



# BAINBRIDGE ISLAND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

## June Newsletter

### News from the Board

#### *Return to Library for 2nd Friday Skill Building*

The board has decided to return to the Bainbridge Island Library upstairs meeting room for our 2nd Friday Skill Building Meetings. We feel comfortable absorbing the additional cost into our operating budget for the rest of this year and into the future. Should that change, we will certainly let the membership know at which time we could explore a request for donations to supplement our budget. We have historically budgeted for use of that library meeting space for our two main meetings each month.

### ***Guidelines for Sound Genealogical Research***

Whether you consider yourself a beginner in uncovering your family's history, or you have been a serious researcher for years, it never hurts to review the guidelines for conducting sound genealogical research. One doesn't have to spend much on time on Ancestry.com or FamilySearch.com before noticing how much incorrect information gets posted to members' family trees. In order to avoid contributing to or perpetuating the errors, the National Genealogical Society recommends the following guidelines.

Remembering always that they are engaged in a quest for truth, genealogists and family history researchers consistently:

- Recognize that information relevant to answering genealogical questions can come from various types of sources, including but not limited to documents, artifacts, and genetic test-reports.
- Record the source for each item of information they collect;
- Test every hypothesis against credible evidence, and reject those that the evidence shows are incorrect;

All other special interest group (SIG) meetings will meet at no-cost locations; the 1st Friday Great Britain SIG (alternates quarterly with the Irish SIG) will continue to meet at the LDS church.

### *One - to - One Help*

We have a group of experienced members who have volunteered to be matched with members who would like a 1-2-hour meeting to focus on a question or area for help, such as planning a research trip, what kind of DNA test to take, ideas for how to manage genealogical information, next steps on researching a person or place.

If you would like to explore this option for getting help, please email me at [bettywiese@comcast.net](mailto:bettywiese@comcast.net) We will see which mentor is available and best suited to help with your needs.

*Betty Wiese*

**President**

- Seek original records as the basis for their research conclusions or reproduced images of original records when there is reasonable assurance the records have not been altered in their reproduction;
- Use compilations and published works primarily for their value as guides to locating original records and for analysis of the evidence discussed in them;
- State something as a fact or as a proven conclusion only when it is supported by convincing evidence, and identify the evidence when communicating the fact or conclusion to others;
- Limit with words such as "probably" or "possibly" any conclusion not based on convincing evidence, and explain their reasoning;
- Avoid distributing or publishing inaccurate information and unsupported conclusions in a way that may mislead other researchers;
- State carefully and honestly the results of their own research, and acknowledge all use of other researchers' work;
- Recognize the collegial nature of genealogical research by making their work available to others through publication, or by placing copies in appropriate libraries or repositories, and by welcoming critical comment;
- Consider with open minds new evidence and others' comments on their work; and



## BIGS Website Slideshow

Have you had a chance to check out the new addition to the BIGS [website](#) ? We now have a slideshow of members' ancestor photos. The plan is to change the photos periodically but to do that we will need you to scan and share your own favorites. If you have a photo or two you would like to share, scan and send a .jpg file to [andrea\\_kay\\_hoskins@gmail.com](mailto:andrea_kay_hoskins@gmail.com)

Please include your name as you would like it to appear with your photo, along with a descriptive caption and estimated date.



- Become familiar with research and ethical standards set by other genealogical organizations, such as the Board for Certification of Genealogists, the Association of Professional Genealogists, the International Commission for the Accreditation of Professional Genealogists, the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies, and the Genetic Genealogy Standards Committee.

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### ***Oh, that GPS!***

When you hear GPS do you think of the satellite-based "Global Positioning System" or the five elements of the "Genealogical Proof Standard?" If you chose the former, take a minute to review the following information, important to everyone undertaking genealogical research.

The purpose of the Genealogical Proof Standard is to show what the minimums are that a genealogist must do for his or her work to be credible. There are five elements to the Genealogical Proof Standard:

1. Reasonably exhaustive research has been conducted.
2. Each statement of fact has a complete and accurate source citation.
3. The evidence is reliable and has been skillfully correlated and interpreted.
4. Any contradictory evidence has been resolved.
5. The conclusion has been soundly reasoned and coherently written.

Any proof statement is subject to re-evaluation when new evidence arises.

Taken from Board for Certification of Genealogists, [Genealogy Standards](#), fiftieth-anniversary edition (Nashville, TN: Ancestry, 2014),

## ***Beginning Genealogy Essentials***

BIGS friend and mentor, Joleen Aitchison will be offering a two-part introductory course titled "Beginning Genealogy Essentials" at Village Green Community Center in Kingston on June 12 & 14 from 6:30 - 8:30 pm.

Participants will be introduced to the basics of genealogical and family history research, including the basic tools required to begin gathering and recording family history data. It also includes an look at some of the most common and useful websites for genealogy. The second session will provide an overview of data analysis to help create a research plan. Each participant will have the opportunity to begin exploring their own family history in a workshop setting. Expect to be informed, get excited and have fun!

The cost is \$30 and pre-registration is required. Registration is through the community center (<http://www.myvillagegreen.org/>).

## ***Making Sense of the US Census Records***

The BIGS monthly meeting for May was held at the Bainbridge Library on Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. Our speaker was Janice Lovelace, PhD; her topic was "Making Sense of the US Census Records." She took us step by step through how to plan your search and mine the available information. She explained why we rely on census records: they are readily available; they let us double check family oral history; we can locate family in time and place, and identify neighbors. She took us through the years since the census began in 1790 and identified what information was collected for each of the federal census. She explored state and special censuses.

One of the many helpful takeaways from Dr. Lovelace's presentation was a list of the possible pitfalls you can encounter in the census:

- ~Names are often spelled incorrectly, or differently from one census to another.
- ~You may not recognize a given name if that person was generally known by a nickname.
- ~Depending on who was giving the report, ages may be rounded or guessed at. If the family was not at home, a neighbor may have given their best guess at names and ages.
- ~Not everyone told the truth about his or her age or immigration status.
- ~Relationships were sometimes misrepresented, e.g., someone listed as a boarder could be a relative, or someone listed as a child could have been adopted.

As helpful as the census can be to your research, don't forget there could be errors or misleading information.

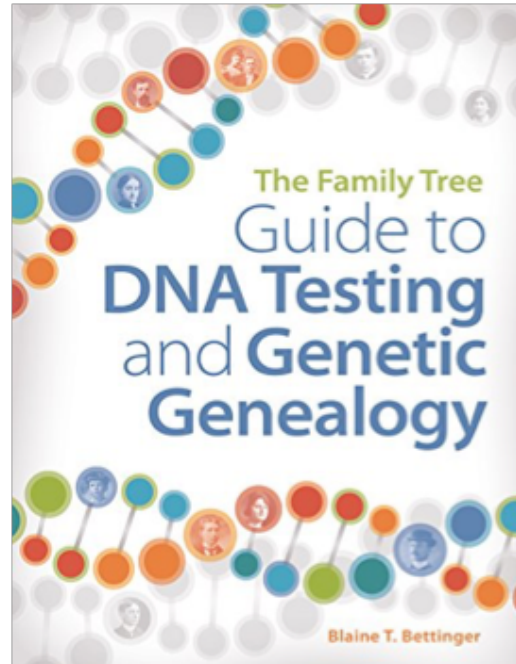


## Recommended Resource

*Submitted by Andrea Hoskins*

The Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy  
By Blaine Bettinger

Have you had your DNA tested? Spitting in the tube is the easy part! After that, it is all up hill. Once you get your results, and your matches start to show up, you'll find you need to learn a whole new vocabulary - genetic distance, MRCA, haplogroups, centimorgans - the list goes on. Where should you test? Any reason to test more than once? What should you test? Autosomal DNA? Y-DNA? How do you make sense of your various DNA matches?



Blaine Bettinger's Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy is a valuable resource for anyone interested in answering these questions. Bettinger explains and compares the various types of tests available. He tells how to analyze and apply your test results. The guide is filled with charts and diagrams that make it easier to process all the information provided. He includes a handy glossary and offers research forms and worksheets. This book is available in paperback, for Kindle and, best of all, at the Bainbridge Island Library.

### Tip of the Month

To find your immigrant ancestor's passenger record, you'll need to know his or her original name —not necessarily the one found in US records. Many immigrants Americanized their names after arriving in the United States, translating given names to their American counterparts or using a similar-sounding name. Contrary to popular myth, Ellis Island official didn't change immigrants' names.

-Family Tree Magazine

## Monthly Meetings

### JOIN US

Friday, June 15, 10:00 AM to Noon

Bainbridge Public Library, 1270 Madison Ave N

Topic: **Making Use of Land Records**

Speaker: **Jerri McCoy**

Friday, July 20, 10:00 AM to Noon

Bainbridge Public Library, 1270 Madison Ave N

Topic: **Immigration Laws and Records**

Learn how immigration laws have changed over time, how our ancestors became citizens and how to find records.

Speaker: **Jewell Lorenz Dunn, WA State Archives**

## Special Interest Groups

### For BIGS Members Only

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

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

Friday, June 8, 10 AM to Noon, LDS Church, 8677 Madison Ave NE

Topic: More about Genealogy Software Options and Online Trees

Members will share about Reunion and other programs for Mac, as well as FamilyTreeMaker for PC.

Facilitator: **Betty Wiese**

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

Friday, July 13, 10 AM to Noon, LDS Church, 8677 Madison Ave NE

Topic: Member sharing/active problem solving

Bring questions for group input/brainstorming, share your discoveries and breakthroughs, and report progress on your goals for the year.

Facilitator: **Betty Wiese**

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

Monday, June 18, 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**

## Special Interest Groups Cont.

**Irish Special Interest Group** meets quarterly, first Friday

Friday, June 1, 10am - Noon

LDS Church, 8677 Madison Ave NE

Topic: Learning from each other and active problem solving on all things Irish

Facilitators: Kathy Penn and Ruth Anne Krusell will break the ice with some sharing.

**New England Mid-Atlantic Special Interest Group**, meets quarterly

Tuesday, June 19, 10am - Noon

Bainbridge Library, downstairs

Topic: New England plus NY, NJ and PA

Leader: Mary Ferm

## Happening Around the Sound

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

*The Seattle Genealogical Society invites BIGS members to attend their SIGs*

**Scandinavian Special Interest Group**

Sunday, June 10, 1:30 - 3:30 pm

6200 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle

Chair: Karen Knudson

**Irish Special Interest Group**

Saturday, June 16, 10:15am - 12:15pm

6200 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle

Chair: Jean A. Roth

**German Special Interest Group**

Saturday, June 16, 1 - 3pm

6200 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle

Chair: Jean A. Roth

Confirm these meetings: <http://seattlegenealogicalsociety.org/>

## Happening Around the Sound Cont.

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

Are you looking to learn the basics of how to research your family? PSGS is offering a six-week introductory class called "**Discover your Ancestors with Janet Camarata.**" Classes will meet twice-monthly June through August. You may attend all six classes or choose one or more of particular interest to you. Classes are free, but to insure there are sufficient handouts, registration is required; call (360) 475-9172.

#### **Discover your Ancestors #1**

Saturday, June 2, 10:30am - 12:30pm

Topic: This session will cover basic forms, data formats and use of vital records

Speaker: Janet Camarata

#### **Discover your Ancestors #2**

Saturday, June 23, 10:30am - 12:30pm

Topic: This session will cover genealogy software, programs online and off, and use of census records

Speaker: Janet Camarata

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

### **Fiske Library - 1644 43rd Ave East, Seattle**

#### **Take Your Research to the Cloud**

Date: Wednesday, June 13, 10 AM to Noon

Speaker: Winona Laird

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



[BIGS](http://www.bigsgenealogy.org)





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## But Wait, There's More!

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### ***Unlock the Past in Seattle***

There will be a full day conference at the Seattle Public Library on Thursday, September 6, 2018 from 9am - 5 pm. This conference is a companion event to the 14th Unlock the Past cruise to Alaska. It is open to all whether on the cruise or not. The cost for the day is \$50.

Presenters include Blaine Bettinger (DNA Expert), Maurice Gleeson (DNA and Irish Expert), Cyndi Engle (Cyndi's List) and Wayne Shepard (author of *Surviving Mother Nature's Tests*).

There will be two streams, one focusing on DNA and one focusing on Irish genealogy research. For more information:

[Click here](#) for PDF brochure. [Click here](#) to book

### ***PSGS Annual Seminar: Day of Discovery with Lisa Louise Cooke***

On September 22, Puget Sound Genealogical Society is holding its annual seminar. This year's event is titled "Day of Discovery with Lisa Louise Cooke." Lisa Louise Cooke hosts the Genealogy Gems Podcast, an online genealogy audio show available at [www.GenealogyGems.com](http://www.GenealogyGems.com).

The day will include four sessions:

- ~Genealogist's Google Search Methodology
- ~How to Organize All this Genealogy Stuff
- ~How to Re-Open and Work a Genealogical Cold Case
- ~Future Technology & Genealogy - Five Strategies You Need

Time: 8:30 am - 3:30 pm

Location: Elks Building, 4131 Pine Road NE, Bremerton, WA

Cost: \$50 for PSGS members, \$55 for non-members

Lunch is included.

Get more details and find a registration form:

<http://www.pusogensoc.org/psgs/seminar2018/>

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

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