



President's Message

As it turned out 2017 was a busy year for many of us, especially our seminar leader Barbara Johnson and her committee, preparing for and holding a very successful April seminar "O Canada! Heritage Weekend". This seminar was tied into Canada's 150th Anniversary of Confederation celebration in 2017. Our society and the Celtic Arts Foundation teamed up with our Education Chair Barbara Johnson who presented a "Celtic Genealogy Info Session" in September. It was very well attended and very successful. Over this past year our V.P. Margie Wilson provided us with a variety of fine monthly programs to continue our education. Yes, 2017 was a busy year and we look forward to 2018.

Our board plans a retreat in late January to discuss issues that would take up too much board meeting time and also finalize plans and goals for the New Year. A series of classes and/or workshops are high on the agenda and are important to maintain and increase our membership. Although the board will be providing me with some retreat agenda items your input will be considered. Contact me as noted below.

Our monthly membership meeting programs are to educate our members and non-members alike. For our January meeting our V.P. Margie has booked our own George Ridgeway, our SVGS webmaster, presenting "Oh Where, Oh Where Did My Genealogy Data Go?" He will teach you how to safely save your data and get it back if lost.

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 President: John Hayes
 Newsletter: Dottie Chandler
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 Web site: skagitvalleygenealogy.org

In February the authors of the new local history book "Fir Island and Conway History" will provide us insight into their project. Our own SVGS member Patricia Hanstead-Pleas and her fellow authors will make up the panel to discuss their research and several Skagit pioneering families featured in this book. If you have an idea for a future program please let Margie or I know. We are constantly looking for good program ideas.

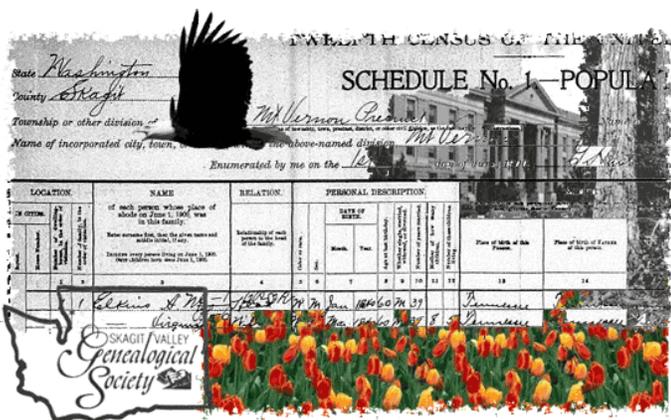
Oh yes, remember to renew your membership for 2018!

John Hayes
 President
rosie@valleyint.com

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



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- Special Committees**
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- Sunshine:** Carol Nersten
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- Nominating:** **OPEN**
- Audit/Budget:** Candice Soine
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- Bylaws/Standing Rules:** Hazel Rasar
hrasar@gmail.com
- Refreshments:** Rotating with volunteers
- Raffles/Door Prizes:** Carol Nersten
- Seminar:** Board Members
- SOCIETY EMAIL:** genealogy0715@gmail.com

Check out our redesigned web page at skagitvalleygenealogy.org

SVGS Members,
We have a new BLOG on our website. If you are interested in participating in our blog go to skagit-valleygenealogy.Org/BLOG to see how you can register and log in.
Thank you.

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*

New Years Day

In 46 B.C.E. the Roman emperor Julius Caesar first established January 1 as New Year's day. Janus was the Roman god of doors and gates, and had two faces, one looking forward and one back. Caesar felt that the month named after this god ("January") would be the appropriate "door" to the year. Caesar celebrated the first January 1 New Year by ordering the violent routing of revolutionary Jewish forces in the Galilee. Eye-witnesses say blood flowed in the streets. In later years, Roman pagans observed the New Year by engaging in drunken orgies—a ritual they believed constituted a personal re-enacting of the chaotic world that existed before the cosmos was ordered by the gods.

HISTORY OF THE ROSE PARADE



This event began as a promotional effort by Pasadena's distinguished Valley Hunt Club. In the winter of 1890, the club members brainstormed ways to promote the "Mediterranean of the West." They invited their former East Coast neighbors to a mid-winter holiday, where they could watch games such as chariot races, jousting, foot races, polo and tug-of-war under the warm California sun. The abundance of fresh flowers, even in the midst of winter, prompted the club to add another showcase for Pasadena's charm: a parade would precede the competition, where entrants would decorate their carriages with hundreds of blooms. The Tournament of Roses was born.

"In New York, people are buried in snow," announced Professor Charles F. Holder at a club meeting. "Here our flowers are blooming and our oranges are about to bear. Let's hold a festival to tell the world about our paradise."

During the next few years, the festival expanded to include marching bands and motorized floats. The games on the town lot (which was re-named Tournament Park in 1900) included ostrich races, bronco busting demonstrations and a race between a camel and an elephant (the elephant won). Reviewing stands were built along the Parade route, and Eastern newspapers began to take notice of the event. In 1895, the Tournament of Roses Association was formed to take charge of the festival, which had grown too large for the Valley Hunt Club to handle.

The Tournament of Roses has come a long way since its early days. The Rose Parade's elaborate floats now feature high-tech computerized animation and exotic natural materials from around the world. Although a few floats are still built exclusively by volunteers from their sponsoring communities, most are built by professional float building companies and take nearly a year to construct. The year-long effort pays off on New Year's morning, when millions of viewers around the world enjoy the Rose Parade.

From www.tournamentofroses.com



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 to assist with questions.

Here is a song I found on the internet

I'm My Own Grandpa

by Dwight Latham & Guy Jaffe

Many, many years ago, when I was twent-three,
I was married to a widow who was pretty as can be
This widow had a grown-up daughter who had a hair of red.
My father fell in love with her, and soon they, too, were wed.

This made my dad my son-in-law and really changed my life,
My daughter was my mother, cause she was my father's wife.
To complicate the matter, even though it brought me joy,
I soon became the father of a bouncing baby boy.

My little baby then became a brother-in-law to dad,
And so became my uncle, though it made me very sad.
For if he was my uncle, then that also made him brother
Of the widow's grown-up daughter, who, of course, was my
stepmother.

Father's wife than had a son who kept him on the run,
And he became my grandchild, for he was my daughter's son
My wife is now my mother's mother, and it makes me blue,
Because, although she is my wife, she's my grandmother, too.

Now if my wife is my grandmother, then I's he grandchild,
And every time I think of it, it nearly drives me wild,
For now I have4 become the strangest case you ever saw, As
husband of my grandmother, I am my own grandpa!

Oh, I'm my own grandpa.

I'm my own grandpa.

It sounds funny, I know, but it really is so, Oh, I'm my own
grandpa.



Awww.

This article was from [Dick Eastman · December 29, 2017 · Plus Edition Article](#)

Family Search

The following announcement was written by the folks at: FamilySearchSalt Lake City, Utah (16 November 2017), Beginning December 13, 2017, patrons visiting [FamilySearch.org](#) will see a prompt to register for a free FamilySearch account or **sign in** to their existing account **to continue enjoying all the free expanded benefits FamilySearch has to offer**. Since its launch in 1999, FamilySearch has added millions of users, billions of various historical records, and many fun, new features like Family Tree, Memories, mobile apps, digital books, and dynamic help. In order to accommodate continued growth of these and future free services, FamilySearch must assure all its partners that its content is offered in a safe and secure online environ-

10 Fast Tips for Finding Ancestors—Family Tree

1. Note the names of witnesses to your ancestors' baptisms, marriages and legal transactions. By researching those witnesses, you might glean new information about your own relatives.
2. Reverse ancestors' first and last names when searching online databases.
3. When using a general search engine, such as Google, put your ancestor's name in quotation marks ("John Farmer") to limit search results.
4. Try using a wildcard (? or *) to broaden your online searches. On Ancestry.com, for instance, use a question mark (?) to replace one unknown letter. A search for Anders?n will turn up results for Anderson and Andersen. Use an asterisk (*) to represent between zero and five unknown letters. A search for Rob*son will find people named Robson, Robertson or Robinson. Similarly, a search for Fran* will show results for Fran, Franny and Frank. Want to find records that mention Martin Sullivan, Martin James Sullivan or Martin J. Sullivan? In Google, you can use an asterisk to search for all three versions of the name at the same time: Type "Martin * Sullivan" into the search box.
5. Remember to search on both maiden and married names for females.
6. Don't assume that your immigrant ancestors arrived at Ellis Island. In addition to searching the free **Ellis Island database**, try databases for other ports. They're available through subscription site Ancestry.com; the tools on the **One-Step Web Pages** site can help you search.
7. Check every available census taken during your ancestor's lifetime. Record the data provided for each family member in the household, not just your ancestor. You can **download** free census forms at **<familytreemagazine.com/info/censusforms>**.
8. Search on more than just your ancestor's full name. Try plugging a last name, event, date or place into a general search engine, and you may find databases and other resources that you've not yet explored.
9. If your ancestor had an unusual first name, try searching databases for it alone or combined with the name of his or her hometown.
10. Seek out living kin who might have family photos or who may be willing to swab their cheeks for a **DNA** test project. Use "reverse genealogy" (working from the past to the present) to find these long-lost cousins. See **<familytreemagazine.com/article/reverse-genealogy-resources>** for tips.

Skagit Valley Genealogical Society

Monthly Meetings Program Calendar - 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!

2018

Sat., Jan. 13 Oh, Where, Oh, Where, Has My Genealogy Data Gone? – George Ridgeway
 SVGS webmaster, George Ridgeway will share best practices for storing and organizing your valuable research data so you can easily retrieve it and share it with others.

Sat., Feb. 10 Fir Island and Conway History - Patricia Pleas and co-authors of this new local history book will discuss their research and the several Skagit pioneering families featured in the 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
 Steven Morrison is a professional genealogist specializing in research in Ireland. Learn how to avoid the many pitfalls of Irish research. This is an introductory level program to prepare you for overcoming the many challenges unique to Irish research.

Sat., Apr. 14 The Lost Communities of Whatcom County – Troy Luginbill, Director of the Lynden Historical Museum. Discover the communities in Whatcom County that you may never have heard of due to their brief existence in the late 19th century. A fascinating history told with stories and photographs of Skagit County's parent county.

Sat., May 12 Lost in Translation: Solving the Challenges of Foreign Language Translation
 Jaye Stover, President of the Language Exchange in Burlington, WA will discuss the many translation/interpretation problems researchers encounter when trying to decipher pre-20th century documents written in a foreign language, and how to address those challenges. Online translation tools may not be the best answer. Don't let archaic handwriting styles and a foreign language become your brickwall. Discover the many tools and resources available for family researchers.

Sat., June 9 This is Our Family's Story -- SVGS Members Show and Tell
 Your family is invited to join you at this special meeting. This will be an opportunity for you to share the results of your many months/years of relentless detective work in pursuit of your ancestors. Bring your family memorabilia, displays, albums, etc. and share your family's unique legacy.

---- July-August – no meetings - Enjoy the summer break. See you in September! ---



MyHeritage and FamilyTreeWebinars.com are pleased to announce that registration is now open for its 2018 Legacy Family Tree Webinar Series. Choose from 106 classes from genealogy's leading educators on topics ranging from Jamestown to England, from DNA to online privacy, and from Geni and MyHeritage to Legacy.

And not to name-drop, but our live series will feature genealogy celebrities like Blaine Bettinger of theGeneticGenealogist.com, Cyndi Ingle of cyndislist.com, and Judy Russell of legalgenealogist.com. It will also feature the Presidents of genealogy's largest organizations - Rorey Cathcart of the Federation of Genealogical Societies; Rick Sayre of the Board for Certification of Genealogists; and Gilad Japhet of MyHeritage. Also learn about photo restoration, Jewish genealogy, handwriting, FamilySearch, Quakers and Palatines, the Genealogical Proof Standard and so much more.

We are also proud to once again host the monthly webinar series for the Board for Certification of Genealogists where we will learn from the likes of Paula Stuart-Warren, James Ison, Alice Hoyt Veen and nine other board-certified genealogists.

And for the first time - we will be the host of the brand new webinar series, MyHeritage Webinars, where we will learn about matching technology, get insights into DNA ethnicity, digital photos and much more.

In addition to the live webinar series, every Friday is "Member Friday" where subscribers will enjoy a bonus pre-recorded webinar!

Sign up (it's FREE!) for one or for all of them today and you will receive a reminder email both one day and two hours prior to the live event.

[Click here to register.](#)

[Click here to register for multiple webinars at once.](#)

Webinar Brochure

[Print the webinar brochure](#) to share with your friends, genealogy society, or Family History Center.

FamilyTreeWebinars.com memberships

All live webinars are free and their recordings are free to watch for the first 7 days. With a webinar subscription you get these additional benefits:

- - Access to 1) all the existing 637 classes in the library (856 hours of quality genealogy education), 2) plus the 106 webinars that will be added during the 2018 season, 3) plus any additional bonus subscribers-only webinars (171 of these so far) - all available for the duration of your membership
- - Access to all 2,910 pages of instructors' handouts plus the new handouts of the 2018 season
- - Chat logs from the live webinars
- Additional 5% off anything at FamilyTreeWebinars.com
- - Chance for a bonus subscribers-only door prize during each live webinar

- - Additional members-only BONUS webinars

- - Playlist, resume watching, and jump-to features

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 - 2018

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
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED