



Olympia

Genealogical Society

Newsletter

Vol. 30, No. 09

May 2020

Eileen Dodge, Editor

A Note from President – Kathy Erlandson

I have a dear friend who is a scholar and teacher of English literature. One summer, at a music camp we were both attending, there was a participant's talent show. Most of the entertainers played music of one kind or another. Jeanie got up and did a monolog of curses. She started reeling off curses at breakneck speed; like "May the fleas of 1000 camels infest your armpits". I'm sure she quoted more than 20, maybe even 50. It was hilarious, and I'd love to hear her do it again.

While pondering our current world situation, I thought of a phrase often quoted as an ancient Chinese curse. "May you live in interesting times." (By the way, that quote probably originated with Sir Austen Chamberlain, in Britain, March 1936.) But we certainly are living in interesting times, aren't we? These are difficult times for all of us, on many levels, but I do believe that many good and beneficial things will emerge as a result. Among those benefits will be the new ways we are learning to accomplish our business as an organization. (See V.P. Greg Nordlund's article.) Because of our need for social distancing, OGS must develop a new way to accomplish our annual election of officers. It was brought to my attention that we should have selected a nominating committee at our March general meeting, but since we didn't have that meeting, the Board of Directors agreed to the following process:

1. The president (me) would ask which officers are willing to continue for another year in their present positions.
2. If there were to be vacancies, the board would seek candidates for nomination.
3. We would inform membership of the slate of nominees in May, and ask for any additional nominations, which would then be published.
4. Elections will be held in June. If we are unable to have a physical meeting, we will take a vote by email.

Here is where we stand now. All four current officers are willing to serve another year. So, I place before you, in nomination, the following: President, Kathy Erlandson; Vice President, Greg Nordlund; Treasurer, Judy Artley; Secretary, Judi Hine. If you would like to volunteer to fill one of these positions, or would like to nominate someone else, who must first agree to be nominated, then please email or telephone me. You'll find my contact information on the OGS website.

A Note from Spring Seminar Chair – Peggy Cooley

These are difficult times for all of us.

I was so looking forward to hearing Teresa Steinkamp McMillin speak on March 28 to learn more about my German family.

However, with the ingenuity of several of our members, we ARE going to have a chance to learn!

On May 9, 2020, Olympia Genealogical Society will present an all-day Virtual Seminar with Teresa; the cost is only \$25.

Please go to our website and check out all of the details. There is still time to sign up. Stay safe, everyone.

A Note from Vice President – Greg Nordlund

Coronavirus upended the schedule of meetings and events at OGS. Cancelling our meetings and Spring Seminar threw us into a bit of a tailspin.

Once the Board caught its breath, we knew we needed to look ahead, even if what we saw looked very different. Once we decided to resurrect the seminar online (May 9), new ideas started flowing.

The board has been busy testing online meeting solutions that will allow us to conduct business during the rest of this quarantine or any in the future. When we cannot be together, we want to be able to conduct general meetings, board meetings, Drop-In Genealogy at the library, Special Interest Groups (SIG) and creative ways to reach and serve our members and communities.

Does this frighten you? Change is always scary. Not to worry, we will provide as much training, help and practice as possible. To a bright future!

A Note from Membership Chair – Bob Monn

Please welcome the following new OGS members who joined this past month:

Patty Taylor

Clara Reese

A Note from Sunshine Chair - 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.

Olympia Genealogical Society Events Calendar **May 2020**

2020 Spring Webinar	Saturday, May 9	9 am – 3 pm
“Ancestral Origins Through the Eyes of a German Genealogist”		
Presented by Teresa Steinkamp McMillin, CG		
Registration required by midnight May 7 th at olygensoc.org		

Special Interest Groups (SIGS)

You can access information as to date, time, location and group coordinator in the Members Only area of the OGS website. Just click on Special Interest Groups.

Ancestry.com – led by Greg Nordlund

DNA – led by Kerry McHugh-Upton

Family Search – led by Carolyn Gibbons

Family Tree Maker – led by David Abernathy

Legacy – led by Gayle Strom

Roots Magic – led by Rosemary Walrod

Writing Your Family History - led by Cindy Neff

Olympia Genealogical Society Board of Directors 2019-2020

Elected Officers

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

Cemetery Project – Norman & Eileen Dodge

Drop-In Genealogy Help – Eileen Dodge

Election Committee – Varies from year to year

FaceBook – Kerry McHugh-Upton

Historian – Joyce Ogden

Library Liaison – Agatha Burstein

Membership – Bob Monn

Memorials –

Multi-Media – Rebel Romero

Newsletter – Eileen Dodge

Outreach –

Publicity – Joyce Ogden

Refreshment – Diana Bargmann

Research – Jerri McCoy

Spring Seminar – Peggy Cooley

Sunshine – Gayle Strom

Special Interest Groups – Kerry McHugh-Upton

Webmasters – Bob Monn, Kerry McHugh-Upton & Jerri McCoy