

# BENTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY Oregon

## Purpose

- ❖ To assist each other in genealogical research through association, inspiration, and mutual exchange and interaction.
- ❖ To encourage and provide for genealogical education.
- ❖ To cooperate with the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library and the Benton Country Historical Society in matters pertaining to genealogical research.
- ❖ To advocate for accurate research and careful documentation.
- ❖ To encourage the study of family history through mutual support and the exchange of information.
- ❖ To accumulate resource materials for the Society library.
- ❖ To assist in the preservation and publication of local history.

## Contact Us

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

### BCGS

P.O. Box 1646  
 Philomath, OR 97370  
[www.bcgs-oregon.org](http://www.bcgs-oregon.org)

## Program News

**May:** Ann Smart, **RootsMagic aficionado**, did an excellent job of educating us on the ins and outs of this very popular genealogy and family tree software. She also hosts a RootsMagic user group and invited us to join. (see p. 2)



**June:** Our annual **Potluck** will be held at the annex after the business meeting. Bring a dish of your choice. Coffee, tea, punch, paper plates, plastic spoons, etc. will be available. YUM!



## Library News

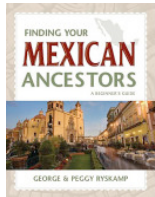
Come by the genealogy library this summer. It will be open Tuesdays and Saturdays from 1-3:30 p.m. on those days. The Saturday time is new, so see you there! You might come across an intriguing book as I did.

While doing a recent inventory of our library, I found the book *Finding Your Mexican Ancestors* by George and Peggy Ryskamp. Because my brother-in-law is of Mexican ancestry, I took a good look at the book. Previously, I had used ancestry.com's database and found the border crossing records of his maternal →

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grandfather. One of the records even had a photo of the grandfather and his first wife, albeit a little fuzzy. When I sent the picture to my niece, she was thrilled because she had never seen a picture of her great-grandfather. Besides the photo, the record gave his full name and the state he was from in Mexico. How exciting that was to find!



The border crossing cards are only a small part of what is available for those who are searching for their Mexican ancestors. This book by the Ryskamps teaches how to find not only U.S. records but → Mexican records as well. They suggest, after you've found the

ancestral hometown, using the Mexican civil registration records and parish records to find your ancestors. The civil registration records are fairly straightforward because of the consistent way they were written. And the parish records, in some cases, go back to the 1500's.

One chapter is devoted to finding and working with Mexican records, including a section on how to interpret old Spanish language documents. It's similar to becoming familiar with old English documents-the more experience you have, the easier it is to figure out what the word is!

The authors also write about Mexican history to provide a context for your genealogy research. Along with the how-to portions of the book, there are some great appendices. You don't know Spanish, you say? One appendix is a glossary of Spanish words that might be found in the records. Others cover internet sites for Mexican genealogy, researching in the archives, and research forms. To quote the back cover blurb, "If you don't have Mexican ancestors, this book will make you wish you had." I might add that there are some good search tips in the book for everyone, no matter your ancestry.

-- Sue

### Roots Magic Corvallis User group

The next Roots Magic user group will be on June 29 from 1-3 p.m. at Bill and Ann Smart's home. The topic will be sources and using the source wizard to create them. The user group covers one or two topics at a meeting instead of the fast tour of the whole program. If you would like to be added to the user group, let Ann Smart know at [annsmart1@comcast.net](mailto:annsmart1@comcast.net).

-- Ann

### NORPAK Label News

The last batch of 168 Santiam and Flav-R-Pak UPC labels which our members had so diligently saved earned us \$8.40 this past year. That is less than last year, so **please don't forget** to save them. They can be turned in at the Annex or mailed to our postoffice box (see p.1 for address). Here's hoping we do better this year.

**Reminder:** Please do **not** save Campbell's soup or other 'Labels for Education' labels for us. Give them to your local school.

### Genie Doings

Danell Aukerman will be giving a presentation at 7 PM, June 6th on "Family History Fun". The talk will be at the Corvallis Senior Center, and BCGS members are invited to give a brief story about something exciting that they have found.

### Other Genealogical News and Events County Pays Tribute To Past Commissioners

With the Benton County Fair and Rodeo's centennial anniversary approaching, the Benton County Board of Commissioners Office is taking an opportunity to reflect on the history of the county.

As part of the Fair's 100-year anniversary celebration, the Board of Commissioners Office is looking for biographical information, stories, pictures, campaign literature and any other items relating to commissioners who served in Benton County from 1847 to the present.

Staff members plan to use that information to create a publication containing brief biographies on each commissioner to distribute at the county's booth at this year's Fair and Rodeo.

Those who have historical information or items relating to Benton County commissioners over the years can submit copies of the information or items (copies are preferable to originals) to the Board of Commissioners Office. Deadline for submissions is July 1.

For more information, or to make a submission, those interested can contact Kevin Perkins in the Benton County Board of Commissioners Office at 541-766-6800, email at [kevin.perkins@co.benton.or.us](mailto:kevin.perkins@co.benton.or.us) or in person or through postal mail at 205 NW Fifth St., in Corvallis.

-- [http://www.co.benton.or.us/read\\_news.php?aid=599](http://www.co.benton.or.us/read_news.php?aid=599);  
13 May 2013

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Susan Hayes responded to this request for information on past commissioners and has met with Kevin Perkins twice. He is still seeking information on the following past commissioners. The dates indicate the years of service.

Jacob Halter (1859-62)  
 George Belknap (1850-52)  
 J.L. Lilly (1866-68)  
 Larkin Vanderpool (1864-66)  
 David King (1870-72, 1874-76) - not one of the Kings Valley Kings  
 Britton (aka Brittain) Wood (1874-76)  
 James (may be John) Wiles (1876-78)  
 A.W. Hawley (1908-09, 1911-13)  
 J.C. Smith (1917-21)  
 R.W. Scott (1921-25)  
 T.A. Logsdon (1935-39)  
 O.B. Kyle (1939-50)

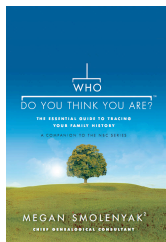
So, if you have any information about these past commissioners or want to roll up your sleeves and do some research, Kevin welcomes contributions from BCGS members. The deadline to submit information is July 1.

-- Susan

### WDYTYA comes to TLC

The upcoming season of "Who Do You Think You Are?" is moving to cable. It premieres on TLC on 23 July 2013. The Ancestry.com press release reads in part,

"Who Do You Think You Are?" explores the roots of celebrities who embark on an



intense personal journey to discover their family's past. Some of the celebrities to be featured in these all-new episodes include Christina Applegate, Cindy Crawford, and Zoey Deschanel. Each of the 8 hour-long episodes reveal the real person behind the celebrity as they come to understand the

lives their ancestors lived that helped shape the person they are today.

The show was cancelled by NBC after three seasons. In its new home on cable, Ancestry.com will continue to be a major sponsor. See [the complete Ancestry.com press release](#) on the Ancestry.com corporate website.

-- Ancestry Insider; posted 27 May 2013

### Are Digital Libraries Going to Replace Traditional Books?

Is it time to stop the presses?



It seems that every week I report in this newsletter about more and more genealogy books that are being converted to electronic format. Sure, old books have been digitized for several years now. However, even new books are now appearing as electronic publications. The Kindle, Nook, and other e-book readers are hot items these days. Now the world's first completely paperless public library is scheduled to open this summer in San Antonio, Texas.

The so-called BiblioTech is a low-cost project with big ambitions. It will have 100 e-readers on loan, and dozens of screens where the public will be able to browse, study, and learn digital skills. However it's likely most users will access BiblioTech's initial holding of 10,000 digital titles from the comfort of their homes, way out in the Texas hinterland.

The new, all-digital library gained impetus from the success of the University of Texas San Antonio (UTSA) bookless engineering school library which opened three years ago, the first paperless academic library.

You can read a lot more about this new library in an article by Bill Hicks in the BBC web site at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-22160990>.

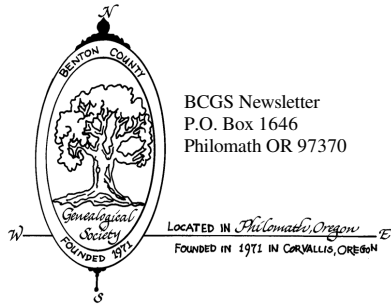
-- Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter; posted by Dick Eastman on May 22, 2013

### More Genie Doings

Margaret, along with 44 others, received the "Historic Preservation Certificate of Merit in recognition of their outstanding contribution to preserving and promoting the heritage of Corvallis, Oregon" at the 2013 Annual Historic Preservation Awards.



-- Faye



## Meetings

**June Board Meeting** will be held prior to the General meetings in the Annex, 1104 Main St., Philomath OR. All members are welcome.  
Board: 9:00 AM - 9:45AM

**General Meetings** are held on the second Saturday, September through June, in the Social Hall of the College United Methodist Church, 1123 Main St., Philomath OR. Everyone is welcome.  
Business: 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM  
Program : 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM



Hot on the trail.