



Stillaguamish Star

The Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society
Newsletter

September - October 2014, Vol. 27 No. 5

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

svgs.wa@frontier.com
www.stillygen.org

Special Edition

Table of Contents – See Page 2



2014 Washington State Genealogy Conference a Huge Success



We did it! Our society has just hosted the most successful state wide conference in history thanks to our awesome conference planning committee and many hard working volunteers. This state conference has set a new benchmark with attendance exceeding all prior WSGS conferences by almost 50%. We had 317 register for the conference and genealogists came to our great city from six states and from British Columbia, Canada. Starting in 2015 the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society plans to host genealogy conferences called the **“Northwest Genealogy Conference”** and the first conference with this title will take place August 14 & 15 2015. We believe it will be even bigger and better than this one. We are excited that 100 people are already pre-registered and have become new members of our society. We look forward to blending all current and new members into one strong society dedicated to genealogical education and to helping one another with genealogical research. See you at next year’s conference!



Letter to Everett Herald, By Michele Cozad, SVGS Secretary



This article was submitted by our Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society secretary and published in the "Letters to the Editor" section in the Everett Herald newspaper on August 23, 2014.

The Washington State Genealogy Conference hosted by Arlington's own Stillaguamish Valley Genealogy Society (SVGS) just concluded at the beautiful Byrnes Performing Arts Center (BPAC) at the Arlington High School. I am proud to have played a small part in the big picture that made this well attended event such a great success. We had close to 300 attendees – more than any other state conference in history!

A big "Thank You" to the City of Arlington & Snohomish County for the Hotel-Motel Tax Fund grants that made this event possible. The goal was met with visitors attending from Canada the mid-West even California who made Arlington their destination! This successful event was guided by SVGS President & Conference Chair Ruth Caesar who, despite her property damage from the March 22 Oso landslide, pulled together a team lead by Eric & Karen Stroschein who brought to the BPAC nationally recognized speakers. Josh Taylor (featured genealogist on "Who do you think you are?" and "Genealogy Roadshow") made his first speaking appearance in Washington State. His poignant topic at the Friday banquet was "Gen Y and The Family Tree" was funny and informative. The food was outstanding, the snacks provided by COSTCO-Marysville and table decorations from "Flowers by George" will long be remembered.

Of course none of this would have occurred if not for the vision of our SVGS founder Marietta Roth who nearly 30 years ago recognized the tenacity of Stilly Valley pioneers and decided to honor their memory by starting SVGS. We are now close to 200 members strong and still growing.

Please join us next year at the BPAC the second weekend of August and make this your "Family Reunion" and learn who you think you are.



Marietta Roth Honored

Ruth Caesar, SVGS President, (*right*) presented the Founder's Award to Marietta Roth during the conference. Looking around at all the conference attendees, Marietta said it is hard to believe that the society has grown and done so much since she started it in 1985.

The family tree plaque presented reads, "Stillaguamish Valley Genealogy Society, Marietta Roth, Founder," and was designed and created by Terry Marsh, an active member of the Arlington community. It was made from cherry trees that lined Olympic Avenue for years in downtown Arlington. Terry said that he was saving the wood to recycle them to become meaningful in a new way to the community. He was happy to use it to honor Marietta, & Eric and Karen Stroschein who also received a plaque on behalf of the Stilly Valley Genealogical Society.

Inside this issue...

2014 WSGS Conference	1
Letter to Everett Herald	2
Marietta Roth Honored	2
Skookum Kick Off Event	3
Mayor Barbara Tolbert	4
Heather Logan	4
Door Prize Donations	4
Wheely Cool Treats	5
Centennial Trail	5
Thank You	6
Thank You Continued	7
WSGS	8
Conference Committee	9
Finding Your Roots Class	9
Events Calendar	10
Events Calendar Continued	11



2014 Washington State Genealogy Conference



Skookum Kick Off Event

The conference activities started on August 14th at the Skookum Brewery in Arlington. Conference attendees were invited to gather and have fun. Although everyone was able to check in and receive conference materials and eat heartily from the buffet taco bar, “Early Registrants” had the opportunity to show up an hour earlier than those who

weren’t and be first in line. Over 150 people showed up to mingle with conference speakers and meet others who were attending the conference.

We would like to thank the Skookum Brewery staff, especially, Tammy and Jessica, who made all of us feel very welcomed. In spite of the huge crowd, Tammy kept everyone happy at the no host bar where beer drinkers got to sample Skookum’s unique brews and also supplied wine, sodas, iced tea and even ice water to all other thirsty patrons. Jessica “wow’d” us with what seemed to be a bottomless delicious taco bar.





2014 Washington State Genealogy Conference A Community Activity



Mayor Barbara Tolbert Addresses Conference Attendees

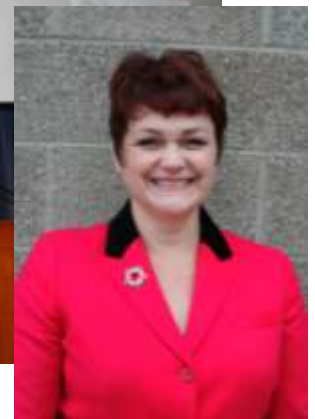
The conference began with a welcome from the City of Arlington's Mayor, Barbara Tolbert. SVGS is grateful for the grants given to us by the city and by Snohomish County to help fund expenses to host the conference. Conference attendees spent 210 nights in our community motels/hotels and got to know our community by participating in the

Art Walk and by visiting our local businesses and restaurants.



Mystery Mistress of Ceremonies Revealed

Meet **Heather Logan**, Assistant Administrator at Cascade Valley Hospital in Arlington. Her grandmother introduced her to genealogy through the Daughters of the American Revolution. She is known for her professionalism and her abilities as a mistress of ceremonies and graciously accepted our invitation to fill the role at the conference. She did an outstanding job and was instrumental in making the conference a success.



Local Businesses Donate Door Prizes

SVGS would like to acknowledge the generosity of the local businesses that donated door prizes for our conference attendees. Arlington Hardware donated the magnificent garden basket, Co-op Supply donated the bird feeder and bird seed, Les Schawb donated car maintenance products, and Whitehorse Meadows Farm donated delicious syrup and jams. Thank you for these wonderful gifts.





2014 Washington State Genealogy Conference Vehicles Add Some Pizzazz



Wheely Cool Treats

Remember when you heard the distinctive music of the ice cream man when he came into your neighborhood? So many of us fondly remember running after the truck to get a delicious treat.

Well many of us still like the treats but aren't running anywhere to catch up to the truck these days. Lucky for us **Wheely Cool Treats** brought the ice cream to us during our Saturday barbeque on a flashy purple motorcycle with side car. How cool was that?

Sno Co Centennial Trail

Wendy Becker, Snohomish County Office of Economic Development, gave us all a unique approach to exploring the historical trail along the Northern Pacific Railroad line by parking a Smart Car containing a flat screen TV in front of the Performing Arts Center. The Smart Car is designed to advertise the 29 mile Centennial Trail that runs from the City of Snohomish to just north of Bryant. The trail itself was developed on abandoned rail lines and has something for all. Other than the obvious opportunity to walk, run, cycle and horseback ride, there are sites along the trail that highlight the rich history of the area. In a video playing in the car, our own SVGS member, Loren Kraetz, farmer and local historian, whose own family came to the valley in 1888, tells us about his family's centennial dairy farm. If you missed it, you can view his video on-line along with nine others at: <http://vimeo.com/82020434>. Check out www.centennialtrail.com for more information.





Thank You

Thank You

Thank You

We have so many people to thank who made this conference a pleasurable one.

A special thank you to Josh Taylor, our keynote speaker, who made fabulous presentations that kept the attention of everyone. He gave us all valuable tips on how to conduct and improve our research, how to cite our sources and left us with a challenge to attract the younger generation into genealogy research.

We had a powerful team of presenters who taught us so many useful and informative subjects. We are grateful for the knowledge they have given everyone who attended the conference. We can't thank you enough. Eric Stroschein, Susan Faulkner, Jill Morelli, Teresa Schulze, Luana Darby, Patty McNamee, Janet Camarata, Donna Potter Phillips, Mary Kathryn Kozy, Margie, Stein Beldin, and Steven Morrison, you're the best!

Kudos to Vickie Johnson, who is the liaison between the public and the Performing Arts Center/Arlington High School. Not only did she help us preplan facility usage, she helped set up the rooms for the conference, was first to arrive and last to leave every day of the conference. She kept the coffee flowing, managed the facilities, ensured we had the required technical support and attended to all our needs. We would also like to thank her staff who worked diligently and could be counted on for anything no matter how large or small. You are so amazing to work with!

We would like to thank all our vendors, genealogical societies, libraries, and the Sons of the American Revolution for their participation. They provided interesting information cherished by those whom they were able to interact with. We are also very excited for Heritage Quest who reported record sales.

We want to give a big "High 5" to the 100 early re-registrants who signed up for next year's conference which came with a complementary membership to the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society. Yahoo! Welcome aboard.



Grand Prize Winner

Congratulations to Marilyn Rogers who won the grand prize donated by the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society. She received a full conference registration to next year's conference, 1 night stay in a conference hotel and all meals. This prize has no cash value and is nontransferable.



Thank You

Thank You

Thank You

Words cannot express our gratitude for Cathy Adelman from “The Lunch Box” in Mt. Vernon, WA. Cathy was a joy to work with and provided all the delicious food during the conference. She was extremely professional and responsive to our needs. When the caterer we first secured had to cancel because she was affected by the mudslide, Cathy came to our rescue and accepted the catering requirements for our event. Cathy even took the time to purchase local Washington produce and blue berries from the Mt. Vernon Rotary.

How fortunate we are to have so many provide door prizes that added a lot of fun. Thank you to the following for your kind donations:

- Ancestry who donated a DNA kit, 5 Family Tree Maker software programs, 2 one year subscriptions to Newspapers.com, 2 one year subscriptions to Fold3, and 3 one year World Explorer memberships to Ancestry.com.
- Roots Magic who donated 2 software programs.
- FindMyPast who donated 1 six month and 1 twelve month United states subscriptions, 1 six month and 1 twelve month World subscriptions, and three t-shirts.
- Family Tree Magazine who provided a Family History Detective book and a Family Tree magazine for every participant.
- Hibulb Cultural Center who provided 3 small bags containing a DVD entitled A Fishing People and an ink pen.
- Seattle Premium Outlets who provided a VIP Coupon Book filled with added savings at participating stores to all conference attendees who checked in at their Information Center.
- The Arlington Arts Council who organized a special guided Art Walk tour for our conference attendees.
- Debora Nelson of Photographic Journeys who donated her time, talent and all pictures of the conference to SVGS.
- Washington State Genealogical Society who provided 3 complimentary individual memberships in the Washington State Genealogical Society.
- National Institute for Genealogical Studies, Genealogical Studies.com, for donating a free on-line course to every conference registrant. A generous donation of over \$28,000! If you’ve forgotten, we had the opportunity to register for one free course from the following selection: Google For The Wise Genealogist; Connecting Family: Online or Virtually; or Social Media Tools For The Wise Genealogist. As well as the free course, each of us also received 50% off one course or 10% off any package.



Washington State Genealogical Society

Mike McKinnon, President Washington State Genealogical Society

Mike McKinnon greeted those who attended the banquet. He gave an overview of his association with the Washington State Genealogy Society and how he was elected for the position as president of WSGS.

Roger Newman, WSGS Secretary, read the minutes from last year's conference. Kathryn Bowen, WSGS Treasurer, read the financial report.

2014 Outstanding Volunteer Awards were given to 38 members nominated by societies throughout Washington State. Recipients were honored for their efforts and contributions in documenting historical information and for their contributions in educating others researching genealogy.



Award recipients attending the banquet are:

Front row left to right:

Donna Potter-Phillips, Wash State Gen Society;
Pam Chilton, Lower Columbia Gen Society;
Ruth Caesar, Stillaguamish Valley Gen Society;
Shirley Penna-Oakes, Eastern Washington Gen Society

Back row left to right:

Steven Morrison, Puget Sound Association of
Professional Genealogists
Kris LaRue, Skagit Valley Gen Society
Sue Walde, Stillaguamish Valley Gen Society,
Janet Camarata, Puget Sound Association of
Professional Genealogists



2014 Washington State Genealogy Conference Planning Committee

Kudos to all who worked tirelessly to put on a great conference. In addition to spending a lot of time doing tasks behind the scenes to get ready for the conference, committee members attended 14 lengthy conference planning meetings since January and many endured hardships because of the mudslide to attend. The power team included: Ruth Caesar, Eric Stroschein, Karen Stroschein, Steve Baylor, Shirley Case, Shirley Prouty, Dick Prouty, Larry Taylor, Michele Cozad, Lyn Ferrucci, Kay Crabtree, Kathy Stuehrenberg, Leilani Lucrisia, Trisha Broughton, Debora Nelson, Dan Caesar, Pat Manning, and Val Sanford. To achieve our goals, we relied on the strengths of each volunteer.

We also got a lot of help from other volunteers. A simple request for help to stuff conference bags resulted in 40 people showing up to assist. Accomplishing this task took no time at all. Others simply walked in the door at the conference and asked to help out. We are so fortunate to have so many willing and able members in our society.

To wrap up the conference, the committee spent four hours at a meeting on August 26, 2014 to discuss what went right and what should be improved for next year's conference. All this information will be documented, checklists written, and requirements set for future conferences. In the near future we will be sending out a request for volunteers to serve on the committee for next year's conference and for other volunteer positions. We hope you consider helping out!



Sign Up Now!

Finding Your Roots – An Arlington Community Education Class for the Beginning Historian *Instructor: Steve Baylor*



Once again Steve Baylor will be teaching the beginning genealogy class that is designed to assist the would be family historian. You'll learn to organize family history records from personal knowledge and relatives. Then you will set research goals, determine where documentation can be found, locate records of significance, evaluate the proof, learn how to build a family database, and learn where to turn for further educational opportunities.

Classes will be held at the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society Library at 215 S. French Ave, in Arlington. Classes are held on Monday evenings from 6:30pm to 9:00pm on October 6, 13, 20 and 27. Class fee is \$10 for the series. Register for this course at Arlington City Hall or phone (360) 403-3448.

Steve Baylor, the instructor, is Past President of the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society (SVGS) and the Washington State Genealogical Society and is currently the Library Director at SVGS. Steve also serves on the Washington State Historical Records Advisory Board and is a volunteer indexer with the Washington State Archives.



EVENTS CALENDAR

September Presentation and General Meeting:

Presentation is free of charge and is open to Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society members and to the general public



Steven W. Morrison

September 9, 2014
Tuesday, 1 pm – 3 pm

Presentation and Meeting
Location:

Arlington Free Methodist
Church
730 East Highland Drive
Arlington, WA

NOW WHAT? Options for YOUR Genealogy Education

Ready to move your Family History up to the next level? This session provides an overview of ways to advance your genealogy skills and knowledge. This session will review available seminars, conferences, and training courses with a Northwest emphasis. Learn if an on-line course or on-site training course is the best fit for your needs.

Please join us as one of our most popular conference speakers, Steven W. Morrison, addresses our membership on a more personal level. Steven is a professional genealogist. He has expertise in Quaker searches in Ireland, migration studies and abstracting rare documents. His geographic specialty areas are Ireland, Oregon, Utah and Pennsylvania.

Steven has dedicated himself to furthering the quality of genealogical education in Washington State. He is the current Chapter Representative of the Puget Sound Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists (PS-APG) and is a valued participant of the Speakers Forum which is an interest group of the PS-APG.

Steven is a Past President of the Olympia Genealogical Society from 2003-2005 where he was the chair of their spring seminar for three years. He is also a member of the National Genealogical Society. He regularly attends local as well as national advanced genealogical training courses such as the Institute of Genealogical and Historical Research and the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy in. He also presented at the Washington State Genealogy Conference in Arlington, WA. He is a recent recipient of a WSGS Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award. Steven is a graduate of Huxley College at Western Washington University with honors, 1974. He has a Masters of Public Administration.



Steve Baylor

Finding Your Roots – An Arlington Community Education Class for the Beginning Historian *(See page 9 for details)*

Class Location: The Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society Library at 215 S. French Ave, in Arlington.

Classes are held on Monday evenings from 6:30pm to 9:00pm on October 6, 13, 20 and 27. Class fee is \$10 for the series. Register for this course at Arlington City Hall or phone (360) 403-3448.

**EVENTS CALENDAR CONTINUED**

**Janet O'Connor
Camarata**

October 14, 2014
Tuesday, 1:00 – 3:00

Presentation and Meeting
Location:

Arlington Free Methodist Church
730 East Highland Drive
Arlington, WA

Presentation is free of charge and
is open to SVGS members and to
the general public

October Presentation and General Meeting:

Presentation is free of charge and is open to Stillaguamish Valley
Genealogical Society members and to the general public.

Discover Your Ancestor's Story in Their Records

Family members frequently don't care about the latest land patent or census record found. What they enjoy is a good story. In this workshop, each will receive a set of records - birth, baptism, marriage, census and death records - and together we will extract the stories waiting to be discovered and/or investigated further.

Janet O'Connor Camarata researches her family and tells their stories using all the benefits of genealogy, history, the Internet and the latest computing tools. Website: <http://www.stepstonegenealogy.com/index.htm>

Janet has dedicated herself to furthering the quality of genealogical education in Washington State. She is the co-founder of the Genealogy Training Center LLC where the goal is to provide quality genealogy classes from basic to advanced using hands on method of teaching as well as keeping up with changing genealogy research and technology. Janet is a member of the Puget Sound Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists (PS-APG) and the Program Facilitator of the Speakers Forum which is an interest group of the PS-APG. She graduated from the UW Genealogy and Family History program in 2010. She has a BA in Education from Central Washington University and MA degree in Management from Antioch University. She is an experienced instructor having taught for many years in the workplace and at the University of Phoenix. Janet is also presented at the Washington State Genealogy Conference in Arlington, WA. She recently won a WSGS Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award.

November 11, 2014
Tuesday, 1:00 – 3:00

November Presentation and General Meeting:

To Be Announced

December
Tuesday, Noon – 3:00

No December Presentation and General Meeting.

We will be having a holiday potluck get together instead. Bring your favorite entrée, side dish or dessert. SVGS & general public invited.

Arlington Free Methodist Church
730 East Highland Drive
Arlington, WA

