



Volume 39 Number 3

President: Margie Wilson  
 Newsletter: Dottie Chandler  
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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### President's Message

As with so many things in life, there is a mix of joys and sorrows. As a collective of genealogy friends, we share in these moments that bring us together as a Genealogy Family.

In this issue there are many SVGS activities to celebrate or reflect on. I will share those with you in more detail in this issue.

These next few months mark the end of my service as your society president. I began my service to SVGS with a great deal of self-doubt and a steep learning curve to climb. The Covid pandemic didn't just test my resolve to see the society "survive" it forged my determination that SVGS was too valuable a contribution to so many researchers that it MUST make it through and continue to flourish, pandemic or whatever else Life was going to through at us. Thanks to the SVGS board and your loyalty as a member – SVGS is thriving and reaching out to even more family researchers.

Never have I felt alone as your president. Your SVGS board of directors consists of dedicated, creative thinkers, who enjoy not just genealogy research – but each other. That's the "magic" ingredient for successful boards – camaraderie and enjoyment. Sure, not every idea is agreed on, sometimes we stumble in our efforts, but if you look around, there is another genealogy friend close at hand to pick you up. I certainly have been among those who have stumbled, fallen and fallen again, and gotten up and back in the ring of being of service once again.

After November when a new SVGS president steps up to the podium each month, I'll still be there in the audience to support and cheer her on. Like you, I am eager to keep learning more about genealogy. I am willing to volunteer to see "what's all the fun's about?" And to get to know you better as members and your research interests, perhaps even help if I can. So, I will remain a familiar face.

Thank you for your faith in me these past six years. It has been the magic ingredient that made me want to do the best I could for your growth and learning. Now to extend your faith to a new leader and to a new future of fresh ideas and activities for SVGS. These are exciting, expansive, and energized times for SVGS. I encourage you to not remain on the side lines of our society but to step into that "ring" and contribute your unique superpower, creative ideas, time and/or energy so the esprit de corps and enthusiasm for family research that has been laid down as a foundation continues to be felt whenever we meet.

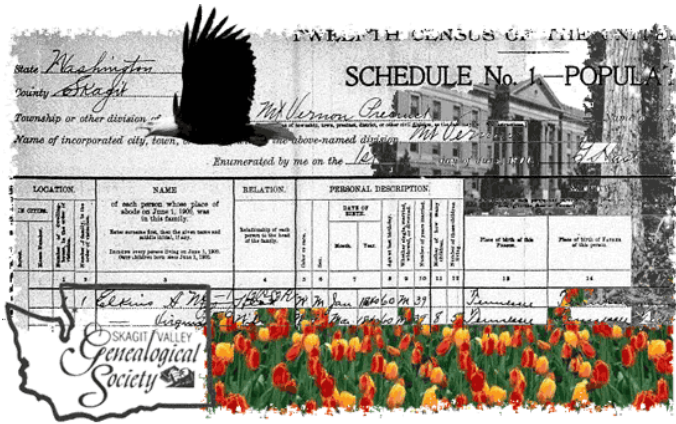
Thank you for your faith in me these past, rewarding, six years.

*Remember always: The Best is Yet to Come!*

Margie Wilson, President 2019-2024

### “Additional Member Benefits”

For the members who have Skagit County family - who are mentioned in the Obituary section of our Webpage - our volunteer Genealogist will pull and print a copy of the Obituary and Funeral Home Record (if available) for you - FREE OF CHARGE - just send your request with Name and Date of Death to: [portianstacey@gmail.com](mailto:portianstacey@gmail.com)



**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:**
- Archivist:** Dan Royal  
dmoroyal@earthlink.net
- Education:** Barbara Johnson pro-tem  
gorhamgen@gmail.com
- Genealogist:** Portia Stacey  
portianstacey@gmail.com
- Librarian:** Margie Wilson  
rootsproject@frontier.com

- Membership:** Alice Bowden  
svgsmembership@gmail.com
- Newsletter:** Dottie Chandler  
dotcom10@frontier.com
- Webmaster:** George Ridgeway  
4george30@comcast.net  
Alice Bowden  
svgsmembership@gmail.com
- Projects :** Dan Royal/Dottie Chandler/  
Sylvia Ammons
- Publications:** Dan Royal  
dmoroyal@earthlink.net
- Communications:** Barbara Johnson  
gorhamgen@gmail.com

**Special Committees**

- Nominating:** OPEN
- Audit/Budget:**
- Bylaws/Standing Rules:**
- Refreshments:**

**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.

**Burlington Public Library**

820 E Washington Ave  
Burlington, WA 98233  
Phone (360) 755-0760  
Email:  
bli-



# Finding Records of Family Members at

# Northern State Hospital

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Amy Muia & John Horne

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14**

1:00PM-3:00PM

BURLINGTON LIBRARY

Conference Room

Hybrid Meeting

Attend in-person or via Zoom

Email [genealogy0715@gmail.com](mailto:genealogy0715@gmail.com) for the Zoom link.



Skagit Valley Genealogical Society  
PO Box 192 | Burlington, WA 98233  
[genealogy0715@gmail.com](mailto:genealogy0715@gmail.com)  
[skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org)

EVERYONE WELCOME  
Free, Fun and Informative

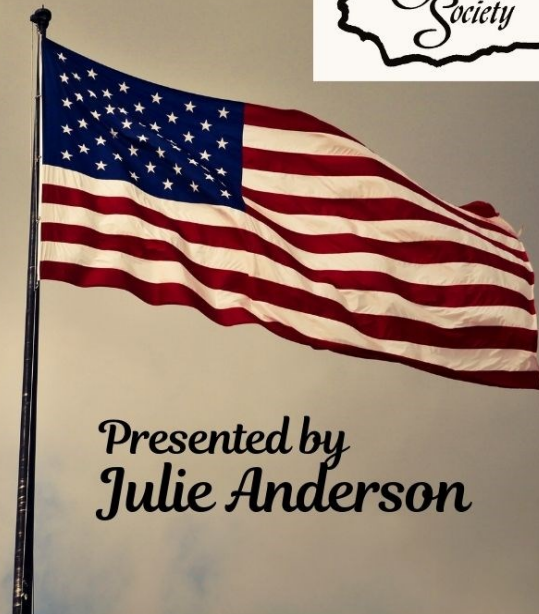


820 E. Washington Avenue  
Burlington, WA 98233  
[burlingtonwa.gov/library](http://burlingtonwa.gov/library)  
360.755-0760



# U.S. Military Pension Files 1776-1916:

## A Gold Mine for Family History Research



Presented by Julie Anderson

### SAT., OCTOBER 12

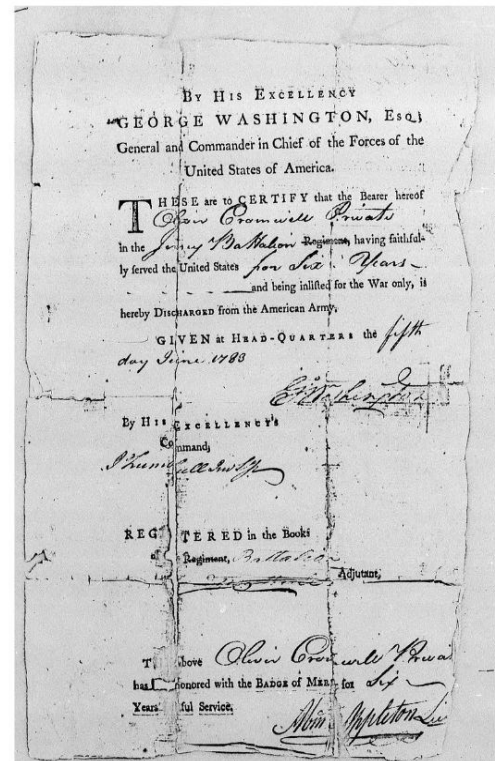
### 1:00-3:00 PM

Skagit Valley Genealogy Society  
Educational Programs at the  
**Burlington Public Library**  
820 E. Washington Ave. | Conference Room  
360.755.0760 | [burlingtonwa.gov/library](http://burlingtonwa.gov/library)

For more info. and/or to become a member:  
Visit: [www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org)  
Email: [genealogy0715@gmail.com](mailto:genealogy0715@gmail.com)



<https://skagitvalleygenealogy.org/>



**Hybrid Meeting:** Attend via Zoom or come in-person to enjoy refreshments, socializing, free educational materials and free giveaway door prizes. If you are not a member of SVGS and which to attend via Zoom please email [genealogy0715@gmail.com](mailto:genealogy0715@gmail.com). SVGS members automatically receive the Zoom link.

*Come join us in discovering your ancestors and share your family stories.*

## SVGS' Summer of 2024

### Skagit Valley Highland Games:

Let us begin with the excitement and fun that was enjoyed at the July 13-14 Skagit Valley Highland Games. Several SVGS volunteers staffed a spacious booth and greeted and promoted genealogy to over 700 (and counting) curious visitors to the SVGS booth. Large display maps of Scotland and Ireland drew visitors to our booth who wanted to proudly share their family's Celtic roots, or to find out more about their Celtic ancestry. A huge, thank you and well done to all the Highland Games volunteers! It was a super fun weekend for all.

### Genealogy 101:

Next on August 3, Barbara Johnson, taught two Genealogy 101 classes at the Celtic Arts Foundation in Mount Vernon. Special thanks to Barb for organizing and teaching this class that brought 32 participants further along their journey of discovering their ancestors. Thank you to the volunteers who helped to make sure the class was welcoming and the participants had the materials they needed.

### Washington State Genealogical Society 2024 Awards for Outstanding Volunteer Team:

On September 1<sup>st</sup>, the Washington State Genealogical Society's Outstanding Volunteer Team Award was presented to the SVGS Hawthorne Cemetery Reading Volunteers. SVGS is so fortunate to have so many enthusiastic and willing to actively help on such a large and long commitment project. Thank you for your service to SVGS that will benefit future family researchers. The volunteers recognized in this award are:

Co-leaders Sylvia Ammons and Dottie Chandler, cemetery readers: Bill Cayford, Carol Nersten, Dan Royal, Karen Strelow, Patty Gowler, Rene Vance, Barbara Johnson, Margie Wilson, Margie Lauer, and Linda Holland. Congratulations to a hardworking, detail oriented and dedicated team for completing this initial and key phase of the Hawthorne Cemetery publication project. Thank you.

### Remembering A Wise Leader – JOHN HAYES (January 16, 1937-July 30, 2024)

SVGS has lost a long serving leader and source of board wisdom. Current board member, John Hayes passed away July 30<sup>th</sup>. John was a SVGS member (since 1996), former Vice-President (1997), SVGS president (2016-2018), and from 2019 to present serving as immediate past president. John was truly the board's clear-eyed sounding board and our go-to source for society bylaws and SVGS' history. John was "Mr. Reliable." When the board discussions required someone to follow-up and find hard answers to "what's to be done about...?" John could be counted on to help find the answers. John's sense of humor put us all in a "let's work together" atmosphere. Without John, I feel as president that, I have lost my North Star and I find myself trying to navigate unknown waters with ever clouded skies. John's leadership code was: Show up, be positive not a negative, voice your ideas – they matter, contribute to the fun, respect differences, and when asked to volunteer say yes, without grumbling. What a fine gentleman John was. We will miss John dearly. Rest-in-peace wise friend. John's obituary follows in this newsletter.

## Books added to the SVGS Book Collection – Summer 2024

*Special thanks to the Whidbey Island Genealogy Searchers (WIGS) for the donation of several books  
And to the Concrete Historical Society/Museum for their donation.  
More books will be added in the months ahead.*

### SHELF CODE

### TITLE AND DESCRIPTION

#### Section WA-SKA (Washington State – Skagit County) =====

<b>SKAGIT.0075</b>	<b>Concrete: 115 Years and Counting</b> , by Concrete Historical Society Self-published, Concrete Historical Society, John Boggs, editor; 68 pgs., comb-bound, illustrations, maps, photos, vintage ads, table of contents. Donated by John Boggs, Concrete Historical Society/Museum)
<b>SKAGIT.0165</b>	<b>Lost Cities of Skagit Rediscovering Place of Our Past, Vol. 1.</b> , by Densmore, Mary Anderson, 978-0-914989-11-0, Skagit Co. Historical Society 72 pgs., softcover, photographs, no index, table of contents. (Purchased for the collection)
<b>SKAGIT/PAM</b>	<b>Northern State Hospital Guidebook</b> , by Muia, Amy Skagit Co. Historical Museum and Sedro-Woolley Museum, Pamphlet: 28 pgs., softcover, photos, maps, no index. (purchased for the collection)

Continued on page 7



**John Milton Hayes**  
January 16, 1937 – July 30, 2024

John Hayes passed away on July 30, 2024, heeding the call for an extra man to fill another square in “Square Dance Heaven”. He was born on January 16, 1937 at Memorial Hospital in Sedro Woolley, WA to John Spencer Hayes and Irene Margaret (Baller) Hayes. He was raised in Acme along with his two sisters, Gloria (1938) and Bonnie (1944), and brother Robert (1947)

John graduated from Mt. Baker High School in 1955 where he was student body president and class salutatorian.

John graduated in 1959 from the University of Washington with a B.S. in Civil Engineering. He worked for WSDOT after graduation. After six months with the National Guard at Fort Irwin, CA he returned to Seattle in 1960 to work again for the WSDOT.

John and Mary Ellen Aasen were married in Seattle on March 11, 1962. They moved to Rose Hill near Kirkland in 1963. They had two daughters, Kathi Ann born 1963 and Kristi Marie born 1966.

He became a project engineer in 1965 after obtaining his professional engineering license. His first field office was in Kirkland. John and his family moved to Mount Vernon in March 1975. He supervised the Mount Vernon office and a satellite office in Bellingham for over 18 years. John retired as the Assistant Regional Construction Engineer in Shoreline in 1995, after 35 years with the department.

He took square dance lessons in 1985. At a square dance he met and later married Rose Marie (Mattson) Clemetson on February 14, 1991, in Reno, Nevada.

John was active with his class reunion committee and was as the chairman for the Mt. Baker 51+ Alumni Reunion group. He met his Acme Elementary school classmates for breakfast monthly through July 2024.

John was active in the local Skagit Valley Genealogical society board, Mt, Baker Singles Square Dance Club and Skagit Squares. John continued square dancing up to the time of his passing. He was an avid fan of the Huskies and the local sports teams, the Seahawks, Mariners, and the Super Sonics.

John is survived by his wife Rosie, his sisters Gloria (James Beach) and Bonnie Olson, brother Robert Hayes (Dorothy) two daughters Kathi (John Hicks) and Kristi Hayes Lindquist (Jeff North) and three grandchildren, Michael Hicks, Michelle Rorie (Alec) and Nicole Larsen, and two great grandchildren, Oliver, and Rae Ann along with many nieces and nephews.



## I'm My Own Grandpa

Many, many years ago  
When I was twenty-three,  
I got married to a widow,  
Pretty as could be.

This widow had a grown-up daughter  
With flowing hair of red.  
My father fell in love with her,  
And soon the two were wed.

This made my dad my son-in-law  
And changed my very life.  
Now my daughter was my mother,  
For she was my father's wife.

To complicate the matters worse,  
Although it brought me joy.  
I soon became the father  
Of a bouncing baby boy.

My little baby then became  
A brother-in-law to dad.  
And so became my uncle,  
Though it made me very sad.

For if he was my uncle,  
Then that also made him brother  
To the widow's grown-up-daughter  
Who, of course, was my stepmother.

Father's wife then had a son,  
Who kept them on the run.  
And he became my grandson,  
For he was my daughter's son,

My wife is now my mother's mother  
And it makes me blue.  
Because, although she is my wife,  
She's my grandma too.

If my wife is my grandmother,  
Then I am her grandchild.  
And every time I think of it,  
It simply drives me wild.

For now I have become  
The strangest case you ever saw.  
As the husband of my grandmother,  
I am my own grandpa!

By Dwight Latham and Moe Jaffe

### Section WA (Washington State)

**WA.0328**

**Native American Wives of San Juan Settlers**, by Lamb, Karen Jones  
0-9641066-0-4 Bryn Tiron Publishing  
94pgs., softcover, photos, stories, signed by author  
Donated by Whidbey Island Genealogy Searchers.

**WA.0660**

**Whatcom County Marriages; Vol. 1-1890-1893; Vol. 2-1893-1898; Vol. 3-1898-1902**  
Whatcom Gen. Society, Self-published  
84pgs., softcover, index.  
Donated by Whidbey Island Genealogy Searchers.

**WA.0740**

**Zillah** by McRayde, Edna Rowland, editor  
Yakima Valley Museum, approx. 150 pages. Photos of the town and the people circa  
Donated by Whidbey Island Genealogy Searchers.

### Section POL (Poland)

**POL.0003**

**Genealogical Gazetteer of Galicia**, Lenius, Brian J.  
0-9698783-0-3, 375pgs., softcover. Maps, Community Lists, Place Names for Poland, Ukraine and Ger-  
many locales.  
Donated by Whidbey Island Genealogy Searchers

## 2024 Membership Renewal Statement

Dear SVGS Member,

Don't miss out on the helpful benefits of being an active SVGS member in 2024. Members receive monthly meeting Zoom links, speaker's notes/handouts, a weekly genealogy news digest sent to your email inbox on upcoming genealogy presentations, skill-building research tips and resources, webinars, workshops, genealogy seminars, and other helpful genealogy news. Plus, members receive the SVGS quarterly, digital newsletter. **Your dues make SVGS' monthly educational programs by genealogy experts possible.** Your membership dues will keep you in the loop as to upcoming presentations and help make them happen!

If you have been helped in your family history research by SVGS' programs and/or volunteers, then renewing your dues is the perfect way to "pay it forward" so that SVGS may continue to help other researchers learn valuable skills and break through research challenges. **If you have already renewed your dues – Thank you!** If not, please use the mail in form below – **or pay online:** [www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org/membership](http://www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org/membership) today! Detach below the dotted line and return the bottom portion with your check.

• -----

- **Mail your completed form with your check before your dues expire on the 2nd Saturday in March 2024 to:**
  - **Skagit Valley Genealogical Society**
    - **P.O. Box 192,**
    - **Burlington, WA 98233-0192**
  
- NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ AD-  
DRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ CITY/STATE/  
ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_ NEW MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ \$20 INDIVIDUAL \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 FAMILY (at Same Address)
  
- Your contact information is not shared or published. It is solely used for official SVGS communications.
  
- **YOU CAN ALSO RENEW ONLINE WITH PAYPAL OR CREDIT CARD IN THE MEMBERSHIP TAB on SVGS' WEBSITE:**
  - [www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org/membership](http://www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org/membership)
  
- Please tell us a bit about your family research interests:
- I am researching in: (list the US states or countries): \_\_\_\_\_
  
- Genealogy topics I'd like to learn about are: \_\_\_\_\_
  
- I consider myself to be at the research skill level of a: \_\_\_\_\_ Beginner \_\_\_\_\_ Intermediate \_\_\_\_\_ Advanced \_\_\_\_\_ Not Sure
  
- Your feedback for SVGS: \_\_\_\_\_  
would like to get more involved with SkVGS. Please: \_\_\_\_\_ Call me \_\_\_\_\_ Email me \_\_\_\_\_ Sorry, not at this time.

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

Address Correction Requested