



# BAINBRIDGE ISLAND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

## May 2019 Newsletter

### News from the Board

#### *President's Letter to Members*

April 2019

I continue to be encouraged by the vibrancy and relevance of our society.

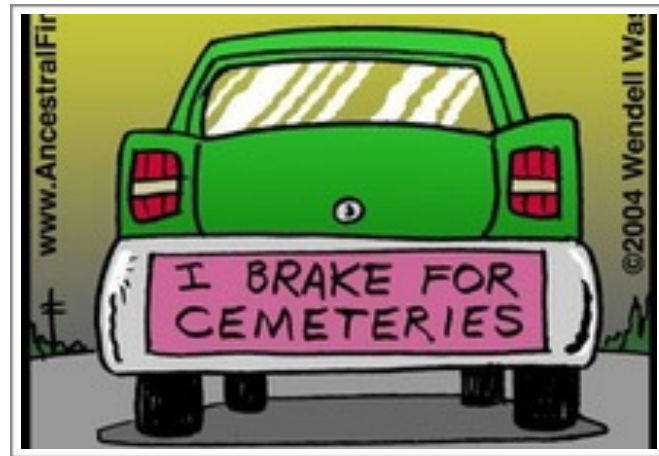
Our membership level is strong (92 members); we continue to draw new members. We are on a sound financial footing with enough money in reserve to carry us for at least a year of activity, even if we had no new income. Please see our Treasurer's Annual Report for more details.

I'm delighted to see our members interact to support and encourage each other, including participation in Special Interest Groups (SIGs) and newsletter contributions. I encourage members to make even more use of the internal email group (BIGS-NET) to ask questions and help each other. BIGS-Net is the group of members (currently about 50 members) who are interested in communicating with each other. You can ask any kind of genealogical-related question or offer tips and ideas. If you are not a member of this email group, please

### Member's Corner

#### ***The Headstone Hunters***

*Contributed by Betsy Hettich*



**Genealogists on the road.**

Two years ago, Lori Gibson was working on a brick wall on her family tree.

She was having trouble finding any records for her great grandmother. She wasn't sure of the correct spelling of her first name, Florine or Chlorine and didn't know her maiden name.

She went to the online site of Find A Grave to see if she could get some answers. Lori didn't know if anyone would be able to help her as the cemetery appeared to be in the middle of no where and was about 15 miles from the nearest small town in Washita County, Oklahoma.

However to her surprise, about 3 months later, someone did take the time to drive to that cemetery, take photos of the headstone and uploaded them to the Find A Grave site. The correct name

contact Rebecca Pratt to be added.

We had a great turn out of our members to plan and carry out the 2018 Family History Month public event -- "DNA Test Results - What do they Mean?" From about 40 members of the public attending, we signed up six new members. Our 2nd Annual Family History Month event is now being planned for October 26, 2019, with great support from members participating on the planning committee. There will be additional opportunities to support this project, as we get closer to the date.

With your ideas, the board will revisit setting our vision and assessing our strengths, weakness, opportunities and challenges. We've had stability on our board for several years, but at any time can find a need for new members to join the board. It is healthy for societies such as ours to be preparing new people to come into leadership positions; having a clear vision and knowing our strengths and weaknesses can provide a good foundation for those joining the board in the future.

My sincere thank you to each of you. Have a great year.

*Betty Wiese*

**President**



turned out to be Chlorine Dunn who died at the young age of 29, leaving behind her husband Charles Daniels Dunn and 3 children. The oldest being Lori's grandmother..



To "pay it forward", Lori asked if anyone was interested in doing some cemetery searching at the next BIGS monthly meeting. Sylvia Nelson and Betsy Hettich jumped in. From that day on we formed the "The Headstone Hunters." We get email requests for headstone photos in our area from Find A Grave. Then we work out a time when the three of us can get together and search the cemeteries.

If we find it, we take photos of it, sometimes cleaning up around the headstone for a clear and legible photo. We then post the picture to Find A Grave and wait to hear back from the person who requested the photo. We have received such wonderful emails from people showing their appreciation and how delighted they are to have more information on their relatives. We have helped to fill in the blanks!

We primarily stay on Bainbridge Island but have ventured off a few times to Poulsbo and Suquamish. We tend to get 6-8 requests a year.

If you are interested in joining the Headstone Hunters group, we'd love to have you. The bigger the group, the sooner we can get the info posted on Find A Grave.

Contact Betsy Hettich if you are interested at [bhettich@hotmail.com](mailto:bhettich@hotmail.com)

While doing these searches, Lori, Betsy and Sylvia discovered they all have been drawn to and have an affinity for cemeteries. There was always something there that drew them in and now we know why, the official Bainbridge Island cemetery sleuths!

# 2018 Annual Financial Report

## Income

Membership	\$3,010.00
Front Door Donation	30.00
Total Income	\$3,040.00

## Expenses

	\$3,589.74
Rent	638.75
Internet	265.34
Copies	352.67
Speakers	600.00
Speakers Lunch	99.43
Speakers Trans.	1,077.96
Insurance	250.00
USPO Box	82.00
Misc.	223.59

## Balance

\$579.74

Cash in Bank at 12/31/2018	\$3,586.76
CD as of 12/31/2018	\$3,087.48
CD Renewed 3/27/18	\$3,096.53

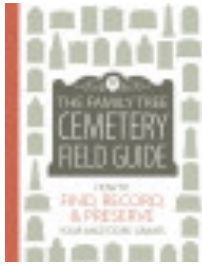
## 2018 Memberships

Single Membership	76
Family Memberships	7 (@2each)
Total Members	90
Income	\$3,010.00

## 2019 Memberships

Single Membership	80
Family Memberships	6 (@2each)
Total Members	92
Income	\$3,100.00

Report submitted by Sue Hassenmiller, Treasurer



### **The Family Tree Cemetery Field Guide: How to Find, Record, and Preserve Your Ancestors' Graves**

By Joy Neighbors (2017)

Do you love cemeteries? So do genealogists everywhere. This book is designed to help you navigate the burial grounds that hold your deceased ancestors. Learn how to use sites like Find A Grave and BillionGraves to find where your ancestors' graves are, then how to safely and responsibly visit and archive tombstones. This book's handy tombstone iconography section will also help you interpret the symbols on your ancestors' graves. Published by Family Tree Books and available at Bainbridge Public Library.

## Monthly Members' Meetings

### JOIN US

#### **Friday, May 17, 10:00 AM to Noon**

Bainbridge Public Library, 1270 Madison Ave N

#### Topic: **Finding Your Immigrant Ancestors**

We all have immigrant ancestors, whether they came in Colonial times or much more recently. We'll be looking at strategies for tracking down their places of origin, finding out whether records exist, where to find them and what they can tell you.

Speaker: **Claire Smith**

#### **Friday, June 21, 10:00 AM to Noon**

Bainbridge Public Library, 1270 Madison Ave N

#### Topic: **Did your ancestors own slaves?**

Speaker: **Janice Lovelace**

*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, May 10, 10 AM to Noon

Bainbridge Public Library, Community Room

Topic: **Search Tips for Ancestry.com**

Facilitator: **Rebecca Pratt**

Friday, June 14, 10 AM to Noon

Bainbridge Public Library, Community Room

Topic: **DNA Discussion including 3rd party tools**

Facilitator: **Sue Hassenmiller and Frank Navage**

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

Monday, May 20, 7 PM to 9 PM

HomeStreet Bank on Hildebrand Lane, Community Room, 1st floor. Knock if it's locked!

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

Leaders: **Sue Elfving and Sue Hassenmiller**

### **Great Britain Special Interest Group**, two times quarterly

Friday, May 3, 10 AM to Noon

LDS Church, 8677 Madison Ave NE

Facilitator: **Joleen Aitchison**

### **Irish Special Interest Group**, quarterly

Friday, June 7, 10 AM to Noon

LDS Church, 8677 Madison Ave NE

Facilitator: We are looking for a volunteer to facilitate our June IRISH SIG in Joleen's absence. Otherwise we will need to cancel the meeting. Watch the website for confirmation of whether or not the meeting will be held.

### **Southern States Special Interest Group**, quarterly

Thursday, May 9, 1 PM to 3 PM

Bainbridge Public Library, Downstairs Conference Room

Facilitator: **Paula Schmidt**

# Happening Around the Sound

Seattle Genealogical Society - 6200 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle

## **Second Saturday Speaker Series: Ohio: The Crossroads of a Young Nation**

**Saturday, May 11, 2019 - 1:00pm to 3:00pm**

Ohio was part of the Old Northwest Territory and became a powerhouse throughout the 19th century. The population grew by leaps and bounds - from 42,159 at the beginning of the 19th century to 4,157,545 by 1900. Ohio was along major migration and distribution routes westward, including the Ohio River, Lake Erie, Erie Canal, National Road, Lincoln Highway and major railroad lines. With the rapidly expanding population and strategic geographic location, chances are one of your ancestors spent time or travelled through Ohio. Come learn how to find the traces of your ancestors and the role Ohio played in the late 18th century to the early 20th century.

**Speaker: Heidi Mair**

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

## **Spring Seminar 2019**

**Saturday, May 18, 2019, 9:00am - 4:00pm**

Topic: **Next Steps for Your DNA Test Results**

Presenter: **Diahan Southard**

Program includes:

- Let Your DNA Tell Your Story
- Me and My 1,000+ DNA 4th Cousins
- Making YDNA and mtDNA Part of Your Family History
- Three Next Steps for Your DNA Test Results

Location: Fairview Christian Church, 844 NE 78th St, Seattle, WA

Doors open at 8:00am for check-in and the SGS Book Sale

Cost: SGS Members \$55.00, All others \$65.00.

**Sunday, May 19, 2019, 9:30am - 11:30am OR 12:00 - 2:00pm**

Topic: **Organizing Your DNA Results Workshop**

Presenter: **Diahan Southard**

Each session is limited to 30 participants.

Cost: \$30

Locations: SGS Library, 6200 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA

For registration questions, contact SGS at (206) 522-8658 or [membership@seagensoc.org](mailto:membership@seagensoc.org)

## Happening Around the Sound Cont.

Puget Sound Genealogical Society - 1301 Sylvan Way, Bremerton

### **Using FamilySearch**

**Wednesday, May 7, 10:30am - 12:30pm**

Sylvan Way Library, Heninger Room

Topic: This is a hands-on class, limited to 16 people. Bring your laptop! Joleen will help you explore the many features of the FamilySearch website.

**Speaker: Joleen Aitchison**

### **Discovering your Ancestors -Series III Advanced Class**

Learn the research processes, organizational tools and techniques used by genealogists today to find our own families in this advanced six-week series on Genealogy.

**Six Saturdays as listed below - 10:30 am to 12:30 pm**

Sylvan Way Library, Heninger Room

**Speaker: Janet Camarata**

June 1 - Detailed Research Planning

June 22 - Analysis Process/Analysis Tools

July 6 - Historical Research/Church Records

July 27 -Social History - Calculating our ancestors' lives

August 3 - What to do with what you have

August 24 - Writing Your Research/Sharing your success

Registration required: call 360-475-9125. For more information: <http://www.pusogensoc.org/>

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

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