



Benton County Genealogical Society Newsletter

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~orbentgs/>

P. O. Box 1646, Philomath, Oregon, 97370

April 2011

Volume 26, Issue 4

From the Desk of the President

Hello all. Looks like spring has arrived. We are official. And look at all the trees and flowers coming back to life. Wow! Aren't you glad you are in Oregon?

As for Society business, looks like we are all doing very well. As I mentioned before, we have a finance committee paying the bills and keeping track of the money and an audit committee making sure all the "t"s have been crossed and the "i"s have been dotted or in this case the "\$"s & "."s are in the right places.

The publishing committee has been publishing :). How about that article in the last newsletter written by our very own Linda Olsen with help from Earl Greig for the Genealogical Forum of Oregon's quarterly publication, the Bulletin? I am thinking part 2 will appear in this newsletter. Can't wait. Also being published is this newsletter which is looking very sharp, don't you think? And we have had several books sell. The Society Historian, Lee Rudisill, is still on the job. If you have not seen the more recent scrapbooks or ones from "back in the day," check them out. They are stored at the annex in the library. Just ask the library staff person to show you where.

Speaking of library staff, they are moving forward as well. Some sorting has been done and there's more to come, I understand. Then, of course, there is the annual inventory which I understand is happening in June before it gets to hot. See Grace, the librarian, if you are interested in helping. Please be sure to get whatever books you have that belong at the library back BEFORE the inventory.

Programs are all squared away. We have a fluid Program Committee, if you will. Susan calls it the "program person of the month" with her being available for consulting and a very well put together program folder in the library. If you have ideas for programs, feel free to add them to the list or better yet, plan it yourself. There is even a checklist so you don't forget any details. See the program portion of this newsletter for what's on the horizon.

And finally, I want to offer a special thanks to our new membership person. Mary Jo has been hard at work greeting, signing up, sharing information, and spreading those spiffy brochures around the county. If you know of a place we are missing, let us know.

Looking forward to seeing you Saturday, April 9 from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM at the general meeting in the Social Hall at the College United Methodist Church, 1123 Main St., Philomath. In addition, you all are invited to the next board meeting, 2 May 2011 from 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM at the Philomath Community Library, 1050 Applegate St., Philomath.

Margaret



Members Danell Aukerman & Gene Newcomb

Membership

Benefits of being a member of BCGS include: Library use during open hours, book checkout privileges, newsletter as published and voting rights at business meeting. Membership dues will be \$15 if you receive your newsletter by e-mail. If you receive your newsletter by the US Post Office, dues will be \$20. New member packets are available at the BCGS library or they will be available at our next general meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Jo Miner at 541-753-4828.

Welcome to our new members

Ellen Bartish Willa Kenoyer Jodi Russell

Library Committee

Library volunteers have completed culling the old newsletters from the 1990's through 2010 from our collection. If you are interested in any of these newsletters, they will be available after our next general meeting at the annex. A donation to the library will be appreciated.

The volunteers are also preparing the donations from Irene Harding and Mabelle Marstsching to add to our library collection.

A few members are talking about and recommending *Google Your Family Tree: Unlock the Hidden Power of Google* by Daniel M. Lynch. This book is a good reference to use as your search for your family online. It may be a good book for your personal library. There are 14 chapters covering the following: Search Engine Basics, Interpreting Web Search Results, Advanced Search Techniques, Language Tools, Google Books, Google News Archive, Blog Search, Image & Video, Google Alerts, Google Maps, Google Earth, Google Notebook, The Google Toolbar, Other Tips & Tricks.

If you would like the Library Committee to consider a book to purchase for our library collection, please contact Grace Maddux at graceamaddux@gmail.com or Leila Crawford at leila@peak.org. Please include the title, author, publisher and cost if you have the information.

Program News

9 April Program

Dr. Janet Nishihara, native Oregonian, teacher, author of "Wartime roots of an unexpected community" published in [Seeing color: indigenous peoples and racialized ethnic minorities in Oregon](#), and Director of the Educational Opportunities Program at OSU, will provide a short history of how and why Japanese came to Oregon, where they settled, and what happened during WWII. She will focus on the Free Zone around Ontario: why it was there, why Japanese Americans decided to relocate there, how things were in the 60s and 70s when she was there.

March Program Review

Thirty members and visitors who attended the March program were treated to a DVD presentation of "Coming of Age", the keynote speech of the 2010 National Genealogy Society annual conference held in Salt Lake City.

The speaker, Jay Verkler, CEO of Family Search, outlined the goals of the new, revamped Family Search website and described the challenges and process to digitize 2.4 million rolls of microfilm, index the records, and make them available via the Internet to the worldwide genealogy community. The new site, in beta for several years, is now live and new records are being migrated and posted to the site on a regular basis.

Family Search is now the place to go, said Mr. Verkler, to organize and share knowledge on many genealogy subjects. The key feature is the Family Search Wiki where experts worldwide share their knowledge. The Family History Library catalog is found here now, too, along with research forums and online courses. The URL for Family Search is <https://www.familysearch.org/>

Some asked about obtaining a copy of the DVD. It can be purchased at the Family Search store for \$4.50. The link is <https://store.familysearch.org/>

Genealogy News & Events

2011 Annual Conference - September 16 – 17, 2011

Hosted by the *TRI CITY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY* at Richland Baptist Church, 1632 George Washington Way, Richland, WA. Fri., 5:00 – 9 p.m.; Sat., 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 pm; Registration at 7:30 a.m.

FEATURED SPEAKER: PATRICIA WALLS STAMM, CG, CGL

For details see the Washington State Genealogical Society's website at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasgs> for a link to TCGS. Choose 3 from breakout session topics planned:

Vendors: Family Roots Publishing; NARA; Legacy; Society of U.S. Daughters of 1812.

Friday activities: Visit local Museums, Libraries, Family History Center, & Wineries, plus a Surprise.

Registration to start about May2011

Silverton Seminar April 30

Key Note speaker: Hal Hovorka, Area Genealogy Representative for the Family History Center

Emily Aulicino will be helping at the Willamette Valley Genealogical Society booth as well as giving a DNA presentation at 11:00 am on the basics of DNA testing.

Sponsored by Ancestry Detectives and the Silverton Family History Center

Saturday, April 30, 2011

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Silverton LDS Church

745 West Main

Silverton, Or 97381

For more information or to register:

Contact Ethel Bryant at 503-873-1944 or e-mail Eth1230@aol.com

For class schedule go to <http://Conference.myyellowbasket.com>

Oregon State University Valley Libraries

On Tuesday, 22 March 2011, the Corvallis Gazette-Times announced OSU completed its work on the Oregon Digital Library project. The GT wrote, "The project includes collections from most of the seven Oregon University System institutions, as well as from public libraries and museums that make their collections available online. Read the GT article for more information and explore the site at <http://odl.library.oregonstate.edu>.

Continued from the March newsletter

Researching in Benton County

By Linda Olson

This article may be printed in the Genealogical Forum of Oregon Bulletin

Next, I visited the gleaming white, historic Benton County Courthouse in downtown Corvallis which still looks like its pictures in old history books. Walking through these halls is visiting the place where my ancestors surely walked. My father remembered coming to town as a child hand-in-hand with his father treading up the front steps of this courthouse to pay taxes about 1918. The Benton County Records and Licenses office in the courthouse stores older records. Four generations of marriage records in my family are documented there. I found homestead information for my grandfather and great grandfather dated 1889 and 1892. Both lived and farmed on the slopes of Marys Peak, another historic landmark. Exploring the family homestead often pulled together several generations of relatives for a summer afternoon of clambering over thick brush where there once was a house and barns. A few fruit trees that my grandmother Green planted still stand up there as lonely sentinels. This is now in a restricted forest area and requires permission to hike there although hiking around the trails on Marys Peak is open to the public.

Clicking on the Benton County Inventory link at the Oregon Historical County Records Guide tells me if the records I want are at the Benton County Courthouse in Corvallis or if they are stored at the State Archives in Salem. Knowing ahead of time what records are actually at the courthouse, saved me lots of time and frustration. Again, I've found that calling ahead and talking to the clerks and explaining what I want really helps make the trip worthwhile. <http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/county/cpbentonhome.html>. Another tremendously helpful resource in Benton County is the Benton County Pioneer Database online at <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?db=benton>. If your ancestor is listed here, part of the research work may already be done for you. Checking the Benton County, Oregon Gen Web page will give you additional links around the area. <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~orbenton/>. I found information on my ancestors in other counties surrounding Benton County as well. Something tells me that I'm not quite finished yet.

January 16, 2011

Membership Information

Names, email and phone numbers have been removed for security reasons.

Board meetings are held in the Philomath Public Library conference room at 1050 Applegate, Philomath, Oregon. Our next board meetings date is Monday 2 May 2011 from 3:00-5:00 p.m.

General meetings are held on the second Saturday, September through June, in the social hall of the College United Methodist Church, to the east of the Benton County Historical Museum, in the 1100 block of Main Street, Philomath, Oregon. Our business meeting is at 10:00 a.m. with the program starting at 11:00 a.m. Our next meeting will be Saturday, 9 April 2011.

To all who have contributed to the BCGS newsletter, thank you. To those of you who would like to contribute your stories, photos, ideas, and information I would enjoy hearing from you at leila@peak.org.

1940 Census — Countdown to 1 April 2012
<http://www.1940census.net/>



BCGS members at the March meeting

