

# The Stillaguamish Star

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE STILLAGUAMISH VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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## *NwGC 2019:*



## *Another success!*



## FROM THE EDITOR

As I was preparing this issue of the newsletter and looking over all of the lovely photos from the SVGS Summer BBQ in July and the Northwest Genealogy Conference in August, I was strongly reminded that family is not just the blood relatives that so many of us research. It also includes those close friends who share common passions, goals and experiences. I was blessed that my mom was able to travel here to Nashville this weekend for a bridal shower my friends threw for me.

We also went to dinner with these close friends of mine and my mom got to visit with some of them on a deeper level. I was so happy to witness this since these friends are as much my family as my grandparents, aunts and uncles.

I hope you all have had a wonderful summer, sharing it with your family - blood or not. This summer has been a bit of a blur for me. I am planning a wedding, getting ready to move to a new city, and preparing to be a new wife and mother to teenagers. Next time I write to you I will have a new last name and will be writing in a new city (Huntsville, AL)!

Do you have a fond or funny memory from your family that centered around the holidays? Please send it to us for the next issue of the newsletter by **October 25th!** If you have any submissions for the newsletter or questions for the Editor, please email [newsletter@stillygen.org](mailto:newsletter@stillygen.org).

- Leah

## Upcoming SVGS Events:

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1PM  
SVGS Monthly Meeting  
Topic: Scanning Your Family Photos

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 10:30AM  
SVGS Photo Scanning Day  
(see pg 11 for more info)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1PM  
SVGS Monthly Meeting  
Speaker: Janet Camarata

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1PM  
SVGS Monthly Meeting  
Speaker: Ron Branagin

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 12PM  
SVGS Holiday Potluck

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 1PM  
SVGS Monthly Meeting  
Speaker: Lori Lee Sauber

## *In This Issue:*

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**Email Address  
Changed?**

Be sure to notify us so you  
can continue receiving the  
Stillaguamish Star and  
other important society  
information.  
*info@stillygen.org*

## Outdated Occupations

*Doffer*



Child labor was sadly a fact of life in many Western countries up to and during the early 20th century. Doffers, for instance, were nimble-fingered young boys who worked in textile factories removing and replacing bobbins from the spinning frames, and were a common sight in American mills until 1933, when child labor was finally outlawed.

## More Upcoming Events:

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2PM  
Whatcom Genealogical Society  
Speaker: Jeff Jewell, Curator of the  
Whatcom Museum Photo Archives  
Bellingham Elks Lodge

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1PM  
Skagit Valley Genealogical Society  
DNA Painter: A New Tool for Genealogy  
and DNA  
Burlington Public Library

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5  
Seattle Genealogical Society Fall Seminar  
Speaker: Tom Jones, PhD, CG, CGL,  
FASG, FUGA, FNGS  
Creating Credible Conclusions While  
Circumnavigating Walls  
<https://seagensoc.org/>

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2PM  
Whatcome Genealogical Society  
Speaker: Mary Kathryn Kozy  
Topic: Using Family Search and  
Family Search Wiki  
Bellingham Elks Lodge

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12  
Heritage Quest Research Library  
Autumn Quest  
Speaker: Dave Obee  
Fife, WA  
<https://bit.ly/2HqrLy8>

# SVGS Summer BBQ





## NwGC 2019



Northwest Genealogy Conference (NwGC) 2019 is over but the good memories linger. While we are glad that the work is over, we were sad to say goodbye to the speakers, vendors and attendees; they have become part of our Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society family. A great big THANK YOU is due to all of our volunteers, speakers, vendors and attendees for making Northwest Genealogy Conference 2019 such a success.





This year we had 2 major hurdles to overcome. One of our keynote speakers, Thomas MacEntee, was injured and unable to travel. Our committee, with the help of Thomas and the staff at the Byrnes Performing Arts Center, were able to overcome this hurdle with Thomas presenting his keynote talks via webinar. We also received reduced grant monies this year but were able to overcome the budget constraints with careful planning and donations of bags and lanyards from My Heritage.



During the four days of the conference there were great learning opportunities, fun social get-togethers and activities such as dress as your ancestor day, jewelry evaluations and even a visit from some Vikings. If you didn't make it to the conference, you missed a great time and we hope to see you next year. The committee will rest up a bit and then start planning for NwGC 2020!

Stay tuned for details.



In addition to all of our society volunteers, we had additional help from young people related to our society volunteers. Recognition goes to Jacob Bolopue (Dana Carney's grandson), his cousin Clark Boettcher and friend, Jenna Estep, Isabella and Isaac Prouty (Dean and Shirley Case's and Dick and Shirley Prouty's grandchildren); These young people helped with various tasks such as directing attendees at lunch, assist in the green room, and helping direct traffic with the parking crew.

Thank you!



*Lisa Bartlow looking very shocked and speechless having just won a prize of online courses valued at \$4,000 from National Institute of Genealogical Studies.*

# Advancing Your Genealogy Education

*Pam Liebelt*

There are educational opportunities all around us, some for free and some for a fee. Of course, my first recommendation will be to attend our monthly society meetings at which we have knowledgeable speakers on various topics, usually with an opportunity to ask questions.

While I believe that live sessions are the best, there are also opportunities to learn online. Ancestry.com has a learning center with links to all kinds of research helps. I believe you can access the learning center even if you don't have a paid membership, but if you can't – you can always come in to the society and access them from our computers.

Familysearch.org also has a research wiki with information on just about any genealogically related topic. To reach the wiki, go to [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org), click the search tab and at the bottom of the drop down menu will be a link for research wiki. Another great educational opportunity is through Legacy Family Tree Webinars. Each week they feature new webinars for free and they are usually available free for a week following the live presentation.

You can access them at <https://familytreewebinars.com/>. If you sign up for a membership at Family Tree Webinars, you have access to all of the webinars in their catalog. The nice thing

about all of the above options is that you can use them from your home.

Another place to check for learning opportunities is your local library system. Here in Snohomish County we have a wonderful library system and they regularly offer free classes. Although the classes they offer may not be directly related to genealogy, many are related to technologies that will be helpful in your research. You can find Sno-Isle's classes on their webpage at [www.sno-isle.org](http://www.sno-isle.org) and click the events link on the top of the page and the drop down menu will include the choice "events and classes calendar". Once you are there, you can filter by type and location.

Other opportunities to learn for a fee are: Northwest Genealogy Conference, presented by our society each August. The conference has several days of nationally known speakers with expertise in many different areas of genealogy. See [www.nwgc.org](http://www.nwgc.org) for more information. Local societies fall and spring seminars – These events are listed on our webpage at [www.stillygen.org](http://www.stillygen.org) as we become aware of them – click the link for events.

This list is only a small sampling of educational opportunities available for furthering your genealogical knowledge.

# THE FINAL DAYS OF THE CORONA (PT 2)

By Marco Basich

*\*Editor's Note - the following article was originally from Times-Standard, Eureka, California Friday, March 1, 1985. The mentioned Sarah Marcoe is great-grandmother of SVGS member, Anne Grimm.*

A little before 10 a.m. on March 1, 1907, Capt. Tom Boyd was on the ship's bridge.

He ordered to Quartermaster Charles Hermanson, "hard-a-starboard".

Hermanson, an experienced seaman, was new to the Eureka run and responded quickly, throwing the wheel hard over and holding it there.

Immediately, the first mate said, "You mean hard-a-port, sir!"

"Yes, damn it, hard-a-port, hard-a-port," the captain replied.

Hermanson corrected the heading, but the wheel would not respond as a series of waves hit the Corona broadside. The vessel was forced over the rock jetty and then spun about. Her stern stuck in the rocks and sand and her bows were facing seaward. Water began to ship over her rails as her bows pounded into the surf.

In the stateroom, the Marcoes felt a jolt run through the vessel, followed by three lurches, the last one accompanied by a horrible grinding and tearing noise. A cabin boy ran in, shouting, "Lady, up with all the children! Everyone of you put on a life preserver. We have struck the rocks of the bar and are in danger!"

The Corona's engine room was flooding, forcing the boiler room crew to scramble

for the ladders to upper decks. The bridge tied down the cord to the steam whistle, which would blare in distress until boiler fires were out.

The screaming whistle did not prove necessary to summon help. The Corona had struck within 1,000 yard of shore and within sight of the United State Life Saving Station.

Capt. Henning, officer in charge of the station, had seen the ship lose steerage and knew she was in grave danger. He called out his crew to man the surf boat even before the Corona came to rest on the rocks. The strong seas that hit the ship proved too strong for the crew as well. They found it impossible to reach the vessel in the high seas and cross currents.

Aboard the Corona a lifeboat was lowered in an attempt to take a line ashore.

Volunteers were four each of crew and able-bodied passengers. They had been instructed to run a line across the surf in their attempt for the shoreline.

Within 20 yard of the vessel a wave slipped their small boat. The luckless crew spilled out and was washed in differing directions by the heavy surf and fierce undertow. One was picked up by

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*...continued from page 9*

the outbound steamer Rival; others were picked up in the bay by fishermen and more than one made it to safety under his own power. Crewman H. Ericksen, however, was pulled from the water, drowned. It was suspected he had been hit by the lifeboat when it flipped. Aboard the Corona, Blanche remembers crying and asking, "Oh, Mamma, will we all be drowned? Will we never see Papa again?"

Sarah Marcoe had her children kneel and make an Act of Contrition. Mable asked, "Mamma, what shall we do with the two babies?" Mrs. Marcoe told Dori to grasp one and she would hold the other so the bodies of the family might be found together.

The cabin boy returned, surprised to find the Marcoes still in their cabin since all other passengers had been moved into the dining room. The Corona was already listing, and the cabin had begun to take on water. It was only the insistence of the cabin boy that prompted Mrs. Marcoe to leave her stateroom.

The children were ushered into the dining room, where they sat facing one another at one of four long tables. Passengers, in various degrees of dress, remained clam, though faces were ashen, and no one spoke above a whisper. There they remained for 1 ½ hours, until water began to come through the cook's galley and rise into the dining room. The passengers were next evacuated to the hurricane deck. At this point the ship was listing so

badly the stairwell was almost perpendicular and the crew had to assist the passengers as they grasped the handrails.

The hurricane deck was canted over, and everyone was forced to hold on tightly in the face of March winds. The passengers were at least afforded a good view of the rescue effort. They saw the Life Saving Station's surf boat repeatedly fail to reach the Corona. The necessity of getting a line from vessel to shore, along which lifeboats could be hauled, was apparent.

Rowing through the swirls of cross currents and between the breaking waves would otherwise be impossible in lifeboats laden with passengers. The Corona fired lines toward shore, only to have them fall short. Capt. Henning, using a Lyle gun ashore, had no more luck with his attempts.

*[find more of this story in the next issue]*

Do you have a fond or funny memory from your family that centered around the holidays?

Please send it to us for the next issue of the Stilly Star!

[newsletter@stillygen.org](mailto:newsletter@stillygen.org)

# Society Photo Scanning Day

Pam Liebelt



We as genealogists put a lot of time, effort and money into our research and we want to make sure that it is not wasted. Many of us are trying to come up with a plan of how to get our research into a format that makes sense to our families and other researchers. We also may have inherited old family photo collections which are stored in boxes that are not organized. Scanning photos can play an integral part of future proofing our research. Once digitized, photos can be shared more easily across email or uploaded to websites for others to see and use.

Here at Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society we have 4 different pieces of equipment that you can use to scan your photos. We have an Epson high speed scanner that can scan a stack of photos in just minutes, a flip pal portable scanner that can easily do 4x6 and smaller photos but also very large photos, a flatbed scanner that is good for more delicate and larger photos and lastly our printer in the media room is also a scanner. This equipment was purchased to help our members with their research materials.

We will be having a scanning day for society members on Saturday, September 14 from 10:30am – 4 pm.

On September 3, we will start making appointments for the scan day. You will need to call the genealogy library at (360)435-4838 to make an appointment. The appointments will be made on a first come, first serve basis. At your appointment, we will help you scan your photos. Each appointment will be limited to 20 minutes and we will scan what we can get done in that time. You will need to bring your photos and a flash drive to save the digital images.

If you have any questions about this project, you can contact me at [info@stillygen.org](mailto:info@stillygen.org).



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# Send us your submissions!

If you have a story that our readers might enjoy, please send it to us!

Newsletter submissions for the **Nov/Dec** issue should be sent  
to [newsletter@stillygen.org](mailto:newsletter@stillygen.org) by **October 25th**.



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## Check out our Blog:

<https://stillygen.wordpress.com/>



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HOME OF THE NORTHWEST GENEALOGY CONFERENCE

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SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2019