



Volume 36 Number 2

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President's Message

I am guilty of hours of spinning my wheels researching on the same old genealogy mega-websites. Stuck in a mental rut there I am, asking the same questions and getting the same results – zero, zilch, nada. It is so easy for me to follow the path of least resistance when researching my family history. Recently I remembered cyndislist.com. I confess it has been a while since I scrolled through this encyclopedic index of global genealogy resources. Upon renewing my acquaintance with cyndislist.com, I felt like the proverbial kid in a candy shop as I rediscovered the seemingly endless categories of research possibilities offered on website. Kudos to Cyndi Ingle for creating and maintaining this online resource that has helped me, along with millions of other researchers, to get out of a deep research rut and on to exploring research backdoors and new horizons.

As a special treat for our members SVGS' Education Committee is inviting Cyndi Ingle to lead us on a deep dive into how to best use her resource packed website. Plus Cyndi will share her research expertise with us over a series of three classes that all researchers of all skill levels will benefit from attending.

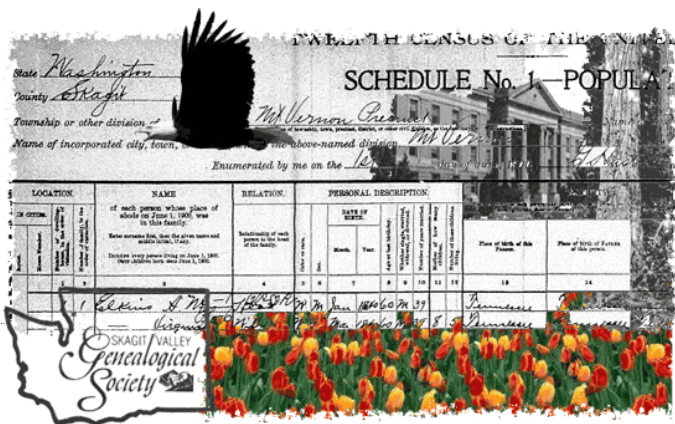
SAVE THE DATES: Thursdays, October 14, 21 and 28, 2021 for SVGS' online seminar series with cyndislist.com creator, Cyndi Ingle. Stay tuned for class descriptions, registration, details, etc. You are sure to benefit as a family researcher from this educational series SVGS is planning for its members.

At SVGS' Saturday, May 8 monthly meeting, before our Celtic Genealogy program, there will be brief report of the members' survey regarding using teleconferencing for future meetings. Your responses will influence how SVGS' members and guests from all corners of North America can continue to participate in our monthly genealogy educational programming post-pandemic.

A note for our newer members, SVGS meets on second Saturdays from January to June. SVGS takes a break from meetings in July and August. SVGS meets again for September, October and November and takes a meeting break in December. Mark your calendar for upcoming 2nd Saturdays so you don't miss any of the educational presentations our Vice President, Linda Duffield, has planned for you.

Your contributions of fresh ideas, resources, tips, tricks, and challenging research questions make our monthly visits together stimulating and such a joy. Thank you for showing up and being part of this growing online gathering of genealogy friends.

Margie Wilson, SVGS President



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Refreshments:

Raffles/Door Prizes: Seminar: Board Members

SOCIETY EMAIL: genealogy0715@gmail.com

Check out our redesigned web page at
skagitvalleygenealogy.org

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.

SVGS MEMBERS

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

Could not download flyer to be sent separate.

The Confusing Maze of Genealogy Mixups in Names

· Several years ago I spotted this Q & A online and I tucked it away thinking one day I wanted to write about names and the perils of genealogy research if you are not open minded enough

Question: What do Sean Gough, Jean Lefevre, Giovanni Ferrari, Juan Herrero, Ivan Kowalski, Hans Schmidt, Jan Kowalski and Janos Kovacs have in common?

· **Answer: In Ireland, France, Italy, Spain, Russia, Germany, Poland and the Czech Republic, respectively, all are John Smith.** What a great reinforcer of the idea that as genealogists we need to look beyond what we are familiar with. We need to think outside the box. Coming from a North American culture we might assume if we find an ancestor named Janos Kovacs that it's an unusual name. Not so!

· What about spelling? How often have you found a name in a census or other genealogy record, that was close but not exactly the name you were looking for? Don't discard it! Look at other clues - spouse, children, ages, occupation, location - could it be your ancestor? Remember spelling didn't "count". Census takers and other clerks wrote what they heard (phonetically). Accents confused the ears.

My own ancestor's surname was [Vollick](#). Sometimes it was rendered as **Follick**. Other variations I have found in documents are **Valck, Volk, Valic, Falic, Folic**. Why "V" and "F" interchangeably? Because the Dutch-German "V" can sound like "F" to English speaker's ears.

My immigrant ancestor's 'real' name was **Van Valkenburg**! How would I ever have found my ancestor if I hadn't kept an open mind and looked at other clues? And much to my initial surprise, [Van Valkenburg](#) is not an unusual name.

· Another true example from my own ancestry - when Leonard-Tremi Le Roy left Quebec for New York, his name was misinterpreted by Dutch recorders as "Jonar" and then "Jonas". His surname Le Roy (pronounced Le Raw) was misinterpreted as Larrowa which evolved into Larroway.

So be aware that bad handwriting, inability to spell, accents, and other events can change an ancestor's name - and don't be so quick to assume, for example, that Leonard-Tremi Le Roy is not your 5x great grandfather Jonas Larroway. If both men have the same wives and children, same birth year, same place of birth, and name siblings who are identical, you can be pretty sure that you've just stumbled into the confusing maze of names in genealogy research.

· From Sept 2007 on the Olive Tree Genealogy website

It is the First Day of the Month: Back Up Your Genealogy Files

Today is the first day of the month. That is still a good time to back up your genealogy files. Then test your backups!

Your backups aren't worth much unless you make a quick test by restoring a small file or two after the backup is completed.

Actually, you can make backups at any time. However, it is easier and safer if you have a specific schedule.



2021 Education Calendar

Saturday, January 9 | 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Completed

*Presenter: SVGS Member, Canadian Genealogist, Dave Obee
“Decoding the Dash – Build the Stories of Their Lives”*

Saturday, February 13 | 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Completed

*Presenter: SVGS Member, Mike Hurley
“From County Cork to Skagit County”*

Saturday, March 13 | 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

**Presenter: SVGS Member and French Genealogist, Louis Dailly
“Researching Your French Ancestors”**

Discover the non-standard resources available to help you trace your French ancestors

Saturday, April 10 | 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Presenter: Robbie Johnson, CG®

“Many Nations: An Introduction to Native Research”

The focus of the lecture is to go beyond the so called “Five Civilized Tribes” to research your ancestors, how to approach native research realistically, record sets, tips on working with the records, a little case study, and briefly touching on DNA.

Saturday, May 8 | 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

**Presenter: SVGS Member and Johnston Clan Organizer, Barbara Johnson
“Researching Celtic Ancestry”**

Discover the many resources available to help you trace your Celtic roots.

Saturday, June 12 | 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

**Presenter: University of Washington Associate Director of History of Science & Medicine Curator
and UW Special Collections, Genealogy and Family History, Lisa Oberg**

Topic: TBD based on Membership Input

(potential topics could cover Primary Sources, NW Immigration, Old Letters...)

Saturday, September 10 | 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Presenter: Director, Washington State Archives, NW Region, Jannette Gomez

Topic: TBD based upon Membership Input

(potential topics could cover Land Records, Original Manuscripts, Tour of Facility, or other...)

Saturday, October 9 | 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Presenters: Curators of Skagit County Historical Museum

Topic: TBD based upon Membership Input

(potential topics could cover a tour, primary research sources, lost towns of Skagit County, or other...)

Saturday, November 13 | 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Present: SVGS Life Member: Laura Sparr Pemberton

Topic Choices: TBD based upon Membership Input

(potential topics could cover historical events impact on migration; Revolutionary War records, War of 1812 records, Use of WIKI resource from Family Search, or other....)

SVGS Monthly Membership Meetings are held on the 2nd Saturday of the Month except July, August, and December.

Guests are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Until further notice the monthly meetings will be virtual, using ZOOM. If you would like to invite a guest to attend, send a message to rootsproject1@gmail.com and add the guest's first and last name(s) and the email address in order to be sent the ZOOM link.

If you have any recommendations for future programming, below is a way to contact me:

Linda Duffield, ld1331@gmail.com 360-420-2389

Searching the 1901 Canada Census Online

© Lorine McGinnis Schulze

Searching the new online 1901 census for Canada is tricky - it is images and cannot be searched by surname, only by location.

Here are a few brief pointers to help guide you in your search, based on my own tedious slogging through those records. These pointers should make your own search much more efficient....

See the ongoing [Surname Indexing Project for 1901 Census](http://allcensusrecords.com) at <http://allcensusrecords.com>

If you are using the online images at LAC, the 1901 database has 2 Schedules - #1 and #2. #1 is the personal census with names of family members. #2 is a list of addresses that the census taker visited. It is overlooked by researchers but is a time-saving tool!

To begin, you must know a town or at least a township where your ancestor lived. If you know a street or lot and concession number for your ancestor in 1901, go directly to Schedule 2 for each sub- district, and hunt through the few image pages for the street name and number or the lot and concession.

Use the two numbers in the left hand columns to indicate what page and what line your individual is on in Schedule 1. Then go to the correct sub-district in Schedule 1, select the page number(s) you found in Schedule 2 and you have your ancestor.

If you don't know where your ancestor lived, then you should consult the City and Farmer's Directories for that location before starting your search of the census records online.

To search the 1871 and 1901 census records, go to [Census Search](#)

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The first day of the month is easy to remember, so I would suggest you back up your genealogy files at least on the first day of every month, **if not more often**. (My computers automatically make off-site backups of all new files every few minutes.)

Given the events of the past few months with genealogy websites laying off employees and cutting back on services, you now need backup copies of everything more than ever. What happens if the company that holds your online data either goes off line or simply deletes the service where your data is held? If you have copies of everything stored either in your own computer, what happens if you have a hard drive crash or other disaster? If you have one or more recent backup copies, such a loss would be inconvenient but not a disaster.

Of course, you might want to back up more than your genealogy files. Family photographs, your checkbook register, all sorts of word processing documents, email messages, and much more need to be backed up regularly. Why not do that on the first day of each month? or even more often?

25 Best Websites for Genealogy by Lisa Louise Cooke

WEBSITE	COST	FEATURING
FamilySearch	Free	Genealogy Records, digitized books, research WIKI and one global family tree.
My Heritage	Free & \$	Genealogy records, photo restoration and color-
Ancestry	Free & \$	ization tools, family tree, DNA Genealogy records, DNA, family tree. Watch Eleveses with Lisa episode 17 .
FindMyPast	Free & \$	Genealogy records, family tree, British focus
The Library of Congress Chronicling America	Free	Digitized U.S. Newspaper from 1777-1963, Directory of how to find newspapers published between 1690-present.
Google Books	Free	Catalog of 25 million books, approximately 10 million of which are digitized, searchable and downloadable Watch Eleveses with Lisa episode 30 .
Google	Free	Search for niche genealogy websites. Watch Eleveses with Lisa episode 13 for my best Google strategies for genealogy
National Archives	Free	Records, forms and resources (U.S.)
Backblaze	\$	Computer cloud backup. Essential for protection of your genealogy files

Lisa Louise Cooke found her passion for family history at her grandmother's knee at the age of 8. She is now the owner of *Genealogy Gems*, a genealogy and family history multi-media company founded in 2007. She is Producer and Host of the *Genealogy Gems Podcast*, the popular online genealogy audio show available at www.GenealogyGems.com, on your smartphone's native podcast app, and through the Genealogy Gems app available through Apple's App Store (iOS) and the Google Play store (Android).

Lisa's Eleveses is free YouTube Webinars.

I will continue the rest of the websites in the next newsletter.

SKAGIT VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2021

Membership is open to all persons interested in historical research, preservation and publications of genealogical interest. You may join SVGS via www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org and pay via PayPal or credit card or by completing and mailing in the form below. SVGS is a 501c3 nonprofit organization. EIN #: 91-1359846. A newsletter is published by the society and is distributed free of charge to members as a benefit of membership.

**Please print to complete the membership form below and mail with your check to:
SVGS, P.O. Box 192, Burlington, WA 98233.**

FULL NAME: _____ **PHONE:** (____) _____ -- _____

ADDRESS: _____
Street City State Zip Code+4

EMAIL: _____ ☐ NEW MEMBER ☐ RENEWING MY
DUES

DUES: _____ **INDIVIDUAL** = \$20/yr. _____ **FAMILY (at Same Address)** = \$25/yr.

**SKAGIT VALLEY
Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 192 Burlington, WA 98233-0192**

Address Correction Requested