

NewsLetter

Benton County Genealogical Society

October 2009

Volume Twenty-Four
Number Eight

10 October Program

German Research - Mary Dean Snelling. Our own Mary Deal who has made trips to Germany where she found family records and family members.

wpa historical records survey
Benton county, oregon
by mark phinney

Alcorn, *Mrs. Ollie [Allen]*

May 1938

Mrs. Alcorn was interviewed at her home on the corner of 8th and Adams streets in Corvallis, where she and her husband are passing their declining years. Mrs. ALCORN had not a great deal of information about her early times, and her recollections were supplemented somewhat by information gleaned from her brother, Lincoln ALLEN of Kings Valley. Mr. ALLEN'S recollections were so fragmentary that it did not seem best to write them up separately.

"My grandfather, Charles ALLEN, took a donation land claim in Kings Valley about 1846. His claim adjoined that of Roland CHAMBERS who build the mill at Kings Valley. He was not a member of the King party, I think, but came about the same time. Grandmother ALLEN died in 1864 and was buried in the Kings Valley cemetery, which was on grandfather's claim and for which he gave the land. Grandmother's name was Hetty Ann. Soon after grandmother's death, grandfather sold out and moved to Washington where he remarried and spent the rest of his life.

"Grandfather's family, so far as I can recall them, were: My father, Joseph W.; Dave ALLEN; Morris, who married a girl named PITMAN and Emily, who married a man named BUMP. Emily's son, Clarence BUMP, now lives on a farm near Kings Valley.

"My father, Joseph Witham ALLEN, was born in 1846. My mother, Julie Ann RITNER, was born in Missouri in 1848. Mother's brother, Lew RITNER, is still living at the old home near Peedee, in Polk County. Grandfather, Sebastian RITNER, was a German speaking Swiss and never really mastered English. He came to Polk County about 1845 and tok a donation land claim on the Luckiamute River at the mouth of Ritner Creek just north of the Benton-Polk County line. Grandmother RITNER had been Sarah WOODLING. She first married John RITNER, my grandfather's brother I Missouri. When grandfather sent word he had a claim located for his brother, the family started west in 1852.

"On the way across the plains the Indians succeeded in stampeding the stock, including the oxen drawing the wagons. In attempting to stop his run-away team, John RITNER fell in front of them and was run over and killed by the wagon, Grandmother afterward married her brother-in-law, Sebastian.

"My mother was a daughter of Grandmother's first husband, John RITNER. My parents were married in 1864. They passed their lives farming in Kings Valley and are buried in the King Valley cemetery. Their children were Tom, who runs the Beaver pool hall in Corvallis; Netty [MILLER] of Albany; Sarah [BUSH] of Kings Valley; myself; Lucy, who died in childhood; Lillie [SIMPSON], and Reatha [SIMPSON].

"I was born in 1871. As a little girl I spent a good deal of time with grandmother RITNER. She used to tell me many things about her experiences but I have forgotten most of them. Grandmother always kept a large flock of geese. The soldiers from Fort Hoskins, when riding that way, would often take advantage of a living target and shoot one of grandmother's geese. As they always paid for what they killed, grandmother was not greatly put out.

"In 1894, I married W. S. ("Bud") ALCORN, who had come from the east about 1890. We lived on a farm in the Luckiamute River above Hoskins, where our son Dale now lives. We have come to town to spend our declining days. Our children are Vernon, Irma [Mrs. ROCHE], AND Dale.

Reprinted from the Benton County Genealogical Society WPA Historical Records Survey

Oregon History Books Online

Want to look up some Oregon history without a trip to the library? Did you know that some Oregon history books are available online through the Corvallis Library web site?

Navigate to the Corvallis Library online books featuring Oregon history:

1. Go to the Corvallis-Benton Co. Public Library web site <http://www.thebestlibrary.net/joomla/index.php>
2. Select "Databases" from the menu at the top of the page
3. Select "Genealogy" from the Database topics list
4. Select "Our Local History page" in the middle of the page
5. Select "Corvallis" or "Benton County" or "Willamette Valley" or "Oregon" from the blue tabs to see the links to the online history books

For example, History of Benton County by David Fagan is under "Corvallis," and History of the Willamette Valley by Lang is under "Willamette Valley."

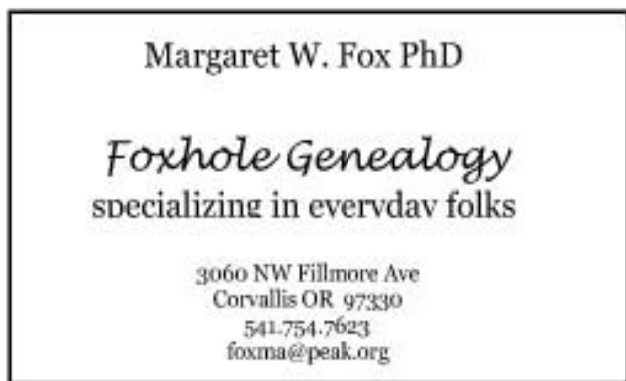
Gravestone Symbols

In a previous newsletter had been printed some symbols that you may find when visiting a cemetery.

Here are some additional symbols you may find and their meanings.

- Flying Bird.....Flight of the soul.
Garlands.....Victory in death.
Horns.....The Resurrection.
Hourglass with wings.....Time flying, short life.
Lily or Lily of the Valley.....Emblem of innocence and purity.
Oak leaves and acorn.....Maturity and ripe old age.
Picks and shovels.....Mortality.
Portals.....Passageway to eternal life.
Rose bud.....Morning of life, renewal of life.
Roses.....Brevity of earthly life.
Tree stump with ivy.....Head of family, immortality.
Trees.....Life.
Wheat sheaf.....Ripe for harvest, divine harvest time.

Reprinted from the Grant County Genealogical Society Newsletter, Volume 15 Issue 3, September 2009



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.

The Village Genealogy Bookshoppe



Danell Fokerman
228 NE Azalea Dr
Adair Village, OR 97330
danell@genealogybookshoppe.com

News From the Library

Sandra Potter, Librarian

Number	Category	Author	Title
2642	CD-NEW ENG	Family Tree Maker	English Origins of New England Families 1500s - 1800s.
2643	VA		Virginia Military Records, from The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, the William and Mary Quarterly, and Tyler's Quarterly.

Work at the library has been interrupted by the Museum's paving project, but the new parking areas are paved and sidewalks are finished. The Library will again be open on Tuesdays, from 1 to 3:30 P.M.

I need help with a mystery. There is a card indicating someone checked out a CD "International Genealogical Passport" on June 16, 2009. However there is no name on the card. Would you please check around your computer and see if you have this CD, and please let me know who you are!

fall seminar

Hosted by

Genealogical forum of Oregon

October 31, 2009

milwaukee elks lodge in milwaukee, Oregon

Featuring Beverly Rice, cg

Topics include :

- ***Breaking through brick walls: using timelines in genealogical research***
- ***Newspaper research: a little bit of history on each page***
- ***An ancestral journey: charting family migration***
- ***Railroads and their role in western migration***

Seminar features:

- ***Book vendor***
- ***Genealogical treasures***
- ***Other genealogical societies***
- ***Go surplus book sale***

Registration: 8-9 am/, Oct. 31, 2009

First class begins at 9:15 a.m.

Cost: Members : \$38 if received by 10/24/09; \$45 if after 10/24/09; No lunch

non-members: \$45 before 10/24/09; \$50 after 10/24/09; no lunch

*Make checks payable to genealogical forum of oregon, or "to," po box 42567,
Portland, OR 97242-0567*

Membership

Renewals

Janice Barclay	Adele Middleton
Dean Johnson	Sandy & John Potter
Jean Lane	Damaris Reynolds
Barbara Manderscheid	Hilda Snyder

Tennessee Day at the BCGS Library

Bill Gleaves plans to bring his Tennessee reference books to the BCGS Library on October 13, 2009 from 1:00 PM until 3:30 PM. These books cover Davidson, Benton and Henry Counties. Anyone else with Tennessee reference books is urged to bring their books and join us.

Program Review

By David Kriba, Program Chairman

12 September 2009 - **Show 'N' Tell**

What Genealogical Experience members and friends had this summer. Impromptu reports by individuals. Little time was left to update the society's *Genealogy Methods 2009*.

Upcoming Programs

14 November 2009 - Tentative- **English Research** - Susan Hayes (Bill Gleaves assist)

12 December 2009 - **Auction and Christmas Party**

9 January 2010 - **Re-enactment - Historical interpreter**

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

SHARE YOUR SURNAMES

For the benefit of all the members of the Society, please include the information below for our Surname Exchange. We can print your information with others in our newsletter with the hope of connecting with other family members. Please include your name and address for others to contact you.

Your name: _____ Contact address: _____

SURNAMES	LOCATIONS	DATE
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Please return to:
Benton County Genealogical Society
PO Box 1646
Philomath, Oregon 97370
Or
Email to Leila, membership chair at leila@peak.org

National Archives Information

The National Archives has many helpful articles for the researcher as well as anyone wanting to know how to preserve pictures, items or records, what type of photo album as well as the various types of records they have available for research. Research guidelines for these records are given. An example would be 6 pages when printed off concerning just Naturalization records.

Reprinted from the Grant County Genealogical Society Newsletter, Volume 15 Issue 3, September 2009

The Declaration of Independence was written on hemp (marijuana) paper.

ONLINE DIGITAL NEWSPAPER PROJECT GETS NEH GRANT

Oregon history, from 1860 to 1922, as chronicled by the state's newspapers will be digitized for public access under a \$364,042 grant to the University of Oregon from the National Endowment for the Humanities and Library of Congress. With matching grants totaling \$145,000 from the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office and Oregon Heritage Commission using contributions made to the Oregon Cultural Trust, the project to digitize 100,000 pages of Oregon newspapers will add to an already "long history of collaboration with the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association," said Karen Estlund, digital collections coordinator for the UO's Knight Library, who will head the statewide Oregon Digital Newspaper Project.

The program will deliver access for people who can't get to a library to use microfilm, Estlund said. "The full text available with the digitized images allows for keyword searching, which revolutionizes research of old newspapers. No longer will a researcher need to spend hours, days or even weeks scrolling through microfilm hoping to catch what they're looking to find."

Beginning in 1953, the Knight Library started the Oregon Newspaper Program in association with ONPA to microfilm all of Oregon's newspapers for preservation. The new project took root earlier this year under a Library Services & Technology block grant of \$79,883 from the Institute of Museum and Library Services through the Oregon State Library in Salem.

"Historic newspapers supply vital evidence of our history and culture and are used by students, scholars, historians, arts groups, businesses, urban planners, genealogists and others," Estlund said. "These primary source materials provide a window into the life of local Oregon communities a century or more ago, covering early environmental preservation, industry, agriculture, urban development, Native American and race relations, the establishment of the state and more."

<http://uonews.uoregon.edu/archive/news-release/2009/6/oregon-newspapers-1860-1922-going-digital>

oregon genealogical society Presents an

Saturday, October 24, 2009

Doors open 8:30 a.m.

seminar 9:00 am—4:00 pm

speaker: Steven Morrison

- **Peopling the British isles—genetic origins of ireland, scotland, wales, and england**
- **Irish research trip—belfast, dublin, or salt lake city**
- **Outlaw genealogy—finding the outlaw in your family**
- **Detours around—irish roadblocks and stone walls**

Cost: \$46 includes lunch

Location: first united methodist church, 1376 olive, eugene, ORegon

Registration: send name, address, phone and e-mail, along with payment, to ogs, po box 10306, eugene, or 97440-2306.

E-mail: ogsinfo@comcast.net or call 541-686—1421.

Parking Area Now Complete

The paving of the driveway around the church and museum is now complete and the Annex (BCGS Library) is now open. The parking lot looks great and was well worth the inconvenience!

Bible Surnames

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~orbenton/FamilyBibles.htm>
(Continued from September Newsletter)

Cummings - other surnames found in the Cummings Family Bible

Burch
Castle
Gibbons
Green
Lighthizer
Michel
Patterson

Davidson – other surnames found in the Davidson Family Bible

Bottger
Cramer
Farmer
Hastie
Smith

Fiechter – other surnames found in the Fiechter Family Bible

Holder
Johnson
Newton

Fiechter-Rickard – other surnames found in the Fiechter Rickard Family Bible

Scruggs

Gray – other surnames found in the Gray Family Bible

Parish

Haygood - other surnames found in the Haygood Family Bible

Abernathy
Bloom
Hazen
Hibbetts
Oliver
Schaffer

Haygood (Masonic) - no other surnames listed

Henkle – other surnames found in the Henkle Family Bible

Armstrong
Barker
Gragg
King

Heritage Harvest Family History Workshop

Monterey, CA - Monterey County Genealogy Society's annual Heritage Harvest family history workshop will be held 17 October 2009, Monterey, California. Karen Clifford, AG, a nationally known speaker and college instructor, will present "Electronic Resources for Solving Difficult Research Problems," "Understanding Migration," "Land Records from Colonial Times to the Present" and "British Basics." Lunch and syllabus included in registration fee. Free parking adjacent to Monterey Peninsula College Library/Technology Center. Register early for this full day event as space is limited.

Contact June Davidsen at genietreas@yahoo.com for more details. Additional details will be posted on our website at www.mocogenso.org.
Reprinted from the NGS Newsletter, May 2009

Upcoming Genealogical Events

Seattle Genealogical Society presents "Sharing Generations: Past and Future", on Saturday, October 17, 2009 in Seattle, Washington at the Sand Point Education Center. We have a little something for any researcher interested in family history from the beginner to the experienced. Choose one of two all day workshops or the opening session with three additional sessions". For information contact SGSseminar@gmail.com

Excerpted from the Willamette Valley Genealogy Society newsletter, Volume XXXI, Number 10, October 2009

Election of New Officers

The BCGS Board discussed and decided at the 30 October 2007 Board meeting that it would be a good idea to have co-officers for some of our positions. Although we have an active membership, our members are active in other pursuits as well. Others are overwhelmed at taking on the task of being an officer. Being a co-officer gives members a chance to help our organization as well as have time for other activities such as families, vacations, trips, and emergencies.

The following positions are up for nominations. As outlined in the Benton County Genealogical Society By-laws—Duties of Officers and the duties of some positions up for election are as follows:

Co-President is to preside at all regular and special meetings of the society and to perform such other duties as necessary.

Co-1st Vice President shall be to act as Program Chairperson and to preside at the meetings in the absence of the President.

Co-Program Chairperson may need to preside at the meetings in the absence of the President and assist in lining up Programs and speakers for our meetings.

Librarian shall be to maintain the society library in an organized manner, check in and out material only to members having no overdue books; to have the library available during authorized hours; to conduct an annual inventory; and to make a report of the status of the library at the request of the presiding officer.

Membership Chairperson duties shall be to keep an up-to-date membership list, to issue membership cards (with treasurer); to keep membership card files up to date; and to provide new members with name tags and new member packets. A membership list as of September will be made available at the October meeting, and each month a current membership list will be given to the President, Librarian and Newsletter Editor.

Newsletter Editor designs the newsletter, layout, types articles, oversees copying and coordinates mailing of newsletter, contacts chairpersons and officers for newsletter information, reads newsletters from other societies for pertinent articles or information or interest for the newsletter.

Newsletter Assistants are needed to **type** articles and information for the Newsletter Editor to place in newsletter layout.

If you are interested in any of these positions or know of someone who would be, please contact Bill Gleaves at 738-8189 or e-mail him at gleavew@peak.org. All other officers are up for re-election.

According to the **BCGS By-Laws**, a **nominating committee of three** is appointed by the President at the **September** meeting.

Nominees shall be presented and nominations opened from the floor at the **October** meeting.

Election of officers shall be held at the **November** meeting.

Installation of officers shall take place at the December meeting of the same year.

2010 Family History Conference in Salt Lake City

Even if you have been in the Family History Library in Salt Lake City to do research, you'll not want to miss the 2010 Family History Conference. NGS will be combining international records with hands on research labs at the Family History Library. We also plan to offer "ask the experts" research sessions. In addition to the International Theme, the other major research tracks will include BCG skills building, Migration, FamilySearch, DNA, and Technology.

The Utah Genealogical Association and FamilySearch host event on Thursday evening, 29 April 2010, will include a reception and Mormon Tabernacle Choir rehearsal at the historic Salt Lake Tabernacle.

Please note the 2010 conference is earlier, 28 April—1 May 2010. Hotel conference reservations are now available at four hotels, including the Radisson, Salt Lake Plaza Hotel, Shilo, and Crystal Inn. Details including rates and amenities can be found at <http://ngsgenealogy.org> by clicking on Conference and Events and then Annual Conference and finally Accommodations. The Radisson Hotel is the main conference hotel and is adjacent to the entrance of the Salt Palace Convention Center where the NGS Conference will be held. Make your hotel reservations early!

Board Meetings are usually two Mondays before the second Saturday [our regular meeting time]. Dates of the upcoming **Board** meetings are:
2 November for the 14 November meeting. Cookies — Dean Johnson
30 November for the 12 December meeting. Cookies — Sandy Potter

Membership Information

Names, email and phone numbers have been 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.

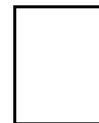
Canadian Interest Group

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