



Olympia

Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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October 2021

Eileen Dodge, Editor

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

October General Meeting

October's meeting features you! We've an evening planned of member stories commencing with spooky stories about your family and unexplained phenomena! When we have finished these creepy tales we'll turn it over to an open mic evening of interesting family finds, confounding research questions, eccentric cousins and solved mysteries.

This year we're off to a great start with our various special interest groups (SIGs). We currently are offering Ancestry, Family Tree Maker, DNA, & Writing your family history SIGs. Check the OGS website if you are interested in attending for time and Zoom link. These are open to all members in good standing. September's general membership meeting we had breakout rooms during the meeting so those that were interested in these subjects had a chance to ask questions of the leaders.

For October's general membership meeting we'd like to have breakout rooms for potential SIG groups. During the summer break we surveyed members to see if there was enough interest in several potential topics. We have topics that have received a lot of interest; Legacy Software, RootsMagic Software, MyHeritage, FindMyPast and Native American ancestry. We will have breakout rooms during our general membership meeting in October. Feel free to participate in any of these. My hope is that we will have someone step up to facilitate the SIG. See you all October 14 on Zoom!!

In This Issue

- Page 1 – October General Meeting
- Page 2 – ZOOM – Sunshine – Membership – Outreach - Remember
- Page 3 – Special Interest Groups - Tech Team
- Page 4 - Tech Team Continued – Digital Archives
- Page 5 – Mystery Books – Web Sites
- Page 6 - Spring Seminar – Refreshment Table
- Page 7 – Member Recipe – Members Stories
- Page 8, 9, 10 – Members Stories Continued
- Page 11 – Board Members – Committees – Community Partners
- Page 12, 13 – Meeting Minutes Continued

ZOOM Coordinator - Erin Quimn 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 Lead - Bob Monn

Please welcome Deborah Colby, Donna Green McKamy, and Trina Young who joined OGS this past month.

Thanks to those members who have renewed their membership for 2021-2022 and a very special thanks to Sue McDonald and Trina Young for generous donations to OGS.

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

Outreach - Peggy Cooley

Don't you miss getting together to talk about all things genealogy? Successes, failures, interesting stories, brick walls, webinars and anything else you like.

I would love to host a Zoom genealogy meeting once a month (possibly on the second Wednesday evening) where we could have a free flow conversation for 1-2 hours. Please contact me if you would like to participate at jerseymouse@comcast.net

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.

Special Interest Groups (SIGS) - Kerry McHugh-Upton

Welcome Back! With the start up of this year's calendar, our SIGs (Special Interest Groups) are getting started back up as well. This last summer several surveys were sent out to the membership to respond to. One area that we were focusing on was the Special Interest Groups. There continues to be interest in DNA, Writing your family story, Ancestry, Family Tree Maker, and Family Search.org. Interest was also expressed by members for SIGs covering Legacy Software, RootsMagic, Native American research, FindMyPast.com, and MyHeritage. There is quite a bit of interest for these groups, we just need someone to step up to be the facilitator. The facilitator does not need to be fluent or an expert in these areas, they just need to have an interest in the topic. The facilitator typically will set a time for the meeting possibly monthly, bimonthly or quarterly. A location isn't needed since our SIGs will be via Zoom. The facilitator should send out a reminder a day or two before the meeting to remind the regular attendees that it's time for them meeting. There will be someone from the Zoom team to assist you with running the meeting via Zoom, so no experience needed for Zoom. Check over the list and let me know if you can be a facilitator for any of these groups!

We have a few changes to this year's line-up. At present time, here is the line up of Special Interest Groups and Facilitators:

- ANCESTRY - Greg Nordlund; meets 4th Saturday 11am – 1pm
- FAMILY TREE MAKER - David Abernathy; meets 4th Thursday 10am
 - DNA – in need of a facilitator
- ITALIAN – Greg Nordlund is interested in leading this group. Please contact him if you are interested in attending. He'll form a group!
 - Native American – in need of a facilitator
 - Find My Past – in need of a facilitator
 - MyHeritage.com – in need of a facilitator

Special Interest Groups are open to all members. Feel free to contact the facilitator to learn more about the group. More information is shared on the Forum page once you have logged onto the OGS website, Members Only section. Access to the Forums is a benefit of membership; if you aren't a member yet, join up and start taking in all that membership offers!

Tech Team - Kerry McHugh-Upton

Updates from the Tech Team-

Welcome back everyone from hopefully a summer of active research, inspite 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 transistioning the coordination of the Zoom facilitator responsibilities, preparing for this year's meetings which will include the general membership meetings, the board meetings and the SIG meetings.

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- 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.

Washington State Digital Archives - Volunteers Needed

Death certificates are now available for transcription in Scribe. Scribe has long been without death/certificates, but our volunteers need not wait anymore. Tens of thousands of records from the Department of Health have been uploaded and are now available for transcription.

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!

Genealogy Mystery Books- Kerry McHugh-Upton

Recently I read a couple of genealogy mysteries that I would like to share with you all.

The first book "Death Finds A Way, A Janie Riley Mystery" by Lorine McGinnis Schulze takes place in Salt Lake City at the Family History Library. Of all places to find a genealogical mystery! While researching her fourth great grandmother, Janie Riley befriends a fellow genealogist who ends up dying on the streets of SLC. Janie is bound and determined to solve the mystery of the murder and the solve the mystery of her research. A quick, genealogy who dunnit!

Next I read "Murders and Genealogy in Hennepin County, A Detective Anna Fitzgerald Mystery" by Patrick Day. This combines the history of a home with two murders that took place 141 years apart in Hennepin County.

I also read "Hillbilly Elegy" by J.D. Vance. Although this isn't a genealogy mystery it is a very interesting read about the Scots Irish that settled in the Appalachian area of Kentucky. He tells the story of his growing up in the rustbelt of Ohio, being a second generation emigrant of family who left Kentucky to look for work in Ohio. It's a story of how he overcame all of the obstacles of being raised by a hillbilly family. If you have any family that is Scots Irish from the Appalachian area of the country, this is a great read to understand the culture of your people. Let me know if you wish to borrow any of the books that I have written about over the past several months.

Genealogy Web Sites

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/

Whatcom Genealogical Society

To receive assistance with your Whitman County genealogy research go to Facebook and key in Whatcom County Genealogy Society.

Upcoming Events

2022 Spring Seminar



Saturday, 9 April 2022

Dianah Southard

“Your DNA Guide”

More Information to Follow!

Registration begins 13 January 2022

From the Refreshment Table - Diana Bargmann

Last September, when it was deemed that OGS would not be able to resume physical meetings, 2 new features were added to our newsletter - recipes and stories. The recipes were to be substitutes for the actual refreshments we would have had, and the stories were in lieu of those we might have exchanged in person while socializing there, and to add depth to the Newsletter.

Please consider taking a few moments to jot down a recipe or a story to contribute to our newsletter. 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 or on certain subjects, 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.

Send them to our editor Eileen Dodge <edodge1946@comcast.net> by the 25th of the month and she'll include them in an up coming month's publication. And thank you for your effort!

OGS Member Recipe - Gayle Strom

Our favorite pancakes

Apple Pancake

Ingredients & Directions

2 cups Bisquick

1/2 teaspoon cinnamon

1 egg

1 1/3 cups milk

3/4 cup grated apple

Beat Bisquick, cinnamon, egg, and milk until smooth. Fold in the grated apple. Pour batter from a 1/4 cup measuring cup onto hot griddle. Turn to cook both sides.

These are the best when you use with the cider syrup below.

Cider Syrup

Ingredients & Directions

1 cup sugar

2 tablespoons Cornstarch

1/2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice

2 tablespoons lemon juice

1/4 cup butter/margarine

2 cups apple cider or apple juice (cider works best)

Directions

Mix sugar, cornstarch, and spice in sauce pan. Stir in cider and lemon juice. Cook stirring until mixture thickens and boils one minute. Remove from heat, add butter or margarine. (I prefer the butter). Serve with your Apple Pancakes. Yummy – Enjoy!

OGS Member Contributions

Memories of Past Halloween Costumes and Treats

From Kerry McHugh Upton

During the 1960's I lived on 24th St SE in Auburn WA. It was an idyllic street to grow up on. There were kids of all ages, front yards that were continuous for 5 or 6 homes, moms that watched out for each other's kids. One of my treasured memories is Halloween. We didn't have any fancy costumes. It always seemed that it was cold and wet. My sisters' and my costumes were typically black caps over our nice heavy coats with a witch's hat and a pillowcase to put our treats in. One or two special Halloweens we stopped by Mrs. Brandt's house, our neighbor across the street from our house. She must have been around 70 or 80 years old, living with her daughter. She asked us to wait a minute while she got us something special for Halloween. We each got a mini loaf of white bread that she had baked that day. We felt very special indeed!

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From Dianna Bargmann

Two Halloween costumes stick out in my mind, one I'm not sure I ever wore but my siblings did. My favorite costume was when I was 10 or 11 years old. It was supposed to be a harem outfit complete with loose gathered pants, a satin and sequin short jacket with satin blouse underneath, and some sort of veil thing on my head. I have no idea where it came from - it was not from the store but a home-made, hand-me -down, I think - but I thought I was looking pretty good in it at the time. The elementary school had a Halloween costume parade on the playground so we all marched around showing off our stuff. The other costume was supposed to be a Pluto (think Disney) thing, all one piece and tied at the neck, with a tie-on cap of the same material. I know my sister and at least two of my brothers wore it. I remember taking the younger brother, probably around 4-year-old trick or treating around the neighborhood (those were the days when kids ran all over by themselves on Halloween) and he neglected to tell me that he had to go to the bathroom. Maybe he was afraid if he went home to do so that he might have to stop hauling in the goodies for the night. At any rate, we weren't close to home so he ended up peeing himself and then we really did have to go back. If memory serves me correct, he wasn't the only one who had done that in the costume before. That poor Pluto suit. I don't know whether my mother chose to throw it away at that point or not. It wasn't made of very sturdy material to begin with so how many washings could it take? So I don't remember if the 3rd brother got to wear it or not later.

My favorite Halloween treats were Almond Joy or Mounds bars - love that coconut! – and the homemade goodies that some of the neighbors made, like caramel apples. When all of us kids would get home for the evening, we'd pour out our bags on the floor and trade pieces back and forth. Of course, the youngest kids would unknowingly get the short end of the deal as they traded away the better pieces so maybe a little Halloween guilt there!

From Eileen Dodge

For the first ten years of my life I lived in a small Oklahoma panhandle town of 1200 residents. In those days, we knew everyone whose house we visited at Halloween, and getting treats such as apples, candy apples, popcorn balls, cookies, etc. was normal. Most parents accompanied their children on their Trick or Treat rounds, so could not be home to give out treats – therefore, they would set a table on the porch, put out a basket, box or bowl with their proffered treats. And no one who went to their home took more than their fair share. Also, at most homes where someone was there to answer the door, Trick or Treaters were invited inside and required to sing a song, do a dance, recite a poem, tell a joke, etc., which had to meet approval before a treat was handed out.

From Kathy Erlandson

As a child, my very favorite Halloween treat was Baby Ruth candy bars! I don't remember a single one of my childhood costumes, they were probably always covered with a raincoat. However, my favorites of my children's costumes were my daughter as a werewolf, and my son as an elf – ears and all. (He hated it!)

(Photos Nest Two Pages)





Elected Officers

**President – Kathy Erlandson
Vice President – Greg Nordlund
Secretary – Jean Coons
Treasurer – Judy Artley**

Appointed Teams

**Book Coordinator – Rebel Romero
Information Technology – Kerry McHugh-Upton
Membership – Bob Monn
Newsletter – Eileen Dodge
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: Ms. Erin Quinn Valcho
Timberland Library: Agatha Burstein**

September General Meeting Minutes

September 9, 2021 (approximately 50 people attended)

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

President Report

- a. Kathy recognized retiring volunteers
: Peggy Cooley is retiring as the Seminar Chair after a number of years of service
. Eileen Dodge is retiring as Seminar Assistant Chair
- b. Kathy announced the Board decision that all meetings will continue via zoom less until 2022.
- c. The Board has agreed that OGS committees will be known as Teams

Secretary - The June 10, 2021 general meeting minutes submitted by Eileen Dodge were approved with no additions or corrections.

Treasurer – Judy Artley gave her report. Judy has set up the Society with Amazon Smile, which gives a percentage of purchases to OGS when notified.

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Team Reports

Books – Rebel Romero reported that the Society has nine books that were obtained for door prizes and raffles at our in - person Seminars. Since we have not been doing in - person seminars, those books are in storage, and she recently added them to OGS 's Library Thing.

Genealogy Gab Fest – Peggy Cooley is setting up an opportunity, probably on zoom, for members to chat about genealogy. These sessions will not include programs and may be called I Love Genealogy. Judy will need help, specifically a "ZOOM engineer."

IT/Tech – Kerry McHugh Upton explained that the IT/Tech team includes a variety of tasks. Joe Brookshier has accepted the website maintenance position. Erin Quinn-Valcho is handling ZOOM. Kerry handles editing of meeting and seminar recordings. Volunteers are needed for Facebook and hybrid meeting tasks.

Membership – Bob Monn reminded us that the Society is in the membership renewal period. Renewal is on line, and Bob will help with the process if needed. He thanked those who have donated to the Society.

Newsletter – Eileen Dodge asked members for seasonal recipes and anecdotes for the October/Halloween edition of the OGS newsletter. Please send her your contributions by the 25th of the month.

Seminar – Nancy Cordell, the new seminar coordinator, announced that the 2022 virtual Seminar is scheduled for April 9. Diahn Southard , a genetic genealogy specialist, will be the speaker. Registration for the seminar begins at the January 2022 general meeting. Diahn Southard's book, " Your DNA Guide - the Book is being read by our DNA SIG this year. A

volunteer is needed to locate door prizes for the seminar. A list of previous donors is available from Eileen Dodge.

SIGs – Kerry McHugh Upton reported tha the DNA SIG is led by Nancy Cordell , Family Tree Maker SIG is led by David Abernathy, Family History Writing is led by Laurel Carroll and Family Search is currently led by Carolyn Gibbons. This evening we will have 10 – 15 break out rooms for each current SIG . Next month we hope to schedule break out rooms for potential SIGS.

Sunshine – Gayle Strom requests that members let her know when a card would be appreciated for one of our members.

Zoom – Erin Quinn-Valcho thanked the Society for the opportunity to help.

Program – Greg Nordlund presented the program topic for October, family history and the paranormal, in keeping with the season. Members having such family stories, which they would like to share, please contact Greg. Greg introduced Maggie Cogswell from the Washington State Archives , who presented valuable tips and resources on identifying and preserving family photos along with links to study.

Other

Members attended SIG break out rooms of their choice.

President Kathy Erlandson adjourned the meeting at 8:36 p.m.

Jean Coons, Secretary

OGS 2021 NO