



Stillaguamish Star

The Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society
Newsletter

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Register Now

We are pleased that registrations for The Northwest Genealogy Conference 2015 that began on April 15th are well underway. The conference will take place on August 13, 14 and 15 and we are offering a special “free” day on August 12th for those who want to attend beginning genealogy classes. This is the first time so many nationally and internationally renowned speakers will gather at the same conference in the Pacific Northwest so don’t miss out. Register early to ensure you secure a spot at this amazing conference.

Go to www.nwgc.org to register for the conference and to view speaker bios and class offerings. At this website you will:

- Register for the free beginning genealogy classes on August 12th. Seating is limited so you should register quickly to get a spot.
- Register for the entire 3 day conference (August 13, 14 and 15)
- Register for only one day of the conference.

If you register by June 30th, you are eligible to receive an “early bird” discount. Register after June 30th and you pay full price.

We look forward to seeing you at the conference and make sure you come prepared to peruse all the cool stuff our vendors have to offer.



It's May...And Time For Board Member Annual Reports, Elections and Potluck



Ruth Caesar
SVGS President

It's hard to believe that I have been the President of the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society for four years now. There have been many exciting activities and projects during this last year with several new

members volunteering to take active roles taking on these new tasks. Our bi-monthly newsletters have covered much of this thanks to Leilani Lucrisia's efforts writing informative articles for our newsletters so I won't try to address it all here but I'll just give you a few highlights.

It is with the greatest sincerity that I would like to thank the City of Arlington as well as Snohomish County for their financial support for our Northwest Genealogy Conferences. The funding from the Hotel/Motel grants helped to make the 2014 conference the most successful in State history bringing many people here from great distances. We are looking forward to our 2015 Northwest Genealogy Conference being even more successful with not one but many nationally and internationally recognized genealogy superstars speaking at our event in August. See www.nwgc.org for all the incredible details.

Our society is growing and our many new members are making new friends and finding their place in our society by contributing in so many ways. One member has donated stacks of envelopes to help us defray our mailing costs to members, another has taken on the upkeep of our library's flower beds and still another has pitched in to help with photo editing of our upcoming publication. She is also assisting with many other projects and tasks our society needs help with. The skills you have might be just what our society needs...could you lend a hand with something too? What is/was your profession? Might it be beneficial to our society? Are you interested in learning something new? Send an email to info@stillygen.org or give us a call at 360.435.4838 and let us know.

Our needs are expanding as is our society, this is what you might call growing pains. With no consistent revenue source we are constantly in search of ways to finance our needs. I have been advised of a building near the Arlington Airport that might be a good fit for us, but it would require remodeling. But,

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SVGS President Continued:

finding and securing funding for this will create a delay. Can you help us find a new home, or contribute to our “building fund”? If so, please contact us to discuss the possibilities. Owning our own building is a dream for our society and with this year being the society’s 30th year in operation the time is right to pursue this dream. Please take the time to read through all the reports that follow. Our committees have been hard at work making SVGS a notable thriving organization in our community as well as on a national level. Only with the efforts of our board members and our city and county support have we come this far. I’m grateful to them all and I thank all of you for your continued support.



Steve Baylor
Vice President of the Library

Our library has been a beehive of activity throughout the last year. As a growing society we have some activity going on in our cozy environs almost every day of the week. This would not be possible without a dedicated staff of volunteer librarians and assistants who are there to help patrons with their family history research. Thank you to everyone who keeps us moving forward.

I am pleased with the new assistant librarian program. It is important we try to have at least two people on staff any time our library is open. Not only are our librarians safer when they are not alone, they also have help when they have more than one patron to assist. The assistants are busy learning the aspects of our library and a couple have already moved from being an assistant to a librarian. Our librarian staff includes Kay Crabtree, Ellie Davis, Helen Eliason, LeeRoy Kind, Joanne Wetmore, Michele Cozad, Ruth Caesar, Shirley Case, and Flynn Kennedy. Library assistants include Rocky Lamb, Mary Buzzell, Erica Madsen, Dee Saunders, and Marietta Roth. The door is always open to any member who would like to serve as an assistant. It’s a great way to learn what our library has to offer.

Although we are cramped for space we continue to add media to our holdings. We added 124 items in the 2014 calendar year and have already acquired 50 this year. It is my hope that our microform collection will be fully sorted and searchable online by the end of this year.

Our library board meets about three times each year to discuss how we are serving our patrons. Board members include Kay Crabtree, Mary Buzzell, Sue Walde, Flynn Kennedy, Shirley Case, and Michele Cozad. Our President, Ruth Caesar, also serves as an ex officio member. The board is responsible for establishing library policy and procedures. We are also responsible for keeping our library maintained both inside and out.

We offered librarian training opportunities three different times this past year. During training sessions we concentrate on how different aspects of our library function and how our collection is best utilized.

When we learned our facility would need to move from our home at 215 S. French our society board immediately began thinking about the future. In January I compiled a summary of what a dream facility might look like. This report included needs for library shelf space, an education area, reading room, rest rooms, office space for our society officers, a kitchen, a media center, and adequate storage. It would also be nice to have a multi-purpose area large enough to host our monthly meeting and potluck gatherings. The bottom line was that we need a facility about three times larger than what we have now. I hope you are all dreaming big with me. Together we can make it happen.



Larry Taylor
Treasurer

"There are many ways to become a failure, but never taking a chance is the most successful."

Treasurer Report: We have taken some chances and we have seen the Society double in the bank account this last year. The ground work has been laid to see another doubling this next year. We have prospered and continue so during a declining economy. Our membership has expanded and now covers the State of Washington and even a few beyond our borders. We are looking for a new home for our library. I have suggested to our Society to pursue our dreams. This next year will be an exciting time as we watch to see if our dreams manifest and come true. Our Finances certainly appear to give us a foundation to take a chance to follow those dreams. I choose to be here. This has been fun.

Tombstone Project: I have never been involved with something that has had so much overwhelming support. Everyone has a story to share. This goes beyond a passing interest and touches everyone at the emotional levels. The newspapers are picking up the story. Like the Conference, the Tombstone Project is unique in not only the State of Washington, but possible also the Nation. We are making a difference. This too has been fun.

Budget Report: Organizations either grow or die. Our Society is alive, well and healthy. The budget reflects many dreams. It is the culmination of The Conference, The Tombstone, The Library, The Publishing, The Grants and all of the other Committee's dreams for the fiscal year June 1, 2015 to May 31, 2016. It reflects a modern building of which we can call home. It includes educating hundreds of our friends and neighbors in Genealogy with the Conference. It also preserves history and gives us a more viable record in our cemeteries and expands our beloved Library. It may feel like we are biting off more than we can chew? But I suggest, what if we get halfway there? Would that not be reason enough to party next year, knowing the other half is certainly more reachable? Ahhhh, A Quest Worth Pursuing!



Karen Stroschein
Publicity Chair

My duties as the Manager of the Northwest Genealogy Conference have been my main focus and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Shirley Case and Kay Crabtree for stepping up and helping me out with my duties as Publicity Chair by placing our society activities information in local publications such as The Cow Tipper and updated our society website.



Helen Eliason & Sue Walde Publishing Committee

This past year we have been working on the revised edition of the Early Stillaguamish Valley schools. This book is over three hundred pages and contains a lot of history, stories, pictures and lists of school children. We hope to be able to print it in August or soon after.

The book covers over 20 rural school districts that eventually consolidated with the Arlington school district. Each school district had its own unique story; some humorous, some tragic. The book reveals stories about school districts and/or schools such as Halterman's Spur, Fertile Acres and Lone Rock that many long-time Arlington folks have never heard of.

The history about each school district has been added including some first-hand accounts. One pupil shares a heart-warming story about her teacher who was an inspiration to her. A teacher shares how she taught four grades at once and juggled lessons all day long. A young boy tells about a nasty prank that was played on his teacher.

The biggest challenge has been uncovering the history of the schools. Several trips to NW Archives has revealed conflicting information in official school records. Much of the history has already been lost.

Later this month, a draft of the Early Schools book will undergo a review process. Next, the important task of indexing the hundreds of names of teachers, students, school clerks, parents, etc. will begin. Volunteers with Excel skills are needed. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the Publications Committee by Tuesday, May 19th.



Do you know who the teacher and children are in the above picture? If you do, please contact Helen or Sue.

Wanted by Publications Committee:

Volunteers with Excel skills – to index the book

Information or photos of:

- Grandview area school
- Anne Brownlee Bowers – teacher
- Gerrit Kroeze – photo as a youngster
- Any school photos in the Arlington area

Please contact Helen or Sue at:

Phone: 360-435-4838

Email: publications@stillygen.org



Joanne Hoidal Wetmore
Membership Chair & Nomination Chair

As Membership Chair I have had a wonderful year. With the Society's new website, it has actually lighten the workload. All I have to do is enter new members and any changes members send to the Society. The membership site keeps a membership tally and notifies members when the annual fees are due. This has all taken time to learn and get used to, there is still so much more to learn. I hope all our members are using the Society's website to learn more about what is going on within the walls of the library plus there is an abundance of information.

The Nomination Committee is always hopeful that someone in the membership would be interested to take on the challenge of one of the offices that come up for election on either the odd or even year. As of now no one has shown an interest in volunteering for President or Secretary. We always remain hopeful. I think sometimes people are not quite sure of what all is involved in holding an office so hesitate to throw their hat in the ring. But there is wonderful help within the Society to help things run smoothly.

Standing Rules

It's time to review our Standing Rules. See page 14 – 19. Please take a look at them and let us know if you have questions, comments, concerns, additional information, or think something should be revised or deleted. E-mail Ruth Caesar with your comment at info@stillygen.org.



May 12, 2015 Annual Meeting – Elections and Potluck

Our monthly meeting this month on May 12th at **noon** is a business meeting where committee members will report and elections for society positions will be conducted. This will take place at Arlington Free Methodist Church, 730 East Highland Drive, Arlington, WA.

To make things fun, we are also having a potluck where we have a chance to eat great food and to socialize. Please bring a favorite entrée, side dish or dessert to share.

The meeting and potluck are free of charge and open to Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society members and to the general public.



The Northwest Genealogy Conference 2015 Speakers

The biggest dilemma you'll have this year at our conference is picking a class to attend. We know this will be difficult so we are having open seating where you do not sign up for a class in advance. You simply grab an available seat at the class you wish to attend. This gives you the option to preplan your day or to decide on the spot. Some of our all-star line-up of speakers are highlighted below. We'll feature more amazing speakers in our next newsletter. This is just a sneak peak. If you want more information, you'll find it at www.nwgc.org.



Linda Harms Okazaki

Course: Finding Japanese Roots in the U.S. and in Japan,
Thursday, August 13th

Linda is a fourth-generation San Franciscan who has lived most of her life in California. She is a member of the [Association of Professional Genealogists](#), the [Genealogical Speakers Guild](#), the [National Genealogical Society](#), and the [Daughters of the American Revolution](#). She is 2012 graduate of the [National Institute for Genealogical Research](#), several sessions of the [Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy](#) and is currently participating in [ProGen 22](#). Linda has been researching her husband's ancestry for the past several years, documenting his family in the internment camps and in Japan and is passionate about researching, documenting, teaching, and sharing the stories of Japanese Americans.



Angie Bush

Courses: Genealogical Assumptions – Friend or Foe,
Thursday, August 13
Ethical Considerations for Genealogists, Friday, August 14
DNA and the GPS, Friday, August 14

Angie is the Director of Region 1 for the [National Genealogical Society](#). She is a professional genetic genealogist and has been researching her own family since she was 8 years old. Angie is a member of the [Association of Professional Genealogists](#) (APG), the [Utah Genealogical Association](#) (UGA) and the [International Society of Genetic Genealogists](#) (ISOGG). She is a moderator on the [ISOGG FaceBook](#) page and co-moderates the [DNA Newbie](#) board. Angie has helped many adoptees to find their biological family through autosomal DNA testing, and is particularly focused on using DNA as a genealogical record to reconstruct relationships and break down brick walls – whether they are recent or several hundred years old.



Lisa Louise Cooke

Courses: **Evernote Extravaganza for Genealogists: Laying the Foundation**, *Thursday, August 13*
Evernote Extravaganza for Genealogists: (Part 2) Advanced Strategies, *Thursday, August 13*
How to Turn Your iPad or Tablet into a Genealogy Powerhouse, *Friday, August 14*

Lisa is the owner of [Genealogy Gems](#), a genealogy and family history multi-media company. She is producer and host of the *Genealogy Gems Podcast*, the popular online genealogy audio show. Her podcasts episodes bring genealogy news, research strategies, expert interviews and inspiration to genealogists around the world. She is the author of four books and is the producer of the video series *Google Earth for Genealogy* and over 70 videos at the [Genealogy Gems YouTube Channel](#). Lisa is a sought after international and keynote genealogy speaker having regularly appeared at *Who Do You Think You Are? Live* in London and [RootsTech](#) in Salt Lake City.



Luana Darby

Courses: **The Tax Man Cometh – Using Tax Records to Solve Missing Ancestor Dilemmas**, *Thursday, August 13*
The Librarian Knows Where It's At – Online Archives & Libraries, *Thursday, August 13*
DNA Project Groups- Helping You Get Closer to Finding the Needle in a Haystack, *Friday, August 14*

One of our most popular speakers last year, Luana Darby is a professional genealogist and lecturer based in Salt Lake City. She is the owner of [Lineages by Luana](#), a genealogical research company which focuses on US/Canada and Western European research. She has lectured at various regional and national genealogical conferences which include [NGS](#), [RootsTech](#), [UGA](#), [BYU](#) and [ICAPGen](#). She has served as president, vice president and treasurer of the [Utah Genealogical Association](#), serves on the committee for the [Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy](#), and currently serves on the board of the [Association of Professional Genealogists](#).



Cyndi Ingle

Courses: **Advanced Googling for Your Grandma**, *Thursday, August 13*
Plotting, Scheming and Mapping Online, *Thursday, August 13*
Foreign Language Tools for English-Speaking Genealogists,
Friday, August 14

Cyndi, a genealogist for more than 35 years, is a past-member of the board of directors for the [National Genealogical Society](#). She is an internationally known guest lecturer for various genealogical society meetings and seminars. Cyndi has authored numerous articles and three books. She is the creator, owner and “webmaster” of the award-winning web site [Cyndi’s List](#) of Genealogy Sites on the Internet, a categorized index to more than 335,000 online resources. It receives more than 3.2 million visits each month and has been featured in the media and diverse publications, including USA Today, Time, Newsweek, Parade Magazine, Wired, Yahoo! Internet Life, Family Chronicle, and Home PC magazines. Cyndi has been interviewed for many television and radio broadcasts including ABC News, NBC News, the BBC, and National Public Radio. She has also participated in the Ancestors II television series on PBS.



Steven W. Morrison

Course: **Peopling the British Isles – Genetic Origins of Ireland, Wales, Scotland, and England**, *Friday, August 14*

Steven was a very popular speaker at last year’s conference. He has been a professional genealogist since 2006. He is a past president of the [Olympia Genealogy Society](#), and has served multiple positions on the board of the [Puget Sound chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists](#). He is also a member of other local and national genealogical societies. Steven has attended eight genealogical institutes taught by the [Institute of Genealogy & Historical Research](#) (IGHR), the [Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy](#) (SLIG), and the [British Institute](#) (BI) at Salt Lake City. He is an author and began by self-publishing a remembrance of his grandmother Waltz in the late 1990’s. The book is now part of a millennium time capsule on the Washington State Capitol Campus, and is in the collection at the Family History Library in Salt Lake. Steven has written articles for the journal of the Ulster Historical Foundation, *Journal of Scotch-Irish Studies*, *Directory of Irish Family History Research*, and the *Association of Professional Genealogists Quarterly*. He has been an active genealogical presenter throughout the Northwest. He makes time to speak at local society meetings in addition to major presentations at more than two dozen conferences and seminars. In 2007 Steven presented at the [Family History & Genealogical Conference](#) at Provo, Utah and in 2012 he addressed an international audience in Omagh, Northern Ireland.

**Cari Taplin**

Courses: **An Obituary Obsession: Finding and Analyzing Obituaries for Successful Research**, *Friday, August 14*
The Heart of it All: From New England to Ohio, A Case Study, *Friday, August 14*
The Most Prominent Citizens: Using County Histories to Enrich Your Research, *Saturday, August 15*

Cari CGSM has been working on finding her true heritage since the year 2000. She is a native of Wood County, Ohio but migrated to Wyoming, Colorado and now Pflugerville, Texas which is just outside of Austin. She is a past President of the [Boulder Genealogical Society](#), and has been a speaker to local and state societies since 2004. She is the owner of [GenealogyPANTS](#), providing speaking, research and consultation services. She has had articles published in the Boulder Genealogical Society Quarterly, Digital Genealogist and the [National Genealogical Society Magazine](#). She is a graduate of the [National Genealogical Society's Home Study Course](#) and [ProGen 16](#). She is the 2013 recipient of the Walter Lee Sheppard, Jr. Prize from [IGHR](#), Course 4, Advanced Methodology.

**Elissa Scalise Powell**

Courses: **Baker's Dozen Steps to Writing Research Reports**, *Friday, August 14*
Bridging the Decades: Little-Used Clues From the Census, *Saturday, August 15*
What's a Prothonotary?: Pennsylvania's Courthouse Records, *Saturday, August 15*

Elissa CGSM, CGLSM has been doing genealogical research for 30 years and professionally for over 25 years. Board-certified since 1995 by the [Board for Certification of Genealogists](#) (BCG) she is one of a handful of certified associates residing in the state of Pennsylvania and has been certified the longest. She has been a Trustee for the Board for Certification of Genealogists since 2006 and is their immediate past-president. In 2008 she was asked to help create a [video presentation](#) about certification available for download on the [BCG website](#).

Elissa is the co-director of [Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh](#) (GRIP) which began in July 2012 offering four week-long courses for all experience levels and has expanded to offering twelve courses in two separate weeks in the summer of 2015. She is also the Professional Genealogy course coordinator at the [Institute for Genealogy and Historical Research](#) held in June at Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama and an instructor in the [Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy](#) held in January in Salt Lake City, Utah. In [Boston University's Genealogical Research Certificate](#) online course she is the Professional Genealogy module instructor. She also lectures both nationally and regionally. In May 2010, the [National Genealogical Society's](#) President's Citation was bestowed on her for recognition of outstanding, continuing, or unusual contributions to the field of genealogy.



CeCe Moore

Blog: [Your Genetic Genealogist](#)

Courses: **Stories From Finding Your Roots**, Friday, August 15
I Have My DNA Results, Now What?, Friday, August 15
Who Am I? Ethnicity Estimates, Friday, August 15
Autosomal DNA and Chromosome Mapping: Discovering Your Ancestors in You, Friday, August 15

CeCe is a full time professional genetic genealogist who is considered an innovator in the use of [autosomal DNA](#) for genealogy. Currently, she is working as the genetic genealogy consultant and scriptwriter for season three of “[Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates, Jr.](#)” and recently completed work as the DNA consultant for season two of “[Genealogy Roadshow](#).” She also works extensively with individuals of unknown parentage to help them learn about their genealogy through DNA, often reuniting them with biological family members. She is the co-administrator of the “[Adopted DNA](#)” and “Unknown Fathers DNA” projects at [Family Tree DNA](#) and writes the blog “[Adoption and DNA](#).”



Judy Russell

Blog: [The Legal Genealogist](#)

Courses: **That First Trip to the Courthouse**, Saturday, August 15
Order In the Court: Using Court Records in Genealogical Research, Saturday, August 15
Where There Is- or Isn't – a Will, Saturday, August 15

The Legal Genealogist Judy G Russell JD, CGsm, CGLsm is a genealogist with a law degree. She writes, teaches and lectures on a wide variety of genealogical topics, ranging from using court records in family history to understanding DNA testing.

A Colorado native with roots deep in the American south on her mother's side and entirely in Germany on her father's side, she is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, the National Genealogical Society and numerous state and regional genealogical societies. She has written for the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* and *National Genealogical Society Magazine*, among other publications. Judy is on the faculty of the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research in Alabama, the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy, the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh and Boston University's Center for Professional Education. She is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Board for Certification of Genealogists, from which she holds credentials as a Certified Genealogistsm and Certified Genealogical Lecturersm.

**Angela Packer McGhie***Blog: [Genealogy Education.blogspot](http://GenealogyEducation.blogspot)***Courses: Read All About Your Ancestors by Locating Historic Newspapers,**

Thursday, August 13

Creating an Effective Research Plan, Thursday, August 13**Mining for Family History in Federal Land Records,**

Thursday, August 13

Exploring the FamilySearch Wiki, Thursday, August 13

Angela Packer McGhie is a professional genealogical researcher, lecturer and instructor. She is the coordinator for the Intermediate Genealogy course at the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR) at Samford University, and the coordinator for the Advanced Evidence Analysis Practicum at the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy. Angela served for six years as the administrator of the ProGen Study Program managing online groups studying Professional Genealogy, and this year transitioned to a position on their board of directors. She has presented lectures at local, regional and national conferences and has been an instructor at National Institute on Genealogical Research, the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh, and Howard Community College. She completed the NGS American Genealogy course and has attended each of the four major genealogical institutes. Angela completed the advanced genealogical methods courses at both the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research and the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy. Angela has served on the education committee of the Association of Professional Genealogists (APG) and is the past president of the National Capital Area Chapter of APG. She is a contributing author for the APG Quarterly and in 2010 was honored with a formal certificate of appreciation from the Association of Professional Genealogists for her leadership and service.

Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society Events

May 12, 2015 Tuesday, Noon – 3:00 pm Presentation and Meeting Location: Arlington Free Methodist Church 730 East Highland Drive Arlington, WA	May 2015 Annual Meeting – Elections and Potluck This is a business meeting where committee members will report and elections for society positions will be conducted. Everyone is encouraged to bring a favorite entrée, side dish or dessert to share. Meeting and potluck are free of charge and open to Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society members and to the general public. 
June 9, 2015 Tuesday, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Presentation and Meeting Location: Arlington Free Methodist Church 730 East Highland Drive Arlington, WA	June 2015 Presentation and General Meeting Presentation by: <i>Lou Daly</i> Subject: <i>Family Search Family Tree</i> Learn about the actual database of family trees that people have entered in a Wiki format. Presentation is free of charge and is open to Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society members and to the general public.
• July 2015 – BBQ at the SVGS library • August 2015 – Northwest Genealogy Conference at the Byrnes Performing Arts Center • September 2015 – November 2015 to be determined	



Northwest Genealogy Conference, Washington State Genealogical Society Conference and Local Seminars

We are fortunate to have so many opportunities to learn about genealogy research from excellent and knowledgeable speakers. Here are a few terrific conferences and seminars you won't want to miss:

Saturday, May 9

Seattle Genealogical Society Spring Seminar

“Who’s Your Daddy? Researching Your Family History in the Mid-south States”

Speaker C. Lynn Anderson

Greenwood Senior Center- 525 N. 85th Street, Seattle, WA

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

Walk-in registrations are welcome

Friday and Saturday June 26 & June 27

Washington State Genealogical Society Annual Conference

“Strategies and Visions for the Future, with David Rencher

Speaker David Rencher

Quality Inn and Conference Center, Ellensburg, WA

Details at: http://www.wasgs.org/upload/menu/Conference_Brochure.pdf

Wednesday, August 12 – Free beginning genealogy classes for those who have registered - limited seating

Instructors: Winona Laird and Janet Camarata

Thursday, Friday and Saturday. August 13, 14, and 15

Speakers Angela Packer McGhie, CeCe Moore, Judy Russell and many more

Northwest Genealogy Conference 2015

Hosted by: Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society

Byrnes Performing Arts Center

18821 Crown Ridge Blvd, Arlington, WA 98223

Saturday, September 19

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: http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org/seminar_2015/

Saturday, September 26

Whatcom Genealogical Society Fall Seminar

Speakers Jill Morelli and Jim Johnson

St James Presbyterian Church, Bellingham, WA



Standing Rules

Revised May 2015

SVGS Standing Rules in PDF format

Article 1 – Administration

1.01 The library shall be open during the following hours:

Tuesdays 12-4

Thursdays 10-4

Saturdays 10-2

1.02 Holiday closures shall be posted in a timely manner.

1.03 The Society shall maintain a post office box.

1.04 The Society shall maintain membership in the Washington State Genealogical Society.

1.05 As a non-profit organization, the Treasurer or librarians shall issue a tax-exempt receipt upon request for any donation of moneys or properties to the Society. Donor shall indicate the value of said donations as appropriate. The Treasurer or the librarian shall sign the receipt; amounts exceeding \$250 must be signed by President or Treasurer.

1.06 Media donated to the library shall be documented in the online library catalog database.

1.07 Media loaned to the library shall be for a period not to exceed five years and have the owner's name and date inside the front cover or other appropriate place. The On Loan Media Agreement form found in the Librarian's Manual shall be completed. This information shall be documented in the online library catalog. Such media shall be returned in a timely fashion to the owner upon request within the five year period. Unclaimed on loan media becomes Society property after five years.

1.08 The Society membership list shall not be distributed or sold for commercial purposes and shall not be used for any reason other than Society business.

1.09 The Society Secretary shall check the Society's email at least weekly and forward emails to the appropriate person if they cannot handle the request immediately. If they are not able to forward the email or handle it, the Secretary will contact the VP of the Library by phone or email.

1.10 The VP of the Library will distribute keys to the facility to elected officers as deemed appropriate at the direction of the Board. The combination to a lockbox containing a library key will be accessible to members who are designated librarians or individuals involved in conducting society business or projects. The VP of the Library will maintain a master list of key distribution.

Keys are to be returned upon request of the VP of the Library. The lockbox combination shall be changed as needed when determined by the Board.



Article 2 – Memorials

2.01 Upon the death of a member or spouse, a family member may recommend an appropriate memorial to be purchased on behalf of the deceased. This can include a book or other media for the library or the purchase of a prepaid web site of benefit to the members.

2.02 When a media item is purchased, the family shall have a 30 day review period, after which the item shall be placed in the library.

2.03 The cost of the memorial may be up to \$50 from the general account and may also include donations in the name of the deceased for the purchase of a media item. A larger sum of money can be spent, upon direction of the Board, for an item that will greatly benefit the Society. Such purchases shall be handled by the VP of the Library.

2.04 Condolence cards shall be sent to the family of the deceased SVGS member by the Society Secretary or a designated volunteer.

Article 3 - Membership and Dues

3.01 The following Society membership shall be offered:

Individual	\$ 20.00 per year
Family	\$ 25.00 per year
Professional	\$ 50.00 per year
Lifetime Membership	\$150.00 one-time
Lifetime Professional	\$350.00 one-time
Honorary	N/C

3.02 Dues paid by new members after January 1st are good through May 31st of the following year.

3.03 When existing members renew their membership, the full amount will be due regardless of when payment is made.

3.04 Family membership consists of any two individuals within the same household.

3.05 Professional membership shall be available to anyone who uses the SVGS library and/or resources to conduct their business on site (use resources, meet with clients, etc.). In addition to what you receive with the Individual Membership, a Professional Membership will allow you to place a listing in the bi-monthly newsletter and on the SVGS website.

3.06 Honorary membership shall be determined by the Society Board.

3.07 When Librarians take in dues, they shall write a receipt and place the renewal form in the Membership Chairman's inbox and place a copy of the receipt in the Treasurers lockbox with payment. In all cases, a membership form is to be completed and receipted.

3.08 When PayPal renewals become available procedures will be reviewed.



Article 4 – Meetings

4.01 The Society general membership meetings shall be held on the second Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m. at a venue based on potential attendance. The December General Meeting shall be a luncheon held in a manner and place to be determined by the board. The May Annual Meeting may include a luncheon. This is to be determined no less than two months prior to the Annual Meeting.

4.02 Field trips in lieu of or in addition to monthly meetings may be scheduled by the Education Committee upon approval of the Board.

4.03 There shall be no fewer than six board meetings per year, called by the President or presiding officer as needed with one meeting being called within 60 days after the Annual Meeting. Duties of each officer and each Standing Committee chairman are to be reviewed at this meeting. The presiding officer can call or cancel a board meeting when circumstances warrant.

Article 5 – Officers

5.01 As shown in Bylaws.

Article 6 – Board of Directors

6.01 Shall establish hours of operation and holiday closures.

6.02 Order of succession of officers: President, Vice President, Vice President of the Library, Secretary, Treasurer.

6.03 Shall determine who has access to Society bank accounts.

6.04 Shall develop policies and procedures governing the day to day operation of their office or committee.

6.05 Shall review and vote to approve all committee policies and procedures.

Article 7 – Additional Duties of Officers

7.01 Additional duties as stated in Bylaws shall be as follows:

7.02 President, as shown in Bylaws

7.03 Vice President, as shown in Bylaws

7.04.01 Vice President of the Library shall:

7.04.02 - appoint persons to the library committee to assist in the day to day operation of the library.



7.04.03 - appoint persons to archive society history, collect and preserve obituaries, maintain the integrity of the computers and related equipment, clean the library and purchase supplies.

7.04.04 - decide which media is suitable to add to the collection. Any media in question rejected by the library committee shall be addressed by the Board of Directors for final determination.

7.05 Secretary, as shown in Bylaws or elsewhere in these Standing Rules.

7.06.01 Treasurer shall:

7.06.02 chair the Budget and Finance Committee.

7.06.03 maintain the non-profit status of the Society with the State of Washington.

7.06.04 file the annual reporting data (990 form) with the Internal Revenue Service (within 90 days of the end of the fiscal year).

7.06.05 collect all receipts within 14 days of expenditures. Treasurer has authority to extend time limit on a case by case basis.

7.06.06 reimburse personal expenditures on behalf of the Society within 14 days following the submittal of the receipt(s).

7.06.07 report any unauthorized disbursements to the Board of Directors by the next meeting.

Article 8 – Executive Committee

8.01 As shown in Bylaws.

Article 9 – Standing and Special Committees

9.01 As shown in Bylaws.

9.02 Duties of Standing Committees:

All committees shall: submit a budget request to the Budget and Finance Committee in March; consult Treasurer prior to making expenditures greater than \$50; submit a report for the Annual Meeting of their activities over the past year.

9.02.01 Audit Committee shall audit the Treasurer's books upon a change of Treasurer and present its written report to the Board within sixty days after the change of Treasurer. The Audit Committee shall consist of two (2) members of the Board excluding the Treasurer and one member from the general membership preferably with accounting and or auditing experience. A non-member of the society can serve on the committee with their acceptance by the Board.



9.02.02 Awards Committee, as shown in Bylaws.

9.02.03 Budget and Finance Committee shall advise the Board concerning any need for fund raising programs, dues adjustments, investment of funds, expenditure of excess funds and grants; call for budget requests from all committee chairs by the March Board Meeting and meet to assist the Treasurer in preparing the annual budget for the April Board Meeting; assist in presentation of the budget at the Annual Meeting.

9.02.04 Building & Maintenance Committee, as shown in Bylaws.

9.02.05 Conference Committee shall procure speakers and a suitable venue for each conference and or seminar sponsored by the Society. They shall determine the date(s) of the event. The committee shall set appropriate registration fees based on costs and grant funding. They shall attend to any details that will make the event successful.

9.02.06 Education Committee shall schedule programs for the general meetings of the Society; arrange field trips when appropriate, and offer classes in beginning genealogy.

9.02.07 Hospitality Committee, as shown in Bylaws.

9.02.08 Library Committee – shall meet at least twice each year. The committee shall be responsible for the maintenance and operation of the library including, but not limited to, its media, equipment, and facilities. It shall establish policies relating to acquisition, inclusions, exclusions, retention, deselection, and loan of media and equipment. The committee shall maintain phone and Internet access as well as subscriptions, to major genealogical websites (login information to be found in the Librarian's Manual), and periodicals. In addition, it shall be responsible for answering queries and for the oversight of Family Search microform rentals.

9.02.08.01 Library Equipment – The VP of the Library shall inform the Board when library equipment needs to be repaired or replaced or when equipment could be purchased as technology changes. This may include but is not limited to printers, computers, microfilm readers, book cases, and chairs and tables.

9.02.09 Membership Committee – shall maintain the Membership List, create user names and passwords for website access, create, maintain and distribute the Membership Packet and report membership size at the Monthly Meeting.

9.02.10 Newsletter Committee – The name of the Society Newsletter shall be “The Stillaguamish Star”. The Newsletter format and frequency of publication shall be determined by the new Board at the first Board meeting held after the Annual Meeting each May. Newsletter mailing fee: \$10.00.

9.02.11 Nominating Committee, as shown in Bylaws.

9.02.12 Pioneer Certificates Committee – The Society shall offer a Pioneer Certificate for the Stillaguamish Valley or Snohomish County to any individual who can prove descendancy from someone who lived in the County before August 15, 1912. The application fee for a Pioneer Certificate shall be \$20.00 for Society members or \$50.00 for non-members.

9.02.13 Publications Committee, as shown in Bylaws.



9.02.14 Publicity and Marketing Committee, as shown in Bylaws.

9.02.15 Scholarship Committee – shall establish the policies relating to application for and awarding of scholarships for educational opportunities.

9.02.16 Tombstone Committee, as shown in Bylaws.

9.02.17 Website Committee shall maintain webpages that are not maintained by Tom Ryder at EasyNetSites.com and shall be responsible for proposing and creating new webpages. Adding or deleting webpages shall be proposed at Board Meetings or via e-mail and will be approved by the Board.

ARTICLE 10.0 LEGAL DOCUMENTS

10.01 Legal documents shall consist of but not be limited to business licenses, non-profit status letters, insurance policies, leases, property inventories, maintenance agreements, grants, warranties, and any other contracts.

10.02 The Secretary shall serve as custodian for all legal documents of the society and shall file them at the library. The Secretary shall also keep a copy of each document in his or her records.