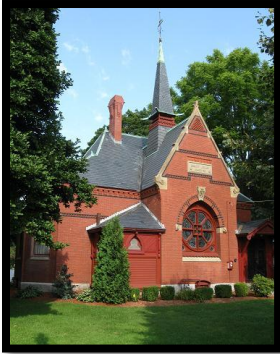


Benton County Genealogical Society Newsletter
P.O. Box 1646, Philomath, OR 97370
Volume 34 Issue 9
November 2016



From the Desk of the President Ron DeYoung

The library in our little Massachusetts town was an ancient brick building with massive stained glass windows, an interior of beautiful, dark and intricate woodwork with tall rooms full of book-laden shelves, each one a treasure to explore. It was nearly beyond my comprehension, to have my own library card which permitted me to choose any book, to sit and read or carry the worlds within those pages home to devour.

The children's section was uninteresting but I could go anywhere and choose any book that suited my interest, natural history, biology, sciences, maps, science fiction.....for a little book worm it was heaven on earth.

As a teen, Ray Bradberry's book, *Fahrenheit 451* and the film by François Truffaut created a dark vision of a dystopian world where all books were banned. A group of outcasts that loved books lived in the woods and memorized them, each person becoming the story, teaching each other as one aged or became ill, the old teaching the young. I was struck by a world where there were no stories, no written books, it seemed empty, flat, sad, something most dreadful and living as an outcast in the woods seemed the far better choice.

I recently listened to an old friend's tale of how he met his wife, how he grew up on a small farm in the very rural, north of Maine until he entered the army toward the end of World War II. This wonderful, surprising, heart-warming reverie of this farmer's kid then in the company of other state-side soldiers would cruise the burger joints of the distant city where pretty girls on skates would zoom out to take their order, the food a secondary interest to the presence of young ladies. One fetching young lady caught this young soldier's eye, he asked her out for a date and she accepted on a Tuesday, again on Thursday, and the following Tuesday, he proposed to her, she accepted and two months later they were married. The happiness in his voice, still tinged with surprise how a skinny farm kid from Maine who only knew the sparse sandy Maine soil and its potatoes came to marry a beautiful woman in the city some 60+ years before. Thankfully, this fellow knows the value of writing family history and these precious tales heard that night are recorded, not to be lost. Stories such as these uplift and delight, bring a smile to our face, a reminder that this world is just unbelievable. We walk among people with stories that are too precious not to be shared and recorded.

This being said, I know that many of my stories will die within me. How can one really express the full expanse, depth, breadth and the most remarkable blessing it is to be alive, to have had our years, our friends and family, to have served others? What a rich abundance of experiences we all have had, the good, ones we would have omitted, yet they provide the contrast to the remarkable chain of events that our eyes have beheld!

May we each write what moves us most, to keep it always on our agenda. For, which would we choose, to breathe our last with a remote in hand and some pointless drivel blaring on the screen or with a pad of paper on our lap, a pen in our hand and a lasting smile born of pleasant reverie upon our face? What written legacy will we leave as a memorial for having been here?



Thank You Veterans from A Grateful Nation and Our Society

We celebrate Veterans Day in remembrance of all those who have donned the uniforms of our Nation's military. Originally known as Armistice Day, it commemorated the signing of the Armistice, on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of the year 1918, which officially ended the First World War. Thank you Veterans."



November Program: Finding Family, Genealogy and DNA Analysis

Mary Gallagher, Benton County Historical Society Director of Collections will present a fascinating story of genealogical sleuthing and the tools of DNA analysis that she has employed to find her family.

Having heard snippets of this while serving with her at the museum, it is a fascinating tale of detective skills and the tools that DNA analysis can provide. Don't miss this opportunity to hear this wonderful tale! Ron D.



October Program Review: Ties That Bind, by Linda Olsen

Communications Professor, Bobette Bushnell, PhD, presented an intriguing program on ways to share family history with your children, grandchildren and generations to come. She has always thought of herself as a story teller and her children begged her to tell them real bedtime stories. As her story unfolded she gave us ideas to develop a strong family narrative and told us why it is important for children to know their family history.

Bobette asked us specific questions directly related to family history which helped focus on our knowledge about specific ancestors. These "Do You Know" questions directed towards parents and grandparents asked if you knew where your parents first met and where they were married. Other questions asked if you knew where your father and mother grew up, went to school, and jobs they had. Were there hardships, illnesses or accidents that your parents experienced? Are there ancestors that you look like or that have similar interests and characteristics as you do? What about the siblings in each generation? Who were they and what was happening in the family at the time they were born? Questions like these, if repeated often enough, help even the youngest children learn to identify their individual ancestors and absorb their family history.

Our members wanted to know why knowing family history helps children be more resilient and emotionally happy throughout their lives? Through research, Bobette found information to support how knowing family history strengthens children's self-esteem. They know they are a part of something larger than themselves, their identity is more than just themselves and they know that they are not

alone. They can withstand hardships better when they know about someone else in their family who survived unpleasant events. Knowing the good events as well as the painful events in their ancestors' lives give children resilience. Children who can reminisce can understand other people better and have better emotional skills, less anxiety and better coping skills.

Bobette shared a book made by her daughter, Tasha Bushnell Nuno, "Real Bedtime Stories", consisting of ancestors' pictures and family history stories written for each selected ancestor, one person or one married couple to a single large page. The book was arranged with her father's family first followed by her mother's family in the same book. The ancestor's surname was written at the top of the page in large letters. This hardbound book was published by Shutterfly with good quality paper and oversized pages similar to a large story book. It was a natural project for Bobette's daughter. She grew up hearing these family stories told over and over again and wanted the same experience for her children.

Resources mentioned in the presentation:

1. Bruce Feiler, an author and researcher, wrote The Secrets of Happy Families— a quote from his book as adapted from an article he wrote titled "The Stories That Bind Us" published in the New York Times: "„,„if you want a happier family, create, refine and retell the story of your family's positive moments and your ability to bounce back from the difficult ones..” That act alone may increase the odds that your family will thrive for many generations to come.”

http://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/17/fashion/the-family-stories-that-bind-us-this-life.html?_r=0

2. familysearch.org

3. The Stories That Bind Us: What Are the Twenty Questions? By Marshall Duke, PhD

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/marshall-p-duke/the-stories-that-bind-us-_b_2918975.html



Writer's Corner: #1 by Mary Dean Snelling

Writers Corner will give tips for writing your family history. Each month for the remainder of the year guidelines for good writing and good storytelling will be presented. There are a multitude of books written on the topic. The information included here are generally accepted guidelines.

Something to consider

What can we do to enrich our family history for future generations which might be lost once we are gone:

- Label old photographs with names, dates and places, if known.
- **Write family stories**
- Obtain DNA reports for yourself and relatives

We all love doing the research and making new discoveries. It is quite an obsession for many of us. It is just so much fun! However, most of this information can be gathered by future generations and probably with greater ease as materials are digitized and become more readily available. Think about how we would love to find a family history written about our ancestors. We can give this gift to future generations.

Start writing as soon as possible. Decide which ancestor or ancestors you would like to write about – anything that interests you:


- One ancestor
- One family
- Part of your life story (autobiography)
- A specific subject, topic, or event

Some ideas:

- You could create a collection of stories about a person, family or event. Do not try to write your entire family history. Limit the scope of the narrative.
- Remember that getting started is the most difficult part.
- Keep a tiny notebook on the kitchen counter or any place else where your thoughts tend to flow. Jot down your memories and notes about the ancestor(s) in the notebook as thoughts occur to you. You can transfer your list to your word processing program later.



History hewn on headstones Corvallis Gazette-Times March 20, 1991



Wendy J. Becker/Gazette-Times

Jean Grube, left, Damaris Reynolds, and Rebecca Kiger, right, inspect an historic headstone in the Oddfellows Cemetery on Witham Hill Drive. The three Corvallis women have compiled a book of names from headstones in Benton County cemeteries.

Group surveys cemeteries

By Wendy Fisher
Gazette-Times reporter

Every Wednesday volunteers from the Mid-Valley Genealogical Society meet in one of Benton County's 24 cemeteries or five private family plots.

What they've discovered already has filled four books that list more than 12,000 people buried in the county. Also among the finds have been the headstone of a former slave and numerous lively epitaphs.

The goal of the four-year venture is to establish a record of buried local residents and ease the search of people looking for clues to their own family histories.

In addition to recording the names and epitaphs, the group has made pencil and paper rubbings of headstone designs in each cemetery.

"We really enjoyed it," said Rebecca Kiger, a volunteer headstone recorder. Volunteers found the slave headstone in

Another said, "Now I'm not lost, I know where I'm going."

the 1700s.

Some of the epitaphs also were interesting, Grube said.

On one headstone was written, "She did what she could." Another said, "Now I'm not lost, I know where I'm going."

Kiger said the fifth book is almost complete but they still have to record Oaklawn Cemetery on Southwest Whiteside Drive. That will likely take them until June because Oaklawn is the largest cemetery in the county.

The books include brief histories of each cemetery and an alphabetical listing of those buried there and where their plots are located.

Among the five books is a separate one of military burials.

The society chose the effort as one of its community service projects.

And to make a little money for the society, Grube said. But so far, sales have been slow.

"Honoring our Society's Past History" by Linda Olsen

"I found it in a box of obituaries which had been originally collected by Maybelle Martsching, then Danell Aukerman before I looked through the box. The newspaper article and large photo, from 1991, displays great history about our society. The featured BCGS members gathering the names and information from the tombstones used the information to publish our Benton County Cemetery Records books. It sort of "turns the tables" a bit to look back into our society's history rather than focusing on current methods to gather genealogical research. However, searching through boxes of "stuff" is still a time-honored research technique to discover new/old information.





Librarian's Corner, by Sue Vanleare

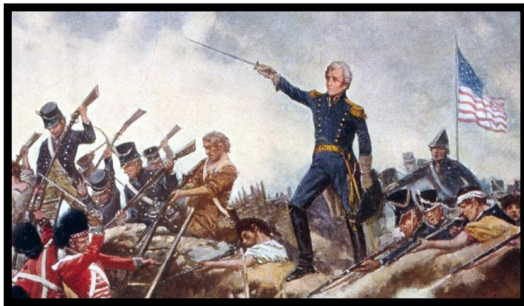
Come check out the recent new titles in the Ireland section of our library, thanks to one of our longtime members, Pat Coolican. Thank you, Pat, for your generous gift.

Besides the Irish titles, Pat also gave us a copy of *The Bellfountain Giant Killers*. It's the wondrous story of a Benton County town's basketball team's journey to the Oregon State Championship in 1937. I hope you'll take a look at this small book. It's inspirational.

Several other books in the Germany, New York, and Reference sections are now in the library also. I will post a list of the new books on the library door bulletin board.

Thanks to George Davidson, we now have three computers in the library that are connected to the internet. We also have wi-fi for those who want to use their own computers when they come to do research at the library. This was a fantastic gift of not only computers but time and tenacity from George. When you see George, give him a hearty thank you!

Our BCGS writing group has started up again. We're all working together to help each other with our family stories. Please join us on the third Tuesday of each month in the Annex from 1:00-3:00. You'll be welcomed!



That Distinctive Family Name.....Andrew Jackson Winkler, My 2nd Great-Grandfather by Sue Vanlaere

For years, I've been curious about a name in our Winkler family. My second great-grandfather was born in Kentucky in 1829 and named Andrew Jackson Winkler. He named one of his sons Andrew Jackson, too, my dad's grandfather. In this large Kentucky Winkler family, several extended relatives also were given that name.

So, I finally decided to do some ancestor sleuthing.

I knew that Andrew Jackson, who was from Tennessee, had been elected President in 1828. And I also knew that he was a politician who appealed to the common people. Think of the famous story of his Inaugural Ball where crowds of people off the streets were invited (and invited themselves) into the White House to celebrate. My Kentucky relatives were, for the most part, farmers living up the "hollers" of Crooked Creek in Estill County, the very people who would approve of someone like Jackson.

In researching why Kentuckians might have been interested in Jackson enough to name their children after him, I found another connection in the War of 1812. Jackson was the heralded hero of the Battle of New Orleans against the British, and, accompanying him were hundreds of Kentucky volunteers. In fact, 25% of those who fought in the war were from Kentucky. Many of these soldiers were self-sufficient backwoodsmen and farmers, not formally educated. Jackson himself was the same kind of self-made man, tough and confident.

Focus forward to 1828: Jackson is running for the Presidency. He has chosen to use a song for his campaign titled "Hunters of Kentucky", which happened to be about the Battle of New Orleans. Several stanzas refer to the prowess of Kentucky riflemen and their role in overcoming the British in New Orleans.

"But Jackson he was wide awake,
And was not scared of trifles,
For well he knew what aim we take,
With our Kentucky* rifles:
So, he led us down by Cypress swamp,
The ground was low and mucky,
There stood John Bull** in martial pomp,
And here was old Kentucky.

They did not let our patience tire,
Before they show'd their faces;
We did not choose to waste our fire,
So, snugly kept our places.
But when so near we saw them wink,
We thought it time to stop 'em,
And 'twould have done you good, I think,
To see Kentuckians drop 'em."

**the Kentucky rifles were actually Pennsylvania rifles*

*** John Bull was a symbol for Great Britain*

The last quoted stanza might be somewhat familiar to you, even though this song was written 200 years ago. In 1959 Johnny Horton sang a song titled "Battle of New Orleans." One stanza goes like this:

"Old Hickory said we could take 'em by surprise
If we didn't fire our muskets till we looked 'em in the eyes
We held our fire till we seed their faces well
Then we opened up our squirrel guns and really gave them
Well we..."
"Refrain"

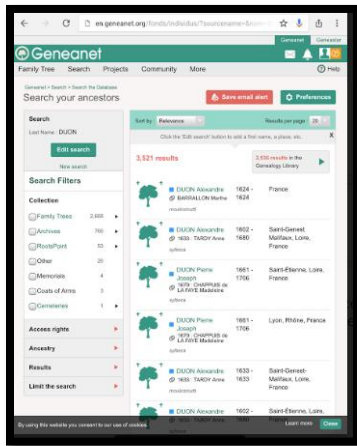
This particular song was written in 1945 by Jimmy Driftwood, an Arkansas school principal, who wanted to find a way to interest students in history. I knew when I read the stanza from the old song that I had heard something like it before as the Johnny Horton song. I was surprised when I did further research, and I was right. I knew it would come in handy to know the words to that song sometime!

Although I'll never know for certain that these are the reasons for naming my ancestors Andrew Jackson, it seems plausible to me. I've never found this name in my family history before 1829. My ancestors clearly liked what they saw in Jackson and identified with him. Even though we think of farmers at that time as living isolated lives, I don't believe that's true. They might not have been reading newspapers much, but the spoken-word grapevine was loud and clear. They knew their neighbors well because they depended on each other. And those who could read surely shared ideas they read. If anything, I think people paid more attention politically than we do today.

Of course, President Andrew Jackson has a different reputation now than he had at that time. But I remember that I can't judge my ancestors from that era completely by my own experience; rather it's important to understand the context in which they lived their lives. If their ancestors had been in the United States for a generation or two, they had many experiences that we can only contemplate. They had to decide if they were going to continue under British rule or fight against it. Even though it was wrong, most of them had purchased land taken from the Indians by the Colonial government and then had to fight the Indians for it. Their lives were hard, they were financially poor and they obviously believed that Andrew Jackson was on their side.

References:

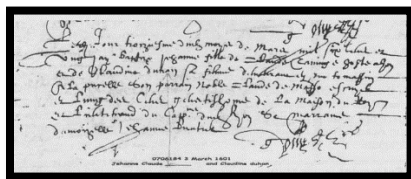
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The-Hunters-of-Kentucky>
www.eyewitnesshistory.com/jacksoninauguration.htm



GeneaNet: A European Genealogy Website, by Ron DeYoung

GeneaNet, launched in 1996 in France is a subscription-based, genealogy website, one that you may find useful if you descend from European, particularly French ancestors. Although GeneaNet is much smaller than Family Search and Ancestry.com, it is unique; it is designed for collaboration between contributors. GeneaNet primarily contains family trees and the means to compare and collaborate with one another. Who knows, you might find ancestors and living cousins in the trees there who still live in “the old country”!

I found over 4300 family members with my original, unusual surname, dating to the 1500s. GeneaNet isn't a source-rich tree full of documents, records and pictures in the typical sense; it is designed to connect with others, your cousins, who may have information you seek. It does have access to a surname searchable database of publications, newspapers, journal articles and, in those articles, original documents.



An example is this 1601 St. Nizier, France baptismal record for my Duon ancestor. There are many records not yet on-line, found only by trips to European archives, published in research annals or from cousins who have access to those records. How better to get to know your family than to communicate with them?

Attributes

- Many family trees (130 million data points).
- Ability to contact the other researchers.
- Link to some of GeneaNet's own genealogical records or surname-searchable published research and newspapers.
- A Forum of users and collaborators where you can post specific questions about one another's trees.

An excerpt from a review of GeneaNet:

"GeneaNet is a family-friendly website with genealogical archives to help you build your family tree. It has several tools for collaborative research, including forums. You can seek collaborative assistance, import previous GEDCOM information and upload your own photos and stories."

You can read the article here: <http://genealogy-websites.no1reviews.com/geneanet.html>



Ireland Reaching Out – A Different Kind of Genealogy Web Site,
Dick Eastman October 4, 2016

"Are you of Irish Heritage? Would you like to find out more about where your ancestors came from and even connect with people still living in that place today? **Ireland Reaching Out** is the national diaspora programme and has been connecting people of Irish descent with their ancestral home since 2009.



Most genealogy web sites are designed for use by descendants who wish to learn more about their ancestor and their ancestors' homelands. Ireland Reaching Out goes in both directions: it is used both by residents in Ireland to find the descendants of Irish men and women who left the island over the years and by the Irish overseas descendants seeking information about their ancestors and heritage. Both groups benefit greatly.

Ireland Reaching Out is a non-profit organization financed largely by the Irish government. It has pioneered what it calls "reverse genealogy". Rather than waiting for people to trace their Irish ancestry, it constructs family trees from root to branch, tracking down the descendants of those who left for America, Australia and other countries. Volunteers then invite them to visit the homeland. The hope is to eventually build a database of the Irish diaspora containing 30 or 40 million names." More at:

<https://blog.eogn.com/2016/10/04/ireland-reaching-out-a-different-kind-of-genealogy-web-site/>





Rare Early Travel & Migration Records Published Online at Findmypast by Dick Eastman, October 7, 2016

“Over 27,000 early travel and migration records have been published online for the first time at Findmypast.

- New online records reveal the details of pioneering overseas travellers at the dawn of the age of sail
- Over 27,000 “Licences to Pass beyond the Seas” spanning 1573 to 1677
- Collection includes rare early records of passengers bound for the America

Released in association with The National Archives, the new “Britain, Registers of Licences to Pass beyond the Seas 1573 – 1677” collection records the details of pioneering early travellers who left Britain for Ireland, continental Europe, New England, Virginal, Barbados, Bermuda and other overseas colonies at the dawn of the age of sail.”

“The collection is comprised of fully searchable transcripts and scanned colour images of original documents.....” It includes lists of soldiers who signed a statutory oath of allegiance before serving in the “Low Countries” between 1613 and 1633, licenses for individuals travelling to Europe between 1573 and 1677, and registers pertaining to individuals travelling to the Americas between 1634 and 1639.”

“The records showing passengers licensed to embark to the Americas are tremendously rare early survivals. They record parties bound for colonies in New England, Maryland, Virginia, Barbados, Bermuda, St Kitt’s and the Providence Island colony during the 1630s. Very few original records from this early period of American history are available online and the registers record the details of some of earliest English settlers to arrive on the continent.” **(Ron’s note: FMP is available at all FHCs)**

More at: <https://blog.eogn.com/2016/10/07/rare-early-travel-migration-records-published-online-at-findmypast/>



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Susan VanLaere, Librarian		vanlaere@proaxis.com
Connie Patterson, Membership		



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

The **November meeting will be on Saturday, November 12th at 10 am** in the Social Hall of the College United Methodist Church, Philomath, everyone is welcome! The **program at 11 am** will be presented by Mary Gallagher, BCHS Collections Director. (see the article elsewhere in the newsletter)

Board Meetings are held the Tuesday before the general meeting; in November the Board meeting will be on **Tuesday, November 8th at 10 am-noon** in the Philomath Public Library meeting room, all members are invited.



BCGS 2016 Program Schedule:

November: Family Research, Mary Gallagher

December: Holiday Auction



BCGS Holiday Auction Suggested Items	
Christmas/holiday decorations, wall hangings decorative storage containers candy dish decorative small bell angel - small decorations Christmas wreaths or swags Clock basket of festive items Books, maps, CDs, DVDs genealogy Christmas stories decorative children's books photo albums	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 festive items hot pot holders, towels, pastry brush package of expensive coffee Christmas cookie cutters, stamps
Also <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	

December Auction is Coming Fast!

The December Auction will be held on Saturday, December 10 at 11am; it is both a significant fundraiser for our society and also a lot of fun!

Do you have knickknacks, items in good order that don't fit your life anymore or, talents to share for the good of the society?

Food items seem to go quite quickly as well; I often spend the year trying to figure out who made a wonderful and delicious offering!

What is surplus in your life right now that could be brought to the auction? You can find "stocking stuffers" there as well.



2017 Elections (*No.....not that one!*) for society officers

BCGS Officer Ballot 2017

BCGS Ballot							
President:		<input type="radio"/>		Secretary	Linda Olsen	<input type="radio"/>	
(write in)		<input type="radio"/>		(write in)		<input type="radio"/>	
Vice Pres.		<input type="radio"/>		Treasurer	Lois Courtney	<input type="radio"/>	
(write in)		<input type="radio"/>		(write in)		<input type="radio"/>	