public. If you are seeking obscure sources, check with the local society," wrote Amy Johnson Crow, C.G. (2)

Juanita McBride, the Librarian for my local genealogical society, explained to me that "*genealogical societies are locality based*....they know of more people, more resources and have more knowledge of that area than anybody else and any other resource."

Can you really think that sitting in your pajamas, using your little gray mouse, and surfing the Internet until the wee hours, will bring you all the answers you seek in your genealogy? Will the Internet teach you what to do with what you find and how to build upon what you learn? (Yes, I know, online classes abound, but.....) And will trying to fill all your genealogical needs on the Internet take the place of meeting with, working with, learning from, and sharing with other like-minded folks?? Will *all* the books and resources that you need to compile your family history be available to you via the Internet?

"No way!" is my answer to all of those questions.

Not to mention the wonderful homemade cookies and brownies that come to meetings. Food for the tummy and food for the mind are available at monthly meetings of the Eastern Washington Genealogical Society as members bring treats for the "coffee, cookies and sharing time" before the meeting. Who can guess how many come for the goodies and stay to be taught?

Do we still need genealogical societies? I posed this question to several genealogy friends who were all passionate with their affirming answers. I asked Jeeves and Google the same question, and found many lists of compelling reasons speaking in favor of local genealogical societies. Here is some of what I found.....

The reasons to have and support genealogical societies can be listed in categories: opportunities to learn, opportunities to serve, opportunities to preserve, and opportunities to have fun.

Opportunities To Learn

Genealogical societies provide for the genealogists in their area. I left that "provide" deliberately open ended, for they provide fellowship, sharing, classes, learning, networking, seminars, workshops, opportunities, knowledge.....and each of these words can have dozens of different applications in the context of "genealogical societies".

Genealogical societies provide for the beginner and the seasoned genealogist; in genealogical societies there is something for everyone of every level.

Genealogical societies are locality based, and know what records exist for that area, for what time periods, and where those records are housed and if they are available.

Genealogical societies know about special collections, unique to that area, and where they may be accessed.

Genealogical societies are geared to learning. They have regular meetings with speakers and programs planned to increase genealogical knowledge. They compile, print and distribute publications that carry local records, information, and how-tos for the membership. They hold regular classes (beginners', advanced, computer, special field and ethnic research classes), workshops, and seminars. They volunteer and staff such places as the local genealogical library, local museums, and local archives. They are non-profit organizations, dedicated to group benefits and learning.

Genealogical societies maintain records, and they keep a library in most cases. The library holdings of a local genealogical society will include both local-emphasis materials and general genealogical materials. Librarians for genealogical societies are always gathering materials.....ask them if they would like "these old books that you found in the dumpster" and they will squeal with delight.

Genealogical societies know about local resources that will *never* be found via the Internet. Members know of small, private museums and collections. They know who keeps some specific group of old records at their home because that person is just not ready to give up these things yet. They know about ethnic resources and events. They know which churches will allow walk-in access to their records, but would never allow extracting or filming of their records. They know that while the Society library does not have such-and-such a record, the local Family History Center has a big in-house collection of those records.

Genealogical societies keep members up-to-date on the newest happenings in the field of genealogy, and the newest resources to become available. Society members are not just told about new resources, but they are taught about new resources.

Opportunities To Serve

Service to others, anytime, any place and anywhere, is divinely appointed. To be a helper to mankind, in any capacity, is to enrich yourself. Genealogical societies offer unlimited opportunities for all kinds of service.

Genealogical societies offer leadership and teacher training in the guise of conducting meetings, classes and workshops. Board members and society teachers are often leaders in their community.

Genealogical societies offer even the least among their membership the opportunity to grow through service. Those who prepare the coffee and cookies at a meeting, those who sign-up to help with the local public television pledge drive, those who help the librarian catalog and shelve the incoming books, pamphlets and periodicals, those who man the society booth at the local county fair.....all serve and are enriched by the service.

Genealogical societies offer outreach services. Helpers for Scout and Camp Fire group projects are always available, as are members who will go to the public schools to help the teacher with a special, genealogy-oriented, project. Members will go to retirement homes to assist with oral history projects, or to clean up a damaged cemetery.

Opportunity To Preserve

Genealogical society members often gather weekly at courthouses, libraries or archives to extract local records. These records are then published for all to use....and they are not always published online.

Genealogical society members work with local libraries to add specialty items to their holdings and collections.

Genealogical society members happily work with other preservation groups in the area to take oral histories, to find the hidden tombstones in neglected cemeteries, and to lobby for records' preservation at the local, state and national level.

Genealogical society members are knowledgeable about what is a genealogy record, and are aware that such records can show up anywhere, and when an organization is about to dump their records, members rush to the rescue.

Genealogical society members can work with local churches, fraternal organizations, veterans' organizations and other groups to preserve and make available their records within the framework of stipulations that the donating organization imposes.

Genealogical society members lobby at all levels --- the town level, county level, state level and nationally---- fighting for records' preservation. "If we want to have access to the records we need, we have to be counted. And when you are on a membership or subscriber list, you are countable!" wrote Loretto D. Szucs. (3)

Genealogical society members are, like the actors in the movie "Pay It Forward," believers in the idea that groups have a responsibility to preserve records and records' access for future generations.

Genealogical society members often participate in reenactments and living history demonstrations, thereby preserving the "old ways." These events help make the connection between cultural history and family history.

Last of all, genealogical societies provide wonderful opportunities to have fun. In the middle of the night, as you research the Internet in your 'jammies and talk to your cat, will he really care? Whereas when you come to a genealogical gathering, everybody wants to share and listen to stories. Only in person can you have such fun networking --- talking with others and immediately finding out about a new record or making a cousin-connection. Happy people-to-people interaction is vitally needed for the mental health of every individual.

Genealogical societies provide opportunities for exercise, too, if you stop to think about it (and don't we all need more exercise these days). We can park blocks away from meetings (instead of the indoor parking garage), we can tromp cemeteries for a variety of reasons, we can join the group manning the highway rest stop and it is certainly exercise lugging books back and forth to the library.

I believe what Curt Witcher said: "Genealogical societies are the first line of defense in the battle to preserve our historical documents in a format that will ensure accessibility for generations of researchers. Their members are the daily users of the records and will feel the first effects of restricted access. It is a tremendous responsibility to keep a watchful eye on what is happening at the local, state and national levels." (Curt B. Witcher, FUGS, FGS Past President and Manager, Historical Genealogy Department, Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, IN.)

A zillion kinds of genealogical information may be available on the Internet, but it is the humble working members of local genealogical societies who **provide the information** to the Internet. Your little gray mouse won't find it if it's not there, and it won't be there without a person putting it there, and that person usually is a genealogical society member. And even if you find "good stuff" on the Internet, will you know how to apply that knowledge to your family history, and build upon that knowledge to find more? A genealogical society will **provide the opportunity to learn** how to "do" every aspect of family history with face-to-face and hands-on teaching. You won't get that from the Internet.

I have long taught that yes, you can do genealogy in a closet (meaning all by yourself, alone, at home). And some folks must do it this way as they are confined to their homes by any number of physical reasons. But for most of us, doing genealogy with the help and fellowship of other like-minded folks is way more productive, way more satisfying and way more fun. There will forever be a need for the humble genealogical society.

This article graciously reprinted with the permission of the author Donna Potter Phillips, which first saw print in the Family Chronicle December 2003 issue. Anyone who has not picked up a copy of this fine magazine off a newsstand should definitely do so. "500 Brickwall Solutions" - published by Family Chronicle is now at the Burlington Library. Ye Editor

See publication for bibliography notes.

Society News

Look for information on the beautiful quilt that will be raffled. Proceeds will support our History Book Project.

Special History Project Update

Family stories are a remembrance of your ancestors.....save them and share them! Many of us have been told stories of our grandparents and their parents. Consider whether your descendants might be interested in knowing what grandpa had to say. Think of stories your grandparents have told you over the years that might be of interest to your children or grandchildren.

For example, in my own family, my father died when I was only a year old. His parents had died several years earlier, long before I was born. Regretfully, I did not have the opportunity to know any of them. My family drifted away and contact with that side of the family was very limited and often nonexistent. When I became interested in discovering my ancestry, I made an effort to contact aunts, uncles and cousins, only to discover most of them had passed away. To my great disappointment much of that family information and family stories was lost to me, except I did find one uncle who was able to tell me stories about my father and small snippets of my grandparents. These stories are treasures that I cherish. I would love to know more. I have occasionally made contact with someone who knew my father's family or had information about them.

It is my responsibility to see that my children and my grandchildren hear these stories so that they can get to know their ancestors as individual people, who they were and how they lived. What hardships they faced and what brought them to America.

Think hard and you too will remember those stories that made your ancestors the people that they were and the influence that they had on your life.

This committee has done a tremendous job in completing all the necessary forms for this project. Many flyers and requests for donations to fund this project have been mailed to local individuals, businesses and organizations.

If your ancestors are or have been connected to Skagit County, in any way, let us hear from you. Contact one of our committee members for this project and share your memories with the society so that this information may be shared with future generations. *Hazel Walters Rasar*, project co-chair

Welcome New Members

Douglas and Carleen Sinrud of Sedro Woolley, WA
Sharon Fowler of Edmonds, WA
Paul and Lita Luvera of Gig Harbor, WA



Skagit Valley Genealogical Society
715, Conway, Washington 98238
Email: genealogy2@verizon.net
Web: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~wasvgs>
Phone: [360] 424-6528

"Skagit County, Washington and Its People! 150 Years of Rich History & Heritage"

Accepting photographs and family history information for our history project:

Message from Joan the Librarian

NEW BOOKS in your SVGS Library - Johnnycake Journey Vol. 2 - a collection of family histories of the Serviss, Hollenbec, Thomson & Ross families. According to the compiler, Dorothy Serviss Johnson, each year there is a family reunion in Anacortes of the Thomsons. Her maternal grandparents lived near the former Dean's corner. *Discovering Your Emmigrant & Ethnic Ancestors* and *Discovering Your Female Ancestors* are two new volumes by the noted genealogist Sharon DeBartolo Carmack. *Ancestors of American Presidents*, compiled by Gary Boyd Roberts takes us through William Jefferson Clinton. Also of interest are charts noting kinships among American presidents, and a variety of appendices and indexes. *In Search of British and Irish Roots*, by Angus Baxter also has information on Welsh and the Scots.

500 Brickwall Solutions to Genealogy Problems, is a new paperback compiled from the publishers of the Family Chronicle Magazine. This volume has so many suggestions for problems encountered in our searching, a handy book! Stop in and see what treasures and variety of items are in your SVGS library.

Our Library Volunteer sign up sheet is filled through the month of May. Bring your calendars to the meeting and see when you will be able to take part.

May 3 - Laura Sparr May 10 - Hazel Rasar
May 17 - Linda Ream May 24 - Iona Raney
May 31 - Library not open - Memorial Day Holiday

Message From Ye Editor!

Its tough to get involved. I know! I'm forty-five, no wait, forty-six. [2004 subtract 1958= 46] Not even close to retirement age. Yet here I am at forty-six getting involved though I spent a lot of years avoiding just that.

In this issue, you can read Donna Phillips article about the opportunities to **learn, serve** and **preserve** by getting involved in a group venture like the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society.

Though I realize and don't expect my children, nephew and niece to be especially concerned about their ancestry at this point in their young adulthood. (as you're probably well aware in your own family also) I know I can do something worth while right now that will be ready for them when they are ready for it.

Also in this issue you—I hope you note- that even though we've lost a longtime member recently with the passing of Russ Tally (pg. 7). That good folks like John & Shirlee Fisher, Sharon Johnson, Hazel Rasar, Laura Sparr, John Hayes, Iona Raney, Diane Partington, Lorraine Rothanbuhler, Donna Hinds, Edna Bainter and Jane Russell, and more unnamed have been doing good works for years—not just for their own loved ones— but for people in the community of Skagit County they don't even know.

"The Strayed Tombstone" reprinted on page seven is an example of just what getting involved is all about. Its tough to do a lot of times and sometimes you even have to force yourself. But leaving behind good works, is not a bad thing.

Genealogical Resources

NARA's Pacific Alaska Region

(Seattle) Workshop Schedule for Spring 2004, from National Archives and Records Administration 10 am to 12:30 am at Regional Archives on Sandpoint

May 4: Land and Other Records

May 11: Native American Research - Emphasis on Five Civilized Tribes (intermediate to advanced)

May 18: What's available in the Original Records at NARA-Pacific Alaska Region, Seattle?

May 25: Preserving Your Family History - Archival Techniques (new class)

Hours

Services for the Public

Monday through Friday, 7:45 A.M. to 4:15 P.M.

Tuesdays until 8:00 P.M. (Microfilm research only)

Note: Beginning June 1, 2004, the Microfilm Research Room will be open until 8:00 P.M. on only the first and second Tuesdays of each month. **NEW!**

First Saturday each month, 9 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. (Microfilm research only)

Note: Beginning June 1, 2004, the Microfilm Research Room will be open the first and second Saturdays of each month, 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. **NEW!**

Closed weekends, except first Saturday each month, and Federal holidays.

Address: 6125 Sand Point Way NE
Seattle, Washington 98115-7999

Directions

From I-5

Exit I-5 at Highway 520 eastbound. Exit Highway 520 at the Montlake exit. Follow Montlake Boulevard north through the University of Washington. After about a mile Montlake merges into NE 45th Street and then Sand Point Way NE. Follow the signs to Children's Hospital. The facility is located a mile north of Children's Hospital on the west side of Sand Point Way.

From the East

Take Highway 520 westbound and cross the Evergreen Point Floating Bridge. Exit Highway 520 at the Montlake exit. Follow Montlake Boulevard north through the University of Washington. After about a mile Montlake merges into NE 45th Street and then Sand Point Way N E. Follow the signs to Children's Hospital. The facility is located a mile north of Children's Hospital on the west side of Sand Point Way.

Used Book Sale

Our society has received several contributions of books and CDs as donations from both members and non-members. Many of these are duplicates of what is in our library and will be sold at the June 22 meeting. We still have some Heritage Quest Magazines that will also be available for sale. **TAKE A LOOK AND TAKE SOME HOME WITH YOU. Proceeds go to the Library Fund.**

Coming Events

19-22 May 2004 - Sacramento, CA The National Genealogical Society Conference in the States; presents "A Golden Prospect." Visit their website for detailed information. <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/>

5 June 2004 - Port Angeles, WA Clallam County Genealogical Society presents their Spring Seminar at the Port Angeles Public Library. Featured speakers will be Donna Potter Phillips and Betty Kay Anderson. www.olympen.com/ccgs/ccgsmeetingschedule.html#seminar

5 June 2004 - Spokane, WA Eastern Washington Genealogical Society of Spokane will host an all-day German Seminar in the main auditorium of the Spokane Public Library. Brown bag your lunch. Featured speaker will be Sabine Schleichen of Muenchen, Germany, a professional researcher and lecturer with 15 years experience researching the German Archives. <http://www.rootsweb.com/~waewgs/>

18-19 June 2004 - Kirkland, WA
Washington State Genealogical Society presents "**RootsSearch II - Preserving Your Family's Milestones,**" hosted by Eastside Genealogical Society and South King County Genealogical Society. Featured speaker will be **Sharon DeBartolo Carmack**, Certified Genealogist, author and speaker, in a presentation on Friday evening and three additional presentations on Saturday. The Saturday program will include many additional speakers covering 20 topics. To be held at the Lake Washington Technical College, 11605 132nd Ave NE, Kirkland, Washington. For further information visit www.rootsweb.com/~wasgs/

2-6 Aug 2004 - Seattle, WA
The Regional In-Depth Genealogical Studies Alliance, Inc. will hold a workshop, in cooperation with NARA's Regional system, at the Pacific Alaska Region's Sandpoint facility. Tuition is \$449 (postmarked by 15 June 2004) or \$549 (postmarked 16 June 2004 or later), and covers all workshop materials and facilities, as well as lunch Monday-Friday.

5 Aug 2004— Pioneer Park — LaConner, WA
Skagit County Pioneer Picnic SVGS will be represented and will have a table to advertise our Society activities. Let one of our Board Members know if you can volunteer an hour to help us cover and man the table. They have a great Salmon

Computer problems?

**Need help with your computer?
Industry certified repair
technician. Several years
Experience.**

**Call DJ at 336-5832 or e-mail me
DJMV@Yahoo.com**

Russ Tally Society Member Since 1987 Passes



LeRoy Russell Tally born in Wichita, Kansas 3 July 1925, he passed away April 12, 2004 in Mount Vernon, WA. Russ and his wife Marjory have been members of Skagit Valley Genealogical Society since 1987. Marjory Tally was treasurer of the Society January 1992 - July 1995, in addition to being Membership Chair July 1995 to June 2000 and still attends meetings.

Russ is survived by his wife, Marjory; son Danny and wife Maria Tally; and a brother Bobby Tally. LeRoy was preceded in death by his parents, George and Hattie Tally and his son, Dennis L. Tally. He was a life member of the Mount Baker Lodge #36, Scottish Rite of Freemasonry and Order of Eastern Star Chapter #50. Le Roy will be placed with his parents and son at Hawthorne Memorial Park Columbarium.

SEATTLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Reprinted from the PSRoots mailing list April 25, 2004

The Seattle Times featured the new central Seattle Public Library in the Sunday, April 25th, issue of its Pacific Northwest magazine with color photos. Online it's at: <<http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/pacificnw>>. Click on the "cover photo."

The new library will open to the public May 23rd, but the numbers of people going through will probably make research impractical for a while. I hear they expect 30,000 the first day.

Genealogy and other nonfiction books are being shelved on the long spiral ramp in Dewey Decimal order, with the 900s near the top of the spiral. We will need to check elsewhere in the spiral for 016 (indexes), 2xx (religion, including church directories), etc. Some church records are in the 9xx and some in the 2xx. There will still be the same Dewey cataloging inconsistencies and squirrelling away items for one geographic location in a couple of dozen different places.

Just like researching any other unfamiliar library, it will pay to have our call numbers with us. See the catalog online at: <<http://catalog.spl.org/>>

submitted by: --Ida Skarson McCormick

Centre for Resource & Research

Laura Pemberton Sparr announces that the *Source Library for Genealogy*, will be relocated in the near future. She will be offering Genealogy Classes and Workshops plus individual instruction at the new location. A new series of eight classes will begin on May 6, 2004. Location to be announced. She can be contacted by cell phone at 425-231-6945 or email at laurasparr@hotmail.com if you are interested in attending one of her classes.

THE STRAYED TOMBSTONE

by Shirlee Fisher

*Joseph P
beloved husband
Of Ella Heaven
April 4 1860 – May 10 1906
Woodmen of the World*

So read the tombstone left in the Bow (WA) Cemetery sometime in mid-1992. Early in 1993 Carolyn Houser, SVGS member, called the Fishers about her conversation with Dorothy Johnson, sexton of the Bow Cemetery, regarding the stone. Joseph Heaven had not been buried in the Bow Cemetery. Ms. Johnson had checked with other nearby cemeteries and found no place from which this stone could have been moved. She turned to our Society because she knew of our involvement with cemetery record preservation.

The search began- and involved many sources in ever widening circles: early newspapers of Skagit County, cemetery readings from Skagit, Whatcom and Snohomish counties, all available sources in libraries and museums, damp tramps through some unread cemeteries in search of others of the Heaven family, even including fruitless correspondence with Woodmen of the World organizations in Omaha, Nebraska and Littleton, Colorado.

Finally, in a 1900 census of Snohomish County John found "Joseph and Ella" enumerated in Florence—a small area a few miles south of Stanwood! With the assistance of Marietta Roth, Cemetery Chairperson for the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society and John Mjoen of Gilbertson Funeral Home in Stanwood we were able to locate the grave. The Florence Cemetery is small and was long neglected. It is currently being cared for and rescued from the weeds by the Marysville Mormon Church group who take their Boy Scout Troop out as a work party to cut back the overgrowth and clean up some. They are to be commended Not only did we find a record of the burial of Joseph Heaven, but also a matching stone base with Heaven in large letters.

Last Thursday, October 13, **John Fisher** borrowed a pickup from a friend, and with the friend's help loaded the nearly 300-pound stone into the pickup at the Bow Cemetery. On Friday John, with the help of SVGS members **George Hamilton** and **Russ Tally**, returned the wayward tombstone to its proper place- some 50 miles from the spot in Bow Cemetery where it was dumped more than two years earlier. The stone has been cemented to the base and we hope Joseph Heaven can again rest in peace.

Bits of red paint on the stone would indicate the stone was moved in a pickup with red paint on the bed. It is too bad there is so much vandalism in cemeteries- all over the country. Also, too bad that the whomevers who moved this 300-pound stone so far didn't put that same energy into doing something constructive—maybe helping to clean up an old neglected cemetery- at the same time learning to understand responsibility and respect for other persons, living or dead.

Originally published in SVGS Newsletter Oct/Dec 1994

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 _____



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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED