



Eastside Genealogical Society Newsletter

January, 2024

Calendar of Events: January – early February, 2024

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

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>.

Thursday, January 11 at 7:00 PM Pacific time: January General Meeting – “Using Timelines and Tables to Break Through Brick Walls” presented by Janet Camarata. A genealogist’s goal is to understand the relationships between individuals within their families and communities. Using timelines for direct descendants will keep the dates in order. Using tables will keep the names and places in order. This will aid your research in indexed and unindexed records. Members will receive the Zoom link via email or anyone can obtain it from the website a day or two prior to the meeting at <https://eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org>. Virtual meeting doors will open at 6:30 PM Pacific time with the program beginning at 7:00 PM.

Thursday, January 18 at 11:30 AM Pacific time: Lunch Bunch and Research – Lunch Bunch returns with an added twist: it will include some research time at the FamilySearch Center (previously known as the Family History Center) at 10675 NE 20th Street, Bellevue. We have reserved a room at the church building across the parking lot (where food is allowed) from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM so we can meet up, network, and get reacquainted. Bring lunch from home or stop in one of the many area options to buy food. Water and restrooms are available on-site. When we are done visiting and talking about genealogy (are we ever done?!?), we will move over to the FamilySearch Center for some research time. The Center is open until 6:00 PM. *Mark your calendar for the 3rd Thursday each month to join us!* No reservation required.

Calendar of Events: January – early February, 2024 (cont'd)

Friday, January 19 at 10:30 AM Pacific time: Family Tree Maker Interest Group – Individuals using or interested in using the Family Tree Maker software program to record genealogical information are invited to join us to learn about the software. If you would like to attend and are not on the email distribution list, please send an email to ftmsig@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org no later than Thursday, January 18.

Saturday, January 20 at 10:00 AM Pacific time (SPECIAL TIME): Italian Interest Group – “Hands-on Italian Genealogy & Dual Citizenship: Digging roots on the ground in Italy” presented by Allesandro Bovino. Italian-native professional genealogist Allesandro Bovino from Benevento, Campania, Italy, will share details about how your Italian family tree can be brought up to the next level when using on-site records that remain yet unexplored, like notarial documents, military files or dowry records. A detailed insight on how to go about qualifying for Dual Italian Citizenship will also be offered as the final part of the program to make for any specific questions the audience may want to pose in that regard. If you aren’t an active member of the Italian Interest Group, you can request a Zoom meeting invitation at <https://egs-iig.com/iig-meeting-20-jan-2024saturdaytopic-hands-on-italian-genealogy-dual-citizenship-digging-roots-on-the-ground-in-italy/>.

Saturday, January 20 at 10:00 AM Pacific time (SPECIAL JOINT MEETING): Joint presentation with South King County Genealogical Society – “Document Analysis: Digging into the Details” presented by Angela Packer McGhie. Learn to analyze documents by studying the background and context. Assess the reliability of the source and the information it contains. Compare the information with details from other records. See these principles in action as we look at two different document and analyze them using a set of questions provided. Use your knowledge and the questions provided to assess the documents you are researching. **NOTE: Registration is required to obtain the Zoom link at <https://www.skcgcs.org/>.** Social time begins at 9:30 AM Pacific time with the program from 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM.

Friday, February 2 at 10:30 AM Pacific time (SPECIAL TIME): German Interest Group – “Practical Advice for Family Research in Pomerania” presented by Dr. Klaus-D. Kohrt. Learn how to find where your ancestors lived, which records have survived and where to find them both in archives and online. This presentation will cover the tools provided via the website of the Pommerscher Greif and how they will lead you to sources in various archives and demonstrate what and where to find on the internet or how to contact organizations holding the original records. The focus of the presentation will be on (Protestant) church books and civil registers and explain the organizational structure of the Protestant church and the civil administration in Pomerania until 1945. You must register in advance for the meeting at <https://tinyurl.com/2kt7v52h>.

Upcoming Help Desk Opportunities

If you'd like to be a volunteer for either an online or in-person Help Desk session, please contact President@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org.

Wednesday, January 3 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, January 11 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, January 17 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, January 25 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, February 7 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.

Other Genealogy Events in the Area and Beyond

Thursday, January 4 at noon Pacific time online: American Ancestors/New England Historic Genealogical Society – Melanie McComb presents, “Using AI in Family History Research.” We’ve all seen the headlines about Artificial Intelligence – this new technology seems to be able to do everything from producing complex digital images to creating songs! But have you wondered how it might be able to help your family history research? In this lecture, Senior Genealogist Melanie McComb will discuss exciting possibilities for using AI to support your research. For more information and to register for this free webinar, go to <https://www.americanancestors.org/events/using-ai-family-history-research>.

Saturday, January 6 from 1:00 – 3:00 PM Pacific time in-person Holiday Open House at the Seattle Genealogical Society library: Come celebrate Twelfth Night, the New Year, and National Smith Day at the Seattle Genealogical Society Library, Suite 302 at the Good Shepherd Center,,4649 Sunnyside Avenue N, Seattle.

Other Genealogy Events in the Area and Beyond (cont'd)

Monday, January 8 at 7:00 PM Pacific time via Zoom: Jewish Genealogical Society of Washington State meeting – Josh Tuininga presents, “We Are Not Strangers.” The new graphic novel, *We Are Not Strangers*, is based on the true story of a first-generation Sephardic Jewish immigrant who helped his Japanese-American neighbors when they were incarcerated during WWII. Author Josh Tuininga delves into the stories that inspired the creation of his book. Through a visually engaging presentation, he shares the intricacies of his research and creative process, unraveling the profound lessons embedded in these tales of allyship and unity amidst the turbulence of wartime. Zoom doors open at 6:30 PM, and the presentation begins at 7:00 PM. Registration is required at <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZArd--urzooHtPdg8BMn7uCrIbXHwjTccR>.

Thursday, January 11 at noon Pacific time online: American Ancestors/New England Historic Genealogical Society – James Heffernan presents, “Lithuanian Research: Back to the Old Country.” Interested in researching your Lithuanian ancestors in the Old Country but not sure where to start? In this lecture, Genealogist of the Newbury Street Press, James Heffernan, will detail the types of records that can be found in Lithuanian archives, how to access them, and tips for deciphering the languages that you are likely to encounter. For more information and to register for this free webinar, go to <https://www.americanancestors.org/events/lithuanian-research-back-old-country>.

Saturday, January 13 at 1:00 PM Pacific time via Zoom or at the SGS library: Seattle Genealogical Society Second Saturday meeting – “Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR),” presented by Paula Furick. Paula was regent of the Redmond, Washington DAR chapter from 2018-2020. She is going to present in-person at the SGS library as well as online via Zoom. More information is available on their website: <https://seagensoc.org/eventListings.php?nm=67>.

10 Million Names – A Collaborative Project Led By American Ancestors/New England Historic Genealogical Society

This information is quoted from the American Ancestors/New England Historic Genealogical Society website. For more information, go to <https://10millionnames.org/>.

“10 Million People. 10 Million Stories. 10 Million Names.

10 Million Names is dedicated to recovering the names of the estimated ten million men, women, and children of African descent who were enslaved in pre- and post-colonial America (specifically, the territory that would become the United States) between the 1500s and 1865. 10 Million Names is engaging a collaborative network of expert genealogists, cultural organizations, and community-based family historians. Together we will amplify the voices of people who have been telling their family stories for centuries, connect researchers and data partners with people seeking answers to family history questions, and expand access to data, resources, and information about enslaved African Americans.”

Genealogy Book Suggestions

Thank you to Janice Leitzke for sending this list of suggested books for genealogy collected in response to a question she saw on a genealogy Facebook group.

Advanced Genetic Genealogy by Blaine Bettinger
Evidence Explained by Elizabeth Shown Mills
Genealogical Standards by Board for Certification of Genealogists
Genealogy for Dummies by Matthew L and April Leigh Helm
Mastering Genealogical Documentation by Thomas W Jones
Mastering Genealogical Proof by Thomas W Jones
Organize Your Genealogy by Drew Smith
Printed Sources by Kory Meyerink
Professional Genealogy: Preparation, Practice and Standards by Elizabeth Shown Mills
Red Book: American State, County and Town Sources (available online at wiki.rootsweb.com)
Research Like a Pro with DNA by Diana Elder, Nicole Dyer, and Robin Wirthlin
Research Like a Pro: A Genealogist's Guide by Diana Elder
The 1890 Census: Why God? Why? By Ken Dusumthin
The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy by Blaine Bettinger
The Genealogist's Address Book by Elizabeth Petty Bentley
The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy by Val Greenwood
The Source: A Guidebook to American Genealogy (available online at wiki.rootsweb.com)
Tracing Your Irish Ancestors by John Grenham
Your DNA Guide - the Book by Diahan Southard

If you have a favorite genealogy book or books that you'd like to share with your fellow society members, email us at publicity@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org, and we'll share them in a subsequent newsletter.

Request for Newsletter Input

In future newsletters, we'd like to share genealogy podcasts and genealogy Facebook groups that our members enjoy/find useful. Please send your recommendations to us at publicity@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org. Feel free to include comments with your recommendations.

Meet Your Board of Directors: Membership Chair Celia McNay

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

My first exposure to genealogy was a project to write my life story when I was about 16 years old. In doing that, I realized that I didn't know the names of people beyond my grandparents. Although I had heard stories about them, I didn't really know who they were. This led me to search for my ancestors, and I have never stopped.

Meet Your Board of Directors: Membership Chair Celia McNay (cont'd)

After doing a presentation about using FamilySearch.org at the Family History Expo, I was approached by an EGS Board member about doing a presentation for them. It was a great experience, and I met several like-minded people who have now become friends. I joined EGS in 2013. This led to being invited to serve on the Board as the Program Chair. After a couple of years, I was voted to be the President, serving two terms. Now I am the Membership Chair. I participate with the monthly Board meetings and help on some of the activities that EGS is doing for outreach into the community. Again, these are great people to associate with, and I have learned so much from them.

Being a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, it is in our culture to know about our extended family and research their lives. Because of this, all of my lines are pretty full going way back. My husband, Glen, is a convert to the church, so his lines are open territory. I have enjoyed researching his ancestors over the years and finding old documents, pictures, and stories. Together we have made several genealogy trips to such areas as Kansas, Minnesota, California, and Virginia. We have yet to find the first immigrant into the U.S. on any line, although we suspect the family comes from England, Scotland, and Ireland.

When I am not doing genealogy, I am the caretaker for my 92-year-old mother who lives with us. With her, I read, make greeting cards, sew, crochet, and do puzzles. With Glen, I beach walk, visit our seven grandchildren and our six kids, and eat out. Glen loves to eat out since I am not the greatest of cooks. (I was born without much sense of smell.)

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.