



## Sno-Isle Genealogical Society

### THE BEACON

January 2019

#### Officers 2017-2018

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 BEACON PRINT VERSION



**Our First Meeting of the year will be on January 2nd! Join us at the Shoreline (Montlake Terrace) LDS Church for an interesting and informative talk.**

## Around the Society

### Upcoming Events

Our General Meetings are held at the north end of the Mountlake Terrace LDS Church, 22015 48th Ave W, Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043. A short business meeting at 6:30 pm is followed at 7 pm by a genealogy presentation that runs until about 8:15 pm. Guests are invited to all general meetings. A map and directions are available on the [website](https://snoislegen.org/meetings) (<https://snoislegen.org/meetings>)

▶ **January 2** Craig Gowans will be speaking on "The Melungeons: A Look at America's Tri-Racial Isolates". *When white settlers began pushing into the Appalachians in the late 1700's and early 1800's, they encountered mysterious communities of English-speaking settlers with darker skin but European features, such as blue eyes. While they called themselves Portuguese and claimed to be white, the English and Scottish settlers generally considered them to be black and socially, if not legally inferior, to whites. They referred to these people as Melungeons, a word that until recently carried a very pejorative connotation. This is a closer look at these mountain peoples of the Appalachians and their cultural, ethnic, genetic and genealogical contribution to America.*

▶ **February 6:** Ron Sailer will be presenting on using Evernote and Genealogy sites on Facebook

▶ Professional writer and SIGS member Betty Gaeng will offer a **writing class called "When I am Gone, Remember Me."** The Writer doesn't have to write about themselves, pick a parent or grandparent. The 1 hr. class will be Sundays at 1 pm and will start Sun. Jan. 6, 2019 and end Feb. 10. Depending on the weather class days may be extended. The Class will be free to members and suggested donation from non-members of \$5.00 per class or \$20.00 for the 6 week series. Classes will be held at SIGS library, 19827 Poplar Way, Lynnwood. Class size is limited. Register in person at the library or send email to [info@snoislegen.org](mailto:info@snoislegen.org), [attn; Betty Gaeng]. Betty will offer writing tips and a critique to improve the writings.

▶ **For other Upcoming Seminars, Conferences and Special Events** see the [Events Calendar](#) on our Website.

### Message from the Board

*A warm welcome to the first newsletter of 2019.  
May all of you have the happiest New Year,  
and may all your genealogical dreams  
come true in the upcoming year!!*



### **What's New?**

► Society member Ron Sailer has been very busy getting our computing support at the Library upgraded! We now have Comcast cable in Humble House, new print drivers have been installed and updates will happen automatically. Come on in and check it out!

### **Society Happenings**

Those who attended our annual Christmas party had a great time. Food, contributed by everyone, included some delightful family holiday specialties. Betty Gaeng and Lee Langsted talked about Christmas's and living in the area during the Depression years.

### **Membership**



We're continuing to grow! Two new members joined us in December, bringing our total membership to 61.

### **Volunteer Opportunities**

SIGS is 100% a volunteer organization; we have no paid staff. Lots of volunteer opportunities are available regardless of how much time you have - even an hour or two a month is helpful. There is no minimum time requirement. If you're interested, please email [volunteer@snoiselgen.org](mailto:volunteer@snoiselgen.org). We're especially looking for help with the following:

- **Library:** Several of our regular volunteers are dealing with health issues or have moved. SIGS **really** needs some fill-in help at the library for a scattering of Tuesdays and Thursdays and Saturdays. Hours are 11 am to 3 pm (bring your own lunch). For safety reasons we want two volunteers whenever the Library is open. You'd be a helper to one of our experienced volunteers. No need to be an experienced researcher or librarian to help out!
- **Hospitality Chairman:** to set-up and break-down the monthly meeting, manage the raffles and the cookie sign-up. This is part of the Outreach committee.
- **Library Interns:** We currently don't have any library interns! This is a good way for students to earn community hours, or anyone that would like to volunteer even an hour or two a month.



## **About the Library**

**Humble House, Heritage Park,  
19827 Poplar Way,  
Lynnwood, WA 98036**

The SIGS Research Library has more than 5,00 titles, including books, periodicals, newspapers, obituaries and the like.

**Library Hours:** Tue, Thurs & Saturdays 11 am-3 pm | **Phone:** 425-775-6267

*For holidays or bad weather please call ahead to confirm the schedule.*

## **Reinforcing Your Research**

### **Favorite Blogs**

- [FamilySearch Wiki- United States Newspapers Genealogy](#)
- [Genealogy Bank: 4 Tips for Genealogy Research with Historical](#)

### **This Month's Genealogy Term.**

**Instant (often abbreviated inst.):**

Typically used in newspapers, this refers to a recent occurrence in the present or

### Newspapers

- New York Public Library: [Conducting Genealogical Research Using Newspapers](#)
- FindMyPast: [Using newspapers to understand how your ancestors contributed to history](#)
- PBS - [Newspaper Research](#)
- Amy Johnson Crow: [Using Black Newspapers for Genealogy: Tips from Tim Pinnick](#)
- Fortify Your Family Tree: [Which Global Map is Best for Genealogists?](#)

current month. So a death published on 22 Feb 1802 and reported as “the 8th instant.” means the person died on 8 February 1802.



Have a favorite genealogy blog? [Let us know!](#)

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### **Resources: Newspapers**

- [Elephind](#) - over 181 million items (newspaper pages/articles) from several countries
- [Library of Congress - Chronicling America](#) - over 12.7 million pages from 45 states
- [Google News Archive](#) - over 2,500 newspapers for U.S. and Canada
- [Old Fulton NY Post Cards](#) - millions of pages of NY State (and many other states) historical newspapers
- [Wikipedia List of Online Newspaper Archives](#)
- [The Ancestor Hunt - Newspaper Research Links](#)
- [7 Common Historical Newspaper Abbreviations and Terms](#)
- [12 Special Keywords to Improve Your Newspaper Research Results](#) by Kenneth Marks on [The Ancestor Hunt](#) blog.

And, in honor of New Year's Resolutions:

- [4 Keys to Make You a Better Genealogist](#)

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### **A Tip For Beginners**

Be careful when looking at relationships. They aren't always what they appear, and people called aunts, uncles and cousins may not actually be related. Even today such terms are often used in affection rather than being a true biological relationship. And while “folks” today typically refers to parents, in the past it was often used for relatives, not just parents.

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### **Did You Know?**

▶ Olive Tree Genealogy has a good article on not assuming anything in genealogy research but instead creating a Working Theory based on the facts you have found. See <https://bit.ly/2Sbtb31> for the article.

### **Quick Tips**

▶ Mapping out your research problems can help you untangle a complex puzzle. See Mapping Out Your Research Problem at [Family History Fanatics](#).



**Our mailing address is:**

Sno-Isle Genealogical Society, 19827 Poplar Way, Lynnwood, WA 98036

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