

# Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society Finding ancestors since 1971...

**April 2021 President's Letter** 

It was one year ago that this was your President's Letter:

#### All Dressed Up and No Place to Go!

April 2020

Isn't that the way we're all feeling now?! If we were still in the old universe, WAGS would be excitedly bustling around getting ready for our "Explore DNA for the Day!" seminar that would have occurred this coming Saturday. It was amazing, back in early March, how quickly we went from a wait-and-see attitude to "We've got to pull the plug on this gathering right now!" We will watch and see what the future holds, and reschedule our event when the coast is clear.

Just to take away any confusion, WAGS is canceling all meetings (board meeting, general meeting and any committee meetings) and classes, and our library will be closed through the month of April, and who knows what will happen after that?! A couple brave souls are coming in once a week to take care of any membership renewals and requests, so don't hesitate to send those in.

In the meantime, I'm sure you're putting the extra time to good use. I know my calendar has been taken over by white spaces—what about yours? I've tackled a little home improvement, and I'm very happy to have more time for my writing. I hope you are keeping busy, and moving your genealogy forward without distractions.

Speaking of that, I'd encourage you to keep notes on your genealogical achievements during this historic time, and we can have a great sharing session at one of our first meetings!

Until we meet again, WAGS is wishing you good health and good cheer.

Little did we know that we were in for a full year of dislocation and isolation! We've gotten pretty good at Zoom meetings, and were finally able to have our 2020 DNA seminar speaker, Emily Aulicino, give one of her presentations last fall; and we've "traveled" all around the country to hear other Zoom speakers. Now, in March 2021, we're looking forward to more human contact. I never wanted to have quite so much in common with our 1918 Spanish Flu ancestors!



**Kathleen Kaldis** 

### **April program**

I hear that Cape Cod is very nice this time of year! Yarmouth, Massachusetts, is the hometown of our speaker, Kathleen Kaldis, aka The Ancestor Finder. She will present **Sense of Place: Local Landmarks and Genealogy**. Names of the past are on everyday places and landmarks, and give us clues about the FAN club of

our ancestors. It gets exciting when you can connect names in different states—Kathleen will show us how it played out with her ancestors.



## April Zoom meeting Monday, April 12

Sense of Place: Local Landmarks and Genealogy

**Register at** <u>WAGSlibrarian@gmail.com</u>. We'll send the Zoom information and Kathleen's handout via a blast email, and the Zoom info will also be on our website: www.wags-web.org.

### **Nominating Committee**

The Nominating Committee is looking for candidates! Now that Covid restrictions are easing, it's time to start thinking about becoming active in our society again. During the closure, your officers and committee members have been working behind-the-scenes: developing a brand new website,



and making some changes to our library. Covid-19 has actually given us a golden opportunity to take a new look at some of the ways we operate—we find ourselves at an exciting crossroads!

WAGS needs **people** to move forward. We are counting on you to join in the fun and either contact us, or say yes when we contact you!

Your WAGS NomCom:

Kris McGregor <u>mcgregork1222@gmail.com</u>
Pat Thomas <u>mitsvote@yahoo.com</u>
Cynthia Ward <u>cclaireward@gmail.com</u>

### Not sure how to format your research?

Did you ever think of using the Family Books as sources of inspiration as to how to (or how not to!) present your research? C'mon in to the WAGS Library (after making an appointment at <a href="library@wags-web.org">library@wags-web.org</a>, of course) and browse through the family histories that other people have put together. You'll find old 1960s typewritten histories; even handwritten efforts; plus more modern works. There are as many ways to do a family history as there are genealogists! Come and see . . .



### At the Library . . .

We're still focusing on keeping everyone safe and healthy, so we're only open by appointment, and we're keeping our masks on. We're limiting our capacity to about five people to make sure we can keep our social distance and stay healthy.

If you haven't been to the WAGS Library in the last year (and you probably haven't, with us being closed and all!), make an appointment to come in and check it out. We're moving things around to make a more welcoming environment, but we want to ensure that it still works for our members before we make it permanent. So please . . . come on in and let us know your thoughts. It's important to hear from each kind of member: the researching member; the volunteer member; the computer member; the librarian member . . . did I miss anyone?!

We have plans for a fresh coat of paint and some new shelving cabinets—once that's completed (probably not 'til July), we'll plan an open house (modified for a pandemic, of course) so you can see the finished product. But please, don't wait that long! Make an appointment to come by and give us your feedback. Hope to see you soon!

Diane Gundersen, library@wags-web.org



. . . to new member **Joanne Richter** of Quincy. We're wishing you pleasant hours of researching!

Happy Spring, Susan Rumble WAGS President