



## President's Message

Now that was quick! What happened to 2016? Here we are face to face with ....2017.

I know our board has been busy during 2016. We held a mini-retreat in late January to re-group and strengthen our society. Our 2017 seminar planning moved forward step by step, month by month. We received a grant from the City of Burlington's Lodging Tax Fund 2017 which allowed us to expand our normal one day event to three days. As we prepare for our April 21-23 seminar, we'll be looking for assistance so volunteer to help where you can.

Also in 2016 we offered beginner genealogy classes during the month of October. Besides teaching these classes, outside speaking gigs by George Ridgeway and Barbara Johnson have kept them busy. Excellent programs throughout the year at our monthly membership meetings have kept us educated with more to come. Thank you, Margie Wilson! Through our education classes and programs we are gaining new members.

All through 2016 our library volunteers and our Genealogist Diane Partington have worked with the public to educate and assist them in their genealogy research. All phases of our society's educational program are important for enhancing our mutual interest in genealogy. I give a special "Thank you" to all of our officers, board members and volunteers who keep our society moving forward. Let's keep it fun and continue to grow.

Volume 31 Number 1  
 President: John Hayes  
 Newsletter: Dottie Chandler  
 PO BOX 715, CONWAY, WA 98238-0715  
 Web site: skagitvalleygenealogy.org

As we step into 2017, publicity releases will be made to promote and encourage attendance to our April 21-23, 2017 seminar with the theme of "O Canada! Children of a Common Mother" Heritage Weekend. Friday evening includes a reception and keynote address by Dave Obee a well-known genealogist from Victoria, Canada. On Saturday our Genealogy Seminar features two speakers Dave Obee and Mary Kathryn Kozy, a popular genealogist from Kent, WA. Our weekend concludes on Sunday with a Historical Walking Tour of downtown Burlington. Watch for more detailed information on this seminar weekend.

Hope you enjoyed your Christmas holidays and survived an early peek of winter. Our board wishes you all a bright and shiny 2017!

*John Hayes*

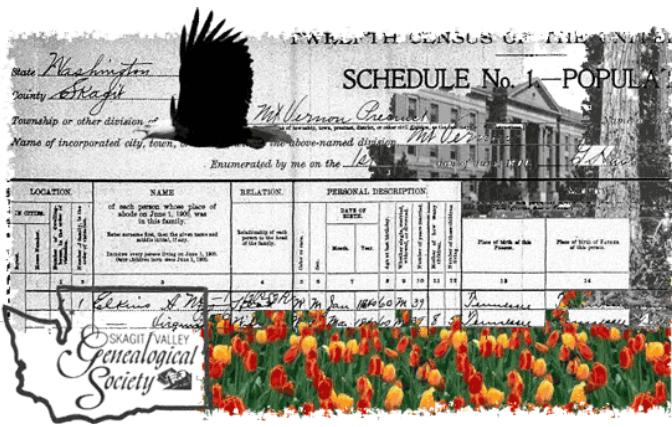
President  
[rosie@valleyint.com](mailto:rosie@valleyint.com)  
 360-424-4608

### *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.

## 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.



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

**Vice President:** Margie Wilson  
360-798-1681 [wilsongm@frontier.com](mailto:wilsongm@frontier.com)

**Secretary:** **OPEN**

**Treasurer:** Candice Soine  
360-755-9071 [rainshadowdals@gmailcom](mailto:rainshadowdals@gmailcom)

**Past President:** George Ridgeway  
360-424-4427 [4george30@comcast.net](mailto:4george30@comcast.net)

**Archival Historian:** Dan Royal  
360-826-6141 [dmoroyal@earthlink.net](mailto:dmoroyal@earthlink.net)

**Education:** **Barbara Johnson**

**Genealogist:** Diane Partington  
360-336-5832 [nonie.dl@comcast.net](mailto:nonie.dl@comcast.net)

**Librarian:** Margie Wilson  
360-798-1681 [wilsongm@frontier.com](mailto:wilsongm@frontier.com)

**Membership:** Candice Soine

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

**Newsletter:**  
v3 360-757-0966

Dottie Chandler  
[dotcom10@frontier.com](mailto:dotcom10@frontier.com)

**Webmaster:**  
360-424-4427

George Ridgeway  
[4george30@comcast.net](mailto:4george30@comcast.net)

**Projects :**

**Dan Royal/Dottie Chandler**

**Publicity:** Margie Wilson

**Member at Large:** **Lynn Torset**  
[torset@comcast.net](mailto:torset@comcast.net)

### Special Committees

**Communications:** Hazel Rasar/Candice Soine

**Sunshine:** Carol Nersten

**Nominating:**  
**OPEN**

**Audit/Budget:** **Candice Soine**  
360-755-9071 [rainshadowdals@gmailcom](mailto:rainshadowdals@gmailcom)

**Bylaws/Standing Rules:** Hazel Rasar  
[hrasar@gmailcom](mailto:hrasar@gmailcom)

**Refreshments:** **Rotating with volunteers**

**Raffles/Door Prizes:** Sharon Johnson  
[lsjohnson@outlook.com](mailto:lsjohnson@outlook.com)

**Seminar:** Board Members

**SOCIETY EMAIL:** [genealogy0715@gmail.com](mailto: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 the newsletter, please send to... *Ye Editor*

## Skagit Valley Genealogical Society

### Monthly Meetings Program Calendar 2017

Meetings: 2nd Saturdays, 1-3pm | Burlington Senior Center | 1011 Greenleaf | Burlington  
skagitvalleygenealogy.org | genealogy0715@gmail.com

---

#### **Sat., January 14 – The Scandinavian Immigrant Experience – Linda Duffield**

The Pacific Lutheran University (PLU) is home to the “Scandinavian Immigrant Experiences” Collection. The collection, stored in their Archives, is accessible for research in person or using an on-line database and includes oral interviews, taped conversations, and photographs. The presentation will inform and assist you in navigating access to documentation of the 282 immigrants interviewed by PLU students. At the end of the presentation, you should be able to use the online database, or visit the archives to retrieve pertinent information.

Discover the fascinating oral histories Norwegian and Swedish families of the Pacific Northwest. *Update:* Former college dean and SVGS member, Bill Langworthy, has been researching his family roots for many years. His topic hasn't been revealed yet, but it is sure to be an educational program for all of us in SVGS.

#### **Sat., March 11 -- Physical and Mental Health in Your Family Tree - Janice Lovelace, PhD**

Our ancestors lived in times where medical science was not as advanced as it is today. The names of illnesses, what people thought caused them, and how their illness were treated will be discussed.

#### **Sat., April 8 -- SVGS 30th Anniversary and Speaker – Donna Potter Phillips**

##### ***Location Update: Meeting to be at Burlington Library, 820 E. Washington, Conference Room***

Spokane area genealogist, and sought after speaker, Donna Potter Phillips, will be traveling across the mountains to bring SVGS a timely and informative program. Stay tuned for details. Join us for a festive afternoon celebrating SVGS' 30 years of supporting the genealogy community.

#### **Fri-Sun, April 21-23 – O Canada! Heritage Weekend – Dave Obee & Mary Kathryn Kozy speakers**

Reception/Keynote: Fri. Apr. 21, 7-9pm, Burlington Senior Center

Genealogy Seminar: Sat. Apr. 22, 8-4:30pm, 1st United Methodist Church

1607 E. Division, Mount Vernon, WA

Walking Tour of Historic Burlington: Sun. Apr. 23, 10am-noon

Burlington Chamber of Commerce, 520 E. Fairhaven.

On-line registration opens Jan. 2, 2017. For details and registration: [skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org)

#### **Sat., May 13 -- Time Will Tell: Using Timelines to Understand Our Ancestors – Mary Kircher Roddy**

Mary Kircher Roddy returns with her program about designing timeline to place our ancestors in place and time. This is a research technique that all family historians can use to deepen their understanding of world and local history and how it influenced their ancestors' lives and decisions.

#### **Sat. June 10 -- What's in a Name? The Origin of Surnames – Margie Wilson**

Ethnic groups vary in their naming traditions and patterns. Discovering these diverse traditions just may help you with a brick wall. Learn the roots of our surnames and why they varied over time.

#### **July-August – no meetings -- back the 2nd Saturday in September**

## Library Report

Every now and then I come across a book that I just need to rave about. I've always been a bibliophile but taking up the hobby of genealogy has really exposed me to some very fine authors and print materials. Since SVGS is going to be hosting a seminar this spring on the theme "O Canada! Children of a Common Mother," I purchased for the SVGS collection a sorely needed resource book on the subject of French-Canadian Sources. In fact, that's the title of the book, *French-Canadian Sources: A Guide for Genealogists* compiled by several authors from the French-Canadian/Acadian Genealogists of Wisconsin.

The hardbound book is attractive, well organized and the material spot-on helpful. One aspect I appreciate is the inclusive of an image of a handwritten vital record, that is in French, but below the photograph of the document the author's wisely include the original French text and a side-by-side English translation. Oh, if all my German and Polish documents could be so nicely presented with a translation, now that would make life a whole lot easier.

And that's not all, the book has Appendices from A-H. Covering a dictionary of key French words for genealogists, addresses for libraries and archives in Canada, Charts of Canadian Census records, time lines, a bit of history...its incredibly comprehensive. Makes me wish I had some French-Canadian ancestors so I can regularly browse through its pages.

So, come visit the SVGS collection at the Burlington Library. The book is in the "Other Countries" section, in the Canada books area. You'll be delighted with the books helpful guidance.

Also, thanks to Carol Nersten for her donation of a book on the history of Clear Lake, Sharon Johnson for her donation of a British book on *Tracing Your Ancestors at the Public Records Office*, and to Dan Royal for his donation of two family history books on the "Bumpus", and "Thorp" families.

Remember, the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month (except holiday weekends such as July 4 and Labor Day), there is a genealogy volunteer stationed at the Burlington Library in the SVGS book section. Bring your questions and data and the volunteers will orient you to the collection and be of assistance.

For those of you who enjoy making New Year's Resolutions, here's one for you....include a regular visit to the SVGS collection to see what materials there may further your research. Good luck!

--- Margie Wilson



### 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 1st Saturday from 11:00—1:00 to assist  
with questions.

Diane Partington from our society says that if anyone is looking for funeral or burial records from someone who died in Skagit County she can retrieve those records from 1908-1994.

If you are needing help with your genealogy give her a call. Her phone number is in our newsletter on page 2 under genealogist.

## Murphy's Law

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

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

You learn there is a county history on microfilm of the county your ancestors originated. It has 16000 pages and is not indexed.



Dear Abby:

I have always wanted to have my family history  
Traced, but I can't afford to spend a lot of money  
To do it. Any suggestions?

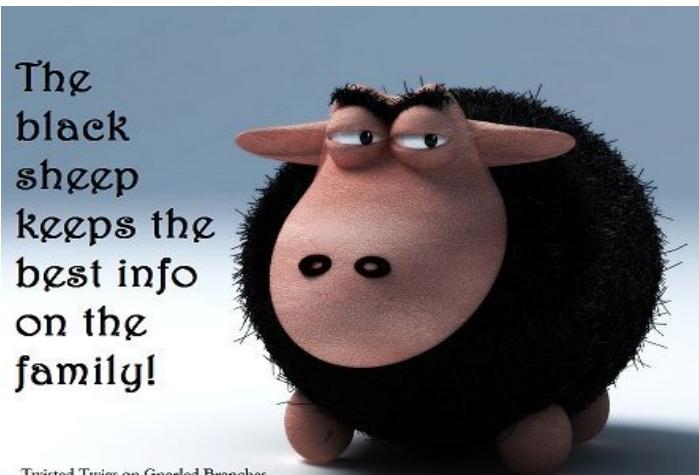
Sam in California

Dear Sam: Yes, Run for public office!

Genealogy

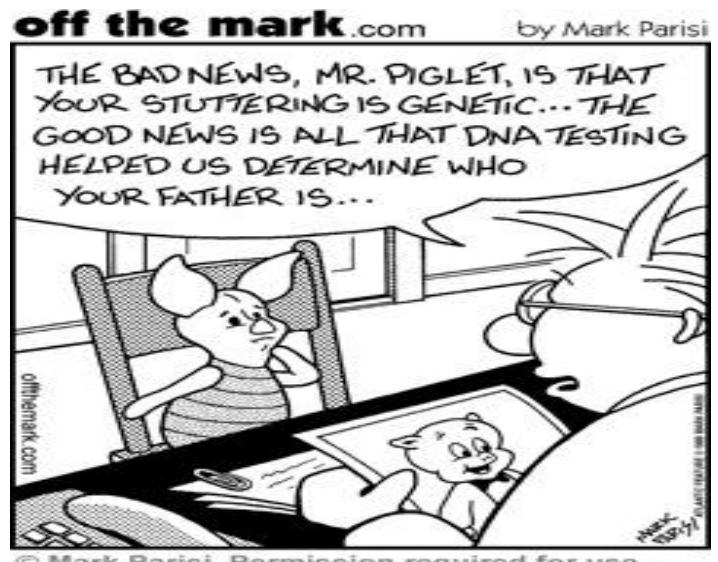
Genealogy begins as an interest,  
Becomes a hobby;  
Continues as an avocation,  
Takes over as an obsession,  
And in its last stages,  
Is an incurable disease.

Author Unknown



Twisted Twigs on Gnarled Branches

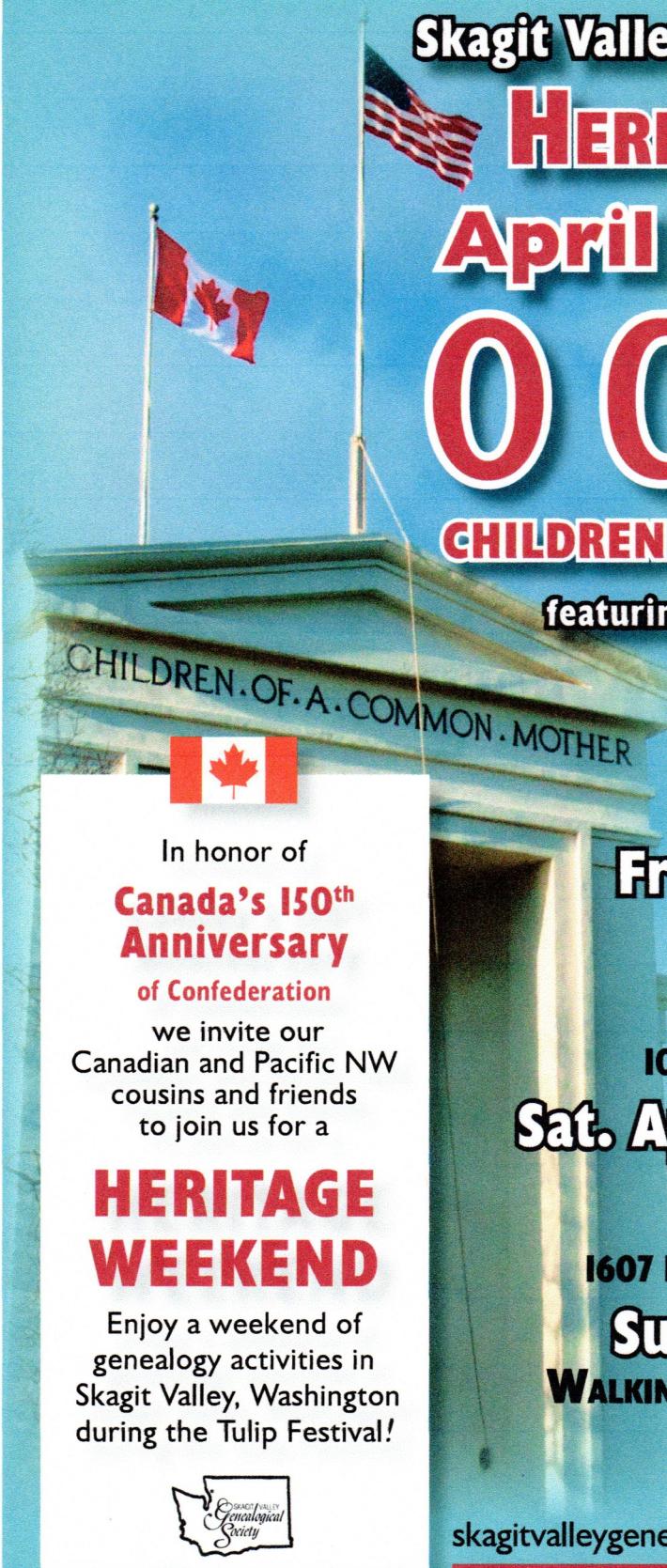
- Family history is all about recording "his story & her story."
- Definition of mythology: genealogy without documentation.
- Genealogy is all about chasing your own tale.
- Famous quote that applies (all too often) to questionable genealogy: "Get your facts first, then you can distort them as you please." —Mark Twain



### 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.



Skagit Valley Genealogical Society's

**HERITAGE WEEKEND**

**April 21-23, 2017**

**O Canada!**

**CHILDREN OF A COMMON MOTHER**

featuring Canadian & U.S. Genealogists:

**Dave Obee and  
Mary Kathryn Kozy**

**Fri. April 21 • 7pm-9pm**

**RECEPTION / CELEBRATION**

**Dave Obee, Keynote Speaker**

**Burlington Senior Center**

**1011 Greenleaf Ave. • Burlington, WA**

**Sat. April 22 • 8am-4:30pm**

**O CANADA! GENEALOGY SEMINAR**

**1st United Methodist Church**

**1607 E. Division St. • Mount Vernon, WA**

**Sun. April 23 • 10-Noon**

**WALKING TOUR OF HISTORIC BURLINGTON**

**Burlington Visitors' Center**

**520 E. Fairhaven • Burlington, WA**

[skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org) • [genealogy0715@gmail.com](mailto:genealogy0715@gmail.com)

In honor of  
**Canada's 150<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary**  
of Confederation

we invite our  
Canadian and Pacific NW  
cousins and friends  
to join us for a

**HERITAGE  
WEEKEND**

Enjoy a weekend of  
genealogy activities in  
Skagit Valley, Washington  
during the Tulip Festival!



Register on-line: [skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org) or contact: (360) 755-9071 or [genealogy0715@gmail.com](mailto:genealogy0715@gmail.com) for a mail in form to be sent to you.  
O Canada! Heritage Weekend is made possible by the City of Burlington's Lodging Tax Fund 2017. See reverse side or [skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org) for a listing of Burlington's accommodations.

## About the Seminar Speakers:

### Dave Obee

is the Editor-in-Chief of the *Times Colonist* in Victoria, B.C., a contributing columnist for *Internet Genealogy Magazine* and *Family Chronicle Magazine*. He has written a dozen books on both history and genealogy and given over 400 presentations in the U.S. and Canada since 1997. Dave has received numerous awards for his historical research, community volunteerism, and professional journalism. He has visited 17 European countries conducting genealogy research. He is a past-president of the Federation of East European Family History Societies and continues his service as FEEHS' webmaster. Dave brings his extensive research, historical perspective, wit and wisdom to this Canadian themed seminar.

### Mary Kathryn Kozy

is one of the most popular genealogy lecturers in the Puget Sound area. She will be presenting the U.S.' perspective on immigration research and overcoming its many challenges. Mary Kathryn has been a genealogist for over 30 years. Over the years her research has focused on the United States and both Western and Eastern Europe. She currently serves as the Region 2 Representative for Washington State Genealogical Society and serves on the Jewish Genealogical Society of Washington State board. She also coordinates five USGenWeb counties, and teaches seminars to whoever will listen! She recently completed her second bachelor's degree, in Information Technology and Systems and has started serving as a part-time FamilySearch.org Support Missionary for the LDS Church. **P.O. Box 722**  
**Mount Vernon, WA 98273-0722**  
**U.S.A.**  
**CHILDREN OF A**

**Skagit Valley Genealogical Society** invites you to a special heritage weekend in celebration of the 150th Anniversary of Canada's Confederation. Weekend activities include: An opening reception with keynote speaker, Dave Obee; a full-day genealogy seminar; and a living history walking tour. Plus, while in the Skagit Valley, take time to also enjoy the Skagit Valley Tulip Festival's many activities or outlet shopping.

### Thank You to the City of Burlington

O Canada! Heritage Weekend's three days of genealogy and history events were made possible by the City of Burlington's Lodging Tax Fund 2017.

## Burlington Lodging

### CANDLEWOOD SUITES

1866 South Burlington Blvd.  
Burlington, WA 98233 | 360.755.3300  
[candlewoodsuites.com/burlingtonwa](http://candlewoodsuites.com/burlingtonwa)

### COUSA MOTEL

370 W. Rio Vista Avenue  
Burlington, WA 98233 | 360.757-6044  
[cocusamotel.com](http://cocusamotel.com)

### FAIRFIELD INN AND SUITES

9384 Old Highway 99 North  
Burlington, WA 98233 | 360.757-2717  
[marriott.com/otsfs](http://marriott.com/otsfs)

### HAMPTON INN AND SUITES HOTEL

1860 So. Burlington Blvd.  
Burlington, WA 98233 | 360.757-7100  
[burlingtonsuites.hamptoninn.com](http://burlingtonsuites.hamptoninn.com)

### HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES\*

900 Andis Road  
Burlington, WA 98233 | 360.755-7338  
[hiexpress.com/burlingtonwa](http://hiexpress.com/burlingtonwa)

\*For your convenience, Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites is reserving a block of rooms for SVGS' seminar attendees. A credit card is needed to make your reservation. Just mention "O Canada! Seminar and SVGS."

### For more visitors' information contact:

**Burlington Chamber of Commerce  
& Visitors' Information Center**  
[burlington-chamber.com](http://burlington-chamber.com) • 360.757-0994

**For the Tulip Festival visit: [tulipfestival.org](http://tulipfestival.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 - 2017**

---

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

We look forward with great anticipation to our spring seminar "O Canada! Children of a Common Mother" scheduled for April 21-23. Our Heritage Weekend kicks off on Friday with a reception honoring the 150th Anniversary of Canada's Confederation. A keynote address by Canadian historian and genealogy lecturer, Dave Obee, will be the highlight Friday evening at the Burlington Senior Center. The seminar on Saturday at the First United Methodist Church, 1607 E. Division Street in Mount Vernon will feature two speakers Dave Obee and Mary Kathryn Kozy. Topics include "Destination Canada", "Mining the Canadian Census", "Naturalization and Ships' Lists" and "Tracing People Through Space & Time Using Time-lines". On Sunday a Guided Historic Walking Tour of Burlington will be offered beginning at 10 am. This tour is free and will be led by a living history interpreter.

Seminar registration information is available on our website at: [skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org) or on brochures currently available at our meetings and the Burlington Public Library in our Genealogy Section.

Our general meeting program on March 11 will feature Janice Lovelace, PhD, presenting "How Healthy is Your Family Tree?" Our ancestors lived in times where medical science was not as advanced as it is today. The names of illnesses, what people thought caused them and how their illnesses were treated will be discussed.

Volume 31 Number 1  
 President: John Hayes  
 Newsletter: Dottie Chandler  
 PO BOX 715, CONWAY, WA 98238-0715  
 Web site: [skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org)

On April 8 Donna Potter Phillips will present "SVGS 30th Anniversary". Donna is a Spokane area genealogist and popular speaker. Join us for a festive afternoon celebrating SVGS' 30 years of supporting the genealogy community. Note that this meeting will take place at the Burlington Library, 820 E. Washington in the conference room.

Oh, yes, please be sure your 2017 society dues are paid. We would like to keep you informed about our activities and help you overcome those pesky brick walls.

*John Hayes*

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

### *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.

## 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.



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

**Vice President:** Margie Wilson  
360-798-1681 [wilsongm@frontier.com](mailto:wilsongm@frontier.com)

**Secretary:** **OPEN**

**Treasurer:** Candice Soine  
360-755-9071 [rainshadowdals@gmail.com](mailto:rainshadowdals@gmail.com)

**Past President:** George Ridgeway  
360-424-4427 [4george30@comcast.net](mailto:4george30@comcast.net)

**Archival Historian:** Dan Royal  
360-826-6141 [dmoroyal@earthlink.net](mailto:dmoroyal@earthlink.net)

**Education:** **Barbara Johnson**

**Genealogist:** Diane Partington  
360-336-5832 [nonie.dl@comcast.net](mailto:nonie.dl@comcast.net)

**Librarian:** Margie Wilson  
360-798-1681 [wilsongm@frontier.com](mailto:wilsongm@frontier.com)

**Membership:** Candice Soine

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

**Newsletter:** Dottie Chandler  
v3 360-757-0966 [dotcom10@frontier.com](mailto:dotcom10@frontier.com)

**Webmaster:** George Ridgeway  
360-424-4427 [4george30@comcast.net](mailto:4george30@comcast.net)

**Projects :** **Dan Royal/Dottie Chandler**

**Publicity:** Margie Wilson

**Member at Large:** **Lynn Torset**  
[torset@comcast.net](mailto:torset@comcast.net)

### Special Committees

**Communications:** Hazel Rasar/Candice Soine

**Sunshine:** Carol Nersten

**Nominating:**  
**OPEN**

**Audit/Budget:** **Candice Soine**  
360-755-9071 [rainshadowdals@gmail.com](mailto:rainshadowdals@gmail.com)

**Bylaws/Standing Rules:** Hazel Rasar  
[hrasar@gmail.com](mailto:hrasar@gmail.com)

**Refreshments:** **Rotating with volunteers**

**Raffles/Door Prizes:** Sharon Johnson  
[lsjohnson@outlook.com](mailto:lsjohnson@outlook.com)

**Seminar:** Board Members

**SOCIETY EMAIL:** [genealogy0715@gmail.com](mailto: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 the newsletter, please send to... *Ye Editor*

## Skagit Valley Genealogical Society

### Monthly Meetings Program Calendar 2017

Meetings: 2nd Saturdays, 1-3pm | Burlington Senior Center | 1011 Greenleaf | Burlington  
skagitvalleygenealogy.org | genealogy0715@gmail.com

---

#### **Sat., March 11 -- Physical and Mental Health in Your Family Tree - *Janice Lovelace, PhD***

Our ancestors lived in times where medical science was not as advanced as it is today. The names of illnesses, what people thought caused them, and how their illness were treated will be discussed.

#### **Sat., April 8 -- SVGS 30th Anniversary and Speaker – *Donna Potter Phillips***

##### ***Location Update: Meeting to be at Burlington Library, 820 E. Washington, Conference Room***

Spokane area genealogist, and sought after speaker, Donna Potter Phillips, will be traveling across the mountains to bring SVGS a timely and informative program. Stay tuned for details. Join us for a festive afternoon celebrating SVGS' 30 years of supporting the genealogy community.

#### **Fri-Sun, April 21-23 – O Canada! Heritage Weekend – *Dave Obee & Mary Kathryn Kozy speakers***

Reception/Keynote: Fri. Apr. 21, 7-9pm, Burlington Senior Center

Genealogy Seminar: Sat. Apr. 22, 8-4:30pm, 1st United Methodist Church  
1607 E. Division, Mount Vernon, WA

Walking Tour of Historic Burlington: Sun. Apr. 23, 10am-noon  
Burlington Chamber of Commerce, 520 E. Fairhaven.

On-line registration opens Jan. 2, 2017. For details and registration: [skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org)

#### **Sat., May 13 -- Time Will Tell: Using Timelines to Understand Our Ancestors – *Mary Kircher Roddy***

Mary Kircher Roddy returns with her program about designing timeline to place our ancestors in place and time. This is a research technique that all family historians can use to deepen their understanding of world and local history and how it influenced their ancestors' lives and decisions.

#### **Sat. June 10 -- What's in a Name? The Origin of Surnames – *Margie Wilson***

Ethnic groups vary in their naming traditions and patterns. Discovering these diverse traditions just may help you with a brick wall. Learn the roots of our surnames and why they varied over time.

## Library Report

Every now and then I come across a book that I just need to rave about. I've always been a bibliophile but taking up the hobby of genealogy has really exposed me to some very fine authors and print materials. Since SVGS is going to be hosting a seminar this spring on the theme "O Canada! Children of a Common Mother," I purchased for the SVGS collection a sorely needed resource book on the subject of French-Canadian Sources. In fact, that's the title of the book, *French-Canadian Sources: A Guide for Genealogists* compiled by several authors from the French-Canadian/Acadian Genealogists of Wisconsin.

The hardbound book is attractive, well organized and the material spot-on helpful. One aspect I appreciate is the inclusive of an image of a handwritten vital record, that is in French, but below the photograph of the document the author's wisely include the original French text and a side-by-side English translation. Oh, if all my German and Polish documents could be so nicely presented with a translation, now that would make life a whole lot easier.

And that's not all, the book has Appendices from A-H. Covering a dictionary of key French words for genealogists, addresses for libraries and archives in Canada, Charts of Canadian Census records, time lines, a bit of history...its incredibly comprehensive. Makes me wish I had some French-Canadian ancestors so I can regularly browse through its pages.

So, come visit the SVGS collection at the Burlington Library. The book is in the "Other Countries" section, in the Canada books area. You'll be delighted with the books helpful guidance.

Also, thanks to Carol Nersten for her donation of a book on the history of Clear Lake, Sharon Johnson for her donation of a British book on *Tracing Your Ancestors at the Public Records Office*, and to Dan Royal for his donation of two family history books on the "Bumpus", and "Thorp" families.

Remember, the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month (except holiday weekends such as July 4 and Labor Day), there is a genealogy volunteer stationed at the Burlington Library in the SVGS book section. Bring your questions and data and the volunteers will orient you to the collection and be of assistance.

For those of you who enjoy making New Year's Resolutions, here's one for you....include a regular visit to the SVGS collection to see what materials there may further your research. Good luck!

--- Margie Wilson



### 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 1st Saturday from 11:00—1:00 to assist  
with questions.

Diane Partington from our society says that if anyone is looking for funeral or burial records from someone who died in Skagit County she can retrieve those records from 1908-1994.

If you are needing help with your genealogy give her a call. Her phone number is in our newsletter on page 2 under genealogist.

## SVGS Secretary & Raffle Chair Needed

Hi Folks,

Our society needs a **Secretary** and at this point we can make it a full time or a part time position. The pay is the same...my gratitude and ditto from our board. You can volunteer for a meeting or two as a tryout. This is a volunteer position for two hours to take minutes on the second Saturday morning of each month except July, August and December. The same position is also available for our second Saturday afternoon meetings. Let me know if you or anyone else might be interested in giving it a try.

Our **Raffle Chair** for many years, Sharon Johnson, has resigned this position so we are looking for a volunteer to take over this committee. This involves coming up with two or three raffle items for each of our Saturday afternoon meetings. At the meetings the chair sells raffle tickets and after the meeting break the winning tickets are drawn. The society reimburses the chair for any items purchased. Remember with no Raffle Chairperson, no raffles!

Refer your questions to me and if I can't answer them, I'll ask Sharon. On this point I'd like to thank her for adding fun to our monthly meetings for many years.

Thanks, Sharon!

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

### 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.

**AmazonSmile** is a program operated by Amazon that generates donations for 501© (3) public charitable organizations. For program information, please go to <https://org.amazon.com>.

### WELCOME TO FRED MEYER COMMUNITY REWARDS!

What is Community Rewards?

It is the latest addition to the Fred Meyer Rewards Program where you can earn donations for your favorite nonprofit just by shopping with your Rewards Card. Fred Meyer will donate \$2.5 million to nonprofits in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington in 2014 through this new program. Here's how it works: Link your Rewards Card to your favorite nonprofit at [www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards](http://www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards). Whenever you use your Rewards card when shopping at Freddy's, you'll be helping the nonprofit linked to your Rewards Card to earn a donation from Fred Meyer. At the end of each quarter, Fred Meyer will make a donation to participating nonprofits based on the accumulated spending of the Rewards customers linked to each nonprofit. Fred Meyer will donate \$625,000 each quarter via Community Rewards! Do I still get Rewards Points, Fuel Points and Rebates? YES! Rewards Customers still get the Rewards Points, Fuel Points and Rebates.

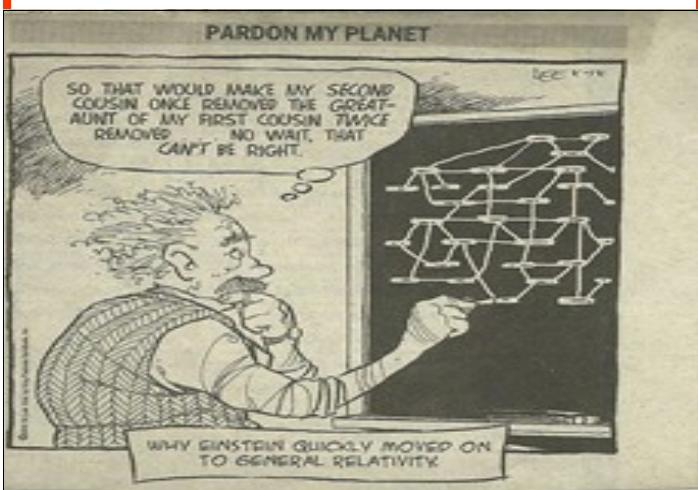
So please go to these sites and help us out. It is appreciated.

"He who has no fools, knaves, or beggars in his family was begot by a flash lightning."

Old English Proverb

"We are the children of many sires, and every drop of blood in us in its turn .... Betrays its ancestors."

Ralph Waldo Emerson



Skagit Valley Genealogical Society's**HERITAGE WEEKEND****April 21-23, 2017****O Canada!****CHILDREN OF A COMMON MOTHER**

featuring Canadian &amp; U.S. Genealogists:

**Dave Obee and  
Mary Kathryn Kozy****Fri. April 21 • 7pm-9pm****RECEPTION / CELEBRATION****Dave Obee, Keynote Speaker  
Burlington Senior Center****1011 Greenleaf Ave. • Burlington, WA****Sat. April 22 • 8am-4:30pm****O CANADA! GENEALOGY SEMINAR****1st United Methodist Church  
1607 E. Division St. • Mount Vernon, WA****Sun. April 23 • 10-Noon****WALKING TOUR OF HISTORIC BURLINGTON****Burlington Visitors' Center****520 E. Fairhaven • Burlington, WA****skagitvalleygenealogy.org • genealogy0715@gmail.com**

In honor of

**Canada's 150<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary**

of Confederation

we invite our  
Canadian and Pacific NW  
cousins and friends  
to join us for a**HERITAGE  
WEEKEND**Enjoy a weekend of  
genealogy activities in  
Skagit Valley, Washington  
during the Tulip Festival!Register on-line: [skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org) or contact: (360) 755-9071 or [genealogy0715@gmail.com](mailto:genealogy0715@gmail.com) for a mail in form to be sent to you.  
O Canada! Heritage Weekend is made possible by the City of Burlington's Lodging Tax Fund 2017. See reverse side or [skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org) for a listing of Burlington's accommodations.

## About the Seminar Speakers:

### Dave Obee

is the Editor-in-Chief of the *Times Colonist* in Victoria, B.C., a contributing columnist for *Internet Genealogy Magazine* and *Family Chronicle Magazine*. He has written a dozen books on both history and genealogy and given over 400 presentations in the U.S. and Canada since 1997. Dave has received numerous awards for his historical research, community volunteerism, and professional journalism. He has visited 17 European countries conducting genealogy research. He is a past-president of the Federation of East European Family History Societies and continues his service as FEEHS' webmaster. Dave brings his extensive research, historical perspective, wit and wisdom to this Canadian themed seminar.

### Mary Kathryn Kozy

is one of the most popular genealogy lecturers in the Puget Sound area. She will be presenting the U.S.' perspective on immigration research and overcoming its many challenges. Mary Kathryn has been a genealogist for over 30 years. Over the years her research has focused on the United States and both Western and Eastern Europe. She currently serves as the Region 2 Representative for Washington State Genealogical Society and serves on the Jewish Genealogical Society of Washington State board. She also coordinates five USGenWeb counties, and teaches seminars to whoever will listen! She recently completed her second bachelor's degree, in Information Technology and Systems and has started serving as a part-time FamilySearch.org Support Missionary for the LDS Church.

**P.O. Box 722**  
**Mount Vernon, WA 98273-0722**  
**U.S.A.**  
**CHILDRENOFA**  
**COMMONMOTHER**

### Skagit ValleyGenealogical Society

invites you to a special heritage weekend in celebration of the 150th Anniversary of Canada's Confederation. Weekend activities include: An opening reception with keynote speaker, Dave Obee; a full-day genealogy seminar; and a living history walking tour. Plus, while in the Skagit Valley, take time to also enjoy the Skagit Valley Tulip Festival's many activities or outlet shopping.

### Thank You to the City of Burlington

O Canada! Heritage Weekend's three days of genealogy and history events were made possible by the City of Burlington's Lodging Tax Fund 2017.

## Burlington Lodging

### CANDLEWOOD SUITES

1866 South Burlington Blvd.  
 Burlington, WA 98233 | 360.755.3300  
[candlewoodsuites.com/burlingtonwa](http://candlewoodsuites.com/burlingtonwa)

### COUSA MOTEL

370 W. Rio Vista Avenue  
 Burlington, WA 98233 | 360.757-6044  
[cocusamotel.com](http://cocusamotel.com)

### FAIRFIELD INN AND SUITES

9384 Old Highway 99 North  
 Burlington, WA 98233 | 360.757-2717  
[marriott.com/otsfs](http://marriott.com/otsfs)

### HAMPTON INN AND SUITES HOTEL

1860 So. Burlington Blvd.  
 Burlington, WA 98233 | 360.757-7100  
[burlingtonsuites.hamptoninn.com](http://burlingtonsuites.hamptoninn.com)

### HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES\*

900 Andis Road  
 Burlington, WA 98233 | 360.755-7338  
[hiexpress.com/burlingtonwa](http://hiexpress.com/burlingtonwa)

\*For your convenience, Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites is reserving a block of rooms for SVGS' seminar attendees. A credit card is needed to make your reservation. Just mention "O Canada! Seminar and SVGS."

### For more visitors' information contact:

**Burlington Chamber of Commerce**  
**& Visitors' Information Center**  
[burlington-chamber.com](http://burlington-chamber.com) • 360.757-0994

**For the Tulip Festival visit: [tulipfestival.org](http://tulipfestival.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 - 2017**

---

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

Finally summer feels like it is just around the corner as our cool wet spring reluctantly releases its grip. Our very educational seminar is past us and your board is moving ahead. They are currently working with a couple of different groups that have requested some genealogy classes. More details will be provided later.

V.P. Margie Wilson has arranged for "A Salem Witch Trial Re-Enactment by Actual Descendants" for our June 10 meeting. This original presentation by Tessa and Rita Schulze is based on a true story of their ancestors who were accused of witchcraft in Salem, Massachusetts. Their readings are taken directly from the witch trial records they have researched and discovered. This should be a fascinating presentation.

As you may recall we have no meetings in July and August so you can concentrate on family reunions, trips and further your genealogy research over the summer.

On September 9 our own Education Chair Barbara Johnson will present one of her favorite subjects "DNA and Genealogy. Having your DNA checked is easy and you'll find it adds more background information on where your family originated. Barbara will explain some of the mysteries of DNA.

Enjoy our June meeting and have a safe summer. Good luck with your research!

*John Hayes*

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

Volume 31 Number 3  
 President: John Hayes  
 Newsletter: Dottie Chandler  
 PO BOX 715, CONWAY, WA 98238-0715  
 Web site: [skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org)

**AmazonSmile** is a program operated by Amazon that generates donations for 501© (3) public charitable organizations. For program information, please go to <https://org.amazon.com>.

## WELCOME TO FRED MEYER COMMUNITY REWARDS!

What is Community Rewards?

It is the latest addition to the Fred Meyer Rewards Program where you can earn donations for your favorite nonprofit just by shopping with your Rewards Card. Fred Meyer will donate \$2.5 million to nonprofits in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington in 2014 through this new program. Here's how it works: Link your Rewards Card to your favorite nonprofit at [www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards](http://www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards). Whenever you use your Rewards card when shopping at Freddy's, you'll be helping the nonprofit linked to your Rewards Card to earn a donation from Fred Meyer. At the end of each quarter, Fred Meyer will make a donation to participating nonprofits based on the accumulated spending of the Rewards customers linked to each nonprofit. Fred Meyer will donate \$625,000 each quarter via Community Rewards! Do I still get Rewards Points, Fuel Points and Rebates? YES! Rewards Customers still get the Rewards Points, Fuel Points and Rebates.

So please go to these sites and help us out. It is appreciated.

## OXYMORONS < ENIGMAS & THEORIES ABOUT GENEALOGY

**Oxymoron:** "I love history, but I dislike genealogy." Don't you want to tell these people that genealogy is family history?

**Enigma:** How so many published trees record people who died before they were born.

**Murphy's Law of Genealogy:** Your ancestor's maiden name will be recorded on the one record page that is missing.



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

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

**Secretary:** **OPEN**

**Treasurer:** Candice Soine  
360-755-9071 rainshadowdals@gmailcom

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

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

**Education:** **Barbara Johnson**

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

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

**Membership:** Candice Soine

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

**Newsletter:** Dottie Chandler  
v3 360-757-0966 dotcom10@frontier.com

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

**Projects :** **Dan Royal/Dottie Chandler**

**Publicity:** Margie Wilson

**Member at Large:** **Lynn Torset**  
torset@comcast.net

### Special Committees

**Communications:** Hazel Rasar/Candice Soine

**Sunshine:** Carol Nersten

**Nominating:**  
**OPEN**

**Audit/Budget:** **Candice Soine**  
360-755-9071 rainshadowdals@gmailcom

**Bylaws/Standing Rules:** Hazel Rasar  
hrasar@gmailcom

**Refreshments:** **Rotating with volunteers**

**Raffles/Door Prizes:** Carol Nersten

**Seminar:** Board Members

**SOCIETY EMAIL:** 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 the newsletter, please send to... *Ye Editor*

## SVGS Library Notes – Spring/Summer 2017

### NEW ADDITIONS:

There are a couple of local history books being added to the SVGS collection this month. First: A brand new hardcover book by local authors, Patricia Hanstad Pleas, Janet K. Utgard and Andrea Millward Xaver. All three ladies are descendants of Skagit County pioneers. The title is, *Images of America: Fir Island and Conway*. The Images of America book series are published by Arcadia Publishing and include local histories from towns across the U.S.A. I enjoy these books as they feature historic photographs of the towns and the pioneer families. You can find this new book in the Skagit section (top shelf of the lower bank of shelves below the sign-in sheet at the library). The book shelf # is: SKAGIT .0136. I hope you will come by and browse through the book and learn a bit more about Skagit County's early beginnings. This 2017 published book is now available at the Skagit County Historical Museum, The Tattered Page Bookstore in Mount Vernon and I've also seen it on [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com).\*

Second: Another history/biographical book by author, Chris C. Siegel, will be added to the SVGS collection. The book was published in 1948. The title of this volume is: *Early History of Ferndale and Ten Mile Townships – Whatcom County, Washington*. In the back of the book is included a list of Ferndale township homesteaders from 1871 to 1889. This is a small paperback book (110 pages) with brief biographies and historic photographs. This small paperback is a quick read and fine excuse to come in and visit the SVGS library collection at the Burlington Public Library (820 E. Washington Ave.) on a rainy day and read it cover to cover.

### GENEALOGY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE UPDATES:

A reminder for the summer months that due to the Fourth of July and Labor Day holidays falling on the first weekend of the month a genealogy volunteer will **not** be available on those two specific first Saturdays of the month. Otherwise, we hope to see you and help you with your genealogy questions on Saturdays, June 3, August 5 and October 5 between 11:00am to 1:00pm. The regular first Saturday genealogy volunteer schedule continues through the rest of the year.

As always, if you would like to learn more about becoming an SVGS Library Volunteer please contact me. I will be glad to give you an orientation to the library collection and you can shadow other library volunteers for a while until you feel confident to go solo staffing the library volunteer time.

### AN EASY WAY TO SUPPORT SVGS:

\*The benefit of purchasing books from [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) is that you can designate SVGS to receive money back quarterly from your purchases. Nothing is deducted or added to your purchase price – [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) just “gives back” to non-profits via that program. I encourage you to link your regular Amazon.com account to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and designate Skagit Valley Genealogical Society as the non-profit you wish to support through your online purchases through [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com). Imagine, at the end of the year how all those combined purchases can really add up and help our society in so many ways.

Enjoy your summer of family history researching. I hope you also find some opportunities for “genealogy tourism” to seminars, conferences, visiting libraries, archives, and historical museums – both locally, in the US or – whoo hoo – in the village and/or country of your ancestors!! May you make many great discoveries!

~ Margie Wilson, SVGS Librarian

## Genealogy's often misspelled words

**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 “cemetary.” 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,” “ancestor.”

**History**— More than once have I seen someone refer to their “family history” 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, descendent and many others.

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

This is an article from Eastman’s Online Genealogy Newsletter-Plus Edition from April 6th, 2013

## Genealogy Humor

Hillary, an amateur genealogical researcher, discovered that her great-great uncle, Remus Rodham, a fellow lacking in character, was hanged for horse stealing and train robbery in Montana in 1889. The only known photograph of Remus shows him standing on the gallows.



On the back of the picture is this inscription: “Remus Rodham; horse thief, sent to Montana Territorial Prison 1885, escaped 1887, robbed the Montana Flyer six times. Caught by Pinkerton detectives, convicted and hanged in 1889.”

In Hillary’s Family History, her staff of professional image consultants cropped Remus’s picture, scanned it, enlarged the image, and edited it with image processing software so that all that’s seen is a head shot.

The accompanying biographical sketch is as follows:

“Remus Rodham was a famous cowboy in the Montana Territory. His business empire grew to include acquisition of valuable equestrian assets and intimate dealings with the Montana railroad. Beginning in 1883, he devoted several years of his life to service at a government facility, finally taking leave to resume his dealings with the railroad. In 1887, he was a key player in a vital investigation run by the renowned Pinkerton Detective Agency. In 1889, Remus passed away during an important civic function held in his honor when the platform upon which he was standing collapsed.”



### Burlington Public Library

820 E Washington Ave  
Burlington, WA 98233  
Phone (360) 755-0760  
Email:  
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 1st Saturday from 11:00—1:00

# Skagit Valley Genealogical Society

Monthly Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays, 1-3pm

Burlington Senior Center | 1011 Greenleaf Ave. | Burlington, WA | [skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org) | [genealogy0715@gmail.com](mailto:genealogy0715@gmail.com)

## ---- 2017 Schedule----

**Sat. June 10** – **“Connecting the Past to Present: Bringing Our Ancestors to Life”**  
 -- Tessa and Rita Schulze  
 This is an original presentation by SVGS members, Tessa and Rita Schulze. This living history drama tells the true story of their ancestors who were accused and tried for witchcraft in Salem, Massachusetts. The plays dialog is taken directly from the witch trial records that they researched and discovered. Tessa and Rita researched, wrote the script for the play and even sewed their period costumes!. This will be a fascinating and unique family history program!

---- **July-August -- No meetings -- See you in September!** ----

**Sat. Sept. 9** – **“DNA and Genealogy”** – Barbara Johnson  
 Back by popular request is SVGS Education Chair, Barbara Johnson for another educational program on DNA! Barbara retired from the Seattle Science Center as a scientist and program instructor. A popular trend in the genealogy community is DNA testing. Which test is the best choice? How do DNA tests help you with your family history research? What are the different types of tests to choose from? Barbara will clarify these and many other questions so you can make an informed decision and add a DNA test in your research tool-kit.

**Note Topic Change:**

**Sat. Oct. 14** -- **“Researching Your Native American Ancestors”** -- Dr. Janice --C. Lovelace  
 Also back by request and on a new in-depth topic is Dr. Lovelace. Many of us have heard family stories such as, “your great-grandmother was an Indian princess.” How does a family researcher begin to discover if it is true? What federal, state and tribal records are available? Dr. Lovelace will help you unravel this puzzle with this Introduction to Native American Research.

**Sat. Nov. 11** -- **Annual Meeting and Honoring Our Military Ancestors on Veteran’s Day**  
 Do you have an ancestor who served in the military? (Revolutionary War, Civil War, WWI, WWII, Korean War or other war.) Please share with us your ancestor’s story to honor him or her for Veteran’s Day. Several short (<10 minute) presentations by several SVGS members would be interesting to hear and learn from. If you would like to give a presentation about your relative or ancestor please contact Margie Wilson ([rootsproject@frontier.com](mailto:rootsproject@frontier.com)/757-6224) to sign up. Please contact her by October 31 so she can add you to the schedule.

---- **December – No meeting -- See you on January 13, 2018** ----

### 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.

### 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.

## Connecting Past to Present

### Bringing the Family History to Life

The family was gathered in the living room, with lively chatter and laughter. The Christmas tree twinkled its merry comment as I slipped away.

In the backroom, my mother, Rita, helped transform me into a colonial puritan girl. I gathered my chart, and made my entrance.

This scene had really began years ago, when we had discovered that one of the family's ancestors was Mary Bradbury, one of the convicted witches of the famous Salem witch trials. Over the years I have gathered transcripts and copies of the pages of the old records pertaining to Mary's trial. Mary's story is a compelling glimpse of history and heritage.

My mother and I have sought to tell the family stories at family gatherings to give them a sense of their roots. Games and activities, including a photo booth, have been part of our Christmas celebration for several years. When I mentioned that I wanted to tell Mary's story in the form of a play, the idea evolved into a full production with colonial costumes for the photo booth. We scoured the shelves of thrift stores for costume parts and yards of fabric from old curtains, sheets and couch covers. We set about sewing and planning.

On Christmas day I stood amidst the colonial Christmas decorations of fruit, pineapple and swags of greenery with my chart in hand. We showed the lineage to Mary through many generations. As mom handed out the costumes the excitement and chatter rose.

We had been nervous about how the family would react to getting into costumes, but there was more excitement than trepidation as they put their costumes on, transforming into colonial ladies and gentlemen. Once gathered in the living room I handed out the scripts, and handed the magistrate his gavel. The trial began.

The Magistrate calls Mary Bradbury to the stand. "Mary Bradbury, you are charged with certain detestable arts called witchcraft, wickedly, maliciously, and feloniously practiced in the town of Andover in the county of..."

Mary Bradbury was seventy years old at the time of her trial, and in poor health. Rita, playing the matriarch of a large and well respected family, pleads her innocence, "I am a servant of Jesus Christ and have given myself to him as my only lord and savior, and am diligent in his service, in utter contempt and defiance of the devil..."

The testimony that follows gives insight into the deep superstitions of the times. Through the course of the play it becomes obvious that the evidence against Mary was solely based on the 'visions' of the accusers. At the time of the trials, there was an argument whether such evidence, called spectral evidence, should be allowed. Anyone could make such claims, and there was no way to refute the claims.

Indeed, Mary's accusers were from families that had long standing grudges against the Bradburys. A cameo of Mary and Thomas Bradbury brings to light the deep grudge the Carr family held against them, starting with Mary's refusal of George Carr's marriage proposal. Later, she had refused permission for her daughter, Jane, to marry John Carr, because she was too young to marry. John had become depressed, and then became ill and died. James Carr had also lost in love to one of Mary's sons as they had courted the same woman. Certainly the family's prosperity and connections to other prominent colonial families had given rise to envy and jealousy. The witch trials, reliant on spectral evidence, provided the atmosphere for old hatreds and grudges to churn to the surface as accusations fueled by the deep superstitions of the times.

The trial ends with Mary's conviction. The narrator tells how Mary, although convicted, was spared hanging. Her family and friends freed Mary and they fled to safety.

After the play was finished and the pictures taken, the family lingered for snacks and conversation. My mom and I were gratified by the number of conversations the play had spawned as they came to a greater understanding of their personal connection to history and the meaning imparted to the present. I was gratified that this was one family story that would not be forgotten on a page in my file.

Submitted by Tessa Schulze

## Genealogy Humor

"It is New Year's Eve 1852 and (ancestor's name redacted to protect the not-so-innocent) sits at his desk by candlelight. He dips his pen into the inkwell and begins to write his New Year's resolutions:

1. No man is truly well-educated unless he learns to spell his name at least three different ways within the same document.
2. I resolve to give the appearance of being extremely well-educated in the coming year.
3. I resolve to always alternate my kids' and wife's first and middle names when the census taker comes and to call my children by odd names which he is unable to spell correctly.
4. My age is no one's business but my own. I hereby resolve to never list the same age or birth year twice on any document.
5. I resolve to have each of my children baptized in a different church—either in a different faith or in a different parish. Every third child will not be baptized at all or will be baptized by an itinerant minister who keeps no records.
6. I resolve to move to a new town, new county or a new state at least once every ten years—just before those pesky enumerators come around asking silly questions. I also resolve that I shall be absent on the night of the census, or is unable to be absent on census night, I shall endeavor to be enumerated twice.
7. I will make every attempt to reside in counties and towns where vital records are maintained or where the courthouse burns down every few years.
8. I resolve to join an obscure religious cult that does not believe in record keeping or in participating in military service.
9. When the tax collector comes to my door, I'll loan him my pen which has been dipped in rapidly fading blue ink.
10. I resolve that if my beloved wife Mary should die I will marry another Mary.
11. I resolve not to make a will. Who needs to spend money on a lawyer?
12. I resolve to not clutter up good farm pastures with headstones that will just get broken or fade with time anyway.
13. I resolve to come from Ireland (where there are no records or if there are, they can only be examined by visiting the exact village, pleading with the local clergyman who is hostile to anyone not of his belief—you and/or require you to hand over a fee equal to or exceeding your yearly income for one hour's research which may not find anything.
14. I resolve that not only shall I not die in my country of birth, but neither shall my children (yea verily) unto

the sixth generation.

15. I resolve that I and most of my family shall die suddenly just before death certification is established, in a parish where easy access to the records ceases the previous year.
16. I resolve that when I die, my children/wife are instructed to give the wrong details for my death certificate.

## Best Genealogy Search Websites of 2017

As per Purch reviews by Renee Shipley

1. Ancestry-**Pros**/It has billions of records dating back to the turn of the millennium and including one of the most extensive collections of immigrations records. **Cons**/Subscription to access Ancestry's services cost more than its competitors charge.
2. MyHeritage-**Pros**/MyHeritage strongly encourages getting your whole family involved with genealogy by offering kids games and easy family sharing. **Cons**/It doesn't have Native American resources available.
3. FamilySearch-**Pros**/This genealogy website is free for anyone to use. **Cons**/It does not provide DNA testing services.
4. Archives—**Pros**/ This family history search has a wide range of document types, including newspapers dating back to the 1700s. **Cons**/Records only cover the U>S> and U>K> not even Canada or Australia are represented on Archives
5. Findmypast: **Pros**/has all of the crucial records we looked for in its database. **Cons**/this site doesn't offer much support outside of research articles or a FAQs section
6. OneGreatFamily—**Pros**/this site consistently evaluates sources for accuracy to avoid duplicates and incorrect reports. **Cons**/Material in the database depends on what members contribute. Any extra information has to come from an external link on the website.
7. Genealogy Bank -**Pros**/This is an excellent genealogy search engine for finding newspaper articles. **Cons**/The information focuses only on the United States
8. MyTrees-**Pros**/ It has distinct features like a professional genealogist directory data converter, family tree maker and learning center. **Cons**/Some sources that MyTrees taps into requires you to subscribe to their databases, in addition to your MyTrees subscription, in order to access them
9. The Genealogical Research Library—**Pros**/Materials in this database are categorized geographically so it is easy to begin research into the places significant to your family history. **Cons**/The Genealogical Research Library is all about solo research so it doesn't have extra features like family tree builders, DNA test or a community.

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 - 2017**

---

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

I hope your summer wasn't too hot and you were able to accomplish a bit of family research. The latest news from our board is we have a new address. Charter member Sharon Johnson retired from our board after 30 years so we decided to move our mail box to Burlington. So effective immediately you can now use **P.O. Box 192, Burlington, WA 98233-0192** for our SVGS snail mail. The board has been notifying our various contacts from over the years informing them of our new mailing address. Sharon has been picking up our mail for the past 30 years at Conway. Thank you, Sharon, job well done!

We are looking forward to our educational programs this fall beginning on September 9. Back by popular demand we have our own Barbara Johnson presenting "DNA and Genealogy". A popular trend in the genealogy community is DNA testing. Which test is the best choice? How do DNA tests help with your family history research? What are the different types of tests to choose from? Barbara will clarify these and other questions so you can make an informed decision and add a DNA test to your research tool kit.

Next up on October 14 we'll have "Researching Your Native American Ancestors" presented by Dr. Janice Lovelace. Many of us have heard stories such as, "your great-grandmother was an Indian princess." How does a family researcher begin to discover if it is true? What federal, state and tribal records are available? Dr. Lovelace will help you unravel this puzzle with an introduction to Native American Research.

Volume 31 Number 3  
 President: John Hayes  
 Newsletter: Dottie Chandler  
 PO BOX 192 BURLINGTON, WA 98233  
 Web site: [skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org)

Our Skagit Valley Genealogical Society and the Celtic Arts Foundation (CAF) are teaming up for a "Celtic Genealogy Info Session" on September 16 from 10 am to 3 pm. This session will be at the Littlefield Celtic Center located at 1124 Cleveland Avenue in Mount Vernon. Yes, our own Barbara Johnson will handle this event for our society. Check CAF's website for registration and program information.

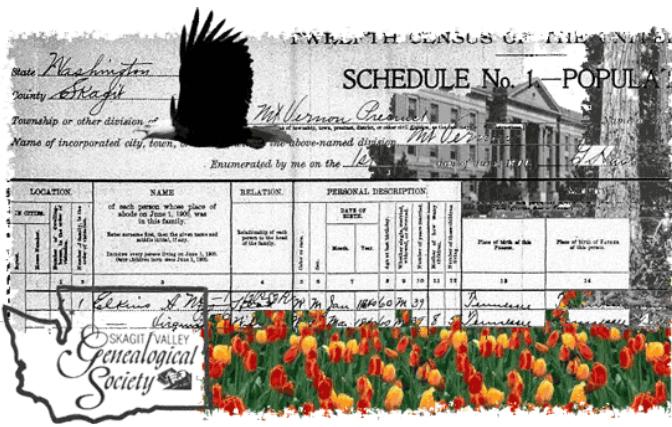
Barbara Johnson is currently chairing our Nominating Committee and will be reaching out to the membership to find possible candidates. Annual officer elections will be held at our November 11 meeting. The officer positions of treasurer and vice president will be open and we still need a secretary. With annual officer elections scheduled for November the term for secretary will be just one year and the other two positions will be two year terms. Since Muriel Neely retired as our secretary at the end of 2016, we have had volunteers fill in on a pro-tem basis. Our society can't function without officers so give it some consideration. Barbara will be out scouting for you. Thank you, Barb, for all you do!

*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.

Membership Chairperson



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

**Vice President:** Margie Wilson  
360-798-1681 [wilsongm@frontier.com](mailto:wilsongm@frontier.com)

**Secretary:** **OPEN**

**Treasurer:** Candice Soine  
360-755-9071 [rainshadowdals@gmail.com](mailto:rainshadowdals@gmail.com)

**Past President:** George Ridgeway  
360-424-4427 [4george30@comcast.net](mailto:4george30@comcast.net)

**Archival Historian:** Dan Royal  
360-826-6141 [dmoroyal@earthlink.net](mailto:dmoroyal@earthlink.net)

**Education:** **Barbara Johnson**

**Genealogist:** Diane Partington  
360-336-5832 [nonie.dl@comcast.net](mailto:nonie.dl@comcast.net)

**Librarian:** Margie Wilson  
360-798-1681 [wilsongm@frontier.com](mailto:wilsongm@frontier.com)

**Membership:** Candice Soine

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

**Newsletter:**  
v3 360-757-0966

Dottie Chandler  
[dotcom10@frontier.com](mailto:dotcom10@frontier.com)

**Webmaster:**  
360-424-4427

George Ridgeway  
[4george30@comcast.net](mailto:4george30@comcast.net)

**Projects :**

**Dan Royal/Dottie Chandler**

**Publicity:** Margie Wilson

**Member at Large:** **Lynn Torset**  
[torset@comcast.net](mailto:torset@comcast.net)

**Special Committees**

**Communications:** Barbara Johnson

**Sunshine:** Carol Nersten

**Nominating:**  
**OPEN**

**Audit/Budget:** **Candice Soine**  
360-755-9071 [rainshadowdals@gmail.com](mailto:rainshadowdals@gmail.com)

**Bylaws/Standing Rules:** Hazel Rasar  
[hrasar@gmail.com](mailto:hrasar@gmail.com)

**Refreshments:** **Rotating with volunteers**

**Raffles/Door Prizes:** Carol Nersten

**Seminar:** Board Members

**SOCIETY EMAIL:** [genealogy0715@gmail.com](mailto: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 the newsletter, please send to... *Ye Editor*

## A Family of Witches Appear Before Our Eyes

BURLINGTON— A family accused of witchcraft and several townspeople appeared in court on Saturday, June 10, at 1:00 pm in Burlington. The trial took place4 at the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society's (SVGS) monthly meeting. Orchestrating the trial were actual descendants of the accused— Rita and Tessa Schulze. The jurors, composed of SVGS members and guests in attendance, also participated as the local townspeople booing and shouting in the “courtroom.” The witch trial kept true to documented reports of the proceedings. “ The experience of the witch trial conjured up a full spectrum of emotions— the fear and superstition of the community at that time in New England, sympathy for the innocent victims, and awe at how well the cast stayed true to the original transcript of the trial. In handmade costumes, family members told the true story of the ancestors with pride. This original program by the Schulze family was indeed an educational lesson in researching then honoring our ancestors. By presenting this program today in 2017, centuries later, one came away with a feeling that these innocent victims’ names were finally cleared from the shame they endured at a mysteriously dark time in Salem, Massachusetts past. Bravo! Rita and Tessa you did a remarkable job. Thank you for sharing your family’s compelling story with your fellow family history researchers.



## SVGS Library Notes – Summer/Fall 2017

Thanks to a large donation of several boxes of genealogy books by Paul Gilbert, SVGS will have some fine hard-bound books for its November Book Bonanza.

Most of the books Mr. Gilbert donated focus on family research in Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia and Virginia. Oh, thanks and appreciation to Mr. Gilbert for his generous gift to SVGS' library collection.

**Reminder:** No September Library Volunteer Scheduled Due to Labor Day Weekend. Since the first Saturday of September is the prelude to the Labor Day weekend there will not be a genealogy volunteer posted for that day. The regularly scheduled first Saturday of the month genealogy volunteer staffing at SVGS' Library Collection at the Burlington Library resumes on Saturday, October 7th from 11am to 1pm. with genealogist, Diane Partington on hand to assist visitors to the SVGS library

~ Margie Wilson, SVGS Librarian



This notice just appeared in Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter about FamilySearch microfilms and the digitizing process:

## QUICK FACTS AND TIPS

- Patrons can still order<[http://p.feedblitz.com/t3.asp?/948986/22963714/5747605\\_/feeds.feedblitz.com/~/t/0/0/eogn/~https://www.familysearch.org/films/about-us](http://p.feedblitz.com/t3.asp?/948986/22963714/5747605_/feeds.feedblitz.com/~/t/0/0/eogn/~https://www.familysearch.org/films/about-us)> microfilmsonline until Thursday, September 7, 2017.
- After film ordering ends, if customers need access to a particularfilm yet to be digitized, they can express interest to have it added to thepriority digitization list by contacting FamilySearch Support<[http://p.feedblitz.com/t3.asp?/948986/22963714/5747605\\_/feeds.feedblitz.com/~/t/0/0/eogn/~https://integration.familysearch.org/ask/help](http://p.feedblitz.com/t3.asp?/948986/22963714/5747605_/feeds.feedblitz.com/~/t/0/0/eogn/~https://integration.familysearch.org/ask/help)> (Toll Free:1-866-406-1830).
- All of the microfilm rented by patrons in the past 5 years have nowbeen digitized by FamilySearch- over 1.5 million microfilms (ca. 1.5 billionimages).
- The remaining microfilms are being digitally scanned at a rate of1,000 films per day and are projected to be complete by 2020.
- New digital images are available as they are scanned in theFamilySearch.org Catalog.<[http://p.feedblitz.com/t3.asp?/948986/22963714/5747605\\_/feeds.feedblitz.com/~/t/0/0/eogn/~https://www.familysearch.org/catalog/search](http://p.feedblitz.com/t3.asp?/948986/22963714/5747605_/feeds.feedblitz.com/~/t/0/0/eogn/~https://www.familysearch.org/catalog/search)>
- Films currently on loan in family history centers and affiliatelibraries are automatically granted extended loan status.
- Affiliate libraries now have access to nearly all of the restrictedimage collections as family history centers.
- Visitors to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City will stillbe able to order needed microfilms to use during their research visits.
- 

## HOW TO FIND DIGITAL IMAGES ON FAMILYSEARCH

Digital image collections can be accessed today in 3 places on FamilySearch.org, all under Search.

- Catalog<[http://p.feedblitz.com/t3.asp?/948986/22963714/5747605\\_/feeds.feedblitz.com/~/t/0/0/eogn/~https://www.familysearch.org/catalog/search](http://p.feedblitz.com/t3.asp?/948986/22963714/5747605_/feeds.feedblitz.com/~/t/0/0/eogn/~https://www.familysearch.org/catalog/search)> . Includes a description of all the microfilms and digital images in the FamilySearchcollection. This is where all of FamilySearch's digitized microfilm and newdigital images from its global camera operations are being published. A camera icon appears in the Catalog adjacent to a microfilm listing when itis available digitally.
- Records<[http://p.feedblitz.com/t3.asp?/948986/22963714/5747605\\_/feeds.feedblitz.com/~/t/0/0/eogn/~https://www.familysearch.org/hr/search](http://p.feedblitz.com/t3.asp?/948986/22963714/5747605_/feeds.feedblitz.com/~/t/0/0/eogn/~https://www.familysearch.org/hr/search)> includes collections that have been indexed by name or published with additional waypoints tohelp browse the unindexed images.
- Books<[http://p.feedblitz.com/t3.asp?/948986/22963714/5747605\\_/feeds.feedblitz.com/~/t/0/0/eogn/~https://books.familysearch.org/primo\\_library/libweb/action/search.do;jsessionid=B946FA6A5CA025686E6BEDEDA2863619?vid=FHD\\_PUBLIC&backFromP](http://p.feedblitz.com/t3.asp?/948986/22963714/5747605_/feeds.feedblitz.com/~/t/0/0/eogn/~https://books.familysearch.org/primo_library/libweb/action/search.do;jsessionid=B946FA6A5CA025686E6BEDEDA2863619?vid=FHD_PUBLIC&backFromP)> references=true> include digital copies of books from the Family HistoryLibrary and other libraries, including many books that were previouslycopied to microfilm.

I hope you find this helpful.

Best,

Karen Abel GDO Listserv Administrator

**AmazonSmile** is a program operated by Amazon that generates donations for 501© (3) public charitable organizations. For program information, please go to <https://org.amazon.com>.

## WELCOME TO FRED MEYER COMMUNITY REWARDS!

What is Community Rewards?

It is the latest addition to the Fred Meyer Rewards Program where you can earn donations for your favorite nonprofit just by shopping with your Rewards Card. Fred Meyer will donate \$2.5 million to nonprofits in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington in 2014 through this new program. Here's how it works: Link your Rewards Card to your favorite nonprofit at [www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards](http://www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards). Whenever you use your Rewards card when shopping at Freddy's, you'll be helping the nonprofit linked to your Rewards Card to earn a donation from Fred Meyer. At the end of each quarter, Fred Meyer will make a donation to participating nonprofits based on the accumulated spending of the Rewards customers linked to each nonprofit. Fred Meyer will donate \$625,000 each quarter via Community Rewards! Do I still get Rewards Points, Fuel Points and Rebates? YES! Rewards Customers still get the Rewards Points, Fuel Points and Rebates.

So please go to these sites and help us out. It is appreciated.

### *Comb Binding ...*

*For members, The society owns a comb binding machine. If you call Dan Royal @ 360-826-6141 he will make arrangements to bind your pages into a book for you. Cost is: \$1.00 per book to cover supplies.*

### **SVGS Members,**

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

Thank you.

## You Took the DNA Test...The "Now What" for Genealogists

On Saturday, September 9, from 1:00-3:00pm, the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society presents a special science based program. Join retired scientist, educator, internationally acclaimed lecturer and genealogist, Barbara Johnson, for a discussion on how to use DNA testing for ethnicity to improve your family history research, and make connections with your DNA matched contemporaries. Bring your questions about those "Huh!?" and surprise ethnicity discoveries and Barbara will help you find answers. This program is free to the public and will be held at the Burlington Senior Community Center, 1011 Greenleaf Ave., Burlington, WA. For more info. about SVGS and a schedule of upcoming monthly educational programs visit: [skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org) or email: [genealogy0715@gmail.com](mailto:genealogy0715@gmail.com).



### **Sat., Sept. 16 An Introduction to Celtic Ancestry Research --**

SVGS member Barbara Johnson

10AM-3PM at the Celtic Arts Foundation, 1124 Cleveland, Mount Vernon. SVGS is partnering with CAF for this basic class covering the resources for researching Celtic heritage. Tickets available online at: <https://celticarts.org/celetic-events/genealogysession/> or call 360-416-4934 to register and to receive the promotional code.

## Skagit Valley Genealogical Society

### Monthly Meetings Program Calendar 2017 - 2018

Meetings: 2nd Saturdays, 1-3pm | Burlington Senior Center | 1011 Greenleaf St. | Burlington  
 skagitvalleygenealogy.org | genealogy0715@gmail.com

*Visitors are always welcome to attend SVGS monthly educational programs. Join us!*

## 2017

**Sat. Sept. 9**

**DNA and Genealogy** – SVGS member and scientist, Barbara Johnson

Learn how DNA testing can help your genealogy research, why your test results may contain some surprises, comparing DNA testing companies, and answers to your DNA test results questions.

**Sat., Sept. 16**

**An Introduction to Celtic Ancestry Research** -- SVGS member Barbara Johnson

10AM-3PM at the Celtic Arts Foundation, 1124 Cleveland, Mount Vernon. SVGS is partnering with CAF for this basic class covering the resources for researching Celtic heritage. Tickets available online at: <https://celticarts.org/celtic-events/> genealogies sion/or call 360-416-4934 to register and to receive the promotional code.

**Sat. Oct. 14**

**Researching Your Native American Ancestry** -- Dr. Janice C. Lovelace

Researching Native American records presents unique challenges. Learn what records are most helpful and where to find them. Dr. Lovelace is one of our most popular presenters.

**Sat. Nov. 11**

**Annual Meeting and Honoring Our Veteran Ancestors** –

SVGS members are invited to give a 5 minute talk about a veteran ancestor in honor of Veteran's Day. Contact Margie Wilson 360-757-6224 if you wish to be part of the program.

## 2018

**Sat., Jan. 13**

**Tech Skills Genealogists Need to Succeed** – George Ridgeway

SVGS webmaster, George Ridgeway will teach you how to navigate through those puzzling websites and software "brick walls" presented by our cyber world. This how-to session will help genealogists become more efficient navigators and more productive in their online research

**Sat., Feb. 10**

**Fir Island and Conway History** -

The authors of this new local history book will discuss their research and the several Skagit pioneering families featured in this book. – SVGS member Patricia Pleas and her fellow authors will make up the discussion panel.

**Sat., Mar. 10**

**Detours Abound: Irish Roadblocks and Brick Walls** - Steven Morrison

Learn how to avoid the many pitfalls of Irish research. This is an introductory program on Irish genealogy research and its unique challenges.

**Sat., Apr. 14**

**The Lost Communities of Whatcom County** – Troy Luginbill

Discover the communities in Whatcom County that you may never have heard of due to their brief existence. A fascinating history told by the director of the Lynden Historical Museum. -- Troy Luginbill

*---- Sat., May 12 & June 9 -- Programs to Be Announced ---- July-August – no meetings*

## MISSPELLINGS

Often, beginning genealogists miss their ancestors by sticking too firmly to the idea that “that’s not how my family spelled their name, so it can’t be my ancestor.”

This statement ignores these basic truths:

- 1) Ancestors who were illiterate would have no idea how to spell their own name, let alone how someone else should spell it.
- 2) Until the twentieth century, spelling rules were far more flexible and fluid than what we think of today. That was true for routine words, not just surnames.
- 3) Even if your family was highly educated and truly did feel strongly about how their name should be spelled — the record taker might not have been as concerned. Ultimately, it depends on *how the record creator chose to spell the name* — not what your family thought about how it should be spelled.
- 4) Human error happens.

Using as our starting point the recognition that our family members’ surnames may appear in records under a variety of spellings, let’s try to widen our net to explore how “misspellings” may occur, and how you can go about generating more alternate variations to aid in your search.

## SOUND ALIKES

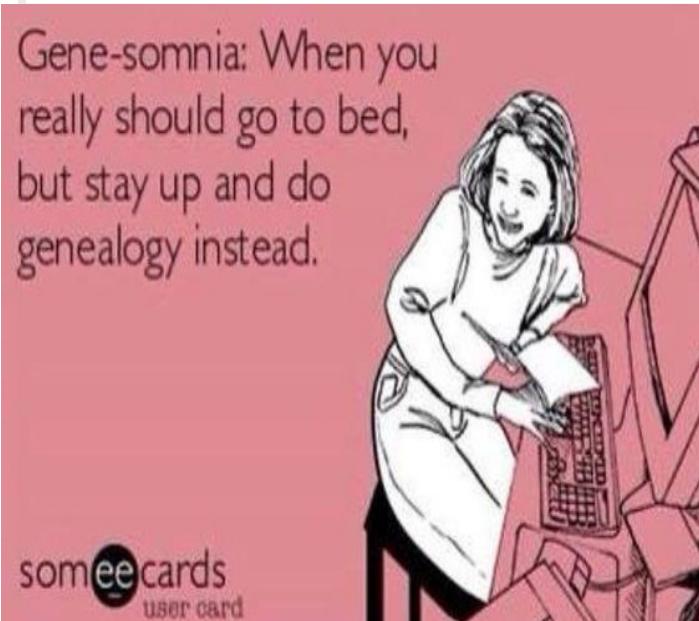
Many so-called “spelling errors” can be attributed to various ways of spelling the same sounds. Consider the following situations:

Even single letters can sound similar. Think about a time when you may have had to spell your name for someone on the telephone. How many of our letters sound similar when said? B, C, D, E, G, P, T are just some examples. Even if your ancestor was spelling their name for the record-creator, it might not have been heard and recorded correctly. Types of errors into three basic categories – “sound alikes,” A favorite example I use to illustrate this point is the surname: Cole.

Cole, Coal, Coale, Kohl, Koehl, Kole, Koal.

Put an accent or variation on the pronunciation of this, and it can result in:

Cool, Coole, Call, Coyle, Coil, Cale, Caile, Goal, Gole, Golle, Kale, Koohl, Kile, Kyle. Undoubtedly there are more variations to this name than what I’ve listed above. “look alikes,” and simple human errors.



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 - 2017**

---

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 192**  
**Burlington WA. 98233**

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**



## President's Message

A big "Thank You" goes to Barb Johnson for handling our society's portion of a "Celtic Genealogy Info Workshop" in conjunction with the Celtic Arts Foundation on September 16. The educational presentation was made by Barbara to a full house at the Littlefield Celtic Center in Mount Vernon. A job well done. Thank you, Barb!

At our annual meeting on November 11 our society will be electing a vice president, treasurer and a secretary (1 year). The vice president position needs a nominee while our current treasurer, Candice Soine, has volunteered to be our nominee for another two year term. We will also be electing a secretary for the remaining one year in this term. The board recently appointed Nancy Bonafede to be our temporary secretary and she will be our nominee.

No ballot will be needed as we have no proposed bylaw revisions to consider. At this point only one person has been nominated for the two offices, treasurer and secretary. The position of vice president will be open for nominees. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor.

Our November meeting will have V.P. Margie Wilson leading the education program titled "Veterans' Day Tribute to our Ancestors in the Military Service" with some of our members speaking. The afternoon will include a "Used Book Bonanza". Be sure to check out all of the books that Margie has made available to us. A donation will let you walk away with an arm load or two. Come and enjoy the afternoon with us.

Volume 31 Number 5  
 President: John Hayes  
 Newsletter: Dottie Chandler  
 PO BOX 192 BURLINGTON, WA 98233  
 Web site: [skagitvalleygenealogy.org](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org)

There is no meeting in December so you will have more time with your families over the holidays. 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.

Membership Chairperson



<b>President:</b> 360-424-4608	John Hayes rosie@valleyint.com
<b>Vice President:</b> 360-798-1681	Margie Wilson wilsongm@frontier.com
<b>Secretary:</b> 360-856-2581	Nancy Bonafede njbonafede@gmail.com
<b>Treasurer:</b> 360-755-9071	Candice Soine rainshadowdals@gmail.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>Barbara Johnson</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>	Candice Soine

## 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.

<b>Newsletter:</b> v3 360-757-0966	Dottie Chandler dotcom10@frontier.com
<b>Webmaster:</b> 360-424-4427	George Ridgeway 4george30@comcast.net
<b>Projects :</b>	<b>Dan Royal/Dottie Chandler</b>
<b>Publicity:</b>	Margie Wilson
	<b>Special Committees</b>
<b>Communications:</b>	Barbara Johnson
<b>Sunshine:</b> 360-770-5542	Carol Nersten
<b>Nominating:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Audit/Budget:</b> 360-755-9071	<b>Candice Soine</b> rainshadowdals@gmail.com
<b>Bylaws/Standing Rules:</b>	Hazel Rasar hrasar@gmail.com
<b>Refreshments:</b>	<b>Rotating with volunteers</b>
<b>Raffles/Door Prizes:</b>	Carol Nersten
<b>Seminar:</b>	Board Members
<b>SOCIETY EMAIL:</b>	genealogy0715@gmail.com

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

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*

## Christmas Letters Tell Family Stories

The first Christmas card was printed in 1843. Since then, many people send Christmas cards to their family members and friends every year. Some people take the time to sit down and write out a Christmas letter. Those letters tell family stories that might otherwise be forgotten.

A Christmas letter, as you may well know if you have ever received one, is much more detailed than a typical Christmas card. Some people will write Christmas letters that go on for several pages, while others manage to fit everything they wanted to say onto just one page. There are people who write their Christmas letters by hand, the “old fashioned” way. Others compose their Christmas letters on their computers and print out as many copies as they need to send to their loved ones.

The important thing about Christmas letters isn’t the length, or the style. It is the stories that the letters contain. The end of the year Christmas letter often becomes a collection of the most significant moments that happened to a family since last Christmas.

In general, people share family stories that are amusing, or poignant, or unexpected. They talk about awards won, goals met, and happy blessings. Some people will also choose to talk about their health (including the surgery they had that year). That may be an uncomfortable thing to read about, but is, undoubtedly, the biggest thing on your relative’s mind in the past year.

Yes, it can be annoying to read about every single award, soccer game, band recital, and precocious thing that your relative’s children did in the past 12 months. Keep the Christmas letter anyway. Years from now, when those children are all grown up, they might find the old Christmas letters that their mother wrote to be absolutely fascinating!

A collection of Christmas letters, carefully stored away, can together tell quite the story about the people who were mentioned in the letter. Babies grow to be toddlers (who get into mischief). Little kids state exactly what they want to be when they grow up – only to change their minds several times before they get there. Petulant teenagers become thoughtful politically active college students.

A Christmas letter might be the only written source of short stories about a relative when he or she was young. Those stories, all pieced together, paint a picture of the relative’s personality.

Take the time to enjoy the Christmas letters your family sends you. Scan them so you can have a digital copy that will not fade, tear, or be damaged from improper storage. Give digital copies to the genealogist in your family tree.

This was taken from FamilyTree.com

# SUNSHINE

If any members know of a fellow member that could use a card. Please let Carol Nertenstern or one of the other board members know so we can have one sent to them. Carol's number is 360-770-5542

Our general meeting will be at 2-4 p.m. This Saturday Nov 11th. This is so everyone can enjoy the Veteran celebrations that go on earlier in the day.

# *The Legend of the Candy Cane*

*Many years ago, a candy maker wanted to make a candy at Christmas time that would serve as a witness to his Christian faith.*

He wanted to incorporate several symbols for the birth, ministry and death of Jesus. He began with a stick of pure white hard candy; white to symbolize the Virgin Birth and the sinless nature of Jesus; hard to symbolize the solid rock, the foundation of the Church; firmness to represent the promise of God.

*The candymaker made the candy in the form of a "J" to represent the name of Jesus, who came to earth as our Savior. He thought it could also represent the staff of the Good Shepherd, with which he reached down into the ditches of the world to lift out the fallen lambs who, like all sheep, have gone astray.*



Thinking that the candy was somewhat plain, the candymaker stained it with red stripes. He used three small stripes to show the stripes of the scourging Jesus received, by which we are healed. The large red stripe was for the blood shed by Christ on the cross so that we could have the promise of eternal life. Unfortunately, the candy became known as a candy cane - a meaningless decoration seen at Christmas time. But the true meaning is still there for those who have eyes to see and ears to hear.



# The Story of Veterans Day

November 11 is Veterans Day. A veteran is a soldier who has served his/her country.

Thirty-five countries fought in World War I. They fought for five years, from 1914 to 1918. The United States fought in the war from 1917 to 1918.

Finally the countries stopped fighting. The leaders signed an armistice. They signed the armistice on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. The armistice meant that the war was over.

Americans were very happy to hear about the armistice. No more soldiers would die in the war. The soldiers could come home.

People went out into the streets and laughed and danced. They blew horns and whistles and rang bells. They sang songs. They thought that there would never be another war.

President Wilson made November 11 a holiday to remember the end of the war. The holiday was called Armistice Day.

At eleven o'clock in the morning, everyone stopped doing whatever they were doing. People were completely silent for one minute. This minute was to remember all the soldiers who have died in wars.

The body of an unknown soldier was brought to America from the cemetery in France. His body was buried in a tomb at Arlington National Cemetery. It was called the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

The US was in three more wars: World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. The name of the holiday was changed to Veterans Day.

The bodies of three more unknown soldiers were brought to the cemetery. On Veterans Day, there are special services at the Tomb of the Unknowns.

Americans remember and honor all the veterans.

Excerpted from *ESL Teacher's Holiday Activities Kit*, by Elizabeth Claire.



## Skagit Valley Genealogical Society

### Monthly Meetings Program Calendar 2017 - 2018

Meetings: 2nd Saturdays, 1-3pm | Burlington Senior Center | 1011 Greenleaf St. | Burlington  
 skagitvalleygenealogy.org | genealogy0715@gmail.com

*Visitors are always welcome to attend SVGS monthly educational programs. Join us!*

## 2017

**Sat. Nov. 11**

### **Annual Meeting and Honoring Our Veteran Ancestors –**

SVGS members are invited to give a 5 minute talk about a veteran ancestor in honor of Veteran's Day. Contact Margie Wilson 360-757-6224 if you wish to be part of the program.

## 2018

**Sat., Jan. 13**

### **Tech Skills Genealogists Need to Succeed – George Ridgeway**

SVGS webmaster, George Ridgeway will teach you how to navigate through those puzzling websites and software "brick walls" presented by our cyber world. This how-to session will help genealogists become more efficient navigators and more productive in their online research

**Sat., Feb. 10**

### **Fir Island and Conway History -**

The authors of this new local history book will discuss their research and the several Skagit pioneering families featured in this book. – SVGS member Patricia Pleas and her fellow authors will make up the discussion panel.

**Sat., Mar. 10**

### **Detours Abound: Irish Roadblocks and Brick Walls - Steven Morrison**

Learn how to avoid the many pitfalls of Irish research. This is an introductory program on Irish genealogy research and its unique challenges.

**Sat., Apr. 14**

### **The Lost Communities of Whatcom County – Troy Luginbill**

Discover the communities in Whatcom County that you may never have heard of due to their brief existence. A fascinating history told by the director of the Lynden Historical Museum. -- Troy Luginbill

*---- Sat., May 12 & June 9 -- Programs to Be Announced ---- July-August – no meetings*





Mary Tollefson was a teenager when the United States entered World War II and she was determined to be part of the war effort. However, her mother nixed the idea.

So, Mary did what she could on the home front and went to work for the phone company. There, she signed up for a new electronics course. She had only attended three sessions before getting hooked. She joined the service and became an electrician with the WAC, as well as a driver and mechanic. Mary learned computers and was eventually part of a team calculating trajectories.

### What is the Tomb of the Unknowns?

The Tomb of the Unknowns is the tomb where unidentified soldiers who died in combat are laid to rest just outside of Washington, D.C. in the Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia. The first unidentified soldier, who had been killed in France, was buried there on November 11, 1921 until the completed tomb was dedicated on November 11, 1932.

Two other unidentified soldiers, one who perished fighting in World War II and the other who passed away serving during the Korean War, were also buried in the tomb. A fourth unknown soldier from the Vietnam War was entombed in the site in 1984, but was later removed once [DNA tests](#) identified him as Michael Blassie. Michael Blassie was a 24-year-old Air Force pilot shot down in May 1972 and was later disinterred and reburied

Currently, the [Census Bureau](#) reports that

more

than 21 million veterans currently reside in the U.S.

- California is home to the most veterans in the country with more than 2.1 million current and former service members in the population. Four other states — Florida, Texas, New York and Pennsylvania — also boast more than 1 million veterans each among their population.

- There were 1.6 million female veterans residing in the United States in 2012.

- There were 9.6 million veterans age 65 years and older and 1.8 million veterans age 35 years and younger living in the U.S. in 2012.

•

*Originally published November 2013. Updated November 2016.*

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 - 2017**

---

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 192**  
**Burlington WA. 98233**

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**