

Benton County Genealogical Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 1646, Philomath, OR 97370

Volume 34 Issue 1

January 2016



From the Desk of the President

I missed the December general meeting and annual auction which I hear went very well and was quite enjoyable, producing a significant source of entertainment for the attendees and also, funds for the society! For those who were unable to attend, do

note the pictures in the article about the goings-on there. My defense in absentia is that my eldest grandson and wife who live in the outskirts of Salt Lake City were about to become parents at a date earlier than initially projected so I departed through a warm and very stormy Pacific Northwest “Pineapple Express”, drove into a Great Basin snowstorm and was enjoying the Family History Library in Salt Lake City during the BCGS meetings and auction. Every time I visit this world-class facility I learn something, not only data pertinent to my research but also an improved research methodology; note the article about the FamilySearch catalogue and online digital books.

My “condolences” for those of you who have been happy users of the Family Tree Maker® and recently found sales are being discontinued at the end of the 2015(!) and support for the product will end on 31 Dec 2016. This presents a challenge of where to put your family research and data, details also in the newsletter.

January’s general meeting will be on Saturday, January 9 at 10 am with a program to follow; the Board meeting will be on Tuesday, January 5, 10 am-noon at the Philomath Public Library. The January general meeting will include installation of officers for 2016, the lineup looks conspicuously like 2015; the program will follow at 11am.



Review: The BCGS December “Program”, our Annual Christmas Auction!



The Auction went very well, Ted as auctioneer was assisted by Susan Hayes to the effect of raising some \$326! Anecdotal stories relate the food was great, the company better and shopping (and shedding!) was a festive event and the after

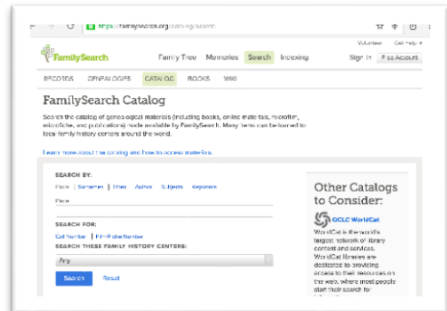


auction potluck was as fun! My thanks to all that participated, I wish I could have; I hear I missed a great tomato bisque soup and some pastries and other treats that I have been thinking about since *last* December! Thank you all! Ron D



The January Program: Acadian Roots, a Brief History: by Ron DeYoung
Our program for January will be a visual presentation of the Acadian ancestry, history and environment of those earliest settlers of Canada's Maritime Provinces.

A trip to the Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Digital Books and other Gems!



A recent trip to the Family History Library (FLH) while awaiting the birth of my great-grandson provided an occasion to benefit from a feature, digital books, which are found with greater frequency by anyone using this wonderful and free online resource. Like Ancestry, the public family trees on FamilySearch, or any other public tree is only as good as the research done and who produced its spurious trees sometimes cause people to erroneously ignore the rich resource in good family trees and, without question, the books, maps and databases available through FamilySearch and the FHL.

The number of original publications that are available through FamilySearch is impressive and the FamilySearch Catalog is quite powerful, well worth one's time to learn how to use it effectively.

It is found at familysearch.org, click Search and Catalog.

As with any resource, using an organized and well-planned strategy will bring far more results than a blind and random search; compiling a list of the resources you want to review and their relative priority before your trip will make better use of your time when you visit any archive.

Searching online in FamilySearch I made a list of books to find, including one book, a second volume which is an index to an essential, 574 page first volume, the latter discovered while in the Halifax, Nova Scotia Archives this Fall. I noted this was available at the FHL so I recorded the book name, author and the Call Number, adding this to a growing list of items to review when there. With the call number in hand I found the physical book and copied pertinent parts of it that are applicable to my research, finding births, deaths and marriages among my ancestry in the broad diaspora imposed during their expulsion from the Maritime Provinces in the mid 1700s.

I decided to review the first volume, excerpts of which I had

copied in Nova Scotia. In place of the Call Number I found that a digital copy was available for review, or download, which I promptly did. I now have a 574 page digital copy of a key book! Further searching found other books from which I previously had copied only select pages and now were likewise available for digital review or download; these are now in my own digital reference "library".

About digital books and copyrights: I know just enough about the subject to know how complicated this issue is! At the 4 day Provo Family History conference last summer, one class touched on copyrights and their complexity. A fellow attendee, a lawyer, felt the presenter must be making the subject more complicated than reality and went to the law library to research copyrights; he came back with a law book and stated it was even more complex, and at times contradictory than what the class presented. For most of us, we are covered by “fair use” of resources such as books, maps, digital media, which allows the researcher to use copy written material in their own research; the issue gets more complicated if we wish to formally publish and sell books when incorporating another’s work. I have noted over the years that the number of books available in the FHL has been diminishing, the space has given way to more computers and more books and databases digitally available through the Family Search Catalogue from anywhere in the world. Because of legal rulings on copyright law, some digital books may only be available at the FHL, others permit only a single digital copy to be reviewed by one patron at a time and some printed books have been removed from the shelves until a period of time has passed since publishing, for example, 75 years! Thankfully, older books are typically freely available for use by all. I do love physical books but I walked out of the FHL with a jump drive around my neck containing many key and priceless books central to my research that would have weighed about 150 pounds had they even been available; some I have found online and cost hundreds of dollars for a single book so, yes, digital books have a growing place in my growing, portable and lightweight digital library! For books not yet in digital format at the FHL (and not all will be) paper and digital copies may be made, the digital files can be downloaded to a jump drive, emailed to home or both. Jump or thumb drives are available from vending machines, currently an 8Gb drive costs \$6 and it now contains about 50 books that I copied or downloaded at the FHL; this has used less than one Gb of the 8Gb drive. This will be backed up at home, multiple copies in multiple places to be safe.

About copying books: I have made digital copies by taking photos of each page when no other option presented itself, while I have the information, it is hard to use as each page is a different file and organizing each file/page for use later is difficult in the extreme. Enter the **Zeta scanner!** This handy device will take multiple digital scans and assemble them sequentially in a single file and download to a jump drive; this handy software permits you to read the book page by page as a digital book! Unfortunately, there are only one or two such machines and time is limited to one hour, less if people are waiting. In practice, I have used the machine for much longer when no one wanted to use it. I love the Zeta scanner, why, I even think I might need one for Christmas and it is on sale, \$700 off the usual price, a real steal at **only \$13,200!** Ugh! Thankfully, there are also flat-bed scanners that can do the same thing, not as convenient on the individual or the book to flip it over for each copied page. So, is there a family history book you have wanted? Check out familysearch.org/Search/Catalog/ and then search by author/subject/place/title, etc. It might be there!



Zeta Book Scanner



Microfilm digital scanner



Millions of rolls!



Auto feed photo scanners

Other Services: In addition to the books, microfilms (millions!), digital databases (familysearch, Ancestry, MyHeritage, FindMyPast, American Ancestors, etc.) there are a host of other services and classes as well. Have a box of loose photographs? There are scanners that will scan dozens of pictures a minute, just drop the photos in or stack same-sized photos and they are drawn in, scanned and load to a jump drive. Flatbed scanners, microfilm readers and microfilm scanners abound as do many places to quietly pour over the treasures you have found; many desks have retracting electrical outlets to keep

your digital gear charged. There are hosts of volunteers to help you navigate the databases, find books, offer advice and subject matter; if needed, country-specific experts can be called to assist you. Though I use the catalog extensively, once I pull an interesting book, I review the whole shelf and area; this strategy has produced treasures that my catalog search alone may never have found.

For first time visitors, there is an orientation room with a film to help you get your bearings and always, many people there to help; men and women, well-dressed, all wearing name tags and are easily noted as the rest of us are wearing comfortable researching clothes! About managing your day at the library: All food and drink except a well-sealed water bottle must be used only in a small snack room; it has a series of vending machines that offer candy, milk, juices, water, soda, sandwiches, yogurt, fruit, etc. Water fountains and bathrooms are on each floor. Small lockers are available on the some floors for personal affects while you are there; use is free for the day, there is also a place to hang coats on the first floor. For those who wish to stop for meals, numerous venues are a short walk away. I typically bring a snack and stay right through until closing; it is amazing how quickly 12 hours pass! The Family History Library is at Temple Square, an area with visitor centers, a museum with art displays, you could catch a rehearsal of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, visit beautiful gardens and very impressive architecture as well, each worth some time to enjoy. You can go online for helps in planning a visit, SLC is also known for many fine restaurants.

Plan ahead and take a trip if you have not as yet or, come back! I certainly will!



I can't leave the subject of great genealogical resources and the free use of technology without mentioning another gem in the Salt Lake Valley, the **Lee Library** on the **BYU campus, Provo, Utah**.

It is beautiful, spacious and requires much walking, has more of the same technology on a pristine campus and the family history resources are in far less competition when compared with the FHL, especially in the Summer. One does not have to be a student, you can get an account and even reserve various book copiers online to assure the availability when you arrive. They also have machines for use to convert old 8mm, super 8, VCR and reel to reel to digital media including many copiers that will scan photos, flat bed and auto feed as well. The 4 day, Family History and Genealogical Conference occurs each July on campus, the classes end about 5 pm and the library is open until midnight!



Another resource for finding books! The World Catalog is a resource to find the location of a book you want, sometimes a copy is closer than you think! I have found this helpful as well. Millions of books await in this huge, global catalog; it is be found at: <https://www.worldcat.org/> It will show where copies may be found, typically in the US and Canada for the books I seek. There are just so many helps out there today!! By Ron D.



Thinking about finally writing that Family History? I found this while poking around, it seems like a good resource that will walk you through the process in bite-sized pieces. Check it out!

<http://www.thearmchairgenealogist.com/p/ultimate-guide-to-writing-family.html>



Ancestry.com Announces Retirement of Family Tree Maker, Ancestry Insider, 14 Dec, 2015



“Ancestry is discontinuing sales of its popular Family Tree Maker desktop tree management software at the end of the month (31 December 2015). It will continue to support the software for one year (31 December 2016). That includes the ability to sync your New Ancestry online tree with your Family Tree Maker offline tree. “You will be able to use the software, exactly as you do now, including TreeSync, for at least the next year,” said Ancestry’s Kendall Hulet. Family Tree Maker will continue to function to some degree past that date.

Ancestry is exploring the possibility of letting other desktop tree software integrate with Ancestry.com Member Trees. This has been a major strength that FamilySearch has had over Ancestry. Ancestry is not looking to sell off Family Tree Maker to another company. They are just letting it die. They are looking at adding report functionality to Member Trees. Users will lose substantial report capability with Ancestry’s abandonment of Family Tree Maker.”

If you have been using this software, you probably already know about this, more information from Ancestry.com is here: <http://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2015/12/09/more-information-on-family-tree-maker-desktop-software/>

So, what do you do?! Some options:

Dick Eastman has an article touting the subscription genealogy service, MyHeritage’s offer for free genealogy software, of note MyHeritage is the financial sponsor of his website; article here: <http://blog.eogn.com/2015/12/11/a-special-offer-for-family-tree-maker-users-myheritage-is-offering-the-family-tree-builder-genealogy-program-for-windows-and-macintosh-plus-an-unlimited-size-family-site-for-free/>



Family Tree Maker® users have a new home at RootsMagic; Upgrade offer with Free Book and Magic Guides <http://blog.rootsmagic.com/>, from Michael Booth at RootsMagic.

A number of us including this author use Roots Magic and find it a solid product with, in addition to many other features, very good ability to document sources. No doubt other software companies will use this market opportunity as well.



One more option is discussed by **Lisa Louise Cook**, a well-known presenter at many family history conferences whose business is known as **Genealogy Gems**. She has a free blog that people can subscribe to when visiting her

booth at vendor fairs, she provides a lot of helps for new and intermediate researchers and keeps abreast of what is new which can be helpful to the advanced as well. She has an article for users of Family Tree Maker as well, you can see it here:

<http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?ca=0fe6bc5d-3f98-481c-b2b3-fc6a1d720ebb&c=a73a66d0-3bb5-11e5-8e7d-d4ae52843dc7&ch=a750fc10-3bb5-11e5-8e95-d4ae52843dc7>

My sincere empathy to those in this situation; remember ***you do have a year*** to continue using the software and to plan and make the transition to a new product. Ron DeYoung



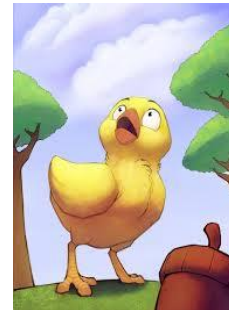
Another Ancestry Corporate Change! The departments that handle complaints and marketing must be having an ***Un*** merry Christmas and ***Un*** happy New Year! Several months ago Ancestry announced the planned change from Ancestry.com to “New” Ancestry.com and on December 15 that happened; with that

announcement the online complaints about Ancestry have spiked. As a frequent flyer on Ancestry, I opted to try the “Beta” version when it first became available months ago and felt no need to change back but as with any change, it took a while to adapt. Except for the color, I actually like it.

According to Ancestry.com’s blog:

<http://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2015/12/14/all-members-now-moving-to-the-new-ancestry/> , released the day this article is written, 10 million Ancestry

users already were on the “New” Ancestry; now everyone else will find it when they turn on their computers. I find the information in the “New” Ancestry is quite handy but except for the drab color, there was no cause for concern and the sky was not falling in! If I were a user of Family Tree Maker, however, I would strongly feel otherwise. I would note that Ancestry is owned by a holding company that has been quietly looking for a purchaser; when the fiscal bottom line drives all decisions, we often do not agree with the choices. *Opinions expressed here are exclusively that of the author and Chicken Little was not harmed in making this article!* Ron DeYoung



BCGS General Meetings held on the 2nd Saturday in the month September through June. The **January meeting will be on Saturday, January 9th at 10 am** in the Social Hall of the College United Methodist Church, Philomath, everyone is welcome! The program at 11 am will be about the Acadian culture and their history, provided by Ron DeYoung.

Board Meetings are held the Tuesday before the general meeting; in January the Board meeting will be on **Tuesday, January 5th at 10 am-noon** in the Philomath Public Library meeting room, all members are invited.



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Research: Helping Others Connect the Dots, Sue Vanlaere

Our society recently received an information request on our Facebook page about a WWII soldier named Mainard Damon Clifton who was killed and was buried in the Netherlands. The Dutch researcher, John, had adopted Sgt. Clifton's grave there and wanted to add to what was known about this soldier. My curiosity was instantly piqued, of course, so I started researching.

I spent probably five or six hours over two days looking for his family online. I wasn't able to find them in Benton County, but I did locate them in the censuses for Jackson County, Oregon. I was disappointed that I couldn't find much. Sitting in my favorite coffee shop, I was just about to close my computer for the day to pursue a different tactic. But I tried one more time to find him and googled Sgt. Clifton's name. There

he was in a recent Ashland Tidings newspaper article.

Journalist Lynne Hasselman had recently written an article about him as one in a series of stories about Ashland residents who had lost their lives in World War II. When I opened the website page, my mouth dropped open and I threw my arms out in victory. I was going to be able to help my contact in the Netherlands after all. Lynne's article even included some photos that John was hoping to find.



As I was reading her article, Sgt. Clifton's story immediately came to life. In the early morning hours of D-Day, Sgt. Clifton parachuted into Normandy with his 101st Airborne Division regiment. Unfortunately, his team landed directly into the German position, where Clifton (known by his middle name Damon) and several others were captured. Sgt. Clifton and some of the others were wounded and, after being interrogated, were taken to an infirmary in the town of Saint Come du Mont.

While he was in the infirmary, Sgt. Clifton and the others met a French schoolteacher who provided local information and extra food. They somehow were able to get some weapons to protect themselves but, fortunately for the prisoners, the Germans knew the Allies were coming and disappeared.

After recuperating in England for a time, Damon and the 101st Airborne were called upon to participate in the invasion of Holland in September 1944. The invasion was called Operation Market Garden and was the largest air battle in history. Planes of every type were massed 94 miles long and 3 miles wide. As the 101st came closer to the drop zone north of Eindhoven, the planes came under heavy fire and several of them went down. Damon, along with the others, were able to parachute out and reach the town, their goal to take the bridges in the area. They fought throughout the city, but as Sgt. Clifton ran into the open to rescue a downed comrade, he was shot. Eindhoven was liberated on September 18, 1944. Two days later, on September 20, Sgt Clifton died of his wounds, the last member of his team to die. Sgt. Clifton is buried in the Netherlands American Cemetery in Margraten. He received the Bronze Star for heroism in February 1945.



Every year citizens in the Margraten area rally together to honor the brave soldiers who are buried in the American Cemetery. They have vowed to never forget the price these soldiers paid to liberate Holland. That is why they are working to adopt each soldier's grave so their stories can be told.

I was so happy to let our Dutch friend know that I had found some information about his adopted soldier, even a photo. I sent him the website address so he could read Lynne's article. He was thrilled that he was going to be able to honor Sgt. Clifton with more of his story. I contacted Lynne about finding the person who had adopted the soldier she had written about, and now the two can work together. They both

need to be recognized for their work to keep these stories alive.

To read Sgt. Clifton's entire story, go to www.dailytidings.com/article/20150908/NEWS/150909852/-1/ARCHIVE The name of the article is Remembering Sgt. Clifton: Jumping behind enemy lines on D-Day with the 101st Airborne Division by Lynne Hasselman

Netherlands American Cemetery, Margraten websites:

www.fallennotforgotten.nl

www.thefacesofmargraten.com

Operation Market Garden websites:

www.historyofwar.org/articles/battles_arnhem.html

www.historynet.com Search for Operation Market Garden



It's the first of the month,

back up your files!!



We're on Facebook.
Our page is Benton County Genealogical Society: Oregon.
Stop by and like us!



Huge Free Collection of Digitized Books Now Available on MyHeritage

Dick Eastman Dec 7, 2015

The following is the announcement from MyHeritage:

"We've just added an exciting new collection to MyHeritage SuperSearch™, containing over 37 million pages in 150,000 books relevant to family history! [Search Compilation of Published Sources now](#)

The new collection includes tens of thousands of digitized historical books, with actual images of the books' pages, and all their text extracted using Optical Character Recognition. The books span the last four centuries and include family, local and military histories, city and county directories, school and university yearbooks, church and congregational minutes and much more. A vast amount of rich data from diverse publications makes this collection a fantastic source of rare genealogical gems, providing insight into the lives of our ancestors and relatives"

You can read the article here: <http://blog.eogn.com/2015/12/07/huge-free-collection-of-digitized-books-now-available-on-myheritage/>



My Gingerbread House!
(recipe available)

