

The Stillaguamish Star

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE STILLAGUAMISH VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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New Genetic Genealogy Television Show!



Diahan Southard, Your DNA Guide, is hosting a new PBS television show which will be airing soon.

It's called-

‘Your DNA Secrets Revealed’. Diahan describes the show this way:

“It communicates all the things we value in family history and DNA testing. It showcases a wide range of experiences and helps us see the transformation that learning about your family can bring. I love how this show doesn’t focus just on the moment of discovery, but catches up with these families later, too, to see how this information has impacted them long-term.”

The show will air on Seattle-based PBS Station KCTS9 November 26th at 11:00 AM and repeats on November 30th at 9:00 PM. Check your local Public Broadcasting System station to see if it is scheduled to air in your area. If not, you can request they show it.

HI, MY NAME IS MIMI, I AM FROM DENMARK, AND THIS IS MY STORY.

Back in Denmark, I was reading a book online when all of a sudden a “pling” drew my attention to the website’s inbox. Curious, I opened the email, to find that it was from the author himself. Well, I might have been complaining about details in the book.

I read the email and instead of being yelled at – he wrote that he had been laughing for the better part of 5 minutes. Now, how do you respond to that? Me, I just wrote a new complaint.

Emails went back and forth then turned into phone calls and Zoom calls. Before we knew of it, we had agreed to meet in Denmark to edit his first book. Then that turned into me flying to Seattle.

So, here I am in the USA. Everything is much bigger here than in Denmark, but I could not help feeling at home. Why? I have no idea! Maybe it is because the trees are the same. Just much higher. Or was it because this stranger is going out of his way to make me feel welcome.

As it turns out, this author is also into genealogy. I once tried to make a family tree through “My Heritage” and ended up deleting it when it became too big. Yes, I know. That was stupid! None the less, I talked myself into taking a DNA test with Ancestry, after coming across a document stating that my dad was in Seattle in 1956/57.

The DNA result came back with many distant cousins. No fun at all. And then one third cousin. We share a second Great grandfather, in direct line, on my dad’s side. It turns out that one of my second Great grandfathers’ sons had moved to England.

Here we are, the year of 2022, two Danish cousins reconnecting across the Atlantic Ocean. One from the United Kingdom and one from the United States. Oh, and of course my cousin’s daughter lives in Olympia, WA.

While looking for my relatives, I found a new family. How? I married the author.

The groom is: yours truly – Lawrence Ray Taylor aka Larry Taylor

OUR WEDDING WAS HELD
JULY 1ST. 2022, AT THE
STILLAGUAMISH VALLEY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY.

THOSE PRESENT WERE MY NEW
SVGS FRIENDS- RUTH & DAN CAESAR,
KAREN LOONEY AND
MICHELE & BILL GRANT WHO WERE MATRON OF
HONOR AND BEST MAN AS WELL AS OUR
WITNESSES.



Larry & Mimi

Veteran's Day reminds me of a family story

By Karen Looney

This upcoming Veteran's Day reminds me of a family story I learned of in 2021.

A little over a year ago, I got a couple of new hints through Ancestry on my great Aunt Grace and her husband Floyd. The hints were pictures of the old homestead where she grew up in Nampa, Idaho. I didn't recognize the name of the person who added the pictures to their tree, and this intrigued me. I wrote to him, told him who I was and asked permission to add this picture to my tree. He assured me that was okay and told me of a great story at the same time.

There was another picture I was only a little bit interested in because it was Grace, Floyd and a young boy. Grace and Floyd never had children, so who was this additional boy?

The boy in the picture was the nephew of Grace and Floyd, his name was Daryl. Daryl was the father of the man who posted the homestead pictures and the picture of Daryl. Daryl's father was Jacob Lenard "Dutch" Betts. During World War II, Dutch, who was not in the military, took a job to create a new runway on Wake Island. Dutch left Daryl in the care of his brother Floyd and Floyd's wife Grace. This was a six-month job, and he was expected home by Christmas 1941.

Just hours after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 the Japanese attacked Wake Island.



From December 8th to the 23rd, the base was attacked multiple times by air. The Marines on the island had for their artillery, a string of 5 in – 25 caliber guns, that came from old battleships. At about 2 am, on the moonless morning of December 23rd, 1941, over 1000 Japanese soldiers came ashore on Wake Island and surrounded the base. A little after 7 am on the 23rd of December 1941 the United States surrendered. 122 Americans died in this invasion, 52 were Marines or Sailors, 70 were civilian construction workers. Those captured were prisoners of war.

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Dutch Betts was one of these POW's. After working long hours and eating one bowl of rice a day, by the end of the war in September 1945, when he was liberated he weighed 98 pounds. He was taken to Presidio Hospital, San Francisco to recover from TB. Twice his family was summoned from Nampa, Idaho as he was near death. After eight years, he was sent home to die. Daryl was graduating from high school. Dutch lived until October 1992.

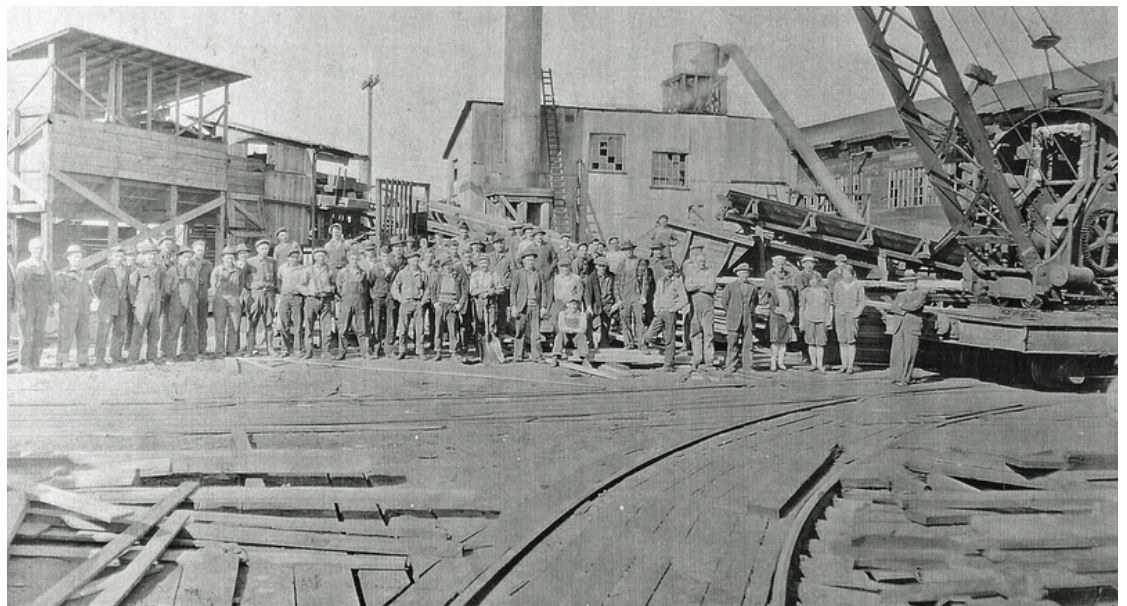
This information was taken from Edward F Dolen's America in World War II 1941. Millbrook Press, Brookfield, Connecticut, 1991. Pages 45-49.

For a more comprehensive Wake Island account, read Bill Sloan's Given up for Dead: America's Heroic Stand at Wake Island. Bantam Books, New York, New York, 2003.



JACOB LENARD "DUTCH" BETTS
AT PRESIDIO HOSPITAL,
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, - 1947

The Waterfront Mills of Everett



A photo journey of the old Everett waterfront will be presented by Neil Anderson January 10th 2023 at 1PM at the SVGS Library. Look back to when the town was known as "The City of Smokestacks". Images will be shown of the many prominent lumber, shingle and forest product mills that lined the Everett shoreline from the northern tip of the peninsula and heading south to the base of Rucker Hill.

Sit back and enjoy the trip down memory lane.

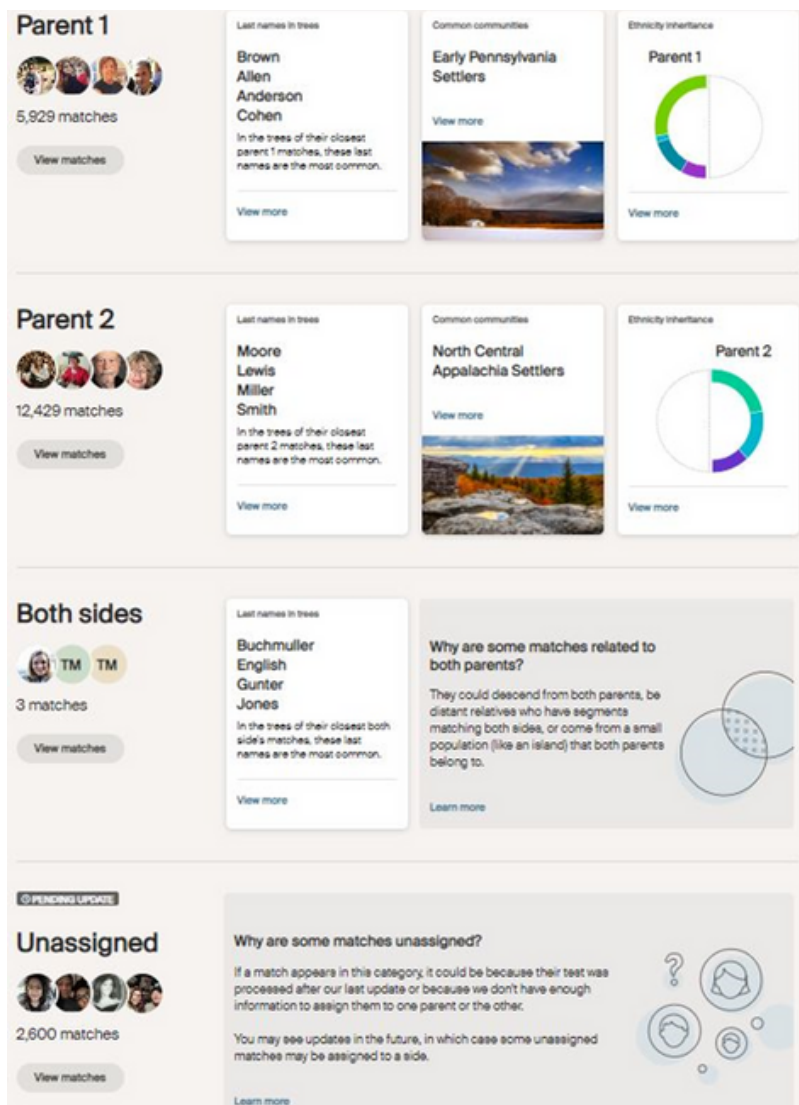
ANCESTRY'S DNA MATCHES BY PARENT

By Sue Mc Neil

In September's newsletter we looked at Ancestry's new functionality called SideView, which split your ethnicity to show which ethnicities you inherited from each parent. **They have now expanded the functionality to your DNA match list and have split your DNA matches by parent.** Your matches are automatically assigned to one of 4 categories:

- Parent 1 – This represents either your father's or mother's side (it will be labeled Paternal or Maternal if you manually assigned Parent 1 to the appropriate side of your family)
- Parent 2 – The other side of your family
- Both Sides – Ancestry believes you are related to this match on your paternal AND maternal side
- Unassigned – These matches are either new and they simply haven't assigned them yet OR they do not have enough information to make a prediction

You do NOT need to have your parents tested for Ancestry to divide your match list. If you are lucky enough to have one or both of your parents tested, their matches are split between your grandparents! This functionality is still considered Beta mode, meaning they are still working out a few problems. It is not perfect and will assign some of your matches incorrectly. Ancestry has stated that it is 95% accurate for 90% of their customers. At the top of the match page, you can submit feedback to Ancestry.



At left is the new page displayed when viewing your DNA match list.

To see a list of your DNA matches assigned to only one of the four groups, click 'View Matches' in that category. This applies a filter to your list.

To see a list of all your DNA matches, click 'All Matches' near the top of the page which displays the match page you have always seen.

Important: A random 15%-20% of Ancestry's customers do not have the new functionality yet. Ancestry has said some people may not have it available to them until January or February.



*"Don't miss our
holiday celebration
at SVGS"*

Greetings to all of you! As we plan our upcoming holiday events with family and friends, I would like to wish all of you the very happiest of holidays. I hope you will join me and by all means bring a "plus one" on December 13th at Noon for our 2022 Christmas potluck. You can bring a traditional family dish or simply a potluck favorite.

As we move forward toward 2023 our library remains open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 10 to 4 for you to visit and use our materials, get help from the librarians and use a variety of online resources. Don't forget you can preserve your own family history! You can come to the SVGS Library and scan your old family photos to convert them into a digital format. If you would like assistance with your project, I would suggest you make an appointment by calling or emailing us at (360)435-4838 or email at: info@stillygen.org

As in years past we do need more librarians, so please consider volunteering for a few hours once or twice a month. You will benefit by gaining knowledge while having the pleasure of helping others find their family history.

**NOVEMBER 8TH IS
ELECTION DAY**

Be sure to attend our very special
Election Day presentation on
"Voting Records" at 1pm at the SVGS Library.
Presenter Pam Vestal will share information on some of
genealogy's best kept secrets you can discover.

Unexpected Treasure

By Shirley Case

In the Sunday edition of the Seattle Times I came across a picture of hikers. To my amazement there was my husband Dean's grandmother Hazel on the right. She was in a mountaineering group started by Asahel Curtis, the famous Washington photographer. It appears that a tent is pitched just to their side. Hazel came from Nashville, Tennessee with her mother to see the Alaska-Seattle Expo in 1909. A great grandson of mine has another picture of Hazel with a larger group of women apparently taken on the same day. This is the same grandmother who was raised to be a young lady and had a finishing school background. And yet, she raced motorcycles and was a cloud of activity her whole life. Hazel's estate had two Asahel Curtis framed pictures so we are left to wonder if she bought them directly from Mr. Curtis. It would be fun to find more information about the people in the picture and to what the number in the lower right corner references.



This was women's mountaineering gear in 1909. They're at a meadow on Mount Rainier. Says the caption, "They wear hats, bloomers, hiking boots and gauntlet gloves, and hold alpenstocks."

What this amazing discovery taught me was to pay attention to pictures in newspapers and on websites like the Washington State Historical Society.

Washington State Genealogical Society

recognizes

Flynn Clarke Kennedy

of Marysville, Washington

for exceptional service to the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society



Flynn Kennedy has been selected by the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society (SVGS) as their recipient of a WSGS Outstanding Volunteer Award.

In 2011, Flynn became a volunteer librarian with SVGS. She worked with the Northwest Genealogy Conference for three years as a Jackie-of-all-Trades, serving in a variety of roles. Her current projects include creating a four-generation history for a patron who is related to Noah Webster, transcribing a 33-page application for a claim against the U.S. Southern Claims Commission, and attempting to solve a family history mystery in Vermont in the 1830's.

In Flynn's opinion, the three most important things to remember when trying to break through a brick wall are "... collaboration, collaboration, collaboration."

Flynn was born in Toledo, Ohio and moved to Seattle on September 28, 1980. She earned a B.A. from Capital University in Columbus, Ohio (during the Punic Wars) and earned a Post Graduate Certificate in Genealogy Research from Boston University in 2014.

Flynn is a respected and diligent member of the SVGS, and richly deserves this recognition.

Given this 1st day of June in the year 2022.

Kathleen Sizer
Kathleen Sizer
President
Washington State Genealogical Society



LOOK FOR ADDITIONAL WASHINGTON STATE
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD RECIPIENTS IN NEXT YEAR'S
JANUARY/FEBRUARY EDITION OF
THE STILLAGUAMISH STAR

Donations to the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society

are very much appreciated at this time. Every donation whether of your time, money or materials are greatly valued. Your financial contribution can be made directly to SVGS by sending a check to PO Box 34, Arlington, WA 98223 or via our website at www.stillygen.org and clicking the donate tab.



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If you use Amazon or Amazon Prime, they will do the donation for you with their money. Remember, this is not your money. It is coming from Amazon. They donate .5% for eligible purchases.

Log into either Amazon or Amazon Prime, whichever one you use.

Up in the upper right quadrant of your screen there should be a block that says "Hello, Your Name Accounts List". Hover over that and pull down the menu.

Under "Your Lists" click on "Amazon Smile Charity Lists".

Click "Get Started"

Type in Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society. Click the Select button to the right of the name.

Click the box next to "Yes, I understand that I must always start at smile.amazon.com to support Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society. "

Then click "Start shopping".

You don't have to buy anything at this time. You can log out.

The next time, and every time you want to order from Amazon, log into smile.amazon.com using your regular log in.

Thank you for your kind donations.

Send us your submissions!

If you have a story that our readers might enjoy, please send it to us!

Newsletter submissions for the **Jan/Feb** issue should be sent
to newsletter@stillygen.org by **December 28th**



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NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2022