

Benton County Genealogical Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 1646, Philomath, OR 97370
October 2014 Volume 29 Issue 8



From the Desk of the President

Nice likeness, don't you think? ☺

The nights have been cool, days warm when not raining, the low angled light, color in the falling leaves and the return to our monthly society meetings all remind us that the Fall season is well upon us. As we began assembling for the September general meeting, the friendly hubbub and chatter reminded me of starting back to school as a youth, friends visiting upon our return from Summer adventures apart; it was great to see one another again! The well-publicized program that followed was well attended and it richly rewarded us all; we welcomed several of the attendees become new society members as well. Researchers Bob Zybach and Janet Meranda presented the fascinating program about the singular, pivotal and remarkable life of Leticia Carson, a black woman and her Irish husband who, in 1845, came to Tampico, Oregon (just west of Adair Village) and homesteaded when the territory didn't permit blacks. Space doesn't permit us to do justice to the remarkable saga described in "A Light in the Wilderness", a historical work of fiction by Jane Kirkpatrick, which was available at the program and now at Amazon.com as both printed and e-books. Zybach and Meranda expect to publish their factual, historical research of Leticia Carson and her husband perhaps in two years.

What a remarkable, well spent hour that was; it reminded me to do more than merely think of a book I hope to write of our Coast Range town's history. How about you, are making any progress in your writing or research? Winter is ahead, a good time to hunker down and return to our work when the rains drum on the roof! How will you spend that time before the Spring then Summer beckons us again outside to gardens, lawns and the seasons' outdoor chores? - Ron DeYoung



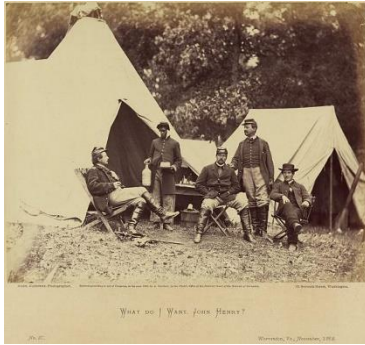
Library News: Let There Be Light! For those who have tried to read the titles on the office's "closet" shelves, lighting has always been an issue. Thanks to Sue, former librarian, we now have two battery-operated "puck" LED lights that are pointed in toward the shelves, just look up! To turn them on, press the clear lens. They will pivot as well but please, shut them off when done! Thanks, Sue!



October's program on Saturday, October 11 at 11am will be presented by Kenneth Runningcrane-Real who is Lakota and a registered member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe; Ken will be talking about First Nation (Native) names and the process used by the BIA and various churches for treaty and tribal rolls which is useful for tracking family/tribal trees. Ken grew up on Indian reservations in Montana and South Dakota and received his primary education in church and BIA schools. Ken retired from the US Army in 2000 spending 20 years as a Cavalry Scout. After leaving the Army Ken was a Police Officer in Oregon; currently Ken has a Craft business specializing in Pow Wow and Native Ceremonial Regalia. He also gives lectures on native customs, traditions, and issues in public schools and universities.

Although the programs for the next few months are already planned (thanks, Katie!) what might you like to have for programs this Winter and Spring? Let any of the Board members know!

News of Interest in the Family History and Genealogical World!



Searching for Civil War ancestors, either Union or Confederate veterans?
Consider this free and growing online resource! - Ron D

[Civil War Soldiers' Graves Online Database](#)

"The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) now has created its Grave Registration Project to document the final resting places of BOTH Union and Confederate Civil War veterans. The fully-searchable database is available online, is free and no registration is required.

The SUVCW web site is found at:"

<http://www.suvcwdb.org/home/search.php?action=search>

(from *Dick Eastman's Online Newsletter*)



Love your Mac but want to use Roots Magic? Note the following announcement from the folks at Roots Magic, taken from their website! Had this come before I bought my laptop a couple months ago, I would have bought a Mac! - Ron D

"The RootsMagic team has announced a major product announcement that will interest many Macintosh owners: A new, low-cost piece of software will allow Macintosh owners to run RootsMagic without installing a copy of Microsoft Windows."



My Heritage is known by many to be especially valuable for British research. For a limited time, subscriptions to this service is offered for \$119.40 for one year, 50% of the normal cost. This **expires on October 10**. Although offered for subscribers to Dick Eastman's Online Newsletter, it is also offered to their "friends". (Hi Friends!) For more info see: <https://www.myheritage.com/partner/eogn2014> - Ron D, (source: *Dick Eastman's Online Newsletter*)

An example of what **FindMyPast**, another subscription service (available to use in the Corvallis Family History Center) offers is listed in an announcement from August 2014 – Ron D:



Findmypast has added Australian records: inbound passenger lists to Victoria, 1839-1923 (2,125,578 records) and outbound from Victoria 1852-1915 (1,753,919 records).

These inbound and outbound passenger lists will usually contain names, estimated birth years, nationalities, native places, month and year of arrival, ship name, destination port and departure port, so they contain a lot of information that can be instrumental in filling in blanks that you may have in your research.

Curious about the former occupants of your town or home? Trying to write a history or round out your ancestors' environment? This could be useful in writing a family history or other story! - Ron D

*"With **CensusReporter**, you can type in the name of your town and you can start scrolling through all kinds of census data. You'll see charts that let you absorb the information at a glance, along with comparisons to regional and state numbers.*

*Have you ever wondered about the people who used to live in your house? **Census Tool** may be able to help. You can find your old house in the 1940 and earlier U.S. census records and then discover a little about what life was like for its former residences. You'll see their name, what they did for a living, even how much money they make.*

You can read more at <http://www.makeuseof.com/tag/town-story-heres-census-data-can-help-see>. "

(article from the **Ancestry Insider** blog)



[Library of Congress Offers a New Collection of Depression Era Photographs](#)

The Library of Congress has a great collection of photographs from the Great Depression that has recently been updated. The collection now contains more than 175,000 portraits of America between the years 1935 and 1945, taken by photographers of the government's Farm Security Administration. The photographs also include all known data about the subject(s) in each photo, including the date and location of the photograph and also the name of the photographer. Photos at <http://photogrammar.yale.edu>

(from **Dick Eastman's Online Newsletter**)



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

A little-known program of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) provides genealogy information that may be difficult or impossible to obtain elsewhere. The records include naturalization files, visa applications, and citizenship tests, and may reveal family secrets and mysteries. In addition to relatives, historians or researchers can also request files. The documents typically include immigration information, often (but not always) including exact hometowns in their ancestors' native countries. The files often have information on brothers, sisters, aunts and uncles. Many times it is useful to obtain the records of your uncles, aunts, and cousins who also immigrated from "the old country." For more information about the program, check out <http://www.uscis.gov/genealogy>.

(from **Dick Eastman's Online Newsletter**)

DNA Research.....ouch!! For those interested in DNA research for genealogical or for medical purposes.....it would be good to review the unintended consequences this one fellow experienced. It appears he uncovered some family secrets long buried. Poor fellow..... - Ron D

[With Genetic Testing, I Gave My Parents the Gift of Divorce](#)

"DNA testing can be a wonderful thing. It solves family mysteries, brings families closer together, and more. Sometimes...

A stem cell and reproductive biologist had his own DNA tested. After all, he is a DNA expert. He even teaches a college course about the genome. He recently gave DNA kits to both his mother and his father and was anxious to see the results. As he wrote, "I was very interested in confirming any susceptibility to cancers that I heard had run in my family, like colon..." You can read the very interesting article at:

<http://www.vox.com/2014/9/9/5975653/with-genetic-testing-i-gave-my-parents-the-gift-of-divorce-23andme>

(from **Dick Eastman's Online Newsletter**)



It is the first day of the month. It's time to back up your genealogy files. Then test your backups! You can make backups at any time. However, it is easier and safer if you have a specific schedule. The first day of the month is easy to remember, so back up your genealogy files at least on the first day of every month! - with thanks to **Dick Eastman's Online Newsletter** for the reminder!

Benton County Genealogical Board Contacts

Names, email and phone numbers removed for security reasons.

Upcoming Conferences:

GFO (Gen Forum Oregon) Oct 25 & 26, Milwaukie Elks Lodge, Judy Russell, details at:

<http://www.gfo.org/seminar/judy-russell.pdf>

Milwaukie Family History Center, Gladstone Oregon, Nov 1st, 2014, 9a-4:45p, Hannah Allan, keynote speaker, (yay!). Free, even a free lunch! <http://milwaukiefamilyhistoryconference.blogspot.com>

General Meetings held on the 2nd Saturday in the month September through June. The October general meeting on Saturday, Oct 11th will be at 10am in the Social Hall of the College United Methodist Church, Philomath, everyone is welcome! The program by Ken Runningcrane-Real will follow at 11 am.

Board Meetings are held on the Tuesday before the general meeting; in October it will be on Tuesday the 7th in the Philomath Community Library, meeting room from 10am to noon. All members are invited.

Great websites! Benton County, Oregon GenWeb page <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~orbenton/>
Benton County Genealogical Society web page <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~orbentgs/>

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