



President's Message
Celebrating the Three R's: Reunited. Reconnected. Re-energized
 August/September 2022

SVGS is returning to the Burlington Public Library (BPL) on Saturday, September 10 at 12:45pm to launch our fall season of educational programming. (Yay!) It's so exciting that we will be seeing our society friends in-person and be engaging our further away genealogy friends participating at the same time. *Reunited. Reconnected. Re-energized.* Hey, that feels awesome after 2+ years of pandemic. Thank you for your patience in waiting for all of us to be together again, and not one before the other, but equally valued as members contributing together to the whole educational and meaningful experience of family history research.

Before me are the twilight months as your society president. I appreciate how you have picked me up after my many stumbles and encouraged me on through the uncertainty of the pandemic times. I appreciate the many new genealogy friends I've made and what I have learned from knowing all of them. What a rewarding gift that has been for me as a board member.

Now I invite you to step up your involvement with the society to help carry our positive momentum into 2023. New board members are needed to share their skills, talents and enthusiasm to keep SVGS an engaging and innovative genealogy society that evolves to meet the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century.

A fresh, innovative, and I'll venture to say fearless, genealogy society has emerged due to your steadfast support as an SVGS member. There are more exciting new adventures ahead for SVGS. New leadership, new educational possibilities along with a supportive partnership with the Burlington Public Library lies ahead.

Volume 37 Number 3

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

Now is an inspiring time to join the board and be part of a bold adventure. "Be the Change" SVGS needs to better meet the needs of its members in this changing technology world. A passion for family history is what unites us. Let's share that passion with the community.

The philosopher Goethe wrote: "*Be Bold – Boldness has genius and magic in it....*" He surely was referring to stepping up and getting involved on the SVGS Board. Check out the article about board opportunities in this newsletter. I think you will find YOU are a good candidate for at least one of the positions waiting for you to fill. Be bold. Say, "I can do that!"

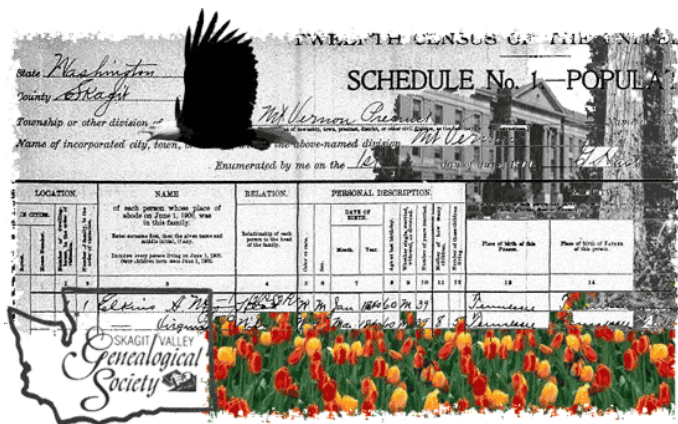
Thank you so much for these rewarding years as your gen. society president.

Be the Change SVGS needs to be the best darn genealogy society it is meant to be!

Margie Wilson
Your president 2019-2022

SVGS Returns to 2nd Saturday Educational Programming
at the Burlington Public Library

To launch our fall 2nd Saturdays Educational Programming on Saturday, September 10 at the Burlington Public Library, back by popular demand, SVGS presents Rob Lopresti, retired WWU educator, librarian, author and government document specialist. Mr. Lopresti's lecture will be on "Census Controversies Part 2: 1960 to 2020." Join us for this hidden look behind the scenes of census records and the information they gather from the population. This educational presentation will be presented remotely at SVGS' first hybrid meeting. Join us for this historic occasion for the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society. Refreshments! Smiles! And a great program.



SVGS Board of Directors 2020

President:	Margie Wilson rootsproject@frontier.com
Vice President:	Pat Hoyrup pathoyrup@gmail.com
Secretary:	Rene Vance rene.a.vance.rav@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Patty Gowler pattygowler@gmail.com
Past President:	John Hayes rosie@valleyint.com
Archivist:	Dan Royal dmoroyal@earthlink.net
Education:	Barbara Johnson pro-tem gorhamgen@gmail.com
Genealogist:	Sylvia Ammons
Librarian:	Margie Wilson rootsproject@frontier.com

Membership:
360-510-9960

Bonnie Monroe

Newsletter:

Dottie Chandler
dotcom10@frontier.com

Webmaster:

George Ridgeway
4george30@comcast.net

Projects :
dler/Sylvia Ammons

Dan Royal/Dottie Chan-

Publications:

Dan Royal
dmoroyal@earthlink.net

Publicity:

Roger Monroe

Special Committees

Nominating: **OPEN**

Audit/Budget: Stephen Hutchens

Bylaws/Standing Rules: John Hayes
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

1960 - 2020 U.S. CENSUS Controversies



Presented by Rob Lopresti

Author and speaker

Saturday Sept 10

12:45 p.m.

Discover Your Roots with SVGS at the 2nd Saturday Genealogy Education Program. SVGS members & the public are welcome to attend free in person at the Burlington Public Library or on Zoom.

**If you are not a member, contact:
gorhamgen@gmail.com
to receive a Zoom invitation**

**SVGS Website www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org
Burlington Library: www.burlingtonwa.gov/library**



Can You Help Identify and Find the Descendants of These Civil War Veterans?

The Burlington Historic Preservation Advisory Commission (BHPAC) is working on a project to obtain official U.S. Veterans' Administration issued gravestones for several Civil War era persons buried in Green Hills Memorial Cemetery in Burlington. Research help by SVGS members has been requested. What is needed is to locate the descendants of several Civil War veterans so that BHPAC can contact them and ask permission of the family to order and erect an official veteran's gravestone.

BHPAC member Doug Johnson, who is a descendant of the Garl pioneer family of Burlington, is heading up the project. In focusing first on Civil War veterans without gravestones, he has identified several potential candidates to receive an official gravestone. If you would like to help with this project email Douglas Johnson at: zcar71@msn.com. Douglas can update you on any progress and provide more details for your follow up research

A list with the very few details gathered thus far from the cemetery records include:

George Arthur Graves, b. Sept 1846 in Pulteney, Steuben, New York; d. May 21, 1936, Bellingham, WA; buried in Green Hills Memorial Cemetery, Burlington, WA.

George A. Graves living descendant is what is needed to be found and their contact information so as to get permission to order a free U.S. VA issued Civil War gravestone. He may have served in the Confederate army (to be proven).

Jacob Engbaum, not much information only b. 1840, d. 1920. He could have been a Civil War veteran. That is needed to be documented/proven and if he is eligible for a gravestone, which type – Union or Confederate and finally find a living descendant to give permission for a free gravestone being erected for Jacob.

George W. Snow – no information other than a metal marker and indicated as a "veteran."

J. J. Russell – no information other than cemetery plot purchased in 1915 and grave marked as "veteran."

Good luck with this family research challenge!

SVGS Library Report

August 2022

Great news! After the long pandemic time and waiting for a safe time to resume, at last the SVGS book collection once again has volunteers available at the Burlington Public Library to assist you with your research questions.

A genealogist/library volunteer will be available on Tuesdays from 10AM to 1PM in the genealogy section of the Burlington Library. Please welcome new SVGS library volunteer Eric Pena. Eric hails from the east coast and recently he and his wife moved to Sedro-Woolley. Eric is an experienced genealogist and maritime museum and library docent. Welcome Eric to the SVGS library volunteer team.

If Tuesdays don't fit your schedule, you may also make arrangements to schedule a one-on-one research consultation with a genealogist volunteer by emailing: genealogy0715@gmail.com. Your request will be forwarded to an available volunteer for scheduling of your appointment time.

New Book in the Collection – A new book has been added to the collection donated by SVGS in memory of past SVGS president, board member and mentor Hazel Rasar. The book is: *DNA for Native American Genealogy*, by Roberta Estes. DNA and Native American research are both frequent research topics SVGS members request more information about. So, this volume will be a fine addition to the collection.

Dewey Decimal Labeling Upgrade - SVGS' community partner, the Burlington Public Library (BPL) has offered to include in their official "card catalog" database and add onto the WorldCat database (a universal card catalog for all libraries) the entire SVGS book collection of over 2000+ books! This process will also benefit SVGS and library visitors as the BPL staff is looking to add to SVGS' books new Dewey decimal system numbered labels. This will create a more accessible and searchable process for patrons and thus broaden awareness of SVGS and genealogy in the community and beyond.

The SVGS book collection will *remain non-circulating and for in-library use only*. This is due to the one-of-a-kind books that make up the collection, such as family histories, that are no longer in print, etc.

We hope you will stop by the SVGS library on a Tuesday between 10am to 1pm and spend some time browsing through our growing collection, meet with a genealogist volunteer and further your research success. Leave no page unturned when it comes to family research! You never know just what you might find "off line" in these valuable research books. Check it out!

And a reminder that the Burlington Public Library has available Ancestry.com Library Edition. Visit www.burlingtonwa.gov/library for details about accessing the genealogy databases available. To view the list of SVGS books in our collection visit: www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org. The book list is searchable for title and author using the PDF's "FIND" feature.

SVGS 2023 Board Opportunities

For more details of the expectations and requirements of the various board positions ask any SVGS board member about their role or email: genealogy0715@gmail.com.

PRESIDENT

Elected to serve a 2-year term (Jan, 2023 to Dec. 31, 2025) with an option to serve one additional term. The president chairs the board and monthly membership meetings, drafts meeting agendas, serves as the liaison with the Burlington Public Library (partnership) and community. Does the following describe you? Enjoy working on a team, organizing meetings, being a goodwill ambassador to the general membership, meeting new and interesting genealogists, and have working computer skills? Then you would enjoy serving in this position. As the philosopher Goethe said, "Be Bold! Boldness has genius and magic in it...." The "magic" is that others appear to help you along the way. Give it a go!

TREASURER – Elected to serve a 2-year term. This position was generously filled on an emergency basis for one year when the previous treasurer suddenly became terminally ill. This position usually is elected in odd number years but the sequence was disrupted and the position open to begin January 2023. Do you enjoy -- Working with numbers, recordkeeping, working with details, being resourceful, and handling financial tasks? Then you would be a good candidate for this essential board position.

COMMITTEE CHAIR POSITIONS:

EDUCATION – This position involves leading a committee to organize educational programming offered in addition to the monthly meetings. Over the years SVGS has held either a seminar or a workshop. The chair calls the committee meetings, creates the agenda, and may delegate or be the contact with a paid presenter for a class or seminar. Not an elected position. Do you enjoy -- Organizing events, delegating tasks, and bringing it all together for an educational event for members and the community? Organizational ability is the main skill set drawn upon. Sound like you? Go for it!

MEMBERSHIP – A candidate for this committee chair position is: Outgoing, friendly, good with follow-up tasks such as sending information to members, answering questions about the society, working on a team. He/she works closely with another volunteer to maintain the membership database. Not an elected position. Make new genealogy friends.

PUBLICITY – SVGS is looking for a candidate who enjoys writing and submitting press releases to the media, will work closely with all board members to announce events and activities to the community. A media list is available but can be expanded. This position works closely with the vice-president, Burlington Library and other board members as a team.

GENEALOGIST RESEARCHER – This board member responds to research queries that come into SVGS by email or the SVGS website. This researcher's focus is on Skagit County related queries – not all or research questions for other states or countries. A good working knowledge of Skagit County sources, an approachable, and responsive attitude, and enjoyment of research challenges is helpful to enjoy this position. A fun challenge as you get to help others locate records and be successful in their research.

These are not the official job descriptions but more of an approach to the skills and talents that are helpful for enjoying and succeeding in these various positions. Did any of these characteristics describe you and your special skill set and interests? If so, please take the next step and email your questions and interest to: genealogy0715@gmail.com. The SVGS board members can give you more in-depth information.

Skagit County has an amazing, user friendly property search map. A fun feature recently discovered is its "Lost Communities" layer with historical clips on the towns. Take a few minutes to go exploring. Perhaps you know someone who lived in one of these communities for a time.

Google: **Skagit iMap** or type in: <https://skagitcounty.net>maps>imap>

You will get the choice to open the **Skagit County iMap**

A map will appear with an item list on the left.

Find **Map Categories** and click on **Lost Communities**

The map will show many colored dots with names

In the left column, click on **Legend** and a list will identify what each dot means

Click on a colored dot on the map and a link for the **Historical Society Information** will come up

Click on that link and you will get a written summary of the history of that town or community

A few may be noted as No information, but the others are fun to explore.

Enjoy! Submitted by Karen Strelow.

Tracing your Mayflower Ancestors



Presented by Evelyn M. Roehl
Genealogist and Presenter

Saturday October 8

12:45 p.m.

Discover Your Roots with SVGS at the 2nd Saturday Genealogy Educational Program. SVGS members & the public are welcome to attend free in person at the Burlington Public Library or on Zoom. .

If you are not a member, contact:
genealogy0715@gmail.com to receive a Zoom invitation

SVGS Website www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org
Burlington Library: www.burlingtonwa.gov/library



I know that the dues are not due till January, sending this reminder because before you know it., January will be here. Time seems to be flying by especially this year.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL STATEMENT 2023

Don't miss out on the helpful benefits of being an active SVGS member. In addition to the one-on-one research assistance you receive from experienced genealogists, active membership also entitles you to receive a \$5.00 discount on SVGS workshops and seminars and receive announcements about SVGS' educational programs and events through the SVGS quarterly newsletter, ***Your dues support SVGS' monthly educational programs by genealogy professionals and research experts across a broad spectrum of subjects.***

If you have been helped in your family history research by SVGS' programs and/or volunteers, then your annual dues are the perfect way to pay it forward so that SVGS can continue to help you and our fellow researchers learn valuable skills and break through research challenges.

Thank you for your continued membership and support.

Mail your completed form with your check before your dues expire on the 2nd Saturday in March to:

SKAGIT VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

PO BOX 192, BURLINGTON, WA 98233-0192

You may also conveniently renew your dues online with PayPal in the Membership section of SVGS' website:

www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org/membership

Detach below the dotted line and return the bottom portion with your check.

SVGS Membership Renewal Statement for 2023

NAME: _____ EMAIL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____ PHONE: _____

NEW MEMBER: _____ RENEWING MEMBER: _____ INDIVIDUAL: \$20 FAMILY(at Same Address): \$25

Please tell us a bit about yourself and interests re: your family research:

I am researching in: (list the US states or countries): _____

Genealogy topics I'd like to learn about are: _____

Your feedback for SVGS: _____

I would like to get more involved with SVGS. Please: ☐ Call me ☐ Email me ☐ Sorry, not at this time.

Thank you again for your support!

SKAGIT VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2022

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