



Stillaguamish Star

The Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical
Society Newsletter

September – October 2015, Vol. 28 No. 5

Kathy Bowman
Newsletter Editor

PO Box 34, Arlington, WA 98223
215 South French, Arlington
(360) 435-4838

www.stillygen.org
newsletter@stillygen.org

The August Northwest Genealogy Conference – "What a day! What a day! What a day!" What a Great Success!



Judy Russell, the Legal Genealogist



*CeCe Moore answering questions at the NW
Genealogy Conference*

What an experience!!!

By Kathy Stuehrenberg

Those are my first thoughts as I think back to the past week and what happened before and during the Northwest Genealogy Conference. I began my journey as chair of the conference committee the first part of June and it wasn't long before I realized that there was a strong group of volunteers in place who wanted to do what it took to make the NW Genealogy Conference great.

That became even more evident when everyone pulled together to find caterers, mail out flyers, put up banners and man booths at the air show and fairs. It only took 40 minutes for the group to stuff 400 bags and get them into boxes for transport to the fair and all I could say was WOW!!



To the many SVGS members who volunteered, I want to say thank you. You made my job easy. Plus you made the conference a SUCCESS. There were 332 paid attendees, 20 speakers, 40+ volunteers and 20 vendors who participated in the 3-day conference. Most stopped by the help desk to ask that we do it again next year. That speaks loudly to how well you did.

Even when there was a "crisis," the team went to work to solve the problem and to those attending, they had no idea anything had happened. That is the hallmark of a good team – "no crisis, just a problem to be solved."

Thanks again for all your work,
Kathy Stuehrenberg



Angela Packer McGhie and WSGS Blogger Roxanne Lowe



Inside this issue...

All about the Conference	1
A Note from the Mayor	3
Phenomenal Volunteers	3
An Open Letter to the Herald	4
The Talk of the Conference	5
We Thank Our Supporters	7
Comments Overheard	8
Finding Hidden Clues	9
Other StillyGen News	10
Open Genealogy Library	12
Book Reports	13
Tombstone Project	14
Touring the Mapping Tool	16

Breaking News!

The Conference Committee met today, August 31st, to discuss the question of going ahead with a conference again next year. We are happy to report that the general consensus was a resounding Yes – Now we just need the official vote of the board on Sept 8th. There's a lot of talent and support on the part of the volunteers at the SVGS, so we should be able to bring another great event in 2016.... We'll get started on next year's event right away – once we have that official go-ahead!



A Note From Arlington Mayor Barbara Tolbert

"It was an honor to attend the meeting of the SVGS this week. The annual conference in its second year at the Byrnes Performing Arts Center was a big success. We barely had time to thank the volunteers for the great work before they turned their attention to making next year's conference even better.

"A successful volunteer organization takes a number of ingredients to reach its goals, and the mix of talent, passion and expertise of the volunteers at the SVGS have all the right stuff. It has been said to successfully navigate the future, you must understand the history. Not only do you understand history, you are standing by to support everyone who wants to take this journey for themselves. Thank you for all you do."

— Mayor Barb

Phenomenal Stilly Valley Volunteers

By Shirley Case

Our Society has the greatest group of volunteers – including members, spouses, and community

members. Because of all the volunteers, our conference was highly successful.

Approximately 41 people filled over 128 volunteer positions, with many volunteers covering multiple jobs. In addition, many helped out when an unexpected need arose. A few great examples: Dee Saunders stepped in when illness prevented the original volunteer from attending. She cut up many apples in three days, and prepared snacks for our hundreds of participants.

The attendees were full of compliments about the quality of the conference and the friendliness of the volunteers. Steve Baylor and his helpers even made assisting with parking an enjoyable



Even the parking was easy, efficient.

experience for all. The help desk filled by Kathy Stuehrenberg was very busy, as was the registration table with many volunteers. The publication table with Ruth Caesar and Larry Taylor, along with more volunteers, kept very busy.

Eric Strosheim was everywhere helping the speakers with equipment, including sound, video, and audio. He carried a hand-held radio which he used constantly. Karen Strosheim assisted with escorting the speakers, and many other tasks and details.



Sue Walde, Flynn Kennedy and Shirley Case had a great time hostessing in the green room with the speakers and picking up the three main speakers at their hotel. All the speakers were gracious, interesting, and filled with a passion for genealogy.

Although not volunteers, the Arlington School District staff helped make the experience positive for all of us. Vicki, Mixie, Anna, and the sound/video staff were very responsive at all times.

While filling all the positions for four days seemed a daunting task at first, the willingness of almost every person to respond positively made it a pleasure to host this conference. So many volunteers are not named in this article, but to all of you, we owe a huge debt of gratitude for your work, and we say a heartfelt "thank you" to all.



Well-attended classes

An Open Letter to the Everett Herald

By Michele Cozad, SVGS Secretary

The Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society (SVGS) just wrapped up another great conference at Arlington High School's beautiful Byrnes Performing Arts Center. We were able to secure three of the top speakers in genealogy today who all got together for the first time! We had over 350 people attending from all over the U.S. and Canada who made our hometown their destination over four days.



The SVGS thanks the city of Arlington and Snohomish County for grant money from the hotel/motel tax funds that made this conference possible. We succeeded with over 300 overnight stays in local hotels, with hundreds of meals served in area dining establishments. This year SVGS is celebrating 30 years in the Stilly Valley. We are a non-profit community service group run by dedicated volunteers who have a wide range of knowledge.

"Who am I? Where is my Grandma buried? When did they immigrate? What was grandpa's football jersey number – I want to honor him" – these are common questions we can answer. The fact is we have connections to the past and an invaluable library of over 5,000 books to get us there. Regretfully, like a lot of non-profits, we need a permanent place to call home that we can afford. We sincerely hope that the community recognizes our value, as evidenced by this conference, and somehow someone will help us in our search for a place to call home for the next 30 years so we can continue to provide this great community service. You can contact us at info@stillygen.org. Thanks so much!



Registering went well too!

The Talk of the Conference:

"First & foremost, I want you to know what a great conference you hosted! I've been the coordinator for a LOT of large conferences in the past & I KNOW how much work it is behind the scenes to ensure the participants have a value-added experience – and you did it!! We'll be talking about this conference for a long time!!!

"Judy Russell, the Legal Genealogist, educated and entertained us throughout the day with information and stories (oh, the stories she told!) about research trips to the courthouse, wills and no wills and using court records. She was self-deprecating, witty, smart, and 'pretty in pink'!

"The second day of the Northwest Genealogy Conference in Arlington was all about DNA and genetic genealogy, featuring CeCe Moore, one of the nation's foremost professional genetic genealogists. You may have seen her on TV in "Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates Jr." Well...it's even cooler to see and hear her in person! She held our interest ..." — Roxanne Lowe, McCleary, Washington



"The Northwest Genealogy Conference was full of valuable information for all levels of genealogists, from the beginner to the more experienced. The information shared by all of the nationally recognized presenters, especially Angela Packer McGhie, CeCe Morre, Judy Russell, Elissa Scalise Powell and others was extremely energizing! Their stories were amazing; their discoveries surprising at times, their guidance unbelievably helpful and totally inspiring to those of us in the audience. The conference itself ran very smoothly, the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society volunteers and probably a few spouses were especially helpful. The gentlemen directing traffic each morning provided a lighthearted opening to the day. There was plenty of opportunity to reconnect with old friends and to make time for new ones. I met a lot of amazing people accomplishing remarkable work and look forward to connecting with them again next year."



— Janet O'Connor Camarata

"Wow, great attendance. ... Awesome job to you and your support team there who coordinated the event."

— Janelle Morgan

"What a success the conference was! Thank you so much for putting it on. My friend and I truly enjoyed every day. The caliber of speakers was exceptional, and I got to meet Cyndi Ingle in person!! I hope I didn't get too gushy and scare her off, but it was such a thrill after using the list and suggesting it to others for so many years.

"I hope you are maintaining a mailing list if you decide to hold another convention next year. Best of luck with your library."

— Cheryl Villigan

"I have to say that the audience at the NWGC was the most responsive and appreciative I have ever encountered in my 100+ presentations. They made it such a joy to present there and I hope to be back sometime in the future."

— CeCe Moore!



Taking a (well deserved) break



The Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society is truly grateful to the following businesses and contributors to our Conference. We extend our heartfelt thanks to:

The City of Arlington
The City of Arlington-Tourism/Economic Development Grant
Snohomish County Hotel-Motel Tax Fund Grant
Tulalip Resort Casino
Angel of the Winds Casino Hotel
RonArons.com – Mind Maps for Genealogy
Arlington Hardware
Country Rose
Co-op Supply
La Hacienda
Janelle's Jewelry Fragrances
Rocket Alley Bar & Grill
Community Thrift Store
The Silver Hanger
Vintage Rustoration
Costco-Marysville
Genealogical.com
Iron Gate Publishing–Dina C. Carson
Ancestry.com
Heritage Place Books
Familychartmasters.com – Genealogy Chart Printing Service
Cascade Valley Hospital and Clinics–Emergency
GenerationsDetective.com
Arkivdigital.net
Familytrees.fmscreative.com
Treesbyrie.com – Trees By Rie
Kinpoint.com



Comments overheard at NW Genealogy Conference:

"The Research Board was great. I found a cousin who is attending and we didn't even know we were cousins until today."

"I can't afford to go to conferences in other places. This conference gives me the opportunity to hear great speakers and connect with others who are looking for their families."

"There is so much to take in!! My brain is on overload but the syllabus will help me to remember. You did a great job on it this year."

"I didn't think I was interested in DNA until I heard CeCe. I am now going to have a test. "

"Next year can you provide time for us to share and discuss brickwalls?"

"You are going to do this again next year, aren't you?!!!! "





Did you find any ancestors? ... Can you find yourself?

Looking For Clues In Unexpected Places

By Leilani Lucrisia

The Northwest Genealogy Conference was a great success. It was exciting to see how many people came to our city to learn about researching their family genealogies from so many renowned speakers. It is difficult to determine which speaker helped me the most, but one speaker, Janice M. Sellers, who taught, “Looking for Non-Jews in Jewish Records (or, “That’s funny, you don’t look Jewish...”),” presented information on sites I would never have dreamed to frequent for my non-Jewish ancestors.

If you have relatives that come from Eastern Europe, Latvia, Belarus, Lithuania, Germany, Poland, Austria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania/Moldova, Ukraine, Syria, Israel, Scandinavia, United Kingdom, Israel, South Africa, and even the United States and Canada, you may find information provided by Janice Sellers that you’ve never encountered before.

The most popular site for Jewish research is www.JewishGen.org. This website is packed with databases that you can research such as vital records, voter lists, directories, censuses, property tax lists, maps, etc. If you want to know about a town or country your ancestors lived in, check out the Town Finder or Communities database on this site. What’s great is that you can search for a town name by the modern, interwar, or pre-WWI country which makes life so much easier for those of us not experts in geography. Many will also benefit from the Ellis Island database created by Dr. Stephen Morse. His



One-Step Research Tools provides enhanced search capabilities for easier access to data on www.libertyellisfoundation.org/.

I have to admit that I never knew much about groups considered “undesirable” like the Jews in Nazi Germany during World War II. Catholics, Gypsies, homosexuals, political dissidents, Jehovah’s Witnesses, Poles and others, were also rounded up, sent to concentration camps and killed. The International Tracing Service was organized to search for non-Germans and others. They have created a database containing name lists available only at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. If interested, you have to make a road trip to Washington D.C. Go to www.ushmm.org for more information.

For those of you who are researching ancestors who lived in New York City, you’ll want to take a look at www.museumoffamilyhistory.com/. While on this site go directly to the Education and Research tab found at the top of the page. You’ll find historical maps and information that will undoubtedly enhance your research.



When is it okay to walk up to a stranger and say to her "Hi Cousin"?

Well, at a Genealogical Conference it's when you find out her last name is "Cote".

Larry Taylor has a Great Grandfather named Napoleon Cote. Marianne Cote was a participant at this year's 2015 conference and Larry had seen her name on the meal list. So when she came to the registration desk and asked for the name tag for Cote, Larry jumped up and approached with his hand out for a handshake, informing Marianne of who his Great Grandfather was! Marianne's response was, "I have a Napoleon Cote on my family tree. Glad to meet you, Cousin!" — *Larry Taylor*

In Other News from the StillyGen:

Events in July included our **Annual BBQ** and potluck. We were blessed with a warm day and well-prepared hot dogs and hamburgers. It was great for some of us newer members to get to know some of the "older" members. (Nothing to do with age here.) We also introduced a new recycling method.

We borrowed new recycling bins from the City of Everett — they

Ruth demonstrating the recycling system





have a new lending program for recycling, composting, and garbage bins. The bins were easy to put together and take down. We'll look to using this method at future potlucks and get-togethers.

Potluck salads and desserts



Eagerly awaiting the burgers at the Summer BBQ

More Advertising – This time in the Heritage Bank Lobby

Larry Taylor secured yet another place to advertise the Conference, in of all places, the lobby of the Heritage Bank in Smokey Point. It seems the bank decided to lend a counter to local businesses as a place to advertise. With the Conference coming up, we were able to advertise for the month of July.





Working the booth at the Arlington Street Fair in July

Selling books, promoting our projects, always the helpful, smiling volunteers!

Helpful Information on the Genealogy Front:

The Open Library as a Genealogical Resource

From The Fiske Genealogical Foundation, Contributed by Gary Zimmerman

Many family history researchers have learned to use the Internet Archive (www.archive.org) but few have discovered the Open Library (www.openlibrary.org). This is a resource that allows you to check out or “download” digitized books for a finite period, then the file disappears from your computer and someone else can borrow the same book.

The Open Library began with the idea of having a single page for every title published and links to where that book could be found. As more libraries began to digitize their collection, the possibility of temporary access to those digital books became a reality. Local regional library systems have been using that approach for their own customers for a number of years, but the idea of directly borrowing a book from a library across the country is a new concept.

The Open Library now offers over 250,000 eBooks for temporary borrowing or “checking out.” Of course, they already offer over 1,000,000 free e-books by linking you to places like the Internet Archive.

When you download a book for a specific time interval, the commonly used Adobe Reader will not work for the loaned book. Adobe Reader doesn’t handle the fixed time loan of a digital file. You need



to use an Adobe Digital Reader, a different program, but it will hold the book for the specified time interval and then remove the file from your computer.

The lending library sets the ground rules on how long you can have the file before it expires. For some libraries, the loan time is three weeks, for some it is only two weeks. The Open Library aspires to having one webpage for every book ever published. The information on many of the “pages” is still sketchy, so if you have access to a book, you are invited to add additional details to the Open Library page for that book. Explore what is available at the Open Library and supplement the available information from your own collection. Someone will be grateful for your contribution!

Book Reports – New Book Hot Off the Press !

Our Pioneer Ancestors has a new look. The newly revised edition is full of stories of European settlers in the area, and follows the family lines from the 1880's to 1997. This is a good read, in addition to being a valuable genealogical resource.



The *Early Stillaguamish Valley Schools* is in the process of being edited for a second printing. The book is a compilation of schools, starting as early as 1872, and is chock full of names, dates, pictures, inventories and stories. You may find your ancestors here.

The editors of the "School Book" need more information though. They need copies of the *Snohomish Trail* from Arlington High for these years: 1931, 1934, 1938, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1960, 1968, 1972, 1973, 1974 and 1975. If you have a copy, please contact Sue Walde at suewalde@aol.com.

These books will be available for sale at the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society library. Contact info@stillygen.org to order your copy.

Wanted by Publications Committee:

Information or photos of:

- Grandview area school
- Anne Brownlee Bowers – teacher
- Gerrit Kroeze – photo as a youngster
- Any school photos in the Arlington area
- Copies of the *Snohomish Trail*, from Arlington High for these years: 1931, 1934, 1938, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1960, 1968, 1972, 1973, 1974 and 1975.

Please contact Helen or Sue at:

Phone: 360-435-4838

Email: publications@stillygen.org



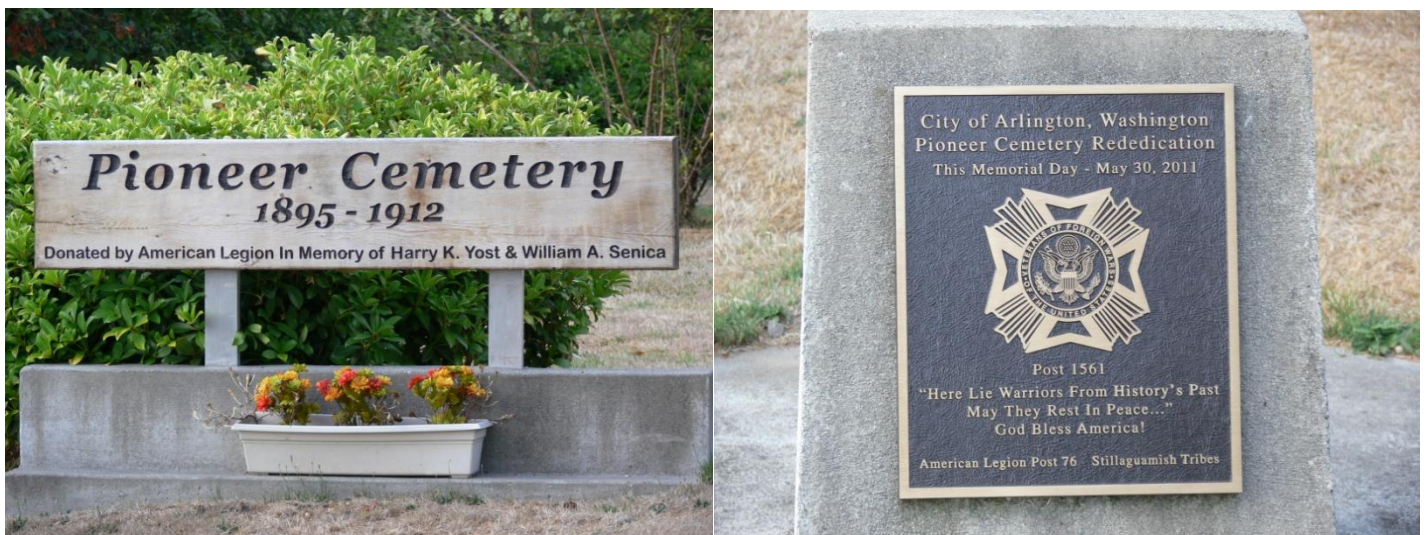
Report From the Tombstone Project:

What on earth did they really do to the Pioneer Cemetery?

By Larry Taylor

We have a listing of about forty individuals who were buried in the Arlington Pioneer Cemetery. These graves are not locatable. Yes, we have listed them at the current Arlington Cemetery on Find a Grave, but they are not there in reality.

It has been written that John Grant is the only one left at the Pioneer Cemetery because his family did not allow him to be moved. John Grant died on Jan 17, 1899. On his son's Stacy's obituary (Oct 1900) it states that Stacy in 1900 was laid to rest: *"and laid to rest in the family lot by the side of a father and sister."* Does it seem logical that John Grant's son and daughter were allowed to be moved, but not the father? So they must still be there in what we call the Arlington Pioneer Cemetery.



I've come across another citation in our Library "The bodies from the Pioneer Cemetery were placed into Lot 4 of the Harwood Cemetery." Lot 4 is only a half-lot and holds only six bodies. I have never been able to get 40 to go into 6 without ending up with those pesky fractions. Our findings are that none of the interments in lot 4 have come from the Pioneer Cemetery. They do not match the names on our list.

We have heard from many members that there were trees in the Pioneer Cemetery as late as the 1970s, or 1980s. When the trees were cut, the stumps removed the four to six remaining headstones also were pushed over the side of the hill and buried. Today as I enter the Pioneer Cemetery and walk north past John Grant's grave, I see off to my left an obvious base for a headstone. Why did they do that? Who owned the property?



My original involvement was to find out where is Dr. Benjamin Fulton. He is one of our Pioneers and came to this community in 1883. He died while working in his garden three miles out of town towards Darrington, in 1895. He was one of the first interments in the Arlington (Pioneer) Cemetery. From what I have been able to find, I believe he is still in our Arlington Pioneer Cemetery.

We have been told that the owners of the Pioneer Cemetery were moving the bodies. When I read something like that I think that the owners were paying the bill to have those interred moved. Then I come across this statement from the daughter of Claude Grant, son of John Grant, *“Had to pay for removal to new cemetery—Dad said no, he was not paying to have him moved.”* Him being his dad, Claude Grant. What about his brother Stacy and sister that must have died before 1900?

I love puzzles, and Genealogy is the ultimate puzzle. If you know anything, please write it down, date it and put your name on it. I would like to solve this puzzle. Will the Tombstone Project somewhere down the road of time place 40 headstones in the Pioneer Cemetery? Our mission is to do that sort of thing. I think we do. Not in the budget for this year, but maybe down the road it will be, if we can have your help and gather enough evidence.



AFTER WE RECEIVED the previous article from Larry Taylor, he sent a follow-up note. In the interim he had a conversation with Ruth Yost, the wife of Harry Yost.

Mrs. Yost related that the high school kids of the 70's and 80's extensively vandalized the Pioneer Cemetery. Even the headstone of John Grant was pulled out of the ground and was lying flat. In 1989 for the State's Centennial celebration, the community cut the trees, burned the brush, and removed the stumps. The headstones were pushed aside and never remounted onto their bases. Only John Grant's headstone remained upright in its proper position.



Many Blessings, please contact me at: tombstoneproject@stillygen.org.

—Reverend Larry, Chair of the Tombstone Project.



Join us at for our Monthly Meeting:

How to use the

Overlay Historic Mapping Tool of Snohomish County Maps

by

Fred Cruger

Touring the Mapping Tool

By Flynn Clarke Kennedy

Join us on September 8 at 1:00 p.m. for a tour of the Snohomish County Mapping Tool created by Fred Cruger and the folks at the Granite Falls Historical Museum. Fred will walk us through the basics of how to use the Mapping Tool that we have at the SVGS library. He will describe how to overlay an historic map and a present-day map to find genealogical treasure. He'll show us how to trace a family's Snohomish County Land holdings from its Homesteading days through the present day. The Mapping Tool is a great resource for members and volunteers alike! See you at:

The Arlington Free Methodist Church

730 E. Highland Drive, Arlington, WA

Events of Interest to Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society

September 8, 2015

Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, 1:00 pm

Location:

*Arlington Free Methodist Church
730 E. Highland Drive, Arlington*

Join us at our Monthly Meeting for a Mapping Tool Tour!

Learn the basics of the Snohomish County Mapping Tool. Fred Cruger and the folks at the Granite Falls Historical Museum have put together a tour so you can use this great tool. SVGS has one of these at the library.

September 19, 2015

Saturday, 8:00 am–4:00 pm

Location:

*1401 Cleveland Street
Mount Vernon, WA*

Skagit Valley Genealogical Society Annual Seminar

"Genealogy – It's All About Life"

Speakers Mary Kathryn Kozy and Jill Morelli

Mount Vernon Senior Center, Mount Vernon, WA

Details at: [skagitvalleygenealogy.org/seminar 2015/](http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org/seminar_2015/)



September 26, 2015

Saturday 9:00 am–4:00 pm

Free Day at the Conference

Location:

St James Presbyterian Church

1910 14th St

Bellingham, WA

Whatcom Genealogical Society Fall Seminar

Speakers Jill Morelli and Jim Johnson

Jim Johnson: "Finding and Using Your Ancestors' Church Records"

Jill Morelli: The "Push" and the "Pull"; Decision Making of the 19th Century Emigrant – Explore the myths and the facts surrounding emigration decision-making

Details at:

wagenweb.org/whatcom/WGS/2015%20Seminar%20Registration.pdf

October 3, 2015

Tuesday, 10:00 am-10:00 pm

Location:

Downtown

Arlington, WA

Viking Festival & Pub Tour

Swedish Pancake Breakfast - Kjott Brod Pizza eating Contest - Lots of fun and games and contests.

We'll have a booth for the day!

Visit businesses and pub establishments for chances to win prizes!

October 13, 2015

Tuesday, 1:00 pm

Location:

Arlington Free Methodist Church

730 E. Highland Drive, Arlington

Join us at our Monthly Meeting !

We will have what will turn out to be an informative and entertaining topic. We'll announce what it will be in an email reminder close to the event. Watch for it.

October 17–18, 2015

Saturday, Sunday

9:00 am–10:00 pm

Location:

Nordic Heritage Museum

3014 NW 67th St

Seattle, WA 98117

Seattle Genealogical Society Fall Seminar

Some of the Topics include:

Can a Complex Research Problem be Solved Solely Online?

Five Ways to Prove Who Your Ancestor Was

Plus much much more!

<http://seattlegenealogicalsociety.org/content/seminars>