

Supporting family historians in the South Puget Sound since 1974



OLYMPIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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UPCOMING DATES

- GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Thursday, Feb 13th, 7-8:30pm
- SIG MEETINGS - throughout Feb
- DEADLINE TO SUBMIT NEWSLETTER STORIES: Feb 20th
- OGS Board Meeting Feb 18th, 6:30-7:45pm

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Newsletter team: Peggy Cooley, Carolyn Gibbons, and Mandy Stahre
Contact us: newsletter@olygensoc.org

WEBSITE LINK:

olygensoc.org

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This newsletter is free to the community.

RootsTech 2025



Roots Tech 2025 is the largest family history conference held in Salt Lake City, Utah, from March 6-8th this year. This multifaceted conference is open for registration; online attendance is free (!), paid in-person attendance is \$129 for a 3-day pass.

Online, there are over 200 sessions to choose from; if you are in-person, that is increased by more than 250 exclusive sessions plus more than 120 exhibitors in the Expo Hall. You could meet the people behind all those apps, databases and products we genealogists love. I registered with my FamilySearch.org login and went to "The 2025 Schedule". Sessions begin at 7



AM PST and the last session of the day begins at 6:15 PM. Go to <https://www.familysearch.org/en/blog/registration-open-rootstech-2025> to register and find classes. On-demand classes are available now.

- Peggy Cooley

February Presentation Digging into Finding Aids: The Road Map to Any Manuscript Collection

Genealogists use all kinds of tools to help them with their genealogy research. One of the best tools to understand and use when working with Manuscript Collections is the Finding Aid. Archivists develop Finding Aids to help genealogists navigate through Manuscript Collections to find their ancestors. This presentation will help genealogists read, follow, and use a Finding Aid to find

your ancestors in the records. Melissa Barker is a Certified Archives Manager and Public Historian currently working at the Houston County, Tennessee Archives & Museum. She is affectionally known as *The Archive Lady* to the genealogy community. She lectures, teaches, and writes about the genealogy research process, researching in archives and records preservation. She

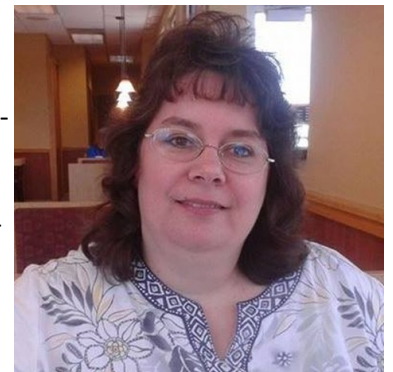


Photo: Melissa Barker

Continued to page 2...

February presentation continued...

conducts virtual presentations across the United States and other countries for various genealogy groups and societies. She writes a popular blog

entitled *A Genealogist in the Archives* and is a well-known published book reviewer. She has been a Professional Genealogist for the past 21 years with expertise

in Tennessee records. She has been researching her own family history for the past 35 years.

OGS Program Year at-a-glance

If the speaker is in-person (designated with a P) at our meeting place on Zoom (Z) which can be viewed at the church or from your home.

February 13th (Z) - "Digging into Finding Aids: The Roadmap to Any Manuscript Collection" with

Melissa Barker.

March 13th (Z) - "Was my William Smith in the Civil War?" with Brian Rhinehart.

April 10th (Z) - "Researching Your War of 1812 Ancestor" with Craig R. Scott.

May 8th (Z) - "From Research to Draft: Rapidly Writing Your Ancestor's Story" with Devon Lee.

June 12th (TBD) - Family Search.org – Working with the Family Search Center and What it has to Offer" - John Anderson.

Historic monuments discussion invite

The Washington State Historical Society is working on a project to address [historic monuments](#) the organization placed around the state in the early 20th century. As part of the project, they are hosting "Community Conversations" to engage the public in civic dialogue about how these monuments portray the past, and how they

can address the monuments to convey a more holistic and accurate historical narrative.

Session 1: February 19, 2025. 6 – 8 p.m. Washington State History Museum in Tacoma. (RSVP). Focus on the [Connell's Prairie](#) monument.

Session 2: February 20, 2025. 6 – 8 p.m. Abigail Stuart House in Olympia. (RSVP). Focus on the [Simmons Party](#) monument.

Please RSVP using the links above or contact the [Washington State Historical Society](#) for more details.

Obituary

Robert Timothy McCoy, age 79, of Olympia, passed away at his home on December 31, 2024, surrounded by his loving family.

For many years, Bob was the independent auditor of the books for OGS, and important part of our Non-profit status.

Bob was born October 16, 1945, in Twin Falls, Idaho, the son of Madison Monroe and Wynema Jean (Duncan) McCoy. He grew up in San Diego, California. Bob graduated from Hoover High School in San Diego in 1963, then went on to Sacramento State College, earning a Bachelor's

Degree in Environmental Sciences. Bob married Geraldine "Jerri" Thorpe on August 26, 1967, at San Diego, California. Bob and Jerri were married for 57 years, and have two sons, Jon and Brian. Bob worked as a State Park Ranger



for the State of Washington for 12 years at Ginkgo Petri-

fied Forest, Lake Easton, Illahee, Wanapum, and Sun Lakes State Parks. He then moved into the Olympia headquarters of Washington State Parks and worked for 11 years as an Office Manager and Internal Auditor. He then switched to the Washington State Patrol Internal Affairs department and worked for two years as an Inspector and Internal Auditor. Remaining to cherish Bob's memory are his wife, Jerri; sons Jon (Carla), of Oak Harbor, and Brian, of Olympia; and his sister, Barbara Moore, of San Diego.

Have you missed a general meeting? Members can view recordings at our website. olygensoc.org> Sign In> Community Events> Recordings"

Tumwater Timberland Library Refresh

Tumwater Timberland Library is open with limited service including returns, holds pickup, small browsing collection, internet computers, printing through June.

The library will be closed for President's Day from February 16 and 17th and outdoor bookdrops will be closed. Storytimes will be held at the Service Center at 415 Tum-

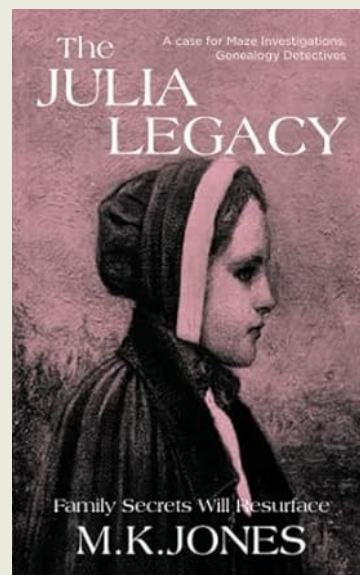
water Blvd. The library plans to re-open with full service in June, but no exact date is known at this time. Please visit the Timberland Library [website](#) for updates.

Book review

Continuing along to the third book in the Maze Investigations series by M.K. Jones, "[The Julia Legacy](#)", Zelah, the lead genealogist in the Maze Investigative team receives an unexpected set of rings. She received them from her arch nemesis from the home that she grew up in as a foster child. This mystery digs into her past, revealing how she got her name and what happened to her mother and her best childhood friend. The Maze Investigations team takes a

month in Cornwall to relax and learn more about Zelah's past, hoping to solve the mystery of the 3 rings and items she inherited. This was a well written mystery with lots of historical detail. You can find this book at book sellers as well as digitally.

- Kerri Upton



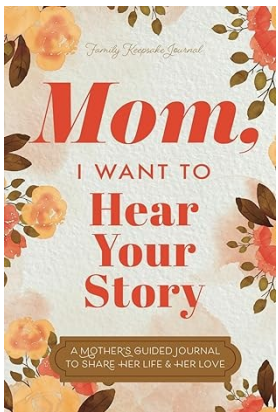
Special Interest Groups and Facilitators:

- ANCESTRY - Greg Nordlund; meets 4th Saturday 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
- DNA - Nancy Cordell; meets 2nd Tuesday 6:30 pm
- FAMILY HISTORY WRITING - Laura Carroll meets 1st Monday 7:00 - 9:00 pm
- FAMILY TREE MAKER - David Abernathy; meets 1st Tuesday 6:00-8:00 pm Via Zoom
- FAMILY SEARCH.org – Carolyn Gibbons; meets 4th Wednesday 6:00 – 8:00 pm
- GENEALOGY CHAT - Peggy Cooley; meets 3rd Wednesday 1:00 - 2:30 pm, in person at Peggy's home!
- LEGACY FAMILY TREE - Jerri McCoy; meets 3rd Saturday 1:00 pm

Genealogy 101

Mom, I Want To Hear Your Story

I received a wonderful Christmas present last December. My daughter gave me a book called, "[Mom, I Want To Hear Your Story: A Mother's Guided Journal to Share her Life and Love](#)" by



Jeffrey Mason. It has 99 pages of questions and spaces for you to enter answers. Some of the questions are basic information such as "What was your name when you were born?"

"What is your birthdate?" Others may just ask for information, but if you allow them to guide you, you can fill in memories and stories. Others are really open-ended such as, under the title "Your Siblings" there are a couple of pages just titled "Memories" and lots of lines.

Because I have difficulty keeping things short, I am entering mine on my desktop and then will print it out and put it in a binder. I remind myself of Winston Churchill (at least in this one thing). Once he was asked to give a speech, and a price was settled upon. When he came to give it, he said he was sor-

ry, but it was an hour long because he didn't have time to make it a half hour as he was asked. This column was originally supposed to be just a couple of paragraphs. You can see how I expanded it.

Back to the Story. One of the questions was "What song was on the top of the Billboard charts?" talking about the year I was born. I looked it up – throughout the year, "String of Pearls," "Moonlight Cocktail," "Chattanooga Choo-Choo," and "I've Got a Gal in Kalamazoo" by Glenn Miller; Woody Herman and "Blues in the Night;" Jimmy Dorsey and "Tangerine" (which I had never heard though I have been a Dorsey fan for a long time), Bing Crosby's "White Christmas" and just before that, for my week of birth was "I've Got Spurs That Jingle Jingle Jingle." Brought back a lot of memories. I wrote a full page on those songs.

There are several others of these books. Since I received it, I have been talking about it and showing it to people. Several have told me that they had seen one like it, their aunt or mother or mother-in-law or sister or someone else had one and was working on it.

I think this is a fantastic thing to do for your children or other family. This reminds you of little stories that you might never think to tell them. These stories should not be lost. I urge all of you to get some-

thing like this and work on it. Some of it might be difficult, but well worth your time.

I was just talking to my cousin's daughter last night. Her mother and I were emotionally inseparable although most of the time I lived on one coast and she on another. I knew more memories about my cousin than her daughter did. When she passed away a little over a year ago, I wrote up a little sheet of my memories, and both her daughter and her son told me that they were so glad to get to know a little more about their mother; she had never talked about her childhood at all.

Until next month, enjoy your life, your memories, your family.

- Carolyn Gibbons

Carolyn is looking for topics to research and present for future Genealogy 101 articles. Is there a particular search topic or brickwall you would like some advice about? Please send your ideas to

newsletter@olygensoc.org

Who Were the Hohnerleins? Part 3

(See Part 2 in the December 2024 Newsletter)

Census Records and Vital Records

The immigration records have connected five Hohnerlein siblings. Census records offer additional support for the relationships. For example, in 1920, Martin and Sophie Hohnerlein were enumerated in the household of Carrie and Charles Fisher in Millen, Jenkins County, Georgia. All four adults worked as bakers.

Sophie Hohnerlein never married. Her death certificate confirms her burial in Bonaventure cemetery, and the birth and death dates on the certificate are identical to those on the marker in the Keilbach family plot. The informant on Sophie's death certificate was Helen Hoster [sic]. A bit of research identifies Helen as a sixth potential Hohnerlein sibling. Helena Hohnerlein and Henry Hosti were married in Savannah on 24 November 1907. Henry's petition for naturalization named his wife He-

lene Hohenstein [sic] Hosti, born in Berlinchingen [sic], Germany. Despite the spelling differences, Helene appears to be another member of the Hohnerlein family.

Martin Hohnerlein married Leila Connell in Suwannee County, Florida, on 26 May 1920. In 1930, Martin, Leila, and their two children lived in Metter, Candler County, Georgia, where Martin worked as a baker.

In 1940, Helene and Henry Hosti, Martin Hohnerlein, Charles Fischer and their families shared a household in Savannah. Martin's wife, Leila, was a patient at Milledgeville State Hospital.

Leila died on 1 June 1978. She is buried next to Martin in Bonaventure Cemetery.

Berlichingen Church Family Register

From the U.S.-based records, we have determined that

Hohnerlein family members buried in the Keilbach plot in Bonaventure Cemetery are part of a larger group of siblings that emigrated from Berlichingen, Württemberg, to the Savannah, Georgia, area. They are the children of Helene's daughter Anna and her husband Martin Hohnerlein and the grandchildren of Franz Joseph Keilbach's sister Helene (Keilbach) Röser.

Church records from Berlichingen contain family registers compiled from birth, marriage, and death records. Each page in a family register centers on a married couple and shows their birthdates, marriage date, and names of their parents and children. Records for children include birthdate, confirmation date, and death date if the child died young.

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Who were the Hohnerleins? continued

Franz Joseph Keilbach appears as a child of Joseph Sebastian and Karithas (Pfahl) Keilbach in the church book from Sankt Sebastian Kirche in Berlichingen. In addition to the entry for Franz Joseph Keilbach, Anna's husband, the entries include Maria Josepha (Josephine Blum in Anna's will) and Maria Helene (Helen Röser in Anna's will).

The register for Franz's sister Maria Josepha and her second husband, Georg Peter Blum, shows a child, Maria Katherina, born 8 August 1863, who might be the cousin Kati Blum identified by Heinrich, Anna, and Martin Hohnerlein as their U.S. relative on the ship manifest.

The Martin and Anna (Röser) Hohnerlein register lists 10 children, including Helene, for whom we did not locate a passenger list record.

Conclusion

Sophia, Henry, Martin and Leila Hohnerlein share the Keilbach burial plot in Bonaventure Cemetery with their great uncle, Franz Joseph Keilbach and his wife, Anna. The Hohnerleins are part of a large family of Württemberg immigrants with ties to Savannah, Georgia.

Endnotes

. Chatham County, Court of Ordinary, Wills S:415-20, Anna Martha Keilbach, 1906; *FamilySearch*, Image Group Number (IGN) 005760084, images 242-245.

. "New York, U.S., Arriving Passenger and Crew Lists (including Castle Garden and Ellis Island), 1820-1957," *Rhein*, 19 Oct 1905; *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/7488/>).

. The *Meyer's Gazetteer* (<https://www.meyersgaz.org/>

place/10147051) entry for Berlichingen shows that it had a population of 958 in 1910. There was one Catholic parish church and one Synagogue.

. "Savannah, Georgia Vital Records, 1803-1966," Charlie Fisher and Clarine Hohnelein, Marriage 1907; *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/2209>).

. "New York, U.S., Arriving Passenger and Crew Lists (including Castle Garden and Ellis Island), 1820-1957," *Vaderland*, 21 June 1909; *op. cit.*

. "New York, U.S., Arriving Passenger and Crew Lists (including Castle Garden and Ellis Island), 1820-1957," *Finland*, 30 April 1912; *op. cit.*

. 1920 U.S. Census, Jenkins County, Georgia, Enumeration District (ED) 117, sheet 2A, dwelling 30, family 32, Charles Fisher household; *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/6061>).

. Georgia, Certificate of Death, Chatham County No. 1106, Miss Sophie Hohnerlein, 8 Sep 1933; *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2562/images/004557393_00300).

. "Savannah, Georgia Vital Records, 1803-1966," Henry Hasty and Helena Hohnerlin, Marriage 1907; *Ancestry*, *op. cit.*

. "Georgia, U.S., Naturalization Records, 1794—1993," Henry Hosti, Southern District of Georgia, 1915. *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/2500>).

. Suwannee County, Florida, Marriages 5:375, Martin Hohnerlin and Leila Connell; *FamilySearch* IGN

007245560, image 233.

. 1930 U.S. Census, Candler County, Georgia, ED 22-1, sheets 8A and 8B, dwelling 175, family 200, Martin Hohnerlian household; *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/6224>).

. 1940 U.S. Census, Chatham County, Georgia, ED 25-56, sheet 3A, household 66, Henry and Helene Hosti household; *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/2442>). In 1940 and 1950, Leila was a patient at Milledgeville State Hospital. See 1940 U.S. Census, Baldwin County, Georgia, ED 5-12, sheet 2B, Lelia C Hohnerlein; *Ancestry*, *op.cit.* Also, see 1950 U.S. Census, Baldwin County, Georgia, ED 5-19, Sheet 65C, Lela Hohnerlien; *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/62308>).

. 1940 U.S. Census, Baldwin County, Georgia, ED 5-12, sheet 2B, Lelia C Hohnerlein; *Ancestry*, *op.cit.*

. "Savannah, Georgia, U.S., Cemetery Burial Lot Cards, 1807-1995," Bonaventure Cemetery, Lela Hohnerlein, 1978; *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/9024>).

. Sankt Sebastian Kirche (Berlichingen, Künzelsau, Württemberg), *Familienregister; FamilySearch* IGN 008177701, image 79.

. *Ibid.*, image 34

. *Ibid.*, image 468

OGS Elected Officers

President — Andy Carter
Vice President — Terry Church
Secretary — Carol Jenner
Treasurer — Karin Coppernoll
Past President—Kathy Erlandson

Team Leads

Book Management— Rebel Romero
Membership — Bob Monn
Newsletter — Peggy Cooley
OGS Historian — Cindy Stalnaker
Publicity — vacant
Research — Jerri McCoy
Spring Seminar — Nancy Cordell
SIGs—Kerry McHugh-Upton
Sunshine—Gayle Strom
Technology—Joe Brookshier

Community Partners

City of Lacey — Erin Quinn Valcho
Timberland Library — Agatha Burstein

January General Membership Meeting

OGS welcomed local genealogists and past OGS presidents **Nancy Neville Cordell** and **Steven Waltz Morrison** to our January meeting to present "**Finding a Professional Genealogist**". Those of us searching our own family history love the hunt. But we have all come to points in our research when we are stuck. We can't seem to find what we are looking for, for a variety of reasons. It is time to hire a professional! But how do you find a reputable professional genealogist? Nancy showed us how to figure out when hiring a professional is in your best interest and how to find a reputable professional genealogist. Steven provided a case study from his recent experience hiring professionals in England to find and transcribe documents from the 1500-1600s.

Olympia Genealogical Society
Membership Meeting Minutes
9 January 2025 Hybrid

President Andy Carter called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Business Meeting:

Special Interest Groups: Kerry Upton invited members to participate in OGS Special Interest Groups. Information is on the website.

Treasurer: Karin Coppernoll reported a balance of \$21,476.04 —\$1,752.39 in checking, \$10,170.06 in savings, \$4,293.68 in a CD, and \$5,259.91 in PayPal.

Program Committee: Diana Bargmann noted that future speakers are listed on the OGS website, along with an indication if they will be presenting in-person or via Zoom. The remaining speakers for this program year will present on Zoom.

Program: Diana introduced OGS members Nancy Cordell and Steven Morrison, who presented "Finding a Professional Genealogist."

Adjournment: President Andy Carter adjourned the meeting at 8:40 pm.

Thirty-five members and guests attended (26 via Zoom and 9 in person).