



Stillaguamish Star

The Stillaguamish Valley
Genealogical Society Newsletter

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SVGS does it again!



It was the Volunteers who made it happen.

Northwest Genealogy Conference – another smashing success!

Everyone is so friendly and this conference is so well organized.”
“This conference is so well-run. So many topics and speakers!” “I like meeting all the people and talking about our mutual interests.”

These are just a few of the comments from this year’s conference attendees. The team behind the scenes and those on the front lines put in a lot of hard work and many hours to make the event the success it was.

Peggy Lauritzen kicked off the conference with her Beginning Genealogy Class while Diahna Southard conducted an advanced DNA workshop. Wednesday finished with the Meet & Greet Taco Bar at Gleneagle Golf Club. A special guest, Snohomish County Councilman Nate Nehring presented the society with an “oversized” check for \$1,694.27 for the Memorial Display at the Arlington Pioneer Cemetery.

Thursday was the first full day of sessions for keynote speaker Diahna Southard. Jean Hibben, Michelle Goodrum, Jill Morelli, Christine Woodcock, Katherine Willson, Peggy Lauritzen and Janice Lovelace filled the rest of the day with interesting and informative classes.

Dress-up day on Friday was great fun! There were more brave folks

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that participated in this, and judging from the comments we will have even more taking part next year. It was another day of great speakers, Keynoter Daniel Earl, as well as many from the day before, plus Pam Vestal, Janice Sellers and Michael Strauss. The banquet at Gleneagle featured "An Evening in Italy" buffet that was delicious. Kenyatta Berry was our featured speaker and gave insights into the inner workings of "Genealogy Roadshow."

Kenyatta was the keynote speaker for Saturday and shared facts that were new to many of us regarding early slave trade in the Caribbean and across the Atlantic, as well as clues on the 1850 and 1860 slave schedules. Mary Roddy and Mary Kozy joined the lineup for the day.

Once again, the staff at Arlington High School were efficient and helpful. We couldn't do this without them.

So we close the books on another year of NwGC. We have already started working on next year so mark your calendars for Aug. 15, 2018!

~ Phil & Lisa Bartlow



A night on the town.



And the door prize goes to ...



Snohomish County grant check presented by Nate Nehring



Donna Potter Phillips—Special Class



All dressed up
Donna Speer & Harry Taylor



Banquet 2017



Benjamin Franklin
(aka Bill Grant)



SVGS Table



Looking just right



Scots Taylor & Manning



Keynote Speaker Dan Earl, The Viking



Peggy Lauritzen with Father looking over her shoulder



Speakers Dan Earl & Michael Strauss talking shop



County Commissioner Nate Nehring

Lisa Bartlow, Ruth Caesar, Michele Cozad



Land records class – standing room only



Dress as Your Ancestor Day, 2017



Is this nepotism, or what?

The Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society has always felt like my “family” but now I know that it’s not just a feeling, it’s a “reality.”

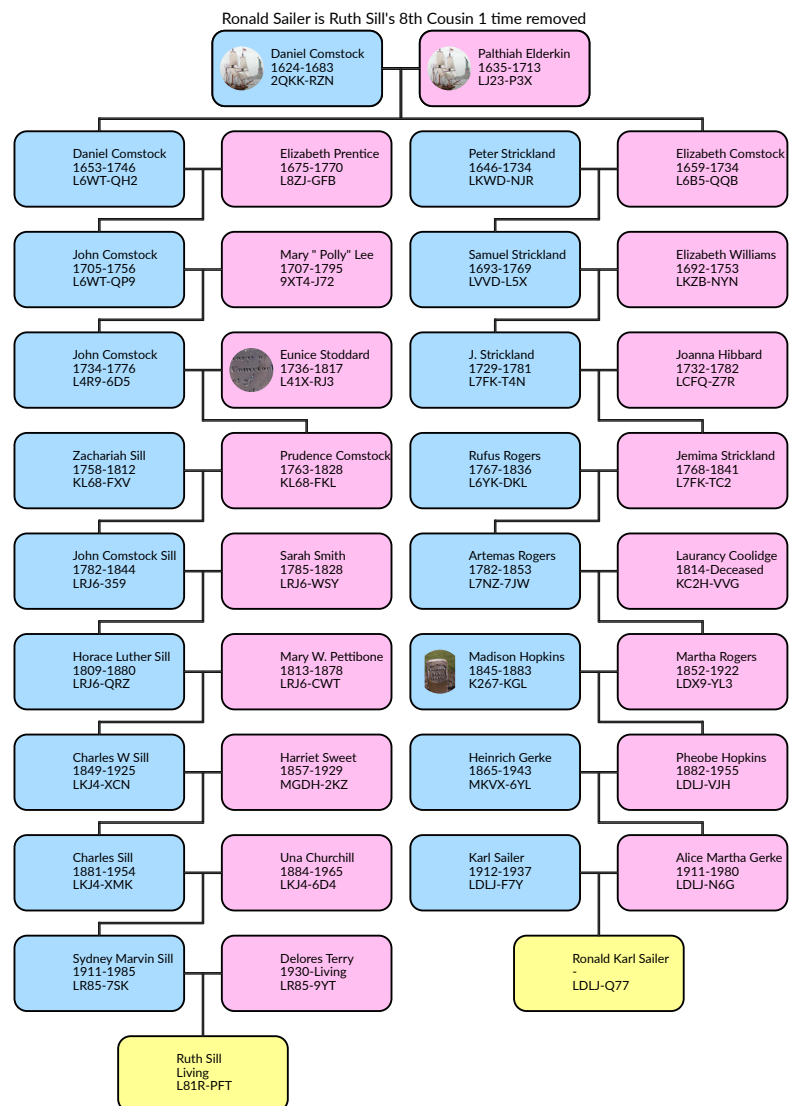
For the last several months many of us have been using Relative Finder to investigate who we may be related to by using family trees we’ve put on Family Search. Many of us are 8th, 9th and 10th cousins, and thus “family” (lol). So, a few months ago I asked Donna Potter Phillips to share some of the “fun” things genealogists have available to them. At our Thursday lunch hour at the conference she shared some wonderful options for which I am indebted to her.

By the time Saturday came along all of us were quite giddy with exhaustion but I thought it was high time to do something “just for fun” so, I used the Connect With People Nearby option on Relative Finder and within minutes several of us had signed in and found we were “family.” This group photo includes Keynote speaker Diahan Southard who I’m pleased to say is my 13th cousin. Shortly after that discovery I found out that another keynote speaker Dan Earl is my 11th cousin. By the end of the day many people had signed in and only a few were not my “relatives.” It’s an amazingly small world, relatively speaking.

~ Ruth Caesar



The Stilly Society "Family"



I can't even begin to tell you what a fabulous time I had this weekend. I felt like royalty. I am so grateful for the chance to meet each of you and rub shoulders with your members.

All the best,
Diahan Southard

This postcard was sent on Aug 19th, 2019 using TouchNote.

STILLAGUAMISH VALLEY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
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**RELATIVE FINDER – COUSIN CHART**

Ruth Caesar	Self ▼	Common Ancestor
Ronald Karl Sailer	8th Cousin 1 time removed ▼	Daniel Comstock
Donna Ruth Potter	11th Cousin ▼	Thomas Norman
Anne Wanden	9th Cousin 1 time removed ▼	Daniel Comstock
Diahan Lyn Haselwood	13th Cousin ▼	William Ball
Cheryl Ann Wilson	11th Cousin ▼	Nathaniel Wales
Lisa Bartlow	10th Cousin ▼	Richard Harvey
Daniel A Earl	11th Cousin 1 time removed ▼	Jane Mills
Pamela Jean Smith	9th Cousin 1 time removed ▼	Nathaniel Davis
Lorelle VanFossen	10th Cousin 5 times removed ▼	Richard Harvey
Lynn Alden Hibben	10th Cousin 2 times removed ▼	James Davis

A VOLUNTEER EXTRAORDINAIRE!

One of our most industrious volunteers, Anne Grimm, procured 45 wonderful prizes to be given out. She was even able to capture the fabulous 2018 admission to Roots Tech in Salt Lake City. Our hearty thanks to Anne for a job above and beyond!





Dress-Up Day

Our Dress up Day is catching on and I for one am having great success with it. I think of it as The Cousin's Board plus ONE.

There are a lot of ways to participate:

- Buy a button with the name of the country you are looking to find more information.
- Buy/Rent/Make a costume that lets the world know what you are looking for.

I have chosen Scotland. I have recently found out that my mother's line connects to the Stuart line. Charles I (1600 – 1649) King of England, Scotland and France is my 10th Great Grandfather.

By wearing my Stuart Plaid I found two additional family members. Donna Spear is a descendant and relative of Henrietta Carpet (1609 – 1669), the wife of Charles I, my 10th Great Grandmother.

Another member David Wilson believes he too is connected and so is a cousin. This Stuart line appears to go all the way back to the First King of the Picts. The Picts covered two-thirds of the Eastern portion of Scotland. The line of Scottish Kings started with Alpin Mac Echdach around 800 AD.

On my Father's side I have connected with Anne Grimm. We share Hanger Taylifer (1256–1336) as a common ancestor. Kellen Shoe, the grandson of Michele Heiderer also ties into that Taylor Line that appears to go all the way to Charlemagne (742–814).

What is left? Wellllll Relative Finder says I am the 12th cousin of Elvis the Real King. LOL I bet I can rent a costume. Look out 2018! I'll bring my drum and make some noise.

I had a blast. I had between 20 to 30 people standing in front of me. I highly recommend, be a kid again and have some fun. I thank all of my fellow participants in the Dress-up Day.

Maybe we can get a door prize next year? A trip to Hawaii? I'm all in. Keep laughing and having fun.

~ Larry Taylor, Prince of Amboy





From the Membership Chair

The 2017 NwGConference was great. I enjoyed being at the Sale Table as I met and talked with a lot of people. They were all excited about the conference and many were in awe of the fantastic speakers we had. My first class that I attended was with Diahan Southard – tremendous speaker – she spoke on “Let Your DNA Tell Your Story.” Then, at one point in her talk everyone’s heart stopped beating when she accidentally stepped off the stage. Fortunately she was not hurt. She assured us she was OK and got a round of applause from the audience. Then she got back on the stage to continue her talk.

Friday was a fun day and I was surprised at how many joined in for the “dress up” day. It was a fun time for everyone.

This was our fourth conference and it seemed like all went well, but I’m sure there were some rough spots. We are always learning as we go along, making each conference even better than the one before. Our Co-Chair people for 2017, Lisa & Phil Bartlow, President Ruth Caesar, and Past Chairperson Kathy Stuehrenberg did an excellent job in organizing all of the speakers and volunteers involved in making this year’s conference a success. HAT’S OFF TO ALL!

If you didn’t get involved in the 2017 conference, I highly recommend you give it some thought for 2018, you’d be surprised at how much fun you can have.



Respectfully,
Joanne Hoidal Wetmore
Membership Chair





All photos in this edition are courtesy of Roxanne Lowe, official photographer to the 2017 Northwest Genealogy Conference. Roxanne did a fabulous job of capturing the faces, character and atmosphere of this year's conference. Our thanks and gratitude go to Roxanne for a great job well done!



DOOR PRIZES at the Conference

Anne Grimm did an outstanding job of putting together the gifts for the door prizes and drawings throughout the Conference. She single-handedly went out and secured all these prizes. Our thanks to Anne, and to the donors who gave so generously.

Here's a rundown on the great gifts she found for the lucky recipients. If you missed the conference this year, this is yet another reason to come in 2018.

- Geni.com – 1-yr subscription
- Family Chartmasters – Charts
- My Heritage – Annual subscription
- History Lines – Annual subscription
- E-Z Photo Scan – Scanner rental with return
- Photo Detective
- Maureen Taylor – Book
- Code Weavers – 10 licenses
- Diahan Southard – Annual subscription
- NEHGS / American Ancestors – 1-yr subscription
- Iron Gate Publishing – Publish a Photo Book/Set Yourself Up to Self-Publish, Genealogists Guide/Publish Your Genealogy, Step by Step
- Genealogy Bank – Two 1-yr subscriptions
- Pictures and Stories – Book, How to Save Your Life One Chapter at a Time
- Origami Owl – Earrings
- Living DNA – DNA Kit
- Find My Past – One starter subscription
- FTDNA – DNA Kits
- Roots Magic – Annual subscription and book
- Hi-Def Genealogists – My Heritage Book & ebooks
- Legacy Family Tree – Webinar annual subscription
- Ancestry.com – DNA Kit /Two 6-mon/fold3/newsp Subscription
- GRIP – \$100.00 towards registration
- ArkivDigital – One 3-month subscription
- Family Tree & Me – Certificate
- Genealogy Gems – 1-yr subscription
- Genealogy Dames – Goodie bag
- Roots Tech – Conference pass
- Diggin Your Past – The Reunion Planner
- Genealogy.com – Franco's Refugees – Records of Jews /Spain & Portugal to NY





A Letter from Founding Member Michele Heiderer: On my grandson's time at the conference

All I can say is that, for a somewhat shy 17 year old teen, he sure had fun! My grandson, Kellen Shoe, sat with total strangers in classes and at lunch (often without me!) and engaged with them, and they with him. He was room monitor for several classes.

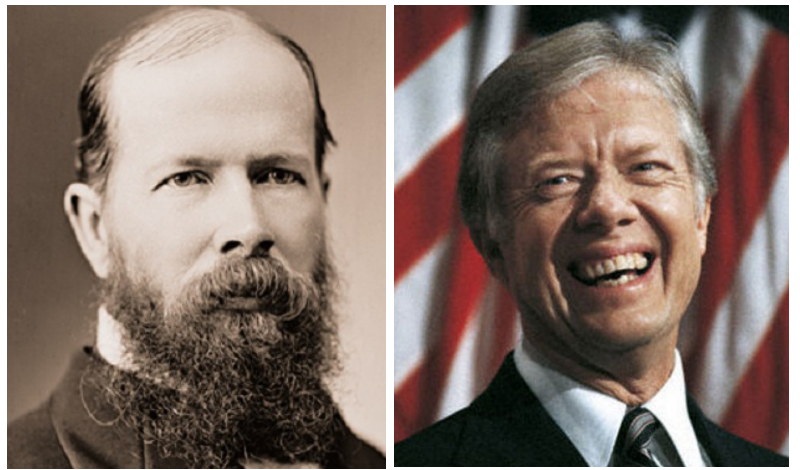
Kellen will be a Junior at Weston High School. His interest in genealogy started about 4 years ago and he now has our family tree on ancestry.com with almost 6,500 ancestors in it. From his paternal grandmother, he inherited dozens of tintypes and photographs from the 1800s, original letters from the early 1920s and 30s, and marriage and death documents from the 1880s. These precious items sparked his interest in genealogy. It wasn't long after that that I started sharing my family's tree with him; eventually he started his own tree and we later merged the two on ancestry.com.

One of Kellen's great great grandfathers is John Allen Campbell, first governor of Wyoming Territory. In fact he and his parents were watching the "Hell on Wheels" series on Netflix (a series about building the transcontinental railroad after the Civil War) and he realized that the John Allan Campbell portrayed in the series was none other than one of his direct ancestors. He also found a direct ancestor link with President Jimmie Carter. He wrote to President Carter and received a handwritten reply, something to add to his ancestral documentation. He has already used his DNA results to solve the identity of one of his great great grandfathers, and to answer other questions about his family tree.

His paternal grandmother's grandfather was born in Washington Territory in 1865, and that is a

line of inquiry that continues through research of the Oregon Trail and those who came west in wagon trains that set off from Independence, Missouri. Kellen can also trace his ancestry back to the earliest settlers in Maryland from Wales; his immigrant ancestor settled permanently in Virginia where he owned land and probably held slaves. We just might have to take a trip to Virginia to continue that line of inquiry!

I too enjoyed the conference; this is the first time I have attended even though I'm a founding member of SVGS. I was pleasantly surprised at the



Ancestor Campbell and Relative Carter

variety of break-out classes and I have to say that even after doing genealogy for more than 30 years, my eyes were opened to new ways of solving brick walls, using DNA, understanding census records, Scottish research, immigration records, and using facebook to solve genealogical questions.

Thank you!

~Michele Heiderer

"This my first conference and I will attend again next year. The speakers, especially Diahan and Daniel. I learned so much in such a short time. Thank you to all of the speakers."

~ Vicci Turner



Pioneer Cemetery receives new recognition

The Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society was presented with a Heritage Grant from Snohomish County to install a kiosk at Arlington Pioneer Cemetery which explains the history of the cemetery and memorializes the 39 people that evidence shows are still in the cemetery. The society is committed to preserving the history of the Stillaguamish Valley and this is just one of the many efforts to do so. County Councilman Nate Nehring presented an oversized check to SVGS President Ruth Caesar at the Northwest Genealogy Conference Meet and Greet on Wednesday, August 16th.



Take a little trip and see it in person. The sign tells an interesting story. The cemetery is located on Gillford Avenue north of 5th Street in Arlington.

Above, the new kiosk with informative sign.

Left, Snohomish County Councilman Nate Nehring presenting check to SVGS President Ruth Caesar.



"This is the third year that I have attended the conference. I love it. The organization is great, the people who run the conference are so very helpful, vendors are great and the speakers are amazing. My favorite speaker this year was Daniel Earl. The only "negative" for me is that I have a hard time deciding which lecture I should attend. There is something for everybody. Thank you!!"

~ Rainer Muller

"To the Conference Team:

What a terrific event you put on! I thank you so much for including me and for taking a chance on someone you didn't know and allowing me to do what I love - Share what I've learned with an enthusiastic audience. If you have any feedback for me I'd love to hear it. Thanks too for taking such good care of us!"

~ Pam Vestal



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 at 6111 188th PI NE, Arlington.
Centennial Trail History Day September 10, 2017 11:00 am to 3:00 pm Several Places along the Trail See Snohomish County Open Up website for details	WANT TO LEARN MORE FUN FACTS ABOUT SNOHOMISH COUNTY HERITAGE? Then grab your walking shoes, hop on a bike – or put the kids in the stroller and make your way down the Centennial Trail, September 10th, from 11am to 3pm to learn local history along the former tribal route and early-century transportation corridor. The Snohomish County Historic Preservation Commission and local heritage organizations will offer activities for kids, hands-on interactive exhibits, and a chance to touch historic artifacts at six different sites along the 30 miles of historic rail line, and at Legion Park in Arlington. The event is free.
Tuesday, Sept. 12, 2017 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm SVGS Library 6111 188th PI NE Arlington, WA	VITAL RECORDS, EXPLORED! Rob Branigin, Sno-Isle Librarian at the Stanwood branch, will talk about “Exploring Vital Records Online with Ancestry and Familysearch.” There is no fee to attend and the presentation is open to the general public. You do not need to be present to attend. Members of the public as well as members of the Society are welcome to attend. This presentation is free to the public.
Saturday, Oct. 7, 2017 Sunday, Oct. 8, 2017 Downtown Arlington	VIKING FEST & PUB CRAWL Come down to enjoy our Second Annual Living History Viking Fest! You are invited to come down and witness the conquering of Historic Downtown Arlington by hordes of fierce Vikings. ~ See the SVGS display in the Council Chambers ~
Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2017 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm SVGS Library 6111 188th PI NE Arlington, WA	MONTHLY MEETING Join us for another interesting lecture. Then stay to take part in the decision-making that runs this great genealogical society.



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Home of the Northwest Genealogy Conference

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CONFERENCE Edition

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