

Washington State Genealogical Society NEWSLETTER



Become a Member of WSGS or renew your Dues by Dec 31, 2012

Volume 29, Issue 6
Nov-Dec 2012

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Message from the Board...

Access to Washington's Vital Records at Risk!



The Washington State Department of Health has sent a request to the Public Records Committee that all WA Vital Records have limited access: births for 125 years, marriage, death & divorce to 50 years.

This is devastating news to genealogists as well as other businesses and industries that use these records for legitimate purposes.

The Public Records Committee will meet 5 December 2012 at 10 am at the State Archives in Olympia to hear the request and make a decision. The committee is comprised of four members who represent the offices of the Attorney General, State Auditor, and Governor. The State Archivist also sits on this committee. This committee has the authority to restrict records without legislative approval.

We all know that this is a knee-jerk reaction to the uninformed public's panic attack over identity theft. In the exhaustive numbers of research reports open public vital records have never been pointed to as a contributing cause of identity theft. The chances of getting caught are much higher if a criminal uses legitimate channels. It actually is more time consuming and expensive for thieves to use vital records for identity theft. It is much easier to steal someone's credit card number when you buy goods and services at a store or restaurant.

On 8 October 2012 an article in the New York Times points out many issues that many businesses and government agencies are having with the new restrictions to the Social Security Death Index. The article also points out that the financial industry is having a harder time protecting against identity theft with the new restrictions.

To try and stop this train wreck, we need to send letters to our legislatures, newspapers, and members of the PRC. An information packet will be forthcoming explaining how to write a letter to a public official, facts about identity theft and open public records, a sample letter, and a list of public officials with emails and snail mails. We also need to get a contingent of people to "storm the gates" and attend the meeting to let your voice be heard.

Sue Ericksen, WSGS President

The Washington State Genealogical Society Conference was a great success!



Attendees gather round in the main area!

Hosted by Clallam County Genealogical Society it was held at the Elks Club in Port Angeles on September 7 to 8, 2012.

See page 2 for more photos!

*Next WSGS Board Meeting
has been moved up a week!*

January 26, 2012

At the

Yakima Valley Genealogical

Society Library

1901 S. 12th Ave, Union Gap.

10 am to 3 pm

The Public is Welcome!

More highlights from the 2012 WSGS Conference—lectures, vendors and more!



A participant finds help at the Registration Desk!



Guest Speaker

Brian W. Hutchinson presents one of several lectures he gave during the conference.



Mary K. Kozy gave a great lecture on DNA!



SAR had a booth and presented the colors thus officially opening the conference!



Jim Johnson, Director of HQRL helped to clarify the many Google Tools.



Heritage Quest Research Library brought their books and filled a whole room with wonderful treasures.

**Congratulations to Clallam County Genealogical Society
on a job well done!**

Presents



Bret Petersen

BYU Graduate

**Board Member Utah
Genealogical Society**

**Graduate National
Institute of
Genealogical
Research**

**Member
Genealogical
Speakers Guild**

**June 28, 29, 2013
In Yakima, WA**

**Howard Johnson Hotel
9 North 9th Street**

Washington State Genealogical Society

2013 Conference



Researching Rare Apples on Your Family Tree

Highlights

- **Using Newspapers in Research: You sNEWS you Lose**
- **Are You My Mother?—Finding the Maiden Name in Your Tree**
- **The “Shady” Side of the Family Tree—Prison, Criminal, Asylum Records and More**
- **Nine Mini-Classes to Choose From**

Hosted By:

Yakima Valley Genealogical Society

For Information:

Patrick Bundy Publicity Chair 509 952-3322

Or <http://yvgs.net>

Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island

2012 WSGS Website Award Winner!

Winner of the WSGS Outstanding Genealogy Website was awarded to the Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island. The plaque was inscribed and presented at the conference awards ceremony. South Whidbey will be able to display the plaque for the next year.

If you are looking for a little inspiration, check out the winners of this award:



Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island!

<http://www.gsswi.org/index.shtml>

Last years winner was Jefferson County Genealogical Society

<http://wajcgs.org/>

Laura Roetcisoender gladly accepted the award for best website. Laura is a past president and current Outreach Committee Chair of GSSWI. She was also a WSGS Outstanding Volunteer Honoree this year.

Guest Speaker at the 2013 WSGS Conference in Yakima

June 28 to 29, 2013

Bret Petersen developed a love of family history research at a young age and it continued through his college years at BYU where he graduated with a degree in Journalism and a minor in Education. His interest in computers then led him into a professional training/support role with a Utah-based technology company that supplies publishing systems and software throughout the world.

His passion for family history research and the growth of computer-assisted research led him to the Utah Valley Technology and Genealogy Group where he now serves as webmaster. He also serves on the Utah Genealogical Association's Board of Directors. He is a graduate of the 2011 National Institute on Genealogical Research and as a member of the Genealogical Speakers Guild he has been a presenter and teacher for groups ranging from just a few to several hundred participants.



He loves teaching and helping others learn all they can about using technology in researching their family history.

http://www.genealogicalspeakersguild.org/member_details.php?member=PetersenB

Check out his blog: <http://blog.branchesofourtree.com/>

All Day Events in Washington State

The deadline date for submissions to the next newsletter is December 15, 2012 for the January-February 2013 issue.



Contact the Editor Bonnie Jean MacDonald: BON_MAC@msn.com.

Please indicate the name of your organization in the subject line of your email, thank you!

Another option for sharing your happenings is the Events Calendar listings at the WSGS website: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasgs/wsgscal.htm>

November 3, 2012 Whatcom Genealogical Society will present their Fall Seminar with Jim Johnson and Mary K. Kozy. Go here for more details: <http://wagenweb.org/whatcom/WGS/wgs.htm>

November 3 Clark County Genealogical Society in Vancouver, WA will hold an all-day *Technology Workshop for Genealogists* – Visit <http://www.ccg-wa.org/p4356.htm> for schedule, other details and a link to the registration form.

November 4 Seattle Genealogical Society will host a tour of the University of Washington Suzzallo-Allen Library, 4000 15th Ave. NE, Seattle, WA. Pre-registration is required. Time 1 pm to 3 pm on a Sunday. Contact Amber for more information and to register: SGSLibrary@gmail.com

November 10, 2012 Family History Expo to be held at the Redmond Stake Center, 10115 172nd Ave NE in Redmond. More information is at this link: <http://www.wafamilyhistory.net/>

Eastern Washington Genealogical Society once again held their annual

WALKING WITH THE ANCESTORS in September 2012

Here they are in front of the Statue honoring the Civil War Veterans buried in Greenwood Cemetery. The participants dressed to honor ancestors from the Civil War. Here is a link to their blog with more pictures and details: http://ewgs-spokane.blogspot.com/2012/09/2012-walking-with-ancestors_8812.html



2012 Walking With Ancestors at Greenwood Cemetery

National Conference Spotlight

March 20, 2013 The Association of Professional Genealogists will present their 2013 APG Professional Management Conference at the Radisson Hotel in Downtown, Salt Lake City. More details to come. .
<http://www.apgen.org/conferences/index.html>

March 21 to 23, 2013 Rootstech 2013 will hold their conference in Salt Lake City, UT. Registration is now open for Rootstech. <http://rootstech.org/>

May 8 to 11, 2013 the National Genealogical Society will present "Building New Bridges" in Las Vegas, Nevada. http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conference_info Here is the announcement brochure: http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/galleries/new-gallery/2013_Announcement_Brochure_27_April.pdf

June 7 to 9, 2013 Southern California Genealogical Society Jamboree will be held in Burbank, California. Go here for more information as it appears. <http://www.scsgenealogy.com/> Try their blog: <http://genealogyjamboree.blogspot.com/>

August 21 to 24, 2013 Federation of Genealogical Societies will hold their annual conference in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Here is their conference website: <http://www.fgs.org/cpage.php?pt=43> and the preliminary brochure is at: http://www.fgs.org/upload/files/FGS2013_Conference_Flyer.pdf

NOTE: Fort Wayne has the [Allen County Public Library](#) which is 2nd to the Family History Library. Past conferences were very popular, so book as soon as registration opens. Don't forget to check out Facebook and Twitter for the conferences listed above to get more up-to-date information.

South King County Genealogical Societies Events page has many more good seminars, conferences and events listed for our area: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~waskegs/natlcal.html>



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE SEATTLE PUBLIC LIBRARY!!!

Genealogy Librarians are available at the Level 9 Desk:

Tuesday-Saturday: 11 a.m.-noon; 1-3 pm.

Sunday: 1-3 p.m.

30-minute appointments with a Genealogy Librarian are available as follows:

Tuesday-Friday: 3 p.m. & 4 pm.

Nov 11 The Seattle Public Library Closed for Veterans Day

Nov 20 The Seattle Public Library Mahina Oshie teaches **Beginning Your Family History Research**. 5:30 – 7:30 pm at the Central Library, 1000 Fourth Ave., Seattle, WA. Level 4, Room 2. Registration is required. Send an email using the library's Ask-A-Librarian service (www.spl.org) or call 206-386-4636 and ask for the genealogy desk to register.

Nov 22 The Seattle Public Library Closed for Thanksgiving Day

Dec 24 The Seattle Public Library Closed for day before Christmas

Dec 25 The Seattle Public Library Closed for Christmas Day

Dec 31 The Seattle Public Library All locations of The Seattle Public Library and the book drops at the Central Library will close at 6 pm for New Year's Eve.

Jan 1 The Seattle Public Library Closed for New Year's Day.



**Washington State Genealogical Society
Annual Meeting**

Elks Naval Lodge, 131 E. First St. Port Angeles, Washington, September 8, 2012



Meeting called to order by President Sue Ericksen at 1:00 pm.

Minutes of the last Annual Meeting were accepted as read by Secretary Roger Newman.

Bob Witherspoon gave out the WSGS Outstanding Volunteers Awards to those that were present. The rest of them to be mailed.

No Treasurer's Report. 2013 Budget was presented by President Sue Ericksen. Budget and was approved as presented.

Special award for Outstanding Society Web Site was awarded to Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island. The award will be a traveling award going next to the 2013 winner.

There was an introduction of regional representatives that were present. Region 8 needs a regional representative.

Membership Report was given by Sue Ericksen. WSGS has 217 members and 27 member organizations. There are 15 new members.

Newsletter Report was given by Bonnie Jean MacDonald. She encouraged societies to send in articles about their societies events and projects to be featured in the newsletter.

Pioneer Certificate Report was given by Frank McLean. He has applications. All the material is available on a CD for \$20.00.

Nomination Committee needed for upcoming elections. President and Secretary are up for election. Regional Representative from regions 1,3,5,7 are up for election.

Resource Guide Report was given by Charles Hansen. Everything is now on the web site. He needs any new or additional information so that he can update the web site.

Virginia Majewski gave a report on the 2012 conference. She wants attendees to fill out evaluations sheet and turn in name tag holders.

Kathy Sizer gave a report on the 2013 conference which will be in Yakima. It will be at the Howard Johnson Hotel on June 28th & 29th 2013. Speaker will be Bret Petersen from Utah.

Sue Ericksen gave a report on the 2014 conference. A host society is needed on the west side.

Bob Witherspoon spoke on the need for genealogists to vote for the Washington State Secretary of State candidate that will support the digital archives, archives and state library.

Next annual meeting will be in Yakima on June 29, 2013.

Adjournment: 1:45 pm.

Submitted by Roger H. Newman
WSGS Secretary



UPCOMING EVENTS In Washington State

Is Your Event Listed? To list an event in this newsletter contact your [regional representative](#) or please feel free to contact the newsletter editor, Bonnie who can be reached at BON_MAC@msn.com. Please indicate the name of your organization in the subject line.

Next deadline is December 15, 2012 for the Jan/Feb 2013 issue.

The months of November and December mean holidays are coming, so please check with your society for closures before venturing out.

NOVEMBER 2012

Nov 1 Lower Columbia Genealogical Society will have their general meeting. Topic: **Burned Courthouses**, by Connie Davis. Time 7 pm at the Somerset Retirement Apartments dining room, 2025 Tibbetts Drive, Longview, WA. Visitors are welcome.

Nov 3 Yakima Valley Genealogical Society will present **Using the YVGS On-line Library Catalog**, by Sue Erickson. Time 10 am at the YVGS library 1901 S. 12th Ave., Union Gap, WA.

Nov 3 Eastern Washington Genealogical Society will present **Webinars: Fun & Easy Learning Opportunities**, by Miriam Robins. Time: 12:30 pm in the Spokane Public Library Auditorium.

Nov 5 Camwood Genealogical Group meets first Mondays at 1 pm at Stanwood Historical Society Museum, 27108 102nd Ave NW, Stanwood, WA.

Nov 7 Fiske Genealogical Library will hold a class **The Home Front**, by Karen Sipe. Time: 10 am at the Fiske Library at 1644 43rd Ave. E., Seattle, WA. Fee \$5.00 for non-members.

Nov 7 Seattle Genealogical Society will hold a **Brick Wall Panel**, by Cary Bright and Lyndall Foulds. Time 10:15 am at the Library, 6200 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA.

Nov 7 Sno-Isle Genealogical Society will have their business meeting and program at 6:30 pm at Alderwood Manor Heritage Association, 19921 Poplar Way, in Lynnwood's Heritage Park. Program: **Military Records, War of 1812** with Eric Stroschein. Guests are always welcome.

Nov 7 The Belfair Chapter of the Puget Sound Genealogical Society will hold an annual Christmas potluck at the Timberland Library along with elections of officers and more. The location is 23081 NE State Rte. 3, Belfair, WA.

Nov 8 Eastside Genealogical Society will hold their meeting at the Redmond Library, 15990 NE 8th St, Redmond, WA. Time: 7 pm, **Who Are the Scots-Irish?** by Anne Lamb. Please verify before you go.

Nov 8 Heritage Quest Research Library will hold a FREE class on **Beginning Genealogy**, by Jim Johnson. Time: 6 pm at the HQRL library, 1007 Main St., Sumner, WA.

Nov 8 The Olympia Genealogical Society will present **War of 1812**, by Gary Zimmerman of the Fiske Genealogical Society. Time is 7 pm at the Thurston County Courthouse, Bldg. 1, Room 152.

Nov 8 Twin Rivers Genealogical Society will have a regular meeting. Topic: **Preservation of Family Heirlooms**, sponsored by the White Spring Ranch Museum/Archive Library. They will have election of officers at this meeting. Time 7 pm at the Orchards United Methodist Church, 1213 Burrell Ave., Lewiston, Idaho.

Nov 9 Heritage Quest Research Library will present **Introduction to DNA Research**, by Mary K. Kozy. Time: 6 pm at the HQRL library, 1007 Main St., Sumner, WA. Class fee \$15.00

Nov 10 Clallam County Genealogical Society will present **Putting Meat on the Bones of Your Ancestors—Telling Their Stories**, by Susan Karren of NARA. Time: 9:45 am at the First Baptist Church, 105 West 6th St., Port Angeles, WA.

Nov 10 Grays Harbor Genealogical Society will discuss the workshops they attended at the recent WSGS State Genealogical Society conference in September. Time 10 am at the Hoquiam Timberland Library, 420 7th Street, Hoquiam.

Nov 12 Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island will present their Program at 1:00 pm. Speaker: Eric Stroschein; Program: **Strategies for Finding the Immigrants**. Finding the origin of an immigrant ancestor can be one of the most difficult problems genealogists face. This presentation will explore some of the basic and intermediate strategies for identifying such origins. Meeting at Trinity Lutheran Church, Hwy 525 & Woodard Road, Freeland.

Nov 12 Jewish Genealogical Society of Washington State will present **Probate Records** by Karen Sipe. Time 7 pm. Location: Stroum Jewish Community Center, 3801 East Mercer Way, Mercer Island, WA 98040. Fee: \$5 for nonmembers.

Nov 12 Whatcom Genealogical Society will hold a meeting at 7 pm: Program: to be announced. Also, election of officers and vote on amendments to bylaws. Meeting in the Great Hall of St Paul's Episcopal Church, 2117 Walnut St, Bellingham.

Nov 12 Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society will present **The Mystery of Okanogan Smith**, by Kay Sibley. Time 7 pm at the Faith Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, 171 Eastmont, East Wenatchee, WA.

Nov 13 Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society will hold a meeting at 1 pm. The presentation is **Civil War Pensions and Other Records** by Eric Stroschein. Meeting at the Arlington Free Methodist Church, 730 E. Highland Drive, Arlington.

Nov 13 Whidbey Island Genealogical Searchers Program: 1 pm until about 3. Patricia Younie, of SGS, will discuss **Preparing to archive your research - what to do with all that research?** We will cover archival procedures as well as protecting your research for future generations following your death. That includes where to deposit your research, steps you can take to protect your work from being destroyed, copyright protection for any written work you have completed, etc. Bring your questions and she will try to help you. There will be information for all levels of searchers, refreshments and raffles. All are welcome. Contact Ruth Hancock 675-4086. randr.hancock@frontier.com for more information; also Gordon Garnhart garnhart@whidbey.net

Nov 7 Fiske Genealogical Library will hold a class **Military Societies—their origin and their records**, by Gary Zimmerman. Time: 10 am at the Fiske Library at 1644 43rd Ave. E., Seattle, WA. Fee: \$5.00 for non-members. Closed on Thanksgiving.

Nov 14 Puget Sound Genealogical Society will present **Using Our Nation's Library Online**, by Jean Yager. Time: 1:00 pm at Sylvan Way Branch of the Kitsap Regional Library, 1301 Sylvan Way, Bremerton, WA.

Nov 14 Northeast Washington Genealogical Society will hold their general meeting presenting **Review "President's Challenge,"** by Gary Sheehan. Time: 1:30 pm in the basement of the LDS Church in Colville, WA. There will no meetings except the Board in December. They also hold computer classes at 10:30 am in the basement of the Colville Public Library.

Nov 16 The Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society will present **Nuts, Bolts and Nuggets**, by the BIGS Mentors panel/roundtable discussion. Time 10 am in the meeting room upstairs in the Bainbridge Library.

Nov 17 Heritage Quest Research Library will present **Using Google and Google Earth for Genealogy**, by Jim Johnson. Time: 10 am at the HQRL library, 1007 Main St., Sumner, WA. Class fee \$15.00.

Nov 17 The Jefferson County Genealogical Society will hold their meeting and present **Brick Walls**, by several members. Time 9:30 am at the Tri-Area Community Center, Chimacum, WA.

Nov 17 Skagit Valley Genealogical Society 7 pm: Program: Barbara Allen: FamilySearch.org. **Update on the Family Search website.** Barbara is the Chief Volunteer at the Mount Vernon Family History Center. She'll be filling us in on the latest version of familysearch.org. NOTE: This meeting is on the third Saturday, November 17, at the Burlington Library, 820 E. Washington Ave, Burlington. No meeting in December.

Nov 20 Lewis County Genealogical Society will have their meeting TBA. Time: 7 pm at the PUD Auditorium at 345 Pacific Ave. in Chelalis, WA. No meeting in December.

Nov 27 Clark County Genealogical Society will hold their general meeting at 10 am in the Library Annex at 715 Grand Blvd., Vancouver, WA. There will be a special presentation by a panel from the CCGS Education Committee. No meeting in December.

DECEMBER 2012

Dec 1 Eastern Washington Genealogical Society will present **Christmas in Spokane (Book Auction)**, by Bill Hire. Time: 12:30 pm in the Spokane Public Library Auditorium.

Dec 1 Yakima Valley Genealogical Society will have their Christmas Party. Time 10 am at the YVGS library 1901 S. 12th Ave., Union Gap, WA.

Dec 3 Clallam County Genealogical Society will present hold their Christmas Party at the Sequim Prairie Garden Club House, Pioneer Park, 387 East Washington, Sequim, WA. Time: 10:30 am.

Dec 3 Seattle Genealogical Society will present the 3rd of their **Religious Records Series** at the Library, 6200 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA. Time: 4:30 pm. Speaker will be Nancy Adelson, President of JGSWS. SGS will be closed over the Thanksgiving Holiday for six days.

Dec 5 Puget Sound Genealogical Society will hold their Annual Christmas Party Time: 1:00 pm at Sylvan Way Branch of the Kitsap Regional Library, 1301 Sylvan Way, Bremerton, WA.

Dec 5 Sno-Isle Genealogical Society Business meeting and program at 1:00 pm at Alderwood Manor Heritage Association, 19921 Poplar Way, in Lynnwood's Heritage Park. Christmas Social with raffles, drawings and prizes. Guests are always welcome.

Dec 6 Lower Columbia Genealogical Society will have their general meeting. This will be their Christmas Social & Installation of Officers. Time 7 pm at the Somerset Retirement Apartments dining room, 2025 Tibbetts Drive, Longview, WA. Visitors are welcome.

Dec 8 Puget Sound Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists (PS-APG) will have their Annual Christmas Party and meeting at NARA in Seattle. Time 10 am to about 1 pm. PS-APG is celebrating 10 years in the Puget Sound area. Come join the celebration!

Dec 10 Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island Time 1:00 pm. Speaker: Nancy Adelson; Program: **Jewish Genealogy for Non-Jewish Researchers.** Nancy is a Jewish Genealogical Society of Washington State Founding Member, President, Program Chair and past Jewish Online Worldwide Burial Records Chair Meeting at Trinity Lutheran Church, Hwy 525 & Woodard Road, Freeland.

Dec 10 Whatcom Genealogical Society Time 7 pm. Program: Holiday social, plus [to be announced]. Meeting in the Great Hall of St Paul's Episcopal Church, 2117 Walnut St, Bellingham.

Dec 11 Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society 1 pm: General meeting and presentation: to be announced. Meeting at the Arlington Free Methodist Church, 730 E. Highland Drive, Arlington.

Dec 11 Whidbey Island Genealogical Searchers Program: 1 pm until about 3. **Show and Tell.** All are welcome. Contact Ruth Hancock 675 - 4086. randr.hancock@frontier.com for more information; also, Gordon Garnhart garnhart@whidbey.net

Dec 12 Tri-City Genealogical Society will present **Family Search Tree Sourcing and What else is New at Family Search**, by Richard Allen, Director of Richland Family History Center. Time 7 pm at the Parkview Estates, 7820 W. Sixth Ave. in Kennewick, WA.

Dec 10 The Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society will present a **Show and Tell** session. Time 10 am in the meeting room upstairs in the Bainbridge Library.

Dec 13 The Olympia Genealogical Society will have a special sharing of stories **Outlaws and Black Sheep**, by OGS members. Time is 7 pm at the Thurston County Courthouse, Bldg. 1, Room 152

Dec 15 The Jefferson County Genealogical Society will hold the **Annual Christmas Get-Together**, Time 9:30 am at the Tri-Area Community Center, Chimacum, WA. Bring some finger food to share, a family heirloom or a story.

Thursdays in November

Comeford Genealogical Group

Meets Thursdays, 10:00 - 11:30 am
Ken Baxter Community Center,
514 Delta Ave., Marysville, WA, in Comeford Park.
The group meets informally to assist one another in
genealogical research.

Check for classes at [http://
comefordgroup.wordpress.com/category/class-times-
schedule/](http://comefordgroup.wordpress.com/category/class-times-schedule/)

MOHAI, The Museum of History & Industry

Saturday December 29th, 2012 from 10 to 8 pm

Will hold their Grand Opening Event



Be among the first to step inside the dazzling new MOHAI at Lake Union Park at this community-wide celebration! This beautifully restored new facility will provide MOHAI with nearly 10,000-square feet of additional exhibition space—come explore, participate in special programming, and see amazing live performances throughout the day. Admission is FREE on opening day, and the museum will host extended hours from 10 am to 8 pm. Festivities continue throughout the week with special events and activities including a New Year's Family Day (Tuesday, Jan 1), Free First Thursday (Thursday, Jan 3), and

more. Go to this link for more information:

http://www.mohai.org/mohai_at_lake_union_park/grand_opening.php

Dick Eastman featured an article in his

“Eastman’s Online Genealogy Newsletter” Sept. 10, 2012

WHO WILL CONTROL YOUR “DIGITAL ESTATE”

After You Are Gone?

The article is here: http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/2012/09/who-will-control-your-digital-estate-after-you-are-gone.html

Are you like me and have photographs uploaded to Picasa? Do you have a Facebook page with photos, notes and other things? Do you write a blog or blogs like me? Do you have a website? Do you have a family tree at one of the major service providers? Do you use Twitter or any other of the many social media? Is your name online at a local genealogical society as an officer with responsibilities?

Well then, you need to start considering designating a personal representative that can take over your online digital estate if something happens to you.

Mr. Eastman goes on to talk about laws being considered in various states for this very topic. He mentions “that contracts with the service providers most often are automatically terminated as soon as the customer ceases to exist.” Google had references to Gmail on their website but nothing else. I have had friends and family pass away and they were on Facebook? Does your family know about your online presence and what to do?

So add this to your list of what you want to have done with your family history both in paper, on your computer and now online. I know it is not a pleasant task but very important to take action.

Submitted by the WSGS Editor



Are You Missing Your “Who Do You Think You Are?” Fix?

Claudia Breland writes in her email newsletter

“Claudia’s Genealogical News”



“Before NBC picked up this series, the BBC was broadcasting it, and there have been some well known stars featured, including J.K. Rowling. After an episode airs, they are available to watch online for two months. One of the latest episodes is about Patrick Stewart, Captain Picard of Star Trek fame. You can watch his episode on YouTube here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yBTF224aGII> along with many others.”

Here is the link to the BBC version of WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b007t575>

You can sign up for more great news and Claudia’s newsletter at her website:

<http://www.ccbreland.com/index.html>

CAN YOU KEEP UP WITH THE CHANGES AT FAMILYSEARCH?

They do have a What’s New page and currently that has information about

1. The New and Improved Search
2. Get Tips from Experts, and Share What You Know.
3. One Sign In for All FamilySearch Resources

https://familysearch.org/learn/whats_new

If that doesn’t help try their FamilySearch Blog at

<https://familysearch.org/blog/en/>

To find what is new in records try the blog and click on Genealogy Records.

<https://familysearch.org/>

One word of caution, FamilySearch is changing so much that the above links might be replaced and you will need to update your links.

Happy Hunting!

National Archives and Records Administration Genealogy Workshops

6125 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115;

phone 206-336-5115

Check this link for more information and the schedule:

<http://www.archives.gov/pacific-alaska/seattle/public/workshops.html>

Location: NARA-Pacific Alaska Region, 6125 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115. Classes are held either in the upstairs Conference Room or in the new Learning Center.

Registration: Advance registration is advised. Classes are held on a first come, first served basis. To register, call 206-336-5115, or e-mail:

seattle.archives@nara.gov, or in person during normal business hours, 7:45 am to 4:15 pm., Mon-Fri. and 9-4 on the second Saturday of each month. We reserve the right to cancel classes due to low enrollment or bad weather.

NARA Workshops nationwide:

<http://www.archives.gov/research/genealogy/events/>

Washington State Genealogical Society OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS for 2012

Honoring those individuals who give of their time and energy to genealogy!



Some of the Honorees for 2012

Left to Right: Robert McDole (LeCGS), Mary K. Kozy (JGSWS), Gary Parfitt (GHGS), Bonnie Johannes (GHGS), Betty Wiese (BIGS), Laura Roetsisoender (GSSWI), Nancy A. Hepp (GSSWI), Jim Johnson (HQRL), Debbie Johnson (HQRL), Patricia Robbins (WAGS), Susan Faulkner (TCGS), Janet McKinnon (TCGS), Stephen Baylor WSGS), Patty Ostendorff (WAGS) Laura Pemberton Sparr (WIGS).

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Sue Erikson, WSGS President and Bob Witherspoon, WSGS Recognition Committee hand out this years awards

On the following pages are the award narratives showing the hard work, dedication and effort of the honorees. The outstanding volunteers are nominated and honored by their local societies and then recognized at the annual meeting of Washington State Genealogical Society held in Port Angeles, Washington, on 8 September 2012. These award narratives, and those from all previous years, may be viewed on the WSGS website under "Annual Outstanding Volunteer Awards Program" at

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasgs/volawards.htm>

Washington State Genealogical Society OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS OF WASHINGTON STATE - 2012

Region 5 Yakima Valley Genealogical Society - **Richard and Carla Adams** of Yakima, Washington, are recognized for exceptional leadership and extraordinary support of the goals and operation of the Yakima Valley Genealogical Society. Carla and Richard Adams joined the Yakima Valley Genealogical Society in 1985. The following year they started what would become an ongoing commitment to the Society extending for almost three decades. Carla took on her first position as a volunteer librarian in 1986. She went on to serve as Corresponding Secretary, twice as Vice President, President of the Society, and Recording Secretary. She worked as Mail Clerk for spans totaling six years, served on the Publicity Committee since June 1992 and, once again, as Corresponding Secretary for the past two years. Carla taught a number of classes at the fall workshops and presented programs at many monthly meetings. Richard has worked to raise funds for the Society as part of the team serving coffee to travelers at Indian John Hill rest stop on Interstate 90 and helps with the monthly raffle. He has made many posters for the Society's library and for yard sales. Since March 2003 Richard and Carla Adams have kept the library restrooms clean. Support is their middle name when it comes to stepping in and helping the Society. We are very grateful to Carla and Richard Adams for volunteering so much time and effort to the Yakima Valley Genealogical Society.

Region 1 **Stephen Eric Baylor** of Arlington, Washington, is recognized for exceptional leadership and consistent support of the Washington State Genealogical Society. Steve Baylor has provided outstanding leadership and untiring support of the Washington State Genealogical Society in a variety of positions for close to two decades. He chaired the Education Committee for several years, developing support programs such as the Society's Local Speakers Directory and the Handbook for Region Representatives, an essential for newly recruited volunteers who act as liaisons between the State Society and local societies in one of eight State Society regions. He also initiated and contributes to the Conference Guidelines, providing "lessons learned" and suggestions to societies volunteering to host the State Society's annual conference. Steve has served several terms as Representative to Region One, covering Snohomish, Island, Skagit, Whatcom and San Juan counties, maintaining a strong link with the eight societies and groups in the region so he can respond to their needs. He is also a popular speaker at meetings of these organizations. Steve was elected for two terms as the State Society's President. His management style allowed new ideas to be tested and implemented by the Board of Directors. An annual Board Retreat was established to allow more time to investigate suggestions for more efficient operations. For three years, the Society published an annual research journal covering records of the more rural areas and unusual resources. He is a strong supporter of the Society's Outstanding Volunteer Award program. Steve is also a member of the Washington State Historical Records Advisory Board which serves the public as the central advisory board for historical records projects and plans and provides leadership and guidance to help ensure the identification, preservation, and use of the state's historical records. We greatly appreciate Steve Baylor's leadership and everything he has done for the genealogical community in Washington State.

Region 1 Skagit Valley Genealogical Society, **Dorothy Marie "Dottie" (Cork) Chandler** of Sedro Woolley, Washington, is recognized for outstanding efforts to provide information of genealogical value to researchers interested in the families of Washington State, and consistent support of the goals and operation of Skagit Valley Genealogical Society. Dottie Chandler joined the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society in 2007 and immediately became involved in Society activities. She is currently in her second term as the Society's President, and has tirelessly given her time and energy in supporting the goals of the society and volunteering wherever needed. She is a volunteer for the Find-A-Grave project and frequently makes trips to local cemeteries to photograph stones for other researchers. Dottie has been active on the publication committee, the library committee and has recently taken over publication of the Society's bi-monthly newsletter. She is currently assisting the library committee in the renumbering of the materials contained in the Society's collection housed at the Burlington Public Library. Dottie is enthusiastic about her role in the Society and has frequently assisted with the cemetery project by working on the reading, indexing and publication of both the Hamilton Cemetery and the Lyman Cemetery scheduled for publication later this year. We are very grateful for her energetic support of the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society.

Region 3 Olympia Genealogical Society, **Mary M. "Peggy" Cooley** of Olympia, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the training goals and operation of Olympia Genealogical Society. Mary "Peggy" Cooley joined the Olympia Genealogical Society as a way to be around people who had the same interests and to soak up the accumulated know-how of dedicated genealogists. She always sat in the back of the room, because she didn't know anyone, but she volunteered to help out at one of the seminars. She worked with Kerry McHugh Upton to put together folders, and volunteered a little more each year after that. One day Kerry asked if she was interested in being the Vice President/Program Coordinator. Peggy accepted the challenge, was elected, and now, years later, maintains the same high level of interest. She loves hearing about people's research, methods of detection, and the history surrounding people's lives. To her it's important to give members and friends a chance to reach out and tell a story or impart knowledge. With the help of fellow Society members, she has been able to put together programs that both inform and entertain. Peggy has lots of ideas and plans ahead. Even when she had health issues, they didn't slow down her enthusiasm; she was always one step ahead. She has been the key person for keeping the members "schooled up" with the programs she is able to bring to Olympia Genealogical Society meetings. Thank you, Peggy.

Region 1 Whatcom Genealogical Society, **James Copher** of Bellingham, Washington, is recognized for his outstanding preservation and management of important government records of value to the Whatcom Genealogical Society and other genealogical and historical researchers interested in the families of Northwest Washington State. Archivist James Copher has been friend and guide to thousands of researchers – and many genealogists – from Washington State and afar. He began volunteering for the Washington State Archives' Northwest Regional Branch in Bellingham in 1995, and was hired in July 1997 as a permanent staff member. As reference and branch archivist for the Northwest Branch, James provided the first point of contact and welcome for most visitors to the Goltz-Murray Archives Building for a period of almost fifteen years. He garnered immense respect and gratitude from researchers and colleagues alike for his depth of knowledge, and his patience and expertise in navigating the complexities of local government records. James presently works in the Security Microfilm Department in Olympia, and has now served the citizens of the State of Washington through the Washington State Archives for more than 17 years. We are most grateful for his many years of open, friendly and professional service to the public.

Region 4 Clark County Genealogical Society, **Lawrence A. "Larry" Dean** of Vancouver, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of Clark County Genealogical Society. Larry Dean, has been an active member of the Clark County Genealogical Society for fifteen years. He is a volunteer librarian at the Society's research library two days each month and supports training and other library functions. He is Chair of the Society's Education Committee and is an Instructor in the education program. He has also served as Chair of the Spring Seminar Committee. His production of the seminar on the Genealogy of the Civil War was highly successful. Larry is the Society's resident expert on genetic genealogy and is Administrator of a Dean Surname YDNA project. Larry has produced nine papers on the Dean family history. He initiated a "First

Thursday Unfocused Group” and has moderated it since 2006. He also helps maintain the Society’s physical plant. His scholarly and enthusiastic demeanor is admired by all the members and patrons of the Society. Larry is a highly distinguished member of the Clark County Genealogy Society and contributor to the field of genealogical research. We are most grateful for all he has done for the Society and genealogical community.

Region 1 Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society, **Helen Hubert Eliason** of North Snohomish County, Washington, is recognized for her consistent support of the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society and her outstanding efforts to provide information of genealogical value to the Society researchers and others interested in the families of Washington State. Helen Hubert Eliason is recognized for the many years of volunteer work she has performed supporting the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society. Helen began as a member of the publications committee in the early 1990's. She has served a key role in compilation and publication of many of the Society's projects, including the Arlington Centennial Pictorial History. In 2004 Helen became chairperson of the committee and shepherded the publication of the *Arlington Times Obituary Book* for 1936-1939 and *Snohomish County in the War*, an indexed republication of a compilation of World War I veterans. Helen has also served in other volunteer capacities including terms as the Ways and Means Chairperson, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, and the Society’s Vice President. She is currently gathering information for publication of a 1940-1942 Arlington Times Obituary Book and a series of books on Early Schools of the Stillaguamish Valley. We greatly appreciate Helen Eliason’s leadership and her work building a legacy for the Snohomish Valley Genealogical Society.

Region 6 Tri-City Genealogical Society, **Susan Davis Faulkner** of Kennewick, Washington, is recognized for exceptional leadership and consistent support of the goals and operation of the Tri-City Genealogical Society. As the Tri-City Genealogical Society President for the 2010-2012 term, Susan Faulkner has performed many tasks that helped to support the Society’s mission and broaden an understanding of genealogy. At her suggestion and under her leadership the annual Washington State Genealogical Society state conference was held in the Tri-Cities in September 2011. Working closely with Janet McKinnon, the Society’s vice president and program chair, Susan helped resolve problems quickly and without fuss, ensuring the state conference ran smoothly and was a major success. Susan still found time during her term as president to give informative presentations to Society members and traveled to other societies through out the state to give these educational programs. Susan also wrote numerous articles and provided historical records for the Society’s Bulletin, and participated in school census indexing projects. We are grateful to Susan Faulkner for her skillful leadership and devoted service.

Region 8 – Chelan Valley Genealogical Society, **Phyllis (Stradling) Folsom** (1930-2012), of Chelan, Washington, is posthumously recognized for outstanding efforts to document the stories of Chelan Valley families, and for consistent support of the goals and operation of Chelan Valley Genealogical Society. Phyllis Folsom joined the Chelan Valley Genealogical Society in 1993. She was as quiet and gentle a woman as her Quaker forbears, yet she was passionate in her quest of ancestral research. She wrote of her successes in the Society’s newsletter or would teach a class about a resource or technique she discovered. Once, when discussing Quaker research, she made herself a costume, complete with hat and apron. An enthusiastic advocate for the Society, Phyllis helped staff a booth at Manson’s Farmer’s Market and on Earth Day in Chelan, often dressed in her Quaker regalia, and encouraged visitors to become members. She hosted several yard sales, and even baked beautiful fruit pies to raise funds for the Society. Over the years, she served as the Society’s Vice President, Secretary, and President. She also served on the budget committee, as an assistant librarian, and was the librarian for several years. Her gift for writing was evident during Chelan’s Centennial Celebration when she interviewed descendants of nine pioneer families and wrote biographies of the families for the Society’s publication, *Pioneer Profiles*. Later she traveled to Stehekin for more interviews and assembled a manuscript, with pictures, telling exciting stories of the frontier history there. (It is as yet unpublished.) Recent health issues slowed her participation, but Phyllis continued to write of her childhood memories which were often published in *Reminisce* magazine. Phyllis Stradling Folsom passed away in June, but her many contributions will be remembered by Chelan Valley Genealogical Society members, and others who knew her, for many years to come.

Region 1 Sno-Isle Genealogical Society, **Nolan “Tim” Foss, Sr.**, of Edmonds, Washington, is recognized for outstanding leadership and consistent support of the goals and operation of the Sno-Isle Genealogical Society. Tim Foss is currently serving as Vice President of the Sno-Isle Genealogical Society, and has been a faithful and active weekly volunteer for several years at the Society’s Research Library located in the Humble House, Heritage Park, in Lynnwood. In addition to his former service answering research queries, he has been an ambassador for genealogy to community organizations, assisting the Society’s President in these presentations. He volunteers to staff the Society’s information table at the Evergreen State Fair in Monroe. Tim was the driving force behind the successful 2011 fall seminar, and coordinated volunteers and other support for this event. Tim is always willing to support the Society in whatever capacity he is called upon to serve, and often in ways for which he may never receive public credit. Tim’s dedication and unselfish contribution of time and effort in support of the Sno-Isle Genealogical Society is greatly appreciated.

Region 4 Lower Columbia Genealogical Society, **Linda (Hitchcock) Grewelle** of Kelso, Washington, is recognized for exceptional leadership and support of the goals and operation of the Lower Columbia Genealogical Society, and for outstanding efforts to provide information of genealogical value to researchers interested in families of the lower Columbia River region. Linda Grewelle has willingly accepted election to several positions in the Lower Columbia Genealogical Society. Over the years, she has served as the Society’s president, vice-president and secretary, and she is currently serving as a trustee. She is a valued member of the Board of Directors. Linda also serves as the chairperson for the group of volunteers who, once a year, serve coffee and snacks to travelers at the nearby safety rest stop on Interstate 5. Thanks to her efforts coordinating with the state Department of Transportation and recruiting and scheduling the volunteers, donations raised from the travelers supplement the budget in order to purchase books for the genealogical section of the Longview Public Library. Linda is involved in the continuing education of Society members by providing interesting programs at the general meetings, and she helps others to research their own heritage by volunteering as a “Wednesday helper” at the library. Linda has consistently shown exceptional support for the goals and operation of the Lower Columbia Genealogical Society, and for that we gratefully recognize her with this award.

Region 3 Olympia Genealogical Society, **James E. Haran** of Olympia, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of Olympia Genealogical Society. Jim Haran’s active research into his Irish heritage began in 2007 after a trip to Ireland for the Junior International Rugby World Cup Championships. He has been a member of the Olympia Genealogical Society since 2008 and is deeply appreciative of the Society and its members for their invaluable assistance in his family research. As a business partner at Olympia Copy and Printing, Jim was aware of the Society well before he joined it. He has been very helpful in keeping costs down for the Society’s general and seminar printing needs. He also has volunteered to help with planning for the annual seminars, which he does by wearing a funny hat at the seminar, and asking the attendees for ideas on topics for the next seminar. With his good humor and openness, he has earned his nickname, “The Idea Man.” Jim was also the speaker at the most recent Olympia Genealogical Society Annual Dinner, telling tales of his discoveries on his research trip to Ireland. Thank you for all your help, Jim.

Region 1 Sno-Isle Genealogical Society, **Ruth (Skaufel) Henderson**, of Edmonds, Washington, is recognized for outstanding efforts in the preservation of records of value to the Sno-Isle Genealogical Society and for her assistance to researchers in the records of Snohomish County. Ruth Henderson is a weekly volunteer at the Sno-Isle Genealogical Society's Research Library located in the Humble House, Heritage Park, Lynnwood. She ensures that visitors to the library are comfortable and aware of the research materials available to them. When the Society, as a member of the League of Snohomish County Heritage Organizations, received a copy of the award-winning Snohomish County Mapping Project software, the library staff recognized that it could be of great value to researchers, but that training was needed in its use. Ruth undertook the task of writing a user-friendly instruction manual for the use by the staff. The manual helps staff access the digitized historical maps of Snohomish County, and assists them in overlaying maps from varied time periods for comparison. Ruth's background in writing instructional manuals in her career was a natural fit for this project, and she provided an exceptional product for the library staff. She also has served on the Board of Directors as the Society's Secretary. Ruth's dedication and unselfish contribution of time and effort in support of the Sno-Isle Genealogical Society is greatly appreciated.

Region 1 Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island, **Nancy A. Hepp** of Clinton, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of the Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island. Nancy Hepp is recognized for her exceptional design and technical skills as the web manager for the Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island. She assumed responsibility for the Society's web site in 2008 at which time she designed and implemented a totally different concept for the web site. Her creative use of both photo editing techniques and an innovative user interface has rendered the web site both much easier to use and better in presenting the Society's data to members and researchers around the world. She has provided an attractive and interesting "first impression" for the general public browsing the Internet for information about Whidbey Island. The Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island is fortunate and very appreciative to have such a talented and dedicated member as Nancy.

Region 2 South King County Genealogical Society, **Barbara Stokev Heutchy** of Auburn, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of the South King County Genealogical Society. Barbara Heutchy is a charter member of the South King County Genealogical Society, which was chartered in June 1984, and she won the design competition for the Society logo. In 1988, Barbara volunteered for the position of Librarian, coordinating acquisitions and monitoring the Society's holdings housed in the Auburn Library. Barbara was instrumental in negotiations with library staff, and the King County Library System to transition the Society's collection to ownership by the County system. She wrote the *Library News* and *News from Exchange Newsletters* columns in the Society's newsletter for many years. She recently retired from her librarian position after 24 years of service. Barbara also served as Society Treasurer in 1985-1986, and managed the book sales table at most of the Gene-A-Rama seminars. She continues to help organize monthly get-togethers for the Out-to-Lunch Bunch, and has attended countless Board of Director meetings over the decades. During the Saar Pioneer Cemetery restoration project, she worked on several clean-up parties at the site. Barbara was awarded the Society's Outstanding Achievement Awards in 2008 and 2010. She has also devoted countless hours, working diligently on the memorial, obituary, and marriage books published by the Society. Barbara organized a tour for the King County Historic Preservation officer to identify all historic cemeteries in South King County and develop a list of sites which need further documentation and restoration help. Seldom has one person done so much for the good of the genealogical community. We will be forever grateful for the legacy established by Barbara Heutchy.

Region 4 Lower Columbia Genealogical Society, **Janielle "Jan" (Greer) Hook** of Rainier, Oregon, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of the Lower Columbia Genealogical Society. Jan Hook, a member of the Lower Columbia Genealogical Society, is the type of person who offers her time and talents for any undertaking, and takes the initiative to complete the job properly so the Society can prosper. Jan currently serves as a trustee for the Society, is a valued member of the Board of Directors, and assists in any way she can with all fund-raising endeavors. She ensures a hospitable atmosphere at all of the Society's general meetings, conferences and community events by providing outstanding homemade refreshments. Jan is considered a "can do" person, as she is one of the first to volunteer for a task, carefully works out the details of the job and completes the task in a timely manner. Many of Jan's talents go unrecognized, as she prefers to remain out of the limelight. This public award is the Lower Columbia Genealogical Society's way of thanking her for all of the tasks that she so willingly undertakes for the good of the Society and community.

Region 1 Whatcom Genealogical Society, **Karen F. Hulford** of Bellingham, Washington, is recognized for her outstanding efforts in the preservation and sharing of important records of genealogical value to the researchers interested in the families of Whatcom County and Washington State. Karen Hulford has been interested in family history research for more than 30 years. She has been the archivist for the Central Lutheran Church in Bellingham, and has transcribed many of the records of early Lutheran churches. She contributed transcriptions for online access on the USGenWeb and for print publication in the Whatcom Genealogical Society's journal, *The BULLETIN*, including records of the Bellingham Bay Lutheran Church, the Zion Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church and the Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church. Karen has also been a contributing member of Find-A-Grave for more than five years. She has added 50 memorials, manages 54 memorials. She has taken many photographs of gravestones in cemeteries of Whatcom County and elsewhere to provide additional supporting evidence for researcher around the world. She also volunteers to provide photos in response to specific requests. Karen enjoys this pastime and is happy to help others gain the fulfillment of discovering their ancestors' final resting place. Thank you, Karen, for helping others.

Region 3 Grays Harbor Genealogical Society, **Bonnie (Albertson) Johannes** of Hoquiam, Washington, is recognized for outstanding efforts in the identification and dissemination of information of genealogical importance and value to researchers interested in the families of Grays Harbor County and Washington State. Since becoming a member in 1993, Bonnie Johannes has worn a number of hats at the Grays Harbor Genealogical Society, including two stints as President. She was awarded the WSGS Outstanding Volunteer Award in 2009 for her outstanding leadership and support of the Society. At present, she is the Research Committee Chair, a position she has served with gusto. Since the launch of the new Society website, Bonnie has been "going the extra mile" – or two, to respond quickly and comprehensively to research queries from people from all over the world, including Sweden, Canada, and countless U.S. states. In many cases, she has provided much more information than asked for by the requestor. Her philosophy is "I'd want to know everything I can about my ancestors." Bonnie's thorough research capabilities have significantly increased the donations to the Society's treasury, allowing them to provide more programs and fund their Research Library. The Grays Harbor Genealogical Society is indebted to Bonnie and her passion for helping those interested in finding their ancestral families.

Region 2 Heritage Quest Research Library, **Deborah "Debbie" (Shaffer) Johnson** of Puyallup, Washington, is recognized for exceptional leadership and consistent support of the goals and operation of the Heritage Quest Research Library. Debbie Johnson is known for her broad expertise and diligence as a volunteer at the Heritage Quest Research Library. A member since 1997, Debbie has held a variety of positions on the organization's Management Team and is currently Chair of the Board of Trustees. With her husband, Jim, Debbie worked to convince the With her husband, Jim, Debbie

convince the Team, Board, and members that it was in the best interest of the Library to move to a storefront facility with more usable space. Debbie mapped out the floor plan, fitting everything in perfectly, giving a good flow for the collection and establishing both secluded and public areas for researchers. Debbie added a Silent Auctions feature to the Library's seminars, providing another fun experience for attendees and an extra fundraiser. Debbie has also perfected a set up process for the HQRL traveling bookstore, "Books on the Road" program, to entice browsing. She and Jim have traveled with the bookstore from Bellingham to Eugene, Ocean Shores to The Dalles. Debbie is also the go-to person for signage. She is a talented asset for Heritage Quest Research Library, and we thank her for everything she has done.

Region 2 Heritage Quest Research Library, **James Leon "Jim" Johnson** of Puyallup, Washington, is recognized for outstanding support, management and leadership of the Heritage Quest Research Library. Jim Johnson is an outstanding leader and an untiring volunteer for the Heritage Quest Research Library. As a member since 1997, Jim has worn many hats for the organization, both on the Management Team and the Board of Trustees. As the current Director, Jim has moved the Library from a small, cramped space to a more spacious location which includes a classroom. Jim and his wife, Debbie, worked diligently to convince the team and then the Board that the move was in the best interests of HQRL. Jim recruited volunteers to move the library, assigned specific tasks, and generally made the new location happen. Jim also teaches classes at the Library and on the road, helps volunteer librarians improve their skills, and is the liaison for many groups both at HQRL and at other genealogy events. He has expanded the "Books on the Road," a travelling bookstore program, which he and Debbie have taken to many events, from Bellingham to Eugene, Ocean Shores to The Dalles. Jim sends out news updates to more than 500 recipients announcing events at the Library and other societies. Jim is first and foremost the spokesman for Heritage Quest Research Library, and we greatly appreciate all he has done for the genealogical community.

Region 1 Skagit Valley Genealogical Society, **Sharon Ann (Olson) Johnson** of Conway, Washington, is recognized for exceptional leadership and consistent support of the goals and operation of the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society. Sharon Johnson has been a member of the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society for 25 years. A charter member, she had the honor of signing the Society's charter and Articles of Incorporation establishing its non-profit corporate status. She was the first program committee chair, served as Treasurer, chaired the Budget Committee and worked on the Audit Committee for many years. She has been an active member of the Board of Directors and the Publications Committee for the entire 25 years of the organization's existence. She worked on the first publication, *The Pioneer Book of Skagit County*, and with other members, has been instrumental in publishing many databases of local cemetery records. A main force behind re-publishing and indexing the *1906 History for Skagit and Snohomish Counties*, Sharon worked tirelessly on the project with the committees of both the Skagit Valley and Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Societies. She has been the Society's designated Ways and Means person, holding raffles at Society meetings for many years. Sharon is an enthusiastic supporter for the Society's special activities, and began early on to organize annual group trips to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. There she helps those on their first trip become comfortable with the research process and resources available at the Library and, as a society fundraising project, also sets aside time to work on research requests from others who could not join the trip. She has been granted a Lifetime membership in appreciation for her dedication to the goals of the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society. We are forever grateful to her for all she has done.

Region 4 Lewis County Genealogical Society, **Teresa (Parnell) Jordan** of Onalaska, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of the Lewis County Genealogical Society. Again this year, Teresa Jordan has dedicated more than 80 hours of volunteer work to put together a useful new web design for the Lewis County Genealogical Society. As a result of member requests, she included "Save the Date," the yearly calendar of meetings, as a footnote on every page of the website; and added links to the Facebook and Twitter social networks so members can keep in touch with upcoming happenings of the Society. "Climbing Your Family Tree" and a public surname file compiled from Society member submissions were two more additions. Teresa has gathered up historical facts and vintage photos sent in by members to form an ever-growing collection representing life in Lewis County. To complete the transformation, she prepared nineteen separate Lewis County Cemetery web pages, including their links to the USGenWeb Project. Teresa's imaginative design and technical skills have built an exceptionally informative website for the Lewis County Genealogical Society. Her accomplishments are truly appreciated.

Region 2 Jewish Genealogical Society of Washington State, **Mary Kathryn (Crews) Kozy** of Kent, Washington, is recognized for exceptional leadership and consistent support of the goals and operation of Jewish Genealogical Society of Washington State. Mary Kathryn Kozy has been an active member of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Washington State for four years. She joined the Society in hopes of researching her husband's Ukrainian ancestry, which she suspected was Jewish. Though that turned out to not be the case, she has enthusiastically served on the Society's Board for the past two+ years holding various board and volunteer positions. She first served as the Washington State Jewish Online World Burial Registry (JOWBR) Chair. She continues to excel as Publicity Chair, Membership Database Chair, supporting several committees and is now also serving as the First Vice President. She has become one of our resident *Mavens* (experts) who promptly answers questions or provides resources. She continually volunteers to help with projects and events that promote genealogical research and the Society. Her "can do" attitude and high energy greatly benefits the Society. She has presented and will continue to present interesting topics to the Society. She has been involved in many genealogically related projects over the years including the FamilySearch Indexing Project, Illinois and Georgia County census transcriptions for USGenWeb and maintaining four USGenWeb counties websites. She has served on the boards the South King County Genealogical Society and the Washington State Genealogical Society. We greatly appreciate all Mary has done and continues to do in support of the genealogical community.

Region 2 Tacoma-Pierce County Genealogical Society, **Louis and Marjorie (Grove) Lehmann** of Tacoma, Washington, are recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goal and operation of the Tacoma-Pierce County Genealogical Society. Louis and Marjorie Lehmann are enthusiastic, multi-talented volunteers for the Tacoma Pierce County Genealogical Society. Each has written articles for publication in the Society's journal, *The Researcher*. Articles include "Ancestry & Life of John "Short Length" Dower" by Lou and "How Grandma Stole the Baby" by Margie. Both individually and together, they have also published a number of short articles in the Society's Newsletter. Lou, with Margie's support, has served on the Society's Board of Directors as the Education Vice President. As part of the responsibilities of that position, informal genealogical education sessions were presented, often drawing as many members as the regular Society meetings. Lou and Margie have put together the Society's displays for the Western Washington Fair at Puyallup. Their Ezra Meeker display of 2010 was requested for use by the Meeker Mansion of Puyallup, and the Laura Ingles Wilder display of 2011 was borrowed for additional display by the Tacoma Public Library. They have also contributed to the financial success of the Society's annual Spring Seminar by obtaining many of the raffle prizes used for fund raising, as well as selling the raffle tickets at the seminars. Their contributions to the Society's goals and operations go well beyond those noted above. We greatly appreciate their past efforts and thank them for their continued support.

Region 4 Lewis County Genealogical Society, **Robert "Bob" McDole** of Chehalis, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of the Lewis County Genealogical Society. Bob McDole is a very versatile leader of the Lewis County Genealogical Society. He has been serving as President of the Society for the 2011-2012 term and has done a wonderful job. He is very organized, and has helped the Society's Board of Directors to improve their effectiveness. Bob has been an enthusiastic student of genealogy and history for many years. He joined the Lewis County Genealogical Society in 1999, about the same time he joined the Lewis County Historical Society. He was on the Board of the Historical Society from 2000 to 2009, serving in several positions, including Treasurer, Development Officer and chair of the Facilities Committee. Before moving to Lewis County, he served on the Board of the Jefferson County Historical Society, and was a member of the Jefferson County Genealogical Society from 1993 to 1998. Bob has served the genealogical and historical community in Western Washington with enthusiasm and skill, and his contributions to the societies are greatly appreciated.

Region 6 Tri-City Genealogical Society, **Janet Lemon McKinnon** of Richland, Washington, is recognized for exceptional leadership and consistent support of the goals and operation of the Tri-City Genealogical Society. Janet McKinnon has served the Tri-City Genealogical Society with distinction as the Vice President and Program Chair from 2010 through 2012, performing many tasks that helped to support the Society's mission and broaden an understanding of genealogy. Working closely with the Society's president, Susan Faulkner, and a team of enthusiastic volunteers, Janet took on many tasks associated with planning and managing the Washington State Genealogical Society's 2011 state conference held in the Tri-Cities. She helped to evaluate and resolve problems quickly, ensuring the state conference ran smoothly and was a major success. In past years, Janet has routinely worked two 4-hour shifts each week as a librarian at the Richland Family History Center helping patrons with their genealogy research. We are grateful to Janet McKinnon for her leadership and devoted service to the genealogical community.

Region 6 Tri-City Genealogical Society, **Gary Kenneth Miller** of Richland, Washington, is recognized for outstanding efforts to provide information of genealogical value to Tri-City Genealogical Society researchers and others interested in the families of the Tri-Cities and Washington State. Prior to his retirement from Energy Northwest, Gary Miller contributed to the Tri-City Genealogical Society's photo indexing projects of the Northlight, Marlin, and Wendland photo collections held by the Columbia River Exhibition of History, Science and Technology Museum in Richland, Washington. The total collection consists of about 65,000 entries, with 47,000 unique names, and it covers a period of 1950 through 2007. Following his retirement he contributed to the Society's indexing of the Benton and Franklin County school censuses. This collection has about 63,000 entries covering the years of 1910 through 1933. When this indexing effort was completed, he shifted his focus to the 1940 Federal Census where he has indexed over 20,000 names since the census was released in April 2012. We thank Gary for his consistent and dedicated support for making searchable records available to the genealogical community.

Region 5 Yakima Valley Genealogical Society, **Elsie Irene (McNeely) Minicozzi** (1925-2012), of Yakima, Washington, is posthumously recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of the Yakima Valley Genealogical Society. Irene Minicozzi was born and died in Yakima, Washington, the only child of Ray and Lillian (Garrett) McNeely, but she was raised and spent most of her adult life in neighboring Union Gap. Irene joined the Yakima Valley Genealogical Society in the 1980s. She served in many of the Society's support positions including, as the Mail Clerk, responsible for answering queries and regular mail, as assistant librarian to Ellen Brzoska and as the library's bulletin clerk. She was appointed to the Social and Hospitality committee in 1987, and taught mini-classes for the fall workshops. She faithfully volunteered as a librarian for the Society's library, a task she enjoyed for over 20 years. Irene was also an active member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Daughters of the Union Veterans Civil War. Irene was a friendly, talented and well-respected member of the Yakima Valley Genealogical Society, and she is missed and will be remembered.

Region 8 Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society, **Patty (Miller) Ostendorff** of Wenatchee, Washington, is recognized for outstanding efforts to provide information of genealogical value to researchers interested in the families of Washington State, and consistent support of the goals and operation of Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society. Patty Ostendorff is a great volunteer, ever ready to help whenever and wherever needed to support the Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society's mission. The most frequent words out of her mouth are "Yes, I can do or help with that!" Besides being an efficient Corresponding Secretary and member of the Society's Board of Directors, she co-chaired the Society's 40th Anniversary Celebration and 2011 fundraiser. She functions as the Board's liaison to the Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center. She has helped represent the Society at the museum's Multi-Cultural Fair and at several presentations in the community promoting the challenges and rewards of genealogy. Patty is a member of the Society's Library Committee, and has taken on the job of scheduling the librarians. She also works diligently on the Society's ongoing scrapbooking project. Patty sees the big picture and value genealogy can impart, and works tirelessly as a Board member and librarian supporting Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society activities.

Region 3 Grays Harbor Genealogical Society, **Gary Parfitt** of Aberdeen, Washington, is recognized for outstanding efforts to provide information of genealogical value to researchers interested in the families of Washington State, and consistent support of the goals and operation of Grays Harbor Genealogical Society. The Grays Harbor Genealogical Society is indebted to Gary Parfitt for his versatility and willingness to serve the needs of the Society. Even though he avoids the spotlight, Gary always replies, "Sure, I can do that," with a smile on his face, when asked for assistance. He was instrumental in the usability testing of a totally redesigned Society website and continues to provide regular feedback to the webmaster for additional improvements to the site. He always volunteers to participate in the Society's "Genealogy Café" sessions, helping the public find their ancestral families. In addition, he has taken photographs of gravestones, provided personal technical advice, and assisted in other ways in response to research requests at the Society's Research Library. He is always willing to serve in helpful ways for the Society. Most importantly, he always follows through with his commitments. Gary is a much-valued asset to the Grays Harbor Genealogical Society and deserves the appreciation and recognition as an outstanding volunteer.

Region 4 Clark County Genealogical Society, **Lethene (Dennis) Parks** of Vancouver, Washington, is recognized for exceptional leadership and consistent support of the goals and operation of Clark County Genealogical Society. Lethene Parks has been an active member of the Clark County Genealogical Society for eight years. She is the Director of the Society's Research Library, and she develops and conducts training for approximately fifty volunteer librarians. She performs the acquisition and accession process for the 9,000-volume library. She prepares the Library budget and participates in the Society Budget Committee. Lethene is a member of the Society's Education Committee and a frequent instructor in the education program. She currently is moderating a family history writing group. She is also a member of the Spring/Fall Seminar

Committee. Lethene also conducts liaison with other cultural history and educational organizations on behalf of the Society. Lethene brings her outstanding academic credentials, librarianship career and community service at local and national levels to her role as a highly distinguished leader in the Clark County Genealogical Society. Thank you, Lethene, for all the time, talent and leadership skills you share with the Society members.

Region 8 Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society, **Patricia Ann "Pat" Robbins** of East Wenatchee, Washington, is recognized for outstanding efforts to provide information of genealogical value to researchers interested in the families of Washington State, and consistent support of the goals and operation of Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society. The Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society library has one of the most complete archives of obituaries in the nation, and Pat Robbins is one of the reasons why! Over the years she has devoted many hours, and continues to quietly and steadily collect, preserve, and organize these records. Pat was a volunteer librarian for many years, served on the Library Committee, and was its chair for several years. She oversaw the general upkeep of the library, and scheduled the librarians. In addition to these tasks, Pat initiated and carried out the long-term project of adding given names to the surname-only indexes. In the midst of this, she cheerfully helped with proofing the Society's scrap-books, plus assisted in transcribing the archival records of a local church. Pat may not be an in-the-spotlight person, but her steady, thorough, careful work makes her indispensable to the effectiveness of the Society. We greatly appreciate all of her support.

Region 1 Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island, **Laura E. Roetcisoender** of Greenbank, Washington, is recognized for exceptional leadership and consistent support of the goals and operation of the Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island. Laura Roetcisoender is a multi-talented, enthusiastic leader of the Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island. She has served terms as the Society's President and Vice President, as well as on the Nominating and Door Prize Committees. As a volunteer "greeter," she helps make new visitors comfortable at the meetings, encouraging them to participate in the social period. Laura has assumed numerous responsibilities with particular emphasis on education. Her popular introductory genealogy classes have helped many of members start their own research. She chairs the Seminar Committee which has drawn nationally known speakers to the well-attended events. Laura has also been responsible for outreach – speaking to groups about the Society's activities – at activities such as the Baby Island/Saratoga Yard Sale, Bayview Saturday Market, and Choochokum Arts Festival in Langley. The Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island is extremely fortunate and appreciative to have such an able and dedicated member as Laura.

Region 1 Whidbey Island Genealogical Searchers, **Laura Pemberton Sparr** of Mukilteo, Washington, is recognized for her outstanding leadership and continued support of the founding goals and operation of the Whidbey Island Genealogical Searchers. Laura Pemberton Sparr is one of the key individuals responsible for founding the Whidbey Island Genealogical Searchers organization. In 1991 a dozen local people gathered together to share their curiosity and knowledge about family history research. After a couple of years learning about this exciting branch of history, and noting the growing size of their group, their efforts expanded into becoming a state-recognized genealogical society. Laura Sparr, the chair of Washington State Genealogical Society's Education Committee, responded to the group's needs. She spent many hours over the months giving the group's leadership the knowledge and skills to develop the organizational structure and bylaws, and to complete the federal and state documentation needed to incorporate as a non-profit organization. The Society has also taken advantage of Laura's encyclopedic knowledge of performing genealogical research, and she continues to provide the organization's members with enjoyable presentations on the vast information and expanding resources available to researchers. Laura continues to be one of the most popular of the Society's guest speakers. Whidbey Island Genealogical Searchers will be forever grateful to Laura Sparr.

Region 3 Jefferson County Genealogical Society, **Jesse A. Stewart** of Port Hadlock, Washington, is recognized for outstanding leadership and consistent support of the goals and operation of the Jefferson County Genealogical Society. Jesse Stewart, Jefferson County Genealogical Society president for the past six years, has been not only a strong leader but has seen the Society through some dramatic changes. Some of her accomplishments include establishing an outreach program with other societies in nearby counties to encourage sharing of information and programs, organizing trips to archives and libraries, helping to teach the beginning genealogy course, volunteering in the Society's library and giving programs of interest at the Society's monthly Resource Corner sessions. These are just a few of her many accomplishments. During the recent expansion of the Society's library, she worked with the Jefferson County Historical Society to help define what the library would look like, making sure the societies jointly created a compatible environment in which all could work. Jesse stepped into the presidency to fill a mid-term vacancy, voluntarily taking over the duties with great enthusiasm. She made it her mission to lead the Society and the executive board into a well organized, enjoyable organization to be a part of. Her good humor and sense of responsibility are much appreciated by the Society members. We are grateful for this opportunity to present this award and thank her for all she has given to the Jefferson County Genealogical Society.

Region 1 Whidbey Island Genealogical Searchers, **James Terry** of Oak Harbor, Washington, is recognized for his pioneering leadership, research skills and exceptional support of the goals and operation of the Whidbey Island Genealogical Searchers. In 1991 a dozen local people, sharing the same curiosity for family-tree research, met in the Oak Harbor home of Jim Terry. Their purpose was to learn about this new branch of history, and Jim volunteered to teach them. Soon the group outgrew Jim's living room and began to meet at the local Senior Center. The group's goals expanded to include establishing a state-recognized genealogical society, and the Whidbey Island Genealogical Searchers was born. Co-founder of the new society, Jim further served as Publicity Chair and on the Programs and Education Committee. His genealogy interests were a natural mission when he became a member of the Mormon Church at age 16. An adopted child, Jim searched his adopted family lines of ancestry and then using some unique sources and methods, he identified and tracked his natural-parents' lineages. Jim combines his favorite pursuits – genealogy and computers – researching for others who ask for his assistance. He has also written articles on the use of the Internet and Scottish church records, which have appeared in Heritage Quest Magazine and the AGLL Genealogical Bulletin. Even though he holds down a full-time job, Jim has been guest speaker to a number of genealogy societies and groups across the United States and in Canada. His efforts continue to support the entire genealogical community and his recognition is well deserved. Thank you, Jim.

Region 3 Puget Sound Genealogical Society, **Linda (Unruh) Webb** of Port Orchard, Washington, is recognized for outstanding leadership and consistent support of the goals and operation of the Puget Sound Genealogical Society. Since joining in 2008, Linda Webb has been active in all aspects of the Puget Sound Genealogical Society. While serving in her first leadership position as chair of the Education Committee, she was instrumental in developing, organizing, and teaching on-going classes for members and the public. During her tenure as President, 2010 – 2011, the Society reorganized its leadership structure, revised the by-laws, and entered into a partnership with the Kitsap Regional Library whereby the Society would provide its genealogical materials to the library district in a dedicated Genealogy Center, thus making the collection more available to the public. At the completion of her term as president, she resumed as the Education Chairperson. Currently, she oversees the ever-increasing public participation in the genealogy classes, chairs the Society's biennial genealogical seminar, and serves on both the Board of Directors and the Executive Board. Her expertise, leadership qualities and continuing dedication makes her a valued and respected member of the Puget Sound Genealogical Society. Thank you, Linda, for all you have done.

Region 3 Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society, **Betty A. (Pugh) Wiese** of Bainbridge Island, Washington, is recognized for exceptional leadership and consistent support of the goals and operation of the Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society. Betty Wiese has served four terms on the Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society's Board of Directors, first in the role of Treasurer and then as Vice President and Program Chair. She has consistently recruited excellent speakers, focusing on topics relevant to the needs of the Society's members. Her astute business sense and organizational skills contribute to the smooth running of the Board and of the Society. Betty also spearheaded the effort to develop a strategic plan and vision statement, even identifying strategic planning offered for non-profit boards. Her efforts ultimately resulted in the Board's ability to focus on meeting the members' needs and supporting them in gaining and maintaining technology skills. Betty's efforts, although unseen by many, have greatly strengthened the Society as a whole, and we thank her for all she has done to guide and support the Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society.

Region 3 Puget Sound Genealogical Society, **Johnny Wilson** of Bremerton, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of the Puget Sound Genealogical Society. Johnny Wilson is a behind-the-scenes type of guy. He joined Puget Sound Genealogical Society in 2008, and with his background in electronics, he immediately became involved in maintaining the Society's website. He continues to be the Webmaster and takes his responsibility seriously. Johnny strives to keep the website current, attractive, and easy to navigate. He also has encouraged other members to learn the basics of updating the website, thus ensuring continuity. With this position as webmaster comes the responsibility of being on the Executive Board, where he helps make decisions that benefit the Society. For several years, Johnny and his wife, Linda, co-hosted a monthly "2nd Saturday Film Series" program which offered one-hour video lectures to members. He continues to participate in several special interest groups and committees. In addition, he is a reliable volunteer at the Society's Genealogy Center several times a month. Johnny's expertise and continuing dedication makes him a valued and respected member of the Puget Sound Genealogical Society, and we are very grateful for his support.

Region 3 Jefferson County Genealogical Society, **Frances Wylie** of Port Townsend, Washington, is recognized for outstanding efforts to provide information of genealogical value to the Jefferson County Genealogical Society and other researchers interested in the families of Washington State. Frances Wylie was a medical transcriptionist who worked in her profession for more than 50 years until her retirement. She now has added data extraction to her skills. Interested in the history of her community and of its families, she heard about the Jefferson County Genealogical Society and showed up on the Society's doorstep in the summer of 2011. She has consistently volunteered 30 hours of her time a month extracting information from Jefferson County records to create indexes for researchers. Approaching the job as the professional she is, she comes regularly 3 times a week, limiting her hours so she maximizes accuracy and productivity. To date she has added 13 new databases to the Society's on-site computer indexes and website. Frances is open to learning new computer programs and has taken on the task of correcting records as well as extracting them. The flexibility of her skills has made her a most valuable volunteer, ready for new adventures supporting the Society. We greatly appreciate her talents and willingness to support the Jefferson County Genealogical Society's mission.

START Exploring YAKIMA in preparation for the WSGS Conference

in June 2013!



YAKIMA VALLEY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
Seek. Prove. Share.

The Yakima Valley Genealogical Society will be hosting the 2013 Washington State Conference on June 28 to 29, 2013. Here is their website for you to explore: <http://www.yvgs.net/> More information about the conference

will be coming soon. So check this website out and also go to the [WSGS Website](http://www.wsgs.org/) home page for details.

The conference will be held at the Howard Johnson Hotel, in Yakima: <http://www.hotels.com/ho179916/howard-johnson-yakima-yakima-united-states/>

Yakima Travel Information: <http://www.visityakima.com/?gclid=COWWg6DhirMCFQXhQgodvCYAPQ>



WASHINGTON STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

1901 S. 12th Ave.

Union Gap, WA 98903

WSGS DUES ARE DUE!

Membership for 2013 is due by the end of December 2012

Use PayPal and sign up online at:

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasgs/membform.htm>

WSGS Website: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasgs>

WASHINGTON STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP and RENEWAL!

Extra funds will be considered a DONATION and will go toward valuable services of the society

NAME _____

SPOUSE'S NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Membership	_____ Single Membership	\$12.00 per year	Indicate Status:	_____ New Membership
Type:	_____ Organization	\$12.00 per year		_____ Renewal
	_____ Family	\$13.00 per year (one newsletter for household)		_____ Reinstatement
	_____ Mailed Copy	\$ 8.00 per year in addition to above membership		

DONATION to 501 (C) 3 Organization: \$_____ (Your donation is tax deductible)

Send check or money order to: WSGS, 1901 So. 12th Ave., Union Gap, WA 98903

Enclose SASE if you would like a receipt and membership card. Membership year runs from January 1 through December 31.

You can renew or pay dues at the WSGS website using PayPal: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasgs/membform.htm>

Cut here Along Dotted Line

WSGS Ballot 2012

For the years 2013 to 2014

Circle or write in whom you are voting for and mail to:
WSGS -- 1901 South 12th Avenue -- Union Gap, WA 98903

BY DECEMBER 1st

President: Mikal McKinnon

Write-In _____

Secretary: Roger Newman

Write-In _____

Vote for only one region rep - the one who represents your Region.

Region 1: Stephen Baylor

Write-In _____

Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Whatcom

Region 3: Vacant

Write-In _____

Clallam, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Kitsap, Mason & Thurston

Region 5: Opal Myhres

Write-In _____

Kittitas, Klickitat, Yakima

Region 7: Shirley Penna-Oakes

Write-In _____

Ferry, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens

Cut Along Dotted Line above and mail Ballot to 1901 South 12th Ave., Union Gap, WA 98903

**Below and on the next page are the biographies for the WSGS 2013 Board Candidates.
If elected they will begin or continue to serve beginning January 2013 for two years.**

PLEASE VOTE IT IS IMPORTANT!

For President—Mikal McKinnon

Mike was born and raised in northern Utah. He graduated from Utah State University and went to work for the Navy in California. In 1975 he joined the staff at Pacific Northwest Laboratory in Richland, Washington. He retired from Battelle, Pacific Northwest Laboratory in 2005. Since that time he has been actively engaged in family history and genealogical research. He has served as president of the Tri-City Genealogical Society. He has been serving as the WSGS Region Six Representative. He is also assistant director and librarian at the local Family History Library, and co-chaired the Benton/Franklin County School Census transcription project.

Secretary Roger Newman

Roger started his family history adventure when his mother told him that the man of the house was his step-father and not his father. He was 18 at the time. Now many years later, he is still searching across the United States, Denmark, and Quebec in search of his family history. Roger retired from Providence Health Systems and has been involved with genealogical societies from the beginning. He started with being a founding member of the Genealogical Society of Southeast Alaska in Ketchikan. Roger is currently the President of the Olympia Genealogical Society and the Vice President of the Mason County Genealogical Society. He is active in the Descendants of Fort Nisqually Employees Association. He has been the WSGS Treasurer for the last two years.

Region Representatives are vital to the communication between members, member societies and WSGS.

For Region 1 Rep - Stephen Baylor

Steve has been and continues to be deeply involved with the Washington State Genealogical Society for close to two decades. He chaired the Education Committee for several years, developing support programs such as the Society's Local Speakers Directory of which he is one of several featured speakers. He also assisted in the developing the Handbook for Region Representatives. He initiated and contributed to the Conference Guidelines, providing "lessons learned" and suggestions to societies volunteering to host the State Society's annual conference. Steve has served several terms as Representative to Region One maintaining a strong link with the eight societies and groups in the region. He is also a popular speaker at meetings of these organizations. Steve was elected for two terms as the State Society's President. He encouraged new ideas to be tested and implemented by the Board of Directors. An annual Board Retreat was established to allow more time to investigate suggestions for more efficient operations. He is a strong supporter of the Society's Outstanding Volunteer Award program and an honoree for 2012. Steve is a member of the Washington State Historical Records Advisory Board leadership offering his guidance to help ensure the identification, preservation, and use of the state's historical records.

For Region 5 Rep - Opal Myhres

Opal has been active as the Region 5 Rep for the last several years. She has been active in the Yakima Valley Genealogical Society since 1986. She has served as president, secretary and treasurer and does volunteer as librarian once per week. She has been an active member serving in officer positions of the DAR, Daughters of American Colonists, Colonial Dames of the XVII Century, Descendants of Valley Forge and the Sons of Norway. She is an active member of Mt. Olive Lutheran Church and a member of the church council. She was treasurer for many years, and involved with the Altar Guild, quilters and a member of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League as well as Yakima chapter board member of the Thrivent for Lutherans.

For Region 7 Rep - Shirley Penna-Oakes

Shirley Penna-Oakes was born in Spokane, WA, married her "High School Sweetheart," Dick Oakes, has two daughters, six grandchildren, and two great grandsons. She attended Southern Oregon College and Spokane Fall Community College, studying U.S. History and Genealogy. She is the Past President EWGS, Spokane, WA, Past VP, EWGS, Cascade Genealogy Society, MT, and Stillaguamish Gen Soc., Arlington, WA. Shirley has served as a WSGS Region Rep., Chairman of the Washington State Genealogy Conference, Everett, WA 1992, Chairman of the EWGS "State Fair", and Chairman of the EWGS "Walking with Ancestors 2010 & 2011." She has compiled and published 16 Surname & Query Booklets, and is publisher of the "Ford Times," a Ford, WA community newsletter. Shirley lectures in WA, OR, ID, MT & CA, serves as Outreach/Educational Chairman EWGS 2010, 2011, and is Founder/Director of the Elizabeth Doherty Genealogical Library.

Please VOTE, it is very important!

To the right is a mailing label for you to use to mail your WSGS ballot.

Please print out a copy of this page and the ballot page.

Cut out the mailing label and attach it to an envelope with tape. Fill out the ballot, place it in the envelope, add a stamp and mail!

Washington State Genealogical Society

1901 South 12th Avenue

Union Gap, Washington 98904

RE: WSGS Ballot Enclosed!

Cut out the mailing label above and paste on an envelope!