

Benton County Genealogical Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 1646, Philomath, OR 97370

<http://www.bcgs-oregon.org>

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December 2017

From the Desk of the President, by George Davidson

Suggestion: Go to <http://www.bcgs-oregon.org/main-site/blank-forms>, download a Family Group or Pedigree Chart and give to a child or grandchild (if you can get their cell phone out of their hands) and share your family history. Maybe a school project for the child to complete. Your family tree software may also have the option to create a chart, ancestry report etc. With a little luck the child will become infected with the genealogy disease (no cure).



QUILTING IN THE 1930S

by Libby Russell

It was the best of times . . .

The 1920s' Colonial Quilt Revival. As America roared through the 1920's heirloom quilts were brought out of storage and became decorative, not just a bed cover as modern women decorated in the Early American style. Textile mills produced a wide variety of pretty fabrics and women had the money to purchase them. These were years of prosperity and change in household life. Life was easier. The American home had electrical, gas, and water lines. Life was different with automobiles, washing and sewing machines, radios, and motion pictures. Quilts were available by mail order and many companies sold quilt patterns, updated with modern colors and styles.



It was the worst of times . . .

When the economic depression happened many Americans were unable to afford these luxuries. It was time for scrimping and getting by, making do or doing without. But the quilt making frenzy continued unabated long after the stock market crash of 1929. Women's magazines advertised ready made quilt supplies. 500 quilt patches for \$1. Quilt blocks \$1 per dozen. When hard times came, the soft pastel colors were promoted in women's magazines. Quilt designers introduced a full palette of pastel colors, art nouveau stylings, elaborately shaped borders, and floral and Dutch-girl appliques. Quilt kits with die-cut pieces were produced as well as stamped designs for applique placement.



The most common source of quilt patterns in the 1930's was the newspaper. Due to improved, low-cost media forms such as the newspaper, magazine, and mail order



catalog, even the most remote farm family had access to the great national marketplace. Improved mail systems, highways, and railroads brought the same type of fabric and quilt patterns quickly and inexpensively to women in all regions of the country. Editors of magazines and newspapers discovered that needlework patterns and quilt patterns sold magazines and newspapers. Designers suddenly found themselves in demand and thousands of new or updated quilt patterns entered the market.

Many basic necessities were packaged in textile sacks - flour, corn meal, salt and sugar. When flour companies discovered that women were cutting up flour sacks for quilt pieces, plain muslin was replaced with bright prints and detachable paper labels. Depression Era quilters began to purchase their flour with the sack in mind. I call these quilts Happy Quilts.

The Depression Era quilt became so prevalent that it became the epitome of American quilt design. For many it is the only quilt style they know. Double Wedding Ring, and Grandmother's Flower Garden are patterns recognizable by the general population. The Wedding Ring pattern is based on a nineteenth century pattern called Pickle Dish. With the beginning of WWII came the end of the Great Depression and employment opportunities for women.



All of the above is paraphrased from **SOFT COVERS FOR HARD TIMES, QUILTMaking & THE GREAT DEPRESSION** by Merikay Waldvogel. "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." is the first line in the book: A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens.

Notes by Linda Olsen:

Thank you to Bonnie Wallis for displaying her family "Tulip Garden" quilt for the annual quilt show in October 2017. After reading the historical article attached to the quilt hanging on the wall at Fitness Over Fifty, I asked Bonnie for permission to print it in our BCGS Newsletter. Bonnie put me in touch with Libby who kindly gave her permission to print her historical view of quilts and quilt making.

Books on the history of quilting:

1. Cross, Mary Bywater. **TREASURES IN THE TRUNK: QUILTS OF THE OREGON TRAIL.** Nashville, TN: Rutledge Hill Press, 1993.
2. Revised and expanded version of **TREASURES IN THE TRUNK** published in 1993 by Rutledge Hill Press. The 2006 edition includes new quilts, new images, and new history on each of the quilters. The author traced all the families back to the immigrant ancestor and includes information on Oregon settlement and community development
3. Cross, Mary Bywater. **QUILTS OF THE OREGON TRAIL.** Schiffer, 2006.
4. Kirkpatrick, Jane. Aurora: **AN AMERICAN EXPERIENCE IN QUILT, COMMUNITY AND CRAFT.** [Aurora, Willamette Valley, Oregon] WaterBrook Press, 2008. 168p. 9781400074280

Also see the “Oregon Quilt Project” website: <http://oregonquiltproject.org/Home.php>

If you are interested in documenting quilts, contact information and a description of the process can be found at this site.



Here's an article that would be of interest to a broad range of genealogy enthusiasts. On the right hand menu of Eastman's newsletter is a column of the "Most Popular Articles in Recent Days" and the article on ebooks grabbed my attention.

Where to Download thousands of free ebooks article from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter <https://blog.eogn.com/2017/11/27/where-to-download-thousands-of-free-ebooks/>

Eastman's Copyright rules are straight forward.

<https://blog.eogn.com/copyrights-and-other-legal-things/>



Our salute to veterans on Nov 11th, 2017. Thanks to the many who shared their memories and displays.



Thanks Peggy Gee for your wonderful refreshment table.



Librarian's Corner, Sue Van Laere, BCGS Librarian

We have received some interesting books this year, both donated and purchased. Following is a selection of titles. For a complete list, see the bulletin board on the library door. Stop by soon!



| Inventory # | Category | Title |
|-------------|----------------|---|
| 4205 | Family History | Alan B. Berg |
| 4206 | Family History | Erwin B. Lemon |
| 4207 | Family History | T.J. Starker |
| 4225 | Family History | The O'Bannons of Southeast Missouri |
| 4212 | Germany | German Census Records: 1816-1916 |
| 4223 | Germany | In Search of Your German Roots: 5 th Edition |
| 4199 | How-to | TLC for Old Images |
| 4181 | Ireland | The Surnames of Ireland |
| 4184 | Map-Ireland | Genealogical Atlas of Ireland |
| 4191 | Ireland | Famine Diary: Journey to a New World |
| 4198 | Map-Ireland | Irish Family Names Map |
| 4224 | Ireland | The Family Tree Irish Genealogy Guide |
| 4219 | Oregon | An 1839 Wagon Train Journal |
| 4202 | Map-Oregon | Atlas of Oregon |
| 4188 | Oregon-Benton | Bellfountain Giant Killers |
| 4210 | Oregon-Benton | Camp Adair |
| 4215 | Oregon-Benton | Philomath and the Marys River Settlement |
| 4218 | Oregon-Benton | History of Benton County, Oregon: Biographies |
| 4197 | Oregon-Lincoln | History of the Blodgett Tract: 1890-1946 |



Note from Sue Van Laere: I'll bring a box of the discarded CDs to the auction for you to peruse and take what you want. I'm working on putting them in large categories to make it easier to locate items. Even if they are no longer usable, you could use them as art projects. See Pinterest for ideas.



It is the First of the Month, *Back Up Your Files!!*





Monthly Programs

2017

December: **Our Society's Annual Holiday Auction and Pot Luck Party**. Lots of laughter and fun. A fundraiser for our society.

2018

January: Erlinda Gonzales-Berry will speak on "**The History of Mexicans in Oregon**" and her connection to first Spanish/Mexican colonizers to settle north of the Rio Grande in 1598

February: Gail Downs is scheduled for a presentation on "**The Black Suitcase Mystery**".

March: Jan Meranda will present a program about the "**Letitia Carson Story**" with updates. A toddler bed thought to be from the Carson family can be viewed following Jan's program.

Jan's first book in a series: **Freedom's Light: The Letitia Carson Story Begins**

Jane Kirkpatrick's novel, **A Light in the Wilderness** was inspired by the Letitia Carson stories

April: Tentatively, Ron Deyoung will present a program about his 10,000 mile research trip.

May: TBA

June: Summer Potluck

December Holiday Auction and Potluck

BCGS Holiday Auction Suggested Items

Food (Homemade items)

 breads, cookies, stollen breads

 honey, jams, apple butter

Mixes in a jar - soups, chili, cookies, wines

Kitchen items

 salt & pepper shakers

 bowls, mugs filled or not w/ festive items

hot pot holders, towels, pastry brush

package of expensive coffee

Christmas cookie cutters, stamps (Rycraft)

Christmas/holiday

decorations, wall hangings

decorative storage containers, candy dish

decorative small bell, angel - small decorations

Christmas wreaths or swags (real or artificial)

Clock

basket of festive items

Books, maps, CDs, DVDs

Genealogy, Christmas stories, decorative, children's books

photo albums

Fabric items - scarves, blankets (fleece, crochet, knitted), bags (handy carry-all), pillows

Surprise bag (filled with several wrapped small gift items)

Pet items - catnip decorative bags, photos, carvings, toys

Personal service such as baby sitting, genealogy research time etc.



BCGS General Meetings are held on the 2nd Saturday of the month, September through June.

The December 2017 meeting will be on **Saturday, December 9th at 10 am** in the Social Hall of the College United Methodist Church, Philomath, everyone is welcome! **At 11 am** we will have our **program**, followed by refreshments at the Annex.

Board Meetings are held the Wednesday before the general meeting; the **Board meeting** will be on **Wednesday, December 6th at 12:30 pm- 2:00 pm** in the Philomath Public Library meeting room, all members are invited.



Benton County Genealogical Society Officers:

George Davidson, President, 928-205-2121 gid1943@gmail.com
Ron DeYoung, Past President, ron.deyoung@gmail.com
Kathryn Moss, V. P. mosskathryn@gmail.com
Linda Olsen, Secretary, thekeeper@ronsarchive.com
Lois Courtney, Treasurer, loiscourtney@cmug.com
Connie Patterson, Membership connie.eckart.patterson@gmail.com
Sue VanLaere, Librarian, vanlaere@proaxis.com



Here is an announcement about free webinars offered by the International Society for British Genealogy and Family History (ISBGFH). I thought you might like to include this in the newsletter. Registration is required though there is no charge for these webinars.

Each year ISBGFH sponsors the British Institute in Salt Lake City. Next year it will be October 15-19. I have attended for the past three years. The presenters of these webinars will be the speakers for their respective tracks at the Institute.

Here is a link to the society's website International Society for British Genealogy and Family History



Ballot:

It's that time again when we need to elect BCGS officers for the coming year.

Please write in your choice for the positions listed and return it to the December general meeting! Many thanks for those who turned in a ballot on 11 Nov.

BCGS

Ballot

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|--|
| President: | George Davidson | |
| (write in) | | |

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------|--|
| Vice Pres. | Kathryn Moss | |
| (write in) | | |

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------|--|
| Secretary | Linda Olsen | |
| (write in) | | |

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------|--|
| Treasurer | Lois Courtney | |
| (write in) | | |



Enjoy the Benefits of 2018 Membership

Benton County Genealogical Society P.O. Box 1646 Philomath, OR 97370

Name _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Membership dues are \$20.00 per year. The newsletter can be sent by E-mail or US mail (for an additional fee).

Please indicate your preference.

_____ New _____ E-mail

_____ Renewal _____ US mail*

* Add \$10.00 to cover printing and mailing costs

Enclosed is: \$_____ for membership dues \$_____ library donation

For family memberships please list all names:
