



Eastside Genealogical Society Newsletter

June, 2024

Calendar of Events: June – early July, 2024

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

Friday, June 7 at 12:30 PM Pacific time: German Interest Group – “Is this the End? Taking Your German Brick Walls Down Piece by Piece” presented by Luana M. Darby. What do you need to look for once you have reached your brick wall? What is available and how do you find it? Learn how to think like a German and understand how to assess the needs of your German research to get the most out of it, from both sides of the ocean. You will understand how a typical German lived and made decisions. A case study will show you step by step how to overcome a typical brick wall. Register in advance for the meeting at <https://tinyurl.com/3748pjb9>.

Thursday, June 13 at 7:00 PM Pacific time: June General Meeting – “Who Hid the Body? Finding Your Ancestor’s Place of Burial” presented by Elizabeth Williams Gomoll. It’s not over ‘til the fat lady sings? Nope. It’s not over until you find where the big girl was buried. This presentation offers examples of records that can lead genealogists to an ancestor’s elusive final resting place. Members will receive the Zoom link via email, or anyone can obtain it from the website at <https://eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org>. Virtual meeting doors will open at 6:30 PM Pacific time with the meeting beginning at 7:00 PM.

Saturday, June 15 at 1:30 PM Pacific time: Italian Interest Group – “Brick Walls – Searching for Italian Roots.” Bring your documentation; ask your specific Italian genealogy question; and together we will all try to help! If you’re not an active member, you can request the Zoom meeting invitation at: <https://egs-iig.com/brick-walls-searching-for-italian-roots/>.

Calendar of Events: June – early July, 2024 (cont'd)

Monday, June 17 at 1:00 PM Pacific time: “Finding Your Female Ancestors” in-person class at the Kirkland Public Library (308 Kirkland Avenue, Kirkland, WA). Tracing female ancestors presents a unique challenge for anyone researching a family tree. Our own Bob Barnes will give you tips on how to address this challenge by showing you how to find and keep track of maiden names. Discuss census records, marriage licenses, obituaries, birth and death records, and court documents. Registration is not required.

Friday, June 21 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 more 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, June 20.

Upcoming Help Desk Opportunities

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

Wednesday, June 5 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, June 13 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.

Thursday, June 27 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, July 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.

Other Genealogy Events in the Area and Beyond

Note: These events are via Zoom unless otherwise indicated.

Thursday, June 6 from 11:00 AM to noon Pacific time: Heritage Quest Research Library class (in-person or via Zoom) – Janice Sellers presents, “Get Me to the Church on Time – Finding Religious Records.” You will learn that religious records are often important substitutes when vital records are lost or never existed, but they also add depth to our understanding of our ancestors. For pricing and to register, go to the HQRL Store at <https://hqrl.com/>.

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

Monday, June 10 at 7:00 PM Pacific time: Jewish Genealogical Society of Washington State June meeting – Susan Weinberg presents, “Crossing the Ocean: US Records to Ancestral Towns.” Using case studies based on Lithuania, Latvia, Poland, and Belarus, we explore how to connect a wide variety of records and make use of many search engines. With these tools, we cross the ocean from US records to locate ancestral towns and families within them. For more information and to register for this meeting, go to <https://www.jgsws.org/meetings.php>.

Saturday, June 15 at 10:00 AM Pacific time: South King County Genealogical Society General Meeting – Daniel Horowitz presents, “MyHeritage New Advanced Features and Technologies.” Daniel will be presenting an advance review of new features and technologies on MyHeritage, the online family history service. Take full advantage of MyHeritage’s unmatched technologies to help you find long-lost relatives, uncover historical records about people in the family tree, and even add an entire branch in one click. Learn about the new records released and those forthcoming on the MyHeritage Search Engine. Social time begins at 9:30 AM with the program beginning at 10:00 AM. For more information and to register for the Zoom link, go to <https://www.skccgs.org/>.

Thursday, June 20 from 11:00 AM to noon Pacific time: Heritage Quest Research Library class (in-person or via Zoom) – HQRL research librarians present, “Beginning Your Family History Part A: Getting Started.” Join our research librarians for this FREE beginning class to help you start your family research – what, why, where to begin and how to get organized. To receive the Zoom link and any class materials, register in the HQRL Store at <https://hqrl.com/>.

Introduction to Genealogy Podcasts

By Janet Stroebel

When I walk around the neighborhood or drive somewhere, I like to listen to a podcast about genealogy. There are many options available in a variety of styles and covering a wide range of genealogy-related topics. Some podcasts focus on sharing tips and techniques for your genealogy research. Others adopt a magazine-style format with news updates, stories of interest, and Q&A. Another style is an interview format where the host interviews a single individual about their genealogical journey and/or a specific project they’re working on. Here are some of my favorites:

- Conversations with Kenyatta ~ Kenyatta D. Berry
- The Genealogy Guys Podcast ~ George G. Morgan and Drew Smith
- Stories That Live In Us ~ Crista Cowan (NEW)
- Genealogy Gems ~ Lisa Louise Cooke
- Generations Café ~ Amy Johnson Crow
- Extreme Genes ~ William Fisher (no longer producing new episodes)
- Family Tree Magazine Podcast ~ Family Tree Editors

If you’re a genealogy podcast listener, I’d like to hear what you’re listening to!

Message from Your President

This message is from newly-elected EGS President, Janet Stroebe.

As we start a new fiscal year for EGS, I want to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers who have given their time to the organization over the past year. Without the contributions of each and every one of you, EGS would not have been successful in offering programs and activities for our members and guests. Special recognition must be given to our retiring President, Jane Wickert, for four years of outstanding service. On behalf of the Board and the membership, thank you, Jane, for the many, many hours you devoted to EGS and for your stewardship of the organization from 2020-2024. I have big shoes to fill!

Highlights from 2023-2024 were:

- International speakers for both the German and Italian Interest Groups
- Tour of the Puget Sound Branch of the Washington State Archives
- Return of Lunch Bunch with an added research component at the FamilySearch Center
- Providing genealogy assistance via Zoom and in-person
- Monthly general meetings with a variety of quality speakers and topics
- 7 books purchased for the Bellevue Library genealogy sections (reference and circulating)
- Two programs shared with South King County Genealogical Society
- Seven members participating in the Washington Pioneer Pursuit Contest
- Family Tree Maker Road Show shared with Seattle and South King County Genealogical Societies
- Co-sponsor with King County Library System of a program with Cyndi Ingle

In addition to Jane's thanks expressed in last month's newsletter, I also thank everyone who volunteered to help following our appeal for assistance in March. I look forward to working with all of you. For everyone else, please continue to give consideration as to what skills you might be able to share. EGS is an all-volunteer organization, and we are grateful for any amount of time that you have available to offer. To initiate a conversation about contributing your time and talents, please send an email to me at president@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org or speak to any Board member.

I'm honored to be your President for the next two years. I have no doubt there will be challenges in leading a vibrant organization such as EGS from 2,000 miles away, but I know that with our outstanding volunteers, we can continue to be successful. I welcome any suggestions from the membership for ways to improve the value of your EGS membership (ex. programs, events, classes, newsletter content, etc.) at any time. Feel free to email me (see above), and I will share your email with the appropriate Board member.

What's in Your Attic? – Heirloom Show and Tell Event – Save the Date!

Thanks to Kimberly Nichols for submitting the information about this upcoming event.

Date: Saturday, October 12th, 2024

Time: 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Location: Room 1 in the Bellevue Library, 1111 - 110th Ave. NE, Bellevue WA.

What is it? Genealogy Show and Tell plus a Speaker

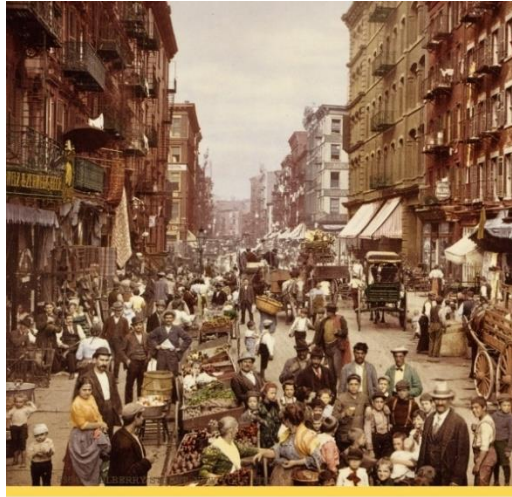
EGS, along with the Bellevue Library, will be hosting a fun event in October in celebration of Family History Month. Come bring items to share, listen to the presentation, and enjoy the shared items. You can participate in several ways:

- You are invited to participate by bringing something to show and share! Maybe you have a clock, old photo, a quilt, some family documents, or something else that is meaningful to your family and genealogy. Sign up and then bring your items to share with others. You can sign up by emailing Kimberly at kimberly7nichols@gmail.com. Let her know what you plan to bring and how much table space you will need.
- We will also be having a presentation by EGS member Marcia Williams, “Solving a Decades-Long Brick Wall.” Marcia has a newspaper from 1783 containing an article about Samuel Loudon (1727 – 1813), New York printer, who would be returning to New York City after the British evacuated. Her husband descends from Robert Loudon (1718 – 1796), but she could not connect the two men through any traditional means. She wondered -- Why do I have this newspaper? What is the connection between Robert and Samuel? Any articles about Samuel state that nothing was known about him before he arrived, nor anything about his parents or siblings. In cleaning out her brother-in-law's safe, his widow found an envelope of about 35 letters written from Samuel to “my dear brother Robert” and another brother, John, between 1791 and 1810. These letters had likely been sitting in the safe untouched since about 1995. Learn how this discovery of “What's in Your Attic” answered genealogical questions and the steps she is taking to publish new facts about Samuel and his family, as well as how to handle and preserve old documents.
- You can also participate by coming and enjoying the items being shared and the presentation. Everyone is welcome!

Hope to see you then!

New to the Library

Tracing Immigrants through the Port of New York: Early National Period to 1924 by Anne Sibert Butler



Tracing Immigrants through the Port of New York: Early National Period to 1924

Anne Sibert Butler

NYG&B NEW YORK
GENEALOGICAL
AND BIOGRAPHICAL
SOCIETY

Between the late 1700s and 1924, New York was a key gateway for millions who journeyed to the United States to establish new lives. Today, millions of Americans descend from immigrants who passed through Ellis Island and Castle Garden. *Tracing Immigrants through the Port of New York: Early National Period to 1924* by Anne Sibert Butler details the records and research strategies for use when tracing immigrants who passed through New York City. But the book is useful for those researching immigrants who came through other ports.

The book is divided into two parts:

Part I – The Records, details key sources of information to use when tracing immigrants: passenger lists, customs records, naturalization records, foreign passenger lists, and other important U.S.-based records.

Part II – The People, includes historical overviews and highlights tools and strategies for tracing specific immigrant groups including Irish, German, Italian, Austro-Hungarian, Polish, Russian, Jewish, Puerto Rican, and Afro-Caribbean families.

The book is published by and available from the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society. EGS has donated two copies of this book – one for the reference section and one copy that can be checked out – to the Bellevue Library.

New to the Library (cont'd)

In addition, EGS donated the following books to the Bellevue Library during the past year:

- Research Like a Pro by Diana Elder
- Research Like a Pro with DNA by Diana Elder, Nicole Dyer, and Robin Wirthlin
- DNA for Native American Genealogy by Roberta Estes

Meet Your SIG Leaders: German SIG Leader Dorothy Pretare

We continue this regular feature with our SIG leaders to help you become better acquainted with the volunteers at Eastside Genealogical Society.

I learned about Eastside Genealogical Society (EGS) from a member at a Boeing After Work Computer Group meeting, and it changed my life.

My EGS membership began in 2005, and I have been involved in several ways, besides attending most meetings. First, I promoted all EGS Meetings as Publicity Chair for 12 years. Now I am completing my 8th year as the Leader of the EGS German Interest Group. For about 5 years before Covid, I was the Greeter at the monthly General Meetings along with the above tasks. The Washington State Genealogical Society recognized me in 2022 for exceptional service to EGS.

The mission of our German Interest Group (GIG) is to help people research and understand their Germanic ancestors wherever they lived. It may be in the United States, the Old German Empire, Switzerland, or elsewhere. We are part of the International German Genealogy Partnership. Thanks to EGS for providing the use of the Zoom account and allowing us to accept donations to pay any speaker fees. Thus, most months we have virtual meetings with presentations by speakers who are known for their Germanic knowledge, and time for Attendee Sharing. Some of our attendees have received help in their ancestral areas from our worldwide attendees. If your ancestors spoke the German language or lived in the Old German Empire or beyond, you are invited to attend our meetings. Our website, <https://egsgermangroup.wordpress.com/>, provides more information about our Group and the next virtual meeting -- we don't meet in July and August.

My personal genealogical research involves the Kashubian area of current Poland (NW corner), the Uckermark area of current Germany (NE of Berlin), and the Glarus Canton in Switzerland. When not doing GIG/genealogy tasks, I am involved with family (husband, children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren), friends and parish plus enjoying some travel. My life is busy and exciting.

EGS Board of Directors

President	Janet Stroebel	president@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.