



# BAINBRIDGE ISLAND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

## Newsletter

### News from the Board

#### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL AND COMING ATTRACTIONS

Deadline for renewal:  
**February 16, 2018.**  
Annual dues are \$35.00/  
individual, and \$50.00/  
family; you may pay a  
board member at any  
meeting or mail your dues  
to **PO Box 135 Rolling  
Bay, Washington 98061.**

One of our upcoming  
program meetings will  
feature Sylvia Hasenkopf,  
a Revolutionary War  
research expert who will  
be presenting information  
about the Colonial and  
Revolutionary war records  
(including Loyalist  
records). Programs  
related to finding and  
using United States

### Member's Corner

#### ***Sharing the Mayflower***

*by Andrea Hoskins*

Did you make it to this year's annual holiday party? The newly re-named "Genealogy Fest" was held December 15<sup>th</sup> at the LDS Church. There were dozens of tasty holiday cookies and other treats, as well as a table of maps, books and other references available for the taking. But the highlight was the "Show and Tell" portion. Members had a chance to present family treasures or research items to their fellow genealogy enthusiasts. Among the special items shared were two family bibles, a silver mirror, family genealogies and photographs, each with its own engaging story.

I wasn't sure I could come up with something to bring. Last year I brought a family photograph and a book that told the tale of their immigration. It led to a great discussion and, months later, a skill building presentation. So, I wanted to come up with something that might initiate another interesting conversation.

One of the first thrilling discoveries in my research happened when I was able to track my maternal grandmother's line back to the Mayflower. I knew at least two or three BIGS members who had submitted applications to the Mayflower society to verify their connection. I wondered how many more of our members might have a connection as well. So, I printed out the list of the Mayflower passengers who

census, naturalization and vital records are also being planned.

As a member, you have access to many different special interest groups (SIGS). Plans for this year include a DNA SIG to discuss the different DNA test and testing companies and a number of small group workshops on specific DNA test groups. We will explore ways to support an Irish SIG. Planned Skill building topics related to technology include "Ancestry.com Search Tips", "Working with Images" and "Using Roots Magic to Self-publish your Family History."

### A FUN TIME AT THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY GATHERING

Thank you to the 30 plus members and visitors who gathered to socialize and share discoveries and treats at the December 15th meeting. Door prizes won included six generation wall family tree charts, DNA consult with mentor Sue Hassenmiller, Blaine Bettingers's DNA

lived to have descendants and invited people who could claim an ancestor on the list to pin their names to the display. An interesting result - while about 12% of current US citizens had an ancestor on the Mayflower, about 33% of those at our Genealogy Fest did.

The display led to another great discussion. Sylvia Nelson unrolled her genealogy chart that showed she could claim not one ancestor, but 23 ancestors on the Mayflower! Mary Ferm brought a copy of her multipage application to the Mayflower Society and a binder filled with supporting documents. (She is waiting to hear back regarding her acceptance.) Sue Hassenmiller's husband Ken is a descendant too - in fact, Ken, Sylvia and Mary all can claim passenger George Soule as their ancestor. Another seven members present posted their various connections.

A group of us tried to recall how many folks originally came on the

Mayflower, when it left England, how long the journey took, and all the other details that we probably knew back in fifth grade. It was a challenge and so Google's help was enlisted.

Did you know there were 102 passengers on the Mayflower and that 45 of them died during the first winter? Or that the Pilgrims had intended to land in Northern Virginia, more precisely the mouth of the Hudson River which was part of Virginia at the time? The voyage, which was to start in the summer of 1620 met with a couple of false starts and didn't get underway until the 6th of September. They reached Cape Cod in early November, after 66 days at sea.

Currently, there are an estimated 30 million living descendants of the original Mayflower passengers around the world. Apparently quite a few of these folks are right here on Bainbridge!

For a thorough and fascinating look at the Mayflower and the

book, free lunch with one of program speakers and specialized English research support offered by member Judith Rogerson.

Several folks said they enjoyed the meeting being set up as an opportunity to visit with others. Over the years, we've thought about different ways to provide a social element at meetings; we will continue to do so. Please let us know your ideas about how we might do that.

### AN INVITATION

Members are welcome to sit in on a board meeting (even if you are not subbing for an absent member). Our next meeting is **January 8th at 1:30 - 3:30 pm** at the Home Street Bank conference room. Getting your views as we discuss issues is helpful.

*Betty Wiese*

**President**

settlement at Plymouth, try *Mayflower* by **Nathaniel Philbrick, 2006**. All your questions, and more, will be answered. You can check it out or download it from Kitsap Regional Library.

For help in your early New England research, BIGS mentor Claire Smith recommends:

***The Great Migration Directory: Immigrants to New England 1620-1640***  
by Robert Charles

**Anderson** is an important resource for anyone who is researching their early New England ancestors. This index of all immigrant families for the entire Great Migration, from 1620 to 1640, includes individuals not previously covered in the Great Migration series. Each entry lists the year of migration, origin (if known), residences in New England and the best sources for that information.

### MAYFLOWER 2020 WEBSITE

The 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Pilgrims' journey on the Mayflower will be celebrated in 2020. With this milestone in sight, the New England Historic Genealogy Society (NEHGS) has launched a new interactive website that offers the most accurate biographies to date of the Pilgrims. The site is free and invites descendants to commemorate their connection to the famous passengers by posting their name, photograph or other identifiers in an online gallery. Check it out at:

<https://www.americanancestors.org/Mayflower-2020-Launch>

## Recommended Reading

*Submitted by Mary Ferm*

### **Our Daily Bread: German Village Life, 1500-1850**

*by Teva J. Scheer*

Books on European history are frustrating for me as a family historian because they usually deal with important people in government or the military and with large-scale events. They don't tell me what "my people" would have been doing at the time and place. Helpful books on non-English speaking countries are especially difficult to find, because they often are not in English. This book concentrates on the personal lives of ordinary people. With chapters on subjects such as peasant status, religion, law and order, marriage and inheritance, family roles and relationships, work, the village year, it answers many of the questions I have about what life for my German families would have been like. It is very well written and engaging, and using one partially-fictional family's story in southern Germany as an example, it is hard to put down. I think I read the whole book in a few days. There are lots of true-life examples from court records and newspapers. Bonuses are the glossary, notes, bibliography and index at the back. This is the perfect book for a genealogist with rural German ancestors.

***Calling all Members! Do you have a story to tell – about your research, your ancestors, discoveries you have made? Or maybe you just finished a book that you think your fellow BIGS members would enjoy. Our newsletter is a great place to share your thoughts. We would love to hear from you. Contact: Andrea at [andrea.kay.hoskins@gmail.com](mailto:andrea.kay.hoskins@gmail.com)***

## New Website Links

### **Added in December**

[Mayflower 2020](#)

New England Historic Genealogical Society's interactive website with free access to biographies of the Pilgrims and an online gallery for descendants

# Monthly Meetings

## JOIN US

Friday, January 19, 10:00 AM to Noon  
Bainbridge Public Library, 1270 Madison Ave N

Topic: **Arriving in America: Passenger Lists and Ports of Arrival from Colonial Times to the Present**

Speakers: **Sue Hassenmiller and Paula Schmidt**

*Contact Historian [Betsy Hettich](#) for presentation handouts.  
The complete meeting schedule is on our [website](#).*

# Special Interest Groups

## For BIGS Members Only

*Refer to our [website](#) for the complete schedule.*

### **Skill Building**, second Friday of the month

Friday, January 12, 10 AM to Noon, LDS Church, 8677 Madison Ave NE

Topic: **Year of Discovery & Learning: Member Sharing**

Leader: **Betty Wiese**

Friday, February 9, 10 AM to Noon, LDS Church, 8677 Madison Ave NE

Topic: **Where Do I Begin? (Research Fundamentals)**

Leader: **Mary Ferm and Sylvia Nelson**

### **Evening Discussion Group (EDG)**, third Monday of the month

Monday, January 15, 7 PM to 9 PM, HomeStreet Bank on Hildebrand Lane

Topic: **Active problem solving and updates on research progress**

Leaders: **Sue Elving and Mary Ferm**

### **Great Britain Special Interest Group**, first Friday of the month

Friday, January 5, 10 AM to Noon, LDS Church, 8677 Madison Ave NE

Leader: **Joleen Aitchison**

### **Southern States Special Interest Group**

Thursday, January 11, 1 PM to 3 PM, Bainbridge Library, downstairs

Leader: **Paula Schmidt**

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## Tip of the Month

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**Look again!** New records are constantly being added to online collections. Even if you've already looked for an ancestor you're researching, be sure to check again periodically.

And speaking of growing collections, FamilySearch.org now requires visitors to the site to log onto their account, or set up an account if they don't already have one. Don't let this request dissuade you from using the site - it is still free and it is easy to register. As FamilySearch works to get all their records into digital format and available through the website, it has been necessary to create a more controlled environment and authentication process. Some of the providers they partner with are requiring it. So go ahead and sign in, and you'll make the most of what FamilySearch has to offer.

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## Happening Around the Sound

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### **Seattle Genealogical Society - 6200 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle**

#### **Scandinavian Special Interest Group**

Date: Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 1:30 to 3:30pm

Chair: Karen Knudson

#### **Irish Special Interest Group**

Date: Saturday, December 16, 2017 - 10:15am to 12:15pm

Chair: Jean A. Roth

#### **German Special Interest Group**

Date: Saturday, December 16, 2017 - 1:00 to 3:00pm

Chair: Jean A. Roth

**Interested?** Confirm event: <http://seattlegenealogicalsociety.org/>

### **Puget Sound Genealogical Society - 1301 Sylvan Way, Bremerton**

#### **Finding UK Ancestors**

Date: Wednesday, January 24 - 1:00 to 2:00pm

Topic: Discover which popular online sites related to England, Scotland and Wales could help you locate your ancestors.

Speaker: Joleen Aitchison

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# Happening Around the Sound Cont.

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## Puget Sound Genealogical Society - Cont.

### Supplemental Census Records

Date: Saturday, January 27 - 10:30am to 12:30pm

Topic: Learn the types of Federal supplemental censuses, what data was collected and how they can help in our research.

Speaker: Winona Laird

### Naturalization & Ship Passenger Lists

Date: Tuesday, February 6 - 10:30am to 12:30pm

Topic: Learn about passenger lists, the European ports of departure, changing immigration laws and where to find records.

Speaker: Laura Sparr

Confirm event: <http://www.pusogensoc.org/>

## Jefferson County Genealogical Society - Port Townsend

The Jefferson County Genealogical Society is offering a Beginning Genealogy Class. This is a popular class that fills up each year. Registration deadline is January 12, 2018.

### Genealogy: The Basics

Three consecutive Monday afternoons: January 22, January 29 and February 5, 2018.  
1:00 - 3:30pm

Place: Historical Society Research Center 13692 Highway 19 (Airport Cutoff Rd), Port Townsend, about 5 miles south of town.

Cost: \$30 for JCGS members; \$55 for non-members (this includes a one year membership to JCGS).

Class size: Limited to 18 students

Confirm event: <http://wajcgs.org/>



[BIGS Website](#)




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*Your newsletter was edited by Andrea Hoskins and designed by Lori Gibson*

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