



## President's Message



I am very proud to be your newly elected President of the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society. This is an especially exciting time to be president, as we have just celebrated our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the valley. Before I share my vision for the societies future, I want to commend Dottie Chandler's expert and patient leadership of SVGS during the last 4 years. All of our board meetings

were interesting and some times down right challenging. Dottie's persistence in hearing everyone's opinion before the Board made decisions, was appreciated by all.

With the Board's help and the membership support, I plan to continue those projects we already have in the works. The nature and texture of genealogy in my opinion is changing to the point we often do not recognize the changes. The electronic explosion in the last few years has dramatically changed how we get and evaluate genealogy information. That is not to say that the old tried and true methods of census records, birth and death certificates, bible entries are not worthwhile. It just means that we will try to pursue other methods to document verifiable family information. The Internet is already being used with Ancestry.com, FamilySearch, Heritage Quest, Fold3 and Archives.gov to name just a few.

Educational training will be paramount for our societies continued survival. Opportunities for the membership as well as for the general public are needed. At the same time we need to increase our membership. We need to look at old outdated equipment to be replaced with purposeful and functional alternatives.

Finally, I want us to have a place where every member feels comfortable and welcomed to share their accomplishments and frustrations with other people who understand. A place where new faces will find people happy and eager to guide them with their pursuit of past family members. A place where accurate genealogy research is encouraged.

George E. Ridgeway Jr.  
New SVGS President  
Old SVGS Webmaster

## Access to Vital Records Report

Hello, I'm glad to report that all of your letter writing efforts have paid

Off. Thank you!

I have learned that we have achieved a measure of Success. The State Archivist and the Department of Health (DOH) met last Friday. The DOH has agreed to The State Archives request and will be settling a 10 year Battle over the transfer of original birth & death records To the Archives for safe storage and accessibility. Also, the DOH will not be pursuing a legislative effort To limit access to vital records in the upcoming session of the State Legislature.

DOH still believes that access should have greater regulation and in all likelihood

Will begin the effort again at some future time.

The genealogical community must keep informed about any future threat.

WSGS is a member of the Washington Coalition for Open Government and

One of our members serves on their Sunshine Committee.

We will try to

Keep WSGS members informed of any future action by DOH or any other

Group who attempts to limit access to records that we find valuable to

Our family research. (submitted 12/5/2012 by email).

Sincerely,

Sue Ericksen, President

WSGS

## RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Just a friendly reminder that dues are now due for the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society. In the event you may have already paid, it is possible that they were sent in and just haven't reached me yet. Our year goes from Jan. 1st through Dec. 31st. Dues this year have raised to \$15.00 for single membership and \$20.00 for family membership.

Christine Cooper

Membership Chairperson

Check out our redesigned web page at

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasvgs/>



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

**Vice President:** Barbara Johnson  
360-856-0870 raptorwoman@gmail.com

**Secretary:** Muriel Neely

**Treasurer:** Lois LeBlonde  
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**Publications:** Rita Schulze Pro-temp

**Ways & Means:** **OPEN**

**Publicity:** Karen Stroschein  
360-770-9508 karenstroschein@comcast.net

**Member at Large:** Rita Schultze

### Special Committees

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[svgsgenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:svgsgenealogy@gmail.com)

**Sunshine:** Portia Stacey  
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**Nominating:** Shirley Christenson

**Audit/Budget:** Sharon Johnson  
360-445-5483 johnson@sos.net

**Bylaws/Standing Rules:** Joe LeBlonde  
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**Refreshments:** **OPEN**

**Raffles/Door Prizes:** Sharon Johnson

**Special History Projects:** Dan Royal

**SOCIETY EMAIL:** genealogy0715@gmail.com

### 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.

The Skagit Valley Genealogical Society Newsletter accepts 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 or surnames to be posted in the newsletter, please send to... *Ye Editor*

Winter Seminar**Methodology Matters**

February 16, 2013

**8 A.M. Registration**  
**Burlington Community**  
**Center**  
 Burlington, WA

**This seminar has been canceled to some unforeseen reasons and we will be trying to re-schedule at a later date.**

Your membership dues purchases subscriptions to "Internet Genealogy" and the "NGS Magazine" of the National Genealogical Society. They have a lot of information on a variety of topics that can be helpful to our individual research. The publications are located in our genealogy section of the Burlington Library. The list of articles (sometimes with commentary) are listed in the SVGS newsletter. Find something of interest? Go to the library, find the magazine, locate the article and photocopy it. Less expensive than subscribing to the magazine

Your advice is needed. If you have suggestions of program topics for next year. Or if you just can't wait to present a program yourself, please contact Barb Johnson at raptorwoman.com or 360-856-0870. She will happily take your ideas to heart.

**Burlington Public Library**

820 E Washington Ave  
 Burlington, WA 98233  
 Phone (360) 755-0760  
 Email:  
 blibrary@ci.burlington.wa.us  
 Hours: Monday – Thursday  
 11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
 Friday & Saturday  
 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
 Sunday – Closed

**SVGS Library Collection**  
 located here. SVGS Volunteers available on Mondays from 11:00—1:00 to assist with questions.

Margie Wilson—SVGS Librarian



## Skagit Valley Genealogical Society

### Upcoming Programs

### 2012 - 2013



January 26: Brick Walls/Genealogy Challenges. We all have them and they can be overcome. We'll try to break down those walls with suggestions from our experienced members. **Note: Meeting is at the Burlington Library, 1-3 pm. on Saturday, 820 East Washington Avenue**

February 23: The Legacy of Ida Lillbroanda-Sunnie Empe. Susan will review her recent book about a Skagit Valley pioneer. **Note: Meeting is at the Burlington Library, 1-3 pm. on Saturday, 820 East Washington Avenue**

March 26: Genealogy Software for Beginners- Which one should you use?

We'll present a brief overview of Family Tree Maker, PAF, Legacy software programs.

April 23: Skagit County Family History Book-Hazel Rasar, Dan Royal. Come learn about our Society's soon-to-be-released publication.

May 28: Speed Dating for Genealogists- another way to break down Brick Walls: A group of "expert" genealogists will give you their help in a four- minutes-per-table exercise. You'll need to have your brick wall question short and focused. We'll do our best to give you a short, focused answer.

June 25: Stuart/Stewart Clan History-James Stuart-Stevenson, The Baron of Kilbride. James and his wife, a MacKenzie, have a fascinating tale to tell about his family history.



I was reading a newsletter from another society and found some interesting articles on the Library of Congress -Civil War. So I decided to check it out. Here is some information and a few articles that I have supplied from the website. Go to this website <http://myloc.gov/exhibitions/civil-war-in-america/Pages/default.aspx>. They have articles that you can actually find on the web page along with maps and other information. I did not go thru all of them, but will be going to look again.

### The Civil War in America

November 12, 2012 – June 1, 2013



*The Civil War in America* assembles more than 200 unique items, many of which have never been seen by the public, to commemorate the sesquicentennial of this nation's greatest military and political upheaval. Drawing from hundreds of thousands of items from across many collections of the Library of Congress, the materials included in this exhibition attest to the valor, sacrifices, emotions, and accomplishments of those in both the North and South whose lives were affected by the bitter conflict of 1861–1865.

### Women at War



It has been estimated that some 400 women concealed their identities and donned uniforms, serving as soldiers on both sides of the conflict during the Civil War. In addition to the usual cursory medical examinations and ill-fitting uniforms, Frances Clayton's slim build and angular features made it possible for her to pass as a man and accompany her husband to the front. They fought together until his death at the Battle of Murfreesboro (Stones River), December 31, 1862 to January 2, 1863. After she left the army, Clayton's stor

### The Draft Riots

On July 11, 1863, draft officers began drawing names in heavily Democratic New York City, where sentiment against abolition and conscription ran high and racial tensions had reached a boiling point. From July 13 to 17, 1863, New York erupted into four of the bloodiest days of mob violence in United States history. The uprising began with thousands of people foregoing work to demonstrate outside the draft office on Third Avenue. A stone hurled through an office window and the discharge of a pistol turned the demonstration into a riot. Surging into the draft office, the rioters smashed everything, then proceeded to the headquarters of the *New York Times* and the *New York Tribune*, and moved on to loot and burn the four-story Colored Orphan Asylum. Hundreds were injured and 105 killed.

### Voices of the Civil War," Library of Congress Blog Site

A complementary blog site to *The Civil War in America* exhibition can be accessed at [blogs.loc.gov/civil-war-voices](http://blogs.loc.gov/civil-war-voices). Posts will be authored by forty individuals featured in the exhibition and are excerpts from their diaries, letters home, and published memoirs—all eyewitness accounts. These personal observations and declarations, from such well-known historical figures as Robert E. Lee and Clara Barton to those lesser known, will carry the narrative of the exhibition and represent both sides of the conflict in a modern social media format.

## Genealogy Library Report for January 2013

2013 promises to be a very exciting year for SVGS members. There are some new volunteer opportunities on the horizon that I will be more at liberty to explain in detail in February. I will be sending out an announcement this winter regarding an orientation session that explains these opportunities to develop your research skills and then share your skills with other researchers.

Eric Stroschein, our education chair, is developing an educational opportunity for SVGS members to participate in a series of genealogy research skill building courses. The National Genealogical Society (NGS) is offering this series of genealogy courses. The first course, which can be taken online, covers Basic Genealogy Research Skills. The second course level advances the participant to the intermediate genealogy research skill level.

After those SVGS members, who are interested in taking this training, have completed the educational program, they will be brimming with knowledge and eager to apply it and share their knowledge with others.

If you have an interest in taking these genealogy classes and would also like to put your knowledge to work as a volunteer to help others with their family history research, please let me know so I can create a list of interested participants. More details will be forthcoming, and I'm sure you have questions, so feel free to contact me. But, for now it's a head's up to the members that some fun educational and volunteer opportunities are forthcoming in the year ahead and we look forward to you being

## Top 100 Genealogy Websites of 2013

By Kimberly Powell,

*GenealogyInTime* online magazine has put out their second annual top 100 list of genealogy websites from around the world. An extensive collection of genealogy websites was compiled by the magazine's editors, with the final 100 selected and ranked based entirely on each site's Alexa rating, a measure of a site's popularity based on global Internet traffic.

<http://www.genealogyintime.com/articles/top%20100%20genealogy%20websites%202013%20page1.html>

### NOTICE

Whatcom is changing its meetings to daytime on the last Wednesday of the month, starting on January 23rd at 1:30 PM. We will meet at the Bellingham Senior Activity Center, 315 Halleck St, Bellingham [a block northwest of the corner of Cornwall and Ohio St].

## We Bid Farewell to FamilySearch.org's NewFamilySearch and Welcome Family Tree

Amy Tanner Thiriot has written an in-depth guide describing recent changes made to [www.FamilySearch.org](http://www.FamilySearch.org). She writes: "The Church genealogical database NewFamilySearch (NFS) has been frustrating for so many people, particularly those who do actual genealogical research and care about accuracy. NFS allowed people with no particular skill to upload sketchy aggregated online family trees (usually culled from Ancestral File, Ancestry, and RootsWeb) and have their data look as valid as the correct information."

"Family Search recently released a replacement for NFS. It is called Family Tree. So far, I'm impressed. It has solved some of the worst of the problems with NFS and whereas it was hardly worth correcting NFS, I've found it worthwhile to go in and start correcting the record in Family Tree."

You can read Amy Tanner Thiriot's full article at <http://goo.gl/QeeMG>.

From Dick Eastman's Blog

## 75 Best State Websites Now Available Online

Posted by Beth

In selecting the 75 best state websites, which originally appeared in the December 2012 issue of *Family Tree Magazine*, we looked especially for databases (at least one per state) where you can search for your ancestors' names. Some sites also have digital images of original records, and several of the sites regularly add new searchable documents.

[Click below to view and access the list of top 75 state websites online.](#)

<http://familytreemagazine.com/article/top-75-state-websites-of-2012>

See Example: **Washington**

### Washington State Digital Archives

This terrific site already has more than 36 million searchable records online. Among them are birth, marriage, death, census, cemetery and naturalization records.

### Washington State Library

To find your ancestor mentioned in Washington newspapers published between 1852 and 1889, click on Digital Collections and then on Historical Newspaper in Washington and use the Personal Name Search. Click on Genealogy for an overview of resources at the library. Take advantage of the free obituary lookup service, too.

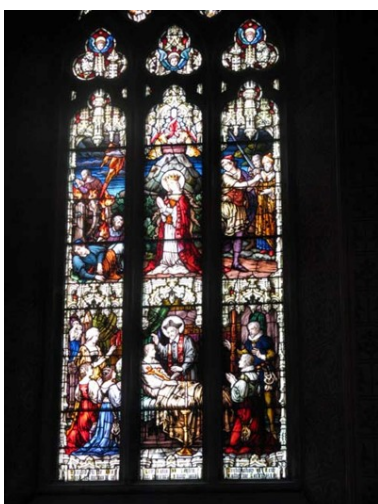
Today, with much better weather, we drove through Counties Armagh and Monaghan where I have ancestors from before the Famine Times. The countryside is green rolling hills (40 shades of green, indeed) with lots of sheep grazing peacefully. One surprise, many of the sheep have red or blue backs. Turns out the farmer paints his herd one color to distinguish it from his neighbor's herd as the sheep often meander between hedgerows.

There are two St. Patrick's Cathedrals in Armagh; one Catholic the other Protestant. As in much of Northern Ireland, there is dissension between the two groups, although the animosity has been greatly reduced. We visited the Catholic cathedral as my ancestors were Roman Catholic. I'm sure we'll become jaded after seeing more cathedrals, but this one is stunning. It makes the US National Cathedral look unworthy in comparison. And the US National Cathedral is grand.

After lunch in Armagh, we drove through the countryside enjoying the scenery. We stopped in a small town (population 240) called Middletown. We happened into Lennon's, one of several watering holes in this tiny town. The bartender gave us samples of Jamesons and Bushmills--two of the best Irish Whiskey (for those of you who are not whiskey drinkers--Bob and Steve ignore this). My, the Bushmills is smooth. It isn't my drink of choice. I still prefer a pint o' Guinness but it's not bad.

We headed south to County Monaghan which is in the Republic of Ireland. The only hint that we were in another country was a sign: "Welcome to County Monaghan". Apparently the animosity between the two countries has been greatly reduced!

We returned to Belfast to drop off our rental "motorcar" and promptly got lost. Our GPS passed to the Great Beyond and failed us completely. We stopped at a local shopping mall and got superb directions from a store manager. Every where we have gone in both countries, the local Irish people have gone out of their way to make us feel welcome. They kept telling us that there are crabby Irishmen, but I really think that's a bunch of Blarney. We can't say enough good things about the wonderful folks we encountered on the Emerald Isle.



St. Patrick's (Catholic) Cathedral in Armagh

Typical row house in Armagh, County Armagh

Tomorrow we sail to Scotland, just as my ancestors did in 1840...well, maybe not just quite the same.

con't on next page



24 September 2012

On Saturday, we sailed on a lovely ferry from Belfast to Cairnryan. Stena Lines has several ferries that cross the Irish Sea; ours went to the northwest coast of Scotland where we boarded a bus to Ayr, then a train to Glasgow where we hired a taxi to our hotel.

Whilst (a UK term) on the ferry, we sat next to a lovely couple from Northern Ireland. He was definitely Protestant and gave me an earful about Irish and Scots-Irish history. But he was very helpful in pointing out various landmarks as we sailed. The Stena Line ferries are not at all like Washington State Ferries or BC ferries. They are much larger (10 decks) but not as large as an aircraft carrier. They are also far more luxurious than our local ferries (and aircraft carriers): swivel chairs with tables, large screen TVs, several restaurants; all that's missing is a Grand Ballroom! Not quite the way my ancestors sailed into Glasgow.

### Calendar of Society Meetings in WSGS Region One

WSGS Region One Representative: Stephen Eric Baylor, [s.baylor@comcast.net](mailto:s.baylor@comcast.net)

#### January - February 2013

(Please send calendar corrections or updates to Bob Witherspoon, 360-734-9835, [rgwspoon@aol.com](mailto:rgwspoon@aol.com))

**Saturday, January 26, 2013 - Skagit Valley Genealogical Society - SkVGS** - 1-3 PM: Program: **Brick Walls/Genealogy Challenges**. We all have them and they can be overcome. We'll try to break down those walls with suggestions from our experienced members. Meeting is at the Burlington Library, 820 East Washington Avenue, Burlington.

**Monday, February 4, 2013 - Camwood Genealogical Group - CwGG** - Meets first Mondays at 1 PM at Stanwood Historical Society Museum, 27108 102nd Ave NW, Stanwood, WA

**Wednesday, February 6, 2013 - Sno-Isle Genealogical Society - SIGS** - Business meeting and program at 1:00 pm at Alderwood Manor Heritage Association, 19921 Poplar Way, in Lynnwood's Heritage Park. Program: **Immigration and Naturalization** by **Carol Buswell**. Guests are always welcome.

**Thursdays in February - Comeford Genealogical Group - CfGG** - Meets Thursdays, 10:00 - 11:30 AM at the Ken Baxter Community Center, 514 Delta Ave., Marysville, WA, in Comeford Park. The group meets informally to assist one another in genealogical research. See <http://comefordgroup.wordpress.com/category/class-times-schedule/>

**Monday, February 11, 2013 - Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island - GSSWI** - Education classes at 11:45 AM. **Beginning class:** Before this class please read pages 71-80 in the Desmond Walls Allen book. Topic: *The importance of history in your ancestors' lives!* Gleaning info from relatives interviews for historical events; Timelines; Maps; Read history books of areas ancestors lived in; Look at religious/church records or practices; and What you can find in old newspapers. Handouts: American Wars and Engagements before 1900, Military Wars and Campaigns after 1900, Military Timelines Chart—Milner Family History—1754-1945—Prepared by R. Ann (Ingram) Wright, Blank Time Line for My Ancestor.

**Intermediate class:** *When marketing becomes fun and educational*. Did your family attend? **Program** at 1:00 PM: **Speaker: Nancy Adelson;** **Program: Jewish Genealogy for Non-Jewish Researchers.** Nancy is a Jewish Genealogical Society of Washington State Founding Member, President, Program Chair and past Jewish Online Worldwide Burial Records Chair. She researched over 4000 family members and, while raising her three daughters and working two jobs, she wrote and self-published a book about her father, "A New York City Boy". She has presented at local and International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS) conferences. Nancy has earned numerous awards, including the WSGS Award for Outstanding Efforts in the Preservation of Important Washington State Genealogical Records, JGSWS Outstanding Community Service Award, and numerous Gold and Silver President's Volunteer Service Awards. Nancy has also been a Professor of Real Estate and Business at North Seattle Community College for over 20 years. This program, previously scheduled for September, is not to be missed. Meeting at Trinity Lutheran Church, Hwy 525 & Woodard Road, Freeland.

**Monday, February 11, 2013 - Whatcom Genealogical Society - WGS** - Program and meeting time and location to be announced.

**Tuesday, February 12, 2013 - Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society - StVGS** - 1 P.M.: Program: **"Arlington Cemetery Database."** Former city employee, Lynne Bridges, shares information about the database she compiled for the Arlington city cemetery. Meeting at the Arlington Free Methodist Church, 730 East Highland Drive, Arlington.

**Tuesday, February 12, 2013 - Whidbey Island Genealogical Searchers - WIGS** - Meeting at 2720 Heller Rd, the fire station #25, just north of Crosby Road in Oak Harbor. Program: 1 PM until about 3. Topic to be announced. There will be information for all levels of searchers, refreshments and raffles. All are welcome. Contact Ruth Hancock 675 -4086 at [randr.hancock@frontier.com](mailto:randr.hancock@frontier.com) for more information; also, Gordon Garnhart [garnhart@whidbey.net](mailto:garnhart@whidbey.net)

**Saturday, February 23, 2013 - Skagit Valley Genealogical Society - SkVGS** - 1-3 PM: Program: Program: Sunnie Empie: The Legacy of Ida Lillbroanda: Finnish Immigrant to America 1893. Meeting is at the Burlington Library, 820 East Washington Avenue, Burlington.

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.

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**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2013**

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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**  
**MAILING ADDRESS**  
**Post Office Box 715**  
**Conway, WA. 98238-0715**

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**





## President's Message

Wow, 2013 is locomoting on a fast track. We are on the verge of Spring already. Soon we will be gathering together at our yearly board retreat to brainstorm ideas for the year. Society members are welcomed to join us on March 23rd at the Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church from 11:00 am to 3:30 pm.

The Burlington Community library is forging ahead with their ROOTS project. SVGS members are encouraged to volunteer for this worthwhile program.

Washington State Genealogy Society is looking for someone on this side of the mountains to host the 2014 WSGS State conference. Eric Stroschein and committee are looking into the feasibility of SVGS taking that on.

Come this April during our general membership meeting we will be launching Skagit County's History Book. Dan Royal has put a lot of time and effort into this project. Ordering and sales details will be coming soon.

With the March and April rain and winds, now is a good time to put some finishing touches on your genealogy searches before Spring flowers and sunshine comes our way.

*George E. Ridgeway Jr.*

President/Webmaster  
George E. Ridgeway Jr.

Your advice is needed. If you have suggestions of program topics for next year. Or if you just can't wait to present a program yourself, please contact Barb Johnson at [raptorwoman.com](http://raptorwoman.com) or 360-856-0870. She will happily take your ideas to heart.

## Ellis Island Immigration Museum Archive Relocated

Posted by [Diane](#) Haddad and the staff of Family Tree Magazine

The National Park Service has moved treasures from the [Ellis Island Immigration Museum](#) in New York Harbor to a federal storage center due to the effects of Hurricane Sandy.

Oct. 29, the hurricane flooded Ellis Island and water filled the basement of the Immigration Museum, which houses the Great Hall where millions of immigrants started their lives in the United States.

Fortunately, the water didn't touch the museum's archive of records and immigrant artifacts, which were located elsewhere in the building. But it did knock out the island's electricity, wreaking havoc on the museum's carefully controlled climate and causing mold to grow on the artifacts and condensation to build up on walls.

[You can learn more about the move and see photos and a video in this TribecaTribOnline article.](#)

Both Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty (on nearby Liberty Island) remain closed. Park Service plans call for reopening, but a date is yet to be determined. You can get updates on the [Statue of Liberty Hurricane Sandy Recovery page](#).

Check out our redesigned web page at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasvgs/>

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If anyone would like queries or surnames to be posted in the newsletter, please send to... *Ye Editor*

## Genealogy Library Report for March 2013

Hurray! All the sections, except for the family history books, of the SVGS genealogy library collection have been numbered, and cataloged in an updated database. The 2013 SVGS Library Holdings will be uploaded to the SVGS website very shortly. Once on the website anyone can access the holdings and can search for books in the collection by title, author, etc. This way, you will know in advance if a particular book you are interested in is in our collection. This project took many hours of volunteer time and effort and I am very grateful to Portia Stacey, Georgia Lang and the other members of the library team for their reliable and cheerful assistance these past year.

Upon occasion I hear some members say, "Well I have genealogy books at home or I have subscription databases, so what value can there possibly be in our genealogy library?" I know the answer to that question. But, I would love to hear your thoughts and comments. Do you appreciate the well-organized and maintained space we enjoy at the Burlington Library? Do you frequently drop in to the library to research and browse the collection? I know it's a favorite hangout for me, and I've benefited from the library's materials. But, how about the rest of you?

Send me an email with your comments about our genealogy library. I'll compile your messages and present them to the Burlington Library and with the message, "Thank you for your community support and partnership these past 25-years. Thank you for paying the light bills, the janitorial bills and for keeping a roof over our collection all these years. Our SVGS Genealogy Library is something of value – not only to our society members but to the community. Thank you for your community partnership."

~ Margie Wilson

## Skagit Valley Genealogical Society Upcoming Programs 2012 - 2013



April 23: Skagit County Family History Book-Hazel Rasar, Dan Royal. Come learn about our Society's soon-to-be-released publication.

May 28: Speed Dating for Genealogists- another way to break down Brick Walls: A group of "expert" genealogists will give you their help in a four- minutes-per-table exercise . You'll need to have your brick wall question short and focused. We'll do our best to give you a short, focused answer.

June 25: Stuart/Stewart Clan History-James Stuart-Stevenson, The Baron of Kilbride. James and his wife, a MacKenzie, have a fascinating tale to tell about his family history.

### Seminars/Workshops:

**Saturday, April 27, 2013 - Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island - GSSWI** - The Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island will host **Karen Krugman from Michigan** as its 2013 seminar speaker. Karen Krugman is the author of several books and is knowledgeable on many Genealogical topics. She is highly rated by organizations to which she has spoken. Specific location of the seminar, topics and costs will be announced later, so watch this space for further information

### Burlington Public Library

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Friday & Saturday  
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Sunday – Closed

**SVGS Library Collection**  
located here. SVGS Volunteers available on Mondays from 11:00—1:00 to assist with questions.

Margie Wilson—SVGS Librarian





## Magazine Report by Sharon Johnson

Internet Genealogy      December / January 2013

Genealogy-On-the-Go With the iPad (*The iPad is not a laptop so don't try to duplicate what you do on a laptop. There's a listing of apps and the author's top 10 iPad tricks*); Saving Memories Forever (*new online service to help families record, save, and share memories*); Digitized Newspapers Online (*Being done by state archives, academic libraries and usually free. The Online Historical Newspapers Website <https://sites.google.com/site/onlinehistoricalnewspapersite> where digitized papers are located, including whether free or for a fee. Free Newspaper Archives blog <http://freenewspaperarchives.us/default.aspx>. The Google News Archive at <http://news.google.com/newspapers> has titles in alphabetical order, includes the number of issues, and the date range available. There are also subscription sites*); Explore Your Roots in Croatia and Serbia (*researching your ancestors from localities in today's Croatia and Serbia*). A Smorgasbord of Choice: Genealogy Software News and Reviews! (*Basis for choosing. Discusses the Master Genealogist v.8, RootsMagic 5, Heredis, Family tree Builder, Family Tree Maker For Mac V.2. Lists sites to find other software reviews*); 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Manual for the United States of America (*a general reference app for the iPad*); Gale Genealogy Connect and myGenShare (*Both are subscription services. Gale Connect focuses on the "how to". Gen share is an online digital library with indexed resources*); Sweet Sounding Memories (*how to create a family keepsake of audio memories with VoiceQuilt [www.voicequilt.com](http://www.voicequilt.com)*).

Lord Selkirk's Settlers (*Concerns the mass migration of displaced Scots Highlanders to Canada. There is a list of website resources*)

Internet Genealogy      February / March 2013

The Historic New Orleans Collection (*a museum and research site [www.hnoc.org](http://www.hnoc.org) includes four different sub-collections*); Heading for Freedom (*a new mapping approach to genealogy and the underground railroad*); WWI Enemy alien Registration Records (*registration of unnaturalized German immigrants living in the US during WWI. Fewer than 20,000 affidavits survive out of several hundred thousand. Lists information on the affidavit and where to find the surviving affidavits*); Five Ways to Get More from Evernote (*a cloud-based, note-taking app*); What Was For Dinner? (*where to find collections of old menus....U of W has a collection 1884 – 2003*); NLA Newspapers: An Invaluable Australian Resource (*no cost research at <http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper>*); The Genealogist as Talk Show Host (*how she helped reunite a mother and son after 64 years*); *their lives*);

Are Your British Deceased Online? (*searchable database [www.deceasedonline.com](http://www.deceasedonline.com) has a database of 15 million records and particularly strong for London. Searching is free. Viewing a burial or cremation register scan is not....pricing is explained. Also listed are other online sources. 10 time Management Tools for Genealogists (review of some helpful programs and apps to keep your research on track) Can You Acknowledge Receipt? (researching your ancestors' hobbies can add context to their lives); Pan Am: More Than Just A Flight (genealogy resources available [www.panam.org](http://www.panam.org)); Genealogy Conferences: Virtual or Live? (we have different lives, different pressures, different genealogical needs, and different ideas. We do what is most suitable for our needs).*

Internet Genealogy      October / November 2012

1940 Census: Deciphering Your Ancestors' Data in Context (*coding was done by the Census Bureau and what do they mean? Why is some information in different handwriting? For miscellaneous codes see <http://stevemorse.org/census/mcodes1940.htm> For occupation codes see <http://stevemorse.org/census/ocodes1940.htm>*); Jewel of the Midwest: A Review of the Columbus Memory Project (*how to search the site [www.columbusmemory.org](http://www.columbusmemory.org)*); Old Maps Online (*[www.oldmapsonline.org](http://www.oldmapsonline.org)*); School Yearbooks and Newspapers (*contain no basic genealogical data, more about their personalities, interests and the times they lived in as students*); Researching English Ancestors in Quebec (*start with Quebec Family History Society [www.afhs.ca](http://www.afhs.ca) as they have databases concerning cemeteries, land records from original Crown land Grants, Seigneuries Records and Census Indexes, Surname List and Library Catalogue*); Mind Maps: Free Your Mind (*a graphic way of taking notes and organizing random ideas into a plan*); The Flip-Pal Mobile Scanner: Portable, Mobile Scanning (*a review of the product*); Name Variant Tools (*Top 10 Tips for Finding Alternate Surname Spellings & Variations [http://genealogy.about.com/od/name\\_changes/tp/spellings.htm](http://genealogy.about.com/od/name_changes/tp/spellings.htm)*); 25 Sources for Death Information (*grouped by The Usual Sources, Military, Manuscript Collections, Government Records, Periodicals and Books, Cemeteries, Home Sources, & Medical*); Google Maps (*how to visualize your ancestors' environment*); Adventures with ArkivDigital (*[www.arkivdigital.net](http://www.arkivdigital.net) a subscription site and the database is for locations, not people*); JustaJoy.com Family Heriloom Exchange (*a business that reunites descendants with treasured family heirlooms*); The Internet Archive (*[www.archive.org](http://www.archive.org) has about 3.5 million texts, plus audio records, movies and live concerts. The archive is a library ON the Internet, NOT an archive OF the Internet. Many of the items are*



## **Skagit County, Washington & Its People!** **A Ten Year Book Project comes to fruition** *from Skagit Valley Genealogical Society*

“Anders Edvin Johnson immigrated to the United States with a friend in New York City, April 1, 1889 on the S.S. Alaska. After being processed through the Castle Garden Immigrant Receiving Station, they traveled to their final destination, San Francisco. After working in California and Tacoma, in 1895 Edvin purchased a farm in the Cedardale area south of Mount Vernon. He farmed this property for 51 years.” *Submitted by SVGS board member Sharon Johnson.*

The above family history quote, along with photos and genealogical data contribute to the making of historical stories of approximately 600 individuals of countless families who made up the early years and growth of Skagit County. These stories and genealogical data were submitted by descendants of sturdy pioneer's and folks telling the story of their parents and by some, their own life story.

The project started 10 years ago this fall and was spear-headed by board members and co-chairs Hazel Rasar and Dan Royal along with a sub-committee of the Publication Committee. This book project was differentiated as it was and is to be a legacy book based and modeled on the still popular “An Illustrated History of Snohomish & Skagit County” published in 1906 by Interstate Publishing Company. Our book, **“Skagit County, Washington & Its People!”** will be a stand apart from the more data oriented books of the society; such as the soon to be published “Hamilton Cemetery” book. It will also book end the societies 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations started last year.

The society would like to invite SVGS members – past and present - submitters to the book and the general public to hear a 45 minute presentation as Hazel Rasar and Dan Royal share their journey to see this publication come to its completion. They will also share photos and a reading of a few of the submitted stories. Facsimile copies of the books will also be available for viewing.

Finally an order form for the two-volume set will be available with Hazel and Dan encouraging a pre-sale of the books for those who order early to receive a very substantial discount that only lasts through June 7<sup>th</sup>. The books will be ordered, paid in full at the price of \$65.00. Consideration will be given to single volume sales. Pre sale books will be distributed by August 17<sup>th</sup> at the groups “Summer Seminar” to those who bought ahead of time and made available to the general public as of that date. Additional orders will still be available from the society after June 7<sup>th</sup> at an increased price. Price for the complete set of 2 volumes will be \$75.00 after that date.

A third volume will be published in 2014 with histories written by local historians and submitters to the project with wonderful folk tales and family stories not published in the first two volumes.

Join the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society from 7-9 p.m. on Tuesday, April 23rd at the Burlington Community Center, 1011 Greenleaf Avenue, in Burlington, for pre-sale forms and to view this presentation. Order forms will also be available at the society's website.

### **Cemetery Books ready for Publication**

After a long exhausting job the Hamilton Cemetery Book is ready for publishing. Right behind this book will be the Lyman Cemetery book. Both of these books have taken quite awhile with a lot of people involved to get these published. Many THANKS to everyone who has contributed in some way from start to finish. Also, the cemetery books will be published on CD's soon. More information

### **NEW VIDEO SERIES**

By Amy Crow

There's always something new to learn in genealogy! Join us for our new weekly livestreams, held every Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. eastern. They're fun, free and informative! Upcoming topics include marriage records and using timelines.. Can't join us at that time? You can

4 October 2012

**Barbara's Travelogues continues**

We left Yorkshire and the lovely pasture lands, taking the train to London. It's about 250 miles. Including two stops, the trip took 2.5 hours. Yup, you might say it was a high speed train! It was hard to see much scenery at that speed, but the trip was quite comfortable including trolley service. Trolley service: just like Harry Potter and the Hogwarts Express, except there were no magic chocolate frogs.

London is an interesting city. The Black Cabs (now of various colors) are inexpensive, fast, and very closely licensed. It takes 3 years to obtain a taxi license as the driver must know every nook and cranny of the town. We wound up using taxis more often than the tube. In fact, we only rode the tube a couple of times. We arrived in London at King's Cross Station and immediately headed for Platform 9 3/4 (see below). We then took the tube/underground to Victoria Station. Our trip took about 40 minutes; it's normally about 10-15 but just past Victoria Station, the route was shut down due to a "person under a train". We never did find out what happened but according to the locals, this is a frequent method of suicide. Yuk.

The city is easy to walk about as it is fairly flat, but everyone is in a Major Hurry. It's crowded, noisy and folks are pushy and a bit rude. We were quite glad to leave town today.

On Tuesday, we toured Westminster Abbey which is spectacular with all the burial plaques and elaborate tombs of Kings and Queens. A very special part of our visit was to the plaque for Major Andre who was a hero to the English although we upstart Colonists hanged him as a traitor. Major Andre recruited Benedict Arnold to turn over West Point to the British during that little "dust up" in the 1770s. A dear Canadian friend, Basil Andre Robinson, was a descendant of Major Andre. It turns out that when he asked a guide where to find his plaque, he had to look it up. He then took us past several roped off areas to see the plaque. Although photography is not allowed, he discreetly turned his back so we could take a photo. Sadly it was quite blurry, but the moment was very special for Roger and me.

The next day, we took a hop on, hop off bus for a tour of the usual tourist sites in town. At 12:45, we had tickets to tour Buckingham Palace. Sadly, HRH Elizabeth was not there to invite us to tea. But the Palace is lovely: 770+ rooms, 240-some bedrooms and only 78 bathrooms. Imagine cleaning house. OK, she has over 1200 staff to do the dirty work.

All I have is my Norwegian Houseboy to help.

After touring the Palace, which has so many pieces of priceless artwork by painters such as Van Dyke, Rubens, Rembrandt, and porcelain vases (say Vahzes), urns, gold and silver plated trays, goblets, etc. that it truly boggles the mind; we hopped back on a bus to head for the Tower of London to view the Crown Jewels.

If you appreciate beautiful jewelry, you will see jaw dropping pieces of art. There were scepters, crowns, orbs, swords, necklaces. Unbelievably beautiful with sapphires, diamonds, rubies, pearls. Most of them "stored" there until a Royal Event, usually a coronation. Some of the jewels are crowns of previous monarchs, so they stay on display only. The value of these jewels has to be in the billions of pounds/dollars. That's if one could place a value on them.

Once outside the Crown Jewels wing, we spotted a soldier in a traditional red jacket and bear skin helmet. He stands very still except every few minutes, he does a high step and marches back and forth. Just like one sees on the telly. We also saw several Beefeaters and a young man dressed in a period uniform that I did not recognize. I asked him what period he represented and he cheerfully answered that it was from 1668 and it was a Fusilier uniform. He and the Beefeater were quite chatty, glad to inform us about the traditions they represented.

One of the traditions is that they are Keepers of the Ravens. Ravens in the past protected the Tower soldiers from disease by eating the vermin that hung about the Tower. At one point, an observatory was built that frightened the ravens away and disease ensued. So the observatory was removed and the ravens were brought back. They are now coddled and are a very important part of the Tower tradition.

The two soldiers and I had a great chat about ravens being sacred to Native Americans, and we teased each other about that "little dust up in 1776" which they claimed we won because we had help from the French!

Today we took the train (high speed) to Salisbury where we took a bus to Stonehenge and back to the Cathedral. Those of you (and that's most of you) know I'm a science geek. I've studied a lot about Stonehenge and never dreamed I would ever be standing on Salisbury Plain gazing at the lintels and uprights of this mysterious site. Wow! It was awesome. Roger wanted to visit Salisbury Cathedral as that was the inspiration for Ken Follett's "Pillars of the Earth". It is the tallest spire in England at 140-some metres. (Note I used the English/Canadian spelling...we've gone a tad native). Speaking of Ken Follett, Roger was able to hear him speak in the Churchill War Rooms on Tuesday night. And, yes indeed, he now has an autographed copy of Follett's latest tome. It takes up quite a bit of room in his luggage!

We are now in Portsmouth and will be touring the Navy Yard here. This is where Eisenhower had his headquarters for Operation Overlord--the D-Day Landing. Oh yes, Navy folk, there's a very old sailing ship nearby called the HMS Victory and we plan on touring it tomorrow. Eat your heart out, ye Stennis sailor.

## Calendar of Society Meetings in WSGS Region One

WSGS Region One Representative: Stephen Eric Baylor, [s.baylor@comcast.net](mailto:s.baylor@comcast.net)

### March - April 2013

(Please send calendar corrections or updates to Bob Witherspoon, 360-734-9835, [rgwspoon@aol.com](mailto:rgwspoon@aol.com))

**Monday, April 1, 2013 - Camwood Genealogical Group - CwGG** - Meets first Mondays at 1 PM at Stanwood Historical Society Museum, 27108 102nd Ave NW, Stanwood, WA

**Wednesday, April 3, 2013 - Sno-Isle Genealogical Society - SIGS** - Business meeting and program at 1:00 pm at Alderwood Manor Heritage Association, 19921 Poplar Way, in Lynnwood's Heritage Park. Program: to be announced. Guests are always welcome.

**Thursdays in April 2013 - Comeford Genealogical Group - CfGG** - Meets Thursdays, 10:00 - 11:30 AM at the Ken Baxter Community Center, 514 Delta Ave., Marysville, WA, in Comeford Park. The group meets informally to assist one another in genealogical research. See <http://comefordgroup.wordpress.com/category/class-times-schedule/>

**Monday, April 8, 2013 - Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island - GSSWI** - Education classes at 11:45 AM. **Beginning class:** before this class please read pages 111-133 in the Desmond Walls Allen book. *Courthouses and why you want to go there*. Handouts: Probate Terms, Types of Land Surveys in the U.S., Rectangular Survey System, State Archives Referral List, Military Websites. **Intermediate class:** *What's your name? What should I call you?* **Program** at 1:00 PM: **Speaker: Eric Stroschein; Program: The New Family Search.** Eric Stroschein, who in November presented a program on immigrant research, is a professional forensic genealogist. His subject in this program is an examination and discussion of the new Family Search facilities and software available at the LDS site. Since there have been many questions about the new Family Search, this should be a very useful program for the GSSWI membership. Come and enhance your RCQ (Research Competence Quotient). Meeting at Trinity Lutheran Church, Hwy 525 & Woodard Road, Freeland.

**Monday, April 8, 2013 - Whatcom Genealogical Society - WGS:** 2 PM: Program to be announced. Meeting at Bellingham Elks Lodge #194, lower level, 710 So. Samish Way, Bellingham. (The Elks Lodge is just east of the I-5 Exit 252 northbound off-ramp on South Samish Way.)

**Tuesday, April 9, 2013 - Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society - StVGS** - 1 P.M.: Program: **"Records of the Veterans Administration"** Society member, **Marlene Agnes**, will discuss the types of records created by the Veterans Administration which are of interest by the family historian. Marlene retired from the Seattle office of the VA after many years of service. She and her husband provided the driving force for creation of the Tahoma National Cemetery in Auburn. Meeting at the Arlington Free Methodist Church, 730 East Highland Drive, Arlington.

**Tuesday, April 9, 2013 - Whidbey Island Genealogical Searchers - WIGS** - Meeting at 2720 Heller Rd, the fire station #25, just north of Crosby Road in Oak Harbor. Program: 1 PM until about 3. Topic to be announced. There will be information for all levels of searchers, refreshments and raffles. All are welcome. Contact Ruth Hancock 675 -4086 at [randr.hancock@frontier.com](mailto:randr.hancock@frontier.com) for more information; also, Gordon Garnhart [garnhart@whidbey.net](mailto:garnhart@whidbey.net)

**Tuesday, April 23, 2013 - Skagit Valley Genealogical Society - SkVGS** - 7-9 PM: Program: **"Skagit County Family History Book."** Hazel Rasar, Past President of SVGS, and Dan Royal, Archivist and Historian for SkVGS, will preview the Skagit County Family History Book. The Rasar family was a pioneer family in the valley. Hazel has been researching her roots here and abroad. She has also served on the WSGS Board. Dan is president of the Skagit Valley Historical Association. He also has deep roots in the Valley. Meeting at the Burlington Community Center, 1011 Greenleaf Ave., Burlington.

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.

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**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2013**

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APPLICANTS NAME

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ADDRESS STREET, CITY, STATE & 9 DIGIT ZIP CODE

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AREA CODE ( )

TELEPHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

New Member \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Member \_\_\_\_\_

FAMILY \$ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

INDIVIDUAL \$15 \_\_\_\_\_



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

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**





## President's Message

Hi,

A few weeks ago I flew out to see my parents in Casper, Wyoming. Dad is 91 and my mom is 87. I tried to interview my mom on information related to her family. Unfortunately, her memory is faltering quickly. Which points out the fact that if you have a member of the family who can help you with your genealogy research, don't put off getting those memories now if you can. The ideal method is a hand held video camera that you can put it on a stand. Most of the smart phones can also capture videos. Then there is the trusty old tape recorder. And of course, a pencil and a notepad. Most experts recommend you have a script of questions ready to make the interview go smoother.

Well, it is almost June. I want to say I appreciate the SVGS officers who have served before us. Nothing like being in someone's shoes that served before you to appreciate the duties and responsibilities they exercised.

It looks like we will co-host the State Genealogy Conference in 2014. Meetings are being held to iron out the many details. We could use your help. Contact Hazel Rasar who is chairing the meetings at [svsgsgenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:svsgsgenealogy@gmail.com) if you can help in 2014.

Dan Royal and Hazel Rasar launch the history book, "Skagit County, Washington & Its People!" at the April general membership meeting. In a few days, I will place a special History Book Sale page on our web page. Stay tuned.

Your advice is needed. If you have suggestions of program topics for next year. Or if you just can't wait to present a program yourself, please contact Barb Johnson at [raptorwoman@gmail.com](mailto:raptorwoman@gmail.com) or 360-856-0870. She will happily take your ideas to heart.

The Burlington Public Library is conducting a series of genealogy training for the Roots Project. All the classes will be held on Monday afternoon from 1:00 – 3:00 pm in the Burlington Library Conference Room at 820 E. Washington Avenue. The dates are June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and the 24<sup>th</sup>. The Saturday dates are July 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. The classes are opened to anyone who wants to attend.

President's message

*George E. Ridgeway Jr.*

George E. Ridgeway  
SVGS President/Webmaster

## Needed

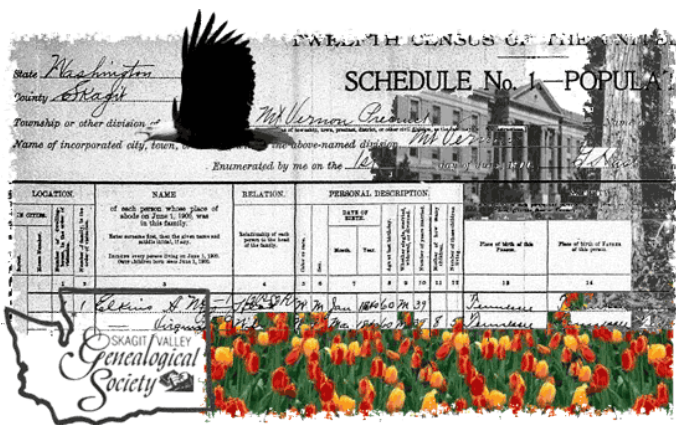
Donations for a new PA System, camera, laptop computer. These need to be newer items or monetary donations. If anyone is willing to help please contact Joe Leblonde.

## RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Just a friendly reminder that dues are now due for the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society. In the event you may have already paid, it is possible that they were sent in and just haven't reached me yet. Our year goes from Jan. 1st through Dec. 31st. Dues this year have raised to \$15.00 for single membership and \$20.00 for family membership.

Check out our redesigned web page at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasvgs/>

Your membership dues purchases subscriptions to "Internet Genealogy" and the "NGS Magazine" of the National Genealogical Society. They have a lot of information on a variety of topics that can be helpful to our individual research. The publications are located in our genealogy section of the Burlington Library. The list of articles (sometimes with commentary) are listed in the SVGS newsletter. Find something of interest? Go to the library, find the magazine, locate the article and photocopy it. Less expensive than subscribing to the magazine and you can take it home to read



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**OPEN**

**Publications:**

Rita Schulze Pro-temp

**Ways & Means:**

**OPEN**

**Publicity:**

OPEN

**Member at Large:**

Rita Schultze

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Sharon Johnson  
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**Refreshments:**

**OPEN**

**Raffles/Door Prizes:**

Sharon Johnson

**Special History**

**Projects:**

Dan Royal

**SOCIETY EMAIL:**

genealogy0715@gmail.com

### **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.

The Skagit Valley Genealogical Society Newsletter accepts 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 or surnames to be posted in the newsletter, please send to... *Ye Editor*

# Skagit Valley Genealogical Society

## Upcoming Programs

### 2012 - 2013



May 28: Speed Dating for Genealogists- another way to break down Brick Walls: A group of “expert” genealogists will give you their help in a four- minutes-per-table exercise . You’ll need to have your brick wall question short and focused. We’ll do our best to give you a short, focused answer.

June 25: Stuart/Stewart Clan History-James Stuart-Stevenson, The Baron of Kilbride. James and his wife, a MacKenzie, have a fascinating tale to tell about his family history.

## New York City Introduces Online Database for Its Potter’s Field

For more than a century, to be buried on Hart Island, off the coast of the Bronx, was to be essentially forgotten. It served as a burial place for unknown or indigent people. Close to one million people have been buried in the city’s Potter’s Field since 1869.

Until recently, the names of the dead — when they could be identified — were simply scribbled into ledgers, which were largely inaccessible to the public. But on Wednesday, the city’s Department of Correction, which runs the cemetery, introduced a searchable database, available on its Web site, for people to look up the names of those buried on the island. Stretching back to 1977, there are more than 65,000 names in the registry, and the plan is to add more names as they become available.

A fire on the island in the late 1970s that destroyed some important records, officials said, including some records from 1956 to 1960 and several years of records from the 1970s. The available records online are mostly for deaths that occurred in 1977 or later.

When visiting the site, a warning appeared stating that the database only supports Internet Explorer version 7.0 and up. I find that sad, as there is no current version of Internet Explorer for the Macintosh. However, I used Firefox on a Macintosh and everything seemed to work properly.

The dead can be searched by name — first or last — age, gender and year of death. The database also provides information on the place of death. Using the database seems to be very simple: fill in the blanks for the information you know and then click on SEARCH. Click on the image above to see a larger screen capture of the search form.

The New York City Potter’s Field database is available at [http://www.nyc.gov/html/doc/html/hart\\_island/hart\\_island.shtml](http://www.nyc.gov/html/doc/html/hart_island/hart_island.shtml).

My thanks to newsletter reader Tony Zeppetella for telling me about this new online resource.  
Eastman’s Online Genealogy Newsletter April 13, 2013

## Burlington Public Library

820 E Washington Ave  
Burlington, WA 98233  
Phone (360) 755-0760  
Email:  
blibrary@ci.burlington.wa.us  
Hours: Monday – Thursday  
11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday  
11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday – Closed



**SVGS Library Collection**  
located here. SVGS Volunteers available on Mondays from 11:00—1:00 to assist with questions.  
**Margie Wilson—SVGS Librarian**



## Calendar of Society Meetings in WSGS Region One

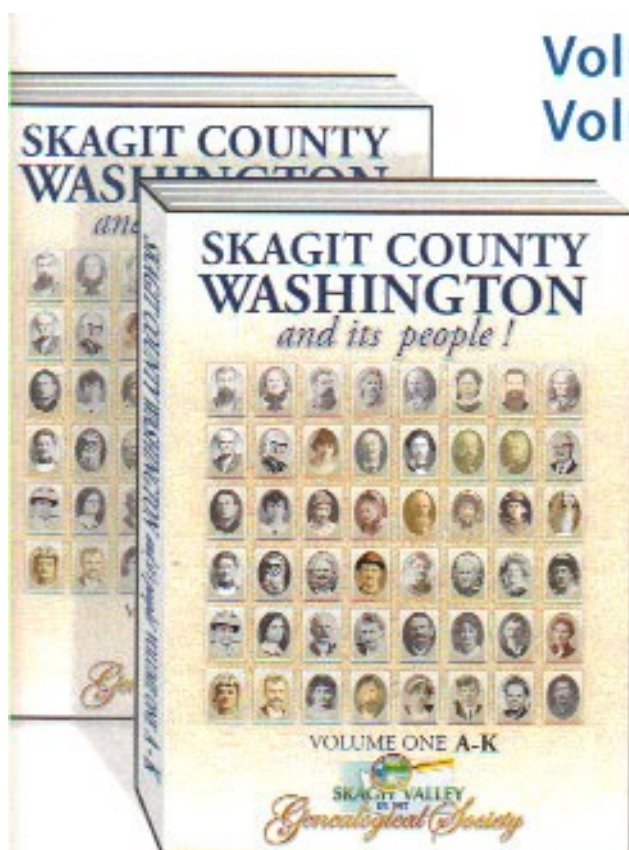
WSGS Region One Representative:

Stephen Eric Baylor, [s.baylor@comcast.net](mailto:s.baylor@comcast.net) **May – June – July 2013** (Please send calendar corrections or updates to Bob Witherspoon, 360-734-9835, [rgwspoon@aol.com](mailto:rgwspoon@aol.com)) **Tuesday, May 28, 2013 - Skagit Valley Genealogical Society - SkVGS – 7 - 9 PM:** Program: “**Speed Dating for Genealogists - another way to break down Brick Walls**” A group of “expert” genealogists will give you their help in a four- minutes-per-table exercise . You’ll need to have your brick wall question short and focused. We’ll do our best to give you a short, focused answers. Meeting at the Burlington Community Center, 1011 Greenleaf Ave., Burlington. **Monday, June 3, 2013 - Camwood Genealogical Group - CwGG -** Meets first Mondays at 1 PM at Stanwood Historical Society Museum, 27108 102nd Ave NW, Stanwood, WA **Wednesday, June 5, 2013 - Sno-Isle Genealogical Society - SIGS -** Business meeting and refreshments at 6:30pm at Heritage Cottage (next door to Humble House), 19903 Poplar Way, in Lynnwood’s Heritage Park. Program at 6:45pm: is *Planning a Research Trip* presented by SIGS-own **Marge Reid**. Guests are always welcome.

**Thursdays in June - Comeford Genealogical Group - CfGG -** Meets Thursdays, 10:00 - 11:30 AM at the Ken Baxter Community Center, 514 Delta Ave., Marysville, WA, in Comeford Park. The group meets informally to assist one another in genealogical research. See <http://comefordgroup.wordpress.com/category/class-times-schedule/> **Monday, June 10, 2013 - Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island - GSSWI -** Education classes at 11:45 AM. **Beginning class:** (Nothing to read ahead of class.) *Preparing for a research trip or "We're going WHERE for vacation?"* Handouts: Key Items Needed for Various Types of Genealogical Research Trips, Preparing for a Research Trip. **Intermediate class:** *You can get there from here. Give me a shovel.* **Program** at 1:00 PM: **Gary Zimmerman** will speak about *The War of 1812*. Gary Zimmerman has long been one of GSSWI's favorite speakers and his programs are always fact-filled, entertaining and educational. Gary's background includes previous academic positions at Antioch College and his current position as curator of the Fiske Genealogical Library. Don't miss his program! Meeting at Trinity Lutheran Church, Hwy 525 & Woodard Road, Freeland. **Monday, June 10, 2013 - Whatcom Genealogical Society - WGS –** Meeting: 2:00 – 4:00 PM. Program: to be announced. Meeting at Bellingham Elks Lodge #194, lower level, 710 South Samish Way, Bellingham. (The Elks Lodge is just east of the I-5 Exit 252 northbound off-ramp on South Samish Way.) **Tuesday, June 11, 2013 - Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society - StVGS -** 1 P.M.: Program: **Open Forum** Program. Members will have a chance to share their recent family history discoveries, research tips, helpful information and favorite genealogical websites. Meeting at the Arlington Free Methodist Church, 730 East Highland Drive, Arlington. **Tuesday, June 11, 2013 - Whidbey Island Genealogical Searchers - WIGS -** Meeting at 2720 Heller Rd, the fire station #25, just north of Crosby Road in Oak Harbor. Program: 1 PM until about 3. **Show and Tell.** If you have a family heirloom, a document or a photograph that has an interesting story associated with it, bring it and take a few minutes to tell about it. It is helpful to give Ruth Hancock a call ahead of time, but not necessary. There will be information for all levels of searchers, refreshments and raffles. All are welcome. Contact Ruth Hancock 675 -4086 at [randr.hancock@frontier.com](mailto:randr.hancock@frontier.com) for more information; also, Gordon Garnhart [garnhart@whidbey.net](mailto:garnhart@whidbey.net) **Tuesday, June 25, 2013 - Skagit Valley Genealogical Society - SkVGS -** 7-9 PM: Program: **James Stuart-Stevenson, the Baron of Kilbride**. His family goes back to Bonnie Prince Charlie and beyond. He has an amazing grasp of his family history, the history of Scotland and **he tells a great story**. Meeting at the Burlington Community Center, 1011 Greenleaf Ave., Burlington.

**Friday, June 28, 2013 - Friday Afternoon Bonus Seminar at the Washington State Genealogical Society Conference, 1:00 – 5:00 PM.** Presented by Eric Stroschein, President of the Puget Sound Chapter of The Association of Professional Genealogists, [www.psapg.org](http://www.psapg.org). This bonus seminar will be held at the Yakima Valley Genealogical Society library, 1901 South 12<sup>th</sup> Ave, Union Gap. Contact YVGS for information on registration for this special seminar. <http://www.yvgs.net/cpage.php?pt=25> **June 28-29, 2013. Washington State Genealogical Society 2013 Conference** will be held at the Howard Johnson Hotel, 9 North 9<sup>th</sup> Street, in Yakima, Washington. “Researching Rare Apples on Your Family Tree” Keynote speaker will be **Bret Petersen**, board member of the Utah Genealogical Society, graduate of the National Institute of Genealogical Research and member of the Genealogical Speakers Guild. Hosted by the Yakima Valley Genealogical Society. A conference flier and registration form is in the WSGS Newsletter for March-April 2013 at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasgs/2013marapnewsletter.pdf>. The schedule and info on the break-out sessions is on Yakima Valley society’s website: [www.yvgs.net](http://www.yvgs.net)





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or pay by PayPal via our website: [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasvgs](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasvgs)

Questions: Contact Dan at [dmoroval@earthlink.net](mailto:dmoroval@earthlink.net) or call 360 826 6141

Monday, 8 October

## Barbara's Travelogues continues

We are now in Paris: Our last day before heading home. This will be the last you hear from us till we are back in Sedro Woolley. Of course, we'll pick up the Beagles, stock up on food, and do a few loads of laundry.

On Friday, we visited Southwick ("suthick) House—a grand mansion—where Eisenhower had his headquarters near Portsmouth on the south of England. The map room is preserved just as it was when he gave the orders to proceed on 6 June 1944.

Later that afternoon, we toured the historic dockyard where we walked around the HMS Victory which was Admiral Lord Nelson's ship during the Battle of Trafalgar. What amazed me was short lil' ol' me had to duck under the overheads. The ship was built for fighting not comfort.

We had quite a wait between dinner and boarding the ferry. We sat in the bar of our B&B/restaurant. This was such a treat as all the locals came in for their nightly pint (or two or ...). They got quite chummy with us, even offering to buy us a drink. All I drank was tea as I was way too tired at that point. I'm sure after we left they had a great time talking about us Yanks.

To journey to France, we took an overnight ferry from Portsmouth to Caen. We had a "state room" which consisted of two small beds and a tiny bathroom/head. The boat sailed at 10:45 and arrived in Caen at 5:45 GMT. So not a lot of sleep, especially when the PA system woke the entire ship up at 4:45! We didn't see much of the English Channel until we drove to Arromanches. And we are now driving on the right hand side of the road, although the French drivers are just as much in a hurry as those in the UK.

The last two days have been very moving. Arromanches took the brunt of Allied forces on D-Day. An artificial port was constructed following the landing of the men. The port was an engineering marvel; the number of men participating and the number of dead are beyond comprehension for those of us familiar with today's style of warfare. There were about 1.5 million troops in England preparing for the invasion; over 25,000 US soldiers died during the invasion.

We strolled through the American Cemetery which was somber. I defy anyone not to shed a tear seeing all those graves lined up row after row. So many young men from all the allied countries made the ultimate sacrifice to defeat Hitler.

This morning we took the train from Caen to Paris. The train was very fast but the track was very old. It may be the remains of WWI, it was so rough. Once in Paris, we took a cab to our hotel near the Eiffel Tower. We are on the fourth (5th in the US and Canada) floor; fortunately there is a lift, but it fits only one person and one suitcase. Cozy.

We settled in, then wandered about the streets of Paris. We found a restaurant nearby (there must be 20+ choices) and ate. Roger ordered a hot dog with cheese as that was the only item he saw that he liked. Well...it was a foot-long sausage with a delicious fromage/cheese on a baguette. Not exactly what we Americans consider a hot dog.

Then we caught a bus to the Louvre and promptly got lost. We seem really good at that. We walked about 1 ½ miles, crossing the Seine near the Place de la Concorde and walked through the Jardin de Touleries/Toulerie Garden in a heavy drizzle. By the time we finally got to the Louvre, we were wet, tired and the line to get in was waaaay too long in the rain. Sadly, we are both "museumed out" and I never got to see the Mona Lisa. Sniff.

We returned to the hotel to just plain rest before dinner and our final night in a hotel. We leave Paris tomorrow at 12:40 pm and arrive in Seattle at 4:40 pm. Gosh, just a 4-hour flight, right? When we land a SeaTac it will be 12:40 am "body time". Then customs and a 2-hour ride home. Don't call us, s'il vous plait!

# ROOTS

## *Family History Research Fundamentals*

Mondays in June & July 2013

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm\*

Burlington Public Library  
820 E. Washington

### **JUNE 3**

#### ***Genealogy on the Internet: The Basics & Beyond***

Mary Kathryn Kozy ~ \*1:00-4:00 pm  
(Note this class time is 1-4 pm)

### **JUNE 10 & 17**

#### ***Using Legacy Deluxe Software***

Jim Terry ~ 1:00-3:00 pm

### **JUNE 24, JULY 1 - 8 and 15**

#### ***An Introduction to Genealogy – Four- Part Series***

Steve Baylor ~ 1:00-3:00 pm

### **JULY 22**

#### ***Native American Ancestry Research***

Theresa Trebon ~ 1:00-3:00 pm

### **JULY 29**

#### ***Hispanic/Latino Genealogy Research***

Janice Blackhurst ~ 1:00-3:00 pm

For More Information

Karen Prasse, Reference Librarian, (360) 755-0760,  
karenp@ci.burlington.wa.us

### **ROOTS Rocks!**

#### ***Inspire the Next Generation of Genealogists!***

A common dilemma genealogy societies face is how to replace the current generation of genealogists and members. How do you get young people interested in genealogy? In Burlington, Washington an innovative community collaboration is experimenting with creative ways to engage this next generation in the fascinating study of family history.

The Skagit Valley Genealogical Society, Burlington Public Library and the Burlington-Edison North High School are uniting as community partners to launch an innovative family history research project for teenagers -- "Making Connections Through ROOTS." The objective of the ROOTS project is to improve 11<sup>th</sup> grade students' information literacy (basic research skills) by engaging teens in the process of researching their own unique family history. The volunteers will gain training and have access to new genealogy resources made possible by the project.

The Skagit Valley Genealogical Society will help provide "genealogist mentors" volunteers to serve as research guides to the teen researchers. The mentors and teen researchers begin working together in Oct. 2013. Mentors and teens will meet weekly on Thursdays at the Burlington Library for approximately 20 weeks. At the close of the project each teen's unique family history will be presented at a public celebration in June 2014.

A field trip to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) branch in Seattle, and living history programs will also be part of the project's curriculum and keep the project engaging for the teens and genealogists alike.

The ROOTS project is a fresh new concept for libraries and genealogical societies to partner together to help teens sharpen their research skills. ROOTS is a pilot program that will create a curriculum and best practices template for other public libraries, genealogy societies and schools to replicate in their communities.

**An orientation for prospective genealogist volunteers will be held on Monday, May 20 from 1:00-3:00pm at the Burlington Library Conference Room. Application materials will be available. The deadline to apply to be a genealogist mentor volunteer is Friday, May 31. If you cannot attend the May 20<sup>th</sup> orientation contact the project coordinator. Arrangements can be made to give the presentation to a small group and for you to receive the application materials prior to the May 31 deadline.**

Free training in family history research fundamentals will be offered to the volunteers. This training will be held every Monday in June and July (June 3 through July 29) at the Burlington Public Library from 1-3pm. Everyone is welcome to attend these trainings which are offered free and are open to the mentors as well as anyone who is interested in learning the basics of family history research.

You are invited to participate in this fun and exciting pilot project. For more information contact: Margie Wilson, ROOTS Project Coordinator, 360-757-6224, [rootsproject@frontier.com](mailto:rootsproject@frontier.com).



**Skagit Valley Genealogical Society**  
**PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE**

**The following is a list of publications for sale. Use the order form on the other side of page.**

**CEMETERIES**

_____ Vol 1 Sedro Woolley Union Cemetery 1889-1992	\$34.00
_____ Online Index at website	
_____ Vol 2 Burlington Green Hills Memorial Cemetery 1900-1993	\$24.00
_____ Vol 3 Anacortes, Grand View Cemetery 1897-1999	\$29.00
_____ Vol 4 LaConner Pleasant Ridge Cemetery 1875-1999	\$19.00
_____ Vol 5 Mount Vernon City Cemetery 1890-2000	\$34.00
_____ Vol 6 Concrete Forest Park Cemetery 1908-2002	\$14.00
_____ Vol 7 Bay View Cemetery 1892-2002	\$14.00
_____ Vol 8 Bow Cemetery 1883-2002	\$19.00
_____ Vol 9 Clear Lake Cemetery 1889-1992	\$14.00
_____ Vol 10 Edens Cemetery Guemes Island 1888-2003	\$9.00
_____ Vol 11 Fidalgo Island Fern Hill Cemetery 1893-2003	\$19.00
_____ Vol 12 Fir-Conway Lutheran Church Cemetery 1872-2003	\$16.00
_____ Vol 13 Hamilton City Cemetery 1891-2010	\$20.00
_____ Vol 14 Lyman City Cemetery 1892-2010	\$20.00

**OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

_____ The Pioneer Book (Online Index) 1926-1955	\$13.00
_____ Skagit County Death Records 1891-1908 (Online Index)	\$5.00
_____ Index to Funeral Home Records Vol 1 1908-1994	\$34.00
_____ Index to Funeral Home Records Vol 2 1994-2003	\$19.00
_____ Every Name Index for the 1906 History of Skagit and Snohomish Counties, WA	\$22.00
_____ <b>Pioneer Certificates Available on request.</b> <b>Application available online at SVGS Website</b> <b><a href="http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com~wasvgs">http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com~wasvgs</a></b>	<b>\$10.00</b>





**NEW**

## New Publications

For CDs of Skagit County Cemeteries  
**SKAGIT VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**



### CDs AVAILABLE

- Mount Vernon City Cemetery + Fir Conway Cemetery
- Grandview Cemetery in Anacortes + Edens @ Guemes Island + Pleasant Ridge @ LaConner and Fern Hill on Fidalgo Island
- Union City Cemetery in Sedro Woolley + Clear Lake Cemetery + Forest Park Cemetery in Concrete and Hamilton Cemetery in Hamilton and Lyman Cemetery in Lyman
- Bay View Cemetery at BayView + IOOF Bow Cemetery at Bow and Green Hills City Cemetery in Burlington

All cemeteries are also available in printed form. Check our website for pricing or see listing on reverse side

**CDs are \$17.50 including shipping and handling**

Photographs of all cemetery headstones available on request. Will be sent by email at cost of \$5.00 per photo.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Book: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CD database: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to SVGS or Skagit Valley Genealogical Society and mail to: SVGS, PO Box 715, Conway, WA, 98238-0715 or pay by PayPal via our website : [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasvgs](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasvgs)

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.

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**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2013**

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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 \_\_\_\_\_



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## President's Message

The days are getting shorter, camping gear is being packed away and children are going back to school. Summer is slowly morphing into Fall.

We have already had our first board meeting in September. Our main topic was revising SVGS Bylaws. At our next general membership meeting Martha Collins will be presenting African-American Genealogy Research. This is the last presentation for the ROOTS Project series of classes. The ROOTS project will begin on October 17th.

The WSGS 2014 Conference meetings have been moving steadily along. Meetings have been held at Stillaguamish Genealogy Library. Hazel Rasar will report more in this newsletter.

A year ago this time, Dottie Chandler, our former President wrote these words.

"I hope that the society can last another 25 years, but it will take new and old members to help keep it alive. Remember we are here to help each other with support and help one another. We are also here to preserve history and its record as well as meeting new friends."

I couldn't say it any better. This October we need someone to step forward for Vice-President. Barbara Johnson has done a superb job as Secretary and then as Vice-President. Should you volunteer for an officer or board position, you will not find a better group of people to be associated with.

*George E. Ridgeway Jr.*

George E. Ridgeway Jr.  
SVGS President/Webmaster

## **NEEDED**

Donations for a new PA System, camera, laptop computer. These need to be newer items or monetary donations. If anyone is willing to help please contact Joe Leblonde.

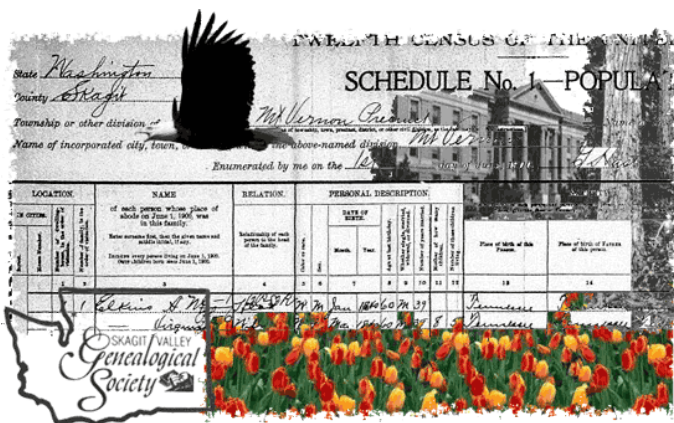
Your advice is needed. If you have suggestions of program topics for next year. Or if you just can't wait to present a program yourself, please contact Barb Johnson at [raptorwoman@gmail.com](mailto:raptorwoman@gmail.com) or 360-856-0870. She will happily take your ideas to heart.

## **RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP**

Just a friendly reminder that dues are now due for the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society. In the event you may have already paid, it is possible that they were sent in and just haven't reached me yet. Our year goes from Jan. 1st through Dec. 31st. Dues this year have raised to \$15.00 for single membership and \$20.00 for family membership.

Check out our redesigned web page at  
<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasvgs/>

Your membership dues purchases subscriptions to "Internet Genealogy" and the "NGS Magazine" of the National Genealogical Society. They have a lot of information on a variety of topics that can be helpful to our individual research. The publications are located in our genealogy section of the Burlington Library. The list of articles (sometimes with commentary) are listed in the SVGS newsletter. Find something of interest? Go to the library, find the magazine, locate the article and photocopy it. Less expensive than subscribing to the magazine and you can take it home to read



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360-424-4427 4george30@comcast.net

**Vice President:** Barbara Johnson  
360-856-0870 raptorwoman@gmail.com

**Secretary:** Muriel Neely

**Treasurer:** Lois LeBlonde  
360-293-7447 leblojf@frontier.com

**Past President:** Dottie Chandler  
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**Archival Historian:** Dan Royal  
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**Education:** OPEN

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**Librarian:** Margie Wilson  
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George Ridgeway  
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**Projects :**

**OPEN**

**Ways & Means:**

**OPEN**

**Publicity:**

**OPEN**

**Member at Large:**

Rita Schultze

### Special Committees

**Communications:**

Hazel Rasar  
[svgsgenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:svgsgenealogy@gmail.com)

**Sunshine:**

360-826-4838

Portia Stacey  
portiaStacey@msn.com

**Nominating:**

Shirley Christenson

**Audit/Budget:**

360-445-5483

Sharon Johnson  
johnson@sos.net

**Bylaws/Standing Rules:**

360-293-7447

Joe LeBlonde  
leblojf@frontier.com

**Refreshments:**

**OPEN**

**Raffles/Door Prizes:**

Sharon Johnson

**Special History  
Projects:**

Dan Royal

**SOCIETY EMAIL:**

genealogy0715@gmail.com

### 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.

The Skagit Valley Genealogical Society Newsletter accepts 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 or surnames to be posted in the newsletter, please send to... *Ye Editor*



## Skagit Valley Genealogical Society Upcoming Programs 2013 - 2014



\*September 24: Martha Collins – African American Genealogy. This is a special guest who will be teaching a class for the ROOTs project on researching African-American genealogy.

\*October 22: Annual Meeting - Brick Walls. We'll work together to try to break down those brick walls that we all have.

November 26: Teru Lundsteen - Writing your personal history. Here is an opportunity to learn how to write your personal family history. **NOTE: This meeting will be Saturday, November 16 at 1:00 pm at the Burlington Library.**

January 25: Genealogy and Flutes: Peter Ally will entertain us with some lovely music while he discusses his family history. **NOTE: This meeting will be Saturday, January 25 at 1:00 pm at the Burlington Library.**

February 22: Speed Dating for Genealogists. We had so much fun with this last year, so we are going to try it again. You'll have 4-5 minutes to present your Brick Wall; we'll answer in 4-5 minutes. **NOTE: This meeting will be Saturday, February 22 at 1:00 pm at the Burlington Library.**

\*These meetings are from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Burlington Senior Center, 1011 Greenleaf Avenue, Burlington, WA

### DOES AN OLD MAP REVEAL FATE OF THE LOST COLONY OF ROANOKE?

Every American school child learns the story of the Lost Colony of Roanoke. But could its fate have been hiding in plain sight all along, behind some patches on a map? It's a major clue that could eventually solve a 400-year-old mystery.

#### Roanoke

According to the *Daily Telegraph*, scholars in the U.S. and U.K., studying the 16th century *La Virginea Pars* map painted by James White, think they have found clues that reveal where the colonists may have vanished to: the confluence of the Chowan and Roanoke rivers.



Experts from the First Colony Foundation and the British Museum in London discussed their findings at a scholarly meeting on the campus of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Their focus: the "Virginia Pars" map of Virginia and North Carolina created by explorer John White in the 1580s and owned by the British Museum since 1866. You can read more at [http:// goo.gl/53K9W](http://goo.gl/53K9W).

#### Burlington Public Library

820 E Washington Ave  
Burlington, WA 98233  
Phone (360) 755-0760  
Email:  
[blibrary@ci.burlington.wa.us](mailto:blibrary@ci.burlington.wa.us)  
Hours: Monday – Thursday  
11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday  
11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday – Closed

#### SVGS Library Collection

located here. SVGS Volunteers available on Mondays from 11:00—1:00 to assist with questions.  
Margie Wilson—SVGS Librarian



## SVGS Library Report for September 2013

The library continues to receive some excellent books from genealogists who are downsizing and donating their treasured volumes to SVGS' collection. Here's the latest donation activity.

George Ridgeway picked up some book donations from the Stillaguamish Gen. Society for the SVGS Collection.

Shirley Christenson donated the book, "Evidence Explained" to the collection.

Paul Gilbert donated two boxes of books from his private genealogy collection.

Bruce and Lee Matson donated several books and magazines.

A warm thanks to all these great donors for their generosity and thinking of SVGS' Library.

### Other Library news:

The cataloging renumbering of the entire collection is nearly complete. The last section, Family Histories, is currently being reviewed.

There will be a "Book Bonanza" (aka sale) on a donation basis at the October general meeting. Come check out some great book bargains.

See you at the Book Bonanza at the October SVGS meeting at the Burlington Senior Center, 7-9pm.

Margie Wilson, SVGS Librarian

### Separate Article 2:

There will be a history awareness event coming up in October that SVGS members may find of interest.

#### **WANTED:**

#### **Burlington History Detectives**

**Wed., October 23,**

**7-9pm**

**Burlington Library Conference Room**

**820 E Washington, Burlington, WA**

**For info: [edieedmundson@comcast.net](mailto:edieedmundson@comcast.net) / 360-755-4757**

**Free and the public is invited to attend**

The public is invited to bring their old photographs or antique items that they can't figure out what they were used for long ago. Everyone will become self-appointed history detectives and help each other identify people in the photos, etc. The purpose of the event is to generate enthusiasm for Burlington History. SVGS members are invited to help with identifying photos. For more information contact Edie Edmundson, 360-755-4757, [edieedmundson@comcast.net](mailto:edieedmundson@comcast.net).

The main purpose of this event is for all attendees to assist each other with historic photo identifications and enjoy meeting other folks interested in local history.

## **Co-Host WSGS 2014 Annual Conference, Bow, WA**

**[www.wsgs2014conference.com](http://www.wsgs2014conference.com)**

Many of you are aware that our society has agreed to co-host the 2014 Washington State Genealogical Society Annual Conference. I have the honor of chairing that committee and we are exploring some different ideas for the conference. We had originally considered having the conference at the Skagit Hotel and Casino at Bow. However, due to some contract issues our committee is now exploring so other options. We are currently looking at the Arlington High School and the Performing Arts Center. I have toured this facility and find it to have everything that we will need and more. It is a very nice facility and the building is only 6 years old. I will be keeping you informed as we go forward and hope that you will all plan on joining us. On August 15 & 16, 2014 we will be holding the annual conference for WSGS. Our theme is "**Improved Genealogy Through Better Methodology.**" Our keynote speaker will be David Rencher on both Friday and Saturday. He is a well known national speaker, lots of credentials, Secretary of the FGS and the Director of FamilySearch.org in Salt Lake City. He has instigated many of the things you see on that website. We look forward to hearing lots of good things from him. On Friday the 15th, Eric Stroschein will be doing a 4 hour hands-on class on Methodology. In addition we are exploring the possibility of having other speakers as well. On Saturday we look forward to hearing Donna Potter Phillips, Mary Kathryn Kozy, Steven Morrison and possibly one other speaker, as well. We are still in the planning stages and I am certain there will be many more changes before next August arrives. As the time nears we will also be looking for volunteers to assist us along with the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society. There will be many small and big chores alike both as the time nears and at the conference. We have a website which is currently available to browse at [www.wsgs2014conference.com](http://www.wsgs2014conference.com) and you can take a peek. However it is still evolving and will be changing as we progress toward settling on a venue, our speakers and their class topics. All on methodology and proper ways to research.

Hazel Rasar Co-Chair 2014 WSGS conference



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mail to: SVGS, PO Box 715, Conway, WA, 98238-0715

or pay by PayPal via our website : [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasvgs](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasvgs)

Questions: Contact Dan at [dmoroyal@earthlink.net](mailto:dmoroyal@earthlink.net) or call 360-826-6141



## WEBINAR SITES

<[www.geneawebinars.com](http://www.geneawebinars.com)> Click on “CALENDAR”, then “WEEK” or “MONTH” on the right side.

<[www.casefileclues.com/webinars\\_neill.htm](http://www.casefileclues.com/webinars_neill.htm)> Michael John Neill

<[www.familytreewebinars.com/archived\\_webinars.php](http://www.familytreewebinars.com/archived_webinars.php)> Legacy genealogy webinars <fgs webinars> gives you a choice to download a webinar and they post more every so often.

There is a cost for some of these websites, and others are free.

Genealogists collect dead relatives.

## WEBSITES

<[www.newhorizonsgenealogicalservices.com/census.htm](http://www.newhorizonsgenealogicalservices.com/census.htm)>

This website specializes in New England and New York Colonial American History and includes state and colonial census records.

<<http://civilwardailygazette.com/>>

This is an amazing website full of information and photos. Daily, the webmaster is publishing what happened 150 years ago to the day.

### Skagit Valley Genealogical Society PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

The following is a list of publications for sale. Use the order form on the other side of page.

#### CEMETERIES

___ Vol 1 Sedro Woolley Union Cemetery 1889-1992	\$34.00
Online Index at website	
___ Vol 2 Burlington Green Hills Memorial Cemetery 1900-1993	\$24.00
___ Vol 3 Anacortes, Grand View Cemetery 1897-1999	\$29.00
___ Vol 4 LaConner Pleasant Ridge Cemetery 1875-1999	\$19.00
___ Vol 5 Mount Vernon City Cemetery 1890-2000	\$34.00
___ Vol 6 Concrete Forest Park Cemetery 1908-2002	\$14.00
___ Vol 7 Bay View Cemetery 1892-2002	\$14.00
___ Vol 8 Bow Cemetery 1883-2002	\$19.00
___ Vol 9 Clear Lake Cemetery 1889-1992	\$14.00
___ Vol 10 Edens Cemetery Guemes Island 1888-2003	\$9.00
___ Vol 11 Fidalgo Island Fern Hill Cemetery 1893-2003	\$19.00
___ Vol 12 Fir-Conway Lutheran Church Cemetery 1872-2003	\$16.00
___ Vol 13 Hamilton City Cemetery 1891-2010	\$20.00
___ Vol 14 Lyman City Cemetery 1892-2010	\$20.00

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

___ The Pioneer Book (Online Index) 1926-1955	\$13.00
___ Skagit County Death Records 1891-1908 (Online Index)	\$5.00
___ Index to Funeral Home Records Vol 1 1908-1994	\$34.00
___ Index to Funeral Home Records Vol 2 1994-2003	\$19.00
___ Every Name Index for the 1906 History of Skagit and Snohomish Counties, WA	\$22.00
___ Pioneer Certificates Available on request. Application available online at SVGS Website <a href="http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com-wasvgs">http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com-wasvgs</a>	\$10.00



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.

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**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2013**

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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**  
**MAILING ADDRESS**  
**Post Office Box 715**  
**Conway, WA. 98238-0715**

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**



Check out our redesigned web page at  
[skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org)

## President's Message

In a few weeks 2013 will merge into 2014. I want to thank my SVGS board and the membership for a busy and productive year. I thank you all for the support and the patience you have given to a new, untried society president. I especially want to thank Barbara Johnson for being my Vice-president. I look forward to our new Vice-president elect Carol Torset. I also want to thank Lois LeBlonde for continuing on as our Treasurer.

This is a year of sadness as we lost our good friend and supporter, Bob Witherspoon. Our hearts go out to his family and friends. "Bob, you will be dearly missed."

The Washington State 2014 Genealogy committee continues to meet to map out the details for next year's conference. As stated before, Hazel Rasar is chairing those meetings. We are joining Stillaguamish to host the conference at the Arlington High School. Contact Hazel at [svgsgenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:svgsgenealogy@gmail.com) if you can help.

We are very close to sending the history book, "Skagit County, Washington & Its People!" to the printer's. We are frantically reviewing the drafts to be sure the i's are dotted and the t's are crossed. We hope we can get the volumes out in time for Christmas.

As one of the mentors of the Roots Project, I am proud of the program thus far. The kids chosen for the program are great. They are eager and enthusiastic to learn about genealogy. All the teens and mentors are working well together. These first weeks we have been concentrating on research.

And finally, our new website, [skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org), is up and running. What you see now will constantly be changing. I am experimenting with WordPress and learning how to use it. Our website committee will meet sometime after the first of the year to make serious decisions on how we want the final website to look. If you have any ideas, please let me or our committee members know. HazelRasar, Judy Hakins, Dan Royal and I would be glad to hear from you.

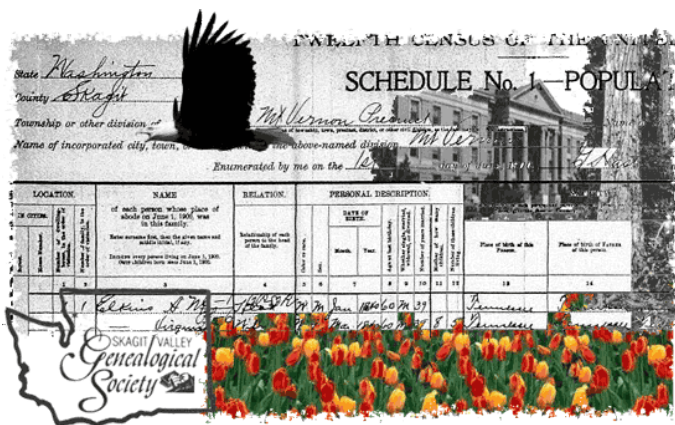
*George E. Ridgeway Jr.*

George E. Ridgeway Jr.  
SVGS President/Webmaster

## RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Just a friendly reminder that dues are now due for the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society. In the event you may have already paid, it is possible that they were sent in and just haven't reached me yet. Our year goes from Jan. 1st through Dec. 31st. Dues this year have raised to \$15.00 for single membership and \$20.00 for family membership.  
Christine Cooper

Your membership dues purchase subscriptions to "Internet Genealogy" and the "NGS Magazine" of the National Genealogical Society. They have a lot of information on a variety of topics that can be helpful to our individual research. The publications are located in our genealogy section of the Burlington Library. The list of articles (sometimes with commentary) are listed in the SVGS newsletter. Find something of interest? Go to the library, find the magazine, locate the article and photocopy it. Less expensive than subscribing to the magazine and you can take it home to read



**President:** George Ridgeway  
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**Vice President:** Barbara Johnson  
360-856-0870 raptorwoman@gmail.com

**Secretary:** Muriel Neely

**Treasurer:** Lois LeBlonde  
360-293-7447 leblojf@frontier.com

**Past President:** Dottie Chandler  
360-757-0966 dotcom10@frontier.com

**Archival Historian:** Dan Royal  
360-826-6141 dmoroyal@earthlink.net

**Education:** Shirley Christenson

**Genealogist:** Diane Partington  
360-336-5832 nonie.dl@comcast.net

**Librarian:** Margie Wilson  
360-798-1681 wilsongm@frontier.com

**Membership:** Christine Cooper  
360-202-9451 cooper2chris@yahoo.com

**Publicity:**

**Newsletter:** Dottie Chandler  
360-757-0966 dotcom10@frontier.com

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

**Projects :** OPEN

**Ways & Means:** OPEN

**Publicity:** OPEN

**Member at Large:** Rita Schultze

### Special Committees

**Communications:** Hazel Rasar  
[svsgsgenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:svsgsgenealogy@gmail.com)

**Sunshine:** Portia Stacey  
360-826-4838 portiaStacey@msn.com

**Nominating:** OPEN

**Audit/Budget:** Sharon Johnson  
360-445-5483 johnson@sos.net

**Bylaws/Standing Rules:** Joe LeBlonde  
360-293-7447 leblojf@frontier.com

**Refreshments:** OPEN

**Raffles/Door Prizes:** Sharon Johnson

**Special History Project:** Dan Royal & Hazel Rasar

**SOCIETY EMAIL:** [genealogy0715@gmail.com](mailto:genealogy0715@gmail.com)

Your advice is needed. If you have suggestions of program topics for next year. Or if you just can't wait to present a program yourself, please contact Barb Johnson at [raptorwoman@gmail.com](mailto:raptorwoman@gmail.com) or 360-856-0870. She will happily take your ideas to heart.

The Skagit Valley Genealogical Society Newsletter accepts 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 or surnames to be posted in the newsletter, please send to... *Ye Editor*

## Skagit Valley Genealogical Society

### Upcoming Programs

### 2013 - 2014



January 25: Genealogy and Flutes: Peter Ally will entertain us with some lovely music while he discusses his family history. **NOTE: This meeting will be Saturday, January 18 at 1:00 pm at the Burlington Library.**

February 22: Speed Dating for Genealogists. We had so much fun with this last year, so we are going to try it again. You'll have 4-5 minutes to present your Brick Wall; we'll answer in 4-5 minutes. **NOTE: This meeting will be Saturday, February 22 at 1:00 pm at the Burlington Library.**

**\*These meetings are from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Burlington Senior Center, 1011 Greenleaf Avenue, Burlington, WA**

#### Burlington Public Library

820 E Washington Ave  
Burlington, WA 98233  
Phone (360) 755-0760  
Email:  
blibrary@ci.burlington.wa.us  
Hours: Monday – Thursday  
11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday  
11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday – Closed

#### SVGS Library Collection

located here. SVGS Volunteers available on Mondays from 11:00—1:00 to assist with questions.  
Margie Wilson—SVGS Librarian



#### You know you're addicted to Genealogy .•.

...when you brake for libraries •  
...if you get locked in a library overnight and you never even notice •  
••when you hyperventilate at the sight of an old cemetery .  
••if you'd rather browse in a cemetery than a shopping mall .  
...when you think every home should have a microfilm reader .  
...if you'd rather read census schedules than a good book .  
••when you know every town clerk in your state by name .  
••if town clerks lock the doors when they see you coming .  
••when you're more interested in what happened in 1697 than 1997•  
...if you store your clothes under the bed and your closet is carefully stacked with notebooks and journals .  
...if you can pinpoint Harrietsham, Hawkhurst, and Kent on a map of England, but can't locate Topeka, Kansas.  
~.when all your correspondence begins, "Dear Cousin,"  
••if you've traced every one of your ancestral lines back to Adam and Eve, have it all fully documented, and still don't want to quit.

#### SVGS Library News – November 2013

##### ROOTS Project Benefits SVGS:

Several books were purchased through the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation Library to benefit the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society by updating its library's collection. These books are now on the shelves. These beautiful, new volumes are the latest editions, so they really enhance the society's collection. The titles of the new books include: *Historical Atlas of Washington and Oregon* by Hayes, Derek

*Mexican-American Genealogical Research: Following the Paper Trail to Mexico* by Schmal, John and Morales, Donna

*Walking with Your Ancestors: A Genealogist's Guide to Using Maps and Geography* by Kashuba, Melinda  
*Branching Out: Genealogy for High School Students* (20 copies for the students, teacher, coordinator and reference librarian) by Holik, Jennifer (not shelved – books being used in the project)

*Engaging the Next Generation: Guide for Genealogy Societies and Libraries* by Holik, Jennifer

*A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your African-American Ancestors* by Carter, Frank Smith and Croom, Emily Anne

con't on next page



*Indians in the Making: Ethnic Relations and Indian Identities Around Puget Sound* by Harmon, Alexandra  
*The BCG Genealogical Proof Standard* by BCG  
*Advanced Genealogy* by Morgen, George  
*Black Roots: Beginner's Guide to Tracing Your African-American Ancestry* by Burroughs, Toney  
*Stories in Stone: Field guide to Cemetery Symbolology and Iconology*, Keister, Douglas  
*Basics of Genealogy Reference, Librarian's Guide, A*, by Simpson, John  
*Images of America: Anacortes* by Lunsford, Bret/SCHM  
*Images of America: Mount Vernon* by SCHM  
*Finding Your Mexican Ancestors: Beginner's Guide* by Ryskamp, George R.  
*Tracing Your Baltic, Scandinavian, Eastern European and Middle Eastern Ancestry Online* by Hart, Anne  
*Genealogist's Companion and Sourcebook* by Croom, Emily Anne  
*Genealogical Proof Standard, The* by Rose, Christine  
*Trace Your Roots with DNA*, Smolenyak, Megan  
*The Source: (Latest Edition), Scucs*, Loretta  
*Redbook: American State, County, Town Sources*, (latest edition) Eichholtz, Alice  
*Skagit County Grows Up 1917-1941* by the Skagit County Historical Museum

Once again a reminder that due to the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation grant for the "Making Connections Through ROOTS" Project, the Burlington Library now has available and free to the public the genealogy databases: Ancestry.com Library Edition and Genealogy Bank (historic newspapers). The Heritage Quest database is still available as well. These genealogy databases are a great aid to researchers who come to the SVGS Genealogy section and can now research an extended array of resources – both printed material and online. The Burlington Library is the only library in Skagit County to offer the Ancestry.com and Genealogy bank.

SVGS is leading the way in the community in promoting awareness of genealogy by helping to bring these databases to community based researchers. Many of these database researchers cannot afford the annual subscriptions but wish to pursue their family history research. SVGS' partnership in the ROOTS project is demonstrating to the public that an interest in family research is growing rapidly across the country. With a comprehensive collection of between 1900-2000 books and the close-at-hand access to Ancestry.com Library Edition and other genealogy databases, the SVGS Library is becoming a popular research destination.

You do not have to have a Burlington Library card to access these databases. Ancestry.com Library Edition can only be accessed at the library. The Genealogy Bank database of United States historical newspapers is accessible via wifi at the library or online through the Burlington Library website with a library card (or reciprocal card). For more information on how to use these databases ask the Burlington Library reference desk librarian or a SVGS Library volunteer from 11am –1pm on Mondays.

### **Books In Memory of Recently Deceased SVGS Members:**

The SVGS Library purchases memorial books in memory of deceased SVGS members.

The book: *Becoming an Accredited Genealogist* by Clifford, Karen has been purchased in memory of Shirlee Fisher. The book *The Family Tree Guidebook to Europe: Your Essential Guide to Trace Your Genealogy in Europe* by Dolan, Allison and Family Tree Magazine was purchased in memory of Bob Witherspoon, *Search Your Middle Eastern and European Genealogy* by Hart, Anne was purchased in memory of Colleen Thulen.

### **Other Recent Donations:**

The book, *Evidence Explained* by Mills, Elizabeth was donated by Shirley Christenson for the ROOTS project so funds could be used to purchased other books for the project.

### **SVGS on DISPLAY:**

When you visit the Burlington Library during the month of November, be sure to take a look at the large display case at the library's entrance. SVGS is featured for the month of November. Special thanks to the Feng Shui sensibilities of: Dottie Chandler, Denise Powell, Carol and Lynn Torset, and Barbara Johnson for assembling the attractive showcase highlighting SVGS' many community programs.

*Margie Wilson*



Photograph of the SVGS display at the Burlington Library.



Left to right: Lynn Torset, Margie Wilson, Dottie Chandler, Barbara Johnson, Carol Torset & Denise Powell

### ***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.

## **Internet Genealogy**

**August/September 2013**

High-speed scanning and More (an evaluation of the KodakPS 80 Picture Saver Scanner that found it and it's related equipment a step above consumer grad, and often geared toward commercial enterprises); Preserving WWI Memories Online (resources available if you are looking for photos, letters, diaries or other supporting materials for a WWI ancestor); Tale of the Old Cedar Bucket (using Internet resources to follow the trail of a family and reunite their descendants with an heirloom after 124 years); A complete Package: A First Look at a Family Historian (a feature-rich genealogy program); British National Archives-Digital Microfilm Access what's available free from the British National Archives in Kew)

[www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/digital-microfilm.htm](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/digital-microfilm.htm):

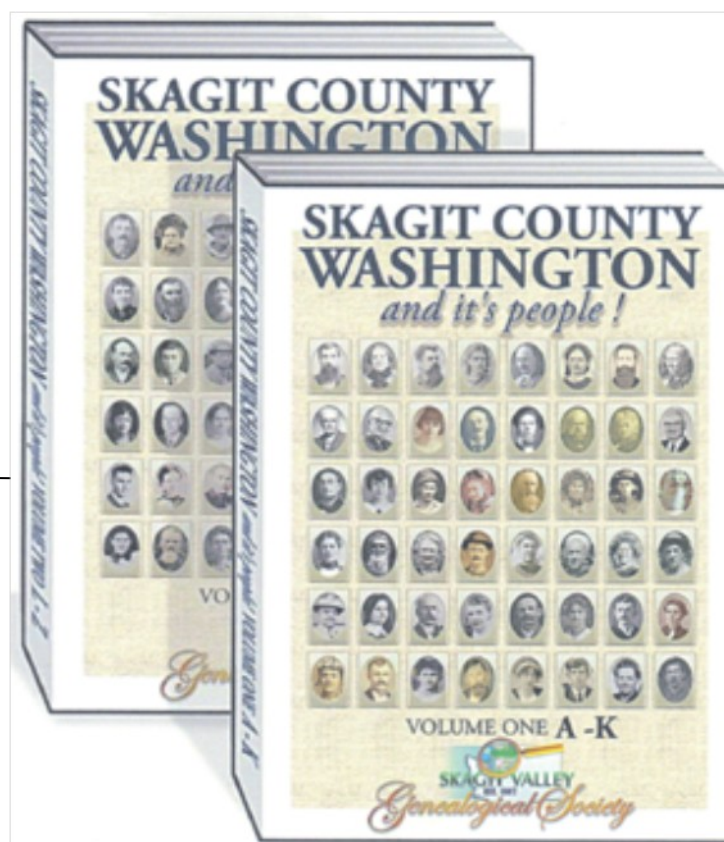
Finding All people in the neighborhood (an introduction to researching a community); Scanning Scandals (elaboration on some strange appearances and ghostly images found in online digital documents and what to do if this happens); Memorial Inscriptions on United Kingdom and Irish Gravestones (some of the websites are free, others require payment, Discusses each country); The Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) (an aggregate of material from the participating institutions) <http://dp.la>; Mocavo Announces Genealogy Karma (to fill a void when the "Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness" stopped in 2011) Mocavo has launched Genealogy Karma. Basic idea is that you post a query and get responses, [www.mocavo.com/karma](http://www.mocavo.com/karma).

## **Internet Genealogy**

**October/November 2013**

Joseph and Phebe McCloy-the Rest of the Story (using church archives and the internet). Time to Explore: The New Digital Public of America (plans to create a virtual tour of our cultural heritage); Searching for Scholars: Online School Records (subtopics include student censuses and other online records, offbeat online sources, locating early schools on maps estate, probate and orphan's court records); Ready, Aim, Research! (locating Canadian and United Kingdom Military Records on Ancestry.com); Going Local (four local history resources and where to find them... Clclbrations, Town& Country Histories, Atlases); Profiling 150,000 US Surnames [www.americanlastnames.us](http://www.americanlastnames.us): In Search of the "Smiths" (searching for her great-grandfather); Buried Far From Home (searching for the burial place of your expatriate ancestor); British Vital Records Indices (vital records of your UK ancestor using online sources); Archives Hub (UK) (enables you to search across descriptions of archives held at over 220 institutions across th UK <http://archiveshub.ac.uk>); First Looks: Family Tree Builder 7.0 (latest software release from MyHeritage.com).





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Complete Set Volume One and Volume Two # Copies \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$75.00

### **Pre-Publication pricing no longer available**

Make checks payable to SVGS or Skagit Valley Genealogical Society;

mail to: SVGS, PO Box 715, Conway, WA, 98238-0715

or pay by PayPal via our website : [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasvgs](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasvgs)

Questions: Contact Dan at [dmoroyal@earthlink.net](mailto:dmoroyal@earthlink.net) or call 360-826-6141

## Does Genealogy Begin at Home?

When did you discover that you'd been bitten by the genealogy bug?

Did you have a grandmother or grandfather who took you on trips to visit older relatives or to visit ancestral places? Maybe your parents were proud of their heritage and instilled a free-form family history in you...

My journey was a fortunate one. My parents owned an apartment building on Damen Avenue in Chicago – between Waveland Avenue and Addison Street – for Cubs fans, this means that you were blocks away, directly behind Wrigley Field! The building was originally owned by my great grandfather, but when he died, my father bought the building from the family. He offered apartments to family members at reasonable rents and in return, I was immersed in my multicultural heritage. My full name is Leslie Renee Catherine (Gignac) Drewitz and I am German, French, Hungarian, Scots-Irish, Pennsylvania Dutch, English, Irish and Scottish – whew!; so I've had many avenues to explore and many opportunities to make friends across the world.

My mother's maternal grandmother – who lived with my grandparents in the apartment above ours - was in her early seventies when I was a little girl. It was in their apartment that I learned the value of family heritage. I didn't realize it at the time, but I was given a priceless gift! My great grandmother's siblings would visit often and they would reminisce about their childhoods; their parents and grandparents; the homes that they had lived in; and all manner of stories – some not fit for little ears! But the first lesson that I learned was to be very quiet. This meant *not* asking for a piece of that coffee cake from that awesome German bakery down the street (you'll never know how I suffered through that...), learning how to suppress a sneeze, *not* taking a bathroom break and of course – never *EVER* asking a question. In other words, I never interrupted. By following these rules, I was assured stories that would make me laugh, cry and wonder...

Now, I work at a suburban Chicago public library and I am fortunate enough to oversee the Genealogy Club there. I am instructor, lecturer and mentor of all things genealogy within this club. There are many things that I repeat over and over – such as cite your sources and stay organized – but the one thing that I stress time and again is, '*When doing an Oral History Interview, never EVER interrupt!*' I usually get a perplexed look and am asked why? I mean, the purpose of interviewing is to *INTERVIEW*, right? Well, that's partially right...

Consider this. If you have ever conducted an interview of a family member, how many stories do you think you have missed because you interrupted? Probably a few... In a successful interview, you should come away with stories – in which you hadn't prepared questions for. Please take this tip...

When interviewing someone, let them talk. And talk. And talk... After all, that's why we bring extra paper and pencils, tapes and memory sticks to an interview – to be prepared. You can always edit out repetition or stories not related to your project; but you will never recapture a story that was never told. I have found that by remaining quiet – letting people talk – one story will invariably lead to another and maybe another. Some-times, you hit the genealogical jackpot!

My technique?

Ask a question and let it go where it may. The only time you should speak is to answer a direct question – like, '*What was her name again?*' Wait for the interviewee to stop and look at you expectantly *before* you ask your next question. This technique will guarantee you success every time!

About Leslie:


Leslie (Gignac) Drewitz (PLCGS) is a graduate of the National Institute of Genealogical Studies, with a Professional Learning Certificate in Genealogical Studies - Librarianship and currently works for a suburban Chicago public library where she oversees the Local History collection; as well as their Genealogy Club, where she teaches and lectures. She also does private contract genealogy. Leslie lives with her husband Michael; her four children, Ellissa, Trevor, Jon and Katie; and their wonder dog, Harley. You can contact Leslie by email, [LDrewitz101@gmail.com](mailto:LDrewitz101@gmail.com).

**Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas or Happy Holidays and be safe.**



## Have You Used the FamilySearch Free Lookup Service?

1. **UPDATE:** Please note the comment posted below by Nathan W. Murphy of the Family History Library: "GOOD NEWS -- you can now use this service up to five times a week. The previous limit had been five times a month."

This must be the best-kept secret in genealogy! Well, it isn't really a secret as it is documented on several web pages on [FamilySearch.org](http://FamilySearch.org). However, in my travels, I have never met anyone who has used this valuable service. In fact, most of the genealogists  I have talked with have never heard of FamilySearch's free lookup service. This surprises me because (1.) it is a chance to easily obtain valuable genealogy information from the Family History Library in Salt Lake City and (2.) because it is available free of charge.

FamilySearch provides a free lookup service for genealogy books and Microfilms that are available at the renowned Family History Library in Salt Lake City. The free service does ask you to supply specific information. The folks in Salt Lake City are not prepared to answer questions of, "Please send me all the information you have about my great-grandfather (insert name here)." However, if you can specify a book and page number, or a specific image on a reel of microfilm, the personnel at the Family History Library will gladly look at that page or image and (in most cases) scan the entire page and email it to you for free.

What's not to like about this service?


You do need to do a bit of homework before using this service. At a minimum, you must provide:

The name of the individual as it appears in the book.

2. The book title

3. The page number(s)

Next, check the Family History Library Catalog at <https://familysearch.org/catalog-search> to see if that book is available in the Family History Library's collection. If so, make a note of the Call Number.

Once you have the required information, fill out  the online **Photoduplication Request form** at [https://lds.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_9tdS7lqbTCW30kR](https://lds.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_9tdS7lqbTCW30kR).

Assuming you supplied enough information for the Family History Library employee to find the book, you will receive the reply and (usually) a scanned image of the page within a few days.

So how do you find the page number of a book that contains information about your ancestor? I suspect there are several ways but I would always start with Google Books at <http://books.google.com>. You can find tens of thousands of genealogy books there along with a few million other books covering a wide variety of topics. I would search for the name of the person I seek to see if anything about him or her has been published in a book.

**Comment:** As a genealogist, you really should be familiar with Google Books as it is another free and valuable service. If you are not yet familiar with Google Books, this is a good time to learn!

Keep in mind that Google Books scans **ALL** the pages of all the books it digitizes. That includes books both in and out of copyright. For books that are obviously out of copyright (normally anything prior to 1923 for U.S. Publications), Google Books will display the entire page to you. For books out of copyright, you won't need to use the FamilySearch Free Lookup Service as the same image is already available to you on Google Books.

However, for books printed in the past 90 years, Google cannot legally display entire pages to you without the author and/or publisher's permission. Instead, Google displays only a snippet from that page. Typically, you only see a paragraph or two, showing the words immediately before and after the name you specified. If that snippet happens to contain all the information you need, consider yourself lucky. However, my experience has been that the snippet is only a "teaser" and does not display everything I need.

What do you do if you want to see the entire page, or several pages from the book? The answer is to use FamilySearch's free lookup service. Assuming the Family History Library does have the book and the information you supplied does point to the appropriate page, an image of the entire page will be sent to you in email. I am no lawyer but I believe U.S. Copyright laws allow libraries to look up information for patrons upon request and send limited photocopies or scanned images whereas Google and other providers of information cannot legally supply similar images in large quantities to everyone.

con't on next page

You may never need to use the FamilySearch free lookup service. However, if you do have the need, this is a valuable service that is free. You don't need to fly to Salt Lake City to obtain what you need.

If you wish to use the FamilySearch free lookup service, I would urge you to first read Nathan W. Murphy's description on the FamilySearch Blog of how it all works at <https://familysearch.org/blog/en/google-books-free-copies-pages-family-history-library-books/>. Nathan even supplies screenshots showing the step-by-step process of using Google Books to find snippets of genealogy information.

If you have any successes with this service, please post a comment at the end of this article and describe your experience or the benefit of others who are not yet familiar with the FamilySearch free lookup service.

Posted by [Dick Eastman](#) on November 04, 2013



### **November 16, 2013 via EOGN (Dick Eastman)**

#### **Ancestral Quest is now FamilySearch Certified**

The following announcement was written by Incline Software, LC:

#### **Ancestral Quest is FamilySearch Certified for Tree Share, Sources, Discussions, Change History and LDS Support**

##### **Salt Lake City, Utah (November 16, 2013)**

– Incline Software, LC announced today that Ancestral Quest™, its Windows®-based family tree software, was recently certified by FamilySearch™ for **Tree Share, Sources, Discussions, Change History and LDS Support**.

Ancestral Quest allows users to search *Family Tree* for matching records and exchange facts for individuals and relationships between their own file and *Family Tree*. It also allows comparing of families and exchanging of family members between their personal file and *Family Tree*

Users can improve the data on *Family Tree* by sharing their research, and can learn more about their own family by looking through the *Family Tree* data made available by others. For LDS users, AQ handles the processes of reserving and tracking the progress of LDS ordinances. No other personal family tree product has met more FamilySearch certification requirements than Ancestral Quest. You can learn more about these specific certifications on this FamilySearch page.

**Notes** Ancestral Quest allows users to view the notes of individual records in *Family Tree*, and exchange notes between *Family Tree* and the notes they have in their personal file. Many, many users have expressed a desire to be able to upload their notes from their PAF or AQ file to *Family Tree*, where those notes can be viewed by other relatives researching the same family lines. AQ now provides a simple interface for that exchange. AQ is the only FamilySearch Tree Share certified program to offer this feature. **Source**

**Source Details** In addition to meeting the requirements for FamilySearch Sources certification, Ancestral Quest provides exacting genealogists with an extra bonus. In most desktop family tree programs, sources are recorded with such details as the source Title, Author, Publication Facts, Repository, Page Number, Source Quality, etc.

**Continued Access to new.FamilySearch Data** Ancestral Quest allows users to read the other opinions of the Birth, Christening, Death and Burial facts stored in new.FamilySearch (*nFS*). *Family Tree*.

□ When records of different people were improperly combined in *nFS*, these extra opinions are often the best clue for recognizing the situation. They help users take corrective action.

□ When *Family Tree* doesn't have the best data from *nFS*, attempts to match correct records between a person's local record and its corresponding record on Family Tree often fail. By seeing these extra opinions during the matching process, records can be matched more accurately.

**Benefits to PAF Users** Ancestral Quest can directly update a PAF file, thus AQ provides PAF users with the ability to share data with *Family Tree*, including sources, notes and LDS ordinance information. Even though PAF has been discontinued as a supported product by FamilySearch, we understand that there are millions who still use PAF and can benefit from this capability. AQ is the only FamilySearch Tree Share certified product that provides this share capability for PAF users. And because the Windows versions of PAF were derived from AQ, PAF users will feel right at home as they use Ancestral Quest.



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**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2013**

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APPLICANTS NAME

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ADDRESS STREET, CITY, STATE & 9 DIGIT ZIP CODE

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AREA CODE ( )

TELEPHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

New Member \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Member \_\_\_\_\_

FAMILY \$ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

INDIVIDUAL \$15 \_\_\_\_\_



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