



Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society (WAGS)
Finding ancestors since 1971 . . .

President's Letter
November 2023



Welcome to November at WAGS. Our program this month is one that the late Fred Pflugrath, our favorite Civil War researcher, would have approved. Remembering Fred and his jovial manner, and his commitment to sorting out all the region's cemeteries (when it wasn't snake season) always makes me smile. The little room on the right as you enter the library, where he spent untold hours searching for Civil War veterans in our state, will be "Fred's Room" as long as we are here to remember him.



Fred Pflugrath

November meeting . . .

"Beyond the Records: Putting Flesh on the Bones of Your Civil War Ancestor"

This program is made possible with our Memorial Funds, remembering the late Fred Pflugrath, who carefully gathered burial information on Civil War veterans throughout Eastern Washington.



Annette Burke Lyttle

It's quite easy these days to find facts about your Civil War ancestor. But reconstructing their experiences to make an interesting story takes another set of skills. Our favorite Florida educator, Annette Lyttle, will show us how to fill in the blanks between those facts, allowing you to spin a tale that will fascinate even your coldest cousin.

WAGS November General Meeting

"Beyond the Records: Putting Flesh on the Bones of Your Civil War Ancestor"

Monday, November 13 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. via Zoom and

in person at the FamilySearch Center, 667 10th Street NE, East Wenatchee

Topic: WAGS November General Meeting Zoom Link

Time: Nov 13, 2023 02:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81021074458?pwd=cVY1WHR4dHA4ejV4QTFkK04venhLQT09>

Meeting ID: 810 2107 4458 Passcode: November



It's that giving time of year . . .

Once again WAGS is participating in the **Community Foundation's GiveNCW**. This annual event gives the community an opportunity to donate to one or many nonprofit organizations from **Thanksgiving Day to**

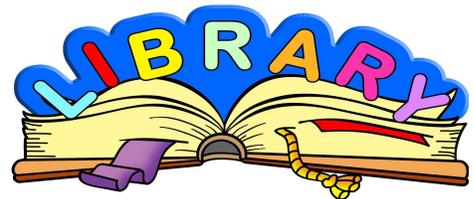
December 31. WAGS is one of 80+ organizations participating this year. Here are the particulars, straight from the folks at Community Foundation:

- Visit www.GiveNCW.org
- Click or tap on the **Donate** button on the organization you want to support .
- Enter the amount and **Continue Giving** until you are ready to check out.
- **100% of your donation** goes straight to the organization/s you support—we [Community Foundation] even take care of the credit card fees (unless you opt to do that yourself, which we always appreciate)!
- You'll receive a **tax receipt from the Community Foundation** and the Foundation will send your giving information on to the organization (unless you choose to be anonymous).
- Give on a **Funday Monday** and you'll be entered to **win \$1,000 to use on GiveNCW** any way you choose! Community Foundation will draw 5 winners each week.
- **Give to All** and your donation will be **matched** (up to \$50,000), thanks to our Partners in Giving, and equally distributed to all organizations.

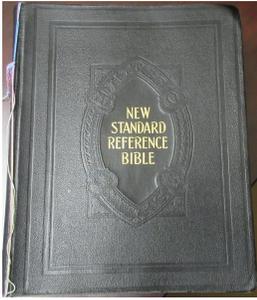
All GiveNCW nonprofit organizations are 501c3 public charities in good standing, and are creating significant value to the quality of life in North Central Washington. Your donations provide vital human services, creative arts and cultural experiences, preserve local history, protect local lands, and support the array of amazing recreation amenities across the region.

From the WAGS Library . . .

There's lots of work going on behind the scenes at the library. One of our goals this year is to clean up loose ends, and a really huge unfinished project is our scrapbooks—there are scrapbooks in all stages of not-quite-readiness! Our proofreaders and indexers are going full speed, and then will come assembling and at last display. The scrapbooks (Anniversaries and Celebrations, Old News, News in the Making) are a valuable compilation of local history. Our out-of-town visitors are always very appreciative that we are preserving the local history in this way.

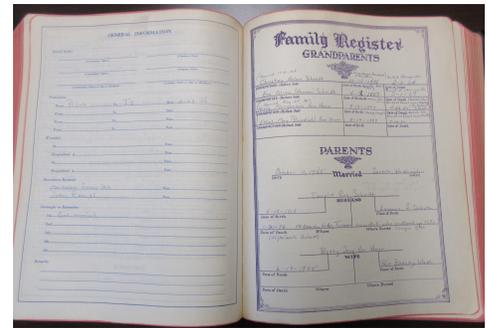


WAGS Library hours are 1:00 to 4:00, Tuesdays and Saturdays. Stop by and take a look around!



Why we do what we do . . .

A couple months ago, someone brought in a lovely bible, dropped off at the Waterville Thrift Store, that was in very good shape, considering it was copyrighted in 1936. All the family pages in the middle were



neatly and carefully filled out. A WAGS researcher took on the challenge of locating a family member—success! A young man in the Boise area is thrilled to receive this important part of his heritage. Just to hear the excitement in his voice was more than worth the time spent.

November board meeting

The WAGS board will meet virtually on **Wednesday, November 8 at 5:30 p.m.** *Note the different time!* The Zoom info will be posted on the Events Calendar and Latest News and Events on our website.



Sunrise, sunset . . .

Back in the old days, people didn't start doing genealogy until they were retired, so WAGS has long since fallen into the habit of having our meetings in the daytime, when the rest of the world is working. Today, with online research and DNA matching offering the ability to work an hour here and an hour there,

more of our members are still part of the working world. **Would you attend/volunteer more if our Board and Membership meetings were in the evening?** Let us hear from you! Email us at Library@wags-web.org.

Our new bookkeeper

WAGS has hired Susanne Altman, CPA PLCC to keep our books. Susan Rumble and Diane Gundersen will share the task of interfacing with her. We're thankful for our past Treasurers: Joanne Calhoun serving for 30+ years (!); and Shirley Acheson more recently. Both have done a wonderful job of keeping us financially on track.

An exciting new website!

From the University of Montana News Service: When the Cold War grew chillier around 1950, the U.S. military worried about a communist land invasion of the United States. So pilots were employed – many of them veterans of World War II – to photograph the entire country using aircraft.

This 70-year-old archive of overlapping photos was taken at different angles, providing topographic information for artillery in the event the Soviets rolled onto American soil. Such a “Red Dawn” never happened, but those pilots created an invaluable historical snapshot that predates useful satellite imagery by decades.

The collection was stored away and eventually digitized by the U.S. Geological Survey. Now the University of Montana and its partners have created a new tool, **Landscape Explorer**, which combines those 1950s photos with modern satellite imagery. It can be found online at <https://www.landscapeexplorer.org/>.

Read more at <https://www.umt.edu/news/2023/10/101723expl.php>.

Welcome

We have four new members this month: **Gerald Kroon** from Coupeville, Washington; **Tim Davenport** of Bellingham; **Kathleen Zesiger** of Okanogan; and **Christine Fuller** of Apple Valley, California. Welcome to WAGS—wishing you successful research.

WAGS Library hours

Tuesday and Saturday, 1-4pm
Wednesday afternoons, digitizing by appt.
127 South Mission, Wenatchee
(corner of Yakima and Mission)

FamilySearch Center hours:

Tuesdays 1-4 pm; 7-9 pm
Wednesday 1-4pm; 7-9 pm
(Hank's night, and Spanish-speaking available)
Thursday 1-4 pm
667 10th Street, NE in East Wenatchee

Remember Hank's Genealogy 101 class on the first Wednesday evening of the month—November 1 at 7:00 p.m.



SAVE THE DATE FOR
RootsTech
2024

FEBRUARY 29 – MARCH 2

RootsTech

February 29 to March 2, 2024
Live at Salt Lake City and via Zoom
See more information at
<https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/home>

Wishing you a lovely Thanksgiving, savoring your family ties, past and present
Susan Rumble, WAGS President

