



# Stillaguamish Star

The Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society  
Newsletter

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## Annual Reports 2012 - 2013



### President's Annual Report - Ruth Caesar

First, I'd like to say how much I have enjoyed the two years I've been the SVGS president. Getting to know so many of our members has been really wonderful and I am truly grateful to those of you who have pitched in on all the projects, large or small, our society has undertaken recently.

My goal has been to help the society become more of a resource to our community, and to increase our visibility and name recognition with our local citizens. As a result of a team effort I am confident we are achieving that goal. Our membership continues to grow.

Seeking ways to take advantage of new technologies in support of our goals, as well as, finding new avenues of finance to meet our needs, has been at the top of my to do list for many months. Keeping pace in our high tech world is an imperative to the continued success of our society.

A major upgrade that I am striving to attain is the "modernization" of our telecommunication and web based capabilities; as well as the updating of our general infrastructure. Our society needs to make use of the 21<sup>st</sup> century technologies available to us. An example is: Our website has been a one lane country road which now becomes a more fluid resource center which more closely resembles a superhighway. With downloadable forms, training videos, a searchable library catalog and many other spectacular features which will be implemented soon.

Recently I have been working with the city of Arlington on the upcoming OnCell tour of historic buildings. This cell phone tour will allow users to get information about some of the historic buildings in downtown. The tour will also let users know how to find our society to gain additional information.

Recently I found a discount program source for which our society may be eligible. The potential savings could be as much as 90% on telecommunications. I believe we should pursue all avenues that will bring greater efficiencies to our operation. I'm hoping you will all join me in moving forward in search of our past.

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## **Vice President's Report - Helen B Elison**

As Vice President it is my job to support the President and to sit in for her at our meetings when she is unable to. So far she has been there for every meeting and I have not been called on to do anything.

## **Education Committee Report – Steve Baylor**



The Education committee strives to provide opportunities and incentives for members to pursue their family history research. Educational opportunities include monthly meeting programs, beginning genealogy classes, and a Legacy user's group.

Monthly meetings have been well attended this past year. Speakers included Pat Manning on Steamboats of the Yukon River and Steve Baylor on Exploring Familysearch.org. Larry Taylor and Leilani Lucrisia highlighted the wonders of Findagrave.org, Loren Kraetz and Sue Walde told about the History of Silvana Schools, and Leilani Wallace introduced us to Genetic Genealogy and tracing our roots through DNA. So far this year we had a chance to ask a panel of "experts" questions about our genealogical research. Panel members included Michele Heiderer, Mary Buzzell, Larry Taylor, and Steve Baylor. Lynne Bridges shared the Arlington Cemetery database and Richard Logg, Sr. spoke to us about The Price Tag of our Heritage, highlighting Valley Gem Farms. This past month Marlene Agnes introduced us to the useful records of the Veteran's Administration.

Organizing our monthly meetings takes time and several people have been involved in transporting equipment, setting up chairs, tables, projectors, and such. Others have provided refreshments, hosted our speakers, and assisted in take down at the conclusion of our meetings. Many hands have made light work.

A four week course in Beginning Genealogy was offered twice this past year with Steve Baylor teaching the classes. The course was conducted once in the fall and again this spring. These classes help students organize what they know about their family research, set goals to find missing information, evaluate evidence found, and learn where to focus their research.

The Legacy user's group met informally every other week over the past year to help attendees understand how to use their computer family history databases. The group was led by Mary Buzzell who explained how to enter source material, prepare reports and share databases with cousins researching the same ancestors.



## **Membership Report - Joanne Hida Wetmore**

Year 2012 -13 has been another good year within the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogy Society, with new members and always new ideas and projects. The membership list is always a challenge, but as always there are those who help make sure everything on the list is correct and I definitely appreciate their help.



## Publicity Report - Shirley Case



The most effective method for the community to learn about our Society continues to be through our members talking about the library and its benefits to users.

Through publicity, information is sent to local newspapers; Everett Herald, North County Outlook, Arlington Times and at times, the Crab Cracker which is Stanwood, Silvana and west Snohomish County about upcoming events, presentations and special articles. There is also an evite being sent to other societies and our own members.

The local Arlington TV channel places our information on the channel and special events are placed in the City of Arlington's email newsletter. Street signs indicating direction to our library were also installed this last year. We are currently being advertised on an electronic sign near exit 206 of I-5 which runs 24 hours a day with a high traffic count. A new membership brochure was created with a team effort that looks excellent and printing is more affordable for us.

The impact of the above publicity plus many other factors such as our informative presentations monthly, our publications, our helpful librarians and being an affiliate library has been positive as we continue to gain new members. While the publicity chair does not publish the newsletter it has made a positive impact for our society. As a consequence we are gaining new members and continuing to assist our present members.

Action that needs to be further developed is the use of social media for our younger generation. There is already a great start with the use of the web and a Facebook account. Another action for the future is to be a part of any publication about the City of Arlington to make sure our Society is included. Further suggestions to improve publicity will be welcomed.

## Publications Committee Report - Helen B. Eliason and Joanne Hidal Wetmore



The Publication Committee has been very busy with redoing the "Early Stillaguamish Valley Schools" book. After the first printing of the book members of the board felt that we should not go past 1941 as the book is about the "early schools" and to delete some things not needed.

This has been a very slow and long process but we are seeing the light at the end of the tunnel. Board members are now to proof all publications before sending any publication to the printers; this will hopefully prevent any major errors, they also voted to go with

a glued binding on the reprint rather than the spiral binding. The Publication Committee is also working on Volume II of the "Early Stillaguamish Valley Schools" which will cover the Arlington area.

## Treasurer's Report – Patricia Manning

The treasurer's report is available for review at the library.



## Librarian Director's Report - Michele Heiderer



This past year has been a busy one in the library. I cataloged 40 new books and accepted a donation of several hundred rolls of microfilm, along with a microfilm reader/printer. The reader/printer is not usable right now but I am hopeful that it will soon be in working order.

The board decided to update our card catalog and create a searchable on-line database. Sue Walde was appointed head of this committee. In January, I started going through every book in the library, checking title, author, print date, and other details, and adding 'key' words. This information is being entered into an Excel spread sheet by Sue Walde, Ruth

Caesar, Flynn Clark and Mary Buzzell. I am more than two-thirds through our collection. The committee hopes to have the on-line searchable database functioning by this fall.

The number of visitors to the library has increased steadily over the past year. While there is a librarian for each day SVGS is open, several librarians take multiple shifts. Additional volunteer librarians are always welcome.

## Card Catalog Committee Report - Sue (Thorsen) Walde



Your Library is undergoing a metamorphosis of sort!

Like the humble beginnings of a Monarch butterfly's cluster of eggs, your library's card catalog system started with simple index cards. The cards served us well when there were just a few books.



Due to the generous contributions of our members and those in the community, the library collection mushroomed under Head Librarian Michele Heiderer's devoted care. Soon there were so many books! To the rescue came Kay Crabtree and a small team who created a simple, yet functional spreadsheet. It worked great until...

In May 2012, Michele discovered that the spreadsheet had been accidentally corrupted. Like life that often has setbacks, we were back to using the index cards, now dusty and old!



That's when I got the brilliant idea to create a library database! Of course, the problem with a brilliant idea is that it takes a lot of hard work to implement. So now, we're in the chomping caterpillar stage of cataloging each and every book, CD, microfiche, microfilm, map, video, yearbook, etc.

Michele has provided a list of keywords for subjects; e.g., "census", "civil war", "territorial era", etc. Geographic locations, such as country, state or county are also being entered into what will soon become a database. Over 350 books are associated with the "Stillaguamish Valley"! Since last May, over 3,000 items have been cataloged.



We keep chomping away! Those doing the chomping are:

- Michele Heiderer - Book Re-numbering; entire library done except 1 state
- Sue Walde - Foreign Countries; done
- Mary Buzzell (Replaced Crystal King who did a wonderful job!) - Genealogies; over half done
- Ruth Caesar - Microfiche and Microfilm; about half done
- Sue Walde - Reference Section; over half done
- Flynn Clarke & Sue Walde - US States; over half done



In July, the cataloging should be done. That is when the true *metamorphosis* begins! The data will be loaded into a user-friendly database that eventually will be searchable on our new website. Watch for details about the website in the next newsletter.

By December 2013, the project will be complete and ready for you to use!



2009 - Monarch butterfly in Sue Walde's garden

## Like Us on Facebook – By Steve Baylor

The Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society now has a page on Facebook. Be sure to visit us at [www.facebook.com/stillygen](https://www.facebook.com/stillygen) and like us while you are at it. Twenty-eight likes allows us to have more administrative options. Be sure to tell you friends about us.





## EasyNetSites



One of the goals for SVGS is to become more tech savvy, to use the computer to increase communication capabilities, and to assist us with our administrative requirements. We want to make it quick and easy for our members and the general public to find information about our organization. We also need to use something that is affordable. We think we have found a company to help us that meets all of our requirements.

On March 22<sup>nd</sup> Tom Ryder from EastNetSites gave a hands-on demonstration for a few SVGS members at our library. Step by step he showed us how we could create a website, manage our membership list, post our events calendar and generate automated reminders of events. We will be able to do all this on our own without having to hire a webmaster every time we want to update the site. We will be able to add, edit, or delete anything at will; insert photos and links; upload forms and documents; manage our membership online; email all of our members with one click. It even has special features specifically developed for genealogy societies.

We'll let you know how we are proceeding with this in our upcoming newsletters.

## Marietta's Corner

*SVGS founder, Marietta Roth, will offer tidbits for your perusal and pleasure.*



- I am librarian the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month, 10:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. of each month.
- Silvana Fair Auction: Saturday, March 9, 2013, SVGS donated a book "Arlington Centennial Pictorial History of Arlington 1903 – 2003." I served as Food Superintendent at the Silvana Fair, and covered the SVGS table all day on a Saturday during the fair.
- Finished typing the obituaries Michele Heiderer needed for the many years 1945 through 1976 missing from the Arlington Times. I completed that project last winter.

## Odds-N-Ends



### Ghost Towns of Washington

If you are looking for places to explore this summer, check out this website <http://www.ghosttownsofWashington.com> where you'll find information on ghost towns, former mining sites, historic cemeteries and other significant points of forgotten historical interest in Washington State.



## New Books

Come explore our library shelves and take a moment to peruse these resources donated in the past few months. *Our Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society would like to thank all who graciously donated these resources.*

The following were donated by the Walt Taubeneck family:

WA/40, Maritime Memories of Puget Sound, Jim Gibbs and Joe Williamson, 1987

WA/52, Washington's Historic Mines, Ina Chang

WA/Gray/4, Grays Harbor 1885-1913, Robert A. Weinstein, 1978

WA/Isla/19, Of Life and Living in My Time, John Metcalf, 1984

WA/King/34, The Stimson Family, Thomas Stimson Bayley, 1976

WA/Skag/32, Logging Railroads in Skagit County, Dennis B. Thompson, 1989

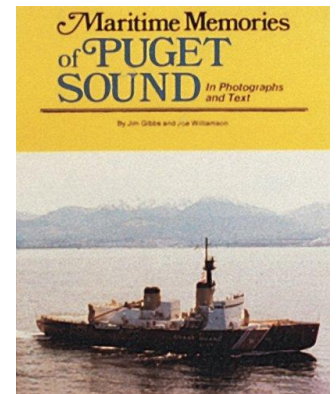
WA/Snoh/Ever/10, Downtown Everett, M. L. Dehm, 2005

WA/Snoh/Mary/5, Spee-Bi-Dah-The Story of a Beach, 1914, 1989, Marion Chandler and Jim Koons, 1992

WA/Snoh/Mary/9, Voices of the Past, Volume 1, Marysville Historical Society, 2007

WA/Snoh/Snoh/6, Early Snohomish, Warner Blake, 2007

WA/Snoh/Edmo/5, With Angels to the Rear-An Informal Portrait of Early Meadowdale, Delmar H. Caryl, 1989

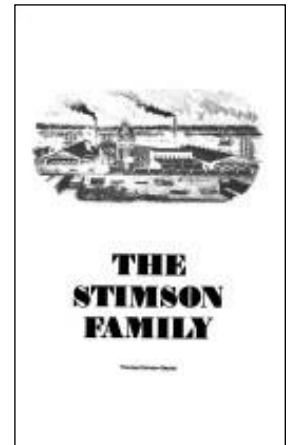


The following were donated by Judy Dawson:

SC/6, The Couey Family Newsletter, Jane Cox, 1984/85

WA/What/2, Kulshan, Whatcom High School Yearbook, 1936

WA/What/14, Klipsun, Bellingham Normal School (Western Washington University) Yearbook, 1941



Donated by Shirley Klein Stich:

Stilly Valley Pioneers #20, Glinthorst Sisters – Family Connections, by Shirley Klein Stich, 1998, (covers the Kroeze, Klein, Kazen and other local families)

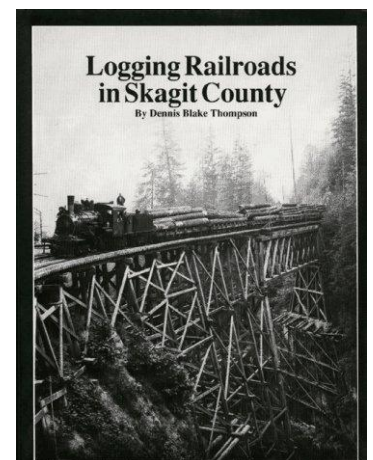
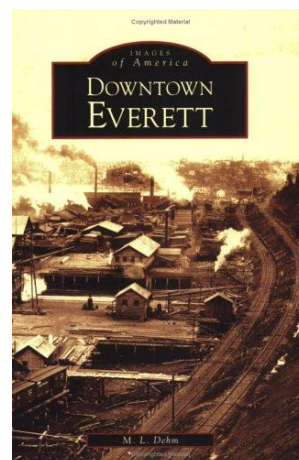
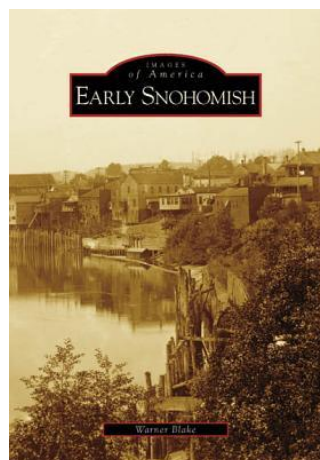
Donated by Dick and Shirley Prouty:

WA/Whit/6, Songs-Washington State College Favorite Songs, Homer J. Collins, compiler, 1914

Also Available:

WA/Snoh/22, Images of Rail-Seattle Everett

Interurban Railway, Cheri Ryan and Kevin K. Stadler, 2010

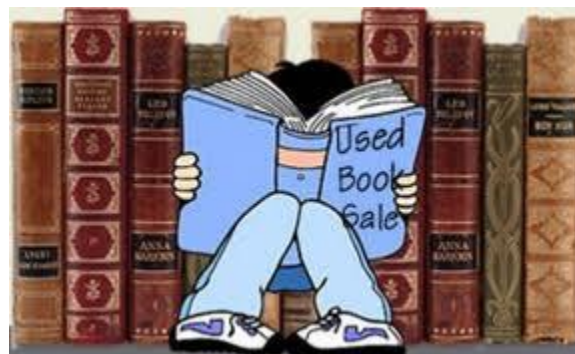




## Duplicate Books For Sale

The price is whatever you want to donate!

- 1) The Carmack Family Genealogy, by Charles W. Peckham, Sr, Ed.D, 1998
- 2) Washington Territory Donation Land Claims, Seattle Genealogical Society, 1980
- 3) The Epic of Wonderland Park, a Very True & Funny History of the Flowing Lake Area, Bob Laz, 1990
- 4) Voices from Everett's First Century, Snohomish County Museum & Historical Association, 1994
- 5) Preble County, Ohio, Marriage Records 1808-1830, compiled by Mrs. Don Short and Mrs. Dale Bowers, Not dated.



## Library of Congress Update



### **CHRONICLING AMERICA UPDATE: 800,000 added pages, including newspapers from North Dakota and Indiana**

03/21/2013

On March 18, the Library of Congress updated the Chronicling America Web site to provide access to more than 6 million pages. This update adds more than 800,000 newspaper pages, published from 1836 to 1922 in the U.S., including newly added states Indiana and North Dakota, additional French and Spanish newspapers from Arizona, Louisiana, New Mexico, and Texas, and many other titles as well. Other updates include improved use on iOS devices, added navigation features, and updated US Newspaper Directory information.... Read more about it!

### **Topics in Chronicling America: "Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire," March 25, 1911**

03/22/2013

"142 DIE WHEN SHIRTWAIST FACTORY BURNS," reads the March 26, 1911 Washington Times, one day after fire broke out in the factory building of the Triangle Waist Company in New York City. Many who leaped to their deaths from windows were young immigrant women. Though factory owners were acquitted of any responsibility, the tragic fire led to labor law reforms in New York, and is a pivotal moment in labor history. This topic page provides useful information for searching about the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire in Chronicling America's historic newspapers, including significant dates, associated search terms, as well as sample article links.... Read more about it!



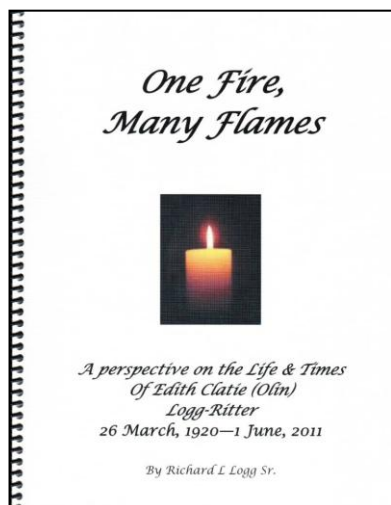
## Sno-Isle Genealogical Society - First People Collection

Sno-Isle Genealogical Society increased their First People Collection last fall. Using grant money they made copies of Bureau of Indian Affairs records, originals of which are held at NARA in Seattle. These new documents and the books and documents they already had on hand are available for review and copying. The list is extensive and too long to include in this newsletter. Here are a few examples of what you will find:

- **Tulalip Agency and Reservation Resources** such as Marriages 1914; Court Cases 1907 – 1947; Special Indian Census, Reservation Birth Records 1897 – 1923.
- **Roblin's Roll Resources** such as Elum, Enrollment Western WA 1911 – 19 (Alaskan, Chehalis, Chumuck, Chinook, Clallam, Cowlitz, Mitchell Bay, Montesano, Muckleshoot, Swamish, Gig Harbor, Klickitat, Lummi and many more).
- **Chirouse Collection** such as Annual Report to US Indian Agent by Fr. Chirouse 1861-75.
- **Western Washington Resources** such as Bitter Waters of Medicine Creek; Lummi Reservation Census 1885-1937 (nine volumes); Obituaries, Death Records Collection: Indians of Puget Sound Area and Port Madison Births, Deaths, Marriages.
- **Eastern Washington Resources** such as Catholic Church Records of PNW V7 – Walla Walla, Smohalla and Skolaskin.
- **Washington State Resources** such as War Records of Native Americans: WWII, Korean War.
- **Pacific Northwest – Including Oregon, British Columbia and Alaska** such as Our Stories, Our Lives (Elders of the Cook Inlet Region); Tlingit Indians.
- **Non-Pacific Northwest Resources** such as Cherokee by Blood: Records of Eastern Cherokee Ancestry (nine volumes).
- **General References** such as Boarding School Systems American Indian Families 1901 – 1940.

The Sno-Isle Research Library is located at 19827 Poplar Way, Heritage Park, Lynnwood, WA. The library is open on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm.

## Our March and April Presentations



### Knowing the Pricetag of our Heritage - Richard Logg, Sr.

We would like to thank Richard Logg for the delightful and informative presentation he made to SVGS and community members on March 12<sup>th</sup>. He shared stories about places and people in the Arlington area involved in his life while growing up. His life while living in the old fire station on the Arlington Airport brought back memories for those who were familiar with the building before it was torn down and surprised those who never knew it existed.

He is the author of two books, "One Fire, Many Flames" and "The Cream in the Neck of the Bottle" chronicle tales of local interest. Copies of "One Fire, Many Flames" are available for purchase at the SVGS library.



## Records of the Veterans Administration- Marlene Agnes

On April 9<sup>th</sup> Marlene Agnes gave a thorough presentation about the Veterans Administration. SVGS is extremely lucky to have a member like Marlene with such a wealth of

information. She and her husband provided the driving force for creation of the Tahoma National Cemetery in Auburn. The pride and passion for creating the cemetery was obvious in her voice when she explained the laborious process that was necessary to get Federal approval to open the cemetery and to obtain upright headstones.

We learned so much from Marlene's presentation. She gave an overview of the military records facilities, and the process required to request records. She helped us understand who may qualify as a veteran for VA burial benefits and what those benefits are. She explained the difference between State and National cemeteries and gave us a list of all of these. We also received information and encouragement to visit battlefields around the United States.

Thank you, Marlene. Many have benefited from your information. We appreciate the time and effort you made preparing for and making the presentation.

## Upcoming Seminar

### Seattle Genealogical Society – 2013 Spring Seminar

**Guest Speaker: Judy G. Russell, The Legal Genealogist**

May 18, 2013, 9:00am – 4:00pm, check in at 8:30am

Fairview Christian School, 844 N.E. 78<sup>th</sup> Street, Seattle, WA 98115

Registration Deadline is May 9, 2013, \$40 members, \$50 non-members

The theme of the seminar is, “understanding the often arcane and even impenetrable legal concepts and terminology that are so very important to those of us studying family history. Without understanding the context in which events took place and records were created, we miss so much of both the significance and the flavor of what happened.”

The speaker, Judy Russell is a genealogist with a law degree and a blog at <http://legalgenealogist.com>. She helps people to understand legal concepts and terminology.

Agenda:

- How knowing the Law Makes Us Better Genealogist
- Where There is – or Isn't – a Will
- “Don't Forget the Ladies” or A Genealogist's Guide to Women and The Law
- Using Court Records to Tell The Story of Our Ancestors' Lives



## EVENTS CALENDAR

|                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| May 14, 2013, Tuesday,<br>12:00–3:00        | <b>Potluck starting at noon - Annual Society Meeting after we eat</b><br><b>Arlington Free Methodist Church, 730 E. Highland Drive</b><br>The annual meeting of the society features reports from all officers and committee chairs. During the meeting members will vote on a budget and officers for 2014 as well as any proposed changes to the society By-Laws. The meeting also marks the end of the current year and membership dues for the following year need to be paid.                                                                                                                                                          |
| June 11, 2013, Tuesday 1:00 – 3:00          | <b>General meeting and presentation:</b><br><b>Open Forum Program</b><br><b>Arlington Free Methodist Church, 730 E. Highland Drive</b><br>Members will have a chance to share their recent family history discoveries, research tips, helpful information and favorite genealogical websites.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| July 9, 2013, Tuesday, 1:00 – 3:00          | <b>General meeting and presentation:</b><br><b>Railroads of the Stilly Valley, Eric Erickson</b><br><b>Arlington Free Methodist Church, 730 E. Highland Drive</b><br>Railroad historian, Eric Erickson, gives an account of the logging railroads that were laid in the Stillaguamish Valley. A number of operations were set up to transport the tall timber from the Stilly basin to markets around the world and contributed to the founding of the various communities up and down the valley.                                                                                                                                          |
| August 13, 2013, Tuesday,<br>1:00 – 3:00    | <b>General meeting and presentation:</b><br><b>Researching the Pennsylvania Archives, Laura Sparr</b><br><b>Arlington Free Methodist Church, 730 E. Highland Drive</b><br>Former WSGS President and noted speaker, Laura Sparr, will explain how to research the Pennsylvania Archives. The talk will focus on both the printed series which contains colonial records as well as resources available online through the Pennsylvania State Archives website. The Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society Library has a fairly complete printed series on its shelves.                                                                    |
| September 10, 2013, Tuesday,<br>1:00 – 3:00 | <b>General meeting and presentation:</b><br><b>The Strange Case of Sgt. Jesse Hyde, Steve Baylor</b><br><b>Arlington Free Methodist Church, 730 E. Highland Drive</b><br>Society Education chairperson, Steve Baylor, will give a presentation entitled, "The Strange Case of Sgt. Jesse Hyde." How did a Civil War diary of the 1st Kentucky Volunteers end up in the dusty attic of a house east of Bryant, Washington? The diary has been deeded to the Kentucky State Historical Society for archival care. Scanned images of the diary and a transcript prepared by Steve and fellow society member Kay Crabtree are available online. |
| October 8, 2013, Tuesday,<br>1:00 – 3:00    | <b>General meeting and presentation:</b><br><b>Island Schools, Loren Kraetz and Sue Walde</b><br><b>Arlington Free Methodist Church, 730 E. Highland Drive</b><br>Society members Loren Kraetz and Sue Walde will give a presentation on the schools that were built to serve the Island community along the Stillaguamish River just west of Arlington. Students who attended these schools which were eventually consolidated into the Arlington School District are featured in the Society's recent publication, "Early Stillaguamish Valley Schools."                                                                                  |