

Supporting family historians in the South Puget sound since 1974



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GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY

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UPCOMING DATES

- Thurs, Apr 13th, virtual General membership meeting begins at 7:00pm (Meet & Greet at 6:30pm)
- SIGs meeting throughout March
- Apr 15th deadline to submit stories for newsletter
- Apr 15th Spring seminar "Judy Russell— *The Legal Genealogist* " "

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Musings	1-2
March speaker	1
Book review	2
SIGs	3
Helpful Genealogy	4
Spring Seminar	5
Genealogy news	5
Vital records	6



President's musings

Happy Spring! I am happy to see daffodils and crocus and the beginning of our bloom season.

There is still time to **join the nominating committee**, if you'd like to support the sustainability of OGS finding and nominating board officers. Please contact Peggy Cooley to help the Committee.

I had an opportunity to watch a video of our Spring Speaker, Judy Russell, speaking at Roots Tech 2023. Her lecture title was "[Follow the Money](#)".

In her presentation, she gave the example of finding the date of death before death records were made. The an-



cestor appeared in the 1860 census but did not in the 1870 census. What other information could be found to identify when this person

died? Judy demonstrated how to find the record makers in the community, then look for their documents in archives. In the example above, she found the date of her ancestor's death written in a brief sentence in a diary—old man Robertson, the hatter, died yesterday. She found the man's diary in the Southern Historical Collection, after identifying this person as a record maker in the community of her ancestor.

Continued on Page 2.

April Presentation: "Research in Other Countries"

So you've been tracking down your ancestors and you've finally arrived to the



Photo: Greg Nordlund
one who immigrated to America – now what? Do you feel that the only choic-

es you have are to travel to that country for further research (but you can't speak that language!!) or hire a professional "over there" to do the work for you? Hear what three of our own OGS members have to say about their research in Norway and Italy as Greg Nordlund, Linda Fialkowski and Jon Halvorson share their techniques, tips and recommendations with us

at our next meeting.



Photo: Linda Fialkowski



Photo: Jon Halvorson

President's musings continued...

More examples of record makers include doctors, nurses, midwives, lawyers, merchants, civic associations, etc. These individuals can be found in census records through an occupation search. They can also be found in city directories, not only under individual listings but also under the business listing. In addition, these record makers can be found in newspapers by searching for occupation in the area. Finally, the task is to find their records. In many cases,

information is available from local archives, including universities, records of civic and business associations, and church archives. Community preservation or genealogical societies may not keep records, but they likely know where the records are. A finding aid for these types of record collections is available at [Archive Grid](#) which searches more than 7 million records from more than 1,400 archives, libraries, museums, and historical societies. This

site provides a geographical and Boolean list search of private and public collections. I hope to see you at our [Spring Seminar](#), where we can learn even more from Judy Russell, the [Legal Genealogist](#).

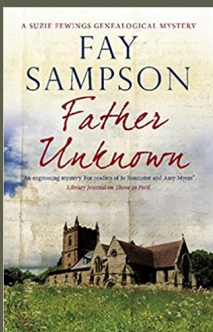
- Laurel Haas

OGS Board Elections

In the month of April you will be getting a phone call or email from the OGS Board nominating committee. **Please talk to us!!**

This is the only time of year we get to communicate one-on-one with our members. We want to know how OGS can better serve you and your genealogical needs. This is also an opportunity for you to tell us if you want to be more involved and run for an open officer position. We look forward to contacting you and would love to hear any suggestions you have for making OGS better.

- OGS Nominating Committee



“Father Unknown” - book review

[Father Unknown](#) is the 4th book in the Suzie Fewings Genealogical Mystery series. Suzie finds herself helping an American search for her ancestors in England when she is sure that her family doesn't have any bastards in the family because they are pure upstanding, God fearing Chris-

tians. Meanwhile in the present time, a friend of her daughter's finds herself pregnant. As both stories intertwine throughout the book, the search for the father of the children. The one in the present leading to attempted murder. This story is a nice escape with some genealogical sleuth-

ing to spice up the mystery. This book has been donated to the [Timberland Regional Library](#) system. Hopefully it is part of their circulation by the publication of this newsletter.

- Kerry Upton

Family Search SIG Highlight

Hi, I am Carolyn Gibbons. I am the leader of the Family Search SIG. I have been doing genealogy since 1964, writing the newsletter for Cumberland County, North Carolina since 2010 and have been writing the newsletter for Mason County, Washington since August of 2020. I have written several books of transcripts and abstracts of court records, deeds and marriages from the late 1700s and early to mid-1800s. I have been an indexer and a reviewer for [Family Search](#).

I started volunteering at my local Family History Center in Fayetteville in 1989. I have been involved with Family Search from when you ordered microfilm and read it in the FHC until now, when they are in the process of digitizing all their holdings. They are trying to put all their holdings not under copyright on their website, www.familysearch.org and also working on getting all the holdings indexed – a truly major undertaking. We meet every **4th Wed at 6 pm** on Zoom. Anyone who wishes to join us, send me an

email at SEfromNC@gmail.com and I will put you on the list. Be sure to bring questions with you when you join. We are now exploring how to use the catalog but have in the recent past delved into many of the tools Family Search offers.



Know any local heroes or living legends? Send their stories to newsletter@olygensoc.org.

Special Interest Groups (SIG)

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) are a perk of membership in OGS. Free and open to all members, these groups meet monthly around a variety of topics related to genealogy. Current SIGs include: [ancestry.com](#), [familysearch.org](#), DNA, family history writing, [Family Tree Maker](#), Genealogy chat, Italian heritage, and [Legacy Family Tree](#). These groups offer a small group setting to dive deeper into topics.

OGS is always interested in starting new SIGs so if you have a topic you would like to lead, please contact [Kerry Upton](#). Meeting format is currently virtual using [GoogleMeet](#), a platform very similar to Zoom. If you would like to be on the SIG list please send an email to the facilitator to be included on their list of

members. You'll find their email contact on the Membership List (accessible only to current OGS members). A list of days, times, and facilitators for current SIGs is listed on the [OGS website](#).

★ Schedule change: Family History Writing SIG will meet May 8th **not** May 1st.

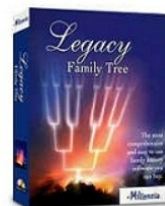
- ANCESTRY - Greg Nordlund; meets 4th Saturday 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
- DNA - Nancy Cordell; meets 2nd Tuesday 6:30 pm
- ★ FAMILY HISTORY WRITING - Laura Carroll meets 1st Monday 7:00 - 9:00 pm (Note change in start time!)
- FAMILY TREE MAKER - David Abernathy; meets 4th Thursday 10:00 am
- FAMILY SEARCH.org – Carolyn Gibbons; meets 4th Wednesday 6:00 – 8:00 pm
- GENEALOGY CHAT - Peggy Cooley; meets 3rd Wednesday 1:00 - 2:30 pm
- ITALIAN - Greg Nordlund; meets quarterly (Nov, Feb, May, Aug) 1st Saturday 11:00 am.
- LEGACY FAMILY TREE - Jerri McCoy; meets 3rd Saturday 1:00 pm

Legacy Family Tree SIG activity

At our Legacy Family Tree SIG meeting, our leader, Jerri McCoy helped us to set a person as unconnected-someone that might fit your family but you are not yet sure just where!

Did you know that you can use color

coding for your families? Just like the color coding for DNA matches. She also showed us how to connect Legacy with Family Search to find more information on the Individual whose screen is open.



Legacy 9.0
Family Tree
Setting a New Standard in Genealogy Software

Olympia
Genealogical
Society :
Supporting family
historians in the
South Puget Sound
since 1974.

Do you have
any tips about
doing genealog-
ical research?
Send them to
newsletter@olygensoc.
org.

Spring Seminar door prizes

When you register for the OGS Spring Seminar featuring Judy Russell (see Page 5) you also are entered to win one of the following door prizes (with more to be added):

- OGS Membership
- 2024 Seminar Registration
- [Family Tree Maker](#) – FTM 2019 software
- [GenealogyBank](#) memberships (2)
- [Legacy Family Tree](#) software
- Legacy Family Tree [webinar](#) subscription
- [MyHeritage](#) subscription
- [RootsMagic](#) software
- Dollarhide's [Map Guide to American Migration Routes](#) (2 vols.) from Family Roots Publishing
- [FTDNA Family Finder](#) DNA kits (2)
- "It depends" coffee mug
- Bunny slippers
- Gaylord Archival Family History Kit

Helpful Genealogy Websites

Here are several helpful genealogy website with short descriptions that come from most of the websites:

1. [Books We Own](#) is a list of resources owned/accessed by individuals who are willing to look up genealogical information and e-mail or snail mail it to others who request it. This is a free service - volunteers may ask for reimbursement of copies and postage if information is provided via snail-mail. The project began in 1996 as a way for members of the ROOTS-L mailing list to share their resources with one another. Today, there are approximately 1250 volunteers. The Books We Own

website is hosted by [RootsWeb](#).

2. [AncestralFindings.com](#) – this website is really helpful. He issues a newsletter once a week with interesting and sometimes bizarre stories. For example, on 26 Jan 2023 he had an article "[The Intriguing Bodie Ghost Town](#)" and 9 Jan 2023 an article on [Margaret Christine Otis Baker](#), born 1689 in Dover, Connecticut who was captured by Indians, sold to Canadians and finally came back to her home town. Every issue he has free lookups, hints, free e-books. He has covered census records in depth, state capitals, signers of the Declaration, sugges-

tions on genealogical projects to do and more. His website connects to youtube videos and more. It was originally published by Will Money maker and has since I started become an LLC, still his work, though, I believe.

3. The URL for this marvelous website is [Map of US.org](#) and you can spend hours looking at what it can tell you, following any state from the beginning through all the county additions and changes. Or just choose a date and see what counties were there then. In addition there are links to genealogical sources for all of the counties. Check it out!!!

—Carolyn Gibbons

2023 Virtual Spring Seminar



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Spend a Day with The Legal Genealogist®

Spend the day with legal expert and genealogist Judy Russell as she helps us explore the legal sides of genealogy including:

- Wills and probate
- African-Americans and the courthouse
- Court and land records
- Women and the law



JUDY G. RUSSELL

JD, CG®, CGLSM

The Legal Genealogist

Judy provides expert guidance through the murky territory where law and family history intersect. An award-winning writer, she holds credentials as a Certified Genealogist® and Certified Genealogical LecturerSM from BCG. Her blog is at www.legalgenealogist.com.

2023

April 15

**Registration and full
details at OlyGenSoc.org**

Registration begins Jan 12, 2023

\$40 for members
\$50 for non-members

Genealogy news

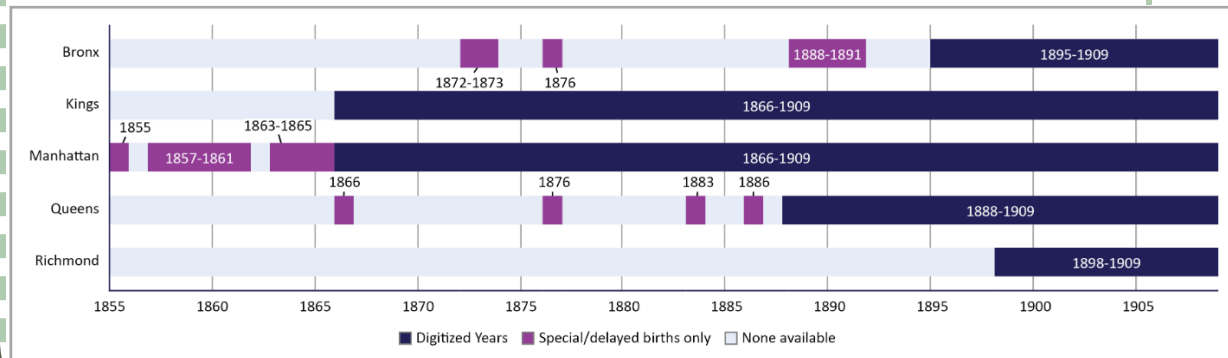
1. Ancestry is shutting down access to [Rootsweb Mailing Lists](#) on **6 April 2023**. Access to **World Connect Trees** will be terminated on **15 April 2023** and moved to Ancestry with access anticipated in late 2023 according to the [Rootsweb](#) website. Rootsweb has thousands of Mailing lists for topics, locality and surname information using Mailman software. It will be migrated later this year to another platform by way of a link on Rootsweb. I found a mailing list for ghost towns and gold seekers; Dearborn County, IN; New

England Irish and thousands more. Check out the Mailing lists before they temporarily disappear. - Peggy Cooley

2. **RootsTech 2023:** How many of you were able to listen live to Roots Tech? Family Search says there were 561,971 participants from 214 countries. Videos are now available at www.familysearch.org/rootstech/home. Go to [On Demand](#) and select a video.

3. The **NYC Historical Vital Records Project:** The New

York City Municipal Archives is undertaking a mass digitization project to provide online access to 13.3 million historical birth, death, and marriage records. Access the records at [NYC Department of Records and Information Services](#). Not all years are available for all boroughs. The picture below indicates which birth record years are available for which location. There are similar graphics on the website for deaths and marriages.



Wondering how to make a donation to OGS in someone's memory? Go to olygensoc.org and click on "Donations and Memorials".

Vital records in Washington

The Washington state Department of Health (DOH) made the first step in amending rules around vital records by filing a Preproposal Statement of Inquiry ([CR 101](#)) on January 27, 2023. The department states in the CR 101 that the rulemaking may:

- Establish registration and amendment requirements for vital records
- Update or add program processes.
- Adopt fees associated with amendment and delayed birth applications.
- Adopt or adjust fees associated with the issuance of certifications and informational copies.
- Add or remove data items collected in a vital record.
- Expand use of electronic registration of a vital event.
- Make editorial and technical changes to align with statutory changes.
- Repeal obsolete sections of rule.

A timeline of rulemaking activities can be found [here](#). It appears from the timeline DOH will be gathering input and drafting rules over the next few months. I strongly encourage members to contact DOH to receive updates and to provide input about any changes to current statute at: VitalRecordsRules@doh.wa.gov

- Mandy Stahre

Internet Archive Court Case

Internet Archive is a non-profit library of millions of free books, movies, software, music, websites, and more.

Recently Internet Archive lost a federal case filed by four publishing houses about copyright infringement. The issue at hand is that Internet Archive acquires print copies of books that are still under copyright protection, scans them into digital form, and then makes the digital ebooks available for free online.

The reaction to the ruling in the court case [Hachette v Internet Archive](#) by [Internet Archive founder, Brewster Kahle](#):

“Libraries are more than the customer service departments for corporate database products. For democracy to thrive at global scale, libraries must be able to sustain their historic role in society—owning, preserving, and lending books. This ruling is a blow for libraries, readers, and authors and we

plan to appeal it.”



Judy Russell, our spring seminar speaker, wrote a blog piece discussing details of the case and how it could impact genealogists. Take a look at her discussion here:

www.legalgenealogist.com/2023/03/28/ia-loses-copyright-case/

Have you signed up for the Spring Seminar? There's still time. Details at olygensoc.org.

WA Pioneer Pursuit Contest

You're invited to a roundtable presentation to learn about the Washington Pioneer Pursuit Contest. The contest, sponsored by WSGS, is designed to document family histories for every man, woman and child who lived in Washington Territory on or before Statehood was declared on November 11, 1889. If you're interested in learning about the contest including what resources are available, how to complete forms and the review process, join us. There'll be

plenty of time to get your questions answered. No pre-registration. Attendance is limited to 100 participants. The roundtable will be recorded and available on the WSGS [website](#).

When: Monday, April 24, 6:30 p.m.

Zoom link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82158112359?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82158112359?pwd=ZlJpak1pUjNjTDROcmFjckMxUlljdz09)

[pwd=ZlJpak1pUjNjTDROcmFjckMxUlljdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82158112359?pwd=ZlJpak1pUjNjTDROcmFjckMxUlljdz09)

Meeting ID: 821 5811 2359



Passcode: 840493

Phone: (253) 215-

8782,,82158112359#,,,,*840493#

For more information, visit the [Pioneer Pursuit webpage](#) or email Info@wasgs.org.

Spring seminar speaker honored

Judy G. Russell, The Legal Genealogist®, will be the OGS 2023 Seminar Speaker. She recently announced* that the United States Library of Congress is going to include her website (which includes her blog) in the Local History and Genealogy Web Archive.

In other words, it has been designated for preservation as a “historically and culturally significant website.”

How cool is that!? If you want to see the website that was included, the link is here: www.legalgenealogist.com/

The Legal Genealogist®

*Judy G. Russell, personal page, Facebook posted 10 February 2023, Accessed 15 February 2023.

OGS Elected Officers

President — Laurel Haas
Vice President — William Kautz
Secretary — Carol Jenner
Treasurer — Karin Coppernoll
Past President—Kathy Erlandson

Team Leads

Book Management— Rebel Romero
Information Technology — Joe Brookshier
Membership — Bob Monn
Newsletter — Peggy Cooley
OGS Historian — Vacant
Publicity — Mandy Stahre
Refreshments — Diana Bargmann
Research — Jerri McCoy
Spring Seminar — Nancy Cordell
Sunshine—Gayle Strom
SIGs—Kerry McHugh-Upton

Community Partners

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

“Finding Living People” - March 9th General Membership Meeting

Whether you are looking to reunite mementos with lost family, identify missing or unknown heirs, locate others who can advance your genealogical research, or find lost school mates for a reunion, finding living people online with reliable contact information can be a challenge. In this presentation we looked at well-known sites and little-known resources, free and paid, and discussed lateral thinking strategies to improve the odds of a successful living person search.

Speaker: A native Californian, Vicky Lambert has been a genealogist for over twenty years in search of her Eastern, Midwestern, and Southern ancestors, as well as veterans from the Revolutionary War to WW II. This work has led her to help others in tracking their hard-to-find ancestors and stories. Her specialization is in Forensic Genealogy with specific focus on probate, estate, kinship determination, and missing heirs.

March Meeting Minutes

OGS President Laurel Haas called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The February 2023 general meeting minutes were approved as published in the March 2023 OGS Newsletter.

Nancy Cordell reminded attendees of the 15 April OGS Spring Seminar with The Legal Genealogist®, Judy Russell.

Diana Bargmann reported that the Program Team has finalized programs through June. A panel will discuss international research in April. Marian Burk Woods will discuss passing

along your genealogical research to the next generations in May. A representative from the state library will present in June.

Treasurer Karin Coppernoll reported balances of \$6,147.29 in the checking account, \$10,100.00 in the savings account, \$440.02 in the PayPal account, and \$4,215.52 in the CD, for a total of \$21,902.83.

Old Business: Three members have volunteered to serve on the nominating committee – Andy Carter, Peggy Cooley,

and Joyce Ogden. Terry Church volunteered to assist. The committee will present a slate of officers in May, and a vote by the membership will take place in June.

Program: Nancy Cordell introduced Vicki Lambert, who presented "Online Sources for Finding Living People." A question-and-answer period followed.

President Laurel Haas adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Forty-five members were in attendance.