

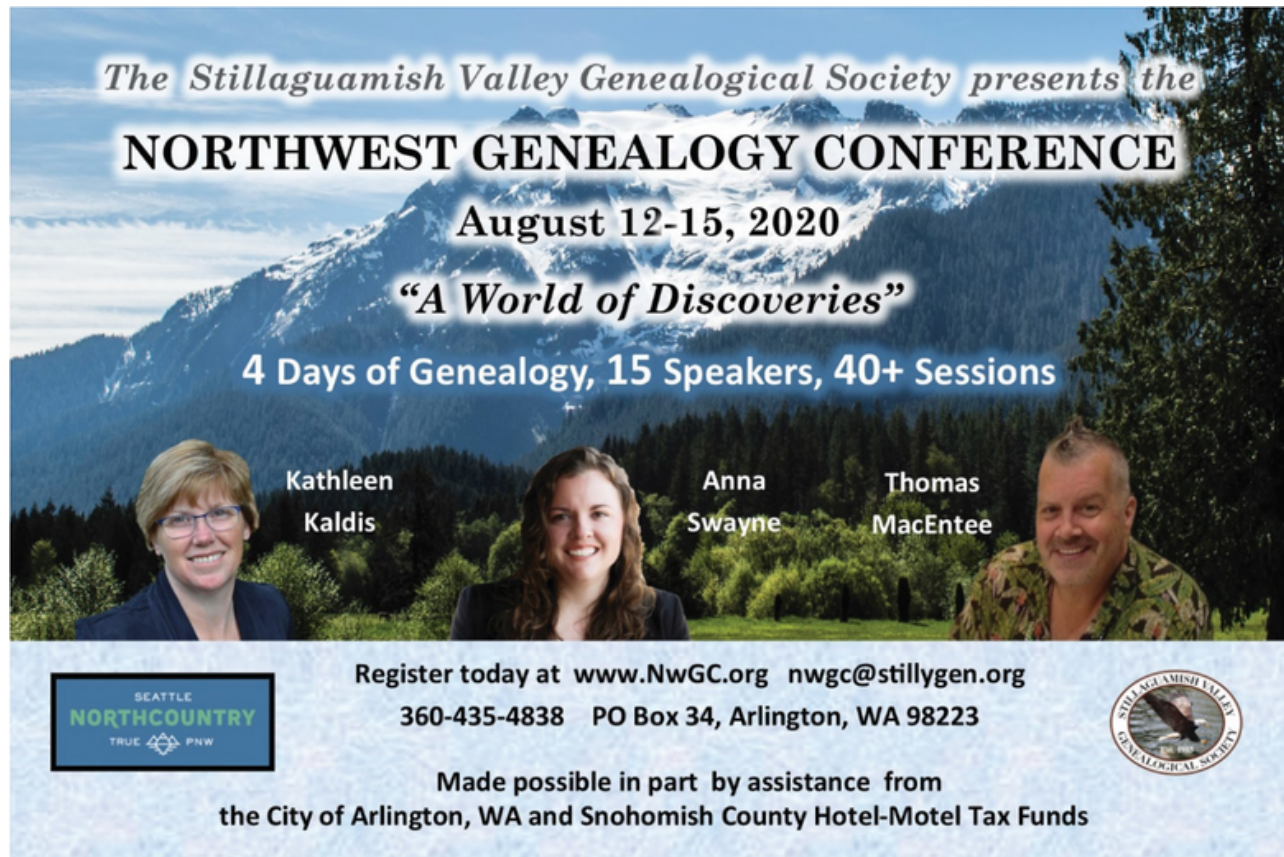
The Stillaguamish Star

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE STILLAGUAMISH VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

PO BOX 34, ARLINGTON WA 98223

360.435.4838
www.stillygen.org

6111 188TH PL NE, ARLINGTON WA 98223



The Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society presents the
NORTHWEST GENEALOGY CONFERENCE
August 12-15, 2020
“A World of Discoveries”
4 Days of Genealogy, 15 Speakers, 40+ Sessions

Kathleen Kaldis Anna Swayne Thomas MacEntee

Register today at www.NwGC.org nwgc@stillygen.org
360-435-4838 PO Box 34, Arlington, WA 98223

Made possible in part by assistance from
the City of Arlington, WA and Snohomish County Hotel-Motel Tax Funds



Registration now open! See page 3 for more info!

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BOOK ENDS NEEDED!

Two dozen book ends are needed for the expanded U.S. States section of the SVGS Library. They must be 7" to 9" tall as the books are too large and heavy for the smaller book ends.

If you have some to donate,
please drop them at the library any
Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday, 10a-4p.

THANK YOU!
Michele Heiderer

Upcoming Events:

TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 1PM

SVGS Monthly Meeting

Speaker: Lori Lee Sauber

"Did My Ancestors Really Pay
for the Mayflower Voyage?"

TUESDAY, MARCH 31

SVGS Library Computer Clean-up

(see pg 3 for more details)

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

Whatcom Genealogical Society seminar

Bellingham, WA

Research Like A Pro

Speaker: Diana Elder

<https://bit.ly/2VtgYv7>

TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 1PM

SVGS Monthly Meeting

Speaker: TBA

MAY 20 - 23, 2020

National Genealogical Society

Family History Conference

Salt Lake City, UT

Echoes of Our Ancestors

<https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/>

SATURDAY, JUNE 6 2020

S. King Co. Genealogical Society Seminar

Speaker: Diahan Southard

Who Does Your DNA Think You Are?

Renton Technical College

<http://www.skcgcs.org/2020-seminar.html>

AUGUST 12 - 15, 2020

Northwest Genealogy Conference

Arlington, WA

'A World of Discoveries'

Registration now open!

<https://stillygen.org/>

FROM THE EDITOR



It is already March! Can you believe it? It seems so much has happened already this year, as evidenced by the content for this issue of the newsletter. Many new beginnings are in process and that is wonderful to hear and see.

My husband and I are in the process of buying our first home together and it is exciting and nerve-wracking at the same time. My parents are getting ready to retire and move down to our area of the country, which is very exciting! (I'm sad the society is losing my mom, Pam Liebelt, but I'm really happy at the thought of having her close again.) I am very much looking forward to spring and I hope that you all have a lovely one!

Please remember that we love to receive stories and experiences from society members about their families or about family research that they are doing. You don't have to be an experienced or lengthy writer to share these stories with us.

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

Friday, April 24th.

Please send any newsletter submissions or questions for the Editor to newsletter@stillygen.org.

- Leah

Northwest Genealogy Conference

August 12 - 15, 2020

Registration Now Open!

This year's theme is "A World of Discoveries". We have classes for beginners to advanced researchers.

The conference kicks off on Wednesday with Thomas MacEntee ("The Abundant Genealogist") presenting a FREE BEGINNERS class. End the day with a relaxing Taco Bar buffet at the Gleneagle Golf Club.

Thursday, Thomas will be our keynote speaker, passing along his tips for genealogists.

Friday's keynote speaker is the well known DNA speaker Anna Swayne, covering the latest DNA developments. Friday evening we will have a Banquet at Angel of the Winds Resort Casino featuring a full buffet with salmon or chicken options. Nationally recognized speaker Michael Strauss will be speaking on

"Prisoners, Thieves and Scoundrels; Our Black Sheep Ancestors".

Saturday will feature Kathleen Kaldis, Genealogist with the Massachusetts Society of Mayflower Descendants, who will speak on early New England ("From Pilgrims to Pioneers") with a nod to early Mayflower Descendants, celebrating the 400th anniversary of the Plymouth landing.

A complete line-up of classes and registration information can be found at www.nwgc.org. Remember the "Early Bird" discount for members and make your taco buffet and banquet reservations at the time you register.

Also follow the events online at our SVGS or NWGC Facebook page.

See you in August!

Personal Files to be Deleted from SVGS Computers

On Tuesday, March 31st, all personal computer files inadvertently saved on any of the four computers in the Computer Room will be deleted.

You may have thought that you deleted your personal file, but your file may still be saved as a Download. To clean up our computers, all personal files have been collected and saved onto one computer. In case you want to check for your personal files before they are deleted, you may simply:

- 1) Go to "Roots2" (the second computer on the right as you enter the Computer Room).
- 2) See the upper right-hand corner of the Desktop.
- 3) Click on the folder labeled, "To Be PERMANENTLY Deleted".
- 4) Scroll down the files for what may be yours.
- 5) If you need to make a copy, save your file onto your flash drive.

If you need a flash drive, one may be purchased from the SVGS office for \$5. By removing extraneous files, the computers should operate a little faster. Thanks for your help by not leaving personal data on SVGS computers!

2020 HAS COME IN LIKE A LION...

by Ruth Caesar

The winter season has been very impactful thus far for the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society Library.



On January 14th, we at SVGS had no choice but cancel our society meeting and a presentation about the Mayflower due to an ill-timed snowfall. We're happy to tell you that the Mayflower presentation, which will be provided by Lori Lee Sauber, has been re-scheduled for our March 10th meeting.

This about blew our minds....

Just when we thought the wild weather was behind us, a fierce wind blew through our valley like a tornado, (which it wasn't of course), but it left truly incredible destruction in it's

wake. A great deal of time had to be spent on cleaning up our parking areas so we could get back to our normal routine. Special thanks to Bill Grant & Michele Cozad for their initial efforts on clean-up so the library doors could open on Saturday February 1st. Additional thanks go to my husband Dan, who very kindly came to SVGS and put in half a day of labor to help me complete the much needed clean-up.



A Note About Scanning:

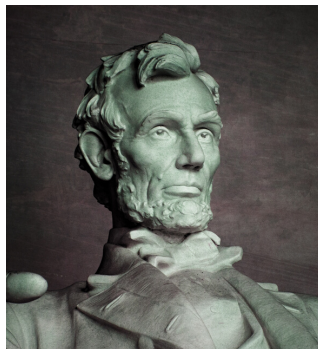
If you plan to come in and use one of the scanners, it is a good idea to plan ahead. Call the society at 360-435-4838 ahead of time and ask to reserve the computer attached to the scanner you want to use.

The flatbed scanner is attached to computer #4 and the high speed scanner is attached to computer #3.

SVGS Field Trip!

SVGS is planning a group trip to FISKE LIBRARY in Seattle on March 20th. We need a minimum of 9 people to get the group rate of \$5 per person. We also need a volunteer with a van to help with driving. Please sign up at the library or at info@stillygen.org. We will advise the time.

Recently at SVGS...



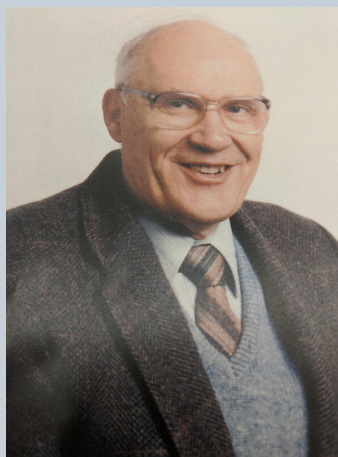
On February 11th and to coincide with Abraham Lincoln's Birthday SVGS welcomed Richard Hanks (President of the Stanwood Area Historical Society) who presented "The Personality and Parentage of Abraham Lincoln". Mr. Hanks is related to Lincoln thru his mother Mary Hanks Lincoln. What a great learning experience we had with "behind the scenes" stories and private family photos Mr. Hanks shared with us.

To celebrate the 400th year anniversary of the Mayflower (which landed in November 1620) we will have a presentation by Lori Lee Sauber

on March 10th, the subject is "Did My Ancestors Really Pay for the Mayflower Voyage". Follow the research trail as Lori Lee identifies whether her Mayflower family provided capital for the voyage or was it a myth. This is sure to be fun learning experience. The presentation will start at 1PM at the SVGS Library. This year we would like to focus on Mayflower descendants. If you have a story to share please send to newsletter@stillygen.org. At the NwGC 2020 conference we'll have a relative board where you can find other Mayflower descendants right at the conference!

IN MEMORIAM...

We are saddened to have learned of the death of long time member Dick Prouty on January 9th – he led a good long life and was married to the "love of his life" Shirley for 65 years. Dick was a community supporter, teacher, engineer, professor, Christmas tree farmer, Korean War Veteran and a beloved friend to all of us here at SVGS. We can't remember Dick and Shirley not attending our annual events and they were both volunteers at our Northwest Genealogy Conference. We could always count on Dick to offer a word of advice. He will be sorely missed by all of us.



*Dick Prouty,
long time member of SVGS*



Ever Changing Times

by Ruth Caesar

Some things we know are coming and some things we don't.

We knew our VP of the Library, Pam Liebelt would be submitting her resignation and I have sadly accepted it effective February 1st, 2020. Happily, I can tell you that SVGS has been very lucky, in that, another "Pam" has offered to try and fill those shoes. Pam Shoberg has been appointed and accepted by the SVGS Board as our interim VP of the Library. Her resume' shows she is a very accomplished woman and a great addition to our Board.

We knew our Treasurer, Anne Grimm, was going to Arizona this winter as a "snowbird" and SVGS was again lucky enough to find a qualified member, Karen Looney, who was

willing to fill in during Anne's absence.

What we didn't know is what a good fit Anne and husband Bruce would find Arizona to be. They have purchased a home in AZ and now hope to make that their primary residence beginning this fall.

That being said, at our Annual Meeting and Potluck (May 12th at noon) there will be an opening for SVGS Treasurer which we hope Karen Looney may be willing to fill. In addition, Karen has accepted the position of Budget and Finance Chair for the society. In an effort to plan toward a better financial future for the society, Karen recently attended a grant writing seminar at the Marysville Library with Phil Bartlow and myself. There's always much to do in these ever changing times...



RESEARCH RESOURCES YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT...

There is a group of genealogy enthusiasts from the Stanwood and Camano island areas that meet monthly. They have collected and recorded obituaries from the local newspapers of the past and make them available for other researchers. I know we have some members that are also members of that group and maybe some who live in that geographical area that are not aware of the group.

You can find more information at: http://www.sahs-fncc.org/?page_id=56

Life in Norway: <https://www.lifeinnorway.net/norwegian-genealogy/>

Thanks to a new historical population registry, it's never been easier to research your own Norwegian family heritage.

Matricula: <http://data.matricula-online.eu/en/>

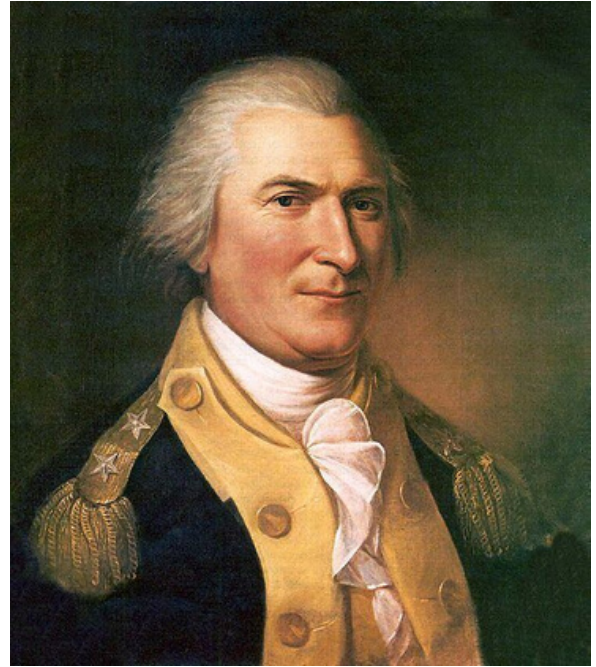
Here you can find church registers (mostly books of birth, marriage and death) from various European countries (currently Austria, Germany, Poland and Serbia) This site is not a secure site - so use with caution

Hat tip to Whitman County Genealogical Society December 2019/January 2020 newsletter for sharing these resources.

SIGNER OF THE CONSTITUTION

by Bill Grant

I was watching the impeachment hearings and the panel of academic scholars were discussing the constitution. I was reminded of my first cousin (Nathaniel Gorham 1738-1796) who was a delegate from Massachusetts to the constitutional convention. Nathaniel was born in Charlestown, MA into an old Bay Colony family of modest means. His education was minimal. At 15 years of age he was apprenticed to a New London, CT merchant. He quit in 1759, returned to his hometown and established a business which quickly succeeded. In 1763 he married Rebecca Call, who was to bear nine children.



Nathaniel Gorham

Nathaniel began his political career as a public notary but soon was elected to the colonial legislature (1771-75). He was a delegate to the provincial congress (1774-75), member of the Massachusetts Board of War (1778-81), delegate to the constitutional convention (1779-80) and representative in both the upper (1780) and lower (1781-87) houses of the legislature, including speaker of the latter in 1781, 1782 and 1785. He also began a judicial career as judge of the Middlesex County court of common pleas (1785-96). During the same period, he sat on the Governor's Council (1788-89).

During the Revolutionary War, British troops had ravaged much of his property, though by privateering and speculation he managed to recoup most of his fortune.

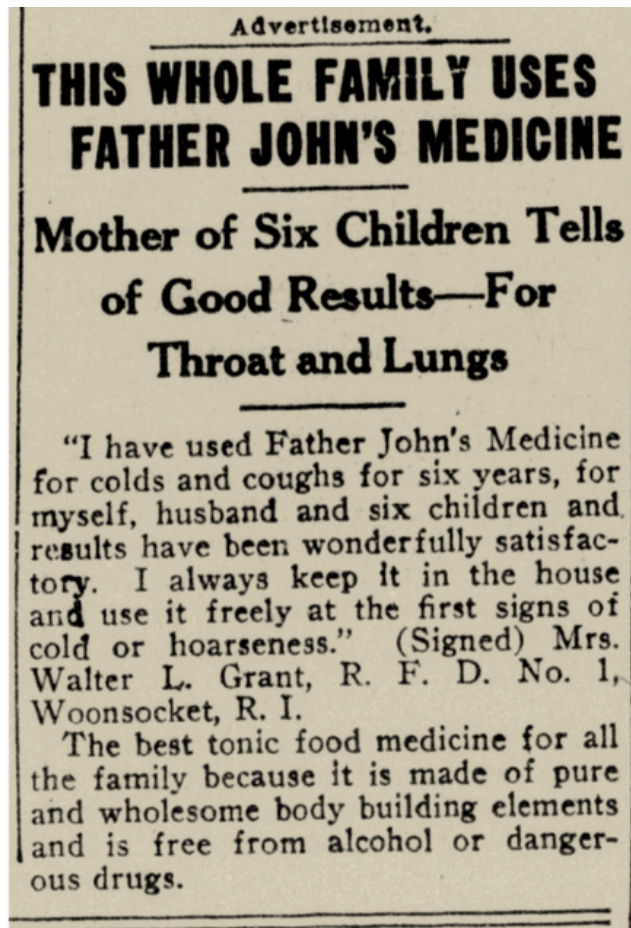
Despite these pressing business concerns and his state political and judicial activities, he also served his nation. He was a member of the Continental Congress (1782-83 and 1785-87), and held the office of president from June 1786 until January 1787.

At age 49 Gorham attended the Constitutional Convention. He attended all the sessions and played an influential role. He spoke often, acted as chairman of the Committee of the Whole, and sat on the Committee of Detail. As a delegate to the Massachusetts ratifying convention, he stood behind the Constitution. Nathaniel Gorham then signed the Constitution in 1787 along with my other first cousin Benjamin Franklin.

continued on pg 8...

Genealogical Treasure

by Bill Grant



I was perusing newspaperarchive.com looking for genealogical nuggets when I came across this advertisement. To my amazement the spokesperson was my grandmother. Even though she died before I was born it gave me a chuckle that my father was given Father John's Medicine as a little boy.

(The above clipping was originally taken from the Boston Post, Boston MA dated May 26, 1915)

Signer of the Constitution...continued from pg 7

The United States Constitution is the supreme legal text that forms the framework of the United States Government. It was written by the Constitutional Convention of 1787 which debated many plans and compromises. The existing Congress sent it to the 13 states, after heated debates all 13 states ratified it in 1788 and it started in operation in 1789, with George Washington the first president.

Side note: Established on November 26, 1789, the first national "Thanksgiving Day" was originally created by George Washington as a way of "giving thanks" for the Constitution.

Thanks to Ancestry.com and Conservapedia.com

Research Helpers

Have you become familiar with the records or research tools of a certain locale, type or topic? Would you be willing to help others within our membership that have questions on those particular records?

If so, please send an email to info@stillygen.org with your name, the type of records you can help with and how you can be contacted. Our goal is to compile a list of research helpers with different areas of familiarity.

Journey to a New Country

by Joanne Hoidal Wetmore

My Grandfather Hans Mathias Hoidal, was born 13 November 1865, in the town of Volda, More O Romsdal, Norway, married Anne Marie Bakken, born in Ystenas, More O Romsdal, Norway on December 15, 1886, in Volda. They had four children, Marius, Karl, and my father Andreas (my father changed his name to Andrew after coming to America), and Hans Martildus. My grandfather was a tanner by trade and owned a tannery in Volda. In 1893 it was destroyed by fire.

Excerpt from my Grandfather's diary:

"In the latter part of 1894 like other Norsemen who had gone to other lands to seek a new home and better conditions, I went to South Africa, to the town of Reitz, Orange Free State, to seek a new home and better living conditions. My selection of this place was largely due to the residence there of an uncle who lived there for about 25 years, and he was single and doing well. After getting settled down and having secured a profitable occupation, I sent for my family, they arrived in 1895. On their land near Reitz they built a home, also a blacksmith and work shop. Having considerable knowledge of many kinds of work, the shop was well patronized and we prospered. The Boers gave us much work to do and treated us well, and we came to desire them. The Boers were a rugged, honest and trustworthy people. They also, in a way were proud people, and had a strong desire to secure and guard their freedom. We came to like them and fell into sympathy with their ways and desires".

In 1898, my aunt Karn Petrina, the only sister, was born, 7th , January.



Hans Mathias Hoidal & Anne Marie Bakken

In 1899, just before the Boer War started, my grandfather sent his family home to Norway. He had been drafted and stayed in South Africa and fought on the side of the Boers. Their two horses and wagon were conscripted for 16 pounds. He was captured by the British who held him a prisoner in Ladysmith, Port Natal for about 18 months. He was very ill and weak and as he got better, the British finally released him with enough money to return to Volda and his family in 1902. I'm very fortunate to have a copy of about 22 pages of a diary that my grandfather kept detailing his days fighting the British.

In 1903, my grandfather Hans migrated to Arlington, Snohomish County, Washington, and lived with his sister Laura in Silvana. In the fall of 1903, Marius, then 16 came to America and the rest of the family came in August of 1905. In 1905, Hans purchased 40 (forty) acres from Halvor Thorsen. They spent

continued on pg 10...



*Karl, Grandma Marie holding Hans,
Andrew, Marius*



Hoidal siblings - Hans, Karl, Karn, Marius and Andrew



Karn, age 5



Karl, Andrew and Marius



Andrew, WWI 1918

the winter of 1905 with only one-half of the roof up and two walls, half the floor, one bed, no dishes and no furniture. In February or March, Wilfred Hoveland and Charlie Vokstram walked in from Bryant, they were the first guests and were fed sitting on the ground. On returning to Everett, Wilfred purchased a chest of drawers, which was sent to Bryant for Grandma Anne Marie. They built their first house of hand split cedar and began clearing their land. Their farm was 40 acres of heavy timber. The only road to it was a rude skid road. Today one would never

know that once large timber stood there. Their home was southwest of Bryant on the Kackman Road bordered on the west by the Pilchuck Creek.

Grandfather Hans passed away 02 Aug 1922, my Grandma Anne Marie, son, Marius and daughter Karen continued farming with the help of Karl and Andrew, Hans and families for a few years. I spent half of my growing up years on the farm and our home in Arlington, I considered I had the best of both.

Thank You to the Snohomish County Historic Preservation Commission!

by Sue Walde

Wouldn't it be wonderful if all historic Arlington Times newspapers were digitized?

Well, SVGS is working on it - thanks to the Historic Preservation Commission.

SVGS has recently applied for a grant for \$8,255 from the Snohomish County Historic Preservation Commission! The bulk of the grant is to start digitizing the Arlington Times newspapers not already digitized. In anticipation of this generous grant, we hope to digitize about 15 to 20 reels of microfilm from our historic Arlington Times newspaper collection. The grant also provides funds to upload all micro media into the SVGS Library Database and purchase the construction materials needed for two additional bookcases.

Steve and Michele Heiderer have already built the new bookcases and delivered them to the library. Michele jumped into action and has the shelves half stocked with books. Through the years, Steve has donated his labor building over half of the bookcases in the library and built these last two to match the others. You can see these sturdy bookcases in the hallway

The Arlington Times.



Steve & Michele Heiderer

across from the Computer Room.

This year we will need lots of help! All grant items must be completed by the end of the year. As the project progresses, volunteers will be needed to attach file labels, move books, etc.

So far, special thanks to Suzanne Brown, Michele Heiderer, Steve Heiderer, Flynn Kennedy, Karen Looney, Dee Saunders, Pam Shoberg and Sue Walde. And our heartfelt gratitude goes to the Snohomish County Historic Preservation Commission!

Send us your submissions!

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

Newsletter submissions for the **May/June** issue should be sent
to newsletter@stillygen.org by **April 24th**.



Find us on Facebook:

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

<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

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MARCH/APRIL 2020