



Olympia

Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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May 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.

May General Meeting

Maggie Cogswell from the Washington State Archives will share her adventures completing the massive, 11-year project of digitizing and cataloging photos of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The CCC was a huge work-relief program for Americans coming out of the depression and the collection of 2,396 photographs show some of the work conducted on Washington state parks from 1933-1938. We'll learn about what goes into a huge digitizing project like this, how technology may affect future projects and when we might expect other collections to appear online. You'll also learn a little bit about the work of the CCC and it may give you clues to how your ancestors may have been involved around the country.



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Spring Seminar - Peggy Cooley & Kerry McHugh-Upton

Many thanks to the Seminar team for your hard work. We had another successful Spring Seminar on April 24 - 67 people registered and 57 attended all day.

Rick Sayre gave us lots of information and resources for NARA, Civil War, Land and Homestead records.

The wonderful thing about this virtual seminar is that it was recorded, so everyone who registered can have a chance to review it again until 5 May 2021.

Our Door Prize winners were Joyce Ogden, Elsie Deatherage, Judi Hine, Alma Greenwood and Jennifer Wright. Congratulations!

NEXT YEAR'S SPEAKER WILL BE DIAHAN SOUTHARD, "YOUR DNA GUIDE"

Spring Seminar, Website & Forum page, what do they have in common???

Lots of supplemental resources from the 2021 Spring Seminar, Rick Sayre presenter have been uploaded to our Forum's page on our website! Rick has generously provided all of us additional resources that contain articles from Prologue – NARA past issues of their now retired Prologue magazine and other great resources.

- Civil War Resources - you'll find 21 links to articles for researching and understanding Civil War records.
- NARA - there are 29 links to articles about Service Records, Maps, Public Lands, etc
- Tools for Land Research - has 17 links to articles about the Railroads, Plat Maps and US County Maps
- Homestead Records Resources - has 5 links to articles regarding Land Entry records, settling the West, a Timeline table.

You'll find the Forum articles by logging onto the website <https://olygensoc.org/> ; log on as a Member. On the left navigation bar you'll find "Forum". Click on Forum*; there will be a title banner for each of these sections. Click on the green title bar to see all articles. Most of the articles are PDFs that open a window. You'll then need to click on title in the lower left portion of that window. You should have a PDF open up to view. A couple of the links are jpg images or links to a website.

Enjoy this bonus from Rick Sayre

President's Musings - Kathy Erlandson

The OGS 2021 Seminar is now history. (That's fitting, isn't it?) Those who attended know that it was jam packed with more information, and more 'hand-outs' and other resources than we have ever had from a seminar. Each of the four presentations was so packed with information that there was no way to process it all in one day, and each topic was focused on where and how to do the research. I, for one, will be pouring through the printed resources for months.

If you have never assisted in planning a daylong seminar, you probably don't realize the immense and concentrated planning it takes. Please join me in thanking the Seminar Committee, who dedicated, effort, talent and time (months!) to produce this marvelous event. You can phone them, write them, email them, 'chat' them at a Zoom meeting, or speak up during our visiting time before a Zoom meeting. I know they will be gratified to receive your thanks and support. These are the committee members who served you so well this year: Judy Artley, Peggy Cooley, Nancy Cordell, Eileen Dodge, Judi Hine, Jerri McCoy, Bob Monn, Greg Nordlund, Joyce Ogden, Ann Olson, Rebel Romero, Gayle Strom and Kerry Upton.

THANKS TEAM!

Membership - Bob Monn

We welcome our new member Susan Matheney

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.scgsgenealogy.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/>

Uncovering Community Stories from Railroad History

Presented by Pacific Northwest Railroad Archive in Burien

Wednesday, May 12, 2021 6pm – 7 pm

To Register: <https://kcls.bibliocommons.com/events/605e08ead8233a450061c85d>

Seattle Genealogical Society

Tips For Ordering A Deceased Person's SS-5 For Genealogy

<https://www.legalgenealogist.com/2020/11/16/ordering-the-ss-5-2020-style/>

Research Your Way to Genealogy Answers Virtual Conference

Saturday, June 5, 2021

For information and registration

<https://www.familyhistoryfanatics.com/researchconference>

Skagit Valley Genealogical Society

Researching Celtic Ancestry

Saturday, May 8, 12:45 pm via Zoom

Presented by SVGS Member and Johnston Clan Organizer Barbara Gorham Johnson

To receive your Zoom invitation e-mail: rootsproject1@gmail.com

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.

OGS Website - Kerry McHugh-Upton

There's a new link in town! Or at least on our website!

As a member benefit we have added a new page to our website. You'll now be able to view a past general membership meeting recording of the main presentation. Simply log onto our website through the "Members Only*" link on the left hand navigation menu. Once logged in, click on Community Events, drop down menu has a new feature "Recordings." Click here to see the recordings available to members. Some recordings will be for a limited time, others will remain in perpetuity. Log on and Enjoy!!

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 found on the left hand border.

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

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 create an account at <https://scribe.digitalarchives.wa.gov/>. You can view a short tutorial there. Happy Scribing!

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

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

Genealogy Mystery Books- Kerry Upton

Who doesn't love a great mystery? After all we are genealogists and by the nature of what we do, we follow the clues to tell our family history. Along with enjoying the chase to find factual records of our family many of us enjoy a good fictional genealogical mystery. With that in mind, Kathy Erlandson created a list of genealogy mystery books and shared them with me. I've added a few more to her list. My hope is to create this list on one of our forum pages in the Members Only section of our website. My vision would be to show where you can find the books whether it be an ebook, available with the Timberland Library system or simply one that we may have in our own libraries. I typically will buy a used book or one on sale through Alibris.com. After I have read the books, I'm really not interested in keeping them since I don't plan on reading them a second time. I'd love to pass mine along to others who may be interested in reading the book. So with your help, once I have the forum page created, if you feel the same as I do, perhaps you'll update the list with books that you'd like to pass to others to read.

I'll start off with author Steve Robinson. His series features Jefferson Tayte, his genealogist hero. J.T. is a Washington DC based genealogist with his assignments taking him to the British Isles and Germany. Follow along in order or as a standalone read as his own brickwall comes crumbling down.

Year	Title	TRL	Ebook/Kindle	Member
2011	In The Blood: a Jefferson Tayte genealogical mystery		√	Kerry Upton
2012	To The Grave: a Jefferson Tayte genealogical mystery	√	√	
2012	The Last Queen of England: a Jefferson Tayte genealogical mystery	√	√	
2014	The Lost Empress: a Jefferson Tayte genealogical mystery		√	Kerry Upton
2016	Kindred: a Jefferson Tayte genealogical mystery		√	Kerry Upton
2017	Dying Games: a Jefferson Tayte genealogical mystery	√	√	
2018	Letters From The Dead: a Jefferson Tayte genealogical mystery	√	√	

If you are interested in reading the three books that I have please contact me. We'll make arrangements for me to get the books to you. I'll update the list so as others are interested in reading the book(s) they know who to contact.

Next I am on to the series by M.J. Lee with his Jayne Sinclair genealogical mysteries!

From the Refreshment Table - Diana Bargmann

Please consider taking a few moments to jot down a recipe or a story to contribute to our newsletter. 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 - Diana Bargmanns

Rhubarb Crumble

For all the rhubarb lovers or those with too much of it growing in their gardens. Instead of the apples and strawberries, you can use all rhubarb, or any variation of the three. Source: Taste of Home. Makes 8 servings.

Ingredients:

- 3 Cups sliced fresh or frozen rhubarb (1/2" pieces)
- 1 Cup diced peeled apples
- 1/2-1 Cup sliced strawberries
- 1/3 Cup sugar
- 1/2 Teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 Cup flour
- 1 Teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 Teaspoon salt
- 4 Tablespoons cold butter
- 2/3 Cup packed brown sugar
- 2/3 Cup quick-cooking oats

Directions:

Combine rhubarb, apples and strawberries, and spoon into a greased 8" square baking dish.

Combine sugar and cinnamon, and sprinkle over the rhubarb mixture.

Set aside.

In a bowl, combine flour, baking powder and salt. Cut in butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Stir in brown sugar and oats. Sprinkle over the rhubarb mixture.

Bake at 350 degrees for 40-50 minutes or until lightly browned



Grilled Chicken Ramen Salad

This can also be made without the chicken, just as a salad. Is very pretty in a clear salad bowl, showing the layers. Makes 8 servings. Source: Taste of Home.

Ingredients:

- 2 Tablespoons canola oil
- 2 Packages (3 oz. ea.) ramen noodles, crumbled
- 2/3 Cup canola oil
- 2 T Teaspoons sesame oil
- 1/3 Cup seasoned rice vinegar
- 1 Tablespoon sugar
- 2 Tablespoons reduced-sodium soy sauce
- 1 1/2 Pounds boneless skinless chicken breast halves

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1/2 Teaspoon pepper
1/4 Teaspoon salt
1 Package (14 oz.) coleslaw mix
1/2 Cup minced fresh cilantro
3 Cup fresh snow peas, thinly sliced lengthwise
2 Cups shredded carrots
4 Cups torn mixed salad greens
3 thinly sliced green onions
1/3 Cups crumbled cooked bacon (opt.)

Directions:

In a large saucepan, heat oil over med.-low heat. Add ramen noodles, cooking and stirring until toasted, 5-8 min.

In a small bowl, whisk oils, vinegar, sugar and soy sauce until blended; set aside. Sprinkle chicken with pepper and salt. Place on a lightly oiled grill rack. Grill, covered, over medium heat or broil 4-5" from heat until a thermometer reads 165 degrees, 8-10 minutes on each side.

In a large bowl, combine coleslaw mix and cilantro.

Layer coleslaw mixture, peas, chicken, carrots, salad greens, noodles and green onions in an 8-10 quart dish/serving bowl.

Sprinkle with bacon, serve with vinaigrette.

OGS Member Story Contribution - Diana Bargmann

A GRAVEYARD EXPERIENCE

As usual, since this is one of my stories, we are back in Barbour County, West Virginia, standing in the small graveyard attached to the New Hope United Methodist Church. The church is also very small, white (of course) and located atop a high hill.

It's a beautiful sunny fall day with a light warm breeze blowing – perfect weather to explore among the old tombstones and admire the surrounding countryside spread below me on all sides. The quiet is absolute, save for the breeze, and I am impressed with how deeply peaceful it all is. I am the only one there – no other visitors that day and the church is not staffed during the week. According to a sign on the front door, services are only held every 1st and 3rd Sunday presided over by a visiting minister.

However, the door is unlocked, not unusual for this area, so I am able to step inside and note the plain little vestibule and sanctuary. Originally this church was called Isaac and Jacob's chapel, Isaac being my great-great-grandfather, Isaac Wilmoth (1826–1894). He is buried right there along with other ancestral family members and I was busy snapping photos of his tombstone and the others close by. It was challenging to get a good view of his upright stone – not only was the inscription hard to read due to time and weathering but there was a very large thick rose bush right next to it with huge ominous-looking thorns that I didn't care to tangle with.

After a time, having completed my perusing of the site, I decided to get a view from the back of the graveyard so I could include the church in the scene. Woe is that I wasn't paying more attention at the time! This was back in the day when you had to take the film in to be developed so it wasn't until after I returned home that I could see how the pictures had turned out. As I was going through them, pleased with what I saw, I came to one where I did a double take. The view from the back of the graveyard revealed a tombstone I had missed –

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Isaac's, hiding behind that formidable rose bush! The bush was exactly the same height as the tall, upright tombstone. I was stunned and annoyed at myself for not having been more observant at the time since I would not be able to return very soon, time and cost of air fare not allowing.

Fast forward 2 years later and you have to know that that little graveyard was the first place I went to after arriving back in West Virginia. It happened to be June and now the rose bush's appearance was softened by a multitude of beautiful pink roses. The thorns were still there, of course, so I had to handle the branches gingerly. But behind it, what a find! There was the tombstone of Isaac's wife, and my great-great-grandmother, Christina Ferguson Wilmoth (1834–1884). And you guessed it – in contrast to Isaac's hard-to-read inscription, hers was perfectly preserved having been protected from the elements, looking as good as the day it was erected probably.

Did Isaac plant the rose bush or was it one of her children? We'll likely never know but I'll bet no one at that time anticipated how it would help one of her descendants so many years later. I had wondered previously why she wasn't buried next to him, when all that time she had been. To this day, she is still not accounted for on the website Find A Grave though others in the immediate surroundings are (and I intend to fix that). Maybe they haven't tried viewing the graveyard from the back but more likely, no one else is willing to tangle with that rose bush either!



Christina (Ferguson Wilmoth (1837-1884) and Isaac W. Wilmot (1826-1894)

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
Information Technology – Kerry McHugh-Upton
Historian – Joyce Ogden
Library Liaison – Agatha Burstein
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
Webmasters – Bob Monn
Zoom – Nancy Cordell

Community Partners

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

April General Meeting Minutes - Judi Hine

OGS General Meeting (via Zoom) - April 8, 2021

In attendance: Approximately 47 members.

1. PRESIDENT - Kathy Erlandson called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. She welcomed the members. There were two members who were first time attendees.

2. SECRETARY - Minutes of the March meeting were approved.

3. TREASURER - Judy Artley reported our bank account numbers.

4. VICE PRESIDENT - Greg Nordlund had no report.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Seminar - Chairman Peggy Cooley announced that we have 50 people signed up for the seminar.

We would like at least 40 more. She also read what the topics of the seminar will be.

Nominations - Committee chairman, Dennis McDonald reported that the team had reached most of the members and had some very good conversations. There are a few who may be interested in taking the secretary position, however, no one has expressed an interest in being the vice-president.

SIGS - Committee chairman Kerry Upton McHugh announced that the upcoming Family search SIG would be cancelled. The DNA SIG will be held next Tuesday and has an interesting speaker.

6. PROGRAM - Greg Nordland introduced Judi Hine who gave the program on the War of 1812.

7. MEMBER SHARING - Several members shared tidbits of their ancestral history.

8. OTHER - Leslee Dunlap invited everyone to the Lewis County Genealogical Societies next meeting on April 20. Jerri McCoy will be their speaker and will present using the DAR website for research.

9. ADJOURN - Kathy Erlandson adjourned the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

Judi Hine

OGS Secretary