

Supporting family historians in the South Puget sound since 1974



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**UPCOMING DATES**

- Thursday, Dec 8th, virtual General membership meeting begins at 7:00pm (Meet and Greet at 6:30pm)
- SIGs meeting throughout December
- Dec 15th deadline to submit stories for Jan newsletter
- Spring seminar—April 2023 “Judy Russell— *The Legal Genealogist*”

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# President’s musings

This month, I’m highlighting some of the changes that have or are taking place at Olympia Genealogy Society.

1. Virtual Meetings over the past few years, allow members to attend in the comfort of your homes.

2. Our Tech team created a new electronic filing system and board officer emails, to facilitate communications and sharing information.

3. Our newsletter has been redesigned and



expanded, by the newsletter team.

**We welcome your stories!**



New OGS logo

**OLYMPIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

Please submit your articles by the 15th of each month.

4. We have a new logo (see picture)! Thank you to Kathy Erlandson and the team members for their work on this project.

Thank you so much for your flexibility and support through all of our changes!

We look forward to celebrating the holiday season with our membership.

**- Laurel Haas, OGS President**

## December Presentation Member Contributions and WSGS Project

Everyone! Relive the past tradition of our December meeting - it's really a holiday social! There won't be any refreshments but you are welcome to attend with your favorite snacks at hand. Also, please bring your stories of this past summer's research/reunion trips (or of previous years), or any family photos, heirlooms/keepsakes, stories

you'd like to share with us – even tall tales that have been handed down. Use the feature “Share the Screen” if you'd like (or not); tech help will be available. Hope to see you all there!

**Message from Washington State Genealogical Society:** Washington State Pioneer Pursuit has launched! We



encourage every Society to promote this project to your members and earn a cash award at the same time. Washington State Pioneer Pursuit is the vision of WSGS past president, Virginia Majewski.

**Continued on Page 2.**

Want to share a family story? All you need is 100-150 words and submit by the 15th for inclusion in the next newsletter. Email [newsletter@olygensoc.org](mailto:newsletter@olygensoc.org) with your submission.

## Spring Seminar with Judy Russell

Judy G. Russell, The Legal Genealogist<sup>®</sup>, is a genealogist with a law degree. She writes, teaches and lectures on a wide variety of genealogical topics, providing expert guidance through the murky territory where law and family history intersect. A Colorado native with roots deep in the American south on her mother's side and entirely in Germany on her

father's side, she holds a bachelor's degree from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. and a law degree from Rutgers School of Law-Newark. Before she retired, she worked as a newspaper reporter, trade association writer, legal investigator, defense attorney, federal prosecutor, law editor and, for more than 20

**Continued on page 3.**



Picture of Judy Russell

## December Presentation by WSGS continued.....

Ginny saw the need to update our Pioneer Project site that was created to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Washington Territory becoming a state on 11 November 1889. At that time societies and genealogists around Washington were encouraged to submit data for their families who were living here at statehood.

Over 4,500 names of heads of household were indexed and the family data was saved behind our firewall for about 30,000-40,000 other individuals here at statehood. However, our state had over 349,390 individuals living here so this database is well short of genealogies. Every Society is eligible for a \$20 award even if they submit only one entry. Societies will compete against each

other for the grand awards of \$300, \$200 and \$100 based on a percentage of your membership so small Societies can compete on a level playing field. Individuals will compete for awards of \$150, \$100 and \$50 for the most entries and a single entry will award them a free one-year membership to WSGS for 2024. ALSO, your society receives points for

every entry your members send into the project. We encourage Societies that compete to do research on families in your county or area, even if no one in your society is a pioneer. We encourage genealogist to do the same. Start with your pioneer if you have one and then submit other names of families, they may have been living near that are not in the database. Let us lead the way in the nation to have a website that has almost every person living in Washington at statehood.

We encourage you to go to our site, print off the materials for the contest and discuss this contest at your next meeting and encourage your members to participate. It is a win-win situation for societies, genealogists and the database of WSGS for the state of Washington. Your members don't have to be members to access the

materials to join this great pursuit. You will see all the instructions, forms, and contact references you will need to contribute to this project.

Go to <https://www.wasgs.org>. Select "Washington Pioneer Pursuit" from the left bar to see the materials for your members and your society.

**Thank you and good hunting,**

- Kathleen Sizer, WSGS President



Photo credit: WSGS Pioneer Pursuit website

# Spring Seminar continued...

years, as an adjunct member of the faculty at Rutgers Law School. She is a member of the [Association of Professional Genealogists](#), the [National Genealogical Society](#) and numerous state and regional genealogical societies. A recipient of the [Silver Tray Award](#) from the Utah Genealogical Society and the 2017 Award of Excellence from the [National Genealogical Soci-](#)

[ety Quarterly](#), she now serves as a member of the NGSQ editorial board. An internationally-known lecturer and course co-

ordinator and faculty member at numerous genealogical institutes, she holds credentials as a Certified Genealogist® and Cer-

## The Legal Genealogist®

[Legal Genealogist](#) website.

The 2023 Seminar is scheduled for April 2023. We are continuing to hold the seminar virtually. **Registration will open in early 2023.**

*"It keeps me going! A good reminder to keep writing and I get ideas from the group about my writing."*

**- Jan Wells Minzel says about the Family History Writing SIG**

# 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](#).

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



# Genealogy book list

Over the past year or so I've compiled a list of genealogy mysteries, memoirs and related books. A list of books was given to me by Kathy Erlandson and I have added to it. If you like to read fictional and non-fiction genealogy-related books check out the list I've compiled. Log onto [OlyGenSoc.org](#). Click on the left

side banner "[Publications/Files](#)", click on "[Downloadable Files](#)", click on the "Genealogy Mysteries and Other" button (you must be signed in as a member to access the list). You'll find an option for an excel spreadsheet or pdf file. Clicking on either of these will download the list to your downloads folder.

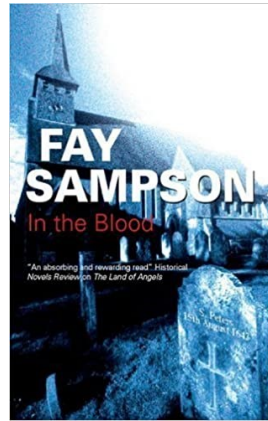
I have noted if you can find the book at [Timberland Library](#) or if I have it in my collection to lend out. If you know of other books that should be included in the list, please let me know. If you have any of these books that you are willing to lend out, let me know and I'll update the list. Enjoy!  
- Kerri Upton

Don't forget to add "Olympia Genealogical Society" to your Amazon smiles account. OGS earns 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchase. No cost to you.

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

# Book reviews

I just completed "[In The Blood, Suzie Fewings Genealogical Mystery #1](#)" by Fay Sampson. The setting is a village in modern day England. It is woven into the past while Suzie Fewings researches an ancestor who shares the same name as her son. Sharing more than a name, both are connected to a murder in their own time. Read along while Suzie is found in the present with visions of the past interjecting itself. The book is available through the [Timberland Library](#).



"[The Lie](#)" by Heather Dawn Gray uses her training in labor-

atory medicine and her own DNA test in 2018 for the basis of the question "What if...?" What if the results led to your parents not being your parents? Or, what if your ancestry is not what you thought it was, being born into an ancestry that your family is at war with? This is an interesting story of a Palestinian woman living in Canada who delves into her family secrets through the use of DNA. If you are **Continued on page 5**

## Beginning Genealogy: Part 4

Last month I mentioned the census for putting the bones on your family. The 1900 Census is a fountain of information. Each household is listed by number visited and each family within the household is listed separately. The street address or the road is given. In addition to listing each person in the household and relation to head of household, the questions include the

birthplace of every member of the household plus the birthplaces of their parents; sex, age, month and year of birth; did they attend school and how many months; can they read or write; if foreign born, what year did they immigrate to this country, are they naturalized or have they filed their papers; how long have they lived in the US; what is their race; what is their occupation,

and how many months were they unemployed. Every married person is asked how long they have been married; each woman is asked how many children she has had and how many are living. The head of household was asked if he/she owned or rented, if owned or mortgaged, if a farm or a house. Ask me questions. [SEfromNC@gmail.com](mailto:SEfromNC@gmail.com)  
- Carolyn Gibbons

## Benefits of joining other genealogical societies

One benefit of joining the [New York Genealogical and Biographical society](#) (NYG&B) is free access to all the North American records on [Findmypast](#). Founded in 1869, the NYG&B is the oldest and largest genealogical society in New York State. The

NYG&B has an extensive collection of online NY genealogy records. They have online records, resources,

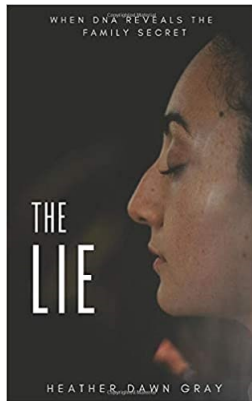
and events. If you have ancestors from NY, this group will be invaluable. Joining costs \$77 per year.



NEW YORK  
GENEALOGICAL  
AND BIOGRAPHICAL  
SOCIETY

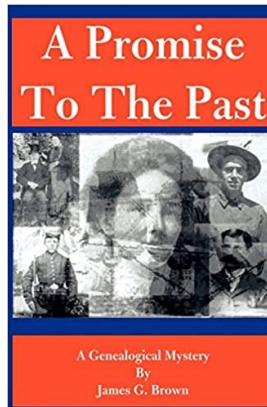
# Book reviews continued

Interested in reading this novel, please reach out to me as I have the book to lend out. I plan on purchasing the sequel [“Where Truth Lies”](#) next.



The next book is [“A Promise To The Past, A Genealogical Mystery”](#) by James G. Brown.

This is a great read that takes place in current time, but the mystery reaches back to the 1780s New England in the early shipping trade families.



The author uses a lot of imagination, weaving a tale of lies and deceit that reaches back into the 1700s as the trade routes open up to China.

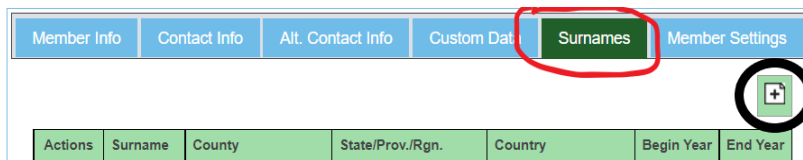
This was a fun vacation read! 454 pgs. I have the book available to lend if you would like to contact me.

To reach me by email: [Kerry.upton123@gmail.com](mailto:Kerry.upton123@gmail.com)

- Kerry Upton

## OGS Surname Database

OGS members can add surnames of their ancestors to a searchable database on the [OGS website](#). Only members can add to the database, but anyone visiting the website can search if they have a common ancestor and email the OGS member for more information. *Your personal email and information will NOT be shared*



*when someone emails you about a surname.*

If you haven't added records to the database, you will need to go to your Member Profile and look

for the blue “Surnames” tab (circled in red). Click on the tab and look for the plus symbol (circled in black).

- Bob Monn

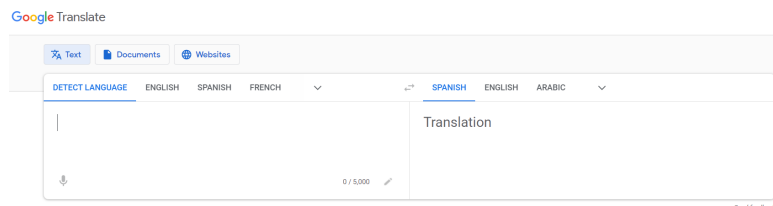
## Google translate

Many of us need to search websites in other languages to find records of our ancestors. Did you know Google translate can help? There are a number of ways to use [Google Translate](#). Go directly to the <https://translate.google.com/> and copy and paste text to translate to other languages. You can also upload docu-

ments or type the web address of a website you would like to have translated.

Google translate has over a 100 hundred languages to choose from.

Another advantage of Google translate is the ability to add it to your web



browser. If you browse the internet using Google Chrome, you can add the [Google Translate](#) extension to your browser. This will allow Google to translate any website you visit.

- Mandy Stahre



## Two Clues Worth Pursuing

by **Dennis McDonald**

The story was planted long before I had the genealogy bug. Dad (Ronald Dana McDonald) once told me he and his high school buddy (Paul) went to Mexico and when they got back home Paul died of a brain tumor. I was not old enough to ask for more details but it was years later after dad's death, the story became an exciting exploration for more facts. Recently I received a box of family documents and photos from my nephew. In this box was an 8X10 photo of my dad with writing on the back: "Alamo San Antonio 1929". Dad was in a full suit, with a wool vest holding a small camera. This was the first clue, but I did not pursue it much further because the box had many other treasures. It was later that the second clue triggered a more exhaustive search.

Gathering more facts about dad, I was fishing on [Newspapers.com](http://Newspapers.com). I found articles about his middle school, high school, college and all the way to Major General in the Michigan National Guard. The fact that sent me down a couple

days of a rabbit hole was a newspaper article with a sidebar snippet dated April 5, 1929 (Lansing State Journal, Lansing, Michigan. Page 27).

"Ronald McDonald and Paul Hansen, graduates of the June class of 1928 of Central High school [Lansing, Michigan], have returned from a six months' trip through Texas, Northern Mexico, and California."

From here, based on these two clues I explored possible related local information and histories. The 1928 Central High School year book shows Ronald and Paul as classmates and graduated in June 1928. Ronald was from a middle class family but Paul was the son of H.C. Hansen, a dairy cattle farmer and manager of the Lansing Dairy Company. Paul's father likely rewarded his graduation, or before, with a car, assumed to be an Oldsmobile manufactured about 1926 to 28 in Lansing, Michigan (maybe like the one pictured).

There was train service from Lansing to Chicago and then out to the rest of the United States. But why travel by train when in 1926 the U.S. Congress consolidated several short road routes into U.S. Highway 66 (more recognized as "Route 66") from Chicago to Los Angeles.

The April 1929 news snippet of the six-month trip suggests travel between October 1928 to March 1929. Allowing time for the high school graduates to plan and earn some dough for a trip of a lifetime before starting college. Heading south before another northern winter in Michigan sounded like a great idea too. 'Let's go for a road trip.' I believe they left in Paul's car with money in hand, headed for the newly designated 'Route 66', with plenty of time before college. Imagining their adventure, I researched the related history and events for the time period. Today there are

state societies formed to continue



**Continued on page 7**



Photo: author's father Ronald Dana McDonald

## Lineage Societies—why I joined

by **Marcy Belles**

Jerri McCoy talked to the membership back in May about "You Joined What?!" and that got me to thinking, why did I join the societies I did.

The first lineage society I joined was the [Daughters of the American Colonists \(DAC\)](#). I was accepted into member-

ship June 2012.

What a journey that was! Every month on the last Saturday, American Legion Post 166 (now merged into Post 100) met for a breakfast social that included spouses. I got to be good friends with Judi Sollard. She talked about DAC and felt that I could join. These conversations started in 2011. So, we picked



out an ancestor – one who provided civil or military service in the colonies prior to July 4, 1776. In my case, it was Patrick Porter, who was already recognized by the society (that's the best way to get your foot in the door). Now, came the hard part, providing documentation to prove descent.

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## Two Clues Worth Pursuing continued...

restoration and preservation of surviving portions of the original Route 66. Some sections are covered over or bypassed by the new freeway, U.S. 40. Books and maps capture the original route and historical landmarks that may still exist today such as tourist traps, hotels, restaurants, etc. These are places I can only image they visited, the mention of 'northern Mexico' suggests they deviated the route in the southern areas.

I believe they reached the end of Route 66 in Los Angeles. Did they try to land jobs in Hollywood? They were both good looking chaps and both had been involved in drama and debate in high school. This was the period between

silent and talking movies, but since they returned home it is believed they were only tourists. The photo in San Antonio, Texas suggests they may have returned home via another old route along the new U.S. 10 through Tucson, Albuquerque, El Paso to San Antonio. From there the best guess is they took the shortest route home to Lansing, Michigan. Oh, I wish I had asked my Dad more questions about what they did for six months. With only two clues, current preliminary research of Route 66 societies and newspapers did not provide additional evidence of what happened for six months. Just the idea triggered my imagination and some sleuthing. For now, this part of my Dad's

life is set aside until there is further information potentially from other sources (like my older brother in Georgia). For Paul Hansen the end of the story was truly tragic.

Ronald attended Michigan State College (later University) the fall of 1929 and Paul attended Ferris Institute (future Ferris State University, Big Rapids, Michigan). Ronald completed college during the Great Depression. Paul became ill and ended up at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota in 1930 where he died of a brain tumor. The Road Trip of a lifetime was it for Paul but the start for Ronald's long lifetime with a very sad memory.

## Lineage societies— why I joined continued...

Actually, that wasn't too hard as I had most of it already. Just had to make copies and mark them up, identifying the various generations. My only snag – no proof of the marriage of my grandparents. Supposedly, they were married in Chehalis, Lewis County in November 1932. I've searched the courthouse for records – no luck. I went to the [State Archives](#) and searched their county records with no luck. Checked out a few outlying counties in person with no luck. So, the decision was to wait for the [1940 census](#). This would have my mom listed as one of the children as she was born in 1938. By this time, I've already attended a couple of the chapter's meetings (I was surprised as to how many people I knew from our own society – OGS). The second lineage society was [Daughters of the American Revolution \(DAR\)](#). I was accepted into



membership in February 2019. I wanted to use my DAC patriot but that ended up being a supplemental – my original patriot was Thomas Pinson. Again, it was a person previously accepted. Documentation not a problem – a great registrar took care of everything! Oh, why did I want to join? I had an aunt (one of my mom's sisters) ask if we could, so I reached out to Jerri and she put me in touch with Suzette Frederick. I then got back to the aunt and said she could join based upon my application – she hasn't. The last society was very recently. It's a new one, established in 2019 – [National Society of Descendants of American Farmers \(NSDOAF\)](#).

The requirements to join – have an ancestor that was identified as a farmer between July 4, 1776 and July 4, 1914. Bingo! I can finally join a group using my paternal ancestors! I reached out to the



society in June, submitted my application on July 7th and approved the next day.

Another society I want to join but haven't yet is [National Society Descendants of Colonial Indentured Servants](#). My ancestor has been previously proven I just haven't validated my lineage.

## Virginia Gillespie

by Carolyn Gibbons

On the right is a picture of my paternal grandmother, Virginia Caroline Gillespie (called Cad by her husband). She is 17 years old, holding her boa constrictors that she used in the “circus” that her brother Vincent (born 1874) forced her into.

Virginia was born 1 July 1883 in Putnam County, West Virginia, the sixth child of nine of William Riley Gillespie (ca 1847 Mason County, Virginia between 1894 and 1900, Kanawha County, West Virginia) and Mary Hester Hoffman (24 May 1847 Putnam County, Virginia – 17 September 1893 Columbus, Franklin, Ohio). Mary lived in West Virginia until her husband died and then moved to Ohio. She was a widow living with the three youngest children on the 1900 census in Wellston, Jackson, Ohio. She rents her house. No one appears to be working. Virginia is not on the 1900 census anywhere I can find; she must have been traveling with her brother in the circus – the family always called it that, but it was a more of a traveling sideshow. I never knew too



much about it – just a few family stories from my father who had heard them from his mother. Apparently they often traveled with a small circus around the country. Virginia did several acts, filling in for whatever was needed. In addition to working with her snakes, she was a slack wire artist, a Gypsy fortune teller and

an Annie Oakley-type sharpshooter. She used a .22 and would shoot cigarettes out of men’s mouths. She claimed to have taught Annie Oakley to shoot – and, although they both came from Ohio, Annie was about 20 years older than she, so I am sure it is not true. Perhaps the story became confused, and Annie Oakley taught HER.

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## Adventures while researching in place

by Peggy Cooley

In 2006, I made a trip to Switzerland County, IN to research my father’s maternal line. During my planning stage, I called the Reference Librarian, Barry B. to get a feel for what I might be able to find once I arrived. After I told him my

family surnames, he said, “You’ll be related to half of the people in this county!”

When I arrived in Vevay, IN, I went straight to the library, for Barry had pulled references for me. While I read those, he told me the story of a grandfather, a butcher, who was originally from New York City. He

would go around to the farms and butcher, then move along to the next farm. Barry was very helpful. Next, I went to the county courthouse where they have probate, land and tax records. I met Daryl B. who looked just like Farmer Greenjeans from Captain Kangaroo.

**Continued on page 9**

## Virginia Gillespie continued...

She also said Ulysses Grant was her "3rd great-uncle" for which claim I have not found any substance.

Many years later my father, as a small boy, went with her to a Ringling Brothers circus; they did not go in, but traveled around the midway; she knew many of the people performing there and would talk and reminisce.

Virginia had a pretty hard life. She had only a third grade education. She was young when her father died – maybe 11 or so. Her mother was about 45 to 50 and had five under age children to take care of. She had no land. I am not sure how she survived. Therefore, Virginia traveled around with her brother Vince. Others of the family may have been involved; I believe the oldest brother

David (born about 1871) was; I don't know anything about the older three girls. Later it was known as a "family" business. Vince was a hard man. He would hock whatever she had if he needed money which was often as he was a gambler. He got into brawls. My grandmother said that one time he knocked 15 men down a flight of stairs. I am pretty sure it was true that he knocked some men down a flight, but I think not 15. I have not found any jail records for him, but I am sure they are out there. Often they would escape from whatever town they were playing in the middle of the night.

Virginia met her husband John Burke Watkins (6 Sep 1881 Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio – 2 Aug 1967 Torrance, Los Angeles, California) while traveling. He was an advance

man for Barnum and Bailey. On their marriage license, he said he was a theatrical man, and Virginia claimed to be a milliner and gave her residence as Columbus (apparently using her mother's address). They were married 28 Jul 1903 in Columbus. It seems they then moved to Kentucky as their oldest, Adelaide Virginia was born on 5 May 1904 in Ashland county and their second child David Wesley was born there about 1906. Sometime between then and 1910 they moved to Columbus and settled there for about 10 years.

I am sure she married John to get away from her brother and the circus; from what I can tell and from my father's recollections (late in the marriage – he was the youngest of seven) John loved her and did what she wanted.

## Adventures while researching in place continued...

He took on the storage problems of the county ledgers as a volunteer and moved them to the basement of this building. He also, on his own as a volunteer, began to scan these records. As I was searching, he told me the story of his grandfather, who was originally from New York City. He would go around to the farms and butcher; then move along to the next farm. Astonished, I asked him if he knew Barry B. at the Library, for they both had the same story and last name. He said he didn't, so I told him Barry's story and that he has a new-found cousin. I told him he should do the genealogy happy dance, but I think he thought I was crazy.

I received permission from a

farmer to go to the back of his wheat field in my car to see if I could find a small cemetery that was rumored to be there. I found a brick basement foundation but no headstones. I showed up at the Health Department next to find my 2nd great-grandmother's death certificate because I couldn't find it online. The clerk brought out the ledger-binder, opened it up to the first page and said, "See? It's not here." I pointed to the cover of the binder, and there was my Grandmother Brown's death certificate stuck to the inside cover of the binder.

While I there with the clerk, I kept scratching my upper arm; she asked to look at the spot and found a tick (from the

wheat field) burrowing in my arm. Luckily, there was a nurse practitioner on duty, and she removed it.

All the information I'd found said that my Great-Great Grandfather Gullion's lands lay alongside Log Lick Creek. I followed the road which ran across the creek (or as my father pronounced it, crick) and since it was only a few inches deep, I stopped the rental car in the middle of the creek. I got out, looked to Heaven, and said, "Pap Gullion, it's Peggy. I am the third daughter of your great granddaughter's son."

As I stood in the creek with my hands up in the air, a truck came from the other direction, waded the creek and went past me. I waved.

### OGS Elected Officers

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

### Team Leads

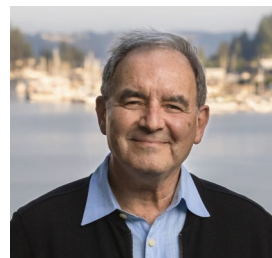
Book Management— Rebel Romero  
Information Technology — Joe Brookshier  
Membership — Bob Monn  
Newsletter — Peggy Cooley  
OGS Historian — Vacant  
Publicity — Mandy Stahre  
Refreshments — Diana Bargmann  
Research — Jerri McCoy  
Spring Seminar — Nancy Cordell  
Sunshine—Gayle Strom  
SIGs—Kerry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

### Community Partners

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

#### “The Art of the Interview and How My Norwegian Family Research Turned into a Historical Novel”

November’s presentation by Jerry Don (Jerry) Pugnetti shared his thoughts on the ability to do a good interview in his presentation. In February 2022, Mr. Pugnetti published his debut historical novel “[A Coat Dyed Black, A Novel of the Norwegian Resistance](#)” set in World War II. Mr. Pugnetti discussed the journey of his Norwegian family history research, and how it ultimately turned into a historical novel.



## November 10th Meeting Minutes

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

The October 2022 general meeting minutes were approved as published in the November 2022 OGS Newsletter.

Vice President William Kautz reported that Diana Bargmann is working on the December program, which will feature experiences with research projects. Cindy has contacted Janice Sellers about a potential January program focused on using newspapers for genealogical research. Diana is also working on an international research panel for the February meeting. The program committee welcomes ideas for future programs.

Treasurer Karin Coppernoll reported balances as of 31 October of \$15,262.27 in the checking account, \$2,021.02 in the PayPal Book Management Lead account, and \$4,213.23 in the CD, for a total of \$21,496.52.

Kathy Erlandson reported that the Logo Team has finished their work and that a

new logo will appear on future OGS materials.

Nancy Cordell reported that the Spring Seminar committee will provide updates after their January 2023 meeting. Our 2023 seminar, which features the Legal Genealogist® (Judy Russell), will be held on 15 April.

Newsletter Lead, Peggy Cooley, announced that newsletter submissions should arrive by the 15th of each month. She noted that some stories have been submitted and encouraged members to submit family recipes with background stories. The December issue will be an expanded edition.

Kerry McHugh-Upton reminded members that all are welcome to attend Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings. Meeting details are posted on the OGS website.

Nancy Cordell reported that the DNA SIG was working through the book [Research Like a Pro with DNA](#) by Diana Elder, Nicole E. Dyer, and Robin Wirth-

lin. Laurel noted that Diahn Southard (our 2022 seminar presenter) has an upcoming [PBS TV show](#).

There was no new business.

Program Committee member Terry Church introduced the speaker for the evening – Jerry Pugnetti.

Jerry spoke about his historical fiction novel — [A Coat Dyed Black: A Novel of the Norwegian Resistance](#) — how it was conceived, what was involved, and where he took it. As part of the presentation, Jerry shared his experiences and offered tips on conducting interviews.

Member sharing followed the program.

President Laurel Haas adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Thirty members were in attendance.