

The Stillaguamish Star

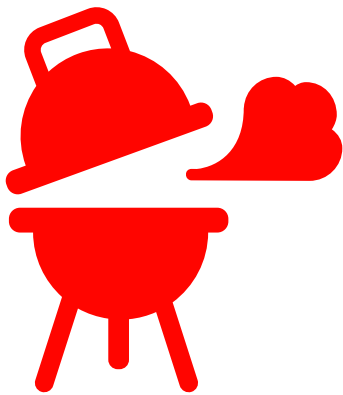
OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE STILLAGUAMISH VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

PO BOX 34, ARLINGTON WA 98223

360.435.4838
www.stillygen.org

6111 188TH PL NE, ARLINGTON WA 98223

Food, Friends & Fun!



Join us for our annual
BBQ on July 10th at 4pm.

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

Fun Facts : More Old Time Occupations

Artificer - A soldier mechanic
Brightsmith - Metal worker
Collier - Coal miner
Crownor - Coroner
Duffer - Peddler
Hayward - Keeper of fences
Leech - Physician
Tipstaff - Policeman

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The *Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society* presents the

NORTHWEST GENEALOGY CONFERENCE

August 15–18, 2018

“Beyond Your Family Tree”

4 Days of Genealogy

Many nationally known speakers!

Featured Keynote Speakers:

Beth Foulk

CeCe Moore

Peggy Lauritzen

Amie Bowser Tennant

Space is limited | Register today at www.NwGC.org | nwgc@stillygen.org
360-435-4838 | PO Box 34, Arlington, WA 98223 | www.StillyGen.org

Made possible in part with funding from the City of Arlington.



ArkivDigital will be one of our Vendors at this years Conference. Kathy Meade is also speaking and she has helped many people break through some brick walls using the ArkivDigital program.

Arkiv Digital provides online access to more than 78 million newly photographed images of Swedish historical records. The online archive contains the Swedish Church Books from the 1600's to 1940's estate inventories, military records, tax registers, court records, prison records and many other types of historical records as well as new name searchable indexes. More than 600,000 new images are added monthly. This is the premier site for Swedish records.
(click logo to access site)

Our door prizes for the conference are beginning to arrive, and we will be giving away some great things!

A few examples are:



You must be present to win!
 Register today!

Northwest Genealogy Conference

Big Day Wednesday

On the first day of the conference, Wednesday, August 15th we have several activities going on all at once.

Get Off On the Right Foot

FREE Beginning Genealogy Class

The first being our FREE Beginning Genealogy Class during which, Amie Bowser Tennant will help us get off on the right foot with our genealogy research. If you have friends and family who have questions about how to get started in researching their family history, this is the class for them.

Registration is required - visit www.nwgc.org and you'll find a link to the class on the main page *[or click here]*.

My Family Tree

FREE Event for Children

We have partnered with Sno-Isle Libraries to provide a FREE "My Family Tree" event for children. Would you like to get your children, grandchildren, or great-grandchildren interested in genealogy? Now is your chance!

Sno-Isle Libraries will help your children explore their family history through facts, games and crafts. This is a multi-generational program. Children must be accompanied by an adult family member.

Registration is required and you must have a Sno-Isle library card to register. This program is being offered at two different times - choose the time below that is right for you and click to register. If you want to participate but don't currently have a Sno-Isle library card, you can apply for one at any local library branch.

Wednesday, August 15 1pm [click to register]

Wednesday, August 15 3pm [click to register]

In addition to the free events being held on Big Day Wednesday, a choice of three workshops will be available to those who have registered and paid in full for the whole conference prior to workshop registration being opened. Watch your email and our Facebook page for registration dates.

The workshops will be three hours long and limited to 30 participants each; they are as follows:

Digging Deeper with Autosomal DNA

with CeCe Moore - \$40

(Must have access to Ancestry DNA results, Ancestry.com membership and bring a laptop to attend this workshop)

Spreadsheets 101 An Excel-lent Hands-On Tutorial

with Mary Kircher Roddy - \$30

(Bring your laptop to this hands-on workshop! Presentation geared toward PC users)

How to Use Family Search Efficiently and Effectively

with Janet O'Connor Camarata - \$30

FREE Teen Admittance to NwGC

Remember that teens age 13-17 can accompany their parent or grandparent that has paid for and is attending the full conference. The teen still needs to register and choose pay by check (include payment for any meals needed) and the adult needs to email info@stillygen.org to let us know.

If you have a teen who is interested in their family history, this is a great opportunity to get them started.

Upcoming Events:

SATURDAY, JULY 7, 9:30AM

German Seminar (Half Day)
Genealogical Forum of Oregon, Portland
<https://bit.ly/2KhF3Qs>

TUESDAY, JULY 10, 4PM

Stillaguamish Valley
Genealogical Society BBQ
Burgers and hot dogs provided, bring a
side to share. Guests welcome!

JULY 13-15

Arlington Street Fair

JULY 14-15

Skagit Celtic Games - 12th Annual
www.celticarts.org

JULY 28

Silvana Community Fair
www.silvanafair.com

AUGUST 15-18

Northwest Genealogy Conference
Arlington, WA
<https://bit.ly/2sxNpuH>

AUGUST 22-25

Federation of Genealogical
Societies Conference
Ft. Wayne, IN
<https://fgs.org/cpage.php?pt=43>

Enemy Women by Paulette Jiles

A Book Review
by Pam Liebelt

Enemy Women is a historical fiction novel set in the state of Missouri during the Civil War. The author quotes many original sources throughout the book. This is the second book I have read by Paulette Jiles and I find her to be a very engaging author. Some of my ancestors lived in Missouri during this time period and I found the book to be very eye opening as to the hardships that they may have endured.

When I research my family history, I want to understand what life may have been like for them – it helps me to feel more connected. Well-researched historical fiction is a great way to put your ancestors in context of the world in which they existed. I highly recommend this book, especially if you had family in Missouri during this time period.

Help Wanted:

Librarians still needed for
Saturday coverage, shifts are
3 hours each. No experience
necessary, training provided. If
interested, please contact
Pam Liebelt at
info@stillygen.org

REMEMBERING LOCAL BOYS

The local folks of Arlington have long appreciated the great job done by our local American Legion and their volunteers every Memorial Day with the wonderful display of American flags at the Arlington Cemetery. The Daily Herald had a great story on May 27th to commemorate the 100 yr anniversary of WWI entitled "Names Etched in History" - you can find this article here: www.heraldnet.com.

On the Arlington City Hall building is a memorial to "local boys who lost their lives in WWI" with one soldier mentioned being Joseph Bruseth. SVGS Member Michele Heiderer provided info to the reporter for the story which read in part "...the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society are happy to spend a morning helping a visitor learn more about Bruseth and the seven other names on the bronze table. They seamlessly sift through old newspaper clippings and find military, census and ancestral records on the internet". Thanks to Michele for helping Herald Writer Eric Stevick write such a great informative article!



Arlington Cemetery on Memorial Day 2018

More Upcoming Events:

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 9AM

Unlock the Past Land Conference
Seattle Public Library
<https://www.utpinseattle.com/>

SEPTEMBER 7-14

Unlock the Past Genealogy Cruise to
Alaska from Seattle
<https://bit.ly/2yEjHbd>

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Eastside Genealogical Society
Finding Family History in Your Picture
Mysteries featuring
Maureen Taylor - the Photo Detective
Bellevue, WA
<https://eastsidegenealogicalsociety.com/>

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Puget Sound Genealogical Society
A Day of Discovery
with Lisa Louise Cooke
Bremerton, WA
<http://www.pusogensoc.org/>

SEPTEMBER 28-30

Harvest Your Family Tree Genealogical
Conference and Marketplace
Kelowna, BC
www.kdgs.ca

June Meeting Notes

Pam Liebelt



On June 12, 2018, Michelle Goodrum was the guest speaker at the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society meeting. Michelle's topic was Digging for Land Records in Indexes and Deeds. She gave many tips on what to look for in indexes and what kind of information you can find in land records. I was surprised at the variety of ways records are indexed and also the unexpected tidbits you might find in these records.

Michelle has been seriously researching her family history since the 1990s and has attended the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy annually since 2012. In May 2013 she graduated from the ProGen program. Currently, she is the Administrator for the Gen-Proof Study Group program. A group studying the book Mastering Genealogical Proof by Thomas W. Jones, PhD, CG, CGL, FASG, FNGS. It was an honor to have such a knowledgeable speaker at our meeting.

These are the types of programs we offer at most of our monthly meetings. If you haven't been attending, you are truly missing out!

You may be interested to know that last year a new design for an Ellis Island, New Jersey U.S. quarter was released. It depicts an immigrant family approaching Ellis Island, with the hospital building in the background. Keep an eye out for this among the change in your pocket or purse as it would be a nice little collector's item for those interested in researching family history!



For information on upcoming meetings, check our website (<https://stillygen.org/>), subscribe to our blog (<https://stillygen.wordpress.com/>) or like Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/stillygen/>).

SVGS MEMBERS RECOGNIZED



The Washington State Genealogical Society (WSGS) honors outstanding volunteers at the yearly meeting which occurred this year in conjunction with the Clark County Genealogical Society's Spring Seminar on May 26th in Vancouver, Washington. We were unable to attend but our WSGS Region 1 Rep, Barbara Johnson came to our June meeting to personally present the awards.

The outstanding volunteers nominated by SVGS for 2018 were Phil & Lisa Bartlow who were recognized for their leadership in the Northwest Genealogy Conference. Because of their organizational skills and hard-working commitment, we have the reputation of being the largest genealogy conference in the northwest! Our Treasurer Anne Grimm was also recognized for her outstanding contribution to SVGS and

stepping up when needed. The Treasurer position requires a lot of attention to detail, strong computer skills and knack for garnering door prizes and swag bags for the Northwest Genealogy Conference.

The Team Award went to the Librarian Team which is led by Pam Liebelt VP of the Library. This group of dedicated volunteers (too many to mention) are tasked with keeping the day-to-day operation of the library running smoothly. A big THANK YOU goes to all of our dedicated volunteers!

SVGS also received the WSGS 2018 Innovative Grant Award which is earmarked for our upcoming publication "Early Stillaguamish Valley Schools" we thank WSGS for their continued support.

A Warm Welcome!

At the June 12th Board Meeting it was announced that our long time Genealogist Mary Buzzell had tendered her resignation. We are very happy to announce that Jennifer Strickland a librarian since 2016 has offered to assume this position. VP of the Library Pam Liebelt nominated Jennifer to become the new SVGS Genealogist. Jennifer comes to us with a strong background in Genetic Genealogy and Online sources, having worked on her own tree since 1996, and had offered workshops at SVGS on Understanding DNA for Beginners.

Welcome aboard Jennifer!

Sunk By A Whale

The Loss of the Whale Ship 'Essex'

Bill Grant

Part 2 of 2

We last left the crew of the whaleship Essex, after it had been stoved in by an 80 ton whale in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, wondering which direction to sail. They had three whaleboats left, manned by Capt. George Pollard, 1st Mate Owen Chase and 3rd Mate Obed Hendricks. Few ships had ever sailed this part of the Pacific, and there were no charts of these waters to guide them. The problems before them were cannibals and hurricanes. They had to head for South America, a 3,000 mile voyage, and they should be able to make it in two months before they ran out of food and water. They raised their sails on November 22, 1820 and headed to parts unknown. They looked back at the hulk of the Essex, watching it until it disappeared in the distance. Then there was nothing, nothing at all but the immense sky and the enormous sea like a desert of water.

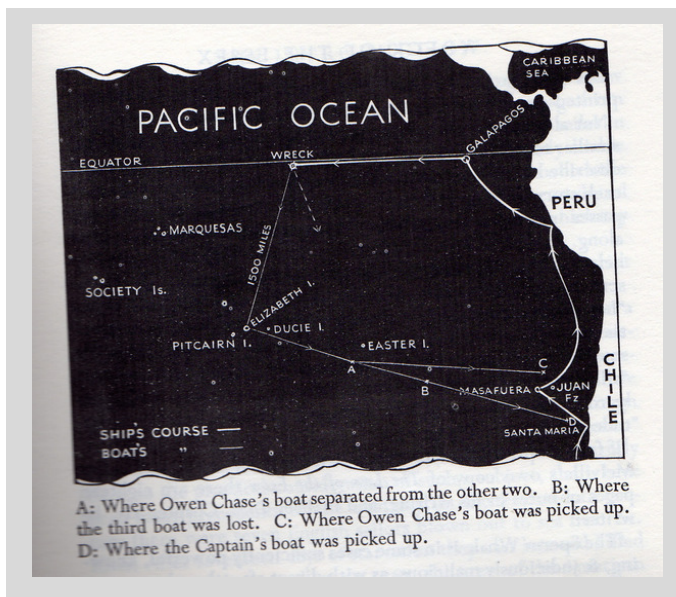
Each man was allowed only one biscuit and a half-pint of water a day, and they soon began to feel hunger and thirst. Storms came up, and

lightning cracked the black sky. They lowered the sails and drifted with the huge waves. The boats leaked, and they bailed and repaired and patched. The wind died, and they rowed. They killed a sea turtle and scraped barnacles off the bottom of the boats and ate them. For a month they sailed and rowed and drifted, until on December 20th they sighted land.

It was a small island but there was little food or water. Twenty men could not live on this island. They would have to take to the boats. Three men decided to stay. On the 27th, seventeen men set off again. Matthew Joy, the second mate, died. He was sewed up in his clothes, weighted down with one of the cooking stones, and lowered into the sea. On January 12, 1821 a terrible storm separated the three boats. Rations were cut in half. By day, they tried to hide from the boiling sun. By night, they huddled together, shivering with cold.

The crew began to die, some went mad while others died of starvation. There were three men left in Owen Chase's boat. One was a boy of seventeen, my cousin, Thomas Nickerson, the cabin boy. Then Chase talked about keeping the next person to die for food. They quickly agreed. When another crew member died they separated his limbs from his body. They calculated that they were about 300 miles from land. They kept watching the sails for wind. It was their only hope, for the flesh was gone. They were bailing out the boat the next morning, when my cousin laid down, pulled a piece of canvas over him and said he was going to die. "No, no, Thomas!" Chase said. "Trust in the Almighty to lead us to safety". Then there was a cry, "There's a sail!". Thomas jumped to his feet.

continued on page 9



Shaking with anticipation, their clothes in rags as they steered toward the ship. They were too weak to climb up the side, and had to be carried up by the ship's crew.

It was February 18, 1821. They had traveled 3,700 miles since leaving the Essex. A week later they arrived in Valparaiso, Chile. Capt. Pollard's whaleboat was rescued two days later but Hendrick's boat was lost with all hands. Later, the three men on the island were finally rescued. So after starting out from Nantucket with 20 men, only 8 returned. When the story was told about the Essex it was under an immense sky, riding that enormous sea, a ship, that was sunk by a whale.

Thomas Nickerson wrote a narrative of his adventures on the Essex in 1876 and it was lost until 1984. I will have a copy at the SVGS BBQ on July 10th and I'd love to share this whaling story with you.

Do you have an amazing story you would like to share? Please send it to newsletter@stillygen.org!

Side Note:

The Nickerson's have been around for a long time. William Nickerson (1604-1689) (my 8th Great-grandfather) founded Chatham, MA on Cape Cod in 1656.

William Emery Nickerson (1853-1930) (my 5th cousin) developed the safety razor with King Gillette in 1901 and was the VP of the Gillette Safety Razor Company. They decided it was a better fit to call a razor company 'Gillette' instead of 'Nickerson'. Boston University named their athletic stadium Nickerson Field.



From the Library Stacks



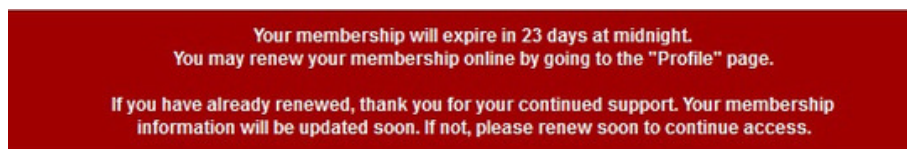
Pam Liebelt

A few reminders:

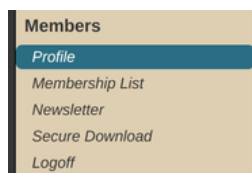
- > If you sign into any personal accounts when using the computers at the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Library, for your own safety and security, please remember to sign out of those accounts when finished using the computer.
- > The Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society Library will be closed August 15 - 19 for the duration of the Northwest Genealogy Conference as most of our volunteers will be volunteering at the conference.
- > As a Family Search affiliate library we have access to some images on familysearch.org that you can not access at home. In order to access them at the library you will need to create and sign into a free account with familysearch.org and then start your search. Their website recognizes our IP address and will grant access to available images.

ONLINE MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

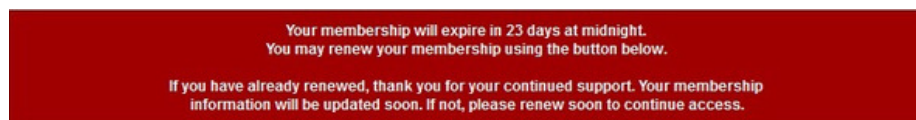
We have had some enquiries about when and how to renew your membership on the StillyGen.org website. If you are within 30 days of your membership expiring, the following message will appear after logging into your account.



To access the online renewal option, click on the Profile option listed under Members:



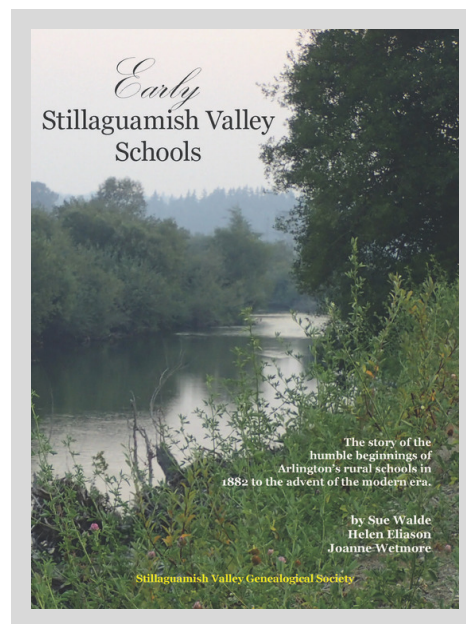
At the top of the screen you will see another expiration message with a 'Renew Membership' button underneath. Click this button and follow the prompts to renew your membership for the year.



'Early Stillaguamish Valley Schools' at the Printing Presses!

Imagine taking a journey up the Stillaguamish River as the first white settlers did, organizing school districts and building schoolhouses. The long-awaited book, *Early Stillaguamish Valley Schools*, has gone to print and will take you along that journey!

Read about 44 country schools in the Arlington area against a backdrop of local history from the territorial era up through the 1940-1941 school year. If you are fortunate to have family in the book, an index with over 5,000 names makes it easy to locate stories, photos and school attendance records. Packed with over 150 photographs, perhaps you'll spot Grandma or Grandpa as a youngster.



If you happened to purchase a book with this same title a few years ago, this is the new replacement book.

Simply bring in your old copy for a free exchange of the new book, once it is available. Watch for future announcements on how to order the book online, by mail or in person at SVGS. The book will be available just before the Northwest Genealogy Conference! Get ready to enjoy a fascinating read about Arlington's rural schools.

DNA, Ethics and a Killer Caught

Pam Liebelt

I am sure many of you are aware of the recent arrest in the cold case of the Golden State Killer. The method used to identify the suspected killer is of interest to those of us involved in genealogy research, at least those of us who use DNA to help us in our research. Police submitted a sample of the Golden State Killer's DNA to the Gedmatch DNA website to see if any matches could be found. Upon successfully finding a match, they went through painstaking research of family trees to find a probable suspect. It was through this research that they were able to solve the case and make an arrest.

I am sure all of us are glad that a killer is off the streets but many are concerned about the ethics of law enforcement using a database meant for family history research. These are questions that the genetic genealogy community now has to grapple with. I am not here to debate the sides of the issue but to bring the resources to you so that you can educate yourself on the ramifications of submitting DNA samples for family history research.

On Sunday, April 29, 2018 The Seattle Times printed an article by Gina Kolata and Heather Murphy from the New York Times entitled 'DNA Websites Open a Frontier for Police'. You can find it here: <https://bit.ly/2KtAfHI>

Lisa Louise Cooke presented a detailed discussion on this issue on her most recent podcast #217 which can be found here: <https://lilalouisecooke.com/podcasts/>

Judy Russell, The Legal Genealogist has an extensive post on the subject here: <https://bit.ly/2lIZKH2>

I also heard a very interesting interview with CeCe Moore on the Extreme Genes podcast. You can find Extreme Genes on your favorite podcast app or the episode is on YouTube here: <https://youtu.be/ecBrRLZYjSM>

These are just a few of the many articles out there and discussions going on in genealogy circles. The bottom line for us is to make sure we read the privacy policies of the companies we test with and provide full disclosure of possibilities to those in our family who we want to test.

New Civil War Veteran Resource

Did you know that there are about 8,000 veterans of the Civil War, both blue and gray, buried in Washington state? Barb Johnson, our Region 1 Rep for Washington State Genealogical Society (WSGS) let us know at our June 12th meeting that there is a new free resource for researching these veterans. You can now visit <https://www.civilwarvetswastate.com/> to access this free information made available by the Washington State Civil War Association.

Send us your submissions!

If you have a story that our readers might enjoy, please send it to us!
Newsletter submissions for the **September/October** issue should be
sent to **newsletter@stillygen.org** by **August 24th**.



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/>



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HOME OF THE NORTHWEST GENEALOGY CONFERENCE

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JULY/AUGUST 2018