



Stillaguamish Star

The Stillaguamish Valley
Genealogical Society Newsletter

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SVGS Rings in the New Year With Expansive New Plans

We made great strides this past year. We started 2016 with a big move to our current home in the "Oso Building." The move was no small feat – we patched, painted, carpeted, and gathered up shelves, desks, tables, chairs to fill the expanded spaces. Then we moved over 6,000 books and received donations of hundreds more. Followed this with a grand opening featuring renowned speaker CeCe Moore, and a short few months later put on a fabulous Conference!

As if this weren't enough, now we are pushing forth with even more great plans. On the table is a well-thought-out, and much needed expansion into the "west wing" of the building. This extension will double our capacities, adding a separate Washington Room and expanding the Other States and Foreign Library sections as well.

Our meeting room will be increased in size by knocking down a wall, plus we'll have another room or two for smaller groups.

A very important component will be the storage room for Conference stuff. Topping it all off, we'll have spaces for staging incoming books. As the library grows, our reputation preceeds us, and we in turn receive more and more books. With the new expansion, we will have room to process, store and display those books.

EVERY ENDEAVOR STARTS with an idea. Now our ideas are taking shape, and our plans are in motion. We hope to have some of the physical reality ready to report next edition.



Countdown to the
**2017 Northwest
Genealogy Conference**
7 months, 14 days

In This Issue

News from Friends . . .	2
News from Afar on Ghost Towns	3
Planning 2017 NwGC & Other Conference News	4
An editorial	4
Larry Taylor's Genealogy Story . . .	5
Finding Clues in Publications	7
Cliff Nelson Memorium	8
Exploring www.stillygen.org . . .	8
Upcoming Events . . .	9
Early Bird Offering . .	10





News from our Friends

From Joanne Wetmore:

Christmas of 2016 ~ what a hectic, but very special time of the year for the Wetmore family. We had a fun-filled day, of rooting for the Seahawks, talking, eating and just enjoying being together. As the day went on and gifts were exchanged it turned into "kooky" stuff ~ like the picture on the right. Fun was had by all of us. Hal and I wish you all a very **"HAPPY NEW YEAR!"**



From Roxanne Lowe:

At last year's conference, I saw the two women in the attached photo (Karen Merrill Martin from Manzanita, Oregon and Janine Barber from Federal Way) huddled over notepads in an intense conversation. When I asked to take their picture, they told me they'd found each other on the Cousins' Wall and were sure they were going to find a connection through their great grandmother's New England line. They were so excited to have found each other, thanks to the **Cousins' Wall**.

From Larry Taylor:

My Second Cousin Judy was married to Mary Buzzell's Cousin. ... My Great Grandfather James William Taylor came to the California Goldfields in 1849 with his dad and mom when he was 12 years old. I believe his family traveled from Virginia with his future wife Rachel Ledgerwood and her family. In 1849 Rachel would have been 2. Her sister was born in that area in 1850. They married in 1868 and had 13 children. My Grandfather was James W. Taylor Jr. One of his brothers was Charles Taylor. Charles and his wife had five children. One of them was a Georgene Taylor. Georgene married a Benjamin Bay. On Georgene's obituary, it stated that one of her daughters, Judy, lived in Mt. Vernon. Judy Bay had married a David Granstrom. I showed Michele Cozad, our Society's Secretary, that I had family in Mt. Vernon. When Michele saw the name on my Family Tree, she exclaimed, "Larry, that is Mary's Maiden Name." She sent Mary Buzzell an e-mail to confirm our findings. Mary confirmed this.

Treat Everyone as a Cousin. They just might be!



Mary and Larry. Cousins-in-law.



News from our Friends in Minnesota – Ghost Towns

From the Moose Lake Area Historical Society in Moose Lake, Minnesota, we find this article about ghost towns:

What is a Ghost Town?

With no clear-cut definition, determining what constitutes a ghost town is often a matter of degree and opinion. The most common breakdowns and classes with Minnesota examples are:

CLASS A – A barren site, nature has reclaimed the land, there are no visible signs of former habitation.

CLASS B – Rubble, foundations, roofless buildings are found.

CLASS C – Standing abandoned buildings, no population present.

CLASS D – Semi/near ghost town; many abandoned buildings, but a small resident population.

CLASS E – Busy historic community. However, smaller than in its boom days.

CLASS F – A restored town, historically preserved status.

Many communities, whatever their class, did leave behind tangible remains in the form of cemeteries. These hallowed grounds are a visible record of the times and lives of the town inhabitants.

Here in Washington, we can think of several Class F areas – Seattle's Pioneer Square and certain buildings in Ballard come to mind as historically preserved. Ruby in Eastern Washington was a ghost town already in the 1950's. It's probably a Class A or B, but since we haven't been there since childhood, we're just surmising.

Closer to home, and closer to our history of Snohomish County, the Monte Cristo mining town could be classed as a "C". It's located in Eastern Snohomish County northwest of Monte Cristo Peak.

A brief history from the Monte Cristo website tells us the following:

In 1889 Joseph L. Pearsall discovered gold and silver bearing ores in the South Fork of the Sauk River. This discovery was shared with Frank Peabody, which launched the search for ore bodies and the building of wagon roads into the now Monte Cristo area. In 1893 the Monte Cristo Mining Company filed a plat in Cleveland Ohio for the town of Monte Cristo. Recognizing the need for a means to move ore, the newly formed Wilman's group hired a skilled engineer by the name of John Q. Barlow to survey a railroad route. The railroad finally reached Monte Cristo in 1893.

Soon Monte Cristo was the center of a mining boom which attracted thousands of miners and businessmen. The most notable of these being John D. Rockefeller. The boom lasted from 1895 to 1912. By 1920 all major mining had come to a close, and the town was all but abandoned.

Do you have a favorite ghost town you'd like to share with SVGS? Are there communities around Arlington that might fall into one of the categories listed above?

We'd love to hear the stories you have, perhaps of your ancestors in the area.

~ Kathy Bowman





Planning the 2017 Conference

We are happy to report that Phil Bartlow is back at the helm of our NwGC planning committee. Following major surgery, he and Lisa have been busy working on the details of the 2017 conference. There are 28 sub-committees at this point (can you believe that!), and it takes quite an effort to guide, lead and manage the multitude of projects. We are overwhelmingly thankful for Phil's complete recovery, and for Lisa's persistent care in his recovery. They make a great team, and we appreciate their stepping up to lead the 2017 NwGC.

At this point we would like to welcome Bob Dunn as our newest member of the NwGC Committee. Pam Liebelt joined us mid-year last time, and we appreciate her work in keeping track of publicity. What a blessing to have them!



2016 Volunteers line up at the closing of the Conference

Those working on the conference, and responsible for it all, are, in alphabetical order: Lisa Bartlow, Phil Bartlow, Steve Baylor, Kathy Bowman, Mary Buzzell, Dan Caesar, Ruth Caesar, Shirley Case, Michele Cozad, Kay Crabtree, Bob Dunn, Helen Eliason, Diane Erickson, Anne Grimm, Bruce Grimm, LeeRoy Kind, Pam Liebelt, Pat Lund, Erica Madsen, Dick Prouty, Shirley Prouty, Cheri Sandall, Dee Saunders, Kathy Stuehrenberg, Lowell Stuehrenberg, Larry Taylor, Joanne Wetmore.

Today, there are team members who are working furiously on behind-the-scenes projects. Others will swing into work later in the year, and finally at the conference itself, you'll see the setup and parking people pop up and do a truly great job! We're looking forward to it already.



I had a little extra space here so I thought I'd pitch one of my favorite topics. My main interests go to history and genealogy. But as these subjects look backward to see where we've been – as a society, and as families – in balance, I need to look forward to the future. And then, in logical progression, I ask "What kind of world will we leave to our descendants?"

My own response to the question is through environmental activities – recycling in particular. It's the one thing I can do on a personal level. So, I leave this thought with you: Call, email or text me if you have *Styrofoam*. It's *recyclable*, and I can get it to the recyclers. Please don't hesitate to call. I'll make arrangements, keeping needless gasoline usage to a minimum of course.

Happy New Year, and may all your genealogical searches be fruitful!

~Kathy Bowman, Newsletter Editor and Recycling Drone
206-501-9554, katsbow@gmail.com



One man's genealogy story; An open letter to his son

By Larry Taylor

[I have set up our tree on "Familysearch.org." I have also set up "RelativeFinder.org" --This is also owned and operated by the LDS Church and uses the tree on Family Search. --L.T.]

Dear Owen,

2016 has been filled with success and we have had a few sad moments. God Bless Virginia.

I have made major findings in our Taylor Family. I am pleased to say much of it has been proven by DNA and Ancestry.com.

I have followed our line back to the year 1250 to the Birth of William Taylor. Since that time, there have been Knights and Barons and Ladies that have graced our name. William was from Shadoxhurst, Kent, England.

During the early 1700's a James Walker Taylor II was a Colonel in the Virginia Militia, fighting in the French-Indian War. I once asked the question, "How far back did the Taylors and the Ledgerwoods know each other?" I may have found the answer. A

James Ledgerwood was a Captain in the Virginia Militia during the French and Indian War. Both had sons that fought in the Revolutionary War for our Independence. I believe the Ledgerwoods and the Taylors came to California together in 1849. My Great Grandfather James Taylor married Rachel Ledgerwood in 1868.

Our Taylor name appears to be English. At least as far back as 1250. They arrived in the new world around 1650.

Our Ledgerwood name is Scotch-Irish

as far back as William the Conqueror around the year 1066. They arrived in the New World around 1734.

The Dull/Doll line is certainly German. They also arrived in the new world around 1734. Good thing because they had the family secret about how to put Rifling into a smooth bore Musket. It allowed us to win the Revolutionary War. We outshot the British.

The Cox name comes from the north-east part of England. Northumberland bounced between England and Scotland for a thousand years. Early on, they were of the Nobility and many had titles. My tree starts with John Cox II born around 1424 and died around 1507.

The name Cote comes from France. I have traced them back to Louis Cote, born in 1525 in Normandy, France. More to find out, more to learn. My mother had RH-negative blood. The vast majority of RH-Negative blood comes from the Basque area of Spain. My DNA report states that I am 5% from that area. I believe that comes from the Cote line.

The name Fincher comes from England. When they arrived in the new world, they made gloves. People needed gloves to build a new nation. I have followed this line back to Worcester, England. A Francis Fincher born around 1500, died around 1559.

The name Kingston is my next wall. It starts with Paul Kingston in New Brunswick in 1795. He married Charlotte White and they had the first of four John White Kingstons.



Larry Taylor's 6th Great Grandfather Colonel James Walker Taylor (1675-1729).



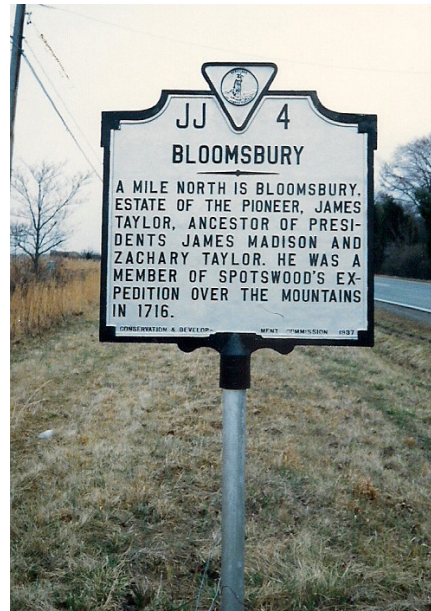
The Kellogg name I have traced back to 1418 to Lord Kellogg. The place is Essex England. Many of the Kellogg line start with "Sir".

The Blanchard name, I believe, is French. My tree goes back to Pierre Jean Blanchard to 1555. They were in the United States very early. Boston, Massachusetts. Jonathan Blanchard (1811-1892) started Wheaton College and was the first President. More to find out. More to learn.

The Critchfield name comes from England and they too were in the Boston, Massachusetts area very early on. My tree goes to Edward Critchfield, born 1638 in Boston. I believe Elmer Elsworth Critchfield (1861 to 1930) started a bank. Not sure on this one. Still lots to do, our ancestors have made a difference in this world.

One family story that I am still chasing is James Ledgerwood 1734-1805. Fought in the Revolutionary War, married a Sara Pierce. His son James Ledgerwood (1775-1844) also married a Pierce, Berthia. The story is we are related to President Franklin Pierce. If that is so then you are related to yourself. LOL. You already have Franklin Pierce on your mother's side of your tree.

When I found out that we are related to Richard Nixon, my first thought was to change my name to Fred Smith and leave the country. My second thought was I wouldn't tell anybody. Oh well! LOL. You will find in the list of presidents that you are related to 35, from George Washington to Obama. A few through the Taylor Line, but many more through the Kingston/Kellogg Line. The most notable for me is that you are the 10th Great Grandson of William Brad-



Left: This roadside sign marks the house Col. Taylor built in 1722-23 in Bloomsberry, Virginia.

Above: The house that James Built.

ford of the Mayflower Fame. WOW! I have read the story, it is very much worth reading.

This is one of my gifts for you this year. You have seen the journey, been there when we found 30 family members in the Family Cemetery in Stayton, Oregon. You have seen my e-mails as I have discovered many things. The discoveries in this last month regarding the Taylor line equal to or exceed all the rest. We now know where the family name (James Taylor) comes from and I bow to my Cousin Jim, he has done honor to that name. I have to add, so have you, son.

My next direction is to find a book on the Col. James Walker Taylor 1675-1729. When I do, I hope to get several copies and share.

Please enjoy family. If anyone has a question, please call. I will be listening to the games and working on my book. "A Thousand Years of Peace!" Simply trying to make a difference.

Love Dad/Brother/Cousin

I am a Taylor.
Go Hawks!





Finding Clues in Publications

We ran this game for you last time.

How to play:

1. Print this page.
2. Circle each clue that would help with your genealogy research — see how many you can find.
3. Hint: The number is over ten.
4. In the next newsletter we will reprint the article with each clue circled.

MATRIMONIAL.

Marriage of Miss Minnie Phillips and Mr. Eugene Townsend, and Mr. O. J. Pettyjohn and Miss Nannie M. Todd.

St. Patrick's Church, corner of Desplaines and Adams streets, was filled to overflowing last evening with people anxious to witness the wedding of Miss Minnie Phillips, a daughter of the late Patrick Phillips, Esq., to Mr. Eugene Townsend, of this city. The ceremony occurred at 7 o'clock, the Rev. Father Connolly officiating. The bridal party was preceded by Messrs. T. J. Keene and Frank Gibbons as ushers, and Mrs. Phillips, the mother of the bride, and Mr. Ed Phillips, the bride's brother. Then came Miss Lou Kelly, the bridesmaid, escorted by Mr. Schultz, and finally the bride, attired in a rich dress of wine silk and velvet, trimmed with lace and fringe; on her head, a bonnet of pale blue velvet and blush roses, and accompanied by the groom. Immediately after the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Townsend left on a tour through the South, on their return to reside on Michigan avenue.

Left: Original puzzle.

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At Right:

One person's answers.

Can you find the errors in these answers?

Try this and see how many you can find compared to our genealogist

* Look for newspaper's city and date.
** Historical interest — could be a source for more records

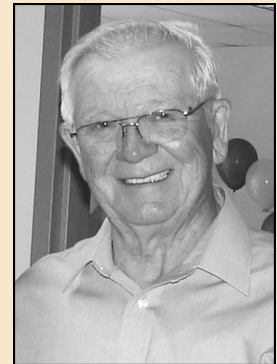


In Memoriam

Clifford Henry Nelson

April 9, 1930 - December 26, 2016

Cliff Nelson lived his whole life at Grandview in the house where he was born, until April of 2016. He was a 1948 graduate of Arlington High School, and he spent his working career at Western Gear as a machinist.



Cliff loved family, traveling and gardening. He was Worshipful Master of #129 Arlington Masonic Lodge in Arlington in 1973, and he and Mary spent many winters in Yuma, AZ.

Clifford Nelson was an author and historian. He wrote the local historical account, *Grandview*, a brief history of the Settlement of Grandview, including Verda Heights and Fertile Acres. (The book is available at the SVGS library and online at www.stillygen.org, on the Bookstore tab.)

Mary and Cliff had four children and a total of 27 grandchildren & great grandchildren.

Services to be at the Bryant Grange at 1:00, January 6, 2017.

Catered food after the service.

Exploring the StillyGen.org website

How to order copies of *Obituaries*

How to date an *Old Photo**

1. Go to www.stillygen.org
2. Choose the RESOURCES tab on the left

Here is what you will find:

Help with dating your family photos

Have a family photo that doesn't have a date? We can help you date it! To learn more, scan and e-mail the image to photoid@stillygen.org and tell us what you know about the family member or members. A what-you-will donation would be appreciated and gratefully accepted.

How to order an obituary

We are currently in the process of entering names into the Death Index. Thousands and thousands of area obituaries are in the process of being entered and are available at our library. If you have not found what you are looking for in the Index, please let us know. Or you may order a copy of an obituary. To do so, please send an email to queries@stillygen.org. Someone will respond to your query as soon as possible.

**(and we don't mean dinner and a movie)*



UPCOMING EVENTS

~Every Thursday~ 10:00 am to 12:00 noon SVGS Library 6111 188th PI NE Arlington, WA	Thursday Research Group Meet with fellow genealogists to discuss current events and genealogy over a cup of coffee. You may discover a new research method or just make a few new friends. Meetings are held at the SVGS Library.
Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2017 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm 154 W. Cox Avenue Arlington, WA 98223	Monthly Meeting Plan to join us as noted Stanwood Sno-Isle Librarian, Rob Branigin, speaks about various vital records that can be easily found on the Ancestry and Familysearch websites.
Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2017 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm 154 W. Cox Avenue Arlington, WA 98223	Monthly Meeting You are invited to attend our special Valentine's Day meeting. Our February speaker will be Jim Johnson from Heritage Quest Library. He will speak on Mayflower ancestors. In addition, he'll have books available for purchase.
Wednesday, Aug. 16 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm Byrnes Performing Arts Center Arlington High School 18821 Crown Ridge Blvd. Arlington, WA 98223	Free Day at the Conference Special Free Day class will be held at the Conference. Subject and Speaker to be determined. Come early, register, and take part in the Scavenger Hunt. You might win a prize.
Thursday thru Saturday Aug. 17-19, 2017 8:30 am to 4:00 pm BPAC 18821 Crown Ridge Blvd. Arlington, WA 98223	Three Days of Fascinating Speakers at the Conference Sign up now for the "Best conference this side of Darrington." Three days of top-notch, nationally known speakers. They will inform and amuse you.

Early Bird Special extended til February 15, 2017



Be sure to register now, while you're
thinking about it, and get the Early Bird
pricing for this year's
Northwest Genealogy Conference!

Click here www.NwGC.org
and follow the prompts.

While you're there, take a look at the great speakers we have lined up!



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Home of the Northwest Genealogy Conference

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