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Web site: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~wasvgs>

SVGS Library Collection:

900 E. Fairhaven

Burlington, Washington

President's Message

Let's remember to support our local genealogical society's general meeting later this month.

This is the one time when our membership gets to have a true voice in what happens in the day-to-day work of the society. Vote for your officers, meet the chair people of the various committee and help establish a budget, have a great time visiting with fellow genealogists.

Remember, also, how important it is to join other societies in the areas in which your ancestor's lived. You can get membership benefits as well as writing queries to reach other descendants. Writing a letter to that local newspaper can also have results.

We should be using the internet but not to the exclusion of the more paper-driven sources.

Good Hunting!

Laura

U.S. RECORDS COLLECTION UPDATES

--- WWI DRAFT REGISTRATIONS

(1.3 Million Names Added for Arizona, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Tennessee, and West Virginia)

<http://www.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?sourceid=831&dbid=6482>

States currently available include Arizona, California, Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, West Virginia and Wisconsin. (Note: Not all states are complete. Look for updates and more states to be added in the near future.) For printable blank draft registration forms:

<http://www.ancestry.com/save/charts/WWI.htm> Ancestry Weekly Digest [newsletter@reply.myfamilyinc.com]

Looking for Volunteers!

The **Burlington Public Library** recently received a federal Preservation Grant to fund their Local Newspaper Preservation Project: Patching Together Burlington's Past. The goal of the project is to lengthen the lifespan of the library's holdings of historical newspapers. The grant covers preservation materials and consultation with a professional conservator. The current local Burlington newspaper, *The Argus*, began publication over one hundred years ago as *The Tribune*. With just a few missing years, the library's collection spans the years 1900 through the present. Issues are available either as hardcopies of the actual papers or on microfilm. A listing of the library's local newspaper holdings is available on the library website at <http://www.burlington.lib.wa.us/docs/journal.pdf>.

As a first step in the preservation process, the library staff met with a local paper conservator who helped us to begin a collection assessment. This assessment entails going through the entire historical newspaper collection, assessing each issue for condition and special preservation needs. This will be a huge process, but a necessary step that will help us determine how best to preserve and store these valuable documents to ensure that they are available for future generations of researchers.

The library is looking for volunteers who would be able to help with the collection assessment process. If you have a few free hours to help with the project it would be greatly appreciated and in return you'd have the fun of looking through these historical newspapers. Please contact Christine Perkins at the Burlington Library, 360-755-0760, to volunteer or to get more information.

Janice Burwash, Resource Coordinator

Burlington Public Library

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- Special History Project co-chairs: **Hazel Rasar**
Dan Royal

Calendar of Events

Summer 2005

General Meeting:

24 May Laura Sparr, SVGS President, will speak on “Why Our Ancestors Came to America”.
“Nominations of Officers”

28 June Diana Shenk, archivist for the Washington State Northwest Archives in Bellingham, will enlighten us on what these archives hold for genealogists.

27 September Sharon Suhr, a SVGS member, will provide us with a program entitled “Scrapbooking for Genealogy and Family Heritage”.

25 October Hazel Rasar, a SVGS member and expert internet user, will expand our genealogical research possibilities by tell-

Welcome New Members
Sylvia Ammons Bow, Wa.
E. Dale Hastin Mount Vernon, WA.
Kathryn J. Bell Redmond, WA.
Betty Maurice Kelowna, B. C. Canada
Patricia Doran Conway, WA.
Billie Gilmore Mount Vernon, Wa.

Centre for Resource & Research

• **Laura Pemberton Sparr** announces that the library has been moved to the **Center of Spiritual Living facility**, 1508 N. 19th Street, Mount Vernon. Check your e-mail for a notice, drop her a note at centre4randr@hotmail.com, or call her cell at **425-231-6945**. The plan is to be open on Thursdays, with other times by appointment. See you there!

The Skagit Valley Genealogical Society Newsletter is now accepting 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 to be posted in the newsletter again, I certainly wouldn't be opposed to it. *Ye Editor*

Comb Binding .. For members

The society owns a comb binding machine. If you call Arnold Stewart at 360-466-3288 he will make arrangements to bind your pages into a book for you. Cost is: \$1.00 per book to cover supplies.

Coming Events

The 27th Annual Conference in the States

and National Genealogical Society GENTECH 2005

1-4 June 2005 Nashville Convention Center

Nashville, Tennessee <http://www.eshow2000.com/ngs/>

16 July 2005 - Tacoma, WA

[Heritage Quest Research Library](#) presents **Westward Migration**, a new program by **Donna Potter Phillips** and **Lethene Parks**, at the Summer Quest seminar. It will be held at the Tacoma Elks Lodge, 1965 South Union Avenue, Tacoma. Program runs from 9:00 am - 3:30 pm. Doors open at 8:00 am. Program is \$25.00 if registered before July 1; \$35.00 July 2-16 or at the door. Salad and Sandwich Buffet costs \$10.00 More details are available at <http://www.hqrl.com/>

7-10 Sept 2005 - Salt Lake City, UT

[The Federation of Genealogical Societies](#) presents their **2005 National Conference**, in cooperation with the Utah Genealogical Association. Details are available at <http://www.fgs.org/>

29 Sep & 1-2 Oct 2005 - Kelowna, BC, Canada

[The Kelowna and District Genealogy Society](#) invites you to attend our 2005 Seminar "Harvest Your Family Tree" to be held in Kelowna, BC, Canada on Sept. 30, Oct. 1, 2, 2005. (Kelowna is less than 5 hours from Bellingham). Acclaimed speakers from Scotland, England and Western Canada. Reception & Panel of Experts; 24 concurrent lectures, Genealogical Marketplace, Guided tour of Kelowna City Cemetery. More information about early bird registration, seminar schedule, map and presenters is available on the society website <http://www.rootsweb.com/~bckdgs/seminar2005.htm>

1 Oct 2005 - Spokane, WA

[The Eastern Washington Genealogical Society](#) will hold their Annual Fall Workshop. "Reviewing the Basics - Have I Missed Anything" on 1 October 2005 at the Corbin Community Center at 827 W. Cleveland, Spokane, WA. 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. There will be 14 speakers and 14 topics. \$22.00 before 20th Sept. 25.00 after and at door. Bring your own lunch for the 60 min. break and there will be snack trays in the afternoon. The flyer lists all the topics and can be seen on the EWGS web site <http://www.rootsweb.com/~waewgs/>

One of my families is named McPhee. Well, that name is corrupted to McFee, McAfee, McAtee, McAffee and several other variations. The strangest one I found -- ever -- though was when Sarah Starr married Thomas Maggotty. The lesson being, don't count on a significant spelling. Think outside the box.
 Submitted by our friend & Society Secretary
 Iona Raney



The Stump Ranch
 family and community history of the upper skagit valley



<http://www.stumpranconline.com>

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"Skagit County, Washington and Its People! 150 Years of Rich History & Heritage"



Accepting photographs and family history information for our history project. Example of submissions...

**August Kemmerich and Family
 Birdsview, WA—July 5, 1902**
 Left to Right., standing, rear: Mary, Joseph, John, Anna. Seated: August, holding Mark, Julius, wife Barbara, Kathryn. Standing in front: Clara.
 Submitted for the history project by Barbara Kemmerich Halliday

Questionnaire Line 12. Do you know who was the first settler in your family to arrive in Skagit County and where they settled?
 August Kemmerich was the first settler on my father's side to arrive in Skagit County. He settled in Birdsveiw, WA on the north bank of the Skagit River. A portion of his homestead is now Rasar State Park.

Society News

PUBLICATION COMMITTEE RESIGNATIONS

After serving as Publication Chairperson for the past seven years I submitted my resignation to the board of directors at the April board meeting. With the resignation of several members of this [Publications] committee, including Diane Partington, Shirlee and John Fisher there are several openings available. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact one of the present members.

I would like to welcome as a new board member, Candace Soine, our new **Publication Chairperson**. I am confident that she is well qualified for this position and will add some new sparkle to this committee. Before returning to Skagit County, Candace was an active member of the Heritage Quest library in Sumner. Current members of this committee are: Sharon Johnson, Arnold Stewart, Betty Hoffman and Lois Theodoratus.
Hazel Rasar

NOMINATIONS OF OFFICERS 2005-2006

You will be asked to vote for the election of society officers at the Annual Meeting on May 24. New officers will take office at the June Board meeting. The following individuals have agreed to serve the society for the next two years. If you know of someone else interested in either of these positions and would like to avail yourself of the opportunity to nominate someone from the floor you will need to be present at the Annual Meeting. To nominate additional persons. Nominations will be taken from the floor only with the permission of the nominee. We would like to encourage you to make an effort to attend this meeting and cast your vote.

VICE PRESIDENT: Hazel Rasar

Hazel has been a member of the society since 1989 and has served as President and most recently as Chairperson of the Publications Committee. She is co-chair of the Special Project and the proposed publication about the people of Skagit County.

TREASURER: Yale Gifford

Yale is a relatively new member having joined the society in 2004. He is a retired attorney and has worked as a Bank Trust officer in Anacortes before his retirement.

Hope to see you at the Annual Meeting on May 24.

Ancestry of Pope John Paul II R.I.P.

Pope John Paul II was lauded by Evangelicals, Jewish leaders as well as Catholics when he passed away April 2, 2005. Born **Karol Wojtyla** in Poland, his genealogy has been documented. The Polish Genealogical Society published A Study of the Genealogical Lines of the Wojtyla Family more than 20 years ago. For more information, look at <http://pgsa.org>. *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter*

Message from
Joan the Librarian

The Burlington City Council has authorized a new library to be built on the corner of Washington and Holly very close to the current location. This is great news for our SVGS Library! We have had input on what the Society would like to see for the genealogy section and are currently corresponding with the City Council on our needs. Do you have ideas on what you would like to see happen for our research library? Please let me know by phone or email so your input can be given to the architects.

The Society Library has much to be thankful for, the above paragraph to begin with. Our members continue to give books and other useful items for our collection. A very large donation has come from Janet Armbrust who has recently moved from Skagit Valley. Other April donations have arrived from Darlene Libbey and Hazel Rasar and we do thank you all for your generosity.

There will be items to be given away at the May meeting. However, in June the annual book sale will be available to our members, so bring your pocketbooks. Many useful items will be available for purchase at bargain prices. Come early for the best selection! If there are any books left over they will be listed in a subsequent newsletter.

There are some special books from the Armbrust collection written in German that need special mention. These will be for sale. (I am not able to put the two dots over some of the vowels) If anyone is interested please contact me and I can give you more of a description.

Familienkundliches Wörterbuch von Fritz Verdenhalven
Degeners Nopke#21 1674-1984 by Verna Drake
(Written mostly in English.)

Die Bauernhöfe im Amte Vechta von Clemens Pagenstert
Taschenbuch für Familiengeschichtsforschung
"Vivat Amerika" Auswanderung aus dem Kreis Minden 1816-1933
Essener Bauernhöfe und ihre Familien von Clemens Bernard Bröring

Deutsches Ortsverzeichnis unter besonderer Berücksichtigung der Standesämter für Behörden und Priivate

For those members using the surname listings that are located on top of the file cabinets, you need to note there is a new folder that contains the code along with names and addresses for locating the participants. This is located in the drawer under the surname files with the listing "Surnames" Thanks go to Lorraine Rotherbuhler for making this available.

A big thank you to those library volunteers who have signed up for the remainder of May and June. They are as follows: May 16 - Iona Raney (May 30 library closed) June 6 - Vonda Anderson June 13 - Hazel Rasar June 20 - Linda Ream June 27 - Lorraine Rothenbuhler.

The summer months are coming and this is the time when many folks come from other areas to do research in Skagit County. The sign up sheet will be available at the meetings for you to do your part in bringing information to our visitors on Monday mornings at the SVGS Library.

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 - 2005

APPLICANTS NAME _____

ADDRESS STREET, CITY, STATE & 9 DIGIT ZIP CODE _____

AREA CODE () _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

New Member _____

Renewal _____

Previous Member _____

FAMILY \$ 12 _____

INDIVIDUAL \$10 _____

INSTITUTION \$10 _____



SKAGIT VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Membership List
2005