

# The Stillaguamish Star

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE STILLAGUAMISH VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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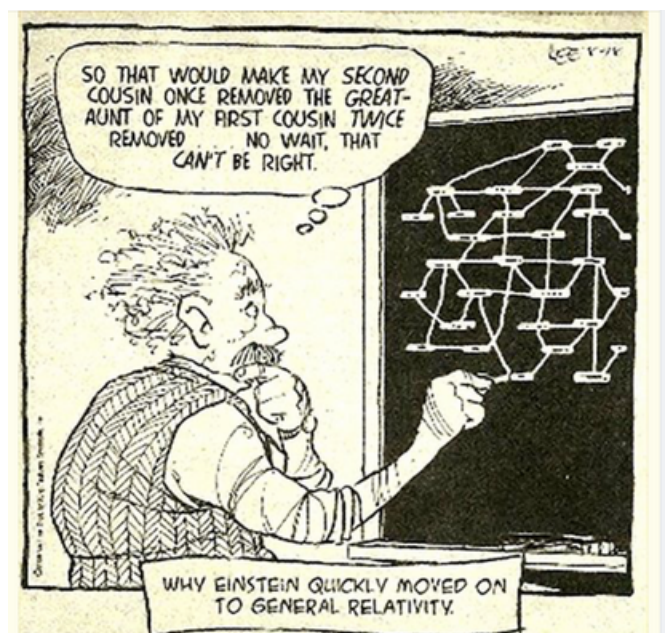
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## ***In This Issue:***

- Upcoming Events - 2
- It's Time! - 3
- Down A Rabbit Hole - 4
- The Red Chevron - 6
- Malcom Avenue is Where? - 8
- I Found It On eBay! - 9





## FROM THE EDITOR

Hello once more! I am excited to announce that Shirley Case has agreed to take the position of Editor for the Stilly Star newsletter. She is currently recovering from surgery so I agreed to do one more issue. We have some great stories from SVGS members in this issue, and I hope you enjoy reading them as much as I have.

The holidays are coming up and I know that with everything going on in the world they may look a little different this year. Whether we are able to celebrate the holidays with our family and friends in person or virtually may we share our love and gratefulness for them as much as possible. My prayer for each of you as we enter the last couple months of 2020 is that you all are healthy and well.

Any submissions for the next issue of the newsletter should be sent by

**Thursday, December 31st.**

Please send any newsletter submissions or questions for the Editor to [newsletter@stillygen.org](mailto:newsletter@stillygen.org).

- Leah

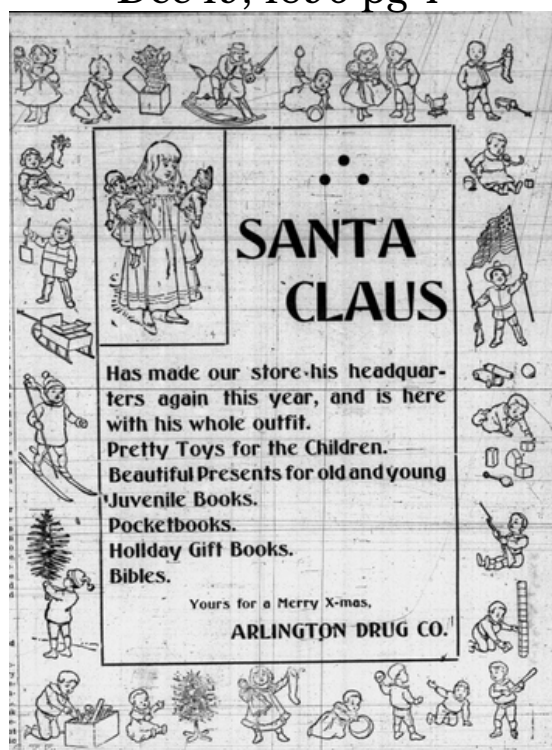
## Upcoming Events

*Please note: All SVGS meetings are currently virtual at this time. For further details on upcoming meetings please visit [www.stillygen.org](http://www.stillygen.org).*

THURSDAYS (weekly) 10AM  
SVGS Thursday Research Group

NOVEMBER 10, 1PM  
SVGS Monthly Meeting  
"Unlocking Notation Codes on Alien  
Passenger Lists"  
Liz Gomoll

## Haller City Times Dec 19, 1896 pg 4



# It's Time!

Sue Walde

"It's Time!" was the subject of an email sent last week to the below SVGS members. They had recently volunteered to help with SVGS's current project to digitize the oldest (1895-1924) Arlington Times newspapers from microfilm.

The translation of "It's Time!" meant dropping whatever you are doing in your life for about a week and roll up your sleeves to review the indexing of hundreds of newspapers recently digitized by our vendor SmallTownPapers. According to our contract, SVGS had about a week to do so.

Volunteers Sue Walde, Michele Heiderer, Susanne Brown, Sue McNeil, Ruth Caesar and Karen Looney leaped into action! Working from the safety of one's home, each volunteer was assigned newspapers by the year of publication. The review was not difficult. Nor was it particularly exciting. Nevertheless, it was essential. By the time you receive this newsletter, this important task will be completed. Then, onto the next step in the process.

Of course, a volunteer could not help but sneak a peek. These old newspapers reveal some fascinating stories about the Stillaguamish Valley. Whether you are from Arlington or not, you have a treat waiting for you!

We anticipate that by the time the New Year rings in, our historic newspaper collection will be online for you and people all over the world to enjoy.

**The Arlington Times.**



*But why wait to read The Arlington Times?  
You can read newer (1951 – 2010) editions of  
The Arlington Times now.*

*SmallTownPapers has over 250 small town  
newspapers - all available online for free!*

*Simply go to:*

*<http://www.smalltownpapers.com/>*

## The Arlington Times Nov 24, 1900 pg 4



## Haller City Times Dec 19, 1896 pg 4



# A Generous Gift

*Sue Walde*



Stillaguamish Valley Pioneer Museum graciously gifted SVGS digital copies of The Arlington Times historic newspapers! Over the years, the Pioneer Museum has collected newspapers that were donated by its members.

The historical collection is available online and ranges from 1907 to 1997 and includes many Frontier Days editions. However, not all years have every edition for the given year. Full years of publication are 1925 – 1962, 1967, 1971, 1984, and 1986. A tremendous advantage of the Pioneer's collection is that each scan was taken from a flat newspaper instead of a bound book.

Recently, our SVGS President Ruth Caesar and Pioneer Museum President Myrtle Rausch signed a Collaboration letter to share digitized newspaper archives. We are happy to reciprocate and share our newspaper collection with the Pioneers.

If the library were open, you could view this digital collection in the SVGS Computer Room. Being as we are closed due to COVID-19, you may explore this incredible archive online by visiting <http://www.stillymuseum.org/>. Simply click on Links at the home page and select the first option.

# DOWN A RABBIT HOLE

*Karen Looney*

I do not have any real process in my genealogy research. I may study my mother's Packwoods this week, than I may switch to my late husband's Looneys while I am trying to connect with a DNA relative who has responded to an email.

Recently, I went down the rabbit hole as I was looking on Ancestry and noticed a picture of my father-in-law's mother. I did not have a picture of her and would love to add this to my Looney tree. I don't put a lot of pictures up. I like to touch base with the original poster and have a conversation about how they are related and could I use that picture? I gave Alice Looney the most recent three generations of my Looney family in my email.

The next morning I had a response. She said she had over 50,000 Looneys/Lunas in her tree and many Virgil's, Henry's and Elbert's. She said she was related through James Roy, Jr / James Roy, Sr / Mathus Belton/ George Washington / Martin Luther / Adam / Robert / Adam / Robert. With her information, I was able to go to Family Search and get back to Robert Looney, who was the last name I knew of for my tree. I had never put the last four generations on my Legacy tree or on my Ancestry tree as I hadn't documented them.

Now I could see the relationship and sent her my work and told her about not including the last four generations in my tree. Alice quickly wrote back and asked me if I was familiar with the books Most Distinguished Characters on the American Frontier by Madge Looney Crane and Phillip L. Crane. She said the Robert Looney family was well documented in that book.

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I told her I was familiar with it, but the last time I looked on the internet, a single volume was at least \$385 with some at high as \$900. She agreed she had seen those 'crazy' prices, but would email the wife of the late Phillip L. Crane and see if they had any more books.

Down another rabbit hole I went. I searched for a couple of hours to see if there were any lower prices, if the books were available in e-format, which libraries had this book on their shelves, and so on. The closest library was in Fresno, California. I was writing an email to Sno-Isle Library and thought to look at one more place. Somehow I found a reference to 'therobertlooneybook'. I went to that site and not knowing if the site was updated regularly, I saw you could get volume one for \$40 plus shipping, or volume two for \$40 plus shipping, or both volumes for \$80 and no shipping. I literally ran to get my credit card. This was the fastest on-line purchase I ever made! I also quickly let Alice know I had found them.

Less than a week later, I received my package. The books are beautiful. I have only read thirty pages or so of the one. The first book is 442 pages and the second 992 pages. If I hadn't gone down that rabbit hole, it may have taken me forever to get my hands on these books. I was also introduced to a charming lady I hope to have conversations with in the future.



## Haller City Times Apr 20, 1895 pg 1

**CHRIS DUERR,**  
**Boot and Shoemaker,**  
BOOTS & SHOES MADE TO ORDER  
also keep on hand a stock of Dress and Work  
Shoes at  
SEATTLE PRICES.  
**REPAIRING**  
Done at Low Prices!  
HALLER CITY, WASHINGTON

**THE CITY MEAT MARKET**  
**Wm. MURPHY,**  
Proprietor  
Fresh Meat of All Kinds  
HIGHEST PRICE PAID FOR  
FAT STOCK.  
HALLER CITY, WASHINGTON

**Walker - House**  
**BAR.**  
FERGUSON & REBERTSON, Proprietors  
HALLER CITY, WASH.  
Choice Wines, Liquors and Cigars.

**Joe Flynn,**  
TONSorial ARTIST  
HAIR CUTTING, 25  
SHAVING, 15  
RAZORS PUT IN ORDER  
Opposite Teagar's Drug Store.  
HALLER CITY, WASH.

# *The Red Chevron*

*Phil Bartlow*

During World War 1, my grandfather, William Ray Bartlow, was an Army Private First Class (PFC). He had enlisted at Bismarck, North Dakota, in March of 1918, and in June he was sent to France as part of the American Expeditionary Forces. Fortunately for my family and me, he returned from overseas and was discharged at Camp Dodge, Iowa, on May 13, 1919.

When he died, my father received a small leather pouch that had belonged to his father, which I received when my father passed. Opening it, we found a small notebook, a trench art cigarette lighter, a metal matchbox cover with German writing on it, some spent rifle shells, a few other small items and one Red Chevron stripe, that had never been sewn onto a uniform. Considering my own military service, I was curious what this stripe meant, why there was only one, and why it hadn't been on his uniform?

On October 15th, I listened to a webinar on "Researching our World War 1 Ancestors" presented by Michael Strauss, one of our favorite Northwest Genealogy Conference speakers. Michael gave clues and sources for researching ancestors that had served during the War, where to find Army service records, what types of records might be available, locating Veterans Administration records and other resources.

One of the last pictures he shared was of a World War 1 soldier in uniform, explaining the various parts and patches of the uniform. Michael discussed the collar disc, the soldier patch, and numerous types of chevrons. There was a Gold chevron, representing 6 months of service overseas; a Light Blue chevron, representing less than 6 months overseas; a Silver chevron, representing time spent in the US; and a Red Chevron which was presented to soldiers that were Honorably Discharged from service.

Thank you Michael, I now have my answers.



*Above is a Red Chevron similar to the one that had been among my grandfather's things.*

# Malcolm Avenue is Where?

Sue Walde



*Cordz Battery Shop is the second building on the right, looking north along Arlington's Olympic Avenue, formerly Railroad Avenue. Parked on the left is a 1938 Ford, and on the right is a 1928 to 1931 Ford Model A Victoria. Next to Cordz Battery to the north (left) is the Olympic Theatre, built in 1939.*

*Photo courtesy of Stillaguamish Valley Pioneer Museum.*

When the first train chugged into town in 1890, Arlington's main street ran parallel with the railroad right of way and train tracks, now part of our beloved Centennial Trail. The road was initially called Railroad Avenue.

In 1924, citizens at a town council meeting requested the main thoroughfare be changed from Railroad Avenue to Malcolm Avenue in honor of Lieutenant Malcolm Johnstone. The young man lost his life at 25 while fighting in France during World War I. The petition to rename the street to Malcolm Avenue was deferred for more consideration.

One sunny morning, Dr. Oliver, who had been president of the Stillaguamish Valley Pioneers Association between 1912 through 1925, marched into The Arlington Times office, followed by an entourage of supporters. They ushered editor Cal Marsh outside and up a flight of stairs. The west view was a beautiful panorama of the Olympic Mountains sparkling

with a fresh powder of snow. Said the doctor, "It's a shame that with a view such as this from our main street, we call it Railroad Avenue instead of Olympic Avenue. Let's start a campaign to change the name."

Later in June 1926, the Commercial Club took up the name change campaign and presented it but received limited enthusiasm. The Arlington Times reported, "The town council was visibly unimpressed, and so far as is known, no official change was ever made. But from then on, in The Arlington Times print, Olympic Avenue was used, never Railroad Avenue." As the story goes, that is how Railroad Avenue became Olympic Avenue.

At the time, the city's house number system made no sense. A building located on Olympic Avenue between 1st Street and 2nd Street had house numbers in the 500 series. Buildings between 2nd street and 3rd Street were

*continued on pg 8...*

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assigned house numbers in the 600 series and so forth.

In 1937, the city revamped and modernized its address numbering system. In the above photograph, Cordz Battery's address changed from 503 Olympic Avenue to 103 N. Olympic Avenue (Today, it is 105N. Olympic Avenue).

Curious about the businesses along Olympic Avenue in 1937? If so, check out the Stillaguamish Valley Pioneer Museum's online archive of newspapers at <http://www.stillymuseum.org/>. At the website, search for "Revised Arlington House Directory." Three articles will display with the names of many downtown businesses long forgotten.

But no matter where you search in Arlington, Malcolm Avenue is nowhere to be found.

Sources: The Arlington Times: "Council Passes Municipal Building Ordinance; Election June 24," p. 1, May 15, 1924; "Special Election Called on Consolidation Issue," p. 1, June 17, 1926; "Revised Arlington House Directory," p. 4, March 4, 1937; "Where the Heck?," Frontier Days, p. 16, 1989 & William H. Mason, Snohomish County in the War, The Mason Publishing Co., Inc., Everett, Washington, Reproduced by Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society.

*Stillaguamish Valley Pioneer Association and Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society wrote this article in collaboration.*

## The City of Arlington is seeking volunteers for city boards and commissions - including the Cemetery Board.

From The City of Arlington:

The Cemetery Board serves as advisory to the mayor and city council with respect to the Arlington Cemetery. Applicants must reside within the urban growth boundary of Arlington. Board members serve a term of four years. Meetings are at least 4 times a year, with additional meetings if necessary.

For more information or to apply visit:  
<http://arlingtonwa.gov/424/Boards-Commissions>

## The Arlington Times Dec 7, 1901 pg 3

**LOST**

A valuable package supposed to belong to a man named  
... Santa Claus ...  
but for the accommodation of the boys and girls we paid  
the reward, kept the goods and they are now on display  
at our Store. They include

**DOLLS** and furniture for the girls      **ATHLETIC** goods for boys

**JEWELRY**  
**TOILET ARTICLES**  
**SMOKING SETS, SHAVING SETS**  
(including excellent presents for young ladies and gentlemen)  
**FASCINATORS** and warm slippers for Mamma, and ditto  
**SLIPPERS** and Mufflers for Papa.

Call and examine our stock

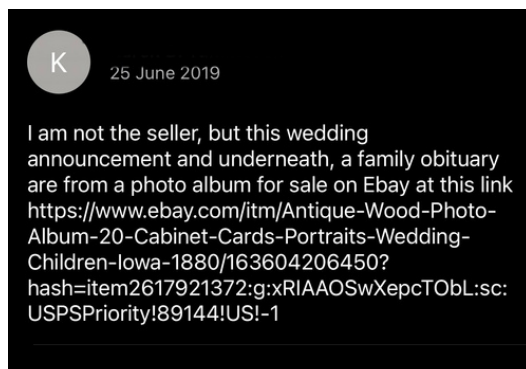
**C. C. BROWN, Arlington Wash.**

# I Found It on eBay!

Shelby Nelson

If you are anything like me, you have family trees on more than one site. I have one on Ancestry, FamilySearch, MyHeritage, etc. Although it is hard to keep them all up to date, I feel the search engines are different enough that when I can't find anything on one site, I can sometimes have success with one of the others. FamilySearch is not usually my favorite, as I don't like to waste time "fixing" changes others can make to my people. I know, I can set it to private, but I don't use it as my primary tree, and I leave it public for one very important reason. Cousin bait! I use my public tree to fish for ancestors. If you put out the bait, eventually you might just get a bite. However, what I caught one afternoon last year I was not expecting at all!

That afternoon, I had decided to check on my FamilySearch "bait". As I clicked on the tabs across the top of the page for my gg grandmother, when I reached the "memories" tab, there was something posted there! A note and a link to a family album for sale on eBay. My heart skipped a beat. I did not have much experience using eBay, but I could not click on the link fast enough. It seemed like it took forever for the posting to open, the entire time I was praying to please, still be there! Sure enough, it was still for sale.



The seller was asking \$40 for the album. At first, I was shocked that she was selling it and

would have to buy it. As I flipped through the pictures and names listed in the album, I realized this was in fact my family and it included photos of all the siblings and families, death info on a couple of siblings, and the obituary of my gg grandmother. The seller had bought it from a second-hand store in Ohio



(most of the family had settled here from Germany) for the antique album with wood pages and metal clasp engraved, June 6, 1882, just to resell on eBay. I had no idea buying antique photos and photo albums to resell was even a thing. But, without a doubt, I had to buy it.

Buying this family album was priceless just seeing the joy it brought my mom and aunt to see their great aunts, uncles, and cousins they never got the chance to meet in person. I may not ever catch such a big fish again, but knowing the possibility exists, fishing and eBay photo searching are now part of my regular genealogy research.

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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 **Jan/Feb** issue should be sent to [newsletter@stillygen.org](mailto:newsletter@stillygen.org) by **Thursday, December 31st**.



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<https://www.facebook.com/Northwest-Genealogy-Conference-109884296091070/>



## Check out our Blog:

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



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HOME OF THE NORTHWEST GENEALOGY CONFERENCE

**The Stillaguamish Star**

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2020