

The Stillaguamish Star

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE STILLAGUAMISH VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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**Please join us for our annual BBQ
potluck on July 9th at 12pm!**

**Hamburgers and hot dogs will be
provided - please bring a side or
drinks to share. Guests welcome!**

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Northwest Genealogy Conference 2019

*presented by
Stillaguamish Valley
Genealogical Society*

**Open Windows to the Past
August 14 - 17
Arlington, WA**

Registration now open!
Keynote Speakers: Angie
Bush, Thomas MacEntee,
and Michael Strauss

Once again we have stellar speakers and educational topics. Don't wait to get in on this great event. Learn strategies to help you Open Windows to the Past. You can find information about registration, schedules, speakers and topics at www.nwgc.org.

FROM THE EDITOR



The last month has been quite eventful in my life. My boyfriend, Nathan, asked me to marry him! I'm so excited to become his partner in life and for us to have a cozy little family with his daughter and son. We are set to get married in October, so of course this means that wedding plans are in full swing.

My parents have been here this week and many discussions around the wedding have taken place. It is easy to get distracted with all the details (flowers, food, seating, etc) but I am trying to stay focused on the most important things - I'm going to be committing to the love of my life that day with important family and friends there actively joining in our new beginning.

Please note that the **deadline for submissions** for the next issue of the newsletter is **August 23rd**. If you have any submissions for the newsletter or questions for the Editor, please email newsletter@stillygen.org.

- Leah

**Are you "downsizing" or know
someone who is?**

**The Stillaguamish Valley
Genealogical Society's Sales Table
at the Northwest Genealogy
Conference in August is in need of
'gently' USED GENEALOGY
BOOKS to offer at this event. You
can bring your donations by SVGS
during regular business hours.**

Have you completed a genealogy chart, a book about your family or another family history item recently? If so, please bring it to the upcoming SVGS Barbeque for others to admire and become inspired!

Known items to be displayed include a family history cookbook and a beautiful collection of Christmas newsletters written over a lifetime.

**Email Address
Changed?**

Be sure to notify us so you can continue receiving the Stillaguamish Star and other important society information.

info@stillygen.org

Upcoming SVGS Events:

TUESDAY, JULY 9, 12PM
SVGS BBQ Potluck
(burgers & buns will be provided)

AUGUST 14 - 17
Northwest Genealogy Conference
Registration now open at www.nwgc.org

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1PM
SVGS Monthly Meeting

More Upcoming Events:

JULY 12 - 14
Arlington Street Fair
Be sure to stop by the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society booth and say hi! Visit the Street Fair Facebook page for more information
www.facebook.com/arlingtonstreetfair

AUGUST 21 - 24
FGS National Conference
Washington DC
<https://fgs.org/conferences>

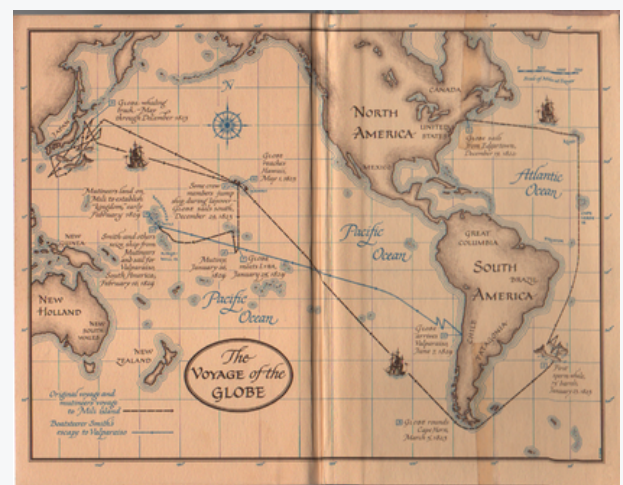
Mutiny on the Whale Ship 'Globe'

Bill Grant

In the last issue of the Stillaguamish Star I told the story of my cousin Samuel Comstock. He was a rebellious youth but brought up Quaker on Nantucket. His parents could not control him and he ran away to sea at age 13. He defied authority and could not live by their rules and would have a kingdom of his own, to rule as he pleased. His plan would be to take over the ship, kill off the crew, and set himself as king of the natives of some Pacific islands. The Globe left in 1822 with a crew of 18 and Thomas Worth captain at the helm. It was on this voyage that the mutiny took place.

After the mutiny, the Globe was no longer a whaler. She was Comstock's ship. He laid down new laws for the crew. If any man saw a vessel and did not report it, or refused to fight a vessel, he would be put to death by boiling in a try-pot of oil. (a large pot used to remove and render the oil from whale blubber).

After sailing about a thousand miles, Comstock brought the ship to the Mille Atoll, in the Marshall Islands. Leaving Silas Payne (his appointed mate) in charge of the ship, he set up his tent headquarters on the island. Then he had the crew build rafts and bring all the equipment of the ship on shore. This was something usually done by mutineers before they burned the ship they had captured. But Payne became suspicious when he saw that Comstock was giving away many of their supplies to the



natives. He was trying to win the friendship of the natives, so that they would attack the men of the Globe and leave him to rule the island. After a heated quarrel between Payne and Comstock, Comstock stormed away toward the native village. Comstock did not return that night. As the sun rose, a sentry cried out, "Here comes Comstock". Comstock came towards the tent cutlass in hand. "Don't fire" he said. "Fire" said Payne. There were blasts from the muskets and Comstock fell to the sand. The mutineers buried him where he fell. Gone was the mutineer who wanted to be king.

Most of the men had not taken part in the mutiny and were on the island against their will. As the stripping of the ship continued that night they left a few men on board the ship. They decided to steal the ship, and cut the ropes that held her. In the moonlight they sailed away leaving behind what was left of Comstock's kingdom. On June 7, 1824, they arrived in

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Valparaiso, Chile and surrendered to the authorities.

After the Globe had sailed away, Payne mistreated the natives. They attacked the white men, killing them with spears and stones. Two teenagers, William Lay and Cyrus Hussey were spared. (they were not part of the mutineers)

The Globe mutiny was one of the worst in whaling history and the authorities did not want it repeated. On August 18, 1825 the U.S. schooner Dolphin set out to find the mutineers. After months of searching they found the island and rescued Lay and Hussey. (They ended up writing a narrative of their adventure.)

This is a story of my ancestor – do you also have a story? You can hear more at the NwGC 2019 banquet with Daniel Earl speaking on “How Piracy Affected your Ancestors” on August 16th at the Gleneagle Golf Club. Remember to dress as your ancestor – in my case a mutineer. See you there. Ahoy Matey!

“Mutiny on the Globe”
Thomas F. Heffernan 2002

“Mutiny on the Globe” Edwin P. Hoyt 1975

“Demon of the Waters”
Gregory Gibson 2002

“The Globe Mutiny”
Hussey and Lay 1828 Reprint 1950

“Mutiny at Midnight”
Edouard A. Stackpole 1944

Heirloom Guardians

This treadle sewing machine (top) is a family heirloom passed on to me from my Great-Grandma Leah Liebelt. She used it up until the 1980's to sew her own clothes. It currently resides in my parents' home in Marysville, WA. Sitting on top of it is a ceramic pitcher and bowl made by my Grandma Fern Smith and gifted to my Great-Grandma Eva Lee Smith. My mom (Pam Smith Liebelt) inherited it when Great-Grandma Eva Lee passed away several years ago.



After I moved here to Nashville, my cousins from Arkansas brought my Great-Great-Grandma Martha Smith's treadle sewing machine to me, which was being passed on to my mom. As it currently stands, my mom has my treadle machine and I have hers thousands of miles apart. Some day we will trade, but for now we are happy being guardians of these beautiful treasures from our family history.

- Leah Liebelt

THE FINAL DAYS OF THE CORONA

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.*

On the anniversary of the wreck of the Pacific Steamship Company's S.S. Corona at the entrance to Humboldt Bay, it is an appropriate time to reflect back on an event which had such a prominent spot in Eureka's history.

Few are left who sailed aboard her, and perhaps none, save one, can recall her last battle with the sea.

The Corona left San Francisco on her last voyage on Feb. 28, 1907, destination Eureka. The 154 passengers and crew had a freshening wind and relatively calm seas on the journey north.

The Corona was built in 1888, near Philadelphia, for West Coast trade. In her 19 years, she sailed "round the Horn" and carried passengers and cargo from Mexico to Alaska. She had a reputation for clean cabins and was also known as a "good feeder" for the quality and quantity of meals served on board.

The Corona was called a lucky ship because she suffered only one serious mishap. While on the voyage to the Gulf of Alaska she struck a rock and no amount of pumping nor attempts at patching could stem the flow of water. As the order to abandon ship was about to be given, the rising water suddenly stopped. After pumping the hold, the crew found a

large blackfish was sucked into the aperture.

Among the passengers on the Corona's final voyage, was the Marcoe family. Sarah Marcoe booked passage for herself and her seven children in order to join her husband, Isadore, who had recently taken a job as a saw filer at a local mill. She and six of the children, Mabel, 16, John, 12, Leonard, 11, Blanche, 9, Floyd, 4, and Delbert, almost 3, had been severely seasick.

The children learned quickly the staterooms were equipped with containers, euphemistically called "strawberry pots", to aid their unsettled stomachs. Of the children, Dori, 14, had been a good sailor. A long day and night had preceded their arrival at the bar impeding entrance to Humboldt Bay.

The stories Sarah Marcoe had heard of crossing the bar filled her with dread. The shores near the bar were littered with the wrecks of some three score vessels. The entrance to the bay is deceptive and dangerous. The mouth is a natural venturi through which the waters of the bay empty into the Pacific, only to collide with the swells breaking over the shifting sands of the bar.

Blanche Marcoe Groeper, now 87, lives

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Mae's Quilt

I have the quilt of my great grandmother, Mary Elizabeth Mather Wilson Austin, with a picture of it in her cabin around 1910. She married John L. Wilson in Missouri and they moved with 3 small children to Spokane Falls, Washington Territory after 1886. He was a cattle broker and not so much a family man (I also have her small journal). 'Mae' divorced in 1906 and moved to southern Oregon and homesteaded. This is the location of her cabin shown in the photo with the quilt. My great grandmother later found happiness with Mr. Austin.

When I had the quilt on the line to take a picture the sun shone through the thin loose weave black backing and I could see flour sack images of the lining fabric.

- Erin Bradshaw



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today in Puyallup, Wash. She recalls clearly the approach to the bar and the subsequent events of 78 years ago this day. She remembers Dori, with adolescent playfulness, donned a life jacket and jokingly cried out: "Hurry up, everybody! Get up. We're in danger because we're crossing the bar!"

Blanche says Dori was always a tease, but Mrs. Marcoe scolded her son for not taking seriously the danger of the crossing. None suspected that within the hour genuine peril would exist for all aboard.

National Geographic's Genographic Project closing

Effective May 31, 2019, you can no longer purchase Genographic kits. If you currently have an unsubmitted kit, you may still be able to submit it for processing. Visit their FAQ page (below) for more information about your specific kit.

The Genographic website will be taken down December 31, 2020.

Your results will be available for viewing until then, but not after that date.

Data will be maintained internally by the Genographic project for scientific analysis, but will not be otherwise available.

<https://bit.ly/324aCTV>



From the Library Stacks

Pam Liebelt

I am constantly amazed to meet members of our society who have never been to our genealogy library. Once they step foot in the library, they are surprised at the volume of resource materials that we have. It is a common misconception that our materials are focused on the Stillaguamish Valley area. While we do have a whole room devoted to Snohomish County, we also have a vast array of materials for other locations. There is a room devoted to Washington State counties outside of Snohomish, another whole room devoted to the U.S. and some international material. We have a huge selection of resources on different topics of genealogical interest, as well as a large selection of genealogies for different surnames. You can access our catalog through our website at www.stillygen.org and search by location, subject, collection, media type, title, surname and more.

Each year we add new materials from donations that we receive and some that we purchase. When you click the catalog link, click the down arrow for subject and at the top of the list will be a link for New 2019. Click this link and all the items that have been added to the catalog in 2019 will appear.

Another resource in the library is our microfilm/microfiche collection. The collection is not currently in our catalog but you can find it in our media room and there is an index for the collection on top of the metal file cabinet. Sue Walde is heading up a project to get it all cataloged and we hope to have it available online soon. My hope is that our members will avail themselves of the wonderfully rich resources housed in our library.



The Genealogy Squad is a new Facebook group led by Blain Bettinger, Cindy Ingle, Drew Smith, and George Morgan. Check them out!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/genealogysquad>

Make It a Memorable Family Reunion

Sue Walde

Fulfilling a cousin's dying wish was just one unexpected gift to my family as the result of a family reunion. Each gift was memorable in ways that I could never have dreamed.

An Invitation Worth Keeping

With each invitation, I sent a quiz about our family's ancestors. One year the quiz was curious questions about each ancestor. Another year the quiz was a simple game with the ancestor's photo to be matched with his/her profile (ancestor's full name, date of birth, date of death, etc.). When asked for the answers, my response was "You gotta come to the reunion!" Over 60 cousins came!

A Legacy for Children

One year the theme for the reunion was 'Family Talent, Then and Now'. I was surprised to learn of the family's many artists, authors, musicians, quilters, wood carvers, etc. We're mostly novices. But we do have a professional artist with a studio in London, England and a professional drummer in New York City. It was an inspiration for young and old!

Born in 1882, Aunt Nellie once wrote the fairy tales that she heard when she was a little girl in Norway. After collecting dust in an old trunk for years, I typed the stories. At the reunion, children gathered around as their parents read Aunt Nellie's Norwegian fairy tales

originally told in the 'old country' over a century ago. Uffda!

Tap Your Toes

Another year I received a beautiful gift of songs on sheet music written by three relatives; Nils Torske, Oscar Torske and Nellie Berg Hawkins of Silvana and Island Crossing. What fun it was to tap our toes to a band playing old-time music written by ancestors!

So, your relatives didn't leave you music? Perhaps you can find old tunes on the Internet for your reunion?

A Family History Cookbook

"Do you think the family would like a cookbook?", was a naïve question I asked four cousins before the big event. I got the answer. When I arrived at the reunion and before any announcement, 44 family recipes were ready to be typed.

That was the beginning of a really fun project – a family history cookbook with 144 recipes, 385 photos and many family stories. One unexpected surprise for me was discovering a tattered old cookbook that my grandmother wrote for my mother when I was born. What a treasure!

A Final Wish

Another year a dear cousin who was terminally ill begged her son to drive her to the reunion in her motor home.

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Despite her being frail and very ill, we took turns laughing and sharing a few moments with her. No words can express her joy to see each of us for a final farewell. Attending the reunion was her last dying wish. She passed away a few weeks later.

Special Things Happened

The quiz served as an easy conversation opener for extended families who didn't know each other. People brought their treasured photo albums. Elders grinned from ear-to-ear telling old stories. Children frolicked with their new best-friend cousins. Some people who arrived as strangers left as close family.

Summer is a delightful time for a family reunion. So, give it a try and enjoy the unexpected gifts a reunion may bring you, your family and future generations. And make it memorable!



The highlight of one family reunion was this band that played songs written by ancestors over a century ago.

Tips for a Super Easy Reunion

Ask each family member to bring his/her own folding chair, paper plates and eating utensils, etc. as well as, a potluck dish. Determine in advance if alcohol will be allowed and if pets are invited.

Helpful SVGS Library Books

Books about reunions are easy to find. In the SVGS library database under "Title, simply type "reunion"" for a list of actual reunions (family, school, etc.). The query also includes three "how to" books about family reunions in the Reference section:

R-180-019 – Family Associations, Organization and Management, A Handbook by Christine Rose.

R-180-20 – Fantastic Family Gatherings, Tried and True Ideas for Large and Small Family Reunions by Kathy Smith Anthenat.

R-180-35 – Family Reunion Handbook, A Guide to Family Reunion Planning by Barbara Brown and Tom Ninkovich.



My Immigrant Roots & My Big Brick Wall

Michele Cozad

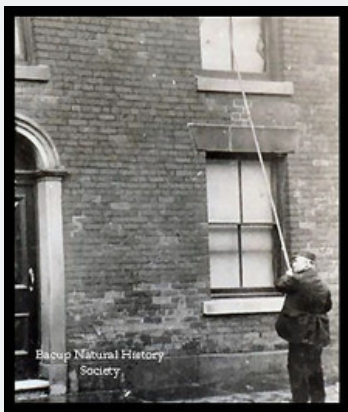
Uncle Frank Sacosky, unknown, Aunt Julia Zober, Uncle John Zober, Grandma & Grandpa, My Mom Frances Sacosky and Aunt Leah Sacosky (this is the only photo of the Polish Immigrants all together) about 1936

That's my Grandma (the short one!) next to my Grandpa (wearing hat). They immigrated from Poland in 1903 and were married Feb 3, 1903 at Immaculate Conception Parish in Carnegie, Pennsylvania. Neither one spoke English. The abstracts spells the names: Mathiam Seijkowski aka Maciej Sojkowski (ancestral village is Szczecin) and Ludovica Krowcowna (Suwalki) all from Russia Polonia. Their death certificate says their names are Michael Sacosky and Louise Krawcewicz. No wonder why I've hit the proverbial "brick wall". Anyone who has Eastern European ancestors are familiar with this scenario. I've had our best investigators (plus APG detectives) try and find out ANYTHING prior to 1903 - we've all hit the brick wall. Zero hits on DNA. Have you had this same experience and how did you solve it? When I began this journey someone told me "the best source of information is each other" - can you help?

Please send clues to info@stillygen.org!

Outdated Occupations

Knocker-Upper



Back when alarm clocks were pricey and unreliable, industrial workers in the UK would hire knocker-uppers to wake them each morning by banging on their door or bedroom window.

Learn more about this outdated occupation:

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Knocker-up>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-35840393>

Send us your submissions!

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

Newsletter submissions for the **Sept/Oct** issue should be sent
to newsletter@stillygen.org by **August 23rd**.



Find us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/stillygen/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Northwest-Genealogy-Conference-109884296091070/>



Check out our Blog:

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



Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society
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HOME OF THE NORTHWEST GENEALOGY CONFERENCE

The Stillaguamish Star

JULY/AUGUST 2019