



Olympia

Genealogical Society

Newsletter

Vol. 32, No. 4

DECEMBER 2021

Eileen Dodge, Editor

The Olympia Genealogical Society (OGS) was founded in 1974 to promote the study, interest and research of family and local histories, and to encourage assistance, cooperation and guidance in those efforts to members, -- friends, and the community

President's Musings - Kathy Erlandson

I think that one of the side-benefits of researching our genealogy, perspective we can gain by seeing how our ancestors lived. As I write, Thanksgiving is but a week away, and as you read this, we are looking ahead to the Christmas holiday. Food is, of course, always a big part of the celebrations, and as I started thinking about planning those celebratory meals, I was reminded of a chapter of my great-grandmother's memoirs.

Sometime after 1900, Darwin and Minnie Cone moved with their 4 young children from northwestern Pennsylvania to Denver, Colorado, where they stayed for a few years. Not finding what they were looking for, they moved on to Orin, Washington, a little town established in 1902 on the Colville River, about 5 miles from the town of Colville. Minnie wrote, "Well, we made that trip from Denver to Colville just in time to be worried about a panic [panic of 1907]. No work. The mill closed down, where brother Glen worked. We found an empty house and bought barely enough to live for a time until work opened up.

"When the mill was running, Dar had work, and boarded at the boarding house run by a devout Christian, Mrs. Nealy. When the mill was closed down, Mr. Peeler had work on his place for him, and at times he wanted me to come also to do his house work, get meals for the day, clean up his house, rake, or churn butter, etc.

"In the winter time the mill closed down and at those times the wolf was nearly at the door. But the spring we were there in the cabin, the mill had started up, and Dar went down to work saying, "Be sure to give Mr. Peeler your list to get groceries next week. You do not have much on hand."

(Continued)

All too true, but when I went to give him the list, he had postponed his trip for a week. What to do now? My job was cut out. I had my part to do; clean the cabin up and care for the children. Groceries were all gone when I went down to contact Mr. Peeler. So, I cleaned the cabin, and all at once there was such a din as children made. I went to the door and they came trooping down from the cleared field, and Gertrude, the oldest, had an old rusty pan, flattened out as if it had been run over, and she had it piled with volunteer potatoes. I asked where from? And they all tried to tell me they dug into those depressions up in the end of the field and found the potatoes. Mr. Palmer had told that man, Grant, he could dig them the fall before. Lazy??? Yes, but after all, God had those potatoes held over that my 4 children could have food when the cupboard was bare. Let me tell you, all that week I heard not one word of complaint from one single mouth. And when at midnight on Saturday night, Dar came to the door with a 40 lb. sack of groceries on his back and asked, "Have you any food?" I cried, and led him to the potato box. He was all for wakening them, all sleeping peacefully, and I said no, they are not hungry. In the morning we will get them a good breakfast."

Here I am, standing in front of full cupboards and freezer, worrying about what to cook for the holidays. My husband calls such things, problems of the positive. I have so much to be thankful for. Not the least is strong, resourceful forbears, who worked hard, sometimes did without, or lived for weeks on volunteer potatoes. Great-grandma Minnie Cone lived to be 96 years old. I was blessed to have her in my life until I was 26, and my children were 3 and 8. It was Minnie whose memoirs inspired me to begin researching my family history, and I am blessed every day by her courage and resourcefulness.

November Meeting - Greg Nordlund

December's general meeting will feature a presentation from staff at the National Archives (NARA) branch in Seattle. The program will highlight a couple of interesting collections at NARA, and an overview of how to do research at the Archives, how to receive materials, how visiting the Seattle branch has changed since the pandemic and what the current process is. The information will be as valuable to those researching families in Washington as those with roots anywhere in the country.

ZOOM Coordinator - Erin Quinn Valcho

I am delighted to be of service to OGS as your Zoom Coordinator. Thanks to Nancy Cordell for her great work in these stressful and changing times in filling this role! You can reach me at quinnthecurator@gmail.com for any of your Zoom needs.

If you are having problems logging into Zoom meetings, your first step should be to download updates for the Zoom App on a regular basis for all of your devices. You can find step-by-step instructions on their YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/E7zERcVLUBM>.

Happy Zooming!

Sunshine - Gayle Strom

As the Olympia Genealogical Society Sunshine person I like to bring a bit of "sunshine" when needed. I would like for you all to let me know, when you know, that someone is ill or needs a thoughtful note. You may contact me at gggnpoppa@comcast.net

Membership - Bob Monn

Please welcome Lue Enriquez and Eileen Fullenwider who joined OGS this past month.

Thanks to those members who have renewed their membership for 2021-2022 and a very special thanks to Jeanne Thompson for her generous donation to OGS.s

If you have any questions about logging in to the OGS website or renewing your membership, please contact us at Membership@OlyGenSoc.org.

Remember OGS When You Shop At Amazon

When shopping at Amazon, go to <http://smile.amazon.com>. You must register at AmazonSmile and select the Olympia Genealogical Society as your charitable organization. OGS will receive 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases. There is no cost to you.

Genealogy Chat Room - Peggy Cooley

Genealogy Chat Room met again and had a nice open conversation with 6 participants. All members are welcome to come chat with us on the 15th of December! All things Genealogy is the heart of the discussion

Washington State Digital Archives - Volunteers Needed

If you aren't familiar with Scribe, it's an online digital application that enables users to become "honorary archivists" by transcribing and indexing records that are historically important to Washington. By using Scribe, volunteers are able to add information to the images, making them searchable on the Washington State Archives Digital Archives.

Scribe users are volunteers from around the globe who have access to the ever-growing collection of digital images ready to be transcribed and indexed, from home, on their own time.

If you or someone you know would like to volunteer, please go to <https://scribe.digitalarchives.wa.gov/> to create an account. You can view a short tutorial there. Happy Scribing!

Special Interest Groups - Kerry McHugh-Upton

Special Interest Groups, better known as SIGs, have you heard the news! We have added four new SIGs this year as of our October General Membership meeting. Legacy Family Tree, a genealogy program; MyHeritage, an online DNA testing company with added family tree, databases and picture enhancing features; Italian ancestry, anything to do with researching your Italian ancestors, and Genealogy Chat, where you can meet to discuss the many ways to enhance your research and share your genealogy journey.

Here's the lineup for this year with facilitator and time of meeting. All on Zoom, of course!

Italian – Greg Nordlund - 1st Saturday of the month; 11:00 am

Legacy Family Tree – Jerri McCoy – 3rd Saturday of the month; 1:00 pm

MyHeritage – Jan Minzel – 3rd Tuesday; 6:30 pm

Ancestry – Greg Nordlund – 4th Saturday; 11:00 am

DNA – Nancy Cordell – 2nd Tuesday; 6:30 pm

Family History Writers – Laura Carroll – 1st Monday; 6:00 pm

Family Tree Maker – David Abernathy – 4th Thursday 10:00 am

Genealogy Chat – Peggy Cooley – 3rd Wednesday – 1:00 pm

FamilySearch.org – Carolyn Gibbons – postponed until first of the year

Log onto OlyGenSoc.org website to access the Zoom link at time of the meeting. This is a benefit of membership!! Feel free to join in any session, ask questions, members welcome at any time!

Thanks to all of our facilitators for saying "Yes!" s

Publicity - Mandy Stahrs

A new face for Publicity

I'd like to welcome Mandy Stahrs as our new Publicity chair for 2021-2022. She will be posting our meeting notices on a variety of local and regional outlets advertising our general membership meetings. She will also be working with the Seminar team to advertise this year's seminar.

Mandy is off to a fresh start by getting OGS set up with a Twitter feed. If you are a Twitter user please add Olympia Genealogical Society to your feed! If there is something of interest that you would like Mandy to post, please send her any information. You can also find the Twitter link on our OlyGenSoc.org page, found on the left side banner. Once again, Thanks Mandy for saying "Yes!"

Genealogy Books Review - Kerry McHugh-Upton

These last couple of months I enjoyed the sleuthing rompings of genealogist, Alexandra "Alex" Campbell and her mentor/partner Brighamina "Briggie" Poulson. Along with their tag alongs, they find themselves in all kinds of messes. From Chicago Illinois, to Oxford England, back to Chicago, then into the dark they collect throughout the series written by G. G. Vandagriff, will keep you entertained.... Possibly learn a trick or two for your own genealogical research. "Cankered Roots"; "Of Deadly Descent"; "Tangled Roots"; "Poisoned Pedigree"; and "The Hidden Branch". I have paperback copies of this series if you would like to borrow them, I'm happy to share! They are also available on Kindle.

The other book that I read this past month is "Inheritance, a Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity, and Love" by Dani Shapiro. This is a poignant memoir of her own parents' secret, revealed through a casual DNA test. She shares her emotions and feelings of what it is like to discover that who she thought she was, is not who she is. The book is an easy read, which grasps your heart. As many more people "play" with DNA testing, results of these tests may not always point them in the direction of who they thought they were, or who their grandparents were. I have a copy of this book to share, as well as it can be found at the Timberland Library, hardcover, Ebook, EAudible books, as well as on Kindle.

If you have books that you would like to share, or write a review, please let me know. We can include your review in the monthly newsletter as well as add it to a master list which will be posted to the website sometime this winter.

Meanwhile, get lost in a good book for these dark days of winte

Tech Team - Kerry McHugh-Upton

Updates From The Tech Team

Welcome back everyone from hopefully a summer of active research, in spite of the restrictions! During the summer break several of us on the Tech Team spent our time preparing for this coming year.

- Joe Brookshier spent some of his free time getting acquainted with our website as our newest member to the website team, under the direction of Bob Monn.

- Nancy Cordel worked with Erin Quinn Valcho in transitioning the coordination of the Zoom facilitator responsibilities, preparing for this year's meetings that will include the general membership meetings, the board meetings and the SIG meetings.

- Nancy Cordel, Bob Monn and myself attended a virtual meeting put on by the Washington State Genealogical societies President's group for discussion on how to facilitate a hybrid meeting. A hybrid meeting comprises of an in-person live meeting with some of attendees &/or the speaker attending virtually. There would be the ability for remote attendees to ask questions of the presenter much like an in-person meeting. We have also been watching some recordings provided by other groups on how to set up the meetings, what type of equipment would be needed and how to facilitate the meeting for an overall satisfactory presentation.

- Kathy Erlandson and I toured a facility in August with the focus of conducting our hybrid general membership meetings. Given all of this research this last summer in preparation for returning to in-person meetings we have decided, with the board's approval, to continue with all OGS meetings via Zoom until further notice. The timing just isn't right to start meeting in-person. The research that we have done isn't wasted though! There will come a time soon when we can start to meet in-person. One major caveat is that we would need to have an A/V person (preferably 2) who would be able to set up the onsite equipment to run the meetings for in-person & remotely with the help of our Zoom facilitator. With the team that we have currently, we won't be able to pull off a hybrid meeting. If you are interested in learning more about what it would take please drop me a line at Kerry.upton123@gmail.com or give me a call! We sure need you! Hybrid meetings won't take place without 1 or 2 people stepping up to help. In the meantime, we will continue all meetings via Zoom. The general membership meetings will be recorded and posted to our members' only section of our website, hint, you'll need to log onto the website first before you will find the recordings located at Community Events - *Recordings General Membership meetings via Zoom in real time will be open to the public, members and their guests. Recordings are only available for members.

OGS UPCOMING EVENT



THE OLYMPIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
VIRTUAL SPRING SEMINAR

DNA: TODAY'S MATCHMAKER

Saturday, April 9, 2022

8:30 am - 3:30 pm PDT

\$40 for members

\$50 for non-members



Register at: [OlyGenSoc.org](https://olygensoc.org)

Diahan Southard

This year's seminar will explore the complex and rewarding topic of DNA and genealogy. Renowned expert, Diahan Southard will lead us through sessions like:

- Making sense of your DNA results
- What to do if your matches don't have family trees
- Organizing your matches
- Using female DNA to answer questions.

★ **Door Prizes!** ★

Registration begins Dec 1, 2021

Our featured speaker, Diahan Southard, teaches the concepts of genetic genealogy all over the world and consults with leading testing companies and forensics experts. She has a special gift for making this technical, complicated subject understandable.

Her company, Your DNA Guide (YourDNAGuide.com), provides one-on-one genetic genealogy education and research services.

Registration and full details at olygensoc.org

Jewish Genealogical Society of Washington State (JGSWS)
To view the website use this Url: jgsws.org

Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter:

To read the most recent Online Newsletter go to: blog.eogncom

The Washington State Genealogical Society (WSGS):

To access their very informative web page: wasgs.org/

Washington State Archives

To access their monthly and back issues of their Newsletter:

www.sos.wa.gov/archives/newsletter-archive.aspx

Thomas MacEntee Genealogy Bargains

To access his website for genealogy bargains, genealogy do-over, and subscribe to his newsletter: genealogybargains.com/thomas-macentee/

From the Refreshment Table - Diana Bargmann

NOW BEING ACCEPTED: Short Stories about your Holiday Memories. They must be sent to the editor, edodge1946@acomcast.net by November 25th to be included in the December Newsletter. Share your memories about the best present you ever got, favorite holiday food, etc. Also, if you have favorite recipes for that time of year we'll accept those too. Questions? Call Diana Bargmann, 360-357-4251.

Please remember this is not a literary contest and there is no critiquing, no standard by which the stories are held accountable. They don't have to be a certain length, they don't have to be unusual, quirky or funny – they can be serious, sad or thoughtful too – like life itself. Just the story you might share with the rest of us at a meeting – something you uncovered during your research about an ancestor an experience you had while doing that research; and written in the same words you would use to tell it verbally, The same with the recipes – they don't have to be one that's been passed down through the generations or even holiday related, just one you think worth sharing, any type of food.

Thank you for your effort!

OGS Member Christmas Recipe - Alma Greenwood

Christmas Crescent Roll

Amy made her Crescent Roll every year for the staff at the Olympia Library where she worked as the head of the bookmobile department. The recipe was closely guarded and she did not share it with anyone but after several years decided she liked me and gave me the recipe. Every time when I make the rolls (usually at Christmas time), I think of Amy with many fond memories. This taught me a valuable lesson. If you share your recipes, you will also keep that person alive every time they use it. As in this case, it has been nearly fifty years since she gave me the recipe and I always think of her.

Ingredients:

4 Cups Flour
1 Cup Cold Milk
2 Tablespoons Sugar
3 Egg Yolks
1 Teaspoon Salt
1 Square Compressed Yeast
1 Cup (1/2 #) Cold Butter (do not use Margarine)
3 Egg Whites
1 Cup Sugar
1 Cup Rolled Walnuts

Directions:

Measure the flour; add sugar and salt and sift into mixing bowl. Measure milk and dissolve yeast in part of it. Beat egg yolks. Add milk and dissolved yeast. Mix the flour and butter as for piecrust. Add liquid and mix well. Put In refrigerator overnight. Then cut the dough into 3 parts. Roll as thin as piecrust. Spread with egg whites, which have been beaten stiff and mixed with sugar and nuts. Roll like a jellyroll and put on buttered pans in the crescent shape. Let rise until light (from 1 to 1-1/2 hours). Bake in moderate oven. Frost with powdered sugar, butter and cream frosting. Sprinkle top with rolled walnuts. Amy Raab – Jan 1973

OGS Member Christmas Recipe - Diana Bargmann

Grape Salad

Here's a very unusual salad - very refreshing during the summer but also good this time of year when grapes are around.

1/2 cup sugar
8 oz. cream cheese, softened
8 oz. sour cream
1 tsp. vanilla
4 lbs. seedless grapes
Mix together. Serve slightly chilled.

OGS Member Christmas Recipe - Patricia Novarra

Orange Carrot Cake

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease (not oil) 13x9-inch pan.

Cake Ingredients:

3 cups all purpose or unbleached flour
2 cups sugar
1 cup coconut, if desired
2 ½ teaspoons soda
2 ½ teaspoons cinnamon
1 teaspoon salt
2 cups (4 medium) shredded carrots
1 ¼ cups cooking oil
2 teaspoons vanilla
1 tsp grated orange peel
11-oz. can (1 ¾ cups) mandarin oranges, undrained
3 eggs

Cake Directions:

Lightly spoon flour into measuring cup; level off. In large bowl, blend all cake ingredients; beat 2 minutes at highest speed. Pour into greased pan. Bake 45 to 55 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean.

Frosting Ingredients:

8 oz. pkg. cream cheese, softened
2 tablespoons butter or margarine, melted
1 teaspoon vanilla
3 cups powdered sugar
½ to 1 cup chopped nuts, if desired

Frosting Directions:

In medium bowl, blend frosting ingredients except nuts; beat until smooth. Spread over cake; sprinkle with nuts. Store in refrigerator.

Tip: One-half frosting recipe may be prepared if less frosting is desired.

OGS Member Christmas Recipe - Patricia Novarra

Fresh Apple Cake

4 cups apples (any variety) chopped large. Skins may be left on, if desired

2 cups sugar

Mix and add:

½ cup oil

1 cup walnuts, chopped

2 eggs, well beaten

2 teaspoons vanilla

2 cups flour

2 teaspoons soda

1 teaspoon cinnamon

1 teaspoon salt

Bake in 9x13 pan at 325 degrees for 1 hour

Serve plain or with powdered sugar or whipped cream

OGS Member Christmas Story - Diana Bargmann

This is a Christmas memory of my husband, Greg. He can remember being put to bed on Christmas Eve by his parents and waking up to them being gone the next morning. In their place was his aunt and cousin. His mother had gone into labor shortly after she and her husband had set the toys from Santa around the tree, and her sister and son had come to watch Greg and his brother the rest of the night and share in the excitement Christmas morning. Greg must have been 8 or 9 y.o. and his brother a couple of years younger. While finding out they now had a baby sister was probably not the most exciting present they got that year, it certainly was unique.

OGS Member Christmas Story - Peggy Cooley

For Christmas 1964 my father got a light bar to go with our Super 8 movie camera. Picture runway lights-that's how bright the lights were. My Dad filmed us coming down the stairs and going into the living room to open our gifts. Later in the day, he filmed the lower floor of the house and all the activities surrounding my Mom cooking the Christmas dinner. As he went from room to room, a figure popped up in each room and would take a seat to be filmed. I went from room to room and got filmed in each room, and the thought still makes me laugh today. I was 14 years old and was so proud of my new clothes, hairstyle and makeup. Oh, how I miss those holiday dinners at 408 Chews Landing Rd.

OGS Member Christmas Story - Marcy Belles

Christmas - family time. We always had family around at Christmas. Some of the fun things from my childhood . . .

Tree

While growing up, the Saturday before Christmas (and if Christmas fell on a Sunday, it was the week before), we would go Christmas tree shopping. It was an all-day affair. We always ended up picking our tree in the dark. We'd get it home and let it set on the front porch to get rid of the loose needles. The next day, Dad would put it into the tree stand and bring it into the house and set it up in the living room corner. We would end up finding blank spots so the tree would be turned until those were hidden from view. Next came decorating. Dad would always put the lights on first. Then Mom would do the garlands. Next came the ornaments. Us kids got to put some of them up. The final touch was the icicles.

Lights

Every Christmas Eve we would go driving around Centralia looking at the various Christmas Lights people did to their homes. We would stop at Grandma Lucy's house first (this was actually my Mom's Grandma, her Dad's step-mom). We would give her some little gifts we made and our school photos. She would give us some goodies. Loved that time with her. Then it was driving around for an hour or two. Then it was home to get to bed for Christmas.

Shopping

We would go to town on an evening and park the car in the town parking lot just off Pearl Street near the Masonic Hall. We would split up into two groups - Mom & I and Ed & Dad. We would go shopping in the various shops along Tower Avenue. After an hour, we would meet back at the car and trade off and go out again. I can remember Dad taking me into Rita's Hardware store to pick out appliances to give Mom for Christmas. One year it would be a toaster, another a waffle iron, and another year it would be a pancake griddle. She would always get new slippers every year. Mom would take us to a store (probably the same one) to pick out a train car for Dad. We always got the gifts wrapped.

There was one year that Dad had us meet with him in the train room to discuss a gift for Mom. We had decided to get her a Mother's ring. Dad did the shopping for us. We had three stones - March, August, and December. March & December for my brother's and my birthdays. August was for their anniversary (it is also my Mom's birthday). Dad did a sneaky, he wrapped the ring box, then stuck it inside of another box (wrapped) and inside another box (wrapped) until it was a huge box that went under the tree.

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Christmas Day

As kids, we weren't allowed down the stairs until Mom & Dad were up. We always ate breakfast first, then had to do the dishes. Then we got to go into the living room. Either my brother or I or both of us played "Santa" and handed out the gifts. I don't remember if we opened them all at once or if we took turns.

The afternoon we would either go over to Papa's house or he & Auntie Lois would come to our house for dinner and more Christmas presents. (this was my Dad's family - sister & dad).

When I was working, I would either work Christmas morning or I would have the afternoon shift. My brother hated it when I had to work the morning shift because Christmas was put on hold until I got home after 3 pm. Mom liked it when I worked the afternoon shift because that meant Auntie had to help out with the dishes after dinner (and I headed out the door as I either had to be at work by 3 or by 4:30 depending which shift I was working). You have to understand, we didn't have a dishwasher, so somebody had to dry the dishes and put them away. We always used the good china for Christmas dinner and the good silverware.

Gifts

One year Mom made Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls for us. I can remember when my brother opened the shoe box and saw the doll, he grabbed it and through it towards me. Said "dolls are for girls".

Another year we got bicycles. I had a big bike and Papa made a miniature bike (out of front wheels from tricycles) for my brother.

Other presents included red wagons, sleds, dolls, toy oven, loom and I don't remember what all else.

New Traditions

One year Mom made Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls for us. I can remember when my brother opened the shoe ox and saw the doll, he grabbed it and threw it towards me, Said "Dolls are for girls".

Another year we got bicycles. I had a big bike and Papa made a miniature bike (out of front wheels from tricycles) for my brother.

Other presents included red wagons, sleds, dolls, toy oven, loom and I don't remember what else.

We now hang stockings every year along the fireplace mantel and have the joy of filling them with various things. This was something that David did when he was growing up. We never did when I was growing up.

Christmas morning is just us (my husband & son, when he is home). We usually have time to open our stockings and Santa gift before heading to my parents for Christmas Breakfast. My sister-in-law and her children and grandchildren join us. After eating breakfast, we open gifts. Everybody gets gifts for the little ones and the adults draw names at Thanksgiving time.

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We let the kids open their gifts first then the adults. We either go youngest to oldest or oldest to youngest. There's usually Santa gifts for everyone as well. Sometimes we play a game afterwards before everyone heads home.

Christmas dinner is with my husband's family. We eat a big dinner then the kids get to open their gifts. Adults don't exchange gifts anymore (we used to but a few years ago it was decided to do something for charity instead).



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OGS Member Story - Diana Bargmann

My favorite holiday memories are two. One is of my paternal grandmother making these wonderfully big, pillow-y yeast rolls for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners. I've never been able to duplicate them, try as I might each year, and maybe because they're in my memory, I never will. I can still see her sitting at our table shaping the balls of dough for the final rising and smell the delectable fragrance of them baking. My second memory is of my Aunt Lelia - I loved to read and she always gave me books each year (for my birthdays, too). She didn't wrap them, just tied them in a stack of three with curling ribbon but it was always my very favorite gift of all.

When I was growing up, the five of us kids were the youngest grandchildren in my Dad's family. I only had 3 cousins, all boys, who were 5, 10 and 15 years older than me - nothing in common there! My Dad hadn't married until he was in his 30's while his sisters had all married young so their children were pretty much grown when we came along. Consequently, most of the time our grandparents et al came to our house for the holidays - it was just easier on everyone, especially my mother who had 3 kids in the middle who were each just a year apart from each other (so at one time, 3 kids under 3y.o.), not to mention that no one else had things for us to play with at their homes anymore. You didn't want 5 bored kids at your house with all your nice, breakable home decor items sitting around! On the few occasions when we went to one of their homes, you could see the relatives sort of brace themselves as our huge station wagon swung into their driveway and kids spilled out of all the doors. Plus all of the sisters had only had 1 or 2 children each and couldn't fathom coping with this many at one time. All except the one aunt who was a school teacher - occasionally we went to her home for Christmas Day dinner. I think the idea was that we'd all have gotten new toys from Santa to keep us occupied so it was a fairly safe risk!

OGS Member Story - Eileen Dodge

As children, my husband, Norman and I had very different Christmas traditions.

Norman's family always put their Christmas tree up on Christmas Eve and took it down on New Year's Day. They hung stockings on the mantle for Santa to fill when he came to put presents under the tree. An orange was always at the toe of each stocking. A special treat was maple sugar candies in the shape of a maple leaf. Christmas Eve service at the University Congregational Church, then to bed; opening presents in the morning.

Eileen's family always put their Christmas tree up the day after Thanksgiving and took it down the day after Christmas. Santa visited her house on Christmas Eve with gifts, so they did not have stockings to put up. Christmas day was spent with two different sets of grandparents – maternal grandparents lived on a farm and paternal grandparents lived in town, just a few miles from the farm.

Upcoming Events

2021

Thursday, December 9th - Monthly General Membership Meeting via Zoom

2022

Thursday, January 13th - Monthly General Membership Meeting via Zoom

Thursday, February 10th - Monthly General Membership Meeting via Zoom

Thursday, March 10th - Monthly General Membership Meeting via Zoom

Saturday, April 9th – Spring Seminar via Zoom

Thursday, April 14th - Monthly General Membership Meeting via Zoom

Thursday, May 12th - Monthly General Membership Meeting via

Thursday, June 9th - Monthly General Membership Meeting via Zoom

July and August – No Monthly General Membership Meeting

Thursday, September 8th - Monthly General Membership Meeting via Zoom

Thursday, October 13th - Monthly General Membership Meeting via Zoom

Thursday, November 10th - Monthly General Membership Meeting via Zoom

Thursday, December 8th - Monthly General Membership Meeting via Zoom

Elected Officers

President – Kathy Erlandson

Vice President – Greg Nordlund

Secretary – Jean Coons

Treasurer – Judy Artley

Appointed Teams

Book Coordinator – Rebel Romero

Historian – Kasey Schiewe

Information Technology – Kerry McHugh-Upton

Membership – Bob Monn

Newsletter – Eileen Dodge

Publicity – Mandy Stahre

Refreshments – Diana Bargmann

Research – Jerri McCoy

Spring Seminar – Nancy Cordell

Sunshine – Gayle Strom

Special Interest Groups – Kerry McHugh-Upton

Webmaster – Bob Monn

Zoom – Erin Quinn-Valcho

Community Partners

City of Lacey: Erin Quinn Valcho

Timberland Library: Agatha Burstein

**OGS General Meeting Minutes (via Zoom)
November 11, 2021
(approximately 34 people attended)**

President – Kathy Erlandson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. She welcomed the membership.

Secretary - The October 2021 general meeting minutes submitted by Jean Coons Approved as published.

Vice - President Report – Greg Nordlund reported that there are several possibilities for the December meeting presentation.

Treasurer – Judy Artley gave her report.

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Team Reports -

Genealogy Gab Fest – Peggy Cooley said that the purpose of the gab fests is discussion of all things associated with genealogy. Interested members must send an email to Peggy in order to participate. The Genealogy Gab Fest meets on Zoom from 1 to 2:30 on the third Wednesday of the month.

Newsletter – Eileen Dodge asked members to contribute seasonal recipes and anecdotes the December edition of the OGS newsletter by the 25th of November.

Seminar – Nancy Cordell announced that the 2022 virtual seminar is scheduled for Saturday, April 9. Diahn Southard, a genetic genealogy specialist, will speak on the topic, DNA: Today's Matchmaker. Online registration will begin December 1, 2021 at olygensoc.org.

Refreshments – Diana Bargmann encouraged members to contribute to the December Newsletter.

SIGs – Kerry McHugh- Upton reported that the Society has a number of active SIGs - Family Tree Maker, Ancestry, Family Search, Legacy Family Tree, MyHeritage, DNA, Genealogy Chat, Family History Writers and Italian. Greg Nordlund, chair of the Italian Heritage group, reported that the SIG had a first and successful meeting last week with four participants. At this time the Italian SIG will meet every three months.

Program – Greg Nordlund introduced Lori Lee Sauber, who presented the topic

“ Organized Research from Cradle to Grave.” Lori Lee Sauber is a professional genealogist and developer of L2Innovations. She spoke on her vast topic through the lens of an experienced project manager and was well received by the group. OGS members and Lori Lee Sauber are interested in another presentation to the Society.

(Continued)

Other -

Members shared photos and stories of family members. The stories were varied, highly interesting, and helped us get to know each other better. We will repeat this activity.

President Kathy Erlandson adjourned the meeting at 8: 47p.m.

Jean Coons, Secretary