



Olympia

Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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Eileen Dodge, Editor

A Note From President – Nancy Cordell:



Yup, that is my filthy hand. No, I wasn't digging up a grave. Yes, I was doing genealogy. No, I wasn't wearing a facemask, but I should have been. I was in the Claiborne County, Mississippi courthouse going through court documents that date back to the 1790's. It was great fun.

My husband and I were doing something that more genealogists should do-get your hands dirty going through court cases, manuscript collections, deeds, etc. You know,

papers.

It is estimated that less than 5% of the genealogical relevant papers in places like courthouses, archives, libraries, and attics have been digitized. There is genealogical and historical gold in the other 95% of documents. But you have to be willing to get your hands dirty.

My husband and I did not find exactly what we were looking for, but we found so much more that was interesting. We did find files and documents from court cases that give context and meaning to the lives of our ancestors. We got through less than 20% of the court cases in the limited time we were there, so there is still hope that what we were looking for (a probate file) is there someplace.

A Note from the 45th Anniversary Committee: Eileen Dodge

At the May 9th meeting we will celebrate the 45th Anniversary of the OGS. Scrapbooks dating back to 1974 will be available for viewing. I hope you will make an effort to join us for this special event to honor those who have served over the years, visit with friends new and old, and have a piece of Anniversary Cake.

A Note from Vice-President - Kathy Erlandson:

April has whizzed by, and I must say that I needed the month to digest all the tips and information I ingested at the spring seminar. I still have a lot to chew on, but feel it will all be beneficial in the end. It finally got me to have my own DNA tested, and I am just beginning to examine the results. How did I get into such a complicated hobby? At least I know I'm in good company!

So, at last, May is here, and we are preparing to move on to other topics. At this month's meeting the program will be presented by Alma Greenwood. Are you aware that Alma has been a member of OGS since its very beginning? Imagine the stories she can tell! Alma, and other members from the Tumwater Falls Chapter of *Daughters of American Colonists*, will tell us about that organization. They will explain how to become a member, what part they play locally and nationally, and where and how they are active now, and will be in the future. Who knows maybe you or I will become a member of yet another genealogical society as a result of this program. Be sure to come and learn all about it!

A Note from Sunshine Chair - Gayle Strom:

As the Olympia Genealogical Society Sunshine person I like to bring a bit of "sunshine" when needed and I would like for you all to let me know, when you know, that someone is ill or needs a thoughtful note. It is nice to think about them and let them know.

A Note from Membership Chair - Bob Monn:

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

Sally DuBois

Melanie Jenner

Steve Walsh

Special Interest Groups:

You can access information as to date, time, location and group coordinator for each Special Interest Group on the OGS website. Just login under Members Only and then click on Special Interest Groups in the menu.

The Special Interest Groups cover the following topics: - Ancestry.com; DNA; Family Tree Maker; Legacy; and RootsMagic

Judy's Genealogical Gems - Judy Artley:

Judy is on vacation visiting family in Kentucky.

A Note from Secretary - Judi Hine:

There was no General Meeting in April due to the Spring Seminar, so there are no General Meeting Minutes to report this month.

