



Olympia

Genealogical Society

Newsletter

Vol. 31, No. 10

June 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.

June General Meeting

At our final meeting before the summer break, the speaker will be YOU! We will spend the evening hearing member's stories from our own research and trees.

Please come ready to share a tale about unique research you've conducted, interesting characters from your families, crazy stories you've uncovered, brushes with greatness, black sheep, masterminds, saints and fools. These sessions are always a blast, and so entertaining!

If you know you want to be a presenter, please let me know in advance at gregnordlund@gmail.com

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President's Musings - Kathy Erlandson
ORAL TRADITION

Do you like to watch genealogy series on TV? I loved watching "Who Do You Think You Are?" Lately I've seen a couple of episodes of an Australian program which isn't very educational, but the quirky host gives his guests some obscure hints and a cell phone and sends them off on a scavenger hunt to find distant relatives. I watch "Finding Your Roots" faithfully, and I've watched a few other shows, whose names I don't recall. [1] One glaring common thread that emerges in almost every show is the dead silence of our ancestors. It seems that very few of our parents, grandparents and great-grandparents have shared their history, the stories of their families' backgrounds, struggles, sorrows, and victories. When asked, "Did you know...?" most of those TV guests say, "No. No one ever talked about it". What has become of oral tradition?

According to scholars Renée Hulan and Renate Eigenbrod, oral traditions are "the means by which knowledge is reproduced, preserved and conveyed from generation to generation." [2] Or, from Oral History Association, oral history is a way of "preserving and interpreting the voices and memories of people, communities, and participants in past events." [3]

Most aboriginal peoples relied heavily on oral traditions to preserve their history, culture, wisdom and lineage for future generations. Storytelling, pageantry, song, and dance have long been staples of oral tradition. Even in our not-too-distant past, bards preserved history in music and ballads, but over time, the written word seems to have supplanted those oral traditions. The hustle-bustle of our rat-race lives has placed less and less importance on remembering.

I had one grandfather who was a consummate storyteller, and not surprisingly, he is one of my two favorite forebears. He taught me how early American mining and farming communities lived. He had me spellbound with stories of living, traveling, surviving; of agriculture and industry, and of the dwindling Native Americans in the mid-west. He gave me a priceless gift of personal history.

Perhaps, genealogists are the last defenders of oral tradition. We are trying to recover some of what has been lost. Of course, we are writing it down, but perhaps we should challenge ourselves to become the griots, bards, tribal elders; the keepers and sharers of our own families' histories. I intend to try to remember, at every future family gathering, to encourage members to share memories of their past; memories of their own parents and grandparents. I am resolved that my own grandchildren will know stories of the lives and backgrounds of their grandparents, great-grandparents, and even 3x-great grandparents. However, we mustn't stop there. Besides telling, we need to listen, and teach the young ones to listen and to share. Oral history is a dying tradition that, I believe, deserves resuscitation.

[1] For the names of other genealogical programs and where to find them, check out <https://www.familytreemagazine.com/entertainment/must-see-genealogy-tv/>

[2] Hulan and Eigenbrod, 7.

[3] "Oral History: Defined," Oral History Association, www.oralhistory.org/about/do-oral-history/

ZOOM Coordinator - Nancy Cordell

If you are having problems logging into the monthly Olympia Genealogical Society general meetings on Zoom, be sure to download updates for the Zoom App on a regular basis at <http://zoom.us/download> so you will have all the functionality that Zoom has to offer. This applies to your computer and any other devices you use for Zoom. There are updates every couple of weeks.

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 the following new OGS members who joined last month:
Kristina Ames Kauffman

Spring Seminar 2022 - Peggy Cooley

Summer is just around the corner, but your Seminar Committee will already be working Spring Seminar 2022! Our Speaker is Diahn Southard, "Your DNA Guide." If you are interested in working with us, please email me at jerseymouse@comcast.net. Enjoy your summer!!

OGS Website - Bob Monn

You may have noticed a couple of subtle additions to the OGS home page in the past week –calendar countdown for the 2022 Spring Seminar that has been added to the 2021 Spring Seminar "article" and a new "article" on the upcoming 1950 U.S. Federal Census data release with a similar calendar countdown. These calendar countdowns automatically display the number of days remaining until these important events. The code behind these countdowns was developed by Joe Brookshier, a relatively new OGS member (Dec 2020) who has agreed to join our Technology Team . . . and we're very excited to have such a talent!

On another Web topic, we have a growing body of content available only to OGS members who are logged in to the website, but a relatively low percentage of our members have logged in recently -- less than 40% in the past month and just over 50% in the past two months. Although this is an improvement over these rates a year or so ago, there remains a lot of room for improvement. As a suggestion, whenever you visit the website to view the newsletter or get info on our monthly meeting, take a moment to log in and look around. As a starting point, you may want to review some of the 73 documents provided by Rick Sayre, our 2021 Seminar speaker, that can be found in the four new 2021 Spring Seminar Forums. You also may want to check out a recording of an OGS meeting that you missed – See Community Events / Recordings. Kerry McHugh Upton works hard to deliver these resources to you; all we need to do is log in and click a few links. If you have misplaced your login credentials, please see the help information on the Members Login page or contact us at Membership@OlyGenSoc.org. We are eager to help!

Special Interest Groups (SIGS) - Kerry McHugh-Upton

Two years ago we started up small groups to focus on various genealogy subjects relating to data management programs and "How-to" groups. Each group met in person on a monthly basis, learning and sharing about the focus topic. The best part of each of these groups was getting to know each other beyond our monthly general membership meetings! Last spring we suspended all in person gatherings. An Ad-Hoc group was formed to determine how we could move forward as the Olympia Genealogical Society under the current environment. The Zoom online platform was adopted as our platform for holding our meetings. Although not the same, it gives us the opportunity to continue our meetings. This is exciting to be able to offer this, especially for snowbird members, those unable to attend due to time of day or transportation issues. You will be able to log in and attend the meetings no matter where you are!

You'll need to be a current member of OGS. Once logged onto the website you'll be able to access the different Zoom log ons for each SIG meeting. The SIG Groups will be listed on the left hand border once you have logged onto the Members Only section.

Special Interest Groups and Facilitators:

- ANCESTRY - Greg Nordlund • DNA - Kerry McHugh Upton
- FAMILY HISTORY WRITING - Cindy Neff • FAMILY SEARCH - Carolyn Gibbons
- FAMILY TREE MAKER - David Abernathy

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!

If you have a subject that you feel would be of benefit to other members please contact Kerry McHugh Upton to share your idea. We'll send out a notice to the membership to see if there are other members interested in a SIG group on that topic. These groups can be a cultural group, other genealogical database groups, etc

Tech Team - Kerry McHugh-Upton

Welcome to the future! Since the timely upgrade of our website in 2018, we have reaped the many benefits of being able to communicate with OGS members through updates on our website, with ease of access to membership, the newsletter, meeting announcements, etc.

Prior to the shutdown of in-person meetings, a need was starting to reveal itself. Members unable to make it to in-person meetings due to weather, illness or other life events were missing out. In January 2020 a test run of videoing an in-person meeting was tried with a cell phone. The edited recording was successfully shared on the OGS website for members to view.

Soon after, we went into shutdown mode. Our meetings and in-person seminar were cancelled. Life was on hold... until Nancy Cordell, Bob Monn and myself thought we could try a virtual spring seminar via Zoom. (Continued Next Page)

Bob, Nancy and I formed a pseudo ad hoc committee to run general membership meetings, board meetings and SIGs over the last year via the Zoom platform. With a few little bumps along the way, we were all able to stay connected

We've been able to record the presentations, edit them and share the recordings on our website for members to enjoy for the first time or re-watch the presentation as desired. As we look forward to getting back to in-person meetings, we plan to continue to offer access to our meetings for members who are unable to attend in-person. Over the next few months we'll be working on finding a venue that has Wifi to be able to record and/or transmit the meeting in real time.

Considering all of this, during April's board meeting the board voted to create a Technology Committee that will encompass the website, A/V, Facebook, Zoom, Mailchimp, and PayPal.

- The A/V committee is currently a committee of one, Rebel Romero. She has been responsible for setting up the sound system, projector and screen at OGS in- person meetings. It would be great to have at least one other person to make up the A/V team. If one isn't able to make it to the meeting there would be a second person able to set up the equipment to keep the meeting running smoothly. We would also like to expand the scope of this committee to have a person or two be responsible for video recording of the meeting. This team could be responsible for editing the recording and getting it ready to post online for member access, or pass onto another person who would edit the recording.
- The Website team was originally run solely by Jerri McCoy. She created and managed our original website for many years. When we transitioned to the new website, Jerri remained part of the team to help Bob Monn and myself smoothly transition site content to the new platform. This year a new member Joe Brookshier has offered to be part of the website team, giving Jerri a much deserved break! Please let Jerri know your appreciation for all that she has done with our website over the decades! Please welcome Joe Brookshier to OGS and to our website team!
- Facebook is currently being administered by Greg Nordlund and myself. We use this platform as a way to communicate with members and the public on genealogical events and to help each other climb over or break down our brick walls.
- Zoom - is our online meeting platform. Nancy Cordell took it upon herself to get OGS up and running for all of our meetings over the last year. She will be handing over the reins year.
- Zoom Recordings - editing and posting to the website has been done this last year by myself. As we move into in-person meetings again, we'll be reviewing our methods for recording and posting recordings to the website, this could be combined with the A/V team.
- PayPal is used for our online event registration and membership renewals. Right now Bob Monn manages this with our treasurer Judy Artley. (Continued Next Page)

- MailChimp - is our current blast email platform. Currently it is being managed by Nancy Cordell. We are looking for a member who has experience with this program who is interested in working with Nancy as her backup. Please feel free to give Nancy a call or email expressing your interest.

As you can see there is plenty going on behind the scenes to keep OGS members engaged in our meetings and sharing of information. We would like to invite anyone interested in helping out to contact one of us listed. We are happy to answer your questions.

No experience needed, just a desire to help out and learn!! As Kathy Erlandson mentioned during the last few meetings, OGS needs someone to step up and help with Publicity. After several years of posting our meetings at news sites, Joyce Ogden has decided to step down at the end of this year. Publicity is done primarily through online submittals, so it is something that can be done from the comfort of your own home! Time requirement is approx. 1 hour per month plus the monthly board meeting.

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

Featured Author: M J Lee

I am deeply in the midst of The Jayne Sinclair Genealogical Mysteries by MJ Lee. This series takes us to the present day setting of Manchester England where characters are wanting to know answers of their ancestors from recent historical events. The first mystery features the IRA as the backdrop to the Legacy". The third mystery involves the ancestor of an American presidential candidate, a bit of a conspiracy theorist time when "orphaned" children were sent to Australia to get their "schooling", not a very well known story but of importance in finding a missing child. The final one that I just finished is "The Silent Christmas", takes place during the first year of Great War with the story of the Christmas Truce. I'm looking forward to the final three mysteries: "The Sinclair Betrayal", "The Merchant's Daughter", and "The Christmas Carol".

I own the first five books. If anyone is interested in borrowing these books let me know and we can arrange a drop off of the books. If anyone has the other three books are willing to lend them to me to Kerry.upton123@gmail.com

I still have the three other books by Steve Robinson that I wrote about in the last article if anyone is interested in reading those, just let me know!

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

Monthly Newsletter Of Claudia C. Breland:

Claudia is a Professional Genealogist and author living in the Key Peninsula in Western Washington. To read the most recent Online Newsletter go to www.ccbreland.com

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



Southern California Genealogical Society

Friday and Saturday, June 11 and 12

Learn from 51 speakers from the USA, Canada, Ireland, Israel & the UK
Standard Registration includes 6 live lectures and 20 recorded lectures of your choice.

If you add PLUS Registration you can access all 50 recorded lectures.

To register go to <http://www.scsgenealogy.com/>

2021 Virtual Family History Conference

Monday 17 July – Friday 21 July

Presented By: National Genealogical Society

Supporting Host: Virginia Genealogical Society

For Details and Registration: <https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/>

Whidby Island Genealogical Searchers

Zoom Meeting Tuesday, June 15 1 pm

"Unlocking Notation Codes on Alien Passenger Lists"

Presented by Elizabeth Williams Gomoll, Certified Genealogist

If you would like to attend, send an e-mail to Whidbeygensearchers@gmail.com with your name and e-mail address by June 13th and a zoom e-mail invitation will be forwarded to you.

Eastside Genealogical Society German Interest Group

Friday, June 4 12:30 to 2:30 pm

"Finding my 19th Century Immigrants from Germanic Europe"

Presenter: David S. Raese

For more information: <https://egsgermangroup.wordpress.com> - to request an invitation please use the Contact tab on the website, no later than 2 days prior to the meeting

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 - Ann Olson

ANN'S RHUBARB-STRAWBERRY CRISP

(11" x 13" baking dish sprayed with PAM; recipe can be halved for an 8x8" or 9x9" pan)
Also, this recipe originally was made with rhubarb only. It can also be made with apples.

6 cups cut rhubarb (cut into chunk pieces as for pie)
3 cups quartered (or smaller) strawberries
3 eggs, beaten
6 Tbsp. flour
3/4 tsp. mace (nutmeg can be used if you don't have mace; cinnamon or nutmeg if making apple crisp)

Mix ingredients together and pour into prepared 11x 13" baking dish

Cover with topping made of:

1/2 cup softened butter
2/3 cup sugar
1 1/3 Cup flour

Mix ingredients together (I use a pie crust blender) till crumbly. Sprinkle all over top of fruit base and press down well.

Bake at 375 degrees about 50 minutes (if half the recipe, cut baking time to 30 min. or so); till filling is bubbly and topping is golden brown.

Is nice served with whipping cream or vanilla ice cream.

I gave you the recipe with the increases and how I make this old family favorite. (The original recipe was for only 1/3 of the filling and 1/2 of the topping amounts for 8x8 – I like more filling to the amount of topping). I hope you enjoy making and serving this.

OGS Member Contribution - Marcy Belles



Father's Day - A day to remember Dad
-By Marcy Kludt Belles

Dad is doing something he loves - railroading. His hobby is the miniature railroad at [Train Mountain](#). He's been involved with this group since 2005. He and mom



have a summer home in Chiloquin, Oregon so he can be close by and doesn't have to spend so much gas money taking the motor home down.

My Dad was born in February 1937 in Pendleton, Oregon to Edward William Kludt (known as Papa) and Bernice Laverne Swinehart.



Some of his young days were spent in various logging areas as Papa worked for Weyerhaeuser as a mechanic and building the logging roads. Every once in a while, Dad would tell a story from those days. Like the time they lived in St. Maries, Idaho. They would play hide-n-seek amongst the equipment. Dad was so little he would be able to hide in the tire of the big rigs. Another of his memories was visiting his dad at the logging camps on a weekend and he learned that if he wanted to eat, he had to grab his food fast. Although, somebody hollered, "hey, men, we have a guest, let him get his food first". See, they were so hungry, they just jabbed their forks into the meat. And Dad was so little, he couldn't reach the meat.

Another story was told by Aunt Loreca Swinehart Stredwick. They were staying with them in the Edison District of Centralia. They were walking over the 6th street viaduct and all of a sudden dad took off running. When he got over to the other side, he said something like "that was a close one". What happened was a train was going underneath and had blown its whistle. I love these stories and I really need Dad to write them down for future generations. In the meantime, I try to capture them.



Eventually the family settled down in Galvin, Washington and Dad attended the school in Galvin then went to Centralia High School, graduating in 1955. Dad played trombone in the band in high school. He was also involved in FFA.



Dad was also a member of the National Guard after High School and through the 1960's. He tells stories from those days as well – like the time he “stole” a jeep in order to take a fellow soldier to the emergency room. I don't remember the details (although I've heard the story several times) but somehow this soldier had gotten acid spilled on him. They hosed him down. While that was going somebody told Dad to get the nearest jeep.

Off Dad went, found one, and came back. They loaded up and off they went. Well . . . the MPs stopped them because the jeep was reported stolen by the General (or the General's driver). Once explained why they had the jeep,

they were sent on their way. The next day, the General appeared before formation and requested that the person who took his jeep step forward. Dad said to himself, “oh oh . . . I’m in trouble now”. Actually, the General thanked Dad for doing an heroic thing.

Dad met mom and they got married in August 1957.



They lived in Seattle for about a year then came "home" to Centralia to the dairy farm in Zenkner Valley (owned by Papa). They operated that until 1962 when they decided to own their own in Grand Mound. In 1967 sold the farm and went back to the valley. It was no longer a dairy farm but was beef. (Side note: I just recently learned that the Zenkner Valley farm was purchased by Papa for my Dad when Dad was in high school when he decided he wanted to be a farmer. Although, Dad never officially owned the farm until after Papa died in 1975).

Dad worked for the Centralia School District (1964-2000’s) as a bus driver. His main route was Galvin. By the time he retired, he was hauling 3rd generation kids. Those kids had a lot of respect for him. I can remember a time when I stepped on his bus to visit with him before heading to the front of the line to get on my bus. One of my friends asked me the next day what I was doing on his bus. I replied, “visiting my Dad”. Her response: “Wild Bill is your Dad?” Guess that’s a nickname some of the kids gave him. Another nickname was Frankenstein due to his haircut (he had a crew cut) and high forehead.

Our summers were spent camping, fishing, and hiking when we weren't busy with haying. I spent a lot of time fishing with Dad out on lakes until I had to have a license at age 16.

Winters were spent with his hobby, model railroading. He had an entire room dedicated to a layout. We spent a lot of time creating trains and running them around. Due to moving, he has dismantled it and is selling it.

Dad loved being around kids. He was an advisor to an Explorer Post involved with Search & Rescue in Lewis County. He did that for several years (from about 1975 until probably the 1990's).



Things Dad did with us kids

1972 - Dad & my brother, Eddie

*Dad putting my
new bike together*



OGS Board of Directors 2020-2021

**President – Kathy Erlandson
Vice President – Greg Nordlund
Treasurer - Judy Artley
Secretary – Judi Hine
Past President – Nancy Cordell**

Appointed Committees

**Beginners Workshop - Ann Olson
Book Coordinators – Nancy Cordell & Rebel Romero
FaceBook – Kerry McHugh-Upton
Historian – Joyce Ogden
Information Technology – Kerry McHugh-Upton
Membership – Bob Monn
Newsletter – Eileen Dodge
Publicity – Joyce Ogden
Refreshments – Diana Bargmann
Research – Jerri McCoy
Spring Seminar – Peggy Cooley
Sunshine – Gayle Strom
Special Interest Groups – Kerry McHugh-Upton
Webmaster – Bob Monn
Zoom – Nancy Cordell**

Community Partners

**City of Lacey: Ms. Erin Quinn Valcho
Timberland Library: Agatha Burstein**

April General Meeting Minutes

ZOOM GENERAL MEETING MINUTES FOR 13 MAY 2021

There were 62 people participating, a couple of which were from out of state.

President – Kathy Erlandson called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm and welcomed visitors.

Secretary - Judi Hine was on vacation, the minutes she had submitted via e-mail for the April meeting was approved with no additions or corrections. Eileen Dodge filled in on her behalf for this meeting.

Treasurer, - Judy Artley, gave her report, but was still calculating the results from the Spring Seminar.

Committee Reports

- *Books – Nancy Cordell, no report
- *Historian – Joyce Ogden
- * Information Technology – Kerry McHugh-Upton
- *Logo – Greg Nordlund, no report
- *Membership – Bob Monn, no report
- *Newsletter – Eileen Dodge, no report
- *Nominating Committee – Dennis McDonald, stated that the committee has several possible candidates for Secretary, but at this time there is no volunteer for the position of Vice President....NOTE: See New Business below
- *Refreshments – Diana Bargmann, no report
- *Research – Jerri McCoy, no report
- *Seminar – Peggy Cooley,
- *Special Interest Groups – Kerry McHugh-Upton, no report
- * Sunshine – Gayle Strom, no report

Program – Greg Nordlund introduced the speaker, Maggie Cogswell, from the Washington State Digital Archives. She shared her adventures completing the massive project of digitizing and cataloging photos of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). A robust question and answer session followed her presentation.

Meet N” Greet Break-Out Session – The participants were separated into several groups of 5-6 people who shared their most surprising genealogical discovery. The sessions were well received and were enjoyed by all who participated. It was requested that we do the same procedure at a future meeting.

New Business – it was suggested that someone might volunteer for the Vice President position with the understanding that it is not expected for them to become President. Additionally, if the Vice President was to have a Program Committee to help with finding subjects and speakers for the meetings, then the position might be more easily filled. The following members have volunteered to be on the Program Committee: Greg Nordlund, Ann Olson, Terry Church, Alice Anderson, Diana Bargmann, and Marcelle Allen

Submitted by C. Eileen Dodge