



## President's Message

It is an honor to be elected and serve as president of our society. I was persuaded by our friend Hazel to consider doing this and have a twisted arm to prove it. Since we have a very professional and dedicated group of genealogists in our society, it looked like I would have good help. Also changing our monthly meetings to Saturdays allows me to be available. So let's go for it! Over the years I've had a mentor from our society who has encouraged me to keep up with my own genealogy research. I feel I owe the society for this extra effort so it is payback time. Thank you! I look forward to working with all of our officers and committee chairs. Much has changed since I first got involved in the late 90s. The internet is now huge but in depth research involving trips to archives and libraries, micro films, newspapers, census records, certificates for birth, naturalization and death, and family papers and bibles are not to be overlooked. Our recent series of classes was a great refresher and I look forward to learning more. Education through an annual series of classes and our annual seminar are critical to maintain and increase our membership. Our library volunteers and our Genealogist assist in this endeavor. I have found in my other hobby of square dancing that continued lessons is a must to overcome the natural attrition in club memberships. Education and keeping it fun are a real boost to friendships and our mutual interest in genealogy. Our dedicated group of genealogists are doing the legwork to keep education at the forefront. I'm impressed with their drive. It is my goal to keep education at the forefront to keep our society growing. Publicity is the other area we need to maintain. Our website, newsletter and communications are important elements of our society's Publicity. When our classes and seminar need publicity we need to advertise. Although newspaper announcements are necessary, in square dancing we found that "word of mouth" draws in about 90% of our new dancers. Our society has our website and networking with other genealogical societies to promote. Of course, inviting friends, neighbors and other acquaintances should not be overlooked. Monthly meeting announcements in our local papers to promote attendance at our educational programs needs to be checked out. I plan to pursue this avenue to increase our society's exposure to the public. Our members may have other ideas we can pursue.

Volume 29 Number 1  
 President: John  
 Newsletter: Dottie Chandler  
 PO BOX 715, CONWAY, WA 98238-0715  
 Web site: [skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org)

Let me know your thoughts. I really appreciated the work of George Ridgeway our outgoing president who has maintained and continues to update our website. His leadership in spearheading fall classes was just the tip of the iceberg of what he has lead our society through these past two years. Well done, George, and thank you!

So 2015, here we come!

John Hayes

Newly elected President

JOHN HAYES ; was born in Sedro-Woolley, raised in Acme, and graduated from Mt. Baker High School. He graduated from the University of Washington with a BS in Civil Engineering. After 35 years as an engineer with the WSDOT he retired in 1995. John has been an active, long time member of Skagit Valley Genealogical Society. John and Rosie belong to and are active in the three local square dance clubs and he assists with the local beginners square dance program year round at the Mount Vernon Senior Center. They usually square dance at least twice a week and Rosie teaches clogging twice a week. John has two daughters and three grandchildren and wife Rosie has three sons and five grandchildren. Together they have six great-grandchildren.

John says: I took up genealogy about 1997 and served as the V.P. for Programss for our local genealogical society for three years (2003-05). With the support and encouragement from members of the society I have had good luck tracing all my lines back to Europe and beyond for my Hayes line. Traveling is not my thing but we have ventured to North Dakota and Montana to search for and visit graves of my ancestors. I look forward to working with members of SVGS and assisting the society to move forward with society goals.

I remain busy with square dancing, gardening, genealogy, family, pinochle playing, high school class reunions and keeping an eye on the sports scene.



<b>President:</b> 360-424-4608	John Hayes rosie@valleyint.com
<b>Vice President:</b> 360-856-2410	Carol Torset torset@comcast.net
<b>Secretary:</b>	Muriel Neely
<b>Treasurer:</b> 360-293-7447	Lois LeBlonde leblojf@frontier.com
<b>Past President:</b> 360-424-4427	George Ridgeway 4george30@comcast.net
<b>Archival Historian:</b> 360-826-6141	Dan Royal dmoroyal@earthlink.net
<b>Education:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Genealogist:</b> 360-336-5832	Diane Partington nonie.dl@comcast.net
<b>Librarian:</b> 360-798-1681	Margie Wilson wilsongm@frontier.com
<b>Membership:</b> 360-202-9451	Christine Cooper cooper2chris@yahoo.com
<b>Publications:</b> :	Dan Royal

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 Carol Torset at torset@comcast.net or 360-856-2410. She will happily take your ideas to heart.

<b>Newsletter:</b> 360-757-0966	Dottie Chandler dotcom10@frontier.com
<b>Webmaster:</b> 360-424-4427	George Ridgeway 4george30@comcast.net
<b>Projects :</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Ways &amp; Means:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Publicity:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Member at Large:</b>	Rita Schultze
	<b>Special Committees</b>
<b>Communications:</b>	Hazel Rasar <a href="mailto:svsgenealogy@gmail.com">svsgenealogy@gmail.com</a> .
<b>Nominating:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Audit/Budget:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Bylaws/Standing Rules:</b> 360-293-7447	Joe LeBlonde leblojf@frontier.com
<b>Refreshments:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Raffles/Door Prizes:</b>	
<b>Special History Projects:</b>	Dan Royal & Hazel Rasar
<b>SOCIETY EMAIL:</b>	genealogy0715@gmail.com

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

## Needed New Volunteers

Our genealogists is looking for new volunteers to train to help with research requests when she is gone. If interested please give Diane Partington a call at 360-336-5832 or send her an email at [nonie.dl@comcast.net](mailto:nonie.dl@comcast.net)



### SVGS Member,

If you have been to our website, you can see that it has a lot of useful tabs. I am looking for some people who would like to learn how to create pages and posts on the site. If you have an interest or if you know someone who would like to learn a little about WordPress. Let me know at [george-wayjr@gmail.com](mailto:george-wayjr@gmail.com).

Thank you.

### 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



## HAPPY NEW YEAR everyone!

I would like to take this opportunity to **WELCOME** John Hayes to our board of directors as our newly elected President and to also thank Muriel Neely for stepping forward to serve another term as our society secretary. We would find it difficult to move forward without your assistance in leading this society.

This also brings forth a big **Thank You** to George Ridgeway for the past 2 years. As our president he also was instrumental in designing, improving and building our website including a society blog. I sincerely hope that everyone is visiting the site at [www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org) .

You may also have the opportunity to pay your yearly dues by using PayPal which you will find a link at that site. Dues for 2015 remain at \$15 for individuals and \$20 for families.

As your communications person I would like to have you consider your co-members in the society. Are you aware of one of our members that have an upcoming birthday, or have been ill and in the hospital? Has a member lost a family member? If any of these are known by you, PLEASE contact me at [svgsgenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:svgsgenealogy@gmail.com). It is my job to keep in touch with our membership. On behalf of the society I would like to be able to send a card acknowledging these events.

If you have an article or a website that you think may be of interest to others, pass it on and I will gladly share it with our membership.

Dan Royal, our publications chairperson would welcome your help in reading Hawthorne Cemetery and possibly other projects while Barbara Johnson will be asking for assistance in preparation for our annual seminar. Several have noted the absence of coffee, juice or refreshments at meetings. Would you be able to share in providing this service occasionally?

The holidays are behind us and we look forward to numerous and interesting programs planned each month. We need volunteers and hope that you will step forward to assist with the many events and projects planned for 2015.

As we move forward I hope that each and everyone of you will have success in searching your ancestors. Happy searching!

Your Communications board member.

Hazel Rasar



### SVGS Members,

We have a new BLOG on our website. If you are interested in participating in our blog go to [skagitvalleygenealogy.org/blog](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org/blog) to see how you can register and log in.

Thank you.

SVGS Webmaster  
George E. Ridgeway Jr.

Hi everyone,

Just a note to let you all know that even though I am no longer your WSGS Region one representative the regional Google group will remain open for you to post news of your society's events. It's still a good way to get the word out about your seminars and workshops in our northwest corner of the state.

If there is someone out there who would like to volunteer to serve as region rep please let me know. I can get you up and running.

Thanks for these many years of allowing me to serve as your representative.

It has been a very rewarding experience.

[Steve.baylor@comcast.net](mailto:Steve.baylor@comcast.net)

### Genealogy News Corral: Dec. 8-12

Posted by [Diane Haddad](#)

In other FamilySearch news, record collections on FamilySearch.org have recently been updated with information from Find A Grave, as well as US resources including Michigan obituaries and county records from Tennessee, Montana, Utah and Washington. [Get more specifics on the updated collections and click through to search them on the FamilySearch blog.](#)

Steve,  
We at Skagit Valley Genealogical Society would like to THANK you for your years of volunteering to help all the societies and the State of Washington grow and help other genealogists. You are very knowledgeable and always willing to assist in many ways.  
Even though you are stepping down we still hope to see you at some of our meetings.  
Thank you again,  
Dottie Chandler, news editor.

### 9 Tips for Writing Your Family History

1. Know what you want to write about: make an outline
2. Don't begin at the beginning: just start writing a story that you remember. You do not have to start at the beginning
3. Use prompts: stuck read a book of someone else's history or go to a tech tool or book for help
4. Remember: You're not carving in stone
5. Write naturally: pretend you're telling a friend your story, unless you want it like a published book
6. Organize your thought with apps
7. Seek inspiration: read other family history writings
8. Don't delay
9. Get help: Seek out advice either family or tech tools

### 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

## Skagit Valley Genealogical Society 2015 Programs



**January 10th Preservation Techniques for books and documents:** Presented by Barbara Johnson. Do you have books such as a family bible that you wish to preserve? How about letters from Civil War ancestors? This program will show you the step-by-step way to make your own custom-sized boxes to preserve those precious family memorabilia inexpensively.

**February 14 Tugboats, Log Rafts, and River Rats - Tugboats on the Skagit River:** Presented by Danny Vandenburg, Captain of the Patsy D tug boat used on the Skagit River in the 1950's. This 40 minute presentation is a good example of documenting local/family history before it is too late.

**March 21st You Found It ...Now Flaunt It:** Presented by Teresa Schulze. Tessa has been scrapbooking for 20 years and family research for 15. She will demonstrate techniques in digital scrapbooking to showcase your important documents and photos.

April 11th

May 9th

June 13th

July: **No meeting**

August: **No meeting**

September 12th

October 10th

November 7th **Year-end meeting. Brick Walls**

**<https://rootstech.org/about/videos/>**

The link above is to the RootsTech 2014 Conference in Salt Lake City. Scroll down through the various session/video selections, click on the ones you wish to view. I thought perhaps some of you would be interested in these educational sessions. -- Margie Wilson

**Using WorldCat to Find Genealogy Books**

Dick Eastman · November 29, 2014 · Books · 4

[Comments](#)

WorldCat is the world's largest network of library content and services. It is an online library catalog that lets you look up items in libraries around the world. The items available include books, electronic documents, journals, microform, and audio and video recordings.

Best of all, WorldCat is available to everyone free of charge. WorldCat libraries provide access to their catalogs on the Web, where most people start their search for information. By using the WorldCat.org catalog, you can search the collections of libraries in your community and thousands more around the world.

Please keep in mind that these are catalogs of available books, not the text of the books. WorldCat is useful in at least three situations:

1. You know which item you want, but you don't know which libraries have it
2. You want to know what items exist on a particular subject (or by a particular author)
3. You need more information about an item (for instance, to get information for a proper citation in your bibliography)

<http://blog.eogn.com/2014/11/29/using-worldcat-to-find-genealogy-books/> Visit the above link for the remainder of this article

- **An Unofficial guide to Ancestry.com**
- 
- **Delve into the card catalog.** Far, far into it. Explore the categories and subcategories of databases, and type ancestral towns and counties into the Keyword search box. You'll find such obscure collections such as "California Narratives: The Adventures of a Forty-Niner," "General Business Review of Highland County, Ohio" and "Burlington Court Book" (court records and historical information on Quaker, Swedish, English and Dutch settlers in West New Jersey from 1680 to about 1709).

**Mocavo Acquired By Findmypast**

Findmypast, the leading British family history company, announced today that it has acquired Mocavo, the fastest growing genealogy company in the US.

Findmypast, the leading brand in the DC Thomson Family History portfolio, has been at the forefront of the British family history market for over a decade. It has an established collection of 1.8 billion historical records and an extensive network of partners including the British Library, the Imperial War Museum, the Allen County Public Library and Family Search.

Founded by Cliff Shaw in 2011, Mocavo is a technological innovator in the genealogy industry. Its highly sophisticated search engine brings together, in one place, a diverse range of sources, such as family history record indexes, school and college yearbooks, church records and biographies, which help millions of family history enthusiasts to fill in blanks in their family trees and add colour to their family stories.

This acquisition, coupled with the recent tender win of the 1939 Register for England and Wales and the purchase of Origins.net, forms an important part of the growth strategy set out by Annelies van den Belt, CEO of Findmypast, and her new team.

Together Findmypast and Mocavo will create one of the fastest growing global genealogy businesses. The two companies will provide customers with easier access and more relevant information to help add colour and depth to family history.

Additionally, they both remain committed to delivering on Mocavo's promise to provide free access to family history records on an individual database level forever. Toward that commitment, Findmypast is announcing today that the full indexes to the US Census from 1790 to 1940 are available for free at Mocavo.com.

Mocavo will become a fully-owned subsidiary of Findmypast. It joins the Findmypast family of brands including the British Newspaper Archive, Genes Reunited and Lives of the First World War

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

---

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2013**

---

APPLICANTS NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS STREET, CITY, STATE &amp; 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

I think winter is over but then again I'm not sure it ever arrived. With early spring upon us there is the sound of lawnmowers in the air including mine. Dan Royal has his committee reading the Hawthorne Cemetery which is a sure sign of spring.

Having not been involved with our SVGS board for several years, I've not witnessed the inner workings of our board until recently. What a fun bunch to work with! All of our board members are dedicated to making our society function properly and I look forward to our meetings. In addition I've attended several committee meetings and found all to be efficient and moving forward. Barbara Johnson has the seminar committee making great strides with good help from her committee members along with her timely reminders and requests for input. Nothing is done in a vacuum. All of her committee chairs are filled but she is looking for volunteers to fill her committees. Keep September 19 open and plan to enjoy an informative seminar.

Our board has several issues to discuss at a retreat planned for March. These are issues that are too time consuming to take up at a regular board meeting. Having never been to a retreat it will be fun to actually chair such an open discussion and receive input from our various board members on the long

range planning issues of our society. This will require some serious homework on my part to stay ahead of them. Hazel has graciously made arrangements for the retreat. If you have any comments about either our board meetings or general meetings please contact me. We are always open to suggestions. Remember you are invited to attend our board meetings and observe how your board functions. We look forward to hearing from you.

Oh, yes, please be sure your 2015 society dues are paid. We'd like to keep you in the loop and informed about our activities and to help you overcome those pesky brick walls.

## CONDOLENCES

Condolences to our secretary, Muriel Neely, on the passing of her younger brother Daniel in Alaska on February 19, 2015

We would also like to extend our condolences to the family of one of our members James William "Jim" Mulkins who passed away January 29th, 2015 after a short bout with cancer.

## IGRS launches "Early Irish Birth Index"

By Dick Eastman

The following announcement was written by the folks at the Irish Genealogical Research Society: IGRS launches 'Early Irish Birth Index' on its website: <http://www.IrishAncestors.ie> The Irish Genealogical Research Society - 'The Great Granddaddy of Irish Family History Societies' - has launched another new and innovative database to add to those already found on its website, [www.irishancestors.ie](http://www.irishancestors.ie).



<b>President:</b> 360-424-4608	John Hayes rosie@valleyint.com
<b>Vice President:</b> 360-856-2410	Carol Torset torset@comcast.net
<b>Secretary:</b>	Muriel Neely
<b>Treasurer:</b> 360-293-7447	Lois LeBlonde leblolm60@frontier.com
<b>Past President:</b> 360-424-4427	George Ridgeway 4george30@comcast.net
<b>Archival Historian:</b> 360-826-6141	Dan Royal dmoroyal@earthlink.net
<b>Education:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Genealogist:</b> 360-336-5832	Diane Partington nonie.dl@comcast.net
<b>Librarian:</b> 360-798-1681	Margie Wilson wilsongm@frontier.com
<b>Membership:</b> 360-202-9451	Christine Cooper cooper2chris@yahoo.com
<b>Publications:</b> : 360-826-6141	Dan Royal dmoroyal@earthlink.net

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 Carol Torset at torset@comcast.net or 360-856-2410. She will happily take your ideas to heart.

<b>Newsletter:</b> 360-757-0966	Dottie Chandler dotcom10@frontier.com
<b>Webmaster:</b> 360-424-4427	George Ridgeway 4george30@comcast.net
<b>Projects :</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Ways &amp; Means:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Publicity:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Member at Large:</b>	Rita Schultze
	<b>Special Committees</b>
<b>Communications:</b>	Hazel Rasar <a href="mailto:svsgenealogy@gmail.com">svsgenealogy@gmail.com</a> .
<b>Nominating:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Audit/Budget:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Bylaws/Standing Rules:</b> 360-293-7447	Joe LeBlonde lebloj@frontier.com
<b>Refreshments:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Raffles/Door Prizes:</b>	
<b>SOCIETY EMAIL:</b>	genealogy0715@gmail.com

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

## Needed New Volunteers

Our genealogists is looking for new volunteers to train to help with research requests when she is gone. If interested please give Diane Partington a call at 360-336-5832 or send her an email at [nonie.dl@comcast.net](mailto:nonie.dl@comcast.net)



### SVGS Member,

If you have been to our website, you can see that it has a lot of useful tabs. I am looking for some people who would like to learn how to create pages and posts on the site. If you have an interest or if you know someone who would like to learn a little about WordPress. Let me know at [george-wayjr@gmail.com](mailto:george-wayjr@gmail.com).

Thank you.

### 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



## Whidbey Island Genealogical Society

**March 10, 2015.** We will have Laura Sparr as our speaker; the subject will be preparing and using research logs. She is one of the most knowledgeable and enjoyable of our speakers.

A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO YOUR FAMILY HISTORY will be presented on Wednesdays March 11th, 18th, and 25th at 6:30 PM at the Oak Harbor Senior Center. The classes will be hosted and presented by Whidbey Island Genealogical Searchers (WIGS) and members of the Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island. Basic genealogy research principles and strategies needed to find the pieces of your family history puzzle will be introduced with a focus on sources for basic family history documents, how and where to find them, including the use of digital resources. There's no fee for these classes, but pre-registration is required by Friday, March 6th. Call the Oak Harbor Senior Center at 360-279-4580 or sign-up in person at 51 SE Jerome St. Classes will be limited to 15 people.

**April 25, 2015** Genealogy Society of South Whidbey sponsoring a special seminar featuring Bill Dollarhide on from 8 AM to 3:30 PM, at Dancing Fish Farmhouse, 1953 Newman Road, Freeland, WA 98249. Registration fee \$50 till 20 Mar, late registration fee \$55. Lunch \$12. Topics: Using Deeds to Trace the Trails of Your Ancestors, New York Census & Substitutes, Dollarhide's Five rules, and You Know About Census Records, But What About Census Substitutes? Questions: email [patj1717@gmail.com](mailto:patj1717@gmail.com).

## New Seminar Coming

*The Skagit Valley Genealogical Society will hold its seminar later this year on September 19, 2015 at the Mount Vernon Senior Center in Mount Vernon, WA. The theme will be "It's All About Life". For further details, stay tuned to our website at [skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org). Registration will begin late May, early June.*



### SVGS Members,

We have a new BLOG on our website. If you are interested in participating in our blog go to [skagitvalleygenealogy.org/blog](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org/blog) to see how you can register and log in.

Thank you.

SVGS Webmaster  
George E. Ridgeway Jr.



©2011 [www.n2genealogy.com](http://www.n2genealogy.com)

### Some humor for you to enjoy

- Genealogy is like a magic mirror. Look into it, and pretty soon, interesting faces appear.
- The kind of ancestors you have is not as important as the kindness of their descendants.
- If you are the last living link between your grandparents and your grandchildren—don't break the chain.
- If you don't want your descendants to put a twisted spin on your life story, write it yourself!
- If you're the family photographer (and not showing up in photos), your family historian descendants will become upset with you.
- To get your family tree done the fastest, run for political office. Your opponents will have it completed way before the election, and then you can resign if you really didn't wish to run in the first place.
- Many genealogists neglect telling their own stories, while in the midst of telling the stories about others. Don't let that happen to your family
- Definition of mythology: genealogy without documentation.
- Remember that when a family member passes away they take a library of memories with them. It's a genealogist's duty to record them before that happens.

### TENNESSEE LAWS

[http://www.allstatecarhire.com/american\\_laws/tennessee.htm](http://www.allstatecarhire.com/american_laws/tennessee.htm)

1. "It is against the law in Dyersburg for a woman to call a man for a date."
2. It is illegal for frogs to croak after 11 pm.
3. It is illegal for a woman to drive herself in Memphis. A man must walk or run in front of the vehicle, waving red flag in order to warn approach-

### MURPHY'S LAW

You finally find the wedding record for your gggrandfather only to discover the married Mary SMITH whose father was John SMITH and mother was Mary JONES.

You finally found the information you needed to solve the family mystery you have been working on for 2 years and your elderly aunt says "could have told you that!"

### For Those of You Born 1930-1969

We ate cupcakes, white bread, real butter and bacon. We drank Kool-Aide made with real white sugar and we weren't overweight. WHY? Because we were always playing outside. We'd leave home in the morning and play all day long as we were back home before supper.

## **5 Little-Used Records for Genealogical Research**

Michael J. Leclerc's Genealogy News

### **1. Consulate Records**

Many of us have ancestors who spent at least some time abroad. Perhaps they were seamen, sailing from port to port to deliver goods to foreign ports and bring others back to America. Perhaps they were serving as missionaries in far-off lands. Whatever the reason, you may find information about them, including records of birth, marriage, and death, in the records of the State Department. These records are housed at the National Archives. In order to find this information, you will need to know the date and place where your ancestor was. With that, you can discover the consulate or embassy that served that location.

### **2. Local Censuses**

We often use federal and state censuses as part of our research. But how about local censuses? In Massachusetts, for example, the cities and towns (except for Boston) are required to "annually in January or February visit or communicate with the residents of each building in their respective cities and towns and, after diligent inquiry, shall make true lists containing, as nearly as they can ascertain, the name, date of birth, occupation, veteran status, nationality, if not a citizen of the United States, and residence on January 1 of the preceding year and the current year, of each person three years of age or older residing in their respective cities and towns." Accessing those records at town hall could provide a gold mine of information.

### **3. Fraternal/Benefit Organizations**

These can be a rich source of information, even more so when dealing with immigrants. In the days prior to the widespread availability of insurance, many organizations were founded as mutual aid/mutual benefit societies to provide assistance in time of need. Many of these were founded by immigrant groups (such as the Irish and the Catholic Order for Foresters), and their records may provide information on the immigrant's origins. The same can be true of other groups, such as the masons, who recorded the lodge where incoming members first joined, and other lodges he had been a member of. This valuable information can help you track the movements of your ancestors.

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

### **4. Ear or Cattle Marks**

In many times and places, livestock was allowed to wander in communal areas. This mandated that people be able to identify their own livestock from that of others. Marks were made in different ways. Sometimes a pattern of cuts would be made in the ear. Other times, brands were used in the animal's hide. This allowed owners to cull their livestock from a communal herd. The marks were proprietary, and were often passed from father to son. They could also be sold as part of a person's estate.

### **5. Dog Licenses**

Dogs have been the pets of humans for centuries. By the nineteenth century, licensing was often required in populated areas. How can dog licenses help you genealogically? Think of them as a specialized form of tax list. Dog licenses can provide evidence of where a person lived. They might even provide you with an exact address, which is especially helpful in areas where city directories were sparse. And, of course, you can learn more about the family pet as well.

### **Do you have Adoptions or non family events in your family history**

There is an article in the Mocavo newsletter regarding this brick wall for many. It is written by Michael J. Leclerc. It addresses the DNA testing into research the last few years and how it is helping adoptees find their family roots.

Adoptees often have a difficult time determining their origins. Laws prohibit access to information on birth parents, leaving adoptees and their descendants with many questions. DNA testing companies, however, are offering a way around these laws. Combining with online family trees, many adoptees are able to find their birth family. The *Washington Times* recently ran a story on this subject.

Whether the adoption was today, or two hundred years ago, DNA can help you identify the birth lineage of your ancestors. If you have this type of problem, start mapping out a plan for testing to combine with traditional resources to identify your true ancestors. And realize that you may never know the true circumstances behind the non-paternal event, so do not judge your ancestors so hastily.

## Skagit Valley Genealogical Society 2015 Programs



**March 21st You Found It ...Now Flaunt It:** Presented by Teresa Schulze. Tessa has been scrapbooking for 20 years and family research for 15. She will demonstrate techniques in digital scrapbooking to showcase your important documents and photos.

**April 11th An Overview of Scandinavian Research:** presented by Jill Morelli, professional genealogist and professional architect from Seattle. She is a sole proprietor of Cascade Research Services devoted to genealogical research.

May 9th

June 13th

**July: No meeting**

**August: No meeting**

September 12th

October 10th

**November 7th Year-end meeting. Brick Walls**

Skagit Valley Genealogical Society meets on the second Saturday of each month at 1:00 PM at the Burlington Senior Center, 1011 Greenleaf Avenue, Burlington, WA.

For more information check out [www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org)

**<https://rootstech.org/about/videos/>**

The link above is to the RootsTech 2014 Conference in Salt Lake City. Scroll down through the various session/video selections, click on the ones you wish to view. I thought perhaps some of you would be interested in these educational sessions. -- Margie Wilson

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

---

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2013**

---

APPLICANTS NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS STREET, CITY, STATE &amp; 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

Tulip season is over and serious gardening is underway. As genealogists we always look forward to growing our family tree whenever possible too. And if necessary we clip a bud now and then when we learn new information is not factual. Good luck this spring!

After our recent program "Scandinavian Research" presented by Jill Morelli, I'm very interested in her return late this summer for our annual seminar. Our seminar "Genealogy – All About Life" is scheduled for September 19, 2015 at the Mount Vernon Senior Center. Jill is very knowledgeable and an energetic speaker. She will be speaking on "Writing Your Family History" and "My Top Ten Tech Tools I Really Use and So Can You". In addition we have Mary Kathryn Kozy, also a well-qualified speaker, speaking on "Researching in Newspapers" and "Google and Its Genealogy Tools".

Barbara Johnson and her committee have done a fine job of organizing our seminar so it should be fun and informative. Further details are posted on our website and flyers with registration information are available. Oh, yes, Barbara can use extra hands on the day before and day of the seminar for set up and take down of this event.

It seems like our society's board never rests. Our annual budget will be out soon so formal review and approval by the membership can be accomplished at our meeting on May 9. They are also recommending minor changes to the bylaws for formal review and approval at our annual meeting on November 7. (The November meeting is a week early because the senior center is unavailable on the second Saturday.) Standing Rules are being updated, Hawthorne Cemetery is being read, surname file is being resurrected and we will have a display at the Burlington Library for History Month in October.

Volume 29 Number 3  
President: John Hayes  
Newsletter: Dottie Chandler  
PO BOX 715, CONWAY, WA 98238-0715  
Web site: skagitvalleygenealogy.org

Attending our monthly meeting programs and our September seminar will add tools to your genealogy tool belt. On an added note our Monday volunteers at the Genealogy Section of the Burlington Library are now available with the new hours of 10 am to noon. Always watch for tips on new internet sites that may open new areas to research. May your family tree continue to grow!

*John Hayes*

President  
[rosie@valleyint.com](mailto:rosie@valleyint.com)  
360-424-4608

## State Conference in June at Ellensburg

David Rencher Returns to Washington  
<http://wasgs.org/blog/2015/04/16/david-rencher-returns-to-washington/>

Are you excited about the WSGS Conference on June 27, 2015? David Rencher is, Too!

In a recent interview, David, chief genealogical officer at FamilySearch and the Headliner at the conference in Ellensburg, expressed his excitement about Returning to Washington State -- a place he's been many times.

David and his family have strong ties to Yakima, [...]

You received this e-mail because you asked to be notified when new updates are Posted.

Best regards,  
Washington State Genealogical Society Blog  
[WSGSBlog@wasgs.org](mailto:WSGSBlog@wasgs.org)



<b>President:</b> 360-424-4608	John Hayes rosie@valleyint.com
<b>Vice President:</b> 360-856-2410	Carol Torset torset@comcast.net
<b>Secretary:</b>	Muriel Neely
<b>Treasurer:</b> 360-293-7447	Lois LeBlonde leblolm60@frontier.com
<b>Past President:</b> 360-424-4427	George Ridgeway 4george30@comcast.net
<b>Archival Historian:</b> 360-826-6141	Dan Royal dmoroyal@earthlink.net
<b>Education:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Genealogist:</b> 360-336-5832	Diane Partington nonie.dl@comcast.net
<b>Librarian:</b> 360-798-1681	Margie Wilson wilsongm@frontier.com
<b>Membership:</b> 360-202-9451	Christine Cooper cooper2chris@yahoo.com
<b>Publications:</b> : 360-826-6141	Dan Royal dmoroyal@earthlink.net

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 Carol Torset at torset@comcast.net or 360-856-2410. She will happily take your ideas to heart.

<b>Newsletter:</b> 360-757-0966	Dottie Chandler dotcom10@frontier.com
<b>Webmaster:</b> 360-424-4427	George Ridgeway 4george30@comcast.net
<b>Projects :</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Ways &amp; Means:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Publicity:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Member at Large:</b>	Rita Schultze
	<b>Special Committees</b>
<b>Communications:</b>	Hazel Rasar <a href="mailto:svsgenealogy@gmail.com">svsgenealogy@gmail.com</a>
<b>Nominating:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Audit/Budget:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Bylaws/Standing Rules:</b> 360-293-7447	Joe LeBlonde lebloj@frontier.com
<b>Refreshments:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Raffles/Door Prizes:</b>	
<b>SOCIETY EMAIL:</b>	genealogy0715@gmail.com

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

## Needed New Volunteers

Our genealogists is looking for new volunteers to train to help with research requests when she is gone. If interested please give Diane Partington a call at 360-336-5832 or send her an email at [nonie.dl@comcast.net](mailto:nonie.dl@comcast.net)



### SVGS Member,

If you have been to our website, you can see that it has a lot of useful tabs. I am looking for some people who would like to learn how to create pages and posts on the site. If you have an interest or if you know someone who would like to learn a little about WordPress. Let me know at [george-wayjr@gmail.com](mailto:george-wayjr@gmail.com).

Thank you.

### 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



## “Genealogy: All About Life”

The Skagit Valley Genealogical Society's 2015 Seminar will be held Saturday, September 19 at the Mount Vernon Senior Center from 8 am to 4 pm.

Our speakers will be Jill Morelli and Mary Kathryn Kozy, both of whom have spoken at our General Membership Meetings. They are dynamic and well-informed professional genealogists. They will be speaking on four topics: Jill—“Just Do It! Writing Your Family History”, “My Top Ten Tech Tools I Really Use—And So Can You!”, Mary Kathryn—“Researching In Newspapers”, and “Google and Its Genealogy Tools”.

The cost for members is \$40 plus an optional \$12 for a delicious Haggen's box lunch.

For more information, check out our web site: [www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org). You can also pick up a registration form at a regular meeting or at the Burlington Library in the Genealogy section. Do sign up early as the price goes up on September First.

The committee could also use your help. We need help in distributing fliers to various outlets in the county, such as grocery stores, senior centers, funeral homes. There are also several short-term tasks to be done to prepare for the seminar. If you would like to participate, please contact Barbara Johnson at [gorhamgen@gmail.com](mailto:gorhamgen@gmail.com) or 360-770-0762. I will be delighted to answer your questions and sign you up

## Fact or Fiction

**A very sincere researcher related that in his ancestral line there were three brothers in Europe who had come across to America, one went west, one went south and one stayed on the coast.**

Since this was a passing conversation, I did not have time or the opportunity to question this further but I immediately recognized, what is classically called, "The Three Brothers Myth" from genealogical folklore.

Here are a couple of references to explanations of the myth:

**About.com Genealogy, The Three Brothers Myth  
Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter, There  
Were Three Brothers And...Fact or Fiction?**

## Library Report for March 2015

The Burlington Public Library, (BPL) where the SVGS genealogy collection is located, has some upcoming changes to be aware of. First, Maggie Buckholz, BPL's director is retiring in June. We congratulate Maggie on her retirement and thank her for her tremendous support since 2008.

Second, BPL now opens at 10:00am. Due to the new opening times the genealogy volunteers have agreed that ***the new schedule for genealogy library volunteers will be: Mondays, 10:00am to Noon.*** This schedule change will become effective after April 1, 2015 to give the library staff and volunteers time to announce it to patrons.

### Recent book donations:

Margie Renick, a new SVGS member, recently donated several of her notebooks and research materials. The main focus of her research has been Scotland. Look for these materials in the lateral files at the Burlington Library that are closest to the genealogy section.

### Recent book purchases:

While I was attending RootsTech and the FGS Conference I took the opportunity to find some new books for the SVGS collection. So from RootsTech I purchased:

*Sustainable Genealogy*, by Richard Hite;  
*New York State Historical and Genealogical Society's Gazetteer* by NYSHGS;  
*DNA and Social Media* by Debbie Kennett.

The book on DNA and social media was presented to George Ridgeway, outgoing SVGS president, in honor of his years of service and leadership of our society. Thank you George so much for all the technology improvements and creative ideas you contribute to SVGS.

Also, in memory of SVGS member, Jim Mulkins, who passed away recently, I purchased have also purchased the new book, *Historical Maps of Europe*, by Allison Dolan and published by Family Tree Magazine. And, one last book, *Welsh Genealogy* by David and Julia Rowlands, was purchased since we do not have any books currently in the collection that specifically focuses on Welsh research.

There is always plenty of activity at the SVGS Genealogy collection. Either visitors coming in and needing an orientation to the collection or new books or donations to be labeled and shelved. If you would like to get more involved and you enjoy meeting fellow researchers we'd love to have you serve as a genealogy library volunteer. Please email me ([wilsongm@frontier.com](mailto:wilsongm@frontier.com)). If you'd like join the volunteer team. I'd be glad to give you an orientation and explain our volunteer procedures.

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

## Genealogy's Often-Misspelled Words

Dick Eastman · April 28, 2015 · Genealogy Basics

You might want to save this article someplace. I have no idea why, but many of the words used in researching your family tree are difficult to spell. I constantly see spelling errors in messages posted on various genealogy web sites. When someone misspells a word, it feels like they are shouting, "I don't know what I'm doing!"

Here are a few words to memorize:

**Genealogy** – No, it is not spelled "geneology" nor is it spelled in the manner I often see: "geneaology." That last word looks to me as if someone thought, "Just throw all the letters in there and hope that something sticks." For some reason, many newspaper reporters and their editors do not know how to spell this word. Don't they have spell checkers?

**Cemetery** – The letter "a" does not appear anywhere in the word "cemetery." You can remember the spelling by an old saying, "We go to the cemetery with E's." (ease)

**Ancestor** – This simple word is often spelled "ancester," "ansester," or "anestor."

**Ancestry** – This word is often misspelled "ancestory." I often see errors when someone is referring to the ancestry.com online web site.

**History** – More than once I have seen someone refer to their "family histroy" or "family histry."

**Descent** – Perhaps not as common, but I have seen this spelled as "decent," which sounds almost the same.

**Descendant** – it often appears as descendent, descentent and many others.

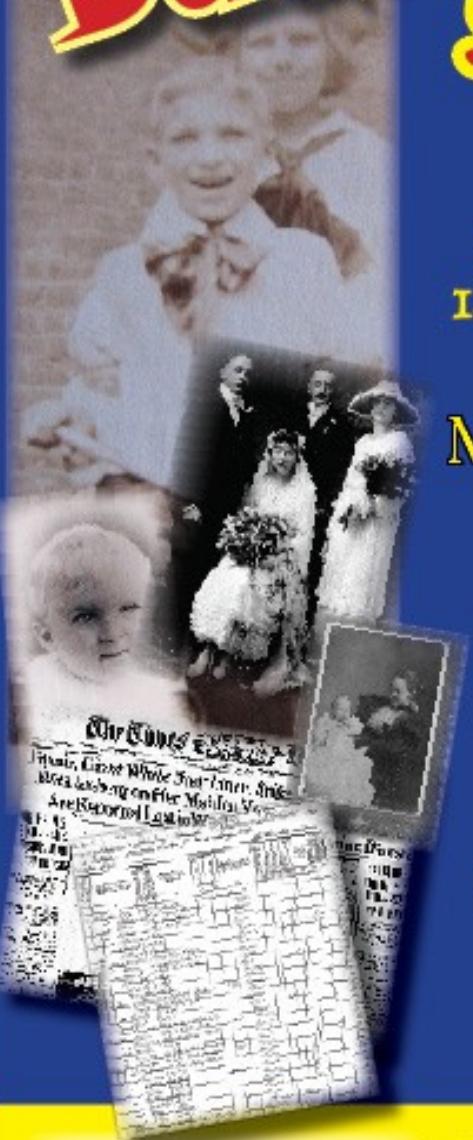
**Progenitor** – I can never remember how to spell this word. I simply try to avoid it when I am writing!

### SVGS Members,

We have a new BLOG on our website. If you are interested in participating in our blog go to [skagitvalleygenealogy.org/BLOG](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org/BLOG) to see how you can register and log in.

Thank you.  
 SVGS Webmaster  
 George E. Ridgeway Jr.

# Save the Date!



# Genealogy Seminar

**Sat., September 19  
8a.m. - 4p.m.**

**MOUNT VERNON SENIOR CENTER  
1401 CLEVELAND ST. • MOUNT VERNON**

*~ Featuring ~*

**Mary Kathryn Kozy & Jill Morelli**

- Google Genealogy Tools
- Writing Your Family History
- Newspaper Research *and*
- Top 10 Genealogy Tech Tools

**REGISTER BY SEPT. 1**

**\$40 /SVGS members • \$45/non-SVGS members**

After September 1 Registration is \$50 for everyone

*Space is limited! Register today!*

**FOR DETAILS & TO REGISTER ONLINE:**

**[skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org)**

OR DOWNLOAD YOUR REGISTRATION & MAIL TO:

**SVGS • 1911 22<sup>nd</sup> ST. • ANACORTES, WA 98221**

Questions: [svgsgenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:svgsgenealogy@gmail.com) • 360.424.0635





## 2015 Programs

April 11th **An Overview of Scandinavian Research:** presented by Jill Morelli, professional genealogist and professional architect from Seattle. She is sole proprietor of Cascade Research Services devoted to genealogical research. She loves to write - and at one time set a goal of 500 words per day!

May 9th **Across the Pond to Scotland:** presented by Winona Laird, professional genealogist. She is the Education Chairman of South King County Genealogical Society, and is one of the founders of the Genealogy Training Center. She specializes in teaching and lecturing on Genealogy.

June 13th **Overview of Sources held by Northwest Branch Archives in Bellingham and the Washington State Digital Archives:** presented by Mike Saunders, Regional Archivist, Bellingham, WA.

July: No meeting  
August: No meeting

September 12th **Genealogy and Google** presented by George Ridgeway  
October 10th **My Ancestor's Story** - Limit 3 minutes/member presented by EVERYONE  
November 7th Year-end meeting. **Brick Walls/What Have you Learned?** Coordinated by Carol Torset.

<https://rootstech.org/about/videos/>

The link above is to the RootsTech 2014 Conference in Salt Lake City. Scroll down through the various session/video selections, click on the ones you wish to view. I thought perhaps some of you would be interested in these educational sessions. -- Margie Wilson



# Skagit Valley Genealogical Society

presents

## 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Seminar

Saturday, September 19, 2015 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Mount Vernon Senior Center - 1401 Cleveland Street, Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Handicap Accessible

## "Genealogy - All About Life"



Mary Kathryn Kozy has been researching her family for almost 35 years since she first became interested at the age of 13. Over the years she has researched families from the Midwest to the deep South, and from both Western and Eastern Europe. She's been actively involved in local societies, the USGenWeb project, and FamilySearch indexing. She also speaks throughout the state on a wide variety of topics related to family history.

Her programs will be (1) *Researching in Newspapers*; and  
(2) *Google and its Genealogy Tools*

Jill Morelli loves to inspire others about her passion for genealogy. Based on her personal research, she lectures regionally and nationally on topics related to 19th-century Midwest and records sets of Sweden, Denmark and Norway. Her lecture includes discussion of general genealogy methodologies and records sets. Through her client work she has broadened her areas of knowledge to include Ireland and Germany. As an architect she has an affinity for conducting house histories, a unique field which transcends just pulling the documents.



Her programs will be (1) *Just Do it! Writing your Family History*; and  
(2) *My Top Ten Tech Tools I Really Use – and So Can You!*

- \$40 SVGS Member Registration  \$43 Non-member registration  Everyone \$50 after September 1st online or at the door  
 \$12 Box Lunch with a Turkey Sandwich, Seasonal Fruit, Chips & a Cookie  Bring your own Lunch  
 \$12 Box Lunch with Deli Club Sandwich with Roast Beef, Turkey, Bacon & Cheese, Seasonal Fruit, Chips & a Cookie  
 \$12 Citrus Green Salad, with Fruit & Raisins  \$1 add Rotisserie Chicken to your salad

Total \$\_\_\_\_\_ Make checks payable to Skagit Valley Genealogical Society or SVGS or PayPal online @ [www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org)

No refunds after September 1, 2015 No meals available after September 10, 2015

Questions: call Kris @ 360-424-0633; Hazel @ 360-630-0170; [SVGSgenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:SVGSgenealogy@gmail.com)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Mail: SVGS, 1911 22nd Street, Anacortes, WA 98221-2413 or PayPal at [www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org)

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

---

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2013**

---

APPLICANTS NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS STREET, CITY, STATE &amp; 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

As we approach the end of summer, our younger generation is returning to school to continue their education. For us as genealogists we have a great opportunity to continue our education by attending our own local genealogy seminar. Our seminar "Genealogy – All about Life" is scheduled for September 19, 2015 at the Mount Vernon Senior Center. Barbara Johnson and her committee have lined up two excellent speakers to broaden our research options and outlook on new technologies available for our hobby.

The speakers are Jill Morelli and Mary Kathryn Kozy. Jill is very knowledgeable and an energetic speaker. She will be speaking on "Just Do It! Writing Your Family History" and "My Top Ten Tech Tools I Really Use -- and So Can You!" Also we have Mary Kathryn Kozy, a very well-qualified speaker, speaking on "Researching In Newspapers" and "Google and Its Genealogy Tools". There is something for everyone including door prizes and raffles!

Barbara Johnson and her committee have done a fine job of organizing our seminar so it should be fun and informative. As we approach our registration deadlines we expect more folks to get signed up. Some folks my age "don't buy green bananas" either. But now is the time to register. Further details and registration information with forms are available elsewhere in this newsletter. Git-R-Done!

Volunteers are stepping up to fill the jobs of setting up, taking down and cleaning up but extra hands are always welcome. This includes the Friday before the seminar day for setting up. Check with Barbara Johnson or myself for the work schedule and details.

Volume 29 Number 3  
 President: John Hayes  
 Newsletter: Dottie Chandler  
 PO BOX 715, CONWAY, WA 98238-0715  
 Web site: [skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org)

The bottom line is register today and enjoy our seminar!

*John Hayes*

President  
[rosie@valleyint.com](mailto:rosie@valleyint.com)  
 360-424-4608

## IRISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY'S PRE-1864 MARRIAGE FINDER

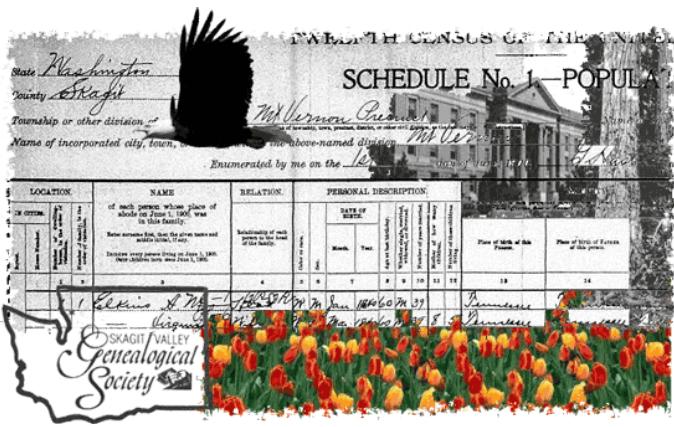
This free database from the IrishGenealogical Society has nearly fifty thousand references to pre - 1864 Irish marriages: [http://www.irishancestors.ie/?page\\_id=1926](http://www.irishancestors.ie/?page_id=1926).

## ARE YOU PERFORMING REVERSE SEARCHES?

The following articles are from (c) Michael John Neill, "Genealogy Tip of the Day," <<http://genealogytipoftheday.blogspot.com>>

Sometimes it does not hurt to search for people you have already found in an index using different search parameters.

I also search for images I've found on FamilySearch databases as some are incomplete without making it clear to the user that they are still "in progress." This recent blog post on Rootdig discusses an incomplete database with such an issue.



<b>President:</b> 360-424-4608	John Hayes rosie@valleyint.com
<b>Vice President:</b> 360-856-2410	Carol Torset torset@comcast.net
<b>Secretary:</b>	Muriel Neely
<b>Treasurer:</b> 360-293-7447	Lois LeBlonde leblolm60@frontier.com
<b>Past President:</b> 360-424-4427	George Ridgeway 4george30@comcast.net
<b>Archival Historian:</b> 360-826-6141	Dan Royal dmoroyal@earthlink.net
<b>Education:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Genealogist:</b> 360-336-5832	Diane Partington nonie.dl@comcast.net
<b>Librarian:</b> 360-798-1681	Margie Wilson wilsongm@frontier.com
<b>Membership:</b> 360-202-9451	Christine Cooper cooper2chris@yahoo.com
<b>Publications:</b> : 360-826-6141	Dan Royal dmoroyal@earthlink.net

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 Carol Torset at torset@comcast.net or 360-856-2410. She will happily take your ideas to heart.

<b>Newsletter:</b> 360-757-0966	Dottie Chandler dotcom10@frontier.com
<b>Webmaster:</b> 360-424-4427	George Ridgeway 4george30@comcast.net
<b>Projects :</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Ways &amp; Means:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Publicity:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Member at Large:</b>	Rita Schultze
	<b>Special Committees</b>
<b>Communications:</b>	Hazel Rasar <a href="mailto:svsgenealogy@gmail.com">svsgenealogy@gmail.com</a>
<b>Nominating:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Audit/Budget:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Bylaws/Standing Rules:</b> 360-293-7447	Joe LeBlonde lebloj@frontier.com
<b>Refreshments:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Raffles/Door Prizes:</b>	
<b>SOCIETY EMAIL:</b>	genealogy0715@gmail.com

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

## SPECIAL MESSAGE TO OUR SVGS MEMBERSHIP

It is that time of year in an odd year when our society needs nominees for the positions of treasurer and vice president. Our society runs on the strength of our volunteer members.

Lois LeBlonde has done a fine job as our treasurer but has handled the reins of our treasury wagon for four years. She plans to retire from it at the end of this year. A bit of accounting or book keeping knowledge and computers would be helpful.

As vice president Carol Torset has brought in excellent program speakers for our membership meetings for the past two years. Her busy life has pushed her to retire at the end of this year. Carol plans to have programs arranged for well into next spring. A volunteer jumping into this position would have time to get their feet on the ground before setting up futs president I'm to select members for our Nominating Committee. I currently have our Membership Chair Christine Cooper scanning our membership list for folks who may be able to handle the treasurer and vice president positions. There are two more spots on this committee for me to fill. Someone who is familiar with some of our local membership would be helpful. Are there any takers? Contact me as noted below. Last year Hazel Rasar reached out with her long arm and caught me. I have found the experience of working with a great bunch of dedicated volunteers well worth my time.

What I'd really like is for you as members to consider taking on one of these officer positions. Our board and current office holders would certainly step up to help you transition into your new volunteer position. Thank you for your consideration.

*John Hayes*  
President  
[rosie@valleyint.com](mailto:rosie@valleyint.com)



Roger and Barbara Gorham visited the whale museum at Friday Harbor where I saw this great genealogy

The Burlington Public Library, (BPL) where the SVGS genealogy collection is located, has some upcoming changes to be aware of. First, Maggie Buckholz, BPL's director is retiring in June. We congratulate Maggie on her retirement and thank her for her tremendous support since 2008.

Second, BPL now opens at 10:00am. Due to the new opening times the genealogy volunteers have agreed that ***the new schedule for genealogy library volunteers will be: Mondays, 10:00am to Noon.*** This schedule change will become effective after April 1, 2015 to give the library staff and volunteers time to announce it to patrons.

#### Recent book donations:

Margie Renick, a new SVGS member, recently donated several of her notebooks and research materials. The main focus of her research has been Scotland. Look for these materials in the lateral files at the Burlington Library that are closest to the genealogy section.

#### Recent book purchases:

While I was attending RootsTech and the FGS Conference I took the opportunity to find some new books for the SVGS collection. So from RootsTech I purchased:

*Sustainable Genealogy*, by Richard Hite;  
*New York State Historical and Genealogical Society's Gazetteer* by NYSHGS;  
*DNA and Social Media* by Debbie Kennett.

The book on DNA and social media was presented to George Ridgeway, outgoing SVGS president, in honor of his years of service and leadership of our society. Thank you George so much for all the technology improvements and creative ideas you contribute to SVGS.

Also, in memory of SVGS member, Jim Mulkins, who passed away recently, I purchased have also purchased the new book, *Historical Maps of Europe*, by Allison Dolan and published by Family Tree Magazine. And, one last book, *Welsh Genealogy* by David and Julia Rowlands, was purchased since we do not have any books currently in the collection that specifically focuses on Welsh research.

There is always plenty of activity at the SVGS Genealogy collection. Either visitors coming in and needing an orientation to the collection or new books or donations to be labeled and shelved. If you would like to get more involved and you enjoy meeting fellow researchers we'd love to have you serve as a genealogy library volunteer. Please email me ([wilsongm@frontier.com](mailto:wilsongm@frontier.com)). If you'd like join the volunteer team. I'd be glad to give you an orientation and explain our volunteer procedures.

## Find Ancestors in Marriage Record Alternatives

When your own ancestral couples walked down the aisle and said their "I Do's" in front of witnesses, friends and family, little did they know they were becoming genealogists' best friends.

For each marital union, records of all sorts were being created-and, we hope, recorded and kept. At the church level you may uncover marriage banns, marriage returns or registers and marriage certificates. At the town or county level you may find marriage intentions, bonds, licenses, returns or registers, prenuptial contracts and certificates. And, of course, if things went sour there were divorce petitions (many of which might not have been granted). The fact is that these records can provide valuable information about your ancestors.

### Marriage Record Alternatives

When you can't find a marriage record, try these other possibilities:

**Newspapers:** Look for wedding and anniversary announcements. Obituaries may also tell when the person was married.

**Census records:** Particularly 1900 and 1910, which asked for the number of years married. The 1850, 1860 and 1880 censuses asked if married within the year, and 1870 asked for the month of marriage if married within the year. The 1930 census asked for the age at first marriage.

**Pension applications:** When applying for a widow's pension, women had to provide supporting documents to prove their marriage and birth of their children. Men, too, may have given marriage information on their pensions. You may find testimonials to marriages or the actual family Bible pages, torn out and submitted to the government to prove the marriage.

**Naturalization records:** Before 1922, a wife automatically became a citizen when her husband did. In post-1906 naturalization records, you may find the date of marriage recorded.

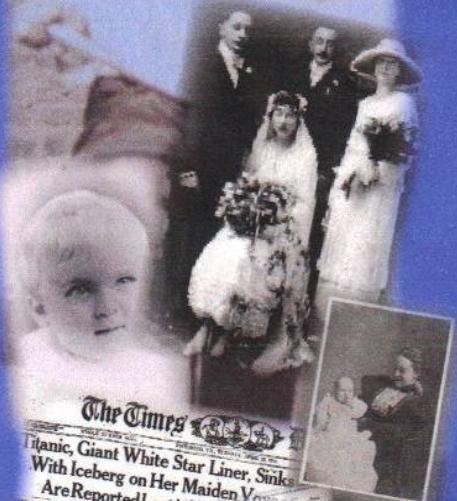
**Court documents:** Look at all the deeds and other court records the couple created. You might find mention of when a couple married, especially if a land transaction dealt with inheritable property.

**Divorce petitions:** Even if your ancestral couple wasn't granted a divorce, always look for a petition. There are significantly larger numbers of petitions than actual divorces granted. The petition may give you the exact date of a marriage or the number of years the couple was married when the petition was filed.

**Home sources:** Don't forget that oral history, family Bibles, diary entries, letters and other family papers may be the best and only source for a date of marriage.

**Tylor Moss**  
 Online Editor  
 Family Tree University

It's all about  
**LIFE!**



# Genealogy Seminar

**Sat., September 19**  
**8:00 a.m. ~ 5:00 p.m.**

MOUNT VERNON SENIOR CENTER  
1401 CLEVELAND ST. • MOUNT VERNON

~ *Featuring* ~

**Mary Kathryn Kozy & Jill Morelli**

- Just Do It! Writing Your Family History
- Google Tools for Genealogy
- Top 10 Tech Tools You Can Use Too!
- Researching Newspapers

---

**REGISTER BY SEPT. 1**

\$40.00 / Current SVGS members

\$45.00 / non-SVGS members

After Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> Admission is \$50/person

*Space is limited! Early registration is advised.*

FOR DETAILS & TO REGISTER ONLINE:

**skagitvalleygenealogy.org**

MAIL IN REGISTRATION TO:

SVGS • 1911 22<sup>ND</sup> ST. • ANACORTES, WA 98221

Questions: [genealogy0715@gmail.com](mailto:genealogy0715@gmail.com) • 360.770-0762



## 2015 Programs

[September 12th](#)

[October 10th](#)

[November 7th](#)

**Genealogy and Google** presented by George Ridgeway

**My Ancestor's Story** - Limit 3 minutes/member presented by EVERYONE

Year-end meeting. **Brick Walls/What Have you Learned?** Coordinated by Carol Torset.

### Orphaned Civil War Era Family Photo Album Reunited with Local Family Members

BURLINGTON – On June 28, 2015 the Skagit Valley Herald published an article concerning a vintage family-photograph album. The album was discovered in a box of used books donated to the Burlington Public Library. The album was passed on to the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society (SVGS) in hopes that genealogists could find the family associated with the photographs. “Several family historians read the article and eagerly took up the pursuit of the album's family. After studying the genealogists' research notes and making numerous phone calls to possible family members, the album finally is reunited with its direct family,” said Margie Wilson, SVGS Librarian, who coordinated the detective work.

The family members gathered on July 20 at the Burlington Library to look at the photographs and discuss who in the family should now care for the album. The decision was to entrust the care of the album to Jean McLeod of Bellingham. At age 97, she is the oldest surviving descendant of the Dulin family of Burlington. Ms. McLeod will have the most intimate knowledge of her ancestors mentioned in the album. It was agreed that her son, Bruce McLeod, who is an avid genealogist himself, will capture more family stories from his mother when she examines the album. He will then share those stories with the other family members who have expressed a keen interest in the album and its future care. “It was very satisfying to help reunite the album with its proper family and to work with resourceful volunteer genealogists who were inspired by the original newspaper article and helped provide clues as to its proper long-term fate. In addition to our educational programs about family history research the photo album search presented a special opportunity for SVGS to engage community genealogists as well as help preserve local family history. SVGS wishes to thank Christine Cooper, Duane C. Holmes, and Bruce and Lee Matson for their research and documentation that helped solve the mystery of the discarded photo album.” said Margie Wilson.



For more information about SVGS' programs, publications, genealogy research assistance, and its upcoming educational seminar on Saturday, September 19 at the Mount Vernon Senior Center visit [skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org) or email [svsgenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:svsgenealogy@gmail.com).

Dulin-Bradford descendants gathered at the Burlington Public Library on July 20 to determine the long-term caretaker of the Civil War era photograph album.

Seated left to right: Margie Wilson, SVGS Librarian; Edith O'Brien, of Mount Vernon, holding the family album; and Kay Brown, from Anacortes.

Standing left to right: Harold and Leona Randolph, Lake Havasu, AZ; Loren Cavanaugh of Burlington; Bruce McLeod of Bellingham; and genealogists Bruce and Lee Matson of Mount Vernon. Not shown is genealogist, Duane C. Holmes of La Conner who compiled his research on multiple lines of the Dulin family and donated his documentation to the SVGS.



# Skagit Valley Genealogical Society

presents

## 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Seminar

Saturday, September 19, 2015 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Mount Vernon Senior Center - 1401 Cleveland Street, Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Handicap Accessible

## "Genealogy - All About Life"



Mary Kathryn Kozy has been researching her family for almost 35 years since she first became interested at the age of 13. Over the years she has researched families from the Midwest to the deep South, and from both Western and Eastern Europe. She's been actively involved in local societies, the USGenWeb project, and FamilySearch indexing. She also speaks throughout the state on a wide variety of topics related to family history.

Her programs will be (1) *Researching in Newspapers*; and  
(2) *Google and its Genealogy Tools*

Jill Morelli loves to inspire others about her passion for genealogy. Based on her personal research, she lectures regionally and nationally on topics related to 19th-century Midwest and records sets of Sweden, Denmark and Norway. Her lecture includes discussion of general genealogy methodologies and records sets. Through her client work she has broadened her areas of knowledge to include Ireland and Germany. As an architect she has an affinity for conducting house histories, a unique field which transcends just pulling the documents.



Her programs will be (1) *Just Do it! Writing your Family History*; and  
(2) *My Top Ten Tech Tools I Really Use – and So Can You!*

- \$40 SVGS Member Registration  \$43 Non-member registration  Everyone \$50 after September 1st online or at the door  
 \$12 Box Lunch with a Turkey Sandwich, Seasonal Fruit, Chips & a Cookie  Bring your own Lunch  
 \$12 Box Lunch with Deli Club Sandwich with Roast Beef, Turkey, Bacon & Cheese, Seasonal Fruit, Chips & a Cookie  
 \$12 Citrus Green Salad, with Fruit & Raisins  \$1 add Rotisserie Chicken to your salad

Total \$\_\_\_\_\_ Make checks payable to Skagit Valley Genealogical Society or SVGS or PayPal online @ [www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org)

No refunds after September 1, 2015 No meals available after September 10, 2015

Questions: call Kris @ 360-424-0633; Hazel @ 360-630-0170; [SVGSgenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:SVGSgenealogy@gmail.com)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Mail: SVGS, 1911 22nd Street, Anacortes, WA 98221-2413 or PayPal at [www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://www.skagitvalleygenealogy.org)

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

---

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2013**

---

APPLICANTS NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS STREET, CITY, STATE &amp; 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! What a great seminar! We thank Barbara Johnson and her very active committee for doing a super job organizing a fine informative all day event. The speakers were excellent and there was something for everyone.

I was so wrapped up with the seminar in my last president's message that I overlooked the awards our society received from the Washington State Genealogical Society at their conference in June. Our society was selected for the Outstanding Project Award "Making Connections through ROOTS (Researching Our Origins for Teens with Seniors)" project. The brainchild behind this project was our own Margie Wilson. She was the organizer working with our society members, Burlington Public Library and Burlington-Edison Alternative High School. Two others were selected for Outstanding Volunteer awards by the statewide society. They were Diane Partington and Muriel Neely. Congratulations to all!

Looking ahead we have our annual meeting on November 7 when we will be selecting a new treasurer and vice president. We will also be approving a few proposed revisions to the by-laws and approving the 2016 budget. A ballot will be distributed via email and US mail so all should have an opportunity to vote. You can mail your ballots in or turn them in at the meeting.

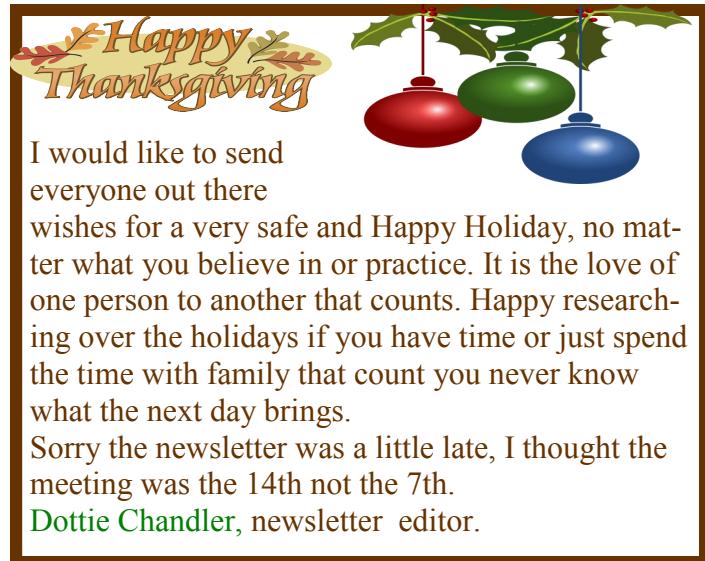
Volume 29 Number 3  
 President: John Hayes  
 Newsletter: Dottie Chandler  
 PO BOX 715, CONWAY, WA 98238-0715  
 Web site: [skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org)

Yes, the business meeting will be busy. But we'll lead off with V.P. Carol Torset who will coordinate a program titled "Brick Walls/What Have You Learned". It should be an informative day. Our Board will provide a dessert potluck during the break so turnout and enjoy the afternoon with us.

There is no meeting in December so you all can enjoy the holidays with your families. Have fun!

*John Hayes*

President  
[rosie@valleyint.com](mailto:rosie@valleyint.com)  
 360-424-4608



## 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



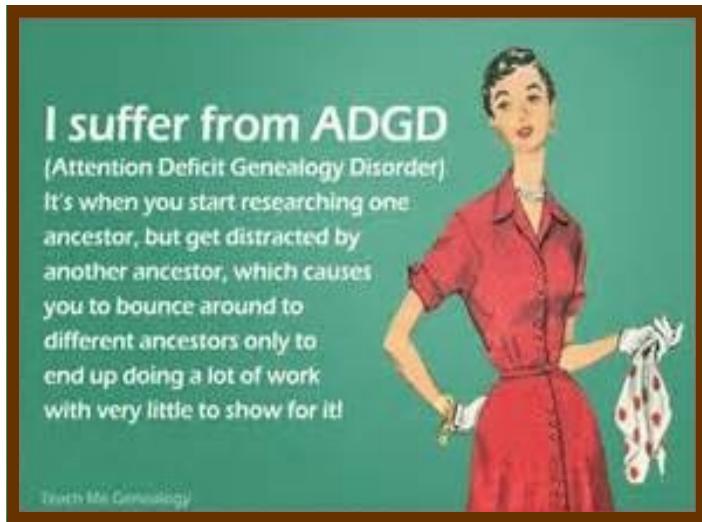
<b>President:</b> 360-424-4608	John Hayes rosie@valleyint.com
<b>Vice President:</b> 360-856-2410	Carol Torset torset@comcast.net
<b>Secretary:</b>	Muriel Neely
<b>Treasurer:</b> 360-293-7447	Lois LeBlonde leblolm60@frontier.com
<b>Past President:</b> 360-424-4427	George Ridgeway 4george30@comcast.net
<b>Archival Historian:</b> 360-826-6141	Dan Royal dmoroyal@earthlink.net
<b>Education:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Genealogist:</b> 360-336-5832	Diane Partington nonie.dl@comcast.net
<b>Librarian:</b> 360-798-1681	Margie Wilson wilsongm@frontier.com
<b>Membership:</b> 360-202-9451	Christine Cooper cooper2chris@yahoo.com
<b>Publications:</b> : 360-826-6141	Dan Royal dmoroyal@earthlink.net

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 Carol Torset at torset@comcast.net or 360-856-2410. She will happily take your ideas to heart.

<b>Newsletter:</b> 360-757-0966	Dottie Chandler dotcom10@frontier.com
<b>Webmaster:</b> 360-424-4427	George Ridgeway 4george30@comcast.net
<b>Projects :</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Ways &amp; Means:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Publicity:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Member at Large:</b>	Rita Schultze
	<b>Special Committees</b>
<b>Communications:</b>	Hazel Rasar <a href="mailto:svsgenealogy@gmail.com">svsgenealogy@gmail.com</a>
<b>Nominating:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Audit/Budget:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Bylaws/Standing Rules:</b> 360-293-7447	Joe LeBlonde lebloj@frontier.com
<b>Refreshments:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Raffles/Door Prizes:</b>	
<b>SOCIETY EMAIL:</b>	genealogy0715@gmail.com

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



### 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  
10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday  
10:00 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 ques-  
tions.  
Margie Wilson—SVGS Librarian



### Prepared for Skagit Valley Genealogical Society NPO #86204 (Cycle 2015, Qtr 2)

Dear Skagit Valley Genealogical Society,

The Kroger Family of Stores is committed to bringing hope and help to local communities. We do this through a variety of activities, including charitable giving, sponsorships and the unique Community Rewards Program of Fred Meyer. We are also committed to carefully protecting our customers' personal information. In order to meet their expectation of privacy, we have adopted a simple policy to never share a customer's personal information. Our privacy policy applies to Community Rewards participation as well. As your neighborhood food retailer, we deeply value our ability to support local organizations like yours.

Your supporters (9 households) who shopped at **Fred Meyer** between **04/01/2015 and 06/30/2015** (Cycle 2015, Qtr 2) have contributed to your **\$47.76** total donation. Your organization will be receiving a Kroger check in this amount within 30 days from 06/30/2015. If you have any questions, please email [fmcommunityrewards@fredmeyer.com](mailto:fmcommunityrewards@fredmeyer.com) or visit our website at [www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards](http://www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards). Thank you for your continued support of your local Fred Meyer store.

Don't forget to use your newsletter, website, and events to encourage your supporters to link to your organization. The more your supporters shop with us, the more money your organization will earn!

Thank you,  
Fred Meyer Community Rewards Staff

### Genealogy problems

I fully intended to clean the house but somehow ended up doing some research online right after I started cleaning. The house now looks like someone broke in.



Twisted Twigs  
or genealogy

If someone walked up to you and said "Howdy, I'm your third cousin, twice removed," would you have any idea what they meant? Most people have a good understanding of basic relationship words such as "mother," "father," "aunt," "uncle," "brother," and "sister." But what about the relationship terms that we don't use in everyday speech? Terms like "second cousin" and "first cousin, once removed"? We don't tend to speak about our relationships in such exact terms ("cousin" seems good enough when you are introducing one person to another), so most of us aren't familiar with what these words mean.

### Relationship Terms

Sometimes, especially when working on your family history, it's handy to know how to describe your family relationships more exactly. The definitions below should help you out.

#### Cousin (a.k.a "first cousin")

Your first cousins are the people in your family who have two of the same grandparents as you. In other words, they are the children of your aunts and uncles.

#### Second Cousin

Your second cousins are the people in your family who have the same great-grandparents as you, but not the same grandparents.

#### Third, Fourth, and Fifth Cousins

Your third cousins have the same great-great-grandparents, fourth cousins have the same great-great-great-grandparents, and so on.

#### Removed

When the word "removed" is used to describe a relationship, it indicates that the two people are from different generations. You and your first cousins are in the same generation (two generations younger than your grandparents), so the word "removed" is not used to describe your relationship.

The words "once removed" mean that there is a difference of one generation. For example, your mother's first cousin is your first cousin, once removed. This is because your mother's first cousin is one generation younger than your grandparents and you are two generations younger than your grandparents. This one-generation difference equals "once removed."

Twice removed means that there is a two-generation difference. You are two generations younger than a first cousin of your grandmother, so you and your grandmother's first cousin are first cousins, twice removed.

[http://www.genealogy.com/16\\_cousn.html](http://www.genealogy.com/16_cousn.html)



## The Biggest Mistake of Online Ancestor Hunting and How to Avoid It

When you find a mention of your family tree online it's thrilling. Especially if the site lists long sought-after dates, more names, and stories about your ancestors. Who doesn't like knowing the details of a Civil War soldier, a Revolutionary-era patriot, or a wild west frontiersman?

Unfortunately, though, the information you find online can be correct, almost correct, or totally false -- and you have no way of knowing which is which. That's because most online sites don't include documentation on their web pages.

Genealogy is a fascinating hobby that requires the skills of a detective and the scientific techniques of a forensic analyst. It's all about proving the connection from one generation to the next. You can guess about the connection, but until proven they remain guesses (albeit it good guesses).

So, how do you avoid falling into the "no source materials" online trap?

If a website has information about your family but no sources, you can either

1. Contact the site owner and ask about sources
2. Use the site info as a springboard for your own research.

If you're very lucky, the site owner will have sources for the information posted on the site. If not, you can still use the information in your own search. Here's an example:

If the site says your great-great-grandfather served in the Civil War, but there's no proof, you can begin searching Civil War records yourself. If you have the state where he was born, begin looking in Civil War records associated with that state. If you don't, use a site like the Soldiers and Sailors system (see resource below), enter the soldiers name and begin the search. If he was in the Civil War, you should find his records here.

Another example. Let's say the website has marriage information for an ancestor. Where can you go to prove it? Begin with where the ancestor lived and start your search in state archives, state websites, or sites like FamilySearch.org. It's possible you'll find exactly what you're looking for at an official site, or you may have to write or call a courthouse in the county where the ancestor lived.

The bottom line, here, is to use whatever information you find as a foundation and begin building on it with proof. Otherwise, you'll just copy down the same information everyone else has copied, and before long no one will know what's really true.

### Civil War Soldiers and Sailors

Nancy Hendrickson is a professional genealogy researcher, author and instructor. She specializes in helping people trace their ancestors using Internet tools and techniques. Considered an expert in Internet genealogy, Hendrickson has been interviewed by national publications including the New York Times and Better Homes and Gardens.

Nancy invites you to download her [Family Tree Idea Book](#) and learn more about researching your genealogy at <http://www.ancestornews.com>. If you've ever wondered about your family's past, join her in a voyage that may take you where you never expected and show you things you never imagined would happen in your own family.

## 2015 Programs

November 7th      Year-end meeting. **Brick Walls/What Have you Learned?** Coordinated by Carol Torset.

Go to our website to look at our future speakers and programs, [skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org)



### SKAGIT VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY BALLOT NOV 7, 2015

Note: per a vote of membership in a change of Bylaws, (Oct Annual Meeting 2014) it is now possible for ALL paid members to vote. Please print this ballot.

Vote by email [svsgenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:svsgenealogy@gmail.com)

Vote by mail SVGS, P O Box 715, Conway, WA 98238-0715

Vote at General Meeting

### VICE PRESIDENT 2016-17

Write in ..... \_\_\_\_\_  
Has this person agreed to serve if elected?    Y    N

### TREASURER 2016-17

**Carol Thomson**

Write in ..... \_\_\_\_\_  
Has this person agreed to serve if elected?    Y    N

# SKAGIT VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

## BALLOT NOV 7, 2015

Note: per a vote of membership in a change of Bylaws, (Oct Annual Meeting 2014) it is now possible for ALL paid members to vote. Please print this ballot.

### BALLOT REVISIONS:

#### ARTICLE IV – MEETINGS, Section D. Quorum

For the purpose of conducting business at the Annual Meeting, a quorum shall be **those members present after notification** as indicated in Article XII, Section A, #4, under Amendments to the Bylaws.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_ DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

See next page.....

#### ARTICLE VII – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

##### Section B. Vice President shall:

3. Be chair of the Program Committee in charge of the following: a. Programs/Speakers for general membership meetings **with topics related to genealogy; shall be presented in advance to the Board of Directors;**

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_ DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

##### Section D. Treasurer shall:

5. Administer the PayPal account.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_ DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

#### ARTICLE VIII – BOARD COMMITTEES, Section A. All Board Committees

Board committees shall be Archival Historian, Audit & Budget, **Parliamentarian/ Bylaws & Standing Rules, Communications & Sunshine, Education, FGS Delegate**, Genealogist, Library, Member at Large, Membership, Newsletter, Nominating, Projects, Publications, Publicity, Ways and Means, and Webmaster.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_ DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

#### ARTICLE XII – AMENDMENTS, Section A. Bylaws

1. **A bylaw is a rule or law established by an organization to regulate itself.**
  - a. **Shall govern the activities of the Society;**
2. May be amended only at the Annual Meeting;
3. Written proposals shall be submitted by any member, to the Board of Directors prior to the September Board Meeting;
4. All such proposed amendments, together with the recommendations of the Board of Directors, shall be **published** via society newsletter or e-mailed to the membership at least 21 days prior to the Annual Meeting;
5. A two-thirds vote of members present at the Annual Meeting shall be required to amend these bylaws.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_ DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

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

---

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2013**

---

APPLICANTS NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS STREET, CITY, STATE &amp; 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**