



Volume 22 Number 2
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President's Message

Well, maybe, spring is here ? ? ? ? ? It's near that time again, Time for spring cleaning! Go thru your pictures and document who's, who. If you don't know some have a luncheon with relatives and sit around and reminisce about times, and if you can't figure out who's who at least you had fun. Organize or re-organize all your paperwork so you have some type of order and can find things easily. Think about having a family reunion this summer.

So far our goals set for this year are progressing nicely.

I would like to thank everyone who turned in the questionnaires. This will help determine where and what the society would like. Any input is very helpful.

I want to thank everyone for their help and support in making the Society a success.

Dottie Chandler

President

Important Tax Information!

Skagit Valley Genealogical Society is a non-profit organization as determined by the Internal Revenue Service to be "exempt from federal income tax under the Internal Revenue Code as an organization described in section 501(c)(3)" and "Donors may deduct contributions" as provided in section 170 of the Code. Bequests, legacies, or gifts for use by the society are deductible for federal estate and tax purposes if they meet the applicable provisions of the Code.

Cash and In Kind Contributions To the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society Are Tax Deductible

Past President's Message

PLEASE WEAR A NAME TAG

There are several options for obtaining a name tag. You can purchase a Washington State outline with your name for \$10; a computer generated name tag with hanging sleeve and your surnames for \$1.50; or a 2 1/4" round button with society logo and your name for \$2.00. If none of the above seem reasonable to you, then check with membership to see if there is a blank sticky name tag that we use for visitors.

We would like everyone to wear a name tag so that we know who you are when you come to a meeting. Let our membership person know which type you would like (see samples at the check in table)

Special Interest Group

Genealogy Research and the Internet

We meet at 6:00 PM the 4th Tuesday of the month at the Burlington Senior Center right before the general membership meeting. Two computers will be provided as well as internet access, if you want to bring a laptop that is fine as well. Come share your internet search secrets!

Board Meetings:

Jan 7 - Feb 4 - Mar 4 - Apr 1 etc

Always 1st Weds of the month

@ 10 am Burlington Community Center

Members and visitors welcome as these are open meetings.



SVGS Board of Directors 2009

- President:** Dottie Chandler
360-757-0966 dotcom10@verizon.net
- Vice President:** George Ridgeway
360-424-4427 4george30@comcast.net
- Secretary:** Muriel Neely
360-424-7109 muriel_neely@comcast.net
- Treasurer:** Portia Stacey
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- Past President:** Hazel Rasar
360-424-6528 hrasar@gmail.com
- Archivist:** Dan Royal
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- Education:** Laura Pemberton-Sparr
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- Genealogist:** Diane Partington
360-336-5832 nonie.dl@verizon.net
- Librarian:** Margie Wilson
360-757-6224 skagitkaibab@peoplepc.com
- Membership:** Christine Cooper
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- Newsletter/ Webmaster:** Kevin Osborne
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- Projects:** OPEN
- Publications:** Dale Hastin
360-424-0540 edhastin@comcast.net
- Ways & Means:** OPEN
- Publicity:** Shirley Christenson
360-757-7772 shirleyc@wavecable.com

Special Committees

- Telephone:** Helen Bretvick
360-466-3532
- FGS Delegate:** Rita M. Schulze
360-856-2826
- Nominating:** OPEN
- Audit/Budget:** Sharon Johnson
360-445-5483 johnson@sos.net
- Bylaws/
Standing Rules:** Hazel Rasar
360-424-6528 hrasar@gmail.com
- Refreshments:** Diane Partington
360-336-5832 nonie.dl@verizon.net
- Printing-Publications:** Dale Hastin
360-424-0540 edhastin@comcast.net
- Raffles/Door Prizes:** Joyce Liston
- Obituary Index:** Barbara Ricketts
Dottie Chandler
Sylvia Ammons
- Fund Raiser for
Special Projects:** OPEN
- Special History
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Dan Royal
360-826-6141 dmoroyal@earthlink.net
- SOCIETY EMAIL:** genealogy715@gmail.com

Calendar of Events

Upcoming 2009

General Meetings:

Start time 7:00 p.m

*All meetings will be held at the **Burlington Senior Center**, 1011 Greenleaf Ave., Burlington No change in date or time.*

March 24, 2009 –
Barbara Johnson – Archival Boxes

April 28, 2009 –
Hazel Rasar – Orphan Train Children

May 26, 2009 –
George Ridgeway – Jeopardy, Skagit Style

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 the editor...

Welcome New Members!

Bruce Matson

Ancestry.com Adds Huge New Content Addition for More Recent Years

The following was written by Gary Gibb and published on the Ancestry.com Blog:

We are launching huge new content additions over the next few weeks. We are excited because it helps provide records from 1935 to today. We have great census and vital records from 1930 and before but more recent records are difficult to acquire. These new records are being provided in 4 major releases.

First, we launched a **1940 census substitute**. This is a project that we have been working on for years. Since we can't get the real 1940 census until 2012 we have pulled together a huge collection of city directories from about 1935 to 1945. This collection has over 100 million names and covers most of the US.

Second, we will launch in the next week (or two) the first ever collection of **U.S. Public Records (USPRI) database** with more than 525 million names, addresses, ages, and possible family relationships of people who lived in the United States between roughly 1950 and 1990. This will be an invaluable tool in piecing together family stories and histories. This new addition will replace the current USPRI database on Ancestry which is mainly profiles of living people. This database is built from a variety of city directories and other public records.

Third, we launched search results and links to **living people records on MyLife.com**. We are excited about this partnership because MyLife has a much better collection of records about living people and continues to update this collection. MyLife.com includes current public information and more than 700 million profiles of living people. They are much better

equipped to offer these services than we are. If you want to find a living cousin or second cousin or other living relative we believe these links to MyLife will be the best service to help you contact your family.

Finally, we launched a **new obituary collection**. We have had several very popular obituary collections for several years. We have now upgraded our collection that we extract from obituaries posted in newspapers around the world with much better fielding and from more papers. This should help you more easily identify the right obituary and find family relationships.

In the coming months look for additional significant improvements to all the US Federal Census from 1800 to 1890. We will also continue to release millions of vital records every month. We are also excited about the upcoming large addition to our newspaper and military collections over the next few months.

We hope these additions help you discover more of your family story.

From the editor's desk...

What software are you using to collect, index, sort, store, and share your data? I would like to put a list of our favorite software up on our web page. Would you be interested in mentoring others that would like to try your favorites? Let me share one of my favorites right now. It's a graphics program called GIMP ([The GNU Image Manipulation Program](#)). Sure you can go out and spend upwards of \$700 for Photoshop, but why would you when GIMP is free? Yes 100% free! Photoshop used to be my go-to image editing software but now I prefer GIMP! It is every bit as powerful as the other packages out there (including Photoshop). What does a graphics manipulation program have to do with genealogy? Well my main use in the realm of genealogy/family history is fixing old family photos and drawings. That being said is there any interest for a special interest group (SIG) dealing with the preservation of old family photos and documents? This could include converting images and documents to digital media, editing of said documents, and storing/caring for priceless originals. Think it over and contact me via email, phone, or at one of our meetings.

Proposed Legislation on Historic Cemeteries in Washington State/SB 5178

Please note a bill has recently been sponsored in the Washington State Senate by Senator Mary Margaret Haugen (Camano Island) that would provide funds to the DAHP for a grant program for historic and abandoned cemeteries.

The bill requests a \$40,000 appropriation so DAHP could make small grants (~\$1500) to assist local governments and local groups to repair, restore, and rehabilitate abandoned and historic cemeteries in need.

The Bill number is SB 5178. To read the full text of the bill, see the following link:

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/billinfo/summary.aspx?bill=5178#documents>

If you wish to express your opinion on this bill, you should contact your state legislators. If you aren't sure who your state representatives are, this website can help:

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/Default.aspx>

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**Please note our new office hours: 7-5:30 M-Th,
Closed Fridays**

Editors Note: I will have copies of the bill available at the March 24th meeting.

WASHINGTON STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Stephen Eric Baylor, President
1308 Park Hill Dr., Arlington, WA 98223
360-435-4469 s.baylor@comcast.net

August 2008

The contribution of volunteers to the welfare of our local societies is crucial in keeping our organizations operating smoothly. In 2003 the Washington State Genealogical Society established a program to recognize these outstanding people from your organization as well as others from around the state. During our annual meeting and conference in Spokane on Sept. 12, 2009, we are again going to recognize people in two categories.

The first award is designed for an individual who has demonstrated outstanding Society Support and Management. We would like your society to select an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the operation and well being of your local society. This could be a person who always is willing to help with projects, works on committees or subcommittees to help manage your organization, consistently provides informative presentations at meetings, organizes your annual seminar or perhaps makes a special effort to arrive early at every meeting to set up the tables and chairs or prepare the refreshments.

The second award is for outstanding effort in local Records Preservation. We ask you to choose one individual who has conducted a records preservation project of local and statewide significance for your society. This is the person who has looked for important records of genealogical value, has helped transcribe or publish records either in print or digital format, has indexed historical books or records to simplify research, or has in some other way preserved information which otherwise might have remained hidden or lost to other researchers. It is often impossible to single out one person for recognition when the society support effort or records preservation project is the result of exceptionally close teamwork. If you need, you can recognize two or three individuals for their joint work in either area.

It is our hope you will recognize an individual in each category from your society every year, although we understand there may be years when you do not have anyone working on a records preservation project. It is

our intent to recognize these individuals at our annual meeting and conference, and present them with a certificate of appreciation. If these individuals attend the meeting, we will ask them to stand and be recognized by their peers. Please note this is not a competition. Each person you choose to honor WILL receive a certificate. Please send the names of your special members along with their city of residence and a summary of their outstanding accomplishments (not more than 125 words please) in the style shown in the examples. (Suggested form language is underlined in the examples.) We would request you include maiden names for any females and we would like a head-and-shoulders photo of each person (or team) in digital format which will appear on the certificate.

To allow time for us to put the certificates together before the next annual meeting on May 10 in Mt. Vernon, please send us the information and photos, electronically if possible, by July 1, 2009. Send by postal mail to Bob Witherspoon, PO Box 491, Bellingham, WA 98227-0491, or by e-mail to rgwspoon@aol.com. Requests for copies of certificates awarded in previous years can be obtained at the same addresses.

Thank you.

Coming Events

Seminars & Conferences

Apr 4, 2009 Yakima Valley Genealogical Society will be the *ANNUAL SPRING SEMINAR*. Watch the YVGS website for further details.

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

Apr 30, 1-2 May 2009 - Rusagonis, New Brunswick, Canada

The Calkins Family Association is sponsoring its 5th tri-annual International Calkins Family re-union to be held in Syracuse NY Apr 30, May 1st and 2nd, 2009. The invitation is extended to all descendents of our original ancestors, Hugh and Ann Calkins, who landed in North America in 1638. Thursday evening: meet, greet, with refreshments. Friday: all day bus tour of historical places in the area. including lunch. Saturday: morning workshop, catered lunch afternoon, business meeting and evening banquet with world wide known genealogist, Gary Boyd Roberts as our guest speaker. For information and costs contact Minnie Frese 509 Rusagonis Rd., Rusagonis, New Brunswick, Canada E3B 8Z3, phone 506-357-3841 . Email: minmin@nbnb.ca

14 May 2009 - Tacoma, WA

Tacoma-Pierce County Genealogical Society meeting. Cyndi Howells presents a program on "Plotting, Scheming, and Mapping Online." At an informal pre-meeting gathering, Warren Fisk will be a resource for providing guidance, answering questions, facilitating discussion, etc, about "Civil War Genealogy". Location: Bates Technical College, 1101 South Yakima Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98405. Meetings begin at 7:00 pm, preceded by a social "cookies & coffee" time and an informal pre-meeting session lasting 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm. Guests are always welcome! Meetings are generally adjourned at 9:00 pm.

16 May 2009 - Seattle, WA

Seattle Genealogical Society will host the entertaining John Philip Colletta, Ph.D at the spring seminar, Saturday, May 16, from 9am – 4pm at the Sand Point Education Center (6208 60th Ave. N.E., Seattle). Dr. Colletta is a national lecturer on genealogy from Washington, DC. The full day seminar topics are: Breaking through brick walls, Lesser used federal records, (Homestead Files, Passport Applications, Civil War Income Tax, Appointments of Postmasters, to name a few); How to assemble a reliable family history; and How to write a readable family history. This promises to be an entertaining and informative day for both the beginning and experienced family researcher. Learn more about this Spring Seminar at their website above or call (206) 522-8658.

Sep 2-5, 2009 Federation of Genealogical Societies

2009 Conference "*Passages Through Time*"
Additional information:
<http://www.fgs.org/2009conference/index.php>

11-13 Sep 2009 - Spokane, WA

Washington State Genealogical Society Annual Conference, featuring Megan Smolenyak. The conference is hosted by the **Eastern Washington Genealogical Society**, and will be held at the Davenport Hotel in Spokane. The Davenport Hotel is taking reservations. Be sure to tell them you're attending the conference in order to receive your discount! This is a one day seminar with four tracks and two special lectures by Megan Smolenyak. Also available will be a special dinner with Megan Friday night and breakfast Sunday morning. Details will be posted as they become available.

Legacy User Group: Mary Buzzell is leading a Legacy User Group on the *first and third Tuesdays of each month from 1 to 3 PM at the Stillaguamish Library in Arlington*. Anyone interested in learning about using a genealogical computer program is invited to attend. While the focus is on the Legacy Family Tree program, much of the information is transferable to other brands. Mary has acquired a video training CR program from Millennia, Legacy's producer. The training subjects are: a 12 step Process for using Family Tree; Mastering Events and Chronologies; Ultimate Guide to Sources; and Tagging and Searching Made Easy. Mary visited with the Legacy folks who had a display at the Washington State Genealogy Society Annual Meeting last May in Mount Vernon. They offered to post our sessions on their website and assist us in any way they can.

Don't Forget to Renew Your Membership

Just a friendly reminder that 2009 dues are now due. Our membership year is Jan 1st through Dec 31st. \$12.00 for single and \$15.00 for family.

Starting the 24th of March there will be a Discussion Table available prior to the General Membership Meeting at 6:30 P.M. - you can discuss or ask questions about your genealogy and brick walls!!!!

Queries

I'm trying to locate any descendants of Dr. Edward Lee Russell, who was the Orange County (California) Health Officer in the 1960s. A few years ago, in a box of auction items, I obtained an old tape recorder with several magnetic tapes. One of them is labeled "Conversation with Mother Russell, June 21, 1970." The tape was in a small mailing box with a label from Dr. & Mrs. Edward Lee Russell and to Dr. & Mrs. Frank C. Russell, Orcas, Washington. I've done some internet searching (which is how I came up with Dr. Edward Russell's Orange County connection), and did find a Social Security death record for Frank C. Russell in Eastsound which I believe matches the Frank C above. I'm assuming that there was no family interested in the tape recorder, etc. since it ended up at an auction. Perhaps there may be other family members related to Dr. Edward or Dr. Frank that would like the tape. If you could share this request with your membership, I'd appreciate any information that might be available. With many thanks, Sue Mancer 1520 Cleveland Mount Vernon, WA 98273 skmancer@comcast.net

COMB BINDING SERVICE

Comb binding is an inexpensive way to bind your finished books or collections of papers and newsletters. The Society owns a binder and we are available to do your binding for you at a reasonable price. Service is also available to non-members, church groups, schools and private clubs or organizations. If you know of anyone that could use our service let me know. Makes a good fundraiser.

Prices:

Up to 112 sheets (5/8") - \$2.00, non-members \$3.00
113-168 sheets (1") - \$4.00, non-members \$5.00

Contact Hazel Rasar

hrasar@gmail.com

360-424-6528

Crossword Solution

ACROSS

- 4 CENSUS
- 5 HEIR
- 6 MAIDENNAME
- 8 EMIGRANT
- 11 SPOUSE
- 17 VITALRECORDS
- 18 FEME
- 21 LINEALDESCENDANT
- 23 MATERNAL
- 25 FAMILYTREE
- 28 PROGENITOR
- 30 GENEALOGY
- 31 NATUS

DOWN

- 1 SURNAME
- 2 DIGITAL
- 3 LIBER
- 4 CEMETERY
- 7 AHNENTAFEL
- 9 GEDCOM
- 10 COATOFARMS
- 12 PASSENGERLISTS
- 13 BIOGRAPHY
- 14 ANCESTOR
- 15 PEDIGREECHART
- 16 PATERNAL
- 19 NEPHEW
- 20 CONSANGUINITY
- 22 ENUMERATION
- 24 BRICKWALL
- 26 DEEDS
- 27 COUOSIN
- 29 OBIT

**SKAGIT VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
MEMBER QUESTIONNAIRE**

Skagit Valley Genealogical Society requests the assistance of its members to fulfill the needs of the society. The following chart indicates some of the activities that form the foundation of our society. Please consider which activity or activities interest you and let us know in what areas(s) you feel comfortable and are willing to assist for the support of your society. The information below will help promote the future growth of our society.

These are not chairman duties but will be of assistance to our committee chairs. Please indicate if you would be interested in becoming a committee chair. Committee Chairs serve on the board of directors which meets once a month at the Burlington Senior Center at 10:00 am on the first Wednesday of each month.

Thanks for your help *Dottie Chandler*, President SVGS

	Archivist: Assist society Archivist in gathering and compiling member group sheets, biographies, and newspaper articles of interest relating to the society. Take photographs, video etc. Dan Royal
	Education: Coordinate and/or assist with developing classes, find instructors for classes and assist with the education aspect of seminars and other events. Laura Sparr
	Library: volunteers help with a variety of tasks including assisting the librarian with selection of books for the library; serving as on-duty librarians on Monday, assisting at general meetings/seminars with book sales and the traveling library. Margie Wilson
	Newsletter: assist with writing articles, locating interesting and useful information. Contribute your experience by compiling new member information, queries, book reviews, etc. Kevin Osborne
	Publications: Includes selecting, transcribing, indexing, typing/digitizing, proofreading, editing, and publishing genealogical records. Indicate your preference, i.e. cemetery readings, court house records and indexing other genealogical projects. Dale Hastin
	Publicity: Promote public awareness of our society, i.e. writing and submitting newspaper articles and newspaper and Internet notification of meetings with scheduled topics. Distribute society brochures, and flyers for special events, to designated areas within Skagit County. Shirley Christenson
	Refreshments: Set-up and arrange for refreshments for meetings and other special society events. Aid by occasionally providing refreshments. Diane Partington
	Research: Assist genealogist by responding to requests for research help received from members, and out of the area family historians. Clipping obituaries from local newspapers, gluing obituaries onto index cards, filing and entering obituary information into a computer spreadsheet. Diane/Sylvia Ammons
	Room Set-up/Clean up: Assist with set-up of tables, arrange chairs and equipment, both before and after meetings. George Ridgeway
	Seminar: At least every other year our society hosts a one-day seminar. Volunteers are needed for all aspects including but not limited to finding speakers, determining topics, scheduling day and times, lunch menu, coordinating sale table or handout table, welcoming attendees, setting up refreshments, and soliciting donations from merchants for door prizes and food items. Clean-up. As needed
	Speakers: Public speakers are needed for our monthly meetings. Requires a good basic knowledge of a specific subject related to genealogy, or requires the ability to learn a research topic and share information with others. Topics will be limited to 30-45 minutes with 15 minutes for questions. Members are encouraged to share their knowledge. George Ridgeway
	Telephone Tree: Use the telephone and/or the computer. Each month all local members are either called or emailed to remind them of meetings and/or special events, i.e. – one or more persons needed to do the phone calls and one or more persons to do email notifications. Helen Bretvick
	Ways & Means: Suggest fundraising projects, assist in performing fund raising activities, obtain donations, ads for the newsletter and assist with planning for the Society's future. SVGS cannot exist without financial resources. OPEN
	Other: The society is always requiring assistance in various aspects. If you can consider other jobs or activities, please let one of our board members know or indicate your interest here.

Name: _____ Phone# _____ Email _____

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 - 2009

APPLICANTS NAME

ADDRESS STREET, CITY, STATE & 9 DIGIT ZIP CODE

AREA CODE ()

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

New Member _____

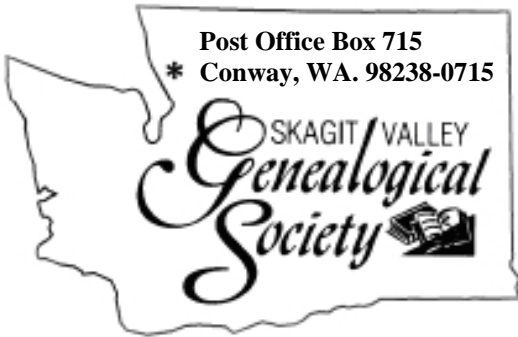
Renewal _____

Previous Member _____

FAMILY \$ 15 _____

INDIVIDUAL \$12 _____

INSTITUTION \$12 _____



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED