



Seattle Genealogical Society
September 2013 - November 2013

newsletter

SAVE THE DATE!! SGS FALL SEMINAR

The SGS Fall Seminar, "Genealogy Potpourri: A Little of This and a Little of That," will be held Saturday, 19 October 2013 at the Fairview Christian School, 844 N.E. 78th St., Seattle WA 98115 (same location as our Spring seminar). A stellar lineup of regional experts are preparing their favorite lectures for you. All recent attendees and SGS members will receive registration materials, including lunch orders, in the mail or you can register on line using PayPal. Watch your mailbox. We will also have our usual book sale. Don't miss it!



Steve Morrison from Olympia will speak on two topics : "Peopling the British Isles" and "Unearthing the 'Real' New England Immigrant." Steve is a former president of the Olympia Genealogical Society, the secretary for the Puget Sound chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists, and an SGS member. He has published multiple articles about Quakers, visited Ireland five times to research his ancestors, and self published a remembrance about his grandmother Waltz. Steve was an adjunct faculty member at Evergreen State College and has attended six genealogical training institutes.

Karen Sipe will speak on "Homestead Act and Homesteaders." This topic is most appropriate because 2012 was the 150th anniversary of the Homestead Act. Karen is an active but quiet volunteer on behalf of the Society. She is a frequent contributor of articles to the *Bulletin* (she will have an article in an upcoming *Bulletin*) and is known for her expertise in record knowledge. Karen is an active contributor to FindaGrave with over 17,000 memorials and 33,000 photos personally added.



Cyndi Howells will speak on "Evaluating Web Sites." Cyndi Ingle Howells is the creator of the popular website CyndisList.com, a categorized index to more than 327,000 online genealogy resources. Cyndi, a genealogist for more than 33 years, is a past member of the board of directors for the National Genealogical Society and is an internationally-known speaker. She has lectured for FGS, NGS, the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy, GENTECH, Brigham Young University, the American Library Association and numerous local genealogical societies in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom. Cyndi has authored numerous articles and three books. Cyndi, her son, Evan, and three Boston Terriers live in Edgewood, Washington.

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BOARD ACTIVITIES

Here are some topics of discussion with the SGS Board these last few months.

- The Board did not meet in June.
- The new Board received orientation to the facility and safety information at the July meeting. It was the first meeting for the new Board. Welcome to all the new Board members!
- Therese Berg, Treasurer, gave the Treasurer's report. We continue to be financially healthy but some future events could impact our bottom line. For example, we will be renegotiating our lease this year.
- Linda Fitzgerald, Seminar coordinator, reported on the status of speakers for the Fall Seminar. It will be a collection of locally seasoned speakers. (see lead article for more information.)
- Deadline for next *Bulletin* is 15 October. Several articles are already turned in. Publications Director reviewed the inclusions for the newsletter needed from others.
- Elizabeth Howie, Desk Volunteer Coordinator outlined how it was difficult to get desk volunteers and asked the Board to be trained so all open dates could be filled. The only other option is to close the library. Please volunteer!
- The Library Trustees are delving deeply into the issue of our insurance. They met with Heritage Quest (fire) to obtain any "Lessons Learned". This was most informative.
- There are over 400 books that need cataloging and placement in the library. Please volunteer if you can help.
- Michele Khuon, Volunteer Coordinator, will generate a new interest survey to send to the membership. (see below)

HAVE YOU FILLED OUT A MEMBERSHIP INTEREST SURVEY?

Where did your ancestors live? What are you researching? What would you like to learn more about? Help us plan programs and seminars of interest to YOU!

What are your skills? Are you an expert in certain areas and want to share your knowledge with others? Share your knowledge and skills and help SGS grow!

Fill out a Member Interest Survey on our website at:

<http://www.seattlegenealogicalsociety.org/content/member-interest>

As an all-volunteer organization, support from our members is essential to our operation. Please consider contributing some time to the Seattle Genealogical Society. There are 675 members of SGS - if every member gave ONE HOUR of their time to the library, imagine what could be accomplished! 675 hours could be put towards:

- Getting new books on the shelves
- Updating our Library catalog
- Completing the Seattle 1890 Census Project
- Mentoring new researchers
- Mailing the publications
- ... and more!

We are currently looking for volunteers for several committees, including Publications, Long Range Planning, Publicity, Seminar, Programs, Archives and Cataloging. We also need Desk Volunteers to keep our Library open for researchers! It is only through the contributions of our members that we grow as an organization. If you can help, please email our Director of Volunteers at SGSVolunteers@gmail.com or sign up online at <http://www.seattlegenealogicalsociety.org/content/volunteer-signup>.



Scottish Highland Games

Three SGS members carrying our banner in the daily "parade of clans." The people holding the banner are (Left to right) Jean Morton, Annette Dwyer, and James Ryan.



The Seattle Scottish Highland Games Association, a non-profit group, was formed in 1947 by a local group of prominent Scots. The Association provided this group of fellow Scots a means of keeping their ethnic origin alive as well as stimulating an interest in Scottish Highland Games through Scottish dancing, piping, drumming and athletic competition. Listed among the first patrons were Emil Sick, Governor Arthur Langlie, Mayor William Devine and John L. Scott.[1]



The SGS booth with lots of "customers" on Sunday afternoon. SGS members who are helping visitors are Jean Morton, John Griffin (in hat), and Joe Herron.



[1] Seattle Scottish Highland Games Association, "Our History" online (<http://www.sshga.org/association/>)

BRICK WALL PANEL DISCUSSION



On 18 August, Amber Case, Michelle Khoun and Lisa Oberg presented their brick walls and what they did to make them come tumbling down. Besides hearing fascinating stories, the attendees learned some transferable tips and tricks. The attendees also heard the decision making of the speakers and why they did, or didn't, seek a particular document, or the antithesis--why a single document was the turning point of their investigation. Thanks to Amber, Michelle and Lisa for telling us their stories and to Karen Thompson, Educational Director, for coordinating the presentation of these three great case studies.

CEMETERY TOURS

In July and August, Amber Case and Lisa Oberg, both of the UW Library system, gave SGS members a special treat--cemetery tours of two of the oldest cemeteries in Seattle: Calvary Cemetery (northeast of University Village) and the GAR Cemetery (Capital Hill.) Both tours focused on veterans and Amber and Lisa enlivened the discussion by doing research on representative individuals within the cemeteries and told their stories.



Calvary Cemetery (l to r): Kathleen Donahue, Lisa Oberg, Amber Case, Sue Melville, Jan Walker (in back) Ginny Sommarstrom, Joanne King,, Linda Fitzgerald

In early August, Lisa and Amber again shared their love of cemeteries as well as the stories of the soldiers in the GAR cemetery, an independent cemetery that is now managed by Seattle Parks and Recreation. This small cemetery holds about 500 veterans of the Civil War and a few spouses.

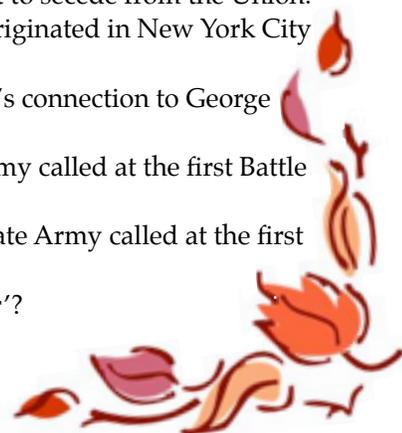
Thanks Amber and Lisa! Well researched and very enjoyable.



Civil War Trivia Test

How much do you really know? Answers elsewhere in this newsletter.

1. As the peace treaty was being signed inside at Appomattox, what tune was the Brass Band playing outside?
2. What was the name of the CSA submarine to sink the first enemy vessel in combat?
3. What was the "official" name for Andersonville Prison?
4. What two events happened July 4th, 1863 that, to many, doomed the Confederacy?
5. What disease did President Lincoln contract right after the Gettysburg Address?
6. What was the first capital of the Confederacy?
7. She served as a Union nurse until she fell ill with typhoid. In 1863, she released a collection of war time letters under her own name, published as "Hospital Sketches." Who was she?
8. There are 13 stars in the Confederate battle flag. How many states were in the Confederacy?
9. She founded the Office of Correspondence with the Friends of the Missing Men of the United States Army to help locate and identify missing soldiers. Who was she?
10. What was the name of the play President Lincoln attended at Ford's Theater on April 14, 1865?
11. What percentage of the population of the United States died in the Civil War?
12. What was Traveller?
13. What was first part of a military funeral in 1862?
14. What pet travelled with General Robert E. Lee?
15. Which state was the first to secede from the Union.
16. Name the song which originated in New York City during the 1850's.
17. What was Robert E. Lee's connection to George Washington?
18. What was the Union Army called at the first Battle of Bull Run?
19. What was the Confederate Army called at the first Battle of Bull Run?
20. What was the "Alligator"?



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SGS FALL QUARTER CALENDAR: SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER 2013

Events are held at the Seattle Genealogical Society Library unless stated otherwise. SGS classes are free to SGS members and are \$5 for nonmembers. Call SGS at 206-522-8658 for information about program cancellations or closures during adverse weather conditions. This listing is subject to change or additions; for up-to-date info: <http://www.seattlegenealogicalsociety.com>.

September 2013

31 August-2 September. LABOR DAY WEEKEND; Library is closed the entire weekend; reopens 3 September

7 Saturday, Sept. 7th, 10:15 am – 12:15 pm - CANADIAN INTEREST GROUP, Led by David Robert.

12 Thursday, Sept. 12, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm - BRICK WALL GENEALOGY

Presented by and at National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), 6125 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, across the street from Seattle Genealogical Society Library.. Come bring your brown-bag lunch and your "impossible genealogy problem," and NARA's knowledgeable staff will brainstorm possible solutions!

14 Sat, Sept. 14th, 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm - TMG USERS GROUP: "Second Site" by Joe Flint.

The Master Genealogist software users group, Broadview Branch, Seattle Public Library, 12755 Greenwood Avenue N. The Seattle TMG Users Group meets the second Saturday of each month at one of the branches of the Seattle Public Library. Led by Ed Godfrey, edgodfrey@seanet.com

17 Tuesday, Sept. 17th, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm - BRICK WALL PANEL DISCUSSION

A new series of Brick Wall discussions. Contact sgseducation@gmail.com for more information.

21 Saturday, Sept. 21st, 10:15 am – 12:15 pm -IRISH INTEREST GROUP; Led by Jim Ryan (acting)

21 Saturday, Sept. 21st, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm - GERMAN INTEREST GROUP; Led by Jim Ryan (acting)

23 Monday, Sept. 23rd, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm - BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

25 Wednesday, Sept. 25th, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm - BRICK WALL PANEL DISCUSSION

October 2013

5 Saturday, Oct. 5th, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm. BRICK WALL DISCUSSION.

8 Tuesday Oct 8th, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm. BRICK WALL DISCUSSION.

8 Tuesday October 8th, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm. INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED DISCUSSION/WORKSHOP; topic TBD.

10 Thursday, Oct. 10th, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm, BRICK WALL GENEALOGY, sponsored by and located at National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), 6125 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, across the street from Seattle Genealogical Society Library. Bring your brown-bag lunch and your "impossible genealogy problem," and NARA's knowledgeable staff will brainstorm possible solutions!

12 Saturday, Oct. 12th - BURIEN FAMILY HISTORY CENTER; A presentation on using the Familysearch website and their new facilities. The presentation was arranged for by the PS-APG who is opening the presentation to all. Seating is limited. Let them know you are coming: 206-957-0792. 14022 Ambaum Boulevard SW, Seattle, WA 98166.

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12 Saturday, Oct. 12th, 10:15 am – 12:15 pm - COMPUTER INTEREST GROUP; led by Ida McCormick. Location will be a Seattle Public Library Branch – to be determined. Presentations on the "intersection of computers and genealogy," as Paul Anderock envisioned for his periodical "Genealogical Computing" in July 1981. This is a revival of the SGS Computer Interest Group which started in 1982, but which went dormant just before its 30th birthday. The plan is to meet approximately quarterly.

12 Saturday, Oct. 12th, 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm. TMG USERS GROUP, Lake City Branch, Seattle Public Library, 12501 28th Avenue NE. The Seattle TMG Users Group meets the second Saturday of each month year 'round at one of the branches of the Seattle Public Library. Led by Ed Godfrey, edgodfrey@seanet.com.

16 Wednesday Oct 16th, 10:15 am – 11:45 am; INTERMEDIATE / ADVANCED DISCUSSION / WORKSHOP; topic TBD.

19 Saturday, Oct. 19th – SGS FALL SEMINAR!! A Potpourri: a Little of This and a Little of That.
Presentations by

Cyndi Howells : "Evaluating Web Sites"

Karen Sipes: "Homestead Act and Homesteaders"

Steven Morrison: "Peopling the British Isles " and "Unearthing the "Real" New England Immigrant"

A boxed lunch can be ordered at the same time as registration. See lead article for more information. Venue: Fairview Christian Church, 844 N.E. 78th Street, Seattle, WA 98115

26 Saturday, Oct. 26th , 10:00 am – 12:30 pm. DNA INTEREST GROUP; North Seattle Alliance Church, 2150 N 122nd St., Seattle (back entrance); For information, contact SGSDNASIG@gmail.com. Co-chairs: Cary Bright and Herb McDaniel.

28 Monday, Oct. 28th , 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING.

November 2013

2 Saturday, Nov. 2nd , 8:00 am – 4:30 pm. 2013 FAMILY HISTORY EXPO, Bellevue Stake Center; LDS Church; Bellevue Stake Center, Bellevue, WA. Online registration is expected to begin approximately 30 days prior to the event.

5 Tuesday, Nov. 5th, 10:15 am – 11:45 am. INTERMEDIATE / ADVANCED DISCUSSION / WORKSHOP.
topic TBD.

5 Saturday, Nov. 5th, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm. BRICK WALL DISCUSSION.

9 Saturday, Nov. 9th, 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm. TMG USERS GROUP; Seattle Public Library Branch – stay tuned for exact location. The Seattle TMG Users Group meets the second Saturday of each month year 'round at one of the branches of the Seattle Public Library. Led by Ed Godfrey, edgodfrey@seanet.com.

13 Wednesday, Nov. 13th, 10:15 am – 11:45 am. INTERMEDIATE / ADVANCED DISCUSSION / WORKSHOP;
topic TBD.

14 Thursday, Nov. 14th , 11:30 am – 1:00 pm. BRICK WALL GENEALOGY; Located at National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), 6125 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, across the street from Seattle Genealogical Society Library. Come bring your brown-bag lunch and your "impossible genealogy problem," and NARA's knowledgeable staff will brainstorm possible solutions!

23 Saturday, Nov. 23rd, 10:15 am – 11:45 am. INTERMEDIATE / ADVANCED DISCUSSION / WORKSHOP;
topic TBD.

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23 Saturday, Nov. 23rd, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm. PENNSYLVANIA FOCUS GROUP;

Back to Basics: Discussion of the best places (physically and online) to research PA genealogy and some of the idiosyncrasies of PA research. Bring your Pennsylvania genealogy problems. Led by Karen Portzer.

25 Monday, Nov. 25th , 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm - BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING.

28 Thursday, Nov. 28th , THANKSGIVING; Library closed until 3 December 2013.

3 Tuesday, Dec. 3rd, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm; BRICK WALL DISCUSSION; Topic TBD

SGS BLOGGERS: WHAT IS A BLOG ANYWAY?

A “blog” is the contraction of the words “web log” and is content delivered on the Internet by a series of entries called postings. It usually consists of an author writing an entry or posting about a theme, say, genealogy. Think of it as a journal on the web. that you could write anytime and have your relatives (“followers”) read whenever you posted. Some people blog everyday (Judy Russell); some blog about blogging (Thomas MacEntee’s Geneablogger). The genealogy blogging community consists of over 3800 identified bloggers! Here at SGS we have three that have self identified:

- Ginny Sommarstrom: “Ginny’s Genealogy Journey” <http://geneginny.blogspot.com/> Ginny sees blogging as a way to share what she's learned about family history research and to share some of her family information in the hopes of discovering some new cousins. She blogs about 2-4 times per month.
- Jill Morelli: Genealogy Certification: My Personal Journey” <http://genealogycertification.wordpress.com> Jill writes about her personal journey to become a professional genealogist and become, one day, certified. Topics can vary widely. She blogs between 4-6 times a month.
- Dawn Bingaman: “Ancestor Roundup” <http://ancestorroundup.com/about/> Dawn’s goal is to assist other researchers with the necessary technology tools to efficiently conduct genealogical research, using her own family research as a jumping off point. Dawn blogs 1-2 times a month.

If you know an SGS member who blogs, send the address of the blog to sgspublications@gmail.com .

CIVIL WAR TRIVIA TEST ANSWERS

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 1. Auld Lange Syne | 8. 11, the other two stars were for the states of MD and KY which did not secede. | 15. South Carolina |
| 2. H.L. Hunley | 9. Clara Barton | 16. Dixie |
| 3. Camp Sumter | 10. “Our American Cousin” | 17. his wife, Mary Custis, was a great granddaughter of Martha Custis Washington |
| 4. Considered to be a turning point in the war: the last day of the battle of Gettysburg & the fall of Vicksburg | 11. 2%, based on deaths of 625,000 | 18. Army of Northeastern Virginia |
| 5. Smallpox | 12. Robert E. Lee’s horse | 19. Army of the Potomac (and no, I didn’t get these turned around) |
| 6. Montgomery, Alabama | 13. Taps | 20. first US Navy submarine; launched on 1 May 1862 |
| 7. Louisa May Alcott | 14. pet chicken, Nellie | |
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VOLUNTEER OF THE QUARTER: KATHY MCGINNIS



Library. Her greatest joy is having someone to help. Again, congratulations to Kathy and a heartfelt thanks from the Society for her hard work on the Society's behalf.

Congratulations to Kathy McGinnis, SGS Volunteer of the Fall Quarter. Kathy has served SGS as a desk volunteer, attended various SGS work days and updates the SGS membership database. Five or six years ago, Kathy realized she had much information on her mother's side of the family which was from Salt Lake City, but almost nothing on her father's side. Starting with just his name, his father's name and that they resided on the east coast, she has advanced the family's personal history back to the point of immigration and beyond. Her brick wall is Brigitte Doyle (Scottish or Irish, parish unknown) who immigrated in c. 1876 and whose father's name might be Michael. You see the difficulty! A genealogical highlight was a trip with her brother for four weeks to Ireland. Now that she has identified the Norwegian parish of her ancestor, she would love to travel to Norway. Kathy retired from her position as an employee benefits consultant in 2005 and has graciously lent the Society her database expertise and her time in the

