Click **Eastside Genealogical Society** for a full Calendar of upcoming events.

EASTSIDE GENIE

Eastside Genealogical Society

Effective Search Strategies on FamilySearch

Thursday, November 12, 2026
Networking and announcements at 6:30 PM PT; program at 7:00 PM
Via Zoom - registration is required for this meeting

Click here to register

About our speaker: Dana Palmer, specializes in Midwestern research, lineage society applications and publishing family books. In addition to her client work, she is part of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants Silver books team. She has lectured widely. She was a college genealogy instructor and has reviewed military repatriation cases. Her book ***Ultimate Guide to Mastering FamilySearch*** was released in print and digitally in November 2025.

About our program: Having trouble finding your relatives on FamilySearch?

Learn tricks to find your elusive ancestors in the historical records on FamilySearch as well as Dana's favorite searching tricks using the historical records part of **FamilySearch.**

Come learn how to be successful.



Dana Palmer, CG¹, CGL®

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

What features of FamilySearch were new to you? How will you use the information from tonight's presentation to add to your personal research? What will you try to discover?

Upcoming December/January Eastside Genie

Deadline: November 14

Next Twisted Branches:

Watch for topic for February newsletter

Send articles to:

newsletter@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org

EGS October 8 Meeting recap

Lisa Louise Cooke was unable to present due to illness. She will be rescheduled.

In her place, **Celia McNay** led a discussion.

We started by watching a video from RootsTech 2026

What They Didn't Write Down: Genealogy Through Oral History, by Lori Samuelson (18:10).

To summarize, family stories point to the truth, but are not always THE truth. Identity is shaped by memories, not just facts.

Participants shared their family stories, comparing them to what was TRUTH based on DNA, newspaper articles, Google, and historic records.

Marcella Rush



President's Message

Welcome to Fall! I hope you had some exciting genealogical finds during Family History Month in October. We'd love to share your joy with our genealogy community in the newsletter at any time throughout the year.

Thank you to everyone who attended our in-person events during October. The Member Engagement Committee of the Board planned and executed these events to give our members the opportunity to gather face to face. I appreciate the work that everyone put in to make these events successful. If you have feedback or suggestions for in-person events you would like to see in the future, please let me know.

EGS Programs

Unfortunately, we were unable to bring you **Lisa Louise Cooke** as planned in October due to illness, but we have rescheduled her presentation for May 2027.

We will wrap up our monthly meetings in December 2026 with a presentation from **Dana Palmer** titled, **"Effective Search Strategies on FamilySearch."** She will share with us her top 10 favorite tricks to using the historical records and catalog on FamilySearch to find your family. As a completely free website, the records on FamilySearch.org should be one of your go-to places to research family history.

Join EGS on Facebook!

Our FB group is private, to maintain a focus on genealogy. It is open to anyone with an interest in Family History. To find and join:

- Click on this link
- Select the blue "Join group" button
- Within a day or two, you should be notified that you are admitted

Highlighting Special Interest Groups

Last month I highlighted our new **Learning Circle - Irish Foundations**. It is one of many opportunities to explore your specific interest in Genealogy. Other SIGs sponsored by EGS are:

- Artificial Intelligence SIG
- Family Tree Maker SIG
- Genealogy Book SIG
- German Interest Group
- Italian Interest Group
- Lunch Bunch (in-person)

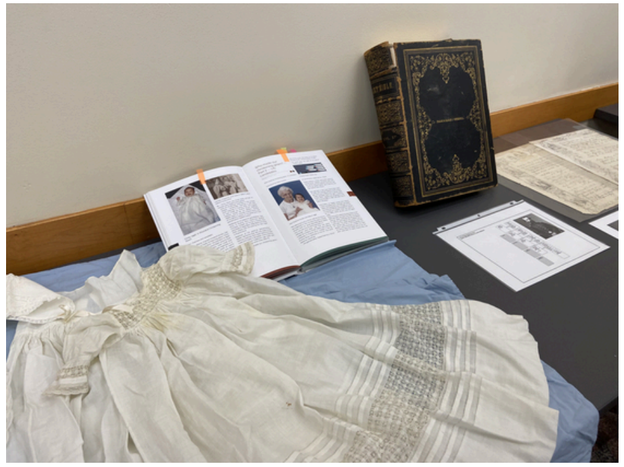
All are led by dedicated, hard-working volunteers. Some SIGs have mailing lists for Zoom meetings, so contact the leader to be added to any SIG of interest.

More details are available within this newsletter and on the Special Interest Groups page inside our EGS Website.

Thank you for being a member or friend of Eastside Genealogical Society.

What's In Your Attic Event
October 10, 2026
at Bellevue Library
Photos from the event









Presentation by Meriann of Ginny's Girls Estate Services









What's in Your Attic Door Prize Winners

• Forever Memories Digitization Package	Melissa James
• Story Starters - Question Box	Lois Diemert
• Family Tree Art 50% Discount	Marcia Williams
• Family Saga $25 Discount	Beth Snyder
• Custom Archiving Plan Workshop	Catherine Smith
• My Heritage Tote	Liz Blaszczak
• America 250 Tote	Helen Carlson

Eastside Genealogical Society

Bellevue, WA

About Us | Meetings & Events | Special Interest Groups | Newsletter | Membership | Calendar | Research Corner | Contact Us



First session: October 5, 1:30 - 3:30 PM

All webinars are about 1 hour

Learn from the BEST - John Grenham

1. The Raw Materials of Irish Genealogy
2. The Major Records I. General Register Office
3. The Major Records II, Censuses
4. The Major Records III, Church Records
5. The Major Records IV, 19th Century Property Records
6. Bringing the Major Records Together

Next Meeting: November 2, 1:30 - 3:30 PM

New!

LEGACY FAMILY TREE WEBINARS

Irish Genealogy Research Series

Interested in exploring your Irish roots? Join us for a new monthly discussion series, called **Learning Circle-Irish Foundations**, featuring selected Legacy Family Tree Webinars. We'll discuss the research strategies, records, and resources presented and, most importantly, how to apply them to our own Irish genealogy research.

Whether you're just getting started or facing an Irish genealogy "brick wall," come learn, share ideas, and discover new research strategies together! Meetings will take place on the first Monday of six months, beginning on October 5, at 1:30 PM PT via Zoom.

An active **Legacy Family Tree Webinars** subscription is required to access the monthly webinar which you will watch on your own prior to each meeting.

Interested? We'd love to have you join us! Email Kimberly Nichols to be added to the email list and receive more information. New subscribers may be eligible for a subscription discount.

Missed the first session?
You can still join us for Session 2
Email Marcia Williams for the Zoom link
Watch Session 2 before we meet

About Legacy Family Tree Webinars



- 2,804 webinars
- 499 speakers
- 11,569 Syllabus pages

Speakers include: Blaine T. Bettinger, John Grenham, Lisa Louise Cooke, Cyndi Ingle, Judy Russell, Jennifer Zinck, Ursula Krause, Bruce Durie…and many more!

Live and recorded webinars - some free, most by subscription

Yearly subscription: $59.95, often with steep discounts for new members

Italian Interest Group (IIG)

Saturday, November 21, 2026 meeting, 1:30 PM PT, via Zoom

Click to Register

Genetic Genealogy in Context: ITALY



Paul Woodbury

Presenter

From a young age, **Paul Woodbury** fell in love with genealogy research. To pursue his passion for this field, he studied genetics and family history at Brigham Young University. To aid in his desire to share his knowledge with others, he has also received a master's degree in instructional design and educational technology from the University of Utah. Over the course of his career, Paul has solved hundreds of challenging genetic genealogy research challenges.

More information on the IIG Webpage.

Description

While the biological principles of genetic genealogy apply in all geographic contexts, the application of these principles is sometimes influenced by cultural context in different regions of the world. In this presentation learn about the **basics of genetic genealogy methodologies**, as well as particular considerations for pursuing genetic genealogy in **Italy and the Italian diaspora**. Explore considerations for endogamy, the best tests and companies for **Italian populations**, **Y-DNA** and **mtDNA** context for the region, and **record-keeping and cultural context** that can affect genetic genealogy questions.



Eastside Genealogical Society
German Interest Group

Register

Additional information can be found on our Meetings page.



Roger P. Minert, PhD

OUR NEXT VIRTUAL MEETING

Friday, November 6, 2026 from 12:30-2:30 PM PT

Topic: Cemeteries in Central Europe

Description

The customs associated with funerals and burials in German-language regions of Europe are substantially different from corresponding rituals in the United States. The layout and maintenance of cemeteries is also quite different. In this presentation, images are used to illustrate cemetery conditions and cultural customs associated with funerals and burials.

Presenter

Roger P. Minert received his doctoral degree from The Ohio State University in German language history and second language acquisition theory. He taught German language and history for ten years, and then became a professional family history researcher.

Minert is the author of more than 200 publications, and he directs the research program German Immigrants in American Church Records [GIACR].

RootsTech 2027!



When: March 4 - 6, 2027

Where: Salt Lake City Convention Center

What: Hundreds of learning sessions, huge expo, opportunites to interact and learn

Who: Five EGS members (and counting!)

What else: Research at FamilySearch Library one block from our hotel

Flying: Monday, so we have time for research at the Library

Registration Open
Virtual Attendance - Free
In Person - Early Bird - $99 ($30 off the regular price)

Expo Center has discounts on subscriptions and products during RootsTech. Must be registered to shop.

Join us!

More info: Kimberly Nichols
Search: RootsTech 2027

Become Involved
Small Ways to Make a Big Difference

EGS benefits when members share their **time and talents**. We have identified several **small tasks** where a little help can go a long way. Take a look at these opportunities and contact the person listed if something interests you. No long-term commitment is necessary—just a willingness to lend a hand!



- Submit to Twisted Branches - Marcia Williams
- Participate in the book committee - suggest and review books for purchase for the Bellevue Library - Jane Wickert
- Work at the help desk at the Bellevue library, either as a fill-in or a “regular” – need to know how to research/resources for researching - Jane Wickert
- Participate in Lunch Bunch Questions – Celia McNay
- Participate in the EGS Book SIG - Kimberly Nichols
- Summarize one or more EGS meetings for the newsletter – Janet Stroebel
- Review flyers for upcoming EGS meetings – Beth Snyder
- Send suggestions for topics and speakers for future EGS meetings – Beth Snyder
- Join a Learning Circle – Kimberly Nichols
- Each SIG needs volunteers - join a SIG and see what volunteer opportunities are available.

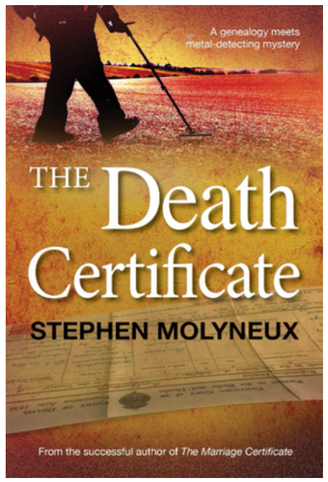
Email links for EGS Board members are on the last page of this newsletter.

Special Interest Groups

Genealogy Book SIG

Meetings: Second Friday most months
10:00 AM PT via Zoom
Email: Kimberly Nichols for Zoom link

Next meeting: Nov 13, 2026



The Death Certificate
Stephen Molyneux

The Death Certificate - A genealogy meets metal-detecting mystery. When Peter Sefton gets the opportunity to metal-detect on a remote hidden farm, little does he know that one of his finds will lead him to search for the identity of its former owner. What he discovers is shocking and tragic. Combining his interest in genealogy and metal-detecting, Peter forms a theory about a link between a scandal in the antiquities world of Victorian London and what may have occurred on the farm.

AI Special Interest Group

Meetings: Third Tuesdays at 2:00 PM PT via Zoom
Next Meeting: Nov 17, 2026

Purpose:

- Use AI to help with genealogy, learning together
- Encourage members in their use of AI
- Share resources, tips, results, cautions

AISig@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org

Family Tree Maker SIG meeting—3rd Friday of most months

Next Meeting: Friday, Nov 20, 2026

10:30 AM PT via Zoom

- **Send Questions**
- **Join email list**

ftmsig@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org

Lunch Bunch and Genealogy Help



Lunch Bunch – Third Thursday

Next Meeting: Nov 19

Topic: Family History Activities for Family Gatherings

11:30 - 1:00 - reserved room in church across from the **FamilySearch Center, 10675 NE 20th Street, Bellevue**. Bring lunch from home or buy food at a nearby local location.

Use the **FamilySearch Center Library** with databases either available with a subscription or only available at a FamilySearch Center. Bring your laptop or use theirs. Library open until 4:00 PM. No reservation required.

Contact: Celia McNay with questions

No Lunch Bunch in December 2026.

Genealogy Help

Bellevue Library—Computer Lab

Upcoming Sessions

Nov 12, Dec 10

10:30—12:30

2nd and 4th Thursdays monthly

Excluding holidays

No registration required

In-person assistance with

Ancestry Library Edition

ancestry

Want to help? email: Jane Wickert



Click **Eastside Genealogical Society** for a full Calendar of upcoming events.







Lake View Cemetery, Seattle
Field Trip Sept 2026

Nine of us had decent weather when we visited Lake View Cemetery in mid-September. We visited gravesites of more than seven Seattle Pioneers as well as other famous Seattleites.

Email Catherine Smith for a do-it-yourself tour handout.







Twisted Branches

Pages 14-16

Twisted Braches - German Ancestors



German Americans form the largest ancestry group in the U.S., ahead of English, Irish, Italian, and Mexican ancestry groups. Their presence reflects centuries of immigration, assimilation, and cultural influence across the country. The consistency across multiple datasets underscores the stability of this population figure.

The most recent data therefore indicate that German ancestry remains the single most reported ancestry in the United States, with totals reliably around 40 million people.

If you look at the lists, you may find some names that match your research. To connect with an EGS member, email me. I will ask the member to contact you, if they wish. Perhaps sharing twigs on your databases will open new research. *This option is available to EGS members only.*

Marcia Williams

A few notes:

The purpose of the following lists is to help members connect. It is not intended to be the basis for definitive name, date, or location updating for your files. In some cases, the input on dates had “Abt” next to dates, and I just used the dates. Also - due to space limitations, I left off the location “Germany” in many entries. Finally, any omissions and errors in name spelling and dates are my errors.

EGS Member	Ancestor	Years	Location
Jane Wickert	Moser, Eisenhard (group of religious Schwenkfelders)	1734	Silesia to Perkioman Valley, PA
	Conrad Imhof	1880’s	Germany to Philadelphia
	Friederic Adolph Ochs	Abt 1848	Leiter, Forcheim Bayern to Fairfield County, OH
	Frederich Franke	Abt 1870	Hanover to Fairfield County, OH
Catherine Smith	Adam Ege	1724 - 1812	Eßlingen, Esslingen, Baden-Wuerttemberg to Princeton, Mercer County, NJ
	Bernhard Ege	1688 – Abt 1740	Wuerttemberg
	Bruno Ewald Dressler	Abt. 1855 – 1897	Berthelsdorf to San Francisco CA

EGS Member	Ancestor	Years	Location
Dorothy Pretare	Michael Konkol/Konkel	1818 – 1891	Berent, West Prussia to Tamarack, WI
	Christian Friedrich Fleuter	1833 – 1922	Kummerow, Pommern to Watertown, WI
	Christian Bunn	Abt 1807 – 1860	Hohenfelde, Pommern
	Marie Elisabeth Frank	Abt 1813 – 1860	Hohenfelde, Pommern
	Bertha Wilhelmine Louise Retzlaff	1864 - 1942	Maldewin, Pommern to Raymond, MN
	Johann Friedrich Hasenbank	1798 - 1879	Ploewen, Pommern to Bergholz, NY
	Guilmette Wilhelmine Senechal	1798 - 1879	Ploewen, Pommern to Bergholz, NY
	Heinrich (Henry) Marti/Marty	1830 - 1910	Engi, Switzerland to Cottage Grove, MN
	Katherina Marti (same maiden surname as husband; 'twas a small village!)	1834 - 1914	Engi, Switzerland to Cottage Grove, MN
Jeff Stroebel	Johan Andreas Ströbel	1778 – 1857	Vorbachzimmern, Kingdom of Württemberg
	Maria Dorothes Wirth	1786 – 1865	Vorbachzimmern, Kingdom of Württemberg
	John Mouser	1733 – 1828	Germany
	Margaretta Shaefer	Abt 1833 – 1905	Kingdom of Bavaria
	Wilhelmine Christine Maria Friederike Schumacher	1834 - 1937	Garlitz, Lübtheen, Mecklenburg-Schwerin

EGS Member	Ancestor	Years	Location
Marcia Williams	Johann Heinrich Schildmüller	1804 – 1878	Bremen
	Maria Magdalena Lürs	1812 - 1885	Bremen
	Matthias Christian Andreas Schildmüller	1842 - 1887	Bremen to Brattleboro VT
	Matthias Knoop Betta Rouers	Unknown	Bremen
	Hinrich Liesmann Margaretha Adelheid Von Engel	Unknown	Bremen
	Anna Maria Lemmer	B 1830	Bremen
Ginney Pumphrey	Ferdinand Bär (Baer)	1825 - 1912	Eiersheim, Baden to Little Rock AR
	Johann Christian Geyer	1811 – 1892	Asch, Bohemia to Little Rock AR
	Joseph Riedmüller (Riedmueller, Riedmiller)	1854 – 1936	Dettingen an der Iller, Baden to Morrilton, AR
	Magdalene Huebner	1857 – 1906	Bavaria to Morrilton, AR

EGS Member	Ancestor	Years	Location
Kimberly Nichols	Frederick Kehr	B 1797	Evangelisch, Neuwied, Rheinland, Prussia
	Anna Catharina Wendling	B 1801	Germany
	Gertrauda Ecker	B 1822	Germany
	John (Johann) Michael Boltz	B 1733	Karlsruhe, Karlsruher Stadtkreis, Baden-Württemberg
	Johann Peter Zombro/Zumbro	B 1727	Ronnenberg
	Johannes Jacobus Waldschmidt	B 1724	Dillenburg, Nassau
	Johann Christian Grub	B 1703	Pfaiz
	John (Johan) Nicolas (Niklas) Bolender	B 1706	Hessen
	Anna Maria Reis	B 1711	Bayern, Landkreis Traunstein, Bavaria (Bayern)
	Maria Magdalena Gerber	B 1782	Münchweiler BA Rockenhausen, Bayern
Twila Petrie	Hugo Friedrich Hermann Franzke	1869 – 1920	Schweidnitz, Silesia, Prussia
	Elfriede Helene Gottwald	B 1870	Schweidnitz, Silesia, Prussia
	Louis Paul Leitner	1877 – 1966	Bockwa, Zwickau, Saxony
	Laura Margaretha Jager	1883 - 1966	Bockwa, Zwickau, Saxony

EGS Member	Ancestor	Years	Location
Janice Leitzke	Edmund **Rendtorff** Sophia Henriette **Gräpel**	1816 – 1892 1817 – 1886	Hamburg emigrants 1838
	Surnames **Andresen, Behrmann, Busse, Carstens, Conradi, Deppe, Dendas, Donner, Greve, Henckell, Langhans, Ordt, Otte**		Hamburg
	Johann Samuel Ferdinand **Harter** Johanna **Rathke**	1800 – 1881 1805-1885	Bärwälde, Neustettin, Prussia Emigrated1855
	Adolf **Oswald** II Katarina **Beny**	1810 – 1869 1810 – 1858	Gimbsheim, Alzey-Worms, Rheinland-Pfalz
	Surnames **Belzer, Lauth, Metzger**, **Myl**		Gimbsheim

Some Websites

Germans in America - Census Data

German Immigration to US

Famous German Americans





EGS Board of Directors

President	Janet Stroebel	president@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org
Vice President	Kimberly Nichols	vicepresident@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org
Secretary	Janice Leitzke	secretary@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org
Treasurer	Marcella Rush	treasurer@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org
Trustee	Marcia Williams	newsletter@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org
Book Committee	Open	bookcommittee@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org
Education	Bob Barnes	education@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org
Membership	Celia McNay	egsgenealogyhelpers@yahoo.com
Programs	Beth Snyder	programs@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org
Publicity	Catherine Smith	publicity@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org
SIG Coordinator	Jane Wickert	SIG-coordinator@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org
Webmaster	Melissa Kacher	webmaster@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org



December/January Newsletter

- Deadline for articles: Saturday, November 14
- **No Twisted Branches topic; watch for a topic announced in the December/January newsletter.**
- Send newsletter articles to newsletter@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org

Click **Eastside Genealogical Society** for a full Calendar of upcoming events.