

Benton County Genealogical Society Newsletter
P.O. Box 1646, Philomath, OR 97370
<http://www.bcgs-oregon.org>
Volume 35 Issue 4
April 2017



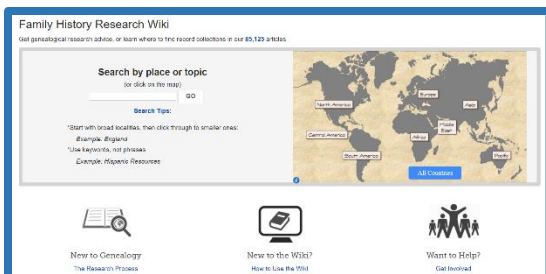
From the Desk of the President by George Davidson

Many thanks to everyone for the wonderful attendance at our last general meeting.

I appreciate the interaction among our members and the great presentation by Dawn Carlile.

I understand we had three new members sign up with a potential member who may join.

Looking forward to seeing everyone again on April 8th.



The FamilySearch Wiki: The April program will provide an overview of the FamilySearch Wiki. It will highlight the Wiki's value, diverse resources and an introduction to its use. The Wiki is sometimes called the most overlooked part of FamilySearch and yet it contains records that will not be found elsewhere. It contains over 85,000 articles, access to approximately 2 billion

images and provides research strategies in 245 countries in 10 languages. Learn how you may search unindexed collections of millions of browseable images and find what you seek. Would you like to know about the history, culture, customs of the people and places your ancestors lived? Come and see what the FamilySearch Wiki has to offer and what you may offer to its vast store of knowledge; I believe you will be quite surprised! Program and article by Ron DeYoung



Using Online Digitized Newspapers in Your Genealogical Research The March Program Review by Lois Courtney

About 40 members and guests were at our monthly program on Saturday, March 11. Dawn Carlile of the Oregon Genealogical Society gave us a comprehensive

look at newspaper resources we can use in our research. Her handout included multiple sources for free and pay sites, and she showed us how to determine what newspapers existed at the time of our ancestors in a particular area.

She described the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP), "a partnership between the [National Endowment for the Humanities \(NEH\)](#) and the Library of Congress (LC). This is a long-term effort to

develop an Internet-based, searchable database of U.S. newspapers with descriptive information and select digitization of historic pages. Supported by NEH, this rich digital resource will be developed and permanently maintained at the Library of Congress. An NEH award program will fund the contribution of content from, eventually, all U.S. states and territories.” Currently 7 states are not participating—Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Wyoming. Oregon participates and its archives are located at the University of Oregon. (<http://www.loc.gov/ndnp/>)

Particularly useful free sites are:

- Chronicling America, an outcome of the NDNP described above. The number of titles increases almost by the day. <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov>
- Google News which lists newspapers in alphabetical order <https://news.google.com/newspapers>
- And for resources in Europe <http://www.europeana-newspapers.eu>
- Newspapers from Historic Oregon, from Oregon’s official newspaper repository at the University of Oregon. <http://oregonnews.uoregon.edu>

She also gave us examples of problems with digitized images, smudges, smears, missing or faint ink, broken type. Newspapers are digitized using OCR (Optical Character Recognition) and are therefore sometimes difficult to read. Sites that allow you to enlarge what you are looking at are most useful.

Since many of us are most interested in locating obituaries, she addressed that specifically. It would be wonderful if this was easy, but you may need to read each page of an issue from the date of death to a month later. You may need to find if there were both morning and afternoon editions of the paper. It’s possible that it was never in the newspaper.

Her program was a comprehensive look at the progress of digitization, its current status, and its continuing growth. We all came away feeling more informed and ready to research.

(Ron here) Dawn kindly gave us permission to put her handout on the society’s website for one year! Note this added advice addition that Dawn Carlile shared with us:

” Before subscribing to an online newspaper website you should always look at the list of newspapers included in the subscription. Does the site have newspapers for the locations you are researching during the time period you are researching? If it doesn’t, don’t waste your money. To see what is included in the collection, and this goes for free sites as well, look for links or headings that say List of Newspapers, Titles, or Collection. I enjoyed meeting everyone and you have a great set up there.” Dawn



Welcome New Members!

We have had several people join the society recently. **Les and Sherry Fish** came to George’s February program, joined the society and were at our March meetings as well. Sherry is George’s first cousin; we’re glad to see family history runs in the family!

Susan Messersmith and **Joan Cook** have recently joined the society as well! It’s great to have you all part of the society “family”! Thank

you for your support, attendance and please let us know how we might help you!



Adair Living History's 2nd Annual Founder's Day

Saturday, May 13, 11am – 3 pm.

A free event and BBQ starting at noon with vendor booths, WWII reenactors, bounce house, South Willamette Honor Flight, "Camp Adair" book signing by John Baker, Adair Air Force Station presentation! Location: 6030 N.E. Wm. R. Carr,

Adair Village, in the authentic Camp Adair east barrack. by Faye Abraham



William Henry Fox Talbot 1864

Early Victorian Photos on new Website Dick Eastman, 14 Feb 2017

The William Henry Fox Talbot Catalogue Raisonné contains the complete corpus of the works of the Victorian inventor of photography on paper. More than 25,000 known surviving Talbot negatives and prints are now online..... The photographs are mostly from Talbot's home in Wiltshire home of Lacock Abbey as well as from Oxford, Reading, and York (England) and a few from Paris, all taken from 1839 to 1846. In most cases, these are the only known photographs of that era. The online collection is available at <http://foxtalbot.bodleian.ox.ac.uk>

(Might these photos greatly add to your period research and stories?)



The Big Four: Ancestry, FamilySearch, FindMyPast and MyHeritage by Sunny Morton at RootsTech 2017, review by Ron DeYoung

This presentation gives a good overview of these major databases, provides their strengths, costs and differences. Note: the acronyms of FS, AN, FMP and MH are used throughout. Here is the video link to the presentation: <https://www.rootstech.org/videos/sunny-morton>

Ancestry (AN), FamilySearch (FS), FindMyPast (FMP) and MyHeritage (MH) all have their strengths and all sites overlap in records somewhat. Direct comparisons are difficult as how data is measured varies from each database. Each may just have record indexes for certain collections, others may have images as well.

Historical records: Common content in each:

UK: England census through 1911 and enormous BMD records

US: Federal census through 1940, SSDI, Vital records collections (BMD)

Geographic records strengths

AN: 80 countries

- Strengths:** US, Canada, Germany, France, Italy, Sweden, Australia, Mexico, UK
- FS:** 96 countries
- Strengths:** US and globally: Unique in Central/South America, Africa and Asia
- FMP:** 7 countries,
- Strength:** England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland; growing in Australia, NZ & US
- MH:** "All"
- Strengths:** Europe, esp. Scandinavia, Germany, England, globally for Jewish ancestry

User Submitted Family Trees (in billions of records)

- AN:** 8 billion (many duplicates, many private)
- FS:** 1 billion in one single tree (no duplicates, all in one global tree)
- FMP:** none
- MH:** 2.5 billion (many duplicates)

Languages supported:

- AN** English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Swedish
- FS** Chinese, English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Swedish
- FMP** English
- MH** 42 different languages!

DNA profile or DNA connections:

- AN** with Ancestry DNA only
- MH** just beginning

Cost for subscription

- | | | | |
|------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| AN | \$198 (basic) | All access: \$298 | (free at Family History Centers/FHC) |
| FS | Free | Free | |
| FMP | \$35 (US only) | All access, \$239 | (free at Family History Centers/FHC) |
| MH | \$83 or \$119 | All access, \$180 | (free at Family History Centers/FHC) |

All offer: Index and browse only records, automated record hinting, online tutorial

Records Strengths:

- AN** City directories, mobile app, SS Claims index, US church records
- FS** "Core genealogical records": church & vital records, probate, immigration, naturalization records; FS Wiki, Catalog, mobile apps for tree & "memories", global indexing, 24 hr support,
- FMP** Strongest for digital newspapers, including US, British & Irish, "pay as you go" access, US Catholic records initiative beginning, unique "pre-famine" Irish records, PERSI (historic subject index collection), former UK Empire
- MH** Wide geographic "cousin" connections, social network platform, 42 languages, free desktop genealogical software (Family Tree Builder, synchs only with MH). Limited records content.



Librarian's Corner, by Sue Van Leare

Family History Surnames in the BCGS Library Books

I'm amazed at the number of surnames we have for research in the Family History section of our library. I knew we had quite a few, but I was surprised when I made a list. Some of the materials are privately published and others are from publishing companies. They include such material as life stories, pedigree charts and photos. I've divided the list into two parts: A through J for this month and K through W. Next month I'll include the surnames from the vertical file as well. The Family History books are labeled with a yellow dot and the first three letters of the ancestral name. They are in alphabetical order. I hope you'll take a look and see who you can find! Notes: *indicates other spellings of names, also **Barber, Reed, Judd in book #1452 ***Another Judd book #1405

Adams	Alexander	Anderson	Baker	Barber**	Reed**	Belknap	Bell
Bennett	Benton	Berthold	Bevens	Bishop	Blair	Booth	Bradford
Brawley	Bregenzer	Brewster	Bulkeley	Bull	Butrick*	Callihan	Cantelou
Carter	Casey	Childers	Coffin	Collins	Compton	Convers	Coon
Coulter	Cropsey	Culley	Cunningham	Cutter	Daniels*	Darter*	Daughter
Deane	Decker	Deeks	Dempewolf	Derthick	Dewey	Doubleday	Draper
Easter*	Edgar	Edison	Edwards	Elliott	Ellis	Emerick	Emerson
Estes	Fausts	Findley*	Flagg	Ford	Fox	Frary	Frost
Fuller	Gaines	Gallagher	Gallaher	Gamble	Garfield	Geer	Getty
Gillespie	Gillpatrick	Goeken	Goodrich	Goodridge	Goracke	Grant	Green
Gump	Hadley	Hail	Haley	Hamar	Hancock	Hardin	Harper
Hart	Henderson	Henkle	Hinton	Hoar	Hodges	Hoffman	Hoogeboom
Horning	Hukill	Hulce*	Hutchison	Inman	Jolly	Jones	Judd***



Writer's Corner #6, Question Every Word by Mary Dean Snelling

Delete all words from your narrative which do not alter the meaning. Make sure each word is important for the sentence. Some words to delete from your narrative if possible:

- Really, very** - Try to use stronger verbs or adjectives for whatever you are emphasizing. "He ran very quickly along the really long field." Better- "He sprinted across the vast field."
- Then** - eliminate when showing a sequence of events.

- **Totally, completely, absolutely, literally** - no information is added to the sentence with these words. “The box was completely full of clothes.” Better- “The box was stuffed with clothes.”
- **Rather, quite, somewhat, somehow**- A movie doesn’t have to be “rather dull,” it can just be “dull.”
- **Down, up** - “to sit down” can be just “to sit” ; “to stand up” can be just “stood.”
- **Slang and trendy phrases** - eliminate
- **“To be”** verb (am, is, are, was, were, etc.)- use sparingly.
- Eliminate the expression **The fact that** . . .

[Jones, Thomas W. *Write It Up! A Workshop for Family Historians*, Western Institute of Genealogy July 2016, Eugene, Oregon,p.15]

Mark Twain-

“I notice you use plain, simple language, short words and brief sentences. That is the way to write English — it is the modern way, and the best way. Stick to it; don't let fluff and flowers and verbosity creep in. When you catch an adjective kill it. No, I don't mean utterly, but kill most of them — then the rest will be valuable. They give strength when they are wide apart. An adjective habit, or a wordy, diffuse, flowery habit, once fastened upon a person, is as hard to get rid of as any other vice.”

[Twain, Mark, <http://www.goodreads.com/quotes/118546-i-notice-that-you-use-plain-simple-language-short-words>, accessed 1 Dec. 2016. Mark Twain in a letter to twelve-year-old David Watt Bowser, 1880]

Use simple words when they fit— familiar words that your readers will understand, and not words they will have to look up. “No advice is more elementary, and no advice is more difficult to accept. When we feel an impulse to use a marvelously exotic word, let us lie down until the impulse goes away. “

[James J. Kilpatrick, <http://www.plainlanguage.gov/resources/quotes/historical.cfm>, accessed 1 Dec. 2016]

“As for your use of language: Remember that two great masters of language, William Shakespeare and James Joyce, wrote sentences which were almost childlike when their subjects were most profound. “To be or not to be?” asks Shakespeare’s Hamlet. (**The longest word** is 3 letters.)

[Vonnegut, Kurt, <https://books.google.com> , *How to write with style*, *SPIN*, Jan. 1986, v.1, no.9]

Check a dictionary for meaning, part of speech and spelling for words that you are not certain about.

Some commonly confused words:

Allude/elude	Elusive/illusive
Affect/effect	Emigrate/immigrate
Cite/site	Imply/infer
Complement/compliment	Lay/lie
Criteria/criterion	That/which

[Jones, Thomas W. *Write It Up! A Workshop for Family Historians*, Western Institute of Genealogy July 2016, Eugene, Oregon,p.12]





Around Benton County Ron DeYoung

This is a planned periodic feature about Benton County history, communities, their people, events and items of genealogical interest. Our first article is by past president Faye Abraham, organized and submitted by Linda Olsen whose excellent vision this has been! More are planned!



Interview with William J. “Corky” Corcoran, A Navy serviceman stationed at Camp Adair, Oregon, 1945-1946

Recorded at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Corcoran in Corvallis, Oregon by Faye Abraham, March 30, 2010

William “Corky” Corcoran was working in New York City at 21 West Street in Manhattan two blocks from the place that the Twin Towers were later built, when he enlisted in the US Navy in 1942. Corky grew up spending many pleasurable days on Long Island beaches and later during his military career, he enjoyed the beaches along the beautiful Oregon coast. In this interview he tells about his career choice to join the Navy, his training, memories of serving at Camp Adair, meeting the love of his life and raising a family in Corvallis.

Bernie, a friend from high school, encouraged him to join the Navy and serve in a physical conditioning program started under Gene

Tunney, a professional boxer and physical fitness trainer. Corky enlisted, was accepted and became a “Tunney fish”. Based on his training and background in physical education he became a Chief Petty Officer. Following his enlistment in April 1942, he attended several Naval training stations including Maryland, Virginia, Rhode Island, and Sampson Naval Training base on the shore of Seneca Lake, New York. After he completed training in Physical Rehabilitation, he had a choice of two hospitals in California and one in Corvallis, Oregon, and chose Corvallis largely because of Oregon State University.

In January 1945 he traveled cross country to Corvallis and became acquainted with the welcoming citizens of Corvallis and noted how the people here treated the Navy servicemen royally. The USO in the basement of what is now City Hall on 5th and Madison Streets in downtown Corvallis was the best place to meet people. The lovely brunette serving at the snack bar took his eye and eventually, with the help of an adult hostess, Mrs. Dreesen, who was the wife of an OSU professor, Corky and Jane began a courtship and later married in August of 1945 in the First Presbyterian Church which is located on the west side of Central Park in Corvallis. Bus trips to the coast sponsored by the USO provided entertainment. Another serviceman, Chief Ralph Kenneth O’Brien, known as “Obie” and his wife, Elaine, became good friends with Corky and Jane. Jane’s father, was the Buick and Cadillac dealer in Corvallis and he remembered driving around in really nice cars with Jane. Another time, he remembered driving to the top of Marys Peak with snow on the ground. The USO dances were something to look forward to and he specifically recalled the floor length, form-fitting, purple evening gown that Jane wore and said

he was smitten –“a potent weapon,” referring to the gown. Other than being invited into people’s homes for parties, the only other forms of entertainment were movies and a tavern in downtown Corvallis. He did not meet many people from other towns in Oregon as he lived in a “self-contained world” after meeting Jane.

Not many army servicemen were still at Camp Adair when Corky arrived and since the arena was available, he organized basketball teams and later soft ball teams. As Chief Petty Officer his duties at the hospital in Camp Adair were supervisory and coordinating responsibilities. He organized activities for the men such as fishing and hiking trips around the Soap Creek area. Other servicemen trained in physical rehabilitation performed the hands on physical therapy. The patients were not seriously wounded and just needed time to recover from their injuries.

Jane’s father, M. E. Woodcock, served in France in WWI and her mother was from North Carolina. Her grandfather was M. S. Woodcock, a banker, who built his home in 1879 at 5th and Jackson in Corvallis where the Law Enforcement Building now stands. Corky proposed to Jane in this house and a replica, “doll house”, is now at the Benton County Historical Museum. The original home was purchased by Rose and Walter Kraft in 1975 and moved to its present location on Pilkington Avenue, Corvallis.

Corky and Jane stayed in touch with two other Adair Navy friends Karl Klein and Harry Perlman and his wife. Harry visited them about 7 or 8 years after Corky was discharged in 1946 when they lived on 12th Street in Corvallis near Garfield School.

At the time of this interview in 2010, Corky, now known as Bill, had just enjoyed a family reunion with four generations gathering together. “God has been with us,” he said.

Faye asked specifically about the smokestack that is such a visible landmark at Camp Adair. Bill said it was the smokestack for the heating plant at the hospital located on row C on the south end of the hospital. Faye also asked about the free postage for servicemen. Bill indicated that was offered to all servicemen. All they had to do was write FREE where the stamp would have been. He did observe some German prisoners while at Camp Adair but they were occupied with work and not involved with the servicemen.

Faye thanked Bill for the interview and for his service to our country during WWII.

Typed and edited by Linda Olsen, March 11, 2017



It is the First of the Month, [Back Up Your Files!!](#)



Benton County Genealogical Society Board Contacts

George Davidson, President 928-205-2121 [gid1943@gmail.com](mailto:gjd1943@gmail.com)
Kathryn Moss, Vice President
Ron DeYoung, Past Pres, newsletter ron.deyoung@gmail.com
Linda Olsen, Secretary thekeeper@ronsarchive.com
Lois Courtney, Treasurer loiscourtney@cmug.com
Susan VanLaere, Librarian vanlaere@proaxis.com
Connie Patterson, Membership



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

The April meeting will be on **Saturday, April 8th 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; in **April the Board meeting** will be on **Wednesday, April 5th at 12:30 pm- 2:00 pm** in the Philomath Public Library meeting room, all members are invited.

