



# BAINBRIDGE ISLAND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

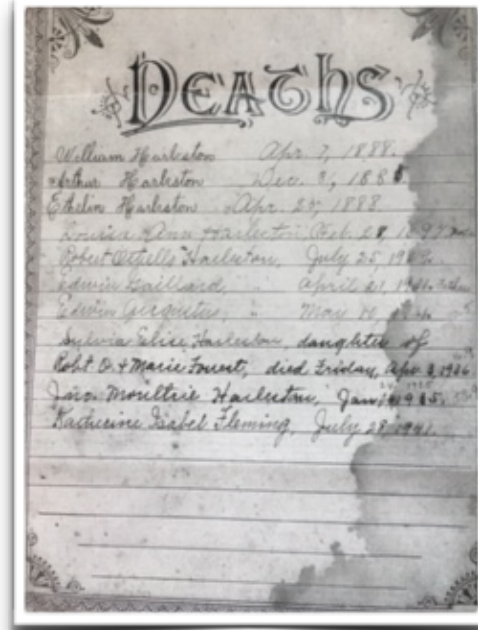
## Newsletter

### News from the Board

#### Membership - 2017

Thank you to all renewing members and welcome to our new members. As members, we are BIGS.

The next step will be to update our roster and email groups to reflect current membership for this year. Once the roster is updated, you will get a copy of the roster so you will have telephone numbers and email addresses for all current members. None of our roster information is public information; it is shared only within BIGS. Please remember to contact [Rebecca Pratt](#) whenever your contact information changes so she can update the roster and our email groups.



### Member's Corner

#### *Research Trip Yields Amazing Discovery*

by Mae Gentry

I recently got some good news. My daughter and her husband are expecting twins! They had not undergone fertility treatment, so the doctor asked whether multiple births run in the family. Because of my genealogy hobby, I was able to answer that question.

Last fall, I took a research trip to Charleston, South Carolina. At the College of Charleston's Avery Research Center, I discovered my great-grandparents' marriage certificate dated 1877. It was in the file of a cousin who passed away a few years ago. (As we've learned, it pays to research collaterals!)

## Want Some Help? Ask to Meet with a Mentor

Several of our experienced members have agreed to serve as mentors to provide one-on-one help when we are stuck. For example, a mentor could look at work done to help identify some logical next steps for research. A mentor could help evaluate what kind of DNA testing might be best for a specific situation or to better understand testing results.

To ask for a meeting with a mentor, contact [Betty](#) and briefly summarize what it is you need. You will be matched with one of our mentors best suited to help with that topic.

*Betty Wiese*  
President

The file also contained a page from the family Bible. On it my great-grandmother, Louisa Moultrie Harleston, had written the names and dates of birth for eight individuals. Five of the names were familiar, including my grandfather's, but three were unknown: William, Arthur and Ethelin Harleston. Who were they?

I searched online but came up empty. One day, while sifting through the scores of documents acquired on my trip, I found a second page from the family Bible. This one showed dates of death for William, Arthur and Ethelin. All three had died young, which may be why no one ever mentioned them.

William and Arthur were twins born on Dec. 1, 1885,

but Arthur was underdeveloped and died at one month old. My great-grandmother then had a daughter, Ethelin, on March 14, 1888, but the new baby developed acute bronchitis and lived only five weeks. William, the surviving twin, passed away later that year at 2½ years old.

South Carolina death records from 1821-1961 are online, and I found two of the three children in them. By knowing their dates of death, I learned how they died. I'm still searching for William's.

I was able to tell my daughter that her grandmother's grandmother had twins, something we would not have known if not for that genealogy research trip.

*If you'd like to share your story in a future BIGS newsletter, please contact [Sue Hassenmiller](#).*



[BIGS Website](#)

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# Meetings

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*Until further notice, our monthly meetings will be held at the LDS Church, 8677 Madison Ave. NE, Bainbridge Island. Park on the northwest side of the building, and enter through the northwest corner door by the bike racks.*

**Friday, March 17, 10:00 AM to noon**

Janet O. Camarata, *Ask, Listen and Record.*

**Friday, April 21, 10:00 AM to noon**

Karen Sipe, *Petticoats and Dowries - Women*

For handouts from one of our guest speaker presentations, contact our historian, [Rebecca Pratt](#).

The [complete meeting schedule](#) is on our website.

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# Special Interest Groups

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## For BIGS Members Only

*Upcoming SIG meetings in chronological order.*

*All meetings will be held at the LDS Church, unless otherwise noted.*

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

**New England Mid-Atlantic**, quarterly (*Note: new venue*)

**Monday, March 13, 10 AM to Noon**, Homestreet Bank on Hildebrand Lane

Leader: Mary Ferm

**Evening Discussion Group**, third Monday of the month

**Monday, March 20, 7 PM to 9 PM**, Homestreet Bank on Hildebrand Lane

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

Leaders: Mary Ferm and Sue Elfving

**Great Britain**, first Friday of the month

**Friday, April 3, 10 AM to Noon**

Leader: Joleen Aitchison

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

**Friday, April 14, 10 AM to Noon**,

Topic: *Tax Records*

Leader: Mary Ferm and Sylvia Nelson

**Southern States**, quarterly

**Thursday, April 20, 1 to 3 PM**, Bainbridge Library downstairs meeting room

Leader: Paula Schmidt

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

**Friday, May 12, 10 AM to Noon**,

Topic: *Planning for a Research Trip*

Leader: Sue Hassenmiller

**All Things DNA**, every other month

**Next meeting TBA**

Leader: Sue Hassenmiller

**Irish**, monthly

**Next meeting TBA**

Acting Leader: Sue Hassenmiller

## Program Notes

BIGS program chair Bagley Dawson is interested in hearing your suggestions for speakers in 2017 and beyond. They can be written on your comment slip and deposited in the comment box at the monthly meeting, or they can be given directly to Bagley, president Betty Wiese or any board member. All suggestions are welcome.

## Genealogy News

FamilySearch is offering free genealogy webinars during March. Click on the link below, then click next to the class to participate.

(Times shown are Mountain Standard Time.)

[FamilySearch Link](#)

## Local Events

The Fiske Genealogical Library is offering two classes this month that may be of interest.

The first, "Using Historical Records Online and Timelines," will be held Wednesday, March 15.

The second, "Genealogical Proof Standards According to Sherlock Holmes," will be on Wednesday, March 22.

Both classes will be from 10 a.m. to noon at Pioneer Hall, 1642 43rd Ave. E Seattle, WA 98112. For information, call 206-328-2716.

Puget Sound Genealogy Center "Using Land Records to Break Down Brick Walls," on Wednesday, March 22, from 1 to 2 p.m. at the Kitsap Regional Library, 1301 Sylvan Way, Bremerton.

Jerri McCoy will explain how land records can be used to resolve difficult genealogical problems. For information, call 360-475-9172.

Mark your calendar for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Kitsap County Genealogy Expo. The expo, free to anyone interested in genealogy, will be held Saturday, April 29, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the LDS Church at 9256 Nels Nelson Road NW, Bremerton. For information, visit [www.kitsapgenexpo.org](http://www.kitsapgenexpo.org).

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## Other BIGS Business

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### BIGS-net

BIGS-net, is an email discussion group, where BIGS members communicate with other members, e.g., post a question, identify a resource, carpool to a class, meet informally. We often post about free access to premium websites and discounted genealogy subscription deals there too. Join the network by clicking the BIGSNET menu on [our website](#) or [contact Sue Hassenmiller](#), the BIGS-net moderator, if you have questions.

*Feedback and ideas from our members are always welcome.  
BIGS is YOUR group so let us know what you'd like to see!*

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*Mae Gentry*

**Newsletter Editor**

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