

# The Stillaguamish Star

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE STILLAGUAMISH VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

PO BOX 34, ARLINGTON WA 98223

360.435.4838  
[www.stillygen.org](http://www.stillygen.org)

6111 188TH PL NE, ARLINGTON WA 98223

## July 9th BBQ



**NOON**

# Upcoming SVGS Events:

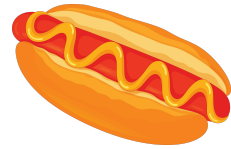
**DON'T MISS  
THIS EVENT!**

TUESDAY, JULY 9th, 12PM

SVGS BBQ

burgers, hot dogs & buns will be provided.

Bring a side dish, dessert and a friend.



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TUESDAY, August 13, 1PM

SVGS Monthly Meeting



American Ancestors Webinar:

An Introduction to American Ancestors by David Allen Lambert. Mr Lambert, Chief Genealogist, has been on staff since 1993. He is an internationally recognized speaker on the topics of genealogy and history, as well as a published author. He is an elected Fellow of the Massachusetts Historical Society in Boston MA.

Join us for a PowerPoint presentation with time for Q and A.

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TUESDAY, September 10, 1PM

SVGS Monthly Meeting



Jacqueline Riddell  
State Regent

Washington State Regent, Jacqueline

Riddell, will introduce us to

DAR Genealogy Resources.

The Genealogical Research System (GRS) provided by DAR is a free online portal to various genealogical databases.

Additionally, the GRS provides resources related to the Revolutionary War.

# Why have a library?



Last week we had a visitor to the library who had been working on his family tree for months. He had found birth, marriage, and death records. He had looked at trees that others had created. What he wanted now was to find the stories. He wanted the information that would bring those people to life.

For most people, finding context is not as easy as the when's and why's. We are not famous. Our ancestors did not have books written about them. You can enter a name into Ancestry, American Ancestors, or Family Search, and the when's and where's appear. But looking for the when's and why's? That is when our library comes in.

Where do you find out what life was like in 1630 New England for an indentured servant? Look for town histories in our state collections. What was it like to cross the plains and settle in the Washington Territory in 1853? Check out our Washington State books as well as county-specific books. What was it like to fight in the Civil War? You know that your ancestor was in a battle in the Civil War or was in a specific unit. Check out our Civil War resources to research those battles or military units. Wondering about WWI, we have books that describe the battles with pictures of the fighting. This is the research that gives you the information needed to understand your family.

Online sources are good at creating the outline of your family. We are proud to be a Family Search Affiliate Library and to provide access to both Ancestry as well as American Ancestors. However, to really understand your ancestors, you need to look for context and that is where those shelves of books come in handy. We look forward to seeing you soon.

LeAnne Koliha,  
Vice President of the Library



# A New Tool for Genealogists- Introducing Microsoft Copilot

by Flynn Kennedy

I needed to write a letter requesting records from a church archive. I had heard about Copilot, Microsoft's Artificial Intelligence (AI) assistant, and I wanted to try it. Great news? It wrote a coherent letter for me in a matter of seconds. After doing a little editing, proofreading, and filling in the blanks, I had a usable letter that took 5-10 minutes to compose.

Here's how to access Copilot:

- Open Microsoft Edge.
- Go to <https://copilot.microsoft.com>
- Sign in if you haven't already done so (with your Microsoft username and password).
- Start typing the word "Copilot" in the Search box in Bing.
- You'll see "Copilot, Your Everyday AI Companion."
- Click it.

Scroll down to the box that states: "Ask me anything..."

Type the bare bones of the letter that you'd like it to write. For example, I wrote this in the "Ask me anything..." box:

Write a letter of inquiry to SVGS whose address is P.O. Box 34, Arlington WA 98223 requesting a volunteer to look at the index in a book titled, Marriages of Sumner County, Tennessee 1787-1838 for the name Abraham Young. Then call me at (555) 435-5555 and let me know if you find the information.

I waited about 15 seconds, and here is the letter it wrote:

**Subject: Inquiry Regarding Index of "Marriages of Sumner County, Tennessee 1787-1838"**

Dear SVGS Volunteers,

I hope this message finds you well. My name is [Your Name], and I am conducting genealogical research on my family history. Recently, I came across a reference to the book titled "Marriages of Sumner County, Tennessee 1787-1838," which I believe may contain valuable information about my ancestor, Abraham Young.

I understand that SVGS has an extensive collection of genealogical and historical books, including microfilm and microfiche sets. I am particularly interested in the index of the aforementioned book, as it may provide insights into Abraham Young's marriage records during the specified time period.

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Would it be possible for a volunteer to look up the index for me? Specifically, I am seeking any mention of Abraham Young within the book. If you find relevant information, I would greatly appreciate it if you could share the details with me.

Book Details:

- Title: Marriages of Sumner County, Tennessee 1787-1838
- Name to Search: Abraham Young

I can be reached at (555) 435-5555. Once you've had a chance to review the index, please give me a call to discuss the findings. Your assistance would be invaluable to my research, and I am sincerely grateful for your time and effort.

Thank you for your dedication to preserving historical records and supporting genealogists like myself. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Warm regards,

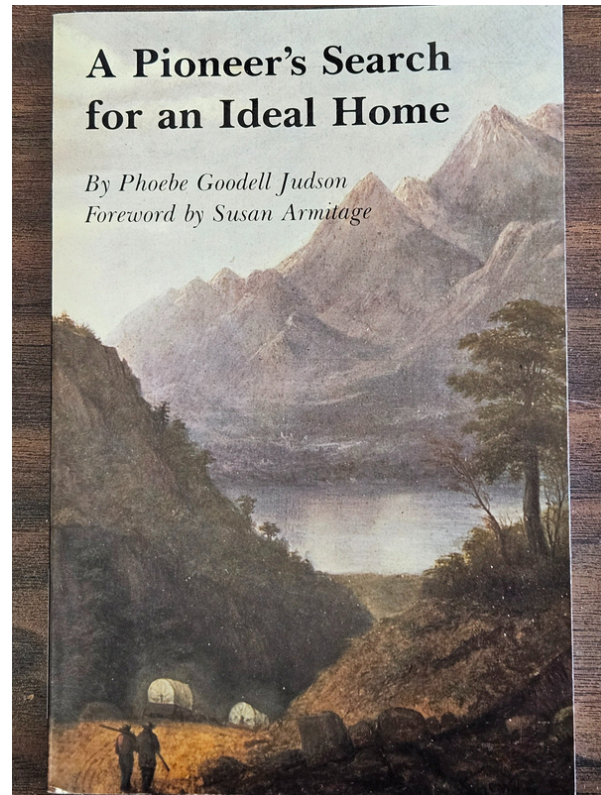
[Your Full Name] [Your Email Address] [Your Phone Number]

Before sending this, I'd edit it to make it more concise, and rework any awkwardly worded phrase or sentence. Then, I'd fill in my personal information and proofread it. Woohoo! It's finished and ready to send.

If you would like help accessing or using Copilot, please let me know. I work on Tuesday mornings during the 10-1 shift. Drop by or call (360) 435-4838.

# BOOK TALK

LeAnne Koliha



I have just finished reading *A Pioneer's Search for an Ideal Home* by Phoebe Goodell Judson. It is the story of Holden and Phoebe Judson who were early settlers in the Washington Territory. While this book is based on her journal it is not a diary of daily life. She picks various incidents to illustrate what life was like. This is a woman who left Ohio in 1853 with her husband and small daughter to travel overland to Puget Sound. On the way, she gave birth to their second child, a son. They settled first near Grand Mound. During the Indian Wars, they lived at the Fort Claquato (near Chelalis). From there they chose to move to Olympia. Eventually, they moved north and were the first settlers of Lynden. She spent years as the only white woman in the area and was proud of the fact that while Washington was a territory women had the right to vote. This was truly a remarkable story about a remarkable woman. Even more importantly it is a great look at the ordinary life of our early pioneers.

# Yard Day- May 1st

SVGS volunteers refreshed our outdoor spaces as we look forward to a bright summer!



LeeRoy Kind



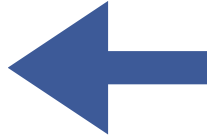
Flynn Kennedy



Brian Watson



Dan Caesar

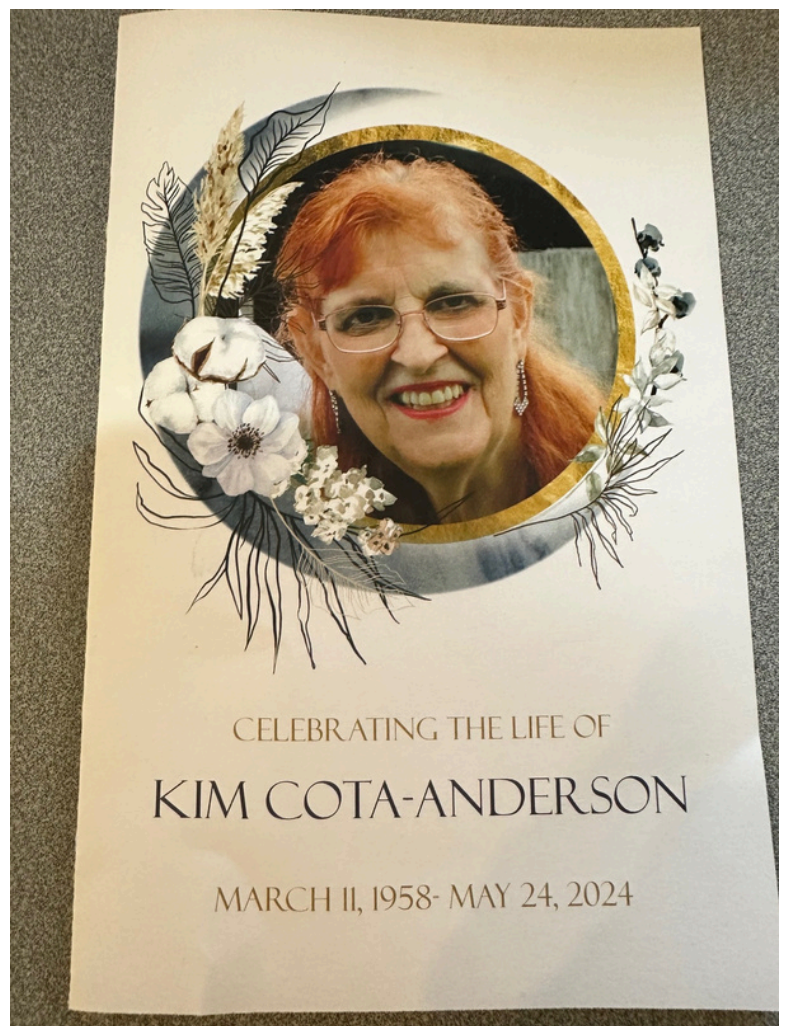


Kathie Webber (on left) and Kim Cota-Anderson (on right), meticulously pruned the shrubbery and weeded.

### **Sadly, we said goodbye...**

The sudden passing of long time member, past SVGS president, recent board member and dear friend of our society Kim Cota-Anderson has left a hole in our hearts. She shared her irreplaceable smile and kind heart freely with those of us who were lucky enough to have known her.

Ruth Caesar



# NEW TO THE LIBRARY

Passenger Arrivals Port of Philadelphia 1800-1819  
A Bibliography of Ship Passenger Lists  
San Francisco Passenger Lists  
Bonded Passengers to America 3 Volumes  
Original Lists of Persons of Quality 1600-1700  
Pension Rolls of 1835 4 Volumes  
The Cajuns  
Colonial Families of the Southern States of America  
Where Right and Glory Lead!  
Genetic Genealogy in Practice  
Census of Pensioners 1840  
A History of Pointe Coupee Parish, Louisiana  
Old Families of Louisiana  
Guide to Copies and Abstracts of Irish Wills  
History of Avoyelles Parish  
Declarations of Intention for Naturalization Santa Clara County California  
Welsh Family History  
Lists of Germans from the Palatinate who came to England in 1709  
Handbook of Irish Genealogy  
History of Amador County California  
Map Guide to the US Federal Censuses 1780-1920  
Handy Guide to Italian Genealogical Records  
Marriage and Death Newspaper Notices Wayne County, Michigan 1809-1868  
Church Vital Records, California  
Frederick County Virginia Marriage Bonds  
Cemetery Records of Whatcom County  
Acadians in Maryland  
The Book of Names  
British Aliens in the United State During the War of 1812  
Index of Revolutionary War Pensions Application  
The Loyalist of the American Revolution  
Index to Census of Pensioners 1840  
Dauphin Island French Possession

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Catalogue of Revolutionary Soldiers and Sailors of the Commonwealth of  
Virginia to Whom Land Bounty Warrants were granted  
National Index of Parish Registers Vol I,II, III, V  
Rochester Mass Vital records Vol I, II  
Nauvoo 1839-1846  
Huguenot Pedigrees 2 Vol in 1  
First Census of Kentucky 1790  
Michigan Biographies  
History of Cumberland and Adams Counties Pennsylvania  
History of Danbury 1684 to 1896  
Ireland and Irish Emigration  
Genetic Genealogy The Basics and Beyond  
Thomas Davenport and his Descendants  
More Names in Stone  
Jackson Co., Indiana Obituaries  
Minisink Valley Reformed Dutch Church Records 1716-1830  
Commentaries of some Avoyelles Families  
Rapides Genealogy  
New Homes in a New Land  
Who were Those People  
Kentuckians in Missouri  
Wills and Where to Find Them  
Yarmouth Nova Scotia Genealogies  
French Families of the Detroit River Region 1701-1936 Vol I and II  
Pennsylvania Oaths of Allegiance  
Heads of Families Census 1790 Census Connecticut  
Burial Records of St Paul's Church Avoyelles Parish Book II and III  
St Paul's Baptism Books #1 and 2  
Hydropolis Baptisms 1845-1850 Book 5  
Genealogical Data from Colonial New Haven Newspapers  
Burke's Landed Gentry  
Old Louisiana  
History of Connecticut 2 Volumes

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North Carolina Taxpayers 2 Volumes  
Roster of Revolutionary Soldiers in Georgia  
Polish and Proud  
Cocoville Hydropolis Early Settlers and Families  
Civil War Portraits of Avoyelles  
Avoyelles at the Battle of New Orleans and in the War of 1812  
Natchitoches Colonials  
The Descendents of Michael Enser of Eden, NY  
Before the King's Daughters Filles a Marier 1634-1662  
King's Daughters and Founding Mothers 1663-1673 2 Volumes  
My Aymond Family from Avoyelles Parish  
The Fuller Story Daniel and Mary/Polly (Rasey) Fuller  
Albert DeCuire arrives in Louisiana  
The Lesley Voorhees Records Vol 1  
Colonial Gravestone Inscriptions in N.H.  
Saratoga County, New York  
Early New York Naturalizations  
New York Marriages Previous to 1784  
Landholders of Northeastern New York  
Denizations, Naturalizations and Oaths of Allegiance New York  
Virginians & West Virginias 1607-1870 Vol. I  
Soldiers, Sailors and Patriots of the Revolutionary War Maine  
Dominique Coco, Jr  
Waldeck Soldiers of the American Revolutionary War  
Burke's Family Index  
New England Captives Carried to Canada Vol 1 and 2  
Virginia Settlers and English Adventurers  
Hopewell Friends History 1734-1934  
Skagit County, Washington Death Records 1891-1908  
Fauquier County, Virginia Deeds 1759-1778  
Genealogy of some Descendants of Edward Fuller of the Mayflower  
History of Albemarle County Virginia  
New Hampshire Genealogical Digest 1623-1900  
American Ancestry Vol 1-12

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Immigrants to New England 1700-1775  
New Jersey Patents and Deeds 1664-1703  
Early Settlers in Trenton and Ewing  
Emigrants to America  
Emigrants from Scotland to America  
Missouri 1850 Census Index  
Early Families of Wallingford, Connecticut  
Missouri 1840 Census Index  
The Search for Passengers of the Mary & John 1630 vol 7 and 26  
Inhabitants of New York 1774-1776  
Abstracts from the Republican Compiler Adams Co. PA 1831-1851  
The History of Beaver Co. PA 2 Vol.  
The History of Pittsburgh  
Tombstone Inscriptions of Brown Co. Ohio 2 Vol.  
Tuscarawas Co., Ohio Cemeteries Vol. IV  
Tuscarawas Co. Ohio Connections II  
Shtetl Finder Gazetteer  
The Acadian Miracle  
The Yankee Exodus  
Stories to Tell  
Storycatcher  
Sons of Marcus Whitman  
English Genealogy  
Peninsula Pilgrimage  
Revolutionary War Genealogy  
Frederick County, Virginia Marriages  
An Army for Empire

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# Send us your submissions!

If you have a story that our readers might enjoy, please send it to us!  
Newsletter submissions for the **September/October** issue should be  
sent to [newsletter@stillygen.org](mailto:newsletter@stillygen.org) by **August 26st**.



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<https://www.facebook.com/stillygen/>



**Check out our Blog:**

<https://stillygen.wordpress.com/>



Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society  
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Arlington, WA 98223

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JULY/AUGUST 2024