

The Stillaguamish Star

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE STILLAGUAMISH VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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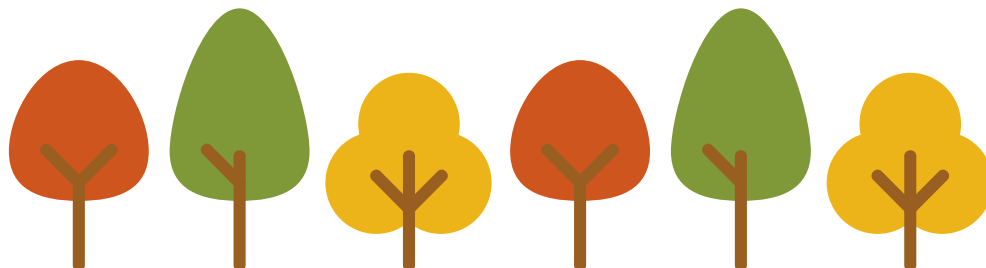
Presenting:

Tuesday, September 14
A Fresh Light on Old Newspapers
with Dave Obee (via Zoom)
1:00 pm

The Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society is now providing monthly meetings via Zoom. Our business meeting and board meeting will follow the presentation. A Zoom link to join the meeting using your computer can be found on stillygen.org. You also may choose to attend in person at our library.

Researching in old newspapers no longer means sitting at a microfilm reader for hours on end, winding through a seemingly endless string of news stories and advertisements. Today, the results we seek could be a matter of minutes away, thanks to the many digitization projects that have placed millions of newspaper pages on the Internet. But what are the pitfalls? This presentation takes you through the digitization process, from hard copy to your computer screen. It is designed to help you achieve the best results from your work.

Dave Obee is a journalist and genealogical researcher who has written a dozen books and given more than 600 presentations at conferences and seminars in Canada, the United States and Australia since 1997. He is Editor and Publisher of the Times Colonist in Victoria, British Columbia. He has worked as a journalist in British Columbia and Alberta since 1972.



An Easy Way to Improve Your Health



Did you know that we, as a society, value volunteers so much that we even put a monetary value on their time? Our volunteer work may be more valuable than some regular work! Money is not the issue to many volunteers. They do it for many other reasons, but primarily to help other people or animals. Nevertheless, there are many positive side effects of volunteering that make it even more worthwhile.

Here are some of the proven benefits of volunteering. Maybe one of them will convince you to get off the couch and out the door to engage with your community.

1. Volunteering Builds Community

According to the Corporation for National and Community Service, you strengthen your community and your social network when you volunteer. You make connections with people you are helping, and you cultivate friendships with other volunteers.

2. Ends Loneliness

The Campaign to End Loneliness says that close to 45 percent of people in the US and the UK admit to feeling lonely. On top of that, one in ten adults reports that they have no close friends.

Loneliness and social isolation are two of the most severe epidemics in the world today. The simplest way to reverse this? Volunteer!

3. Improves Self-Esteem

On a fundamental level, volunteering reduces stress and improves well-being. Volunteering gives people the tools they need to be happier, healthier and well-rounded individuals. It also keeps us young.

4. Promotes Longevity

While everyone benefits from a little boost in physical health, long-term volunteers have longer lives, less disease and better overall health. One report says that people who volunteer over 100 hours a year are some of the healthiest people in the U.S..



5. Reduces Risk of Alzheimer's

Alzheimer's disease has become a frightening possibility for millions of individuals in the U.S. and globally. However, some research has shown that people who volunteer may be at lower risk of dementia.

Studies from the Journal of Gerontology indicate that social service improves elasticity in the brain. As volunteers age, they may be able to maintain the connections their brains that often break down in Alzheimer's patients. Any social interaction can help delay or prevent Alzheimer's, and volunteering can be a fantastic way to do that.

6. Leads to Graceful Aging

Older volunteers benefit the most from getting out of the house, engaging with others, and moving physically. Purpose and collaboration result in mental health improvements and a better outlook on life.

Studies indicate that senior volunteers experience the most physical benefit from their service, possibly because being active and engaged leads to more happiness.

Older people who volunteer often feel younger and chronically ill people may have fewer symptoms and pain. Some research has even found that volunteers may have less heart disease.

7. Volunteering Adds Fun to Your Years

Volunteering and freely giving your time, energy, and resources to people and causes around the world can create change on a global scale. It is incredible to think that one person's efforts can change the life of someone else somewhere in the world. However, the best part, and often overlooked is that volunteering is just plain fun.

If you are ready to make friends, improve your mental and physical health and maybe develop new skills along the way, start volunteering. You can change your life and the lives of others when you do.

Do not overlook the benefits of volunteering. Embrace them!

Call SVGS today at 360-435-4838 to find how you can volunteer right here in our community. Training will be provided.

Mayo Clinic gave permission to use the contents of this article.



DNA Match List

By Sue McNeil



With each of the testing companies you can receive a list of other testers that share common DNA with you. You may need to choose to “opt in” to see this list. This is a two-way street. If you choose to see your DNA matches, they will also be able to see you on their list. Without this list your DNA results will have limited ability to help you with your genealogy. On the next page is an excerpt from my father’s Ancestry.com DNA match list.

The match lists can be sorted and filtered by various criteria. The default sort is by the amount of shared DNA (closer relationships listed first). Shared DNA indicates you and your match have a common ancestor or ancestral couple. The more DNA shared, the closer the relationship. The testing company will assign a predicted relationship (Parent or child, close family, 2nd-3rd cousin, etc.) but these are only suggested ranges. Someone identified as a 2nd-3rd cousin may be a 1st cousin once removed, for example. Each company gives you the ability to contact a DNA match and to record notes. AncestryDNA also allows you to assign each match to one or more groups for better organization.

Selecting a specific match will show you additional information, such as their family tree, if the tree is public. Their ethnicity breakdown is given which can give clues to which part of your family they are related. Most importantly, it gives you a list of DNA matches you have in common with the selected match.

The DNA matches you have in common (“shared matches”) are the most powerful tool DNA provides to help you with your genealogy. This is a list of testers that match you and they match your selected match. If someone matches both of you, it is possible the three of you are related through the same ancestor or ancestral couple. When “shared” matches, “known” matches (you know how they are related to you) and grouping of matches comes together, it is much easier to make sense of your match list. The combination of these three things is critical to genetic genealogy, so we will go into more detail in the next issue.

Excerpt from a DNA Match List on Ancestry.com:

The screenshot displays a list of four DNA matches on the Ancestry.com interface. Each match entry is a horizontal card. Labels A through F are placed around the cards to identify specific features:

- A:** Points to the profile picture and user ID of the match.
- B:** Points to the predicted relationship and shared DNA information (e.g., "2nd cousin 1x removed", "156 cM | 2% shared DNA", "Father's side").
- C:** Points to the tree status information (e.g., "Public linked tree", "3 People", "Common ancestor").
- D:** Points to the "View match" button.
- E:** Points to the match note (e.g., "Dad's 2C1R - 3-private person tree but descendant of Charles Warner and Laurette Hill...").
- F:** Points to the colored dots and star used for grouping matches.

The matches shown are:

- Match 1:** Privatized, 2nd cousin 1x removed, 156 cM | 2% shared DNA, Father's side. Public linked tree with 3 people. Note: Dad's 2C1R - 3-private person tree but descendant of Charles Warner and Laurette Hill...
- Match 2:** Privatized, 2nd ~ 3rd Cousin, 155 cM | 2% shared DNA. Public linked tree with 14 people. Note: Small tree but shared DNA matches with Wilder/Crittenden descendants...
- Match 3:** Privatized, 3rd cousin, 149 cM | 2% shared DNA, Father's side. Public linked tree with 79 people. Note: Dad's double 3C, descendant of Andrew Warner and Laura Riley...
- Match 4:** Privatized, Half 2nd cousin, 146 cM | 2% shared DNA, Mother's side. Public linked tree with 241 people. Note: Dad's half 2C - descendant of Karolina Jonsdotter thru Kristina Ulrika Lundström...

- A. Picture and User ID of Match (The names of the matches above have been hidden to protect their privacy)**
- B. Predicted relationship of the match and the amount of shared DNA**
- C. Indicates whether the match has a public linked tree, unlinked tree, private tree, or no tree**
- D. Selecting a match will give you further information regarding that match**
- E. Notes can be recorded for each match**
- F. Ancestry allows you to assign up to 24 colored dots and a star to each match to group your matches (each color or star can mean whatever you want)**

The Voyage

By LeeRoy Kind



John O. Tansem's account of the voyage on the ship Olaf from Christiania to Quebec in 1867 - Wallace Tansem

This is an account of the crossing on the ship Olaf

<http://www.norwayheritage.com/p_ship.asp?sh=olaff> from Christiania to Québec in 1867. It was written in John O. Tansem's diary. The story has been submitted by Wallace Tansem, the grandson of John O. Tansem.

John O. Tansem was born November 16, 1842, son of Ole and Berget Tansombmoen in Eidsvold, Norway here he attended school and was a member of Langset Church. As a young lad he operated a ferry on Lake Mjøsa. He married Pauline (born December 5, 1845) daughter of Johan and Marie Dalen Gulbrandsdalen in the year 1865. With the tide of immigration from Norway to U.S.A., they together with Ole Lynnes and Necolai Julsrud left their old home on the 8th day of April, 1867 and arrived in Christiania (Oslo) at 11:00 a.m. the same day. There they took lodging with a merchant by the name of Ole Skapet and stayed until 3:00 p.m. April 10. Then they went aboard the said ship "Olaf" which lay ready to depart with a load of emigrants for America. The following is their story:

(Excerpt) "At seven o'clock in the afternoon we hoisted anchor but lay still till the morning of the 12th when we sailed with full sails out of port. However this did not last longer than we could well look back on the town. Then we ran into a headwind and this lasted until Monday morning the 15th of April. Then we had a good wind and sailed with good speed past Drøbak and Kavholman and before 9:00 p.m. we left Ferder and came out in the North Sea. The 20th of April we were by Scotland and there we fished so we had fresh fish for Easter Eve. On April 21st which was Easter Sunday we left the North Sea and headed out into the Atlantic Ocean. After that we did not see land until the 20th of May. During this time on the 28th of April occurred the death of a 6 month old child. The corpse according to custom was left 4 days on board ship. On the fourth day a coffin was made in which many holes were bored. In the bottom of the bed, stones were put and covered with shavings. The corpse was dressed just as lovely as on land and laid in the coffin. For the funeral service the Captain sang a hymn and then the coffin was put over board. On May 6th we had a birth on board. A woman gave birth to a boy child and right afterwards the Captain and the Doctor asked that he be named "Olaf" in honor of the ship. Then we on the night before the 20th of May had a glimpse of the island St. Paul.

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The wind turned against us and we had to lay for three days and nights without getting any place but then the wind turned in our favor again. On May 25th the wind was against us and we had slow going and then we had our first glimpse of Canada. We also met the emigrant ship the "Atlantic". We sailed so close that we greeted each other and asked how things were going and what kind of weather we'd had, etc. We also met another Norwegian emigrant ship named "Amalia <http://www.norwayheritage.com/p_ship.asp?sh=amela>" from "Porsgrund" and greeted her with "Hurrah". The 26th of May we had good wind and a little rain so we could not be on deck and at 11:00 a.m. the pilot came on board. At 8:00 p.m. occurred the death of a little child, one year and nine months old. This little child was buried like the first one. On May 28th a steamship came by and asked us if we wanted help to get to Quebec. The Captain asked how much it would cost and he answered 40 pounds which amounts to about 160 dollars. At that rate there was no use offering him anything so he went away. It wasn't long before we had favorable wind and at 7:00 a.m. on May 29th we came to Quarantine Place and before we were through with our sails, the doctor came aboard and we had orders to come up on deck. We were then led to the front part of the ship and a rope was stretched across the deck. By this the Doctor stood and allowed only one person at a time to come over to their side. This visitation went on very rapidly and orderly and none were kept back. At 2:30 in the afternoon we arrived in Quebec and immediately someone came aboard and we were counted.

After that the Captain went ashore and while in town he ordered a steamboat to come and bring us ashore. We were permitted to do so and were brought back to ship in the afternoon. On May 31st at 7:00 p.m. we left the "Olaf" and went by steamboat to the railroad station where we stayed on the dock until 2:00 in the morning of June 1st when we got lodging in a warehouse. At one o'clock in the morning of June 2nd we left Quebec. While we were boarding the train, a drunken Judge from Trondhjem by the name of Norgaard ran into a sales clerk from Tromsø by the name of Johnson. Johnson laid Norgaard on the platform and told him to be quiet but Norgaard would not, so Johnson got up, took Norgaard by the hair and gave him a slap on the ear so he quickly fell to the platform again and broke one leg so he had to be carried to a hospital. Both men were in our group.



At 7:00 p.m. on June 3rd we were by Montreal. On June 4th, 1:00 p.m. we were in Toronto and left there at 7:00 p.m. the same day. The 5th of June at 11:00 a.m. we arrived at Sarnia and there we were brought over to the United States by steamboat crossing the river that separates Canada from the United States. We were lodged in a hotel. The coach with our luggage was brought over on a ferry and took the coach right up to the warehouse we were in and our luggage was brought in. Here every trunk was opened and the clothing examined to see if we had to pay duty on it . Each family had to pay \$.95 in duty but single person went free. On June 6th at 10:00 p.m. we left and came to Milwaukee by steamboat. We reached there by 7:00 a.m. June 9th. There we walked around and looked at the town and thought it was the most beautiful town. The whole town was criss-crossed by canals and bridges over them for the streets. These were fixed so that four men could swing them when anyone should pass through the canal. The streets were wide and on nearly every street by the sidewalk there had been planted a pretty row of beautiful leaf trees. They also came driving with a load of bread so that those who did not have anything to buy food for could have some. There was also a lovely speech for us bidding us welcome to America on Pentecost Sunday. At 7:00 p.m. we left there by train and arrived at La Crosse, Wisconsin on June 10th at 4: p.m. At 1:00 a.m. the morning of June 11th we left there by steamboat for Veinona (Winona) Minnesota where we arrived at 8:00 p.m. the same day. After that we had neither steamboat nor train. We came to Rushford, Fillmore County, Minnesota and worked there for a year."

Johnson, Julsrud and Lynnes settled in Norwegian Grove Township in Ottertail County. In 1870 Tansem settled on the homestead in Clay County and the Township was named after him. They built a log house close to a lake known as Tansem Lake and Gure Lake. The balance of the diary tells of his life in Minnesota and birth's of family members This site is for educational and research purposes. We permit the use of the material for non-profit purposes like personal web pages, family history books etc., as long as you do not duplicate any of our work. When using any of the material published on this site, you must provide proper credit to the site and a hyperlink back to www.norwayheritage.com <<http://www.norwayheritage.com>> - .

Type of Ship-- The OLAF-A full rigger-largest ship



Finding Old Books

By Michele Heiderer

Looking for a book to further your genealogical research that is not available locally or may be out of print? You can always try to borrow it through your local library's interlibrary loan program. While this program is handy, it can take several months for that book to show up at your local library and in some cases, it can only be read in the library (in other words, you can't check it out!). Or you can try google books at <https://books.google.com>....sometimes finding that the book has to be purchased or that only the first few pages can be viewed.

Or, you just might hit a gold mine by going to familysearch.org. First, create a free account that you will use to log in each time. After that, click on 'Search' at the top of the page, then scroll down and click on 'Books'. Then enter the title of the book in the 'Search Digital Library' section. This collection of digitized books comes from 12 different libraries around the United States. In my case, I just entered one of my family surnames, Tounsley, and a list of 225 digitized books pertaining to this surname popped up. The first two were definitely my family, the Tounsley family of Houston County, Georgia. I never would have known that these books even existed, much less tried to find copies to read!

You can also click on any one of the twelve libraries to see what books they have digitized in conjunction with familysearch.org. For example, Allen County Public Library alone has digitized over 31,000 books pertaining to genealogy with familysearch.org's assistance! I discovered a slight glitch though; when I clicked on 'here' to start the search in the Arizona State Library, only one book came up for viewing. When I clicked 'Arizona State Library' instead, 2,826 book came up for viewing. This might be a glitch with my Mac computer, or it may just be a glitch with the website. Either way, happy hunting for book you may have never known existed!

Send us your submissions!

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

Newsletter submissions for the Nov/Dec issue should be sent
to newsletter@stillygen.org by Friday, **October 15th**.



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