



Eastside Genealogical Society Newsletter

December, 2023

Calendar of Events: December, 2023 – early January, 2024

Note: These meetings are via Zoom unless otherwise specified, and everyone is welcome to attend.

Friday, December 1 at 12:30 PM Pacific time: German Interest Group – “German Advent, Christmas and New Year’s Traditions and Superstitions” presented by Ingeborg Carpenter. The speaker will share stories about German Advent, Christmas, and New Year’s traditions for the period from December 1st to Epiphany, with superstitions thrown in. You must register in advance for the meeting at <https://tinyurl.com/ktbcsaww>.

Wednesday, December 6 at 6:30 PM Pacific time: King County Library System and Eastside Genealogical Society present Cyndi Ingle for “Cyndi’s List in Practice: Your Genealogy Research.” For 26 years, Cyndi’sList.com, a free categorized list currently with more than 337,000 links, has been a top genealogical research tool. Using specific examples for beginners, as well as for more advanced researchers, creator and innovator Cyndi Ingle will explore the site and point out how to make the most of the categories and the links found within. To receive the Zoom link, register in advance at: <https://kcls.bibliocommons.com/events/6549371a25123b290099fc53>.

There is no General Meeting in December. Our next EGS General Meeting will be Thursday, January 11, 2024.

Friday, January 5 at 12:30 PM Pacific time: German Interest Group – “The Best Websites for German Genealogy” presented by Dan Jungclas. Discover which are the best websites for German genealogy and research. You must register in advance for the meeting at <https://tinyurl.com/5en2nsy5>.

Upcoming Help Desk Opportunities

Wednesday, December 6 at 1:00 PM or 2:00 PM Pacific time via Zoom: Genealogy Help – Genealogy questions? EGS offers one-on-one help with a volunteer. This is a one-hour appointment for an individual. Sign up on the King County Library System website: kcls.org.

Thursday, December 14 from 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM Pacific time at Bellevue Library: Ancestry Help – An EGS volunteer will show you how to research your family history and genealogy with Ancestry Library Edition in the computer lab on the 2nd floor. Drop-in at your convenience.

Wednesday, December 20 at 1:00 PM or 2:00 PM Pacific time via Zoom: Genealogy Help – Genealogy questions? EGS offers one-on-one help with a volunteer. This is a one-hour appointment for an individual. Sign up on the King County Library System website: kcls.org.

Thursday, December 28 from 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM Pacific time at Bellevue Library: Ancestry Help – An EGS volunteer will show you how to research your family history and genealogy with Ancestry Library Edition in the computer lab on the 2nd floor. Drop-in at your convenience.

Join Our Facebook Group

If you're a Facebook user and haven't yet joined the Eastside Genealogical Society's Facebook group, we encourage you to do so. To join the group, follow these steps:

- Open Facebook and enter "Eastside Genealogical Society" in the search box on the left.
- Click on the blue box "Join" to the right of our group (You can tell from the portion of the description displayed which is our group.)
- The request will turn to "Pending" until you are approved by one of the Admins (This is a step we take to keep advertising and people not interested in genealogy out of our group.)

Once you have been approved, you can read and post in the group, and we encourage you to share anything related to genealogy! Please consider joining us.

Ancestry Day

Saturday, February 3, 2024 from 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM Pacific time at Bellevue Library, Room 1
EGS and The Bellevue Library will be having an **Ancestry Day!**

Think of an Antiques Road Show without the appraisers! Here is your chance to share some of your family history treasures with others. Please bring your family history artifacts, heirlooms, photos, family trees, and anything else related to family history and genealogy. We will have tables for you to display your items. This will be a great time to enjoy each other's items and to socialize. If you plan to bring items, please email Kimberly at kimberly7nichols@gmail.com and let her know what you plan to bring. This will help us figure out the table space we will need. Volunteers are needed to help set up, help clean up, and bring some cookies to share with attendees. If you would like to volunteer to do any of these, please email Kimberly.

Other Genealogy Events in the Area

Thursday, December 7 at noon Pacific time via Zoom: American Ancestors/New England Historical Genealogical Society free webinar – “Applying to Revolutionary War Lineage Societies,” presented by Lindsay Fulton. With the 250th anniversary of the Revolutionary War fast approaching, you may be interested in documenting your family connection to an American patriot and applying to a lineage society. Join Vice President of Research and Library Services Lindsay Fulton for a step-by-step look at applying to Revolutionary War lineage societies including the application process and tips for when you can’t find vital records. For more information and to register: [American Ancestors-Dec 7](#).

Saturday, December 9 at 1:00 PM Pacific time via Zoom: Seattle Genealogical Society Second Saturday meeting – “City Directories,” presented by Susan V.H. Fabian. With city directories, you can discover where your ancestors lived, their occupations, their family members, and FAN clubs between censuses, including that all-important 1880 to 1900 period when few Federal census records remain. We’ll discuss what city directories are, what information they contain, where to find them, and the clues they contain for further research. Register here: [Seattle GS](#).

Tuesday, December 12 at noon Pacific time via Zoom: American Ancestors/New England Historical Genealogical Society free webinar – “Family History Roundtable: Getting Family Involved in Your Research,” the first episode in their new panel discussion series. For more information and to register: [American Ancestors-Dec 12](#).

Websites for Genealogy

Kimberly Nichols has shared these websites to try along with a brief description of each. If you have a website you love and would like to share, please let us know!

1. Historic Map Works – <https://historicmapworks.com/>
This site is an historic digital map database of North America and the world, with many being scanned at a high resolution. Historic Map Works's map collection includes:
 - United States Property Atlases
 - Antiquarian Maps
 - Nautical Charts
 - Birdseye Views
 - Special Collections (Celestial Maps, Portraits, and other historical images)
 - Directories and other text documents.
2. David Rumsey’s map collection – <https://www.davidrumsey.com/home>
The collection now has search by text on maps. Try putting in one of the surnames in your lineage to see some of the maps that have that name on them. Hover your mouse over the results to see a snapshot of the map or click on it to view it full size.
3. Better Soldiers and Sailors – <https://bettersoldiersandsailors.com/>
This database is like the “Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System (CWSS)” but has more powerful tools not available on CWSS. It also searches some other databases not available on that system and gives you some ideas for records for the person you are searching for.

Websites for Genealogy (cont'd)

4. Clio – <https://www.theclio.com/>
Your guide to history and culture around you, including walking tours, virtual museum tours, heritage trails and others.
5. Ephemera Search – <https://www.ephemerasearch.com/>
Search for postcards and mail of your ancestors or view a random postcard. Transcribers are also needed.
6. Papers of the War Department – <https://wardepartmentpapers.org/s/home/page/home>
On November 8, 1800, fire devastated the US War Office and all the papers, records, books and files stored there. This website is an innovative digital editorial project which reconstructed the records lost through a painstaking multi-year research effort and makes them freely available online. Records are from 1784-1800. You can search by name or location or many other search terms and see images of the actual records.

Meet Your Board of Directors: Publicity Chair Janet Stroebel

Note: This is the third installment of a regular feature to help you become better acquainted with the volunteers on Eastside Genealogical Society's Board of Directors.

My name is Janet Stroebel. I'm currently the Publicity chair and leader of the Family Tree Maker Special Interest Group for Eastside Genealogical Society. I am a first generation American of English parents who was born and raised in New Jersey. My husband and I lived in Indianapolis for almost 30 years followed by 5 years in Chicagoland. We moved to Bellevue in 2012, and I joined EGS in 2013 after seeing a mention in the Bellevue Reporter about the organization and the need for a SIG Coordinator. I have since held the positions of Secretary, Treasurer, and now Publicity chair. We moved back to Indianapolis last year but Zoom makes it possible for me to continue to be involved with an organization full of people I am happy to call friends.

How did I get started doing genealogy? With all but my immediate family "across the pond," I became very interested in learning about who they all were. I started in the mid-1970s by talking to my grandparents and obtaining names and addresses to write (yes, actual letters with stamps!) to additional relatives. For about the next 5 years, I mailed typed forms that I created, and my father photocopied, requesting information and asking for addresses for siblings and children. Family members were very generous with their information, and some even sent me photographs! With the distances involved, there were only a few that I met personally, but I was hooked.

Where am I researching? In the past 10 years, I have spent a lot of time researching in Ohio and eastern Indiana while working on my husband's family. I love the archive at the Ohio History Connection in Columbus and have visited cemeteries in Lima, Dayton, Portsmouth, Columbus, Cincinnati, and other smaller towns—many of them multiple times! For my family, all the research is in England. My family was primarily in Worcestershire and Staffordshire for multiple generations.

Meet Your Board of Directors: Publicity Chair Janet Stroebe (cont'd)

What do I do when I'm not doing genealogy? Since returning to Indianapolis, my husband and I have immersed ourselves in the community. I'm active in the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra Association which supports the symphony by volunteering at events and fundraising. We are Indianapolis Colts season ticket holders and love going to Butler University basketball games (our alma mater). There are many theater options available as well as a couple of film festivals each year. Most of all, and the primary reason we moved back here, I love being a grandma and watching our little guy grow up!

EGS Board of Directors

President	Jane Wickert	president@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org
Vice President	Open	
Secretary	Janice Leitzke	secretary@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org
Treasurer	Glen McNay	treasurer@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org
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We need your help to make this newsletter meaningful to our members! If you have ideas for articles or features you would like to see, suggestions for improvement, or would like to write a book review or article for the newsletter, please email us at publicity@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org.