

NewsLetter

Benton County Genealogical Society

December 2009

Volume Twenty-Four
Number Ten

12 DECEMBER Program

12 December 2009 - - Auction and Christmas Party. This event has proven fun for many of us as a way of making our annual contribution to the Society Book Fund as well as picking up some Christmas presents. Bring items of nominal value for the auction to be conducted by our own master of fun and games Ted Gump, assisted by Leila Crawford, Pat Coolican, and Gene Newcomb, as well by everyone else as needed. Also bring a plate of goodies, maybe something other than cookies, to be consumed and what's left sold at the end. Like last year we're going to try a little potluck vs. sitting around eating cookies—so focus on edible things this year; other nominal items are still welcome.

Seeking Member Suggestions for Future Programs

What kind of programs would you like to have in the coming year and beyond? As the incoming Program Chair, I would like to hear from you so that programs can be tailored to your interests.

Do you prefer an entertaining program, an informative “how to” program, a program that gives you historical and social background to put the lives of your ancestors in the context of their times? Something else? In the “how to” category, what aspects of genealogical research do you want to learn about? Planning a research trip, heraldry, dating photographs, doing research outside the United States online, in libraries, or in the country, learn about any particular U.S. record types or locations, any aspect of computer genealogy?

The list of possible topics is endless so let me know what interests you and we'll try to find someone to talk on the subject. If you know of a good speaker on a topic of interest, let me know that, too.

And, if you feel you have a particular expertise that you would be willing to share with your fellow members by giving a talk, please let me know. It's always fun to hear from one of our own.

Please send your suggestions to Susan Hayes. You can contact me at s.c.hayes@att.net or **541-752-0498**. If you email me, please put BCGS Program Suggestions on the subject line.

Just a reminder - This will be your last newsletter if you haven't renewed your membership.

Down From Dawson A Corvallis Boy at Home - Something of the Frozen North

Provided by LGS member Betty Thorn

Corvallis Times, Dec. 27, 1899

Charlie Osborn arrived last week from Dawson, and is spending the holidays with relatives. He has been in Alaska for three years, and starts back again next week.

(Continued on page 7)

Benton County Genealogical Society's Books for Sale

Benton County Marriage Records

Marriage Records - Volume 1 - 1850 - 1924	\$25.00
Marriage Records - Volume 2 - 1925 - 1945	\$25.00

WPA Historical Records

Benton County Interviews	\$35.00
Bible Records and Cemetery Records	\$15.00
WPA Commissioner Journals: Probate Court A & B, 1850 - 1856	\$20.00
Benton County Church Records (398 pages + All name index)	\$35.00

Benton County Cemeteries

Cemetery Records and Tombstone Inscriptions - Vol. 1	\$25.00
Cemetery Records and Tombstone Inscriptions - Vol. 2	\$25.00
Cemetery Records and Tombstone Inscriptions - Vol. 3	\$25.00
Cemetery Records and Tombstone Inscriptions - Vol. 4	\$25.00
Cemetery Records and Tombstone Inscriptions - Vol. 5	\$25.00
Combined Index to Volumes 1 through 5	\$25.00
Cemetery Records and Tombstone Inscriptions - Vol. 6 (not indexed)	\$10.00

Add Shipping Charges \$3.00 for 1st book, \$1.50 each additional

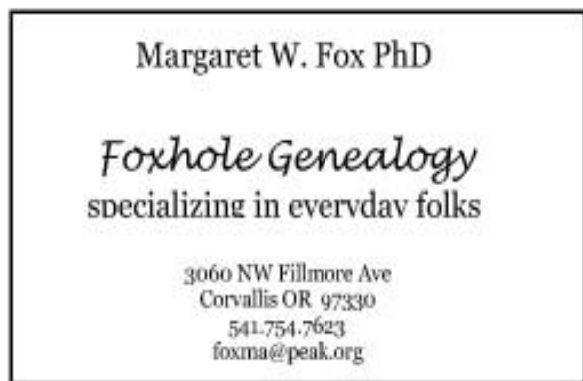
wpa historical records survey
Benton county, Oregon
by mark phinney

Anderson, Mrs. Grace [CUMMINGS]

Mrs. Anderson was interviewed at her home at 541 South Fifth Street, Corvallis, Oregon, I the interval of her attendance at sessions of the Circuit Court as a juror.

She said "My father John CUMMINGS, son Hugh and Beulah CUMMINGS, was born in 1844 and came with his parents by ox-team from Iowa to Oregon in 1852. The CUMMINGS family settled about three miles south of Peoria. Besides my father the children were John, Berry, William, Henry, Newton, Ollie, and Eliza.

(Continued on page 4)



The Village Genealogy Bookshoppe



Danell Aukerman

228 NE Azalea Dr

Adair Village, OR 97330

danell@genealogybookshoppe.com

Books published by Benton County Genealogical Society are always available for purchase at the society library after each meeting, and every Tuesday afternoon from 12:30 until 3:00 PM. They are also available at the Benton County Historical Museum, during their normal hours.

News From the Library

Sandra Potter, Librarian

Number	Category	Author	Title
2665	NE		Deweese, Nebraska, Centennial 1886-1986; Tan PB; Gift of Ann Clarke
2666	FH	MERWIN	English Ancestry of Miles & Elizabeth (Powell) Merwin; Blue PB; Gift of Gene Newcomb
2667	IN		General Laws of the State of Indiana (1851); Red HB; Gift of Gene Newcomb
2668	IN	Barrett & Barrett	Gibson Co, Indiana, 1860 Federal Census; Maroon HB; Gift of Gene Newcomb
2669	NY-CD		Albany Co, New York, Marriage Licenses Prior to 1784; Gift of Dorothy Brandner
2670	OR	Benton Co.	Pleasant Valley Cemetery (updated 2001); Brown notebook.
2671	CAN-ONT	Crowder	Early Ontario Settlers, a Source Book; Red HB; Gift of Damaris Reynolds.

The above books and CD were added to the Library Collection in the past month.

Items to look at:

2010 Family History Conference, April 28-May 1 in Salt Lake City: Information is posted about schedule, accommodations, and Registration (early bird deadline is March 8).

Heritage Books Catalog: Many family histories are listed on pages 125-142 -- perhaps one of your ancestors is on the list.

This will be my last Library News, as I will be Membership Chair next year. Welcome to Grace Maddux, the new Librarian!

Membership

New members

John H. Kuhl
Mary Jo Miner

Renewals

Leila Crawford
Gene Newcomb
Pat Coolican
George Davidson
Dorothy Brandner
Linda & Ronald Olsen
Walt Merrill
Kathryn Honey
Danell Aukerman
Jerald Buthman family
Betty Birdsall

Passages

Edna Wiese, one of our BCGS Charter members passed away on November 14, 2009.

Edna, a charter member of our Society, was an inspiration to many people. She taught a "Write Your Life Story" class and that is where some of us got the urge to explore and chronicle the lives of our ancestors as well as our own. One of her suggestions was "Get a history of a county where an ancestor lived." I did, and that started me on a twenty year journey! Edna was an early officer and continued to contribute expertise and encouragement for many years. I will miss her. Damaris Reynolds

Condolences are also extended to our member Marlene McDonald and her family upon the death of her husband Martin McDonald on November 24, 2009.

Get Well Wishes are extended to Walter Merrill as he recovers from surgery.

Program Review

*By Susan Hayes, Program Chairman &
By David Krebs, Program co-Chairman*

Last Program: 14 November 2009 - English Research - Susan Hayes and Bill Gleaves.
Susan Hayes presented a very informative "how to" talk on the two primary resources for doing English research: BMD (birth, marriage, death) Records and Census Records. BMD records begin in 1837 and censuses are available from 1841-1911. Her handout on useful websites list where and how to find these records and other tidbits for getting started on English research.
Bill Cleaves added some tips for doing research in the 1600's.

The website handout is reproduced elsewhere in this issue of the Newsletter.

Upcoming Programs

9 January 2010- - Reenactment - Historical interpreter

13 February 2010- - **Military in Oregon during the Civil War**

13 March 2010- TBA

10 April 2010-Raffle with personal genealogy success stories--time remaining

Raffle Items: 1. 1 hour plane ride with and donated by Bill Gleaves

2. 1 hour of Computer or camera help with Margaret Fox donated by Teri Greene.

3. A wooden vase built by John Martsching donated by Damaris.

Tickets: \$1 each 6 for \$5—first draw first choice etc., anyone drawn not present is intitled to remaining picks.

8 May 2010-TBA

12 June 2010- Genealogy Methods 2010—**Potluck Picnic** (Maybe update the societies *Genealogy Methods 2010*) -

Summer Break - Margaret reported she believes The Family History Center has started planning another program. We should offer help and plan to attend. Their past summer sessions have proven extensive and outstanding.

11 September 2010 - Show 'N' Tell

WPA Historical Records Survey - anderson, Mrs. Grace Cummings -*Continued from page 2*

I have heard my father say there was no difficulty with the Indians and no serious sickness on the trip, and the greatest discomfort he suffered was having to help drive the stock barefooted through the cactus of the western plains. At the end of the day his feet would be raw and swollen from the sharp pines.

"From about the time father was seventeen years old he carried the mail from Albany to Eugene on horseback. For four years he did this, making the trip in one direction one day and returning the next day. He washed dishes at the hotels to pay his board and on the nights he was in Albany he attended night school to improve his education. He had had little opportunity for school before that time. The night school seems to have been a private school and as I remember, there were several pupils.

"My Mother was Katherine PALMER. Her father's name was Abel. Mother was born near New York City and her people came to Oregon at an early date on a sailing vessel around the Horn. Mother and the children were Marietta, Ann, Sally, Thomas, and Lyman. My parents were married in 1866. Besides myself the children were George, Hugh, and May. May married a Mr. IRVINE, brother to B.F. IRVINE, well known Oregon Journalist.

"My father never followed any business but farming. He was interested in fine sheep and raised much grain. He was not especially interested in politics and never ran for office.

"I was born in 1872 and attended school first at the Lake Creek school house in Linn County and then at Halsey. The only teacher whose name I can now recall was a Mr. Van WINKLE, brother of I. H. Van WINKLE who has for many years been the Attorney General of Oregon.

I first married Ed. WARD, but he was indisposed to support my self and our daughter and I refused to support him. Several years later I married Mr. Lee ANDERSON. Mr. ANDERSON was a farmer and later kept a general store in Philomath. He is now steward of the Elks Club in Corvallis.

"I believe those people get on best whom are willing to help themselves. Because I was not afraid to work I was able to support myself and daughter. My father's farm was about five miles south of Peoria on the Willamette bottoms."

Getting Started in English Research

Websites

Getting Started Guides and Tutorials

- Family Search – England Beginning Research Series (under Library/Education tab)
http://www.familysearch.org/eng/library/education/frameset_education.asp?PAGE=education_research_series_online.asp%3FActiveTab=2
- Find My Past.com – No need to subscribe or sign in
Help and Advice --<http://www.findmypast.com/helpadvice/>
Knowledge Base - <http://www.findmypast.com/helpadvice/knowledge-base/>
- Ancestry.co.uk - No need to subscribe or sign in
Learning Centre <http://www.ancestry.co.uk/learn/learningcenters/default.aspx>
- The Genealogist.co.uk - No need to subscribe or sign in
Research Guide by David Tippey <http://www.thegenealogist.co.uk/researchguide/>

Subscription Databases

- Findmypast.com - <http://www.findmypast.com>
- The Genealogist.co.uk - <http://www.thegenealogist.co.uk>
- Ancestry.com (World Deluxe for UK collection)- <http://www.ancestry.com/>
- 1911 Census.co.uk (official census website) <http://www.1911census.co.uk/>

BMD Websites

- Free BMD – <http://www.freebmd.org.uk/>
- UK BMD – <http://www.ukbmd.org.uk/>
- GRO (ordering certificates) - <http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/>

Research Aids

- MLFHS Genealogy Tool Bar <http://www.mlfhs.org.uk/>
- GENUKI - <http://www.genuki.org.uk/> (review Guidance for First Time Users 1st)
- Town to Registration District - <http://www.ukbmd.org.uk/genuki/places/>
- Chapman County Codes – <http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/Regions/Codes.html>
- Barbara's BMD website - <http://www.thosedixons.net/certificates/indexbmd.html>
- UK GDL - <http://www.ukgdl.org.uk/>

Connecting with Living Relatives and Other Genealogists Researching Your Family

- Genes Reunited - <http://www.genesreunited.com>
- Lost Cousins - <http://www.lostcousins.com/> (free registration)
- Guild of One-Name Studies (GOONS) - <http://www.one-name.org/>
- RootsWeb Discussion Lists - <http://lists.rootsweb.ancestry.com/index/index.html>

Newsletters to Find Out What's New in English Research

- Lost Cousins - <http://www.lostcousins.com/pages/news/>
- FFHS E-Zine - <http://www.ffhs.org.uk/ezine/intro.php> (free subscription)

Join a Family History Society Where Your Ancestors Lived

- Federation of Family History Societies -<http://www.ffhs.org.uk/members2/contacting.php>

New database of Early Oregonians added to State Archives website

Dear OR-Rooters,

As we wind down Oregon's sesquicentennial year the State Archives is adding a new database to the website. A copy of the press release is found below. I know many of you may find ancestors listed in this database and will most likely have additional information you may want to share, and perhaps you will find a few tidbits as well. All of the planned features are not yet available but we hope to have those added by the end of this year or early 2010.

The two links at the very bottom of the message provide additional information about the project and an Frequently Asked Questions page as well.

I look forward to your feed back.

Layne Sawyer
"List Mom"
Oregon State Archives

As a legacy to commemorate the sesquicentennial of Oregon's statehood, the Oregon State Archives announces the launch of the Early Oregonians Database on their website.

<https://secure.sos.state.or.us/prs/personProfileSearch.do?earlyOregonian=true&searchReset=true>

This extensively researched resource uses data from census, death, probate, and other records to help researchers find relevant information and documents about people who lived in Oregon prior to statehood. Volunteers at the Archives have worked on this project for more than five years. The database currently contains over 105,500 entries for individuals who lived in Oregon prior to statehood. Because of limits on available records and documentation, the project can be defined to include people living in Oregon from 1800 to 1860.

The foundation of information in the database is based on data extracted from the 1850 and 1860 censuses for Oregon. Volunteers have created profiles of individuals that capture information about their parents, spouses, and birth and death information. When possible additional information from records in the Archives holdings and other published sources have been used to provide more complete or accurate information. Various records from the Oregon State Archives such as probate records, death certificates, and marriage records were searched to identify individuals who appeared to meet the criteria. As additional features of the database become functional, researchers will be able to view a list of records associated with a particular individual that are part of the Oregon State Archives holdings and request copies.

Despite the fact that large populations of Native Americans lived in the Oregon Country prior to 1840, documentation of those individuals is scant and not readily available. Because of this, Native Americans presented a special challenge. Currently the database includes close to 3,500 individuals of Native American descent. Information on Native Americans that lived into the twentieth century can be problematic as well. Project volunteers are beginning to work on the Indian censuses compiled for the various reservations between 1885 and 1940 with the goal of incorporating more information and individuals in the project over time.

Further review and editing will result in additional entries when evidence supports inclusion in the database. If you have documentation you would like to contribute to the Early Oregonians Database, please contact the Archives staff at the email below:

Early.Oregonians@state.or.us

A more detailed description of the project and an FAQ are available at the links below

http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/eo_overview.html
http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/eo_faqs.html

or-roots mailing list

or-roots@listsmart.osl.state.or.us

<http://listsmart.osl.state.or.us/mailman/listinfo/or-roots>

Reprinted from or-roots@listsmart.osl.state.or.us

2010 MEMBERSHIP FORM

___ **NEW MEMBER**

___ **RENEWAL**

Your membership allows you to participate in Society activities, which includes the use of the Genealogy Library which has over 3000 volumes of various books, periodicals and CD's; sharing in the Society's activities - potlucks, Christmas buffet and craft auction, used book and periodicals sale; receiving the monthly newsletter; field trips, and the research assistance and sharing of information of other members. **To continue receiving your membership benefits, renewal dues must be paid by January 31, 2010. New members may join at any time.**

Benton County Genealogical Society Membership Form Mail to: BCGS P.O. Box 1646, Philomath, OR 97370

Name _____

Address _____

Membership is by the calendar year.

Dues paid after September 1st are credited to the next year.

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____ **Note: Most Newsletters are sent via e-mail.**

Please enroll me in the Benton County Genealogical Society for the Year 2010 with full voting rights, use of the genealogical library at the Benton County Museum Annex, and 10 newsletters per year.

Individual and Family Memberships **\$15**

Book Fund \$ _____ Contributions to the Book Fund are tax deductible and a receipt for that purpose will be mailed to you.

In order for our society to provide you with more and better research material, we are asking you to provide us with the areas you are researching (cities, counties, states, countries) _____

Please provide us with the surnames that you are researching so that we can better assist you with your research (optional) _____

Down From Dawson

(Continued from page 1)

Dawson City, says Mr. Osborn, is a city of 10,000 with stores and other buildings on the chief streets that compare favorably with cities of the same size in the states. Save one of brick, the buildings are all wooden, and in the residence portion many are primitive long cabins. The going wages are from \$4 to \$6 per day for miners. Some mine owners pay \$1 per hour, but in such cases there is no pay until there is a wash-up; if there is no gold in the wash-up, there is no pay at all.

Dawson is no place for a tender foot. The miner are all occupied, and there is uncertainty about securing employment. No quartz mines have as yet been discovered in there to engage in mining.

Willamett the Dawson district. The mines in operation are apparently paying as well or better than when originally opened. Beef is \$1.25 per pound, or .90 cents per pound by the quarter. Other provisions are reasonable.

The trail has been shortened until the distance between Dawson and Shagway is now 520 miles. The railroad runs from Skagway to the head of Lake Bennett and makes a round trip from Skagway to the terminus and back in one day. The construction is still being pushed, and 800 or 1000 men are employed on the grade. It took Mr. Osborn and his companion 16 days to make the trip on foot from Dawson to Skagway. It cost \$300 to come from Dawson to Seattle. Meals along the trail cost \$1.50 and a bed, \$2.00. The freight rate from Skagway to Dawson is \$1.50 to \$2.00 per pound now; in summer time, five cents per pound. Mr. Osborn has mining interests in the Dawson district. When the ice breaks up he and his partners will have a restaurant in operation at Cape Nome. The trip from Dawson to Cape Nome, about 2,000 miles, will be made over the ice. Mr. Osborn says the mines in the Cape Nome district are all staked and it is too late now to go. *Reprinted from Valley Genealogical Society Newsletter, Vol XXXI, Number 9, September 2009?*

Board Meetings are usually two Mondays before the second Saturday [our regular meeting time]. Dates of the upcoming **Board** meetings are:
30 December for the 12 January meeting. Cookies — Margaret Fox

Membership Information

Names, email and phone numbers removed for security reasons.

Dues are \$15.00 for single and families per calendar year.
Dues paid after September 1st are credited to next year.
Web page URL www.bcgs-oregon.org

More Member Info.

Our meetings are held on the **second Saturday, September through June**, in the Fireside Room of the College United Methodist Church, on the east side of the parking lot, in the 1100 block of Philomath Blvd. Business meeting is at 10:00 AM with the program at 11:00 AM. **Our Library, in the museum annex, will be open every Tuesday afternoon from 1:00 until 3:30 PM and after meetings on Saturdays.** Members may check out up to five books and return books any time the library is open.

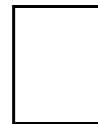
Canadian Interest Group

The Canadian Interest Group will not meet on a regular basis until further notice. If you have specific questions about research in Canada, or if you would like to look through my resources, please contact me at: 752-2243; e-mail: sprawlinson@proaxis.com. Thank You. **Pat Rawlinson**

Odds and Ends

Our number at the OSU Thrift Shop on Second Street in Corvallis is **492**. Please keep your Santiam and Flav-R-Pak labels coming in to the Library. There is a plastic sack in the library to keep them in. Leila Crawford is in charge of the label program. All you need is the UPC Symbol from the label. Be sure that you leave some area around the label when you tear it off.

THIS IS ALMOST OUR ONLY FUND RAISER!



The two digits behind your name on the mailing label are:
 S=Single; F=Family; E=Exchange.
 Number is last of year 9=2009
 L9 is Charter Honorary Life Member

Mailing Label Coding



Stamp