

The Stillaguamish Star

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE STILLAGUAMISH VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

PO BOX 34, ARLINGTON WA 98223

360.435.4838
www.stillygen.org

6111 188TH PL NE, ARLINGTON WA 98223

**2019:
A Winter**



to Remember!



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

Get Early Bird pricing if you
register before April 15th.
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

First, I want to thank you for your patience waiting for this issue of the Stilly Star. I was traveling at the end of February and was unable to work on the newsletter at the usual time. You see, I was visiting one of my brothers in Okinawa, Japan. It was very interesting visiting a country with such a different language and culture than my own. Even though there are many Americans on the island, the native culture is still very prevalent there. My time on the warm island was also a nice break from the winter weather we've been having here in the states. Something I'm sure those of you in WA state can appreciate after all the snow this winter!

Be sure to check out the upcoming events list in this issue - there are a lot of seminars and conferences coming up! Have you uncovered an interesting story or person while researching your family's history? Send it to us! We'd love to share it with our readers.

Please note that the **deadline for submissions** for the next issue of the newsletter is **April 19th**. If you have any submissions for the newsletter or questions for the Editor, please email newsletter@stillygen.org.

- Leah

In This Issue:

Upcoming Events - 3
Grandpa Did What?! - 5
WA Digital Newspapers - 6
Recently at SVGS - 7
Opportunities to Serve - 8
From the Library Stacks - 8

Upcoming SVGS Events:

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1PM
SVGS Monthly Meeting
Speaker: Lori Lee Sauber from
LSquared Innovations
Topic: Organized Research from Cradle
to Grave

TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 1PM
SVGS Monthly Meeting
Speaker & Topic: TBD

FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 10AM
SVGS Library Spring Cleaning

Please come help us! We will start at 10 am and work until 3 or until we finish (whichever comes first). We will be working through a list of projects to be done inside and out. Bring garden tools if you would like to work outside, cleaning supplies will be available for the inside jobs.

Lunch will be provided.

If you have questions, you can email info@stillygen.org.

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 12PM
SVGS Annual Membership Meeting &
Election of Officers
Potluck Lunch

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

More Upcoming Events:

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1PM
Skagit Valley Genealogical Society
Educational Session
Speaker: Mary Kirchner Roddy
Burlington, WA
<http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org/>

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 9AM
Skagit Valley Genealogical Society
Spring Seminar : Nordic Roots
Mt. Vernon, WA
<http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org/>

SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 8:30AM
Olympia Genealogical Soc. Spring Seminar
Beyond the Basics : Genetic
Genealogy in Practice
Tumwater, WA
<https://olygensoc.org/>

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 9AM
Yakima Valley Genealogical Soc.
Spring Seminar
Speaker: Peggy Clemens Lauritzen
Yakima, WA
<https://yvgs.net/>

APRIL 26 - 27
Tacoma-Pierce Co. Genealogical Society
Spring Seminar
Speaker: Michael Lacopo DVM
Tacoma, WA
<http://www.tpcgs.org/seminar.html>

MAY 8 - 11
National Genealogical Society Conference
St. Charles, MO
<https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/>

More Upcoming Events:

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 9AM
Seattle Genealogical Society
Spring Seminar
Speaker: Diahn Southard
SGS Library

<http://www.seattlegenealogicalsociety.org/>

MAY 30 - JUNE 2
50th Annual Southern California
Genealogical Jamboree
Burbank, CA
<http://genealogyjamboree.com/>

JUNE 15 - 17
International German Genealogy
Conference
Sacramento, CA
<https://iggpartner.org/>

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

Has Your Email Address Changed?

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

info@stillygen.org

FAMILY TREE DNA CHANGE

Family Tree DNA has recently changed their privacy policy. If you have a test with them, you will need to look at the privacy policy and make sure your settings are the way you want them. They have been cooperating with law enforcement without a court order or without giving informed consent to participants in their database.

It is not our position to tell you whether that is good or bad but to give you information so that you can educate yourself as to what and how they are doing so.

You can read some articles about it on the Legal Genealogist's blog at:
www.legalgenealogist.com

(Once there search 'DNA' and her articles on the topic will come up.)

Grandpa Did What?!

Ruth Caesar

When going through a box of photos my mother passed down to me, I saw the most amazing pictures I had ever seen of any family member. These were of my Great Grandfather, Leonard Minnich. The story goes that Leonard wanted to be a contortionist on the stage but his wife Clara forbade it. Apparently, as the photos clearly show, his ability to tie himself in knots never made it to “prime time”.

Around 1910, Leonard was working as a photographer. I’m told he very much enjoyed photographing his daughter, Blanche (my grandmother), using a little trick to make her appear as a twin. Sadly, sometime after 1915, Leonard left his wife and 3 children to take up housekeeping with his brother’s widow Sadie. He apparently helped to raise his brother’s children and was deeply cared for by that family. He had very little contact with his own children. My mother said she never met her Grandfather,



even though she lived in the same city that he did while living for many years with her Grandmother. To help provide for her mother Clara and siblings Roy & Viola, Blanche quit school and went to work at the age of 11. Shortly thereafter, her younger brother Roy started working to help support the family as well.

My mother shared a story about the day one of Clara’s granddaughter’s was telling the story of Clara’s husband Leonard: The granddaughter said, “he was an extortionist”. I had to laugh....he wasn’t perfect for sure but he wasn’t an extortionist either.

WA Digital Newspapers

January 11, 2019 · News Release

OLYMPIA — The Washington State Library, a division of the Office of Secretary of State, has launched a new website for the Washington Digital Newspapers program:
<https://washingtondigitalnewspapers.org>

The site features new titles in the State Library's digital newspaper collection, with full-text article search of more than 400,000 pages from the State Library's collection of historic Washington newspapers. Visitors can interact with the site with the help of text correction features to improve search results on dark or damaged pages, by attaching subject tags to articles, and saving their search history for larger research projects.

"This new resource provides students and other researchers with access to a rich trove of publications across decades of Washington history," State Librarian Cindy Aden said. "Through viewing these historic digitized newspapers, it's possible to understand important Washington experiences as

they were viewed by the people who lived them."

The Washington Digital Newspapers program brings together the library's earliest pioneer-era online collection with titles digitized as part of the National Digital Newspaper Program and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Read more here
<https://www.sos.wa.gov/office/news-releases.aspx#/news/1339>

VOLUNTEER CORNER

Society Library

We are still in need of society members willing to train as assistant librarians for the SVGS Library. No experience necessary. It is important that you love searching for ancestors and enjoy helping people. We will orient you to our library and available resources. All new people start out as assistants and work with an experienced person before becoming a librarian. Currently we mostly need people who can work shifts on Saturday and Thursday. You can sign up for as little as 3 hours a month. Email Pam Liebelt at info@stillygen.org if interested.

Recently at SVGS...



At our January meeting, Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society member and genealogist, Jennifer Strickland, gave a presentation on DNA testing services and the differences between them. She presented to a full house!



Due to unusual amounts of snow and freezing temperatures, we were unable to open the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Library from February 5 - 16th and were forced to cancel the February meeting. Thanks to some hard work shoveling snow by Galen and Pam Liebelt, Ruth Caesar and Earl Kennedy we



were able to reopen on Tuesday, February 19th. Unfortunately, our parking lot doesn't get much sunlight so it takes longer than other areas for the snow to melt off.

Opportunities to Serve

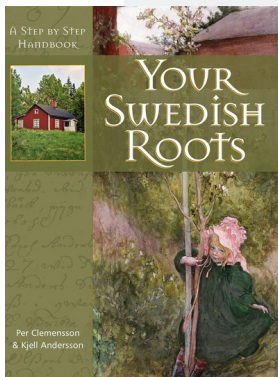
Pam Liebelt

In the last issue of the newsletter I wrote about the different officer positions in our society and described the duties. This is a reminder that the offices of President, Vice President of the Library and Secretary are up for re-election at our annual membership meeting in May. In addition to those positions that are up for election, we are in need of someone to take over as membership chairperson, a new webmaster (does not need to code) and someone to train in the position of treasurer. Take another look at the duties listed in the past newsletter and see if you think you could

serve in any of these positions. If you have any questions about the duties involved in any of the positions, please ask any of us who are on the board. Ruth has served several terms as president and would like to give someone else the opportunity to serve in that position – she will of course stay on as past president and help the new person to learn the job. I am truly enjoying the roll of VP of the Library but can only commit to one more year – so will be unable to fulfill a two year term – if someone would like to take on the job, I will for sure be here to help over the next year.

From The Library Stacks

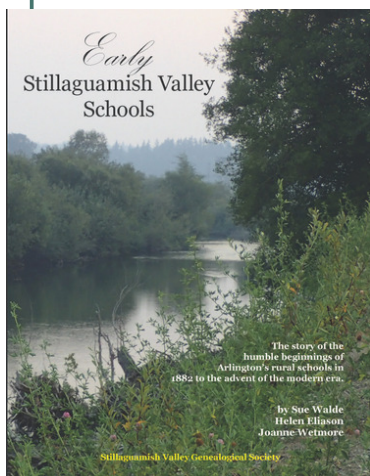
Pam Liebelt



We have purchased the book *Your Swedish Roots: A Step by Step Handbook* by Per Clemensson & Kjell Andersson for the library in memory of our beloved Kathryn Bowman.

Unfortunately, we will no longer be subscribing to Legacy Family Tree Webinars. We will, however, try to keep you apprised of their free offerings on our blog.

Malstrom Award Nomination



Early Stillaguamish Valley Schools has been nominated for the Malstrom Award by the League of Snohomish County Heritage Organizations (LOSCHO). A total of 7 works from 2018 have been nominated this year. The award will be presented to the winner at a luncheon event on March 16th. We will include the results in the next issue of the newsletter.

Early Stillaguamish Valley Schools is available for purchase online and at the SVGS library for \$30 (or \$27 for SVGS members).

DONATE ONLINE!

Stillygen.org site now has an option to 'Donate' to SVGS online! This makes it easy for you to support our society by making a tax deductible donation electronically. Simply click on "Donate" in the side bar and fill out the information including the amount and payment method. Click on "Complete" and you can print your receipt! It's just that easy!

We depend on your donations to pay library expenses to keep us going and we sincerely thank all of you as any little bit helps!





Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society

The World at Your Fingertips from the Stillaguamish Valley




- Home
- About Us
- StillyGen Blog
- NW Genealogy Conference
- NWGC 2019
- Beginning Genealogy
- Vendor Application 2019
- Events
- Bookstore
- Library Catalog
- Resources
- Members
- Contact
- Donate
- Online Join

Edgecomb School, circa 1920



Teachers and pupils pose in front of the schoolhouse at Edgecomb

Introduction

The Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society and Library, serving Snohomish County and the Arlington, Washington area, has grown to include a wide variety of genealogical and historical books, microfilm and microfiche sets, a free genealogy web site. Our library is a depot for historical information about Snohomish County and the Stillaguamish Valley, and its native people.

Send us your submissions!

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

Newsletter submissions for the **May/June** issue should be sent
to newsletter@stillygen.org by **April 19th**.



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
PO Box 34
Arlington, WA 98223

HOME OF THE NORTHWEST GENEALOGY CONFERENCE

The Stillaguamish Star

MARCH/APRIL 2019