



President's Message

Spring is in the air and planning is under way. Our seminar committee is working towards a seminar next April. They'll have the details wrapped up soon but for right now circle April 22, 2017 in "pencil" on your new calendar. Also our board is finalizing the details for a beginning genealogy (four session) class this October on Saturdays. Do you have friends who might be interested? More details later.

We had a well-attended and very informative presentation at our April 9 meeting on researching eastern European family history. The language barrier is a big stumbling block and boundary changes and the war ravaged areas make genealogy research difficult in this part of the world. Dave Obee spoke of his methods of research to have successes and his perseverance paid off.

To keep our interest, V.P. Margie Wilson has arranged for Martha Collins to speak at our May 14 meeting. She will explain "How to Research People and Property using the National Register of Historic Places". House History research methods will be presented.

I'm looking forward to the June 11 presentation by Mary Roddy. Her subject is "Trails West!" involving the Great Western Migration along the Oregon Trail and other Trails West. Before the transcontinental railroad was completed Easterners and Mid-Westerners began to settle the West. How did they get there and what was their journey like? Her presentation covers overland and water routes with descriptions of the journey and using clues to discover how and when your ancestors traveled. Those of us with ancestors traveling to our state before 1900s should find this to be most interesting.

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Newsletter: Dottie Chandler
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Web site: skagitvalleygenealogy.org

Now to just find time to continue my genealogy research using the hints and suggestions presented by our speakers. Warm weather and my other activities find me straying away from my genealogy endeavors. But as Dave Obee showed us, perseverance pays off. Good luck!

John Hayes

President
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.



In the American Civil War, soldiers were required to have at least four opposing front teeth, so they could open a gunpowder pouch. Some draftees had their front teeth pulled so they could avoid service. In our day they just jumped the border to



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OPEN

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Check out our redesigned web page at
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*

Finding your Roots: Season 3

Tuesday nights at 8 pm

Hosted and written by Professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr., season three of Finding your Roots is filled with emotional moments that enrich our national discussion on race, ethnicity and identity. Gates traces the ancestral trails of 28 new guest including Mia Farrow, Bill Maher, Gloria Steinem, Bill O'Reilly, Julianne Moore, Sean Combs, Maya Rudolph, Richard Branson, Soledad O'Brien, Senator John McCain, Azar Nafisi and Norman Lear.



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.

SVGS Webmaster George E. Ridgeway Jr.

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 Mondays from 11:00—1:00 to assist with questions.

Margie Wilson—SVGS Librarian



Genealogist's Disease

WARNING: Genealogy Pox
(Very contagious to adults)

SYMPTOMS: Continual complaint as to need for names, dates and places. Patient has a blank expression, sometimes deaf to spouse and children. Has no taste for work of any kind, except feverishly looking through records at libraries and courthouses. Has compulsion to write letters. Swears at mailman when he doesn't leave mail. Frequents strange places such as cemeteries, ruins, and remote, desolate country areas. Makes secret night calls, hides phone bills from spouse and mumbles to self. Has strange, faraway look in eyes.

NO KNOWN CURE

TREATMENT: Medication is useless. Disease is not fatal, but gets progressively worse. Patient should attend genealogy workshops, subscribe to genealogical magazines and be given a quiet corner in the house where he or she can be alone.

REMARKS: The unusual nature of this disease is- the sicker the patient gets, the more he or she enjoys it!

Skagit Valley Genealogical Society

Monthly Meetings Program Calendar 2016

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

Sat., May 14	--	"How to Research People and Property Using the National Register of Historic Places" (House History Research Methods) -- Martha Collins
Sat. June 11	--	"Trails West!" The Great Western Migration Along the Oregon Trail and other Trails West, Including Overland and Water Routes Leading West -- Mary Kircher Roddy
July-August – no meetings		
Sat., Sept. 10	--	"Beyond Online: Courthouse Records" An introduction to what to look for and where to find inform about your ancestors in court records -- Janice C. Lovelace
Sat., Oct. 8	--	"Tell Us Your Ancestor's Story" Betty Tartas and several SVGS members, share the fascinating stories of their ancestors and research.
Sat. Nov. 12	--	Annual Meeting / Brick Walls / Book Bonanza Sale

Seattle Genealogical Society News

<http://wasgs.org/blog/2016/04/16/seattle-genealogical-society-news-5/>

ANNE JENNER TO BE GUEST SPEAKER AT THE SCANDINAVIAN SIG

We're delighted to have Anne Jenner, Pacific Northwest Curator, University of Washington Special Collections, as our speaker at the May meeting of the Scandinavian Special Interest Group, on Sunday, May 15, from 1:30-3:30pm, at the Seattle Genealogical Society, 6200 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle.

Anne served as the head of the library at the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois, and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Swedish-American Historical Society. Anne will discuss resources of interest to those researching their Scandinavian roots,

To get your family tree done the fastest, run for political office. Your opponents will have it completed way before the election, and then you can resign if you really didn't wish to run in the first

If your family members won't talk about a particular relative, a seasoned genealogist knows they are keeping mum about something very interesting.

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

You know you're hopelessly hooked on genealogy if you say "Honey, I'll just be a few minutes on the computer," and then find yourself awestruck by the

OUR ROOTS GO DEEP

Officially the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society is now six years old (1993). The roots of the society actually go back much further. Many of the original members were part of a study group led by Margory Johnson. Her interest in the hobby began in the early 1950's.

Francis Byford believes the study group started around 1978. There was an afternoon and evening group. The afternoon group met at the Mount Vernon City Library. Susan Bos attended the evening group which also met at the library. This group later moved to Margory's home.

The groups offered one-to-one instruction and an opportunity to share a hobby. The attendance was small, normally 6 to 8 people. There was sharing of problems, successes, and car-pooling to Seattle libraries, archives and other places of research. Margory also conducted classes at the senior center. She spread her love and knowledge of genealogy to many in Skagit County.

Sharon Johnson and Colleen Thulen joined the group in the early 1980's. At this time there was only one group which met in the afternoon on the first Wednesday of each month at the library. These continued into 1986 until the death of Margory Johnson.

As we wondered what we should do without our leader, a new one stepped forward. Betty Fellion had been with the study group about two years. She was small in stature, meek in voice, quiet, and not who'd you expect to take over. But she saw the need and filled it.

At the November 5, 1986 meeting at the Knotty Pine Restaurant, six members decided to place an article in the newspaper to see who else was interested in forming an area genealogical society. Dee Ackerman and Zelda Stout of the Whatcom Genealogical Society in Bellingham attended giving us helpful information on what to do towards "society" formation. Charter members listed in the min-

Dee Ackerman, Edna Baiter, Dottie Burr, Betty Fellion, Ann Flath, Sharon Johnson, Gen McMullen, John Marian, Carol Oglesbee, Hazel Pilkinton, Colleen Thulen, Nola Van Wieringen, Lois Wold and Mary Jo Wolden

In January 1987 the first officers were chosen: Betty Fellion, President; John Marian, Vice President; Carol Oglesbee, Secretary and Colleen Thulen, Treasurer.

From tiny acorns mighty oaks grow. Wouldn't Margory and Betty be pleased with today's membership of over 120?

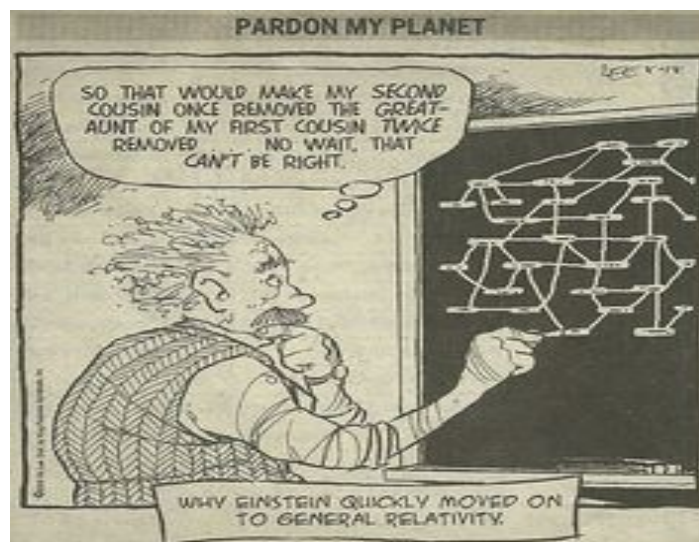
Murphy's Law of Genealogy

The tombstone you want to find is always located in the extreme opposite corner of the cemetery to where you started your search.

Twisted Twigs
on Grarled
Branches



Next year is Canada's 150th birthday, so in September we have the display case at the Burlington Library. We would like to acknowledge our friends, family and neighbors by do a display on Canada. If anyone would like to help or loan some items to be put on display for a month please help and contact Dottie Chandler at dotcom10@frontier.com. Also ideas are welcome.



Skagit Valley Genealogical Society
presents

HOUSE HISTORY:

"How to Find People & Property
USING THE National Historic Register"

GUEST SPEAKER: MARTHA COLLINS

SATURDAY, MAY 14

1:00 - 3:00 pm

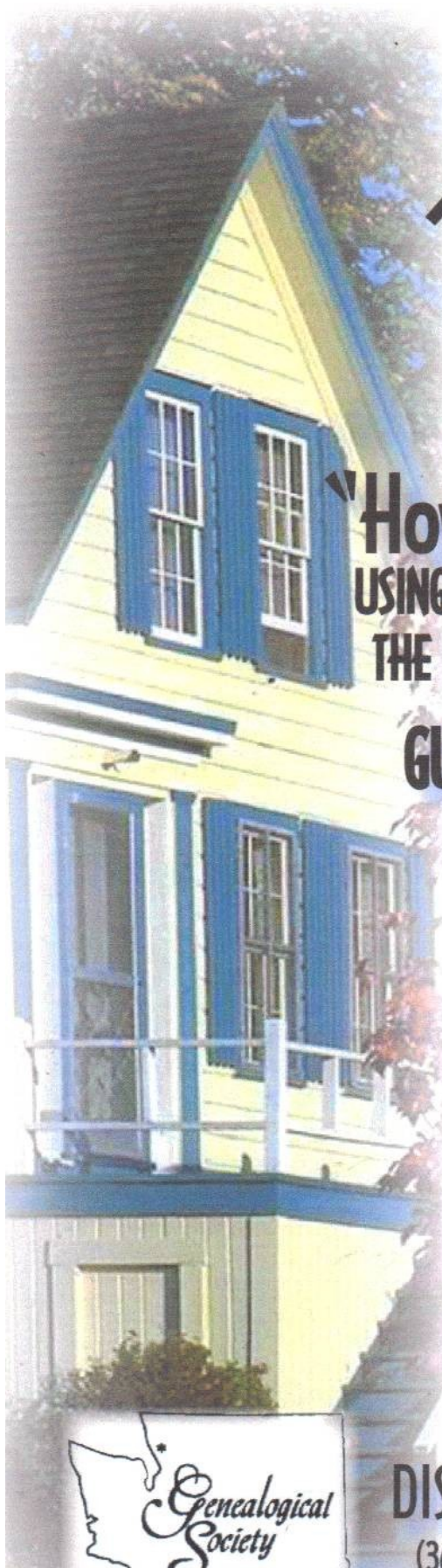
Burlington Senior Center

1011 Greenleaf Ave. • Burlington
(Enter on East Side of Building)

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

DISCOVER YOUR ANCESTRY! • SVGS CAN HELP

(360) 757-6224 • aenealoav0715@gmail.com • skagitvallevenealoav.org



SKAGIT VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS

TRAILS WEST

**"Crossing the Continent 1840 - 1869
Overland & Water Routes"**

Special Guest Speaker / Genealogist

MARY KIRCHER-RODDY

SAT., JUNE 11

1:00 - 3:00 pm

Burlington Senior Center

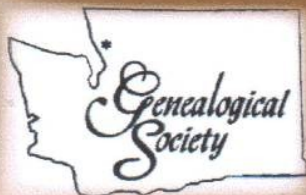
1011 Greenleaf • Burlington

(Enter on East Side of Building)

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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 - 2016

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



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MAILING ADDRESS
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED