



Benton County Genealogical Society Newsletter

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

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From the Desk of the President

Ok ... I was a bit premature on the welcoming of spring last month, but you gotta admit the day before Easter was wonderful, flowers are still blooming, and the rain does make the valley green.

Several things of note this month include the super job the Library Committee has done getting the library up-to-date; however, I heard three boxes of books were left by "a lady with gray hair." Apparently, keeping up with the collection is a never-ending job. Good thing we have such a dedicated group of members seeing to the task. We all owe each of you a big thanks (and perhaps a cup of coffee) for all the hours you have put in. Books are accessioned; notebooks of old newsletters have been culled; several collections of vertical files have been sorted and filed; and a library manual has been created. Thank you all. Sound like a committee you would like to be a part of? Just let us know.

Also wanted to let you know about the numerous activities going on around the county for Preservation Month. A schedule is included in this newsletter and online at www.co.benton.or.us, or www.ci.corvallis.or.us/cd/historic. Of particular note are events involving several of our members. **Faye Abraham** helped organize the May 22 Camp Adair Tour; **Mary Gallagher** leads the May 21 Downtown Tour; **Judy Juntunen** places flags at Crystal Lake Cemetery, among others, for the Memorial Day Ceremony; **Larry Landis** heads the OSU tour on Mother's Day; and last but not least **Earl Greig** receives a Benton County Historic Preservation Award at the May 21 Annual Awards Ceremony. Each event on the schedule is well worth the time to check out just a few of the historic resources in our county.

Another place to check out is the Benton County Historical Society and Museum's handy new feature on their website -- [Cemeteries of Benton County, Oregon](#)

And finally, as many of you know, I won't be available for the May general meeting. I am off to Charleston, SC for the NGS Conference. Bill Gleaves, past president, will be in charge. Also be aware that just for this month the meeting will be in Room 10 at the College United Methodist Church.

Margaret

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.

Current Renewal
Candy Leelaamornvichet

Library Committee

Surname files donated to the BCGS library by Mabelle Martsching.

For many years, Mabelle volunteered to answer queries for the society. She created surname files through her correspondence and search. Recently, Mabelle donated these files to our library. Each file is a valuable resource you will want to see for your family search. Many of the files contain items such as pedigree charts, stories, marriage certificates, photographs, letters, or newspaper articles. Below is a list of the files donated to our library.

Avery, Baker, Baldwin, Ballard, Barclay, Bayless, Begin, Belnap, Berthold, Biddle, Black, Blodgett, Bowen, Bristol, Brown, Buckingham, Cannon, Card, Cator, Cazadd, Chenoweth, Coat, Collins, Conger, Coons, Crawford, Custer, Daggett, Davidson, Deal, Denny, Dimmick, Dixon, Dunn, Edwards, Emerick, England, Enlow, Evans, Ewing, Field, Findley, Fiske, Flagg, Fonker, Franz, Gardenshire, Garlinghouse, Gillingham, Goodwin, Haggard, Hagglund, Hale, Hand, Hardy, Harper, Harris, Hartless, Harvey, Hawkes, Helms, Hendrix, Herbert, Hoar, Hoffman, Hoover, Horning, Howard, Howell, Huard, Huffman, Hoover, Horning Howard, Howell, Huard, Hulbert, Hunter, Ingals, Jack, Jackson, Jones, Keyes, Kiger, King, Lee, Leeper, Lewis, Liggett, Lincoln, Longsworth, Looney, Lyman, Mark, Mason, McCall, McConnel, McCoy, McFadden, McGahey/McGaughey, Merrick, Merrill, Miller, Morgan, Morrow, Moses, Mosher, Mott, Mulford, Nash, Newton, Norton, Parker, Patrick, Peck, Perkins, Peterson, Pfounts, Phelps, Plunkett, Powell, Price, Redenbaugh, Reeves, Rexford, Rice, Rickard, Ridders, Roberts, Royce, Rycraft, Saylor, Sheldon, Spencer, Starr, Taylor, Thayer, Totomeier, Trask, Turner, Underhill, Waltz, Welsher, Waltz, Wellsher, Vanderpool, Zumwalt

Program News

14 MAY Program

The May program will be presented by Beverly Whitmore on the topic of migration from east to west.

The June program will include our annual picnic and an informal discussion about “breaking down brick walls” with member participation encouraged.

Genealogy News & Events

PRONI (Northern Ireland) Updated Name Search

The Public Records Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) continues to add Irish records online (for free). These come from the records which they hold – usually from the originals. Anyone researching ancestors in Northern Ireland will want to visit PRONI online.

On 11 March a major new update to the Name Search facility was launched on the PRONI website. Eight further pre-1858 will indexes have been added, containing around 53,000 new entries and the index to coroners' inquests has been extended by ten years to 1920.

These entries are in addition to the pre-1858 administration bond indexes, fragments of the 1740 and 1766 religious census returns and 1775 dissenters petitions already available on Name Search. The application now provides a searchable index to thousands of records as early as 1608. The new indexes cover the dioceses of Armagh, Clogher, Connor, Down and Kilmore. Given the loss of census records for Ireland prior to 1901, these records will be of great interest to genealogists tracing their family tree as far back as the 17th century.

Although most pre-1858 wills do not survive, the indexes provide information of use to genealogists, such as the names of the deceased, their address, the date of the grant of probate or administration and occasionally their occupation. Previously users would have to come to PRONI and spend considerable time searching these indexes. Now they are available anywhere in the world and can be searched in seconds.

The completion of this major project is a valuable addition to PRONI's online resources and a mark of its commitment to helping make the archives available to everyone.

The site can be accessed via PRONI's main website at www.proni.gov.uk.

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>.

Clark County Genealogical Society Spring Seminar

4 June 2011

8:30 AM– 4:30 PM at the CCGS Annex, 715 Grand BV, Vancouver, Washington

Speaker will be Connie Lenzen

Topics: Abstracting Workshop, I Know They Existed, but I Can't Find Them, Proving A Maternal Line When Grandma Didn't Tell Us Who Were Her Parents

<http://www.ccg-s-wa.org>

Email: gensoc@ccgs-wa.org



May 2011 Historic Preservation Month

Celebrating America's treasures

Presented by Benton County & City of Corvallis Historic Resources Commissions & PreservationWORKS

All events are FREE and open to the public. Some programs require reservations.

All May Corvallis Library Book Selection Monroe & NW 6th St

During preservation month, the Library features preservation titles for those who enjoy historic resources.

4 Wednesday Work Party at Fiechter House & Cabell Barn

10:00 a.m. Finley National Wildlife Refuge: South on 99W to mile marker 93; follow signs for Finley Refuge. Come fluff n' buff the 1850s Fiechter House, 1910 Cabell Barn and Cabell Lodge for the Refuge tours.

5 Thursday South Central Park Historic Neighborhood Walking Tour

3:00 p.m. Meet at the Arts Center, Madison & SW 7th St

Quality historic resources enrich this pedestrian-friendly tour. See Gothic and Colonial Revival, Italianate, American Foursquare, and Craftsman and High-Style Bungalow homes while learning about adaptive use. This walk begins at an 1889 church - now an art center, and includes an 1892 grocery - now a home.

7 Saturday Finley Wildlife Refuge Historic Tours

11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. South on 99W to mile marker 93; follow signs for Finley Wildlife Refuge:

11:00 a.m., Meet at Fiechter House for tours of nearby historic resources;

Noon - 1:00 p.m. Music & Bring-Your-Own Picnic

Noon - 2:00 p.m. Horse-drawn sustainable forestry demonstration

1:00 p.m. Native American agricultural practices presentation

2:00 p.m. Introduction to the Big Barn

2:30 p.m. Self-guided tour of Cheadle-Irwin Barn

3:00 p.m. Guided Woodpecker Loop Hike

Enjoy the celebration of historic preservation month and the Corvallis Sustainability Coalition's Natural Areas Week. Built and natural resources are all part of our cultural landscape. Guided tours of the historic 1850s Fiechter House and nearby Cabell Barn begin at 11 o'clock. Bring-your-own picnic lunch to enjoy from noon to 1:00 p.m., while the Corvallis Community Band provides lively music. From noon to 2:00 p.m., watch a demonstration of sustainable horse-drawn forestry management. At 1 o'clock, learn about Native American's sustainable agricultural practices. At 2 o'clock there will be a short presentation on the Big Barn near Refuge Headquarters. Conclude this informative event with a self-guided tour of the National Register-listed Cheadle-Irwin Barn, or enjoy a guided Wildflower Walk on Woodpecker Loop.

8 Sunday Mothers' Day

OSU Walking Tour

2:00 p.m. Meet east side of Benton Hall, 14th St near Monroe

Tour limited to 20 persons; for reservations (541) 737-0540

OSU is Corvallis' newest historic district with more than 80 contributing structures and the only Oregon Campus listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Learn about the development of campus structures and early Olmsted and Taylor campus plans, quads, and view sheds. Appreciate the most comprehensive collection of distinctive John V. Bennes-designed buildings.

10 Tuesday **Fort Hoskins Guided Tour**

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Fort Hoskins Historic Park: West on Hwy 20 to Hwy 223 North; west on Hoskins Rd; follow signs; meet at picnic shelter.

In 1856 the US Army established Fort Hoskins to protect coastal Indian reservations. The 130-acre site tells the story of military presence in the Willamette Valley and Coastal Range. The guided tour program interprets military life at the post, archeological study of the site, and management of the cultural landscape, historic structures, and natural resources. Bring a lunch to enjoy in the picnic shelter before continuing to additional afternoon programs in Kings Valley.

Bezell Memorial Forest Education Center Tour & Guided Hike

1:00 p.m., 37283 Kings Valley Hwy (Hwy 223), Kings Valley

Tour of Education Center, followed at 1:30 by 2+-hour round trip hike to South Meadow.

The 1930s Plunkett family barn, constructed from lumber milled on the site, now serves as the Bezell Forest Education Center. The project features low impact construction and maintenance, guided by reduce, reuse, and recycle values.

The Bezell Memorial Forest is a preserve of 586 acres of temperate rainforest. Hear the management plan for the forest as well as restoration efforts of native upland prairies in support of rare Taylor's Checkerspot butterflies. The butterflies frequent only two sites in Oregon, both in Benton County, one in the South Meadow. The round trip tour includes a challenging hike to the South Meadow to possibly view the butterflies.

12 Thursday **Franklin School Neighborhood & Tree Tour**

2:00 p.m., Meet at Franklin School, 750 NW 18th St, east entrance under the Pin Oak

Go green; take a neighborhood walk! Celebrate the enduring companionship of heritage trees in the historic Franklin School Neighborhood. This one-hour guided tour includes the 1889 Franklin Square Park, Corvallis' oldest park and home to more than 15 different tree species.

14 Saturday **Whiteside Theatre Tours**

10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30 a.m., Meet at Madison & SW 4th St

The 1922 Italian Renaissance movie palace offers introductory tours to this National Register of Historic Places downtown Corvallis icon. Come see the stenciled friezes, garden boxes and fabulous balcony details. Tours are limited to 35 persons; reservations recommended: Reservations@WhitesideTheatre.org.

18 Wednesday **Hull-Oakes Sawmill Tour**

10:45 a.m. Meet at Benton County Planning Office, 360 SW Avery to carpool to Sawmill. South on 99W, 13 miles to Dawson Rd; west 6 miles; park near Sawmill office for 11:45 a.m. Orientation.

The Hull-Oakes Lumber Company is one of the last steam-powered sawmills in the nation, processing large-dimension products used worldwide, including restoration of the *USS Constitution* and national parks lodges. Two steam boilers from the early 20th century power the head rig, band saw, edger, and smaller saws. Sawdust is used as fuel in this highly sustainable operation. For more in depth information before the tour, visit: <http://www.thisscarpentry.com/2011/02/25/hull-oaks>

21 Saturday **Historic Downtown Corvallis Walking Tour**

1:00 p.m. Meet at Riverfront Park Fountain, Jackson & NW 1st St

Once a shipping point, warehouse district, and industrial area, today's Riverfront Park honors downtown Corvallis' early past. Appreciate the sites that built Corvallis' early local economy. Linger where historic rehabilitation projects fostered dynamic retail growth along 2nd Street. Learn how downtown changed, and yet remained the same inviting place.

Annual Preservation Awards Ceremony & Lewisburg Grange Centennial Celebration

Noon - 4:00 p.m. Open House and tours celebrating the Grange Centennial. 4:30 p.m. *Grange Rehabilitation Conversations* with Linda Dodson and Allen Nelson. Awards Ceremony follows; reception follows awards.

Built in 1911, the Colonial Revival style Mountain View Grange No. 429 was later renamed Lewisburg Grange. The Oregon State Grange organized in 1893 to help farmers collectively address common issues and served as community centers.

Each year the Corvallis and Benton County Historic Resources Commissions and PreservationWORKS recognize outstanding contributions to the preservation of historic resources. This celebration begins with short tours of the Lewisburg Grange, honoring its Centennial. Linda Dodson and Allen Nelson will discuss the rehabilitation process for the Grange Hall. The Awards Ceremony immediately follows to acknowledge those leaders and stewards, who demonstrate outstanding commitment to maintaining, protecting, and celebration our shared heritage.

22 Sunday *Camp Adar/Adair Air Force Station/SAGE Direction Center Tour*

2:00 - 3:30 p.m. Meet at Adair City Hall; 99W north 5.5 - 6 mi. from Walnut Blvd; right on Vandenburg, left on William R Carr Ave. Interpretive display, guided tours of rehabilitated Barracks, Fire Station, and NORAD Block Building

Originally a World War II army cantonment, Camp Adair transformed 50,000 acres of family farms to a post of 1,800 buildings. Home to infantry, artillery and engineering units with 33,000 personnel, Camp Adair became Oregon's second largest city. After WWII the post hospital served returning veteran patients. During the cold war, air defense facilities added another layer of military history to Adair. Visit <http://www.oregontic.com/heritage/audiotours.php> for more information before the tour, then come see the evolving story!

Visit Locke Cemetery

Cemetery driveway .3 mi west of 99W on Lewisburg Rd

In 1855, A. N. Locke deeded two acres for this burial ground to the citizens of Benton County. The Anna Hugart burial may be the first Oregon Trail immigrant to die within current Benton County boundaries.

23 Monday *OSU Campus Rehab Tours*

10:00 a.m. McAlexander Fieldhouse; Meet at west entrance

12:00 noon Kearney Hall; Meet at Main (east) entrance

4:00 p.m. Education Hall, Jefferson & 15th St: Meet at east side outside the fence

Recent OSU building rehabilitations demonstrate the value of celebrating campus historic resources in a dynamic learning environment. Each of these tours provides an up-close look at respecting historic features while providing essential - and vibrant - contemporary use.

25 Wednesday *The Greenest Building*

7:00 p.m. Depot Suites, 700 SW Washington Ave.

See the Corvallis Premiere of 1-hr documentary overview of the key role of building reuse in creating sustainable communities. The film demonstrates how renovation and adaptive use of existing structures fully achieves the sustainable triple bottom line: economic, social and ecological balance.

Program limited to 45 persons; reservations required. Call Sharon: (541) 766-6908.

30 Monday *Memorial Day Ceremony at Crystal Lake Cemetery*

10:00 a.m. American Legion Post 11 & Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 640

Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, Crystal Lake Cemetery was established in 1860. Joseph Alexander deeded 5.3 acres of his 1849 Donation Land Claim to the Masons' Corvallis Lodge #14 for a cemetery.

This annual ceremony honors courageous heroes who served and sacrificed for our freedom.

For more information, visit www.co.benton.or.us, or www.ci.corvallis.or.us/cd/historic or call Chris Bentley (541) 766-6819 or Bob Richardson (541) 766-6908

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 **Tuesday** 31 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, 14 May 2011.



**Our April program presenter
Dr. Janet Nishihara, native Oregonian, teacher, author**

