



Volume 35 Number 3
 President: Margie Wilson
 Newsletter: Dottie Chandler
 PO BOX 192 BURLINGTON, WA 98233
 Web site: skagitvalleygenealogy.org

President's Message

Dear SkVGS Members,

Our wild ride continues into the fall of 2020. Your continued support through this pandemic has provided encouragement and much needed feelings of connection and friendship. Looking ahead SkVGS is planning to continue its on-line education via Zoom until it is safe to meet in-person again at the Burlington Public Library. Even then SkVGS will maintain its on-line platform so our distant members may continue to feel connected as if we were close-by friends and neighbors.

As an update approximately 44 members have participated on Zoom at least one-time since April 2020. But, that leaves (approximately) 45 members who have not yet tried our Zoom meetings. Over the eight Zoom sessions SkVGS' has conducted the average attendance has been between 22-28 participants. Remarkably, when SkVGS conducted its in-person meetings at the Burlington Senior Center or the Burlington Library, attendance would have been about the same number of members!

Since January 2020 SkVGS has gained 40 new members with approximately 12 new members since April. In addition, SkVGS has also attracted new members from neighboring not only Skagit County but neighboring counties, Canada, Montana, Pennsylvania, and even Gotland, Sweden. Our on-line meetings have broken down the "brick-wall" for our out-of-the-area members who were unable to attend an in-person SkVGS educational program in the past. SkVGS' expanded its reach and education in an instant.

But, your SkVGS board serves ALL of our members. We need to your feedback as to how as a genealogy society we can continue to provide a meaningful, engaging, educational, and beneficial experience for you. If you need training or the tools to feel more comfortable joining your fellow genealogy friends on-line let us know – we can help with that! Please contact me or another board member friend with your suggestions so we may better serve you.

Change is hard for all of us. Be open to new ideas, ways of learning, new speakers, and ways of interacting that we never in our wildest dreams considered. It is an adventure. It is the way forward.

Enjoy this newsletter – SkVGS' voice and touch-point with you - our valued member.

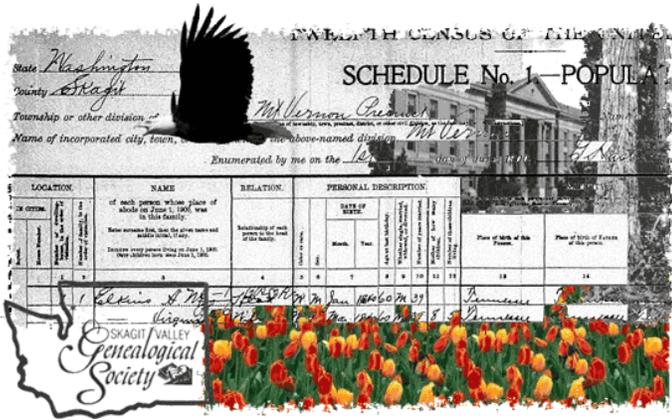
Stay well – Stay positive – Keep on Researching!
 Margie Wilson, president

PASSING

The Society would like to give condolences to the Schulze family as our member Rita Schulze passed away recently.

We would also give condolences to our member Carol Nersten for the passing of her brother Samuel Thor Nersten and other close family members.

We would also give condolences to our member Barbara Johnson for the passing of her husband.



SVGS Board of Directors 2020

President: Margie Wilson
360-757-6224 rootsproject@frontier.com

Vice President: **OPEN**

Secretary: Karen Strelow
360-724-1824 Strelow.k.a@gmail.com

Treasurer: Candice Soine
360-755-9071 rainshadowdals@gmail.com

Past President: John Hayes
360-424-4608 rosie@valleyint.com

Archivist: Dan Royal
360-826-6141 dmoroyal@earthlink.net

Education: Robbie Johnson
360-391-8604 mrsredsky@gmail.com

Genealogist: Sylvia Ammons

Librarian: Margie Wilson
360-757-6224 rootsproject@frontier.com

Membership: Bonnie Monroe
360-510-9960

Newsletter: Dottie Chandler
360-770-7214 dotcom10@frontier.com

Webmaster: George Ridgeway
360-424-4427 4george30@comcast.net

Projects : Dan Royal/Dottie Chandler/Sylvia Ammons

Publications: Dan Royal
360-826-6141 dmoroyal@earthlink.net

Publicity: Roger Monroe
360-856-9002

Special Committees

Nominating: **OPEN**

Audit/Budget: Candice Soine
360-755-9071 rainshadowdals@gmail.com

Bylaws/Standing Rules: John Hayes
360-424-4608 rosie@valleyint.com

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



Welcome New Member(s) 2020

Janet Amburst-Gurr
 Laura Bendit
 Nicki Caulfield
 Helen Edwards
 William Gallagher
 Kitty Huddleston
 Erik & Julie Neilson
 Dena Peterson
 Christine Roberts
 Sarah Smith
 Gote & Britta Stengard from Sweden
 Julie Steves
 Sylvia Willis

If I have forgotten anybody I am sorry.
 We are pleased to have our new members join us .
 We also would like input on any thing to help us improve and make it a better and rewarding society.

“Old Hands: Reading Historical Handwriting” Saturday, September 12, 12:45pm- 2:30pm Meeting on Zoom

Genealogist Robbie Johnson’s presentation will focus on handwriting in the 1800s. She will discuss how to find examples of older handwriting, how to decode and read the hand, and different places online that you can practice. Also covered will be the differences between transcription and abstraction and why they are important. Throughout this presentation Ms. Johnson will share examples from her professional research to illustrate key points.

MISSING ARCHIVED NEWSLETTERS



If you are the SkVGS website (skagitvalleygenealogy.org) under the tab Newsletters under the tab of Archived, you may have noticed in the years of 2001, 2002 and 2009 that there are missing newsletters. If you have a copy of the following please let us know. We would dearly like to copy that newsletter and save it in the form of a pdf to post on the website.

JanFeb2001
 NovDec2001

JanFeb2002
 MayJun2002

NovDec2009

These five (5) missing newsletters prevent the society from having a digital copy of every newsletter from 2001 to present day.



Fall / Winter 2020-2021 Education Calendar

Check your email for updates as to whether we will be meeting at the Burlington Public Library or meeting online or both! Look too for updates on when we will be hosting Zoom Member Meet Ups.

----- 2020 -----

SAT., SEPT 12 | 1:00-2:30PM

Presenter: Professional Genealogist – Robbie Johnson, C.G.

“Old Hands: Reading Historic Handwriting”

The focus of this presentation will be on decoding and reading handwriting typical of the 1800s. Plus, illustrations of examples as well as the differences between transcription and abstraction.

SAT., OCT. 10 | 1:00-2:30PM

Presenter: SVGS' IT Expert/ Webmaster – George Ridgeway

“Ancestry Leaves: Tips and Cautions When Accepting Hints”

Learn why it is essential to examine the sources of those tempting Ancestry Hints before you click “Accept”

SAT., NOV 14 | 1:00-2:30PM

Annual Meeting, plus Guest Professional Genealogist, Janice Lovelace, PhD

**“Breaking Through the Wall of Slavery:
An Introduction to African-American Genealogy”**

Many African American researchers struggle to break through the brick wall of slavery. This presentation looks at techniques to identify emancipated slaves and their prior slave-owners through the use of land, probate, census and court records.

December 2020 - No Meeting

----- 2021 -----

SAT., JAN. 9 | 1:00-2:30PM

Presenter: SVGS Member, Canadian Genealogist, Dave Obee

Decoding the Dash – Build the Stories of Their Lives

Explore your ancestors' lives beyond just birth and death dates or just the standard internet sites. Learn how archives and libraries can make it even easier to fully tell your ancestors' life stories.

SAT., FEB. 13 | 1:00-2:30PM

Presenter: SVGS Member, Mike Hurley

“How I Got to Where I Am” – A Case Study: From Ireland to the Skagit Valley

Follow the fascinating research trail from Ireland to LaConner of an early Skagit pioneer.

SAT., MAR. 13 | 1:00-2:30PM

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.

Questions? Contact Margie Wilson, rootsproject@frontier.com, 360-757-6224. Website: www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org

Thank you for being flexible due to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Downloading One's Family Tree From Online Websites.

There are several websites where one can have a family tree. Several are listed below. These sites can be helpful as they have search engines which can search the web for possible relatives or documents. Think those green leaves on Ancestry.com. However, what happens if you discontinue your subscription or the company goes out of business? Yes, it's doubtful Ancestry will dry up and blow away anytime soon but....

Another consideration is it is YOUR family tree even if you pay for the website subscription.

If you have no idea what a GEDCOM, don't feel alone.

Below I have provided information on how to download your tree from various sites.

Downloading your tree from Ancestry®

Ancestry® uses GEDCOM (Genealogical Data Communications) files to download and upload family trees. Only the owner of a family tree can create and download the tree. You don't need a membership to upload or download your tree. From any page on Ancestry, click the **Trees** tab and select a tree.

From the tree, click the **tree name** menu in the top-left corner and select **Tree Settings**.

On the right side of the Tree Settings page, click **Export tree**.

The button will begin spinning and say **Generating a GEDCOM file**. When it stops spinning, right-click (Mac: **Ctrl+ click**) on the **Download Your GEDCOM File** button that appears.

In the drop-down menu from right-clicking, select **Save as**, **Save target as**, or **Save link as**.

In the window that appears, choose a location from a panel on the left side and click **Save**. If you select **Desktop** as the location, the file will save to the main screen of your computer.

GEDCOM is a universally-accepted file format for family tree files.

To upload a GEDCOM file to Ancestry

To upload a file, it must be 75 MB or smaller. GEDCOM files are text-only; pictures, charts, books, and similar items from an original file are not included in a GEDCOM. Vital information, notes, and sources are usually retained after conversion. In order to open a GEDCOM file on your computer, you'll need software that reads GEDCOM files.

Note: One cannot transfer pictures in many software programs.

Downloading your tree from MyHeritage

The directions are quite detailed and include screen shots. It is too lengthy to add it to this article. Here is the link: <https://www.myheritage.com/help-center/en/article/how-do-i-export-a-gedcom-file-from-the-family-tree-builder>

Note: One can also download one's photographs with the GEDCOM

Downloading your tree from familysearch.org

Downloading your tree from FamilySearch requires you to use third-party software that is certified by **FamilySearch** to work with its **tree**, i.e., Ancestral Quest, Legacy **Family Tree** or RootsMagic.

There are times when you might want to send a GEDCOM to share with a DNA match or a new-found relative.

For software that one pays for one time:

Downloading your tree from RootsMagic

The directions are at this link:

<https://www.familytreemagazine.com/premium/export-rootsmagic-gedcom/>

They are quite detailed and include screen shots.

Note: One can download pictures along with a GEDCOM

Downloading your tree from LegacyFamilyTree

Choose **Export to > GEDCOM File** from the **File** menu. The GEDCOM Export window appears.

In the Produce file for: box, select **GEDCOM 5.5. (Standard)**.

Select your export options.

When you are ready to export, click the **Select File Name and START EXPORT** button. Legacy prompts you for a file

name and location, and then creates the GEDCOM file for you. Remember the location on your hard drive where you

save the GEDCOM file. You will need to be able to locate it in order to upload it or attach it to an e-mail message.

Please don't hesitate to click the **Help** button if you need additional information.

That last sentence applies to all software and websites for genealogy or other topics! Never feel shy about asking for help.

Barbara Gorham Johnson

Skagit Valley Genealogical Society

On-line Genealogy Classes - Fall 2020

Defining Moments in History

- Explore History's Key Role in Your Family Research
- Use Historical Context to Write Your Family Stories



3-Classes for All Skill Levels
On-Line Via Zoom
Thursdays,
October 15, 22, & 29
10:30 a.m. - Noon

Register On-line:
skagitvalleygenealogy.org

with PayPal or Credit Card
 or Mail In Your Registration to:

SVGS ON-LINE CLASSES

PO Box 192 | Burlington, WA 98233

Register by October 10 to attend
 the entire series of all 3-classes.

Registration for an individual class(es)
 must be received by one week
 prior to the class date.

TUITION:
\$10 per class or

Thurs., Oct. 15 ***Basics of U.S. Genealogy Research*** **Mary Kircher-Roddy**

This class gives a basic rundown of US history and how that affects our ancestors and the type and location of records generated. A survey of different records and what kind of information they contain is presented, with ideas of where to look for more clues. Perfect for beginning genealogists or intermediate and advanced genealogists from outside the US. Suitable for all levels of experience. 75 minutes + Q&A

Thurs., Oct. 22 ***Becoming America: A Story of Immigration*** **Janice Lovelace, PhD**

What conditions existed for your ancestors to leave their home countries and make a hazardous journey to a new place? What conditions existed to encourage settlement in the America especially the United States? This presentation focuses on the push and pull factors for voluntary immigration. Suitable for all levels of experience. 70 minutes +Q&A

Thurs., Oct. 29 ***Write Your Family History*** **Dave Obee**

One of the best ways to create a lasting memory of your ancestors is to tell the stories of their lives. While a genealogical chart can seem daunting (or even worse boring) to a non-genealogist, a narrative is accessible. A well-written story will make other family members much more aware about and more interested in, the research that you are doing. This talk - by a genealogist who has been a journalist since 1972 - includes some ideas that will help you get over your writers block. It might even inspire people to start writing more stories for the society's journal.

Suitable for all levels of experience. 70 minutes+Q&A

SVGS ZOOM ON-LINE FALL CLASS SERIES 2020

Thursdays, 10:30 am to 12:00 on October 15, 22, and 29, 2020

You can view/or listen-in on these educational presentations via Zoom with your favorite device:
Computer, tablet, cell or home phone.

MAIL-IN REGISTRATION

Use this mail-in registration form if you prefer not to register on-line:
[See accompanying flier for class description details]

DTE: Tuition for individual classes is due 1-week prior to the class. Tuition to attend all 3-classes is due Oct. 10.

(\$25) All three classes (Check payment due by October 10)

Or Choose An Individual Class/Classes (Below) That You Wish to Attend

(\$10) October 15 **Basics of U.S. Genealogy Research**
Presented by expert genealogist: *Mary Kircher-Roddy*

(\$10) October 22 **Becoming America – A Story of Immigration**
Presented by expert genealogist: *Janice Lovelace, PhD*

(\$10) October 29 **Write Your Family History.**
Presented by author and genealogist: *Dave Obee*

Enclosed is my Optional \$15 NEW Member Dues Current SVGS Member: Non-Member:

\$ Total Amount Enclosed

Name Phone ()

Address City

State Zip Email

Please enclose this registration form with your check and mail to:
SVGS On-line Classes, P.O. Box 192, Burlington, WA 98233

Your Zoom invitation/link and passcode will be emailed to you the day
before each class with PDF of class materials.

To easily register using PayPal or Credit card visit: www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org

This Newsletter is published by the Members of SKAGIT VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY and is distributed free of charge to members. A non-profit organization, membership is open to all persons interested in historical research, preservation and publications of genealogical interest.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2011

APPLICANTS NAME _____

ADDRESS STREET, CITY, STATE & 9 DIGIT ZIP CODE _____

AREA CODE () _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

New Member _____

Renewal _____

Previous Member _____

FAMILY \$ 20 _____

INDIVIDUAL \$15 _____



SKAGIT VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
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Post Office Box 192
Burlington, WA. 98233

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED