



President's Message

I hope your summer wasn't too hot and you were able to accomplish a bit of family research. The latest news from our board is we have a new address. Charter member Sharon Johnson retired from our board after 30 years so we decided to move our mail box to Burlington. So effective immediately you can now use **P.O. Box 192, Burlington, WA 98233-0192** for our SVGS snail mail. The board has been notifying our various contacts from over the years informing them of our new mailing address. Sharon has been picking up our mail for the past 30 years at Conway. Thank you, Sharon, job well done!

We are looking forward to our educational programs this fall beginning on September 9. Back by popular demand we have our own Barbara Johnson presenting "DNA and Genealogy". A popular trend in the genealogy community is DNA testing. Which test is the best choice? How do DNA tests help with your family history research? What are the different types of tests to choose from? Barbara will clarify these and other questions so you can make an informed decision and add a DNA test to your research tool kit.

Next up on October 14 we'll have "Researching Your Native American Ancestors" presented by Dr. Janice Lovelace. Many of us have heard stories such as, "your great-grandmother was an Indian princess." How does a family researcher begin to discover if it is true? What federal, state and tribal records are available? Dr. Lovelace will help you unravel this puzzle with an introduction to Native American Research.

Volume 31 Number 3
President: John Hayes
Newsletter: Dottie Chandler
PO BOX 192 BURLINGTON, WA 98233
Web site: skagitvalleygenealogy.org

Our Skagit Valley Genealogical Society and the Celtic Arts Foundation (CAF) are teaming up for a "Celtic Genealogy Info Session" on September 16 from 10 am to 3 pm. This session will be at the Littlefield Celtic Center located at 1124 Cleveland Avenue in Mount Vernon. Yes, our own Barbara Johnson will handle this event for our society. Check CAF's website for registration and program information.

Barbara Johnson is currently chairing our Nominating Committee and will be reaching out to the membership to find possible candidates. Annual officer elections will be held at our November 11 meeting. The officer positions of treasurer and vice president will be open and we still need a secretary. With annual officer elections scheduled for November the term for secretary will be just one year and the other two positions will be two year terms. Since Muriel Neely retired as our secretary at the end of 2016, we have had volunteers fill in on a pro-tem basis. Our society can't function without officers so give it some consideration. Barbara will be out scouting for you. Thank you, Barb, for all you do!

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.

Membership Chairperson



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360-424-4608 rosie@valleyint.com

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360-798-1681 wilsongm@frontier.com

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Communications: Barbara Johnson

Sunshine:

Carol Nersten

Nominating:

OPEN

Audit/Budget:

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Bylaws/Standing Rules:

Hazel Rasar
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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

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*

A Family of Witches Appear Before Our Eyes

BURLINGTON— A family accused of witchcraft and several townspeople appeared in court on Saturday, June 10, at 1:00 pm in Burlington. The trial took place at the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society's (SVGS) monthly meeting. Orchestrating the trial were actual descendants of the accused— Rita and Tessa Schulze. The jurors, composed of SVGS members and guests in attendance, also participated as the local townspeople booing and shouting in the "courtroom." The witch trial kept true to documented reports of the proceedings. "The experience of the witch trial conjured up a full spectrum of emotions— the fear and superstition of the community at that time in New England, sympathy for the innocent victims, and awe at how well the cast stayed true to the original transcript of the trial. In handmade costumes, family members told the true story of the ancestors with pride. This original program by the Schulze family was indeed an educational lesson in researching then honoring our ancestors. By presenting this program today in 2017, centuries later, one came away with a feeling that these innocent victims' names were finally cleared from the shame they endured at a mysteriously dark time in Salem, Massachusetts past. Bravo! Rita and Tessa you did a remarkable job. Thank you for sharing your family's compelling story with your fellow family history researchers.



SVGS Library Notes – Summer/Fall 2017

Thanks to a large donation of several boxes of genealogy books by Paul Gilbert, SVGS will have some fine hard-bound books for its November Book Bonanza.

Most of the books Mr. Gilbert donated focus on family research in Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia and Virginia. Oh, thanks and appreciation to Mr. Gilbert for his generous gift to SVGS' library collection.

Reminder: No September Library Volunteer Scheduled Due to Labor Day Weekend. Since the first Saturday of September is the prelude to the Labor Day weekend there will not be a genealogy volunteer posted for that day. The regularly scheduled first Saturday of the month genealogy volunteer staffing at SVGS' Library Collection at the Burlington Library resumes on Saturday, October 7th from 11am to 1pm. with genealogist, Diane Partington on hand to assist visitors to the SVGS library

~ Margie Wilson, SVGS Librarian



This notice just appeared in Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter about FamilySearch microfilms and the digitizing process:

QUICK FACTS AND TIPS

- Patrons can still order<http://p.feedblitz.com/t3.asp?/948986/22963714/5747605_/feeds.feedblitz.com/~t/0/0/eogn/~https://www.familysearch.org/films/about-us> microfilmsonline until Thursday, September 7, 2017.
- After film ordering ends, if customers need access to a particularfilm yet to be digitized, they can express interest to have it added to thepriority digitization list by contacting FamilySearch Support<http://p.feedblitz.com/t3.asp?/948986/22963714/5747605_/feeds.feedblitz.com/~t/0/0/eogn/~https://integration.familysearch.org/ask/help> (Toll Free:1-866-406-1830).
- All of the microfilm rented by patrons in the past 5 years have nowbeen digitized by FamilySearch-over 1.5 million microfilms (ca. 1.5 billionimages).
- The remaining microfilms are being digitally scanned at a rate of1,000 films per day and are projected to be complete by 2020.
- New digital images are available as they are scanned in theFamilySearch.org Catalog.<http://p.feedblitz.com/t3.asp?/948986/22963714/5747605_/feeds.feedblitz.com/~t/0/0/eogn/~https://www.familysearch.org/catalog/search>
- Films currently on loan in family history centers and affiliatelibraries are automatically granted extended loan status.
- Affiliate libraries now have access to nearly all of the restrictedimage collections as family history centers.
- Visitors to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City will stillbe able to order needed microfilms to use during their research visits.

HOW TO FIND DIGITAL IMAGES ON FAMILYSEARCH

Digital image collections can be accessed today in 3 places on FamilySearch.org, all under Search.

- Catalog<http://p.feedblitz.com/t3.asp?/948986/22963714/5747605_/feeds.feedblitz.com/~t/0/0/eogn/~https://www.familysearch.org/catalog/search> . Includes adescription of all the microfilms and digital images in the FamilySearchcollection. This is where all of FamilySearch's digitized microfilm and newdigital images from its global camera operations are being published. Acamera icon appears in the Catalog adjacent to a microfilm listing when itis available digitally.
- Records<http://p.feedblitz.com/t3.asp?/948986/22963714/5747605_/feeds.feedblitz.com/~t/0/0/eogn/~https://www.familysearch.org/hr/search> includes collectionsthat have been indexed by name or published with additional waypoints tohelp browse the unindexed images.
- Books<[http://p.feedblitz.com/t3.asp?/948986/22963714/5747605_/feeds.feedblitz.com/~t/0/0/eogn/~https://books.familysearch.org/primo_library/libweb/action/search.do;jsessionid=B946FA6A5CA025686E6BEDEDA2863619?vid=FHD_PUBLIC&backFromPReferences=true](http://p.feedblitz.com/t3.asp?/948986/22963714/5747605_/feeds.feedblitz.com/~t/0/0/eogn/~https://books.familysearch.org/primo_library/libweb/action/search.do;jsessionid=B946FA6A5CA025686E6BEDEDA2863619?vid=FHD_PUBLIC&backFromPreferences=true)> include digital copies of books from the Family HistoryLibrary and other libraries, including many books that were previouslycopied to microfilm.

I hope you find this helpful.

Best,

Karen Abel GDO Listserv Administrator

AmazonSmile is a program operated by Amazon that generates donations for 501© (3) public charitable organizations. For program information, please go to <https://org.amazon.com>.

WELCOME TO FRED MEYER COMMUNITY REWARDS!

What is Community Rewards?

It is the latest addition to the Fred Meyer Rewards Program where you can earn donations for your favorite nonprofit just by shopping with your Rewards Card. Fred Meyer will donate \$2.5 million to nonprofits in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington in 2014 through this new program. Here's how it works: Link your Rewards Card to your favorite nonprofit at www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards. Whenever you use your Rewards card when shopping at Freddy's, you'll be helping the nonprofit linked to your Rewards Card to earn a donation from Fred Meyer. At the end of each quarter, Fred Meyer will make a donation to participating nonprofits based on the accumulated spending of the Rewards customers linked to each nonprofit. Fred Meyer will donate \$625,000 each quarter via Community Rewards! Do I still get Rewards Points, Fuel Points and Rebates? YES! Rewards Customers still get the Rewards Points, Fuel Points and Rebates.

So please go to these sites and help us out. It is appreciated.

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.

SVGS Members,

We have a new BLOG on our website. If you are interested in participating in our blog go to skagitvalleygenealogy.org/BLOG to see how you can register and log in.

Thank you.

You Took the DNA Test...The "Now What" for Genealogists

On Saturday, September 9, from 1:00-3:00pm, the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society presents a special science based program. Join retired scientist, educator, internationally acclaimed lecturer and genealogist, Barbara Johnson, for a discussion on how to use DNA testing for ethnicity to improve your family history research, and make connections with your DNA matched contemporaries. Bring your questions about those "Huh!?" and surprise ethnicity discoveries and Barbara will help you find answers. This program is free to the public and will be held at the Burlington Senior Community Center, 1011 Greenleaf Ave., Burlington, WA. For more info. about SVGS and a schedule of upcoming monthly educational programs visit: skagitvalleygenealogy.org or email: geneal0715@gmail.com.



Sat., Sept. 16 An Introduction to Celtic Ancestry Research --

SVGS member Barbara Johnson
10AM-3PM at the Celtic Arts Foundation, 1124 Cleveland, Mount Vernon. SVGS is partnering with CAF for this basic class covering the resources for researching Celtic heritage. Tickets available online at: <https://celticarts.org/celtic-events/genealogysession/> or call 360-416-4934 to register and to receive the promotional code.

Skagit Valley Genealogical Society

Monthly Meetings Program Calendar 2017 - 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!

2017

- Sat. Sept. 9** **DNA and Genealogy** – SVGS member and scientist, Barbara Johnson
 Learn how DNA testing can help your genealogy research, why your test results may contain some surprises, comparing DNA testing companies, and answers to your DNA test results questions.
- Sat., Sept. 16** **An Introduction to Celtic Ancestry Research** -- SVGS member Barbara Johnson
 10AM-3PM at the Celtic Arts Foundation, 1124 Cleveland, Mount Vernon. SVGS is partnering with CAF for this basic class covering the resources for researching Celtic heritage. Tickets available online at: <https://celticarts.org/celtic-events/> genealogyses
 sion/or call 360-416-4934 to register and to receive the promotional code.
- Sat. Oct. 14** **Researching Your Native American Ancestry** -- Dr. Janice C. Lovelace
 Researching Native American records presents unique challenges. Learn what records are most helpful and where to find them. Dr. Lovelace is one of our most popular presenters.
- Sat. Nov. 11** **Annual Meeting and Honoring Our Veteran Ancestors** –
 SVGS members are invited to give a 5 minute talk about a veteran ancestor in honor of Veteran's Day. Contact Margie Wilson 360-757-6224 if you wish to be part of the program.

2018

- Sat., Jan. 13** **Tech Skills Genealogists Need to Succeed** – George Ridgeway
 SVGS webmaster, George Ridgeway will teach you how to navigate through those puzzling websites and software "brick walls" presented by our cyber world. This how-to session will help genealogists become more efficient navigators and more productive in their online research
- Sat., Feb. 10** **Fir Island and Conway History** -
 The authors of this new local history book will discuss their research and the several Skagit pioneering families featured in this 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
 Learn how to avoid the many pitfalls of Irish research. This is an introductory program on Irish genealogy research and its unique challenges.
- Sat., Apr. 14** **The Lost Communities of Whatcom County** – Troy Luginbill
 Discover the communities in Whatcom County that you may never have heard of due to their brief existence. A fascinating history told by the director of the Lynden Historical Museum. -- Troy Luginbill

---- Sat., May 12 & June 9 -- Programs to Be Announced ---- July-August – no meetings

MISSPELLINGS

Often, beginning genealogists miss their ancestors by sticking too firmly to the idea that “that’s not how my family spelled their name, so it can’t be my ancestor.”

This statement ignores these basic truths:

- 1) Ancestors who were illiterate would have no idea how to spell their own name, let alone how someone else should spell it.
- 2) Until the twentieth century, spelling rules were far more flexible and fluid than what we think of today. That was true for routine words, not just surnames.
- 3) Even if your family was highly educated and truly did feel strongly about how their name should be spelled — the record taker might not have been as concerned. Ultimately, it depends on *how the record creator chose to spell the name* — not what your family thought about how it should be spelled.
- 4) Human error happens.

Using as our starting point the recognition that our family members’ surnames may appear in records under a variety of spellings, let’s try to widen our net to explore how “misspellings” may occur, and how you can go about generating more alternate variations to aid in your search.

SOUND ALIKES

Many so-called “spelling errors” can be attributed to various ways of spelling the same sounds. Consider the following situations:

Even single letters can sound similar. Think about a time when you may have had to spell your name for someone on the telephone. How many of our letters sound similar when said? B, C, D, E, G, P, T are just some examples. Even if your ancestor was spelling their name for the record-creator, it might not have been heard and recorded correctly. Types of errors into three basic categories — “sound alike,” A favorite example I use to illustrate this point is the surname: Cole.

Cole, Coal, Coale, Kohl, Koehl, Kole, Koal.

Put an accent or variation on the pronunciation of this, and it can result in:

Cool, Coole, Call, Coyle, Coil, Cale, Caile, Goal, Gole, Golle, Kale, Koohl, Kile, Kyle. Undoubtedly there are more variations to this name than what I’ve listed above. “look alikes,” and simple human errors.

Gene-somnia: When you really should go to bed, but stay up and do genealogy instead.



som^{ee}cards
user card



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 - 2017

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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