



NewsLetter

Benton County Genealogical Society

March 2010

Volume Twenty-Five
Number Three

13 March Program

Preserving Your History by Scott McArthur

Retired lawyer, teacher and author Scott McArthur will talk about how to carry your genealogical research to the next step, that is, recording your genealogical research in a manner so it can be of use to others. He will address how to record your research in a form that will survive to future generations and to insure that what you write won't be tossed out in the trash by those who follow you.

A part of his talk will feature recording the social history of your family and how to interview the old-timers in your family. He will refer to a book by Tony Horwitz, "Confederates in the Attic," where the author talks about recording stories of Civil War memories from the Deep South.

Should I Remove My Photographs From Old Albums, Such As Black Paper Albums Or Self-stick Albums?

Don't rush to remove photographs from albums just because you think the album is not "archival". Many older albums with black, gray or colored paper actually may not be harming your photographs while removal may cause immediate damage that is not easily repaired! In addition, older family heirloom albums frequently have valuable inscriptions and a character all their own that would be lost by replacement with a modern album. People sometimes erroneously assume that damage they see is caused by the paper when in fact the damage occurred years ago. For example, stains and fading (especially on black and white photos) can be the result of poor processing by the photographer or the glues used to spot adhere the photos to the pages. Very little can be done to reverse the damage in these situations. However, some album page papers, even different types of photos or poorly processed photos, or previous tape mends which are in contact with photos on adjacent pages, may be contributing to fading or staining. One simple solution is to interleave those pages with these problems using high quality paper or plastic sheets to isolate each page from its neighbor. Care should be taken so that the album doesn't become overstuffed with the interleaving, possibly breaking the binding. If the photos really are deteriorating and you choose to have the album disassembled to ensure their preservation, photocopies in color or black and white can be made of each page to capture the look and feel of the original, preserve all inscriptions, and keep a record of the order in the album.

As mentioned above, removing photos from old self-stick album pages that have dried up, especially when the plastic cover sheet no longer sticks to the page and the page has discolored, may be easy - frequently the photo just falls off! However, removing photos from pages that are in the extremely tacky stage can cause permanent damage. This treatment, especially for those photos that are very important to you, is best left to trained conservators. Photographs which were recently attached to self-stick album pages usually can be removed easily within a year or two by inserting a thin knife under the edge of the photo and gently separating the photo from the page. Never curl or peel back a photo from a self-stick page as the photo may be permanently cracked and curled in the process.

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

Historical Research at Benton County Historical Museum

Mary Gallagher, Research Librarian at the Benton County Historical Library, is available there the second Saturday of each month to help patrons with historical research. Museum hours are 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

GFO Spring Seminar

Another field trip has been planned.

WHAT: GFO Spring Seminar

Ann Carter Fleming, author, lecturer, researcher, & volunteer will cover "The ABC's of Publishing Your Family History"

WHO: Whoever signs up first. Space is available for perhaps 3 more people

WHEN: Saturday, **April 24, 2010**; Registration from 8am - 9am. Program ends about 3:30pm

WHERE: Gateway Elks Lodge near NE 100th & Glisan, Portland

More information regarding **seminar:** <http://www.gfo.org/> or **503.963.1932**

More information regarding **field trip:** Margaret @ foxma@peak.org or **541.754.7623**

EDIBLE RAILROAD

The Wild West legend started out as the Northwest's very finest railroad, a 1.5-mile stretch of narrow gauge track that connected Walla Walla with Wallula on the Columbia River. The brain-child of Dr. Dorsey S. Baker, the Walla Walla and Columbia Railroad went into operation in 1873.

The locomotives ran on timber tracks, which had a propensity to split. Legend has it that as a stopgap Dr. Baker had the rails covered in rawhide. Unfortunately, the covering attracted ravenous wolves and coyotes, who came and gnawed on the rails. More trustworthy accounts record the danger to passengers posed by the strips of "strap" iron that Dr. Baher had his crews nail to the tops of the tracks where the line curved. Under the pressure of the passing locomotive wheels, the iron strips tended to detach from the rails, curl around the wheels, and sometimes punch through the undersides of the train cars. Another hazard: burning cinders spewed by the locomotive engine. One passenger arrived in Walla Walla with most of his coat burned off his back and his silk hat turned into a sieve. Passengers also had to endure the scent of burning pork chops - the result of hog lard used to lubricate the train bearings. The 15-mile trip took seven hours to complete.

Nonetheless, the railroad was a success and continued to run until 1881, when the Oregon Railroad and Navigation Company converted the line to standard track and incorporated it into its eastern Washington network.

Courtesy of Fort Walla Walla Museum and "Journey." the AAA Washington magazine, Dec. 2001

Reprinted from The Tri-City Genealogical Society Bulletin, Volume 49, Number 2, ISSN 0496-1803, July 2009, page 24 bottom.

"If a man wants his dreams to come true, he must wake up."

Published Tri-City Herald, 8/16/2008, page A2

Reprinted from The Tri-City Genealogical Society Bulletin, Volume 49, Number 2, ISSN 0496-1803, July 2009, page 26 bottom.

Margaret W. Fox PhD

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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.

We have received several donations that we are working on cataloging. Damaris donated three books and the seven were donated to our Society by the Museum. Pat Coolican has donated four magazines and we received several books from an Anonymous donor. Hopefully they will all be catalogued and a list ready for next month's newsletter. There will be some books for sale at the March 13 general meeting,

2010 Census Originals to Be Shredded?

By Robert Ward, President, Cape Cod Genealogical Society, February 10, 2010

The Census Bureau and the National Archives have agreed to throw out the 2010 census forms after archiving statistical data. This means that seventy-two years later genealogist will see nothing.

The same authorities planned to do this to the 2000 census too. A January 1999 Supreme Court ruling forced the Census Bureau to redesign data collection by prohibiting the use of sampling. Responding to an inquiry from Congressman Waxman of the census oversight committee, the Census Bureau and the National Archives reevaluated their decision. Images of all 2000 census forms were copied onto microfilm.

For 2010, the Census Bureau and the National Archives once again plan to make a data file rather than capture images of the census forms. Data Killers, a shredding and degaussing company, has a one-year contract to destroy on-site Census Bureau data.

If earlier officials had been so short sighted, millions of Americans could not have used the 1880 census to prove their ages and qualify for Social Security. What if a future prospective citizen must prove he or she was in the United States in 2010? Who knows what crucial uses this information may fulfill? If in seventy-two years, you'd like your descendants to be able to see your census form, act now or it will not happen. (You could even write them a message on the form.) As in 2000, Congress can persuade these agencies to reconsider.

Write to your representatives in Congress and request that these records to microfilmed. Below is a website to write to also.

<http://blog.capecodgensoc.org/2010/02/save-2010-census-no-images-to-be.html>

The following story is an example of the census usefulness.

Excerpts from the Register Guard, 25 Feb 2010: Marion Pringle was born in Canada in 1906 and no longer drives, but needed to renew her license to keep her medical records current - and Oregon now requires proof of citizenship for a license, Pringle moved to Portland as a girl but never got the documents the state now requires. She finally proved her citizenship through the Census records found by the Oregon Historical Society. She celebrated her 104th birthday on Tuesday and got a surprise visit from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service officials who gave her the papers and administered the oath of citizenship.

Reprinted for the Oregon Genealogical Society Newsletter, Issue 171, Mar/Apr 2010.

Ancestry.com

Ancestry.com continues to be a major asset to genealogy research at the Oregon State Library. It is available on all the computers, but two computers are reserved just for genealogy research.

Records are being added to ancestry.com all the time. Some records are the original records in a language other than English, so don't think it is only US records. The Canadian Collection contains original images of birth, marriage and death records starting in the 1850's as well as all of the Canadian census images from 1851-1911.

One problem is that people often want to search for exact names. Spelling is a variable on the indexing so be creative! And don't forget that a volunteer is always there to help you.

Reprinted From: Willamette Valley Genealogical Society Newsletter, Vol. XXXI, Number 12, Dec. 2009, Page 6

Membership

New Members

Glen A. Jones

Renewals

May D. Dasch
Pat and Dean Hart
Mary Yoke

Program Review

By Susan C. Hayes Program Chairman

Program - February 13, 2010

Heraldry – A Genealogical Perspective

Presented by Jonathan Hayes

Jonathan spoke about the history and origin of coats of arms and their use to uniquely identify an individual, in battle and later as nobility, hence their usefulness to genealogists. He noted the establishment of the College of Arms in 1484 in England as the body to regulate and establish rules for the rights of individuals to bear arms. He went on to describe how coats of arms are constructed and how to read them. He distributed an excellent illustrated handout taking us through this on a step-by-step basis. As we have today with the variety of family coats of arms sold at festivals today like Renaissance fairs, coats of arms got out of hand and people without the legal right to display or use coats of arms adopted them. He alerted us not to rely on a family coat of arms purchased from fair vendors for genealogical purposes.

He ended with the story of a scandal in the 1500's surrounding the creation of the Spencer family (the family of Princess Diana) coat of arms, a scandal long forgotten today, as the coat of arms continues to be used by the Spencer family today.

April Raffle

We would love to have more items to add to our Raffle to be held at the April meeting. So, if you have any items that you wish to donate to the raffle now is the time. Let Susan Hayes (s.c.hayes@att.net or 541-752-0498) know and she will add the item to the list. More interesting items, more money raised for the Society.

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 Reynolds.

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

Tickets will be sold at the March and April meetings.

Upcoming Programs

10 April 2010 – Civil War in Oregon by Colonel Steven Betschart

8 May 2010 – Dating and Preserving Photographs by Larry Landis, OSU Archives

12 June 2010 - Potluck Picnic

Summer Break

11 September – Show ‘n Tell

9 October – Overview and Tour of the OSU Archives Collection

Record Search from familysearch.org

Don't forget to check the LDS Family Search's new site. On this site, which is still being added to, you can search millions of indexed records from around the world. Their November update included records from Switzerland and Marriage Records from Massachusetts, 1842-1915.

You can start with "Discover Your Ancestors" and enter names, dates, location, etc. You can also browse the record collection and select a region or country. Then you can search by collection. Some are browse images only, some are indexes with no image and some you can search and then look at the original image. The website can be reached from: familysearch.org or at <http://pilot.familysearch.org/recordsearch/>

Reprinted From: Willamette Valley Genealogical Society Newsletter, Vol. XXXI, Number 12, Dec. 2009, Page 4

Upcoming Genealogical Events

- **March 19 & 20, 2010.** The Sweet Home Genealogy Society is planning our **30th Annual Workshop** On Friday we will have Joanna Haugen. On Saturday we will have Gerald and Connie Lenzen. For more information call **503-367-5034** or e-mail them at: **shgs@centurytel.net**
- **April 24, 2010 - GFO Spring Seminar**, Portland, OR. Ann Carter Fleming, author, lecturer, researcher, & volunteer will cover "The ABC's of Publishing Your Family History": Organizing Your Research, Designing The Layout, Developing Your Style, and Publishing The Book. Registration from 8 am - 9 am. Program ends about 3:30 pm. More information regarding seminar: <http://www.gfo.org/> or **503.963.1932**
- **2010 Family History Conference, "Follow Your Ancestral Trail"**, which will be held **28 April—1 May 2010**, in Salt Lake City, Utah. Whether your family helped settle the nation, migrated across the country, stayed in the same place, or recently arrived in America, this conference has much to offer. A few examples of the Family History Conference's diverse program offerings include the *International Workshops* which will focus on researching the cultural records of other countries through lectures, research, and problem solving; the *Evening Celebration of Family History*, which will incorporate a multimedia tribute to family history, a special guest speaker, and a mini-concert by the Mormon Tabernacle Choir; and *Ask An Expert*, where the Utah Genealogical Association will sponsor twenty minute family history consultations to registered attendees.
- **May 1 & 2, 2010 -** Brownsville, OR annual celebration. **"Carry Me Back to the 1930's"**. Celebration includes re-enactment of life in Brownsville during the 1930's, and a carriage ride around town. Cost: Adults \$7.00, children (11 and younger) \$3.00. For more information contact 541-466-3390.
- **May 1, 2010 - Clark County, WA Genealogical Society Spring Seminar** in Vancouver, WA. The theme is **Google and More** with Barbara Hovorka. Cost is \$40 for non-members and \$5 for lunch. Phoe 360-750-5688 or go to www.ccg-wa.org
- **July 31, 2010 - Oregon Statewide Biennial Genealogy Conference** at the **Lane Community College in Eugene, Oregon. 2010 Summer Genealogical Festival - featuring Elizabeth Shown Mills**, , CG, CGL, FASG, FNGS, FUGA, distinguished, internationally recognized genealogy expert, speaker, author, and researcher. There will be a dozen concurrent lectures, the popular "Ask the Experts" sessions, and a packed vendor area are scheduled for this Summer Genealogical Festival

Crook County Genealogical Society

The Mill Creek Cemetery book has been completed and a copy is in the genealogy library at Bowman Museum. This project has been a labor of love; a learning experience; spending time visiting the cemetery; researching obituaries and photographs of those buried there. We are pleased with the final outcome. The Mill Creek Cemetery is located approximately 8 miles east of Prineville off Highway 26 on a gravel road. The first recorded burial was a Mr. Macy who died in 1872. Also recorded is a "Francher baby" from a wagon train that passed through the area. There are no dates on this gravesite.

It is our understanding, from reading the history about this cemetery, it is the only privately deeded cemetery in Crook County. Included in our book is a history of early families who settled in the Mill Creek area, written by Blanche McClun Hereford. This book will be for sale at the Bowman Museum and all proceeds will go to the Crook County Genealogical Society.

Compiled by Vicki Nelson and Bev Moltzau

Reprinted From: *Bend Genealogical Society, Inc., Vol. 16, Number 7, Page 3*

WorldCat.org And a tiny filler, also from McHenry: The website **WorldCat.org** is a universal library card catalog for finding things you may not have found otherwise. If you don't have a computer at home go to your library and use the ones your taxes have purchased. Find your library item on WorldCat and order it through inter-library loan at your local library.

Reprinted from *The Heritage Newsletter, Volume 24, Issue 3, March 2010*

WPA HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY
BENTON COUNTY, OREGON
BY MARK PHINNEY

C. R. (Dick) BALLARD

August, 1938

(Richard **BALLARD**, aged 72, was interviewed on the old home farm about a mile and a half northeast of Wren. He seemed in every way a competent witness of the things which had come within his knowledge.) My father, George Washington **BALLARD**, married Adaline **WATTS** in eastern Tennessee. In 1852 they started for Oregon, but when they reached the Missouri word had come back by scouts and runners that cholera was bad on the plains that year and they waited over one year.

Mother's sister had married a man named Moses **MILNER**. This **MILNER** was a teamster and scout. He had several mule teams and carried freight for hire. He had made three trips to the mines of California. In 1853 he brought my father's family through to The Dalles, Oregon. From The Dalles they came by boat to Portland where they stayed the first winter. Then they got a farm on Mill Plain about twelve miles from Vancouver. Here they built a cabin and started to make the place a real home. Then a runner came through with word that Indians were coming. It was at the time of the uprising of Cayuse Indians in Eastern Oregon.

My parents left all their possessions, which included a wagon and two yoke of oxen. They saved only the children and the clothes they wore. When a mile or so away they saw the leaping flames as the Indians fired the cabin. They never returned to that place but came in 1856 to Benton County.

In some way father had fallen in with Johnson **MULKEY** who had a farm about two miles northwest of Corvallis on Oak Creek. **MULKEY** was a cattleman and had bought this place where we are now. This place was then called **BLAKESLEY** Ranch from the man who had taken the first claim here. It is, as you see, a creek three or four miles long and shut in rather closely by high hills. It is about twelve or fifteen miles by automobile road to where Johnson **MULKEY'S** donation land claim was, but in those days the old Cardwell Hill road from Fort Hoskins to Corvallis cut straight across the hills and the distance was about five miles. **MULKEY** had bought almost all the land along the little creek and ran cattle in here. Several hundred acres of bottom land along the creek had a heavy growth of fine grass which could be cut for hay, and the hills furnished pasture. Father cut rails to fence much of the place. When **MULKEY** died father bought this farm at the executor's sale. Here my parents lived and reared their children, who were: Dave, John, and George Washington, born in the east; Ann (Mrs. **HALL**), born at The Dalles; William, born at Vancouver, Washington; and Mary, Sarah, George, myself, and Emma, born in this community.

MULKEY was a man of business ability and of wide interests. He was always ready to help new comers get a start. Father not only worked for him on the farm but in his freighting business. After the discovery of gold in Idaho supplies had to be freighted in from the Willamette Valley. **MULKEY** employed men and ox teams to do this work. He would take in flour, meat, apples, anything he could produce or buy, and of course he made a good profit. The pay was in gold dust, and this caused **MULKEY'S** death. I heard the story from a man named **JEFFREYS** who lived at McCoy in Polk County when I was a boy. He told it this way:

In the fall or winter of 1861-62 **MULKEY**, **JEFFREYS**, and others started from The Dalles for the Willamette Valley through the snow. The snow was deep and **JEFFREYS** left his belt of gold dust behind. He urged **MULKEY** to do the same but **MULKEY** refused. All his fortune, or so he thought, was contained in that belt. Finally **MULKEY** became exhausted and was left behind, covered up in the snow for warmth. When a rescue party reached him he was alive but his feet were frozen and he was so badly frozen about the waist where the heavy belt weighted him down and the metal chilled him that he did not recover. **JEFFREYS'** feet were so badly frozen that his toes and parts of his heels had to be cut away. When I knew him he stumped about with the aid of two canes.

One of the dangers to the traders and travelers was from the highwaymen. These were mostly toughs from the Willamette Valley who robbed and killed without mercy. Father never talked of these things except with old timers, but there was a man named Bill **IGO**, who had worked at freighting at the same time father was in the business and who used to stay at our house for quite a while at times. I have heard them talk about the highwaymen and how they were punished.

Continued next page

There was a man in the Willamette Valley who had taken in a homeless lad and raised him as one of his own. Later this boy went to the mines and fell in with the outlaw gang. Through their confederates in town the gang would learn of some man starting out with a large amount of gold and would then waylay and kill him. This man who had befriended the lad was in the mines. He sold out this holdings and because he had a large sum with him he left on a round-about way, avoiding the main road. In spite of the precaution the highwaymen met him and he recognized the boy he had helped. This boy promised to do his best to save him and finally helped him to escape. He had seen and recognized the whole party and immediately returned to Lewiston and raised a posse. Such law and order as there was then was mostly enforced by the Vigilantes. The criminals were brought in and placed in a wooden building under guard. The tough element in the saloons and gambling halls were in sympathy with the prisoners and immediately started a move to set them free. While the mob were drinking and otherwise working themselves up to the point of making a jail-delivery, the vigilantes took the gang out and hung them on a hurriedly made scaffold. The leaders of the highwaymen were Dave **ENGLISH** from the Soap Creek district in this county and **THREE-FINGERED** Pete. There were eight or ten others. Father and Bill IGO knew most of them. IGO was in Lewiston when they were hung but he never admitted having anything to do with the dead.

I was born in 1866. I went to school at Wren in a schoolhouse that stood on the same ground where the present school is. It was a frame building. There had been an earlier building a little further north which may have been a log house. My teachers, so far as I can remember, were Emma **REASONER**, Mr. **GOOD**, May **LILLY**, Margaret **KNOTT** and Margaret **DUNN**. We had only three months of school each year at first. This was gradually lengthened to five or six months, but I did not get a great deal of schooling. There was not much in the way of amusement or entertainment when I was growing up. The old United Brethren Church that was first built at Wren had been removed. We used to have preaching and Sunday School at the schoolhouse. Bill **DIXON** was one of the preachers who came often.

Then there were the neighborhood dances. These were quiet and well behaved. Everybody knew everybody else and there was no rowdyism. After I was a man grown we used to have a baseball club in this community. I was married at one time, but my wife and I couldn't get along well and we separated. I have no children. I have lived all my life right here and am still on the old farm. However, I am only bossing and letting others do the hard work.

Genealogy Forum of Oregon Field Trip

A field trip has been planned.

WHAT: Individual Research

WHO: Whoever signs up first. Space is available for 2 more folks unless someone changes his or her mind.

WHEN: March 18; leave Corvallis @ 8:00 am.

WHERE: Genealogy Forum of Oregon, 1505 SE Gideon, Portland, OR

The trip is to the Genealogy Forum of Oregon. Individuals going will be doing their own research. We hope to be given a brief introduction to the Forum then be turned loose to do our own research.

The GFO website <http://www.gfo.org/index.htm> offers the following:

"Welcome to a great place to research your family history. We are one of the rare societies managing a genealogy library with over 30,000 titles. We have Oregon, regional, national, and world-wide resources."

Interested? Contact Denny Haney : haneydp@proaxis.com or 541.745-5023 or Margaret : foxma@peak.org or 541.754.7623

Board Meetings are usually two Mondays before the second Saturday [our regular meeting time]. Dates of the upcoming **Board** meetings are:
29 March for the 10 April meeting. Cookies — Teri Greene
26 April for the 8 May meeting. Cookies — Gene Newcomb
1 June for the 12 June meeting. Cookies — Dean Hart

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 See: www.bcgcs-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!

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