



President's Message

It is almost the end of the year, this year has gone by so fast! The more mature we get the faster time seemd to go by and we seem to not have enough time to do all the things we want.

I would like to Thank our outgoing Treasurer, Portia Stacey and Education Chair, Shirley Christenson for all their hard work. Portia has agreed to be Sunshine and Eric Stroschein had taken over education. The Society is happy to announce that Lois LeBlonde will be the new treasurer and her husband Joe has agreed to fill one of our empty board positions. Thank you all for volunteering and the support.

Our Nordic Heritage Day was a success. If you did not attend you missed a great program. We had over 120 people attend. The music and dancing was entertaining. We are planning on doing this again next year . Some suggestions are the British Isles area, Canada, and different areas of the United States. Please feel free to let us now what ideas you have. We would like to do these programs with your help to continue to make them a success.

Remember your dues are due in January.

Everyone have a safe Thanksgiving and Christmas. Enjoy your families because they are precious.

Dottie Chandler, President

Welcome New Member(s)

Jolene Betendorf, Betty Maurice, Dottie Thomas, Solvig Lee, and Walt & Dorothy Johnson

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.
Christine Cooper

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President: Dottie Chandler

Newsletter pro-tem Dottie Chandler

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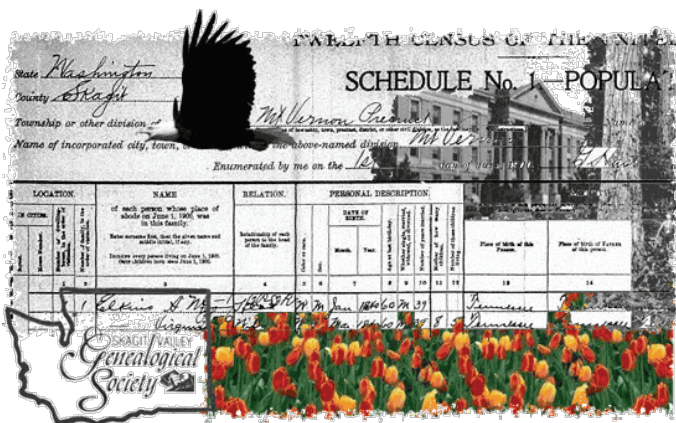
Web site: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~wasvgs>

Here's a few words for the Library section:

The SVGS Library Expansion Project is now complete. The new shelves were installed in time for October's "Family History Month." Already the shelves are filled with a valuable collection of books recently donated by Norene and Charles Schilter. On behalf of the SVGS Library Committee, our sincere thanks and appreciation to all the SVGS



Check out our redesigned web page at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasvgs/>



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Dottie Chandler
Sylvia Ammons

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SOCIETY EMAIL: genealogy0715@gmail.com

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.

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*

USA State Game

Can you place the states in the proper spot on
a blank USA map?

<http://kimpages.com/States.htm>

HAVE FUN

New Website: Mocavo.com

Mocavo is a free search engine geared toward genealogists and people interested in learning more about their family history. At <http://www.mocavo.com/> simply type in the names of interest and click Search. All related results from industry sources, i.e. genealogy message boards, family trees, state and local historical societies, the Library of Congress, National Archives, Ellis Island, Find A Grave, the Internet Archive, various U.S. state archives, and many tens of thousands of genealogy sites built by individuals will be displayed. Mocavo.com links directly to their content.

TIDBITS FROM THE JOURNAL

January 25, 1907

The Smith Bros. are again doing the logging business for the Morgan Lumber Mill

Mrs. Frank Coffman of Samish, is visiting with her mother, Mrs. W.H. Musser.

Mr. Henry Parrish left on Tuesday for Everett where he

Skagit Valley Genealogical Society Upcoming Programs 2011- 2012

November 19, Saturday – George Ridgeway – Internet Research. Not everything genealogical is on The Web, but George will give us pointers on what *is* on The Web.

December: No meeting.

January 28, Saturday – John Ruhlman - Planning a Family Reunion – John will give us tips for having a successful reunion.

February 25, Saturday – Brick Walls – Do you still have unfound relatives who don't want to be found? Let us help you break down those brick walls.

March 27 – 1940 Census – Carol Buswell from the National Archives and Records Administration in Seattle will fill us in on the soon-to-be-released 1940 Census.

April 24 – Mary McGoffin – “Under the Red Tile Roof” – Mary will discuss her book about Northern State Hospital and its fascinating history and architecture.

May 22 – Sharon Johnson – Land records – Sharon has been researching for years and has great tips on searching through land records.

June 26 – Barbara Allen – Updated familysearch.org – What's the latest about the New And Improved Family Search web site? Come and find out.

We meet from 7:00-9:00 pm on 4th Tuesday of the month at Burlington Senior Center, 1011 Greenleaf Avenue, Burlington, Washington, September, October, March, April, May and June;

November we will meet November 19th from 1:00-3:00.

January and February: we meet on the 4th Saturday, from 1:00-3:00pm at the Burlington Library, 820 East Washington Avenue, Burlington, Washington

Burlington Public Library

820 E Washington Ave
Burlington, WA 98233
Phone (360) 755-0760
Email:
blibrary@ci.burlington.wa.us
Hours: Monday – Thursday
11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Friday & Saturday
11:00 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



Pride in One's Heritage Celebrated at Nordic Heritage Day

It always feels a bit risky to try a new idea. But sometimes it really hits a community sweet spot of interest and pays off. Such was the case regarding SVGS' most recent open house venue, "Nordic Heritage Day." SVGS member, Rita Schulze, presented an intriguing idea to SVGS board. "Why not, combine celebrating one's cultural heritage with family research?" Well, the board gave it a "thumbs up" to try such an open house event and much to everyone's delight the community responded with enthusiasm.

Since the Skagit Valley has such a rich Scandinavian pioneer history, the Nordic cultures were agreed upon to be the focus of this open house experiment. Simply by asking a few community members known to have Nordic roots if they'd like to participate the event the word spread and participants eagerly stepped forward to help make it happen. Performers such as Einar Tapio, who hails from Lapland, Norway agreed to play accordion music, the Norwegian Mannskor, under the direction of Steven Jensen, enthusiastically agreed to sing some inspiring anthems from each of the countries, Tordis Maland-Busskohl of Telemark, Norway created a "bunad" fashion show (bunads are the traditional folk costumes worn in rural Scandinavia which identifies that village by the dress and embroidery patterns). Two teens were recruited to serve as bunad fashion models for the beautiful wool bunads. When the Nordic Heritage Museum of Ballard spread the word about the event Jody Grage, known as "The Bunad Lady" volunteered to discuss the details that go into individual costumes. Linda Olie of the Norse Pantry in La Conner, delighted the audience with a live demonstration of how to cook a traditional Swedish pudding. Members of local Nordic Folk Dance group came wearing their colorful Scandinavian folk costumes and demonstrated a couple of popular traditional dances to complete the cultural activities.

In the exhibit area tables brimmed with treasured heirlooms from "the old country" and community volunteers eagerly discussed their family roots with visitors. Thanks to SVGS members George Ridgeway, Dan Royal and Eric Stroschein attendees were able to receive one-on-one assistance with their genealogy research.

Eric Stroschein launched the educational programming with his presentation, "How to Bridge the Language Barrier in Your Overseas Research." Sharon Johnson followed with "Beginning Your Swedish Research", and Bruce Matson, presented a historic perspective on "The Finn Settlement of Skagit County."

Over 120 visitors attended the event - perhaps a record for a SVGS open house - and compliments from visitors continued to flood in by emails even days after the event!

Ms. Schultz obviously had a great idea. The community responded with deep-rooted pride in celebrating their heritage. SVGS' "Nordic Heritage Day" was indeed "a simple notion whose time had come!"

Margie Wilson
SVGS Publicity Chair



Magazine Reports from Sharon Johnson

Family Chronicle, September/October 2011

Eastern European Research Made Easier!; Tracing a Chimney Sweep in the Family; Utilize Patents as a Source of Information (*author believes <google.com/patent> is the easiest site to use as it's search feature accepts names, locations, or descriptive words.*); Was Your Ancestor a United Empire Loyalist? (*discusses types of resources available for tracing Loyalists*); The Case of the Missing Sisters (*records used in finding a great-grandmother's siblings*); Find Your Civil War Ancestor's Photo Online (*tips and advice on locating pictures and also several picture examples concerning dating*); Ohio Migration Routes: What You Need to Know (*settlement patterns in Ohio prior to 1850*). Home Alone: The Tragedy of Louisa Jordan; mtDNA Yields Amazing Surprise (*how DNA testing impacted the author's research*); Writing a Codicil to Protect Your Genealogy Collection; There's No Place Like Home! (*resources you may have in your home*)

Internet Genealogy, October/November 2011

Web-based Software: What You Need to Know!; Genealogy Software: Free, Paid and on the Web! (*where and how to get them*); Become an Interactive Genealogist! (*how to make the Web work for you and your genealogy research*); British and Irish Parish History (*online resources for UK parish research*); Net Notes (*historical newspapers online*); The National Institute for Genealogical Studies (*internet-based education*); The Promise of Google+ (plus); Finding Your Family's Places: Gazetteers (*what's available*); The Case of the Missing Stone (*tombstone*); What Grandpa (and Grandma) Did in the War (*Veterans History Project*); Cyndi's List Keeps on ticking! (*a categorized and cross-referenced index to genealogical resources on the Internet*); A Billion Graves on Your Smartphone!; Geneabloggers: More than Just a Blog Site!

Family Chronicle, November/December 2011

Irish Naming Conventions: An Introduction; Ten Tips for Reading German Parish Registers; The Etting Connection: America's Sweetheart (*Hollywood actress, Ruth Etting who married gangster, Martin (Moe "The Gimp")*); Borders: What To Do When They Didn't Exist!; Researching Ontario Land Records: An Introduction (*concerning Upper Canada Land Petitions*); Confronting Difficult Times in the Lives of Our Ancestors (*impacting historical events*); Google+ Hangouts (*the newest tool of Google*); The Married name Problem (*finding a maiden name*); It's Amazing What You Can Learn From School Censuses!; Burial Location 101 (*not all cemeteries are created equal*)

When you say you are a veteran, I see neither a man nor a woman.

When I see a veteran, I don't see that they are white, black, Indian, Asian or other nationality.

When I see a veteran, I don't see a Catholic, a protestant, Jew or other religion.

When I see a veteran, I don't see a Democrat or Republican or other political party.

When I see a veteran, I see a person who has served their country to the best of their ability often in

the worst conditions in the worst of time of their lives. I see a person who lost part of themselves

and sadly for some of us good friends.

I am so Proud to stand before you and salute you veterans, your family, your friends and all service men and women who are stationed throughout the world.

GOD BLESS America

George E. Ridgeway Jr.
3rd class Petty Officer Radarman
U.S. Navy (1963-1967)
U.S.S. Maddox (DD 731)



Newsletter reader "Stony" Stonebraker wrote to tell of a new scanning service that is available. I read about the new service and became enthused. I write about a lot of services and products in this newsletter, but this is one I think I will use frequently!

I have been scanning genealogy books in preparation for "downsizing" someday. As I move closer to retirement, I realize that I will someday move to smaller living quarters without room for all the books and magazines I have accumulated. I won't have room for the required bookshelves. The answer seems obvious: digitize them! Thousands of books can be stored in a very small computer or in a tablet computer or even a flash drive.

Anyone can use 1DollarScan by filling out an online order form and then shipping the books or other materials to 1DollarScan's offices in San Jose, California. The company scans them and converts them into PDF files and also performs OCR (optical character recognition) to create a text layer behind the images to make the text searchable and selectable. The PDF files and text files can be sent to the customer by download or on DVD disks. The PDF files can be read on:

- Any Windows, Macintosh, or Linux computer
- Apple iPad, iPad2, iPhone3G, iPhone3GS, iPhone4, iPod touch
- HTC Desire, HTC DesireHD, Xperia
- GALAXY S, GALAXY Tab
- Amazon Kindle3 (coming soon)
- SONY Reader PRS-650 (coming soon)
- Barnes & Noble Nook (coming soon)
- All Android phones, All Android Tabs
- And probably all future computers and Ebook readers as well

After the materials are scanned and the electronic images are returned to the customer, the original paper documents may either be returned (the customer pays the shipping charges) or sent to a recycling service to be shredded and reborn as recycled paper.

Once the materials have been scanned and the electronic files sent, the customer manages all future storage as he or she sees fit. In my case, I will make multiple backups and will make sure the backups are stored in several different locations for safe keeping.

Prices for the scanning service seem reasonable:

- Books: \$1 for 100 pages (so scanning a 300-page book will cost \$3)
- Documents: \$1 for 10 pages
- Business cards: \$1 for 10 cards
- Photographs: \$1 for 10 photos
- Greeting cards: \$1 per card

1DollarScan promises that future services will include saving all scanned materials directly to a shared Dropbox folder with no CD or DVD disks required. 1DollarScan will scan the books, perform the OCR text conversion, and the customer will receive electronic copies within minutes.

The company is also promising a future service of shipments directly from Amazon.com. You will be able to buy a book on Amazon.com and specify it be shipped directly to 1DollarScan. The company will then scan the book, send the electronic version to you, and dispose of the paper copy as you specify.

I'd suggest this is a great service for genealogists and for many others as well. I won't use it for scanning everything I plan to digitize, but I do hope to send most of the "tedious" scanning to 1DollarScan. I still plan to scan my fragile materials and valuable items myself.

You can learn more about 1DollarScan's services at <http://1dollarscan.com>.

My thanks to newsletter reader "Stony" Stonebraker for telling me about 1DollarScan.

Taken from the WGS newsletter:**British Columbia Vital Records Added on FamilySearch.org**

According to GENEALOGY NEWSLINE #39, edited by Leland K. Meitzler for [Family Roots Publishing Co.](#), LLC and Lee Everton of [Area-Info.net](#), the LDS website of FamilySearch.org has newly added vital records of British Columbia: Birth Registrations, 1854-1903; Marriage Registrations, 1859-1932; and Death Registrations, 1872-1986. Databases for Registrations of other provinces have also been added.

Records of Clallam and Jefferson Counties May Move

If you plan on using the governmental records of Clallam and Jefferson counties located at the Washington State Archives Northwest Regional Branch at WWU, you may want to do it now. Severe budget cuts have already been made to the state archives system via personnel layoffs and suspension of some programs. Real estate may be the next target for meeting the next round of reductions. A plan is being considered to move the records of Clallam and Jefferson counties from the Northwest Branch to the Puget Sound Branch in Bellevue. This should allow the bottom floor of the building to be vacated and the space returned to WWU. This transaction would create a virtual reduction in real estate assets and expenses for the Northwest Branch. So, if you don't want to travel to Bellevue, do your research now while the Clallam and Jefferson records are here.

Don't take your Washington State Archives system for granted!!!!

Submitted by Steve Baylor, WSGS Region One Representative, and member of the Washington State Historical Records Advisory Board

As genealogists in Washington State we are proud of our archives and boast of our digital archives, the best one in the world. Many of us devote hours to indexing digital images of public records and as a result there are more than 33 million records available for online research. We are also proud of our regional archive system. If we need to research older county records we can make a quick trip to Bellingham, Bellevue, Olympia, Ellensburg, or Cheney and research a wealth of documents. Let's face it. We're spoiled.

Please do not take our wonderful archives system for granted. Governor Gregoire has called the legislature into special session this November to make additional budget cuts. Our archives took a big hit a couple years ago and we all know about the cuts in staff. There is a good possibility that the archives could be a target of the legislature. Even a ten percent cut could jeopardize our access to public records. If we aren't heard, we could be facing cuts that could shut down our regional archives. We could also see digital imaging jobs disappear. Without digital imaging our indexing volunteers would be left with nothing to process. If you believe in having open and accessible public records in our state, now is the time to let your legislators know our archives system is too important to destroy. We could lose some very talented individuals if we don't act.

As much as we all champion the Heritage Center, it is just a building. Access to the records is by far more important than any building. Tell your legislators you'd rather see Heritage Center funds diverted back into keeping our archives system the best in the United States. We fought to keep the Washington State Library open a decade ago and we can do the same for our archives.

Don't think of this as just a one or two month battle either. As long as the recession drags on our state library and archives will continue to be targets. When we elected Sam Reed as our Secretary of State we had a champion for genealogists who went out to find the best state archivist available, Jerry Handfield. Sam will retire on December 31, 2012 and Jerry will not be our State Archivist forever. Please consider any and all candidates who decide to run for Secretary of State and let's be sure the person we vote for favors open access to public records and Internet access to historical documents. Complacency is not an option!

Here is a link to finding your legislator and district: <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/districtfinder/default.aspx>

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 - 2011

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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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED