



NewsLetter

Benton County Genealogical Society

November 2010

Volume Twenty-Five
Number Nine

November 13 Program

Newspaper Research: Find It In The Past, Preserve It for The Future

Leslie Brinkley Lawson, a professional genealogist and frequent speaker at Oregon genealogy conferences and genealogy societies, will share with us methods and resources for finding our ancestors in newspapers by using both the Internet and the local library. The handout will include references for locating and accessing newspapers in every state. Leslie will explore the kinds of information we can find to broaden our knowledge of our ancestors lives. Not just the basic information like birth, marriage and death, but also their activities in the community like participation in clubs or sports, service in the war or maybe even a photo.

PLEASE NOTE: We will meet in the Fireside Room for just this meeting.

The Mayflower and the First Thanksgiving

The Mayflower carried 102 passengers and a crew of 26 plus the captain. There were 32 children aboard. During the trip one person died and one was born. What were the accommodations aboard ship like some 350 years ago? Here are a few ideas. For 30 days of the 66 day voyage, passengers had to stay huddled below, between the decks. They could not use candles or lanterns because of fire hazard. They could not cook between decks unless it was a calm day. Cold food might be biscuits, pickled eggs, salted or smoked meat, fish, dried fruits and vegetables. Adults and children alike would drink a wheat beer called "small beer". There was no privacy. No one ever bathed or changed clothes.

Of the Mayflower passengers, only 23 families or individuals survived that first winter and left American descendants, while at least one other passenger, Moses Fletcher, left progeny in Holland. It is estimated that the progeny of these Pilgrims probably number more than 30 million today.

Passengers on the Mayflower with living descendants today are John Alden, Isaac Allerton, John Billington, William Bradford, William Brewster, Peter Brown, James Chilton, Francis Cooke, Edward Doty, Francis Eaton, Edward Fuller, Samuel Fuller, Stephen Hopkins, John Howland, Richard Moore, Degory Priest, Thomas Rogers, Henry Sampson, George Soule, Myles Standish, John Tilley, Richard Warren, William White and Edward Winslow. There are also descendants of some of the members of the Mayflower crew but their descendants are not entitled to membership in the Society of Mayflower Descendants. John White of Virginia was one such crewman.

George Enregt Bowman (1860-1941) founded the Society of Mayflower Descendants and became the first editor of the *Mayflower Descendant*.

The first national Thanksgiving Day, proclaimed by President George Washington, was celebrated on Nov 26, 1789 and Thanksgiving has been an official annual holiday in America since 1863 when President Abraham Lincoln set the date as the last Thursday in November.

Thanksgiving is an American holiday with roots dating back to the beginning of this country's settlement by the English, to those settlers who stepped ashore Dec 4, 1619 at what became Berkeley Plantation near present-day Charles City, VA and to the better-known group who settled at Plymouth, MA in 1620. In accordance with the Berkeley proprietor's instructions that "the day of our ships' arrival, shall be yearly and perpetually kept as a day of Thanksgiving," those Virginia settlers celebrated what was the first Thanksgiving Day in this country by more than a year before the Pilgrims arrived in New England.

(Continued on page 3)

BCGS Elections

As you probably already know, the BCGS has openings on the Board that must be filled in order for us to be a viable, active organization. Someone MUST pay the bills, and personally, I really like the programs, but they don't plan themselves. Have you thought about what YOU like the most about being a member of BCGS? If you enjoy the camaraderie, programs, library, newsletter, sharing, etc., please step forward. You will have plenty of support while becoming familiar with the position. Remember, the position is only for 10 months. Not so much commitment for such a special organization. So, what exactly do these positions require?

The short answer:

VICE-PRESIDENT is to act as Program Chair & preside at the meetings in the absence of the President. Responsibilities include finding speakers, making arrangements, and promoting seven programs during the calendar year. Ability to attend to details is a plus.

TREASURER is to receive all monies and make disbursements as approved by the Board of Directors; serve as chair of the Finance Committee; make a report of financial standing at each meeting; prepare an annual budget for board approval; and prepare account books for an annual audit. Responsibilities also include coordinating with membership person & newsletter digital distributor on members standing. Knowledge of or willingness to learn spreadsheet and/or finance software required. Both positions involve attending the Board meetings as well as the General meeting. Total time commitment is estimated at ten hours per month.

Interested? Know someone who might be?

Contact:

Leila Crawford, Nominating Committee

541.929.5935

leila@peak.org

or

Speak up at the next General Meeting, Nov 13

Margaret Fox

President

Benton County Genealogy Society

P.O. Box 1646

Philomath, OR 97370

"Decisions are made by those who show up."

Graveside Groomers

Graveside care, when you can't be there

Be sure to remember your Veterans this year and schedule a cleaning before its too late. Our cleaning service starts at just \$20 and includes photos.

Call Teresa for an appointment. (541) 760-9913 or go to:
www.ggroomers.webs.com

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.

The Village Genealogy Bookshoppe



Danell Aukerman

228 NE Azalea Dr

Adair Village, OR 97330

danell@genealogybookshoppe.com

Upcoming Genealogical Events

- Oregon Genealogical Society presents it's Genealogy Conference November 20, 2010 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Elks on the Green, 1375 Irving, Eugene, OR. Speakers: Marcia Rice and Beverly Rice. Topics include: Researching your New England Ancestors; NewEnglandAncestors.org, Original Records (live Demo); The Forgotten War, the War of 1812; Lost in Maine, Found in Boston via California—Researching All Family. Cost: \$50.00 includes lunch (soup, salad, sandwich bar) Cash and Checks only. Make checks payable to Oregon Genealogical Society or OGS.. Mail to: OGS, PO Box 10306, Eugene, OR 97440-2306. One registration per form please. Questions? E-mail: education@oregongenealogicalsociety.org or call 541-345-0399.
- "WEAVING FAMILY THREADS" - Milwaukie Stake Family History Fair, Saturday, November 20, 2010 , 9:00 am (Registration 8:00 am), 8331 Cason Road, Gladstone, OR 97027. All are invited. Light lunch provided. Classes will be listed on-line. Please pre-register at: <http://milwaukiestakefhc.blogspot.com> More information to follow on website.

Membership

Membership News--

A reminder: memberships are due by January 1, 2011. Please use the form on page 7 to renew or join today!!

Renewals

George Davidson
Jim Kohl & family
John Kuhl & Mary Jo Miner
Grace Maddux & family
Linda Olsen
Sandra & John Potter
Damaris Reynolds
Alice & Bud Weber

New Members

Peggy Gee
Barbara Rasmussen
Elizabeth Nielsen
Karl McCreary

The Mayflower and the First Thanksgiving

(Continued from page 1)

Even though Spanish families were in St. Augustine, FL before 1600, and in the Southwest (New Mexico) by 1615, and the Jamestown, VA settlement from 1607, it is the Mayflower families who are intertwined with this annual November celebration.

Mayflower Web Page:

<http://members.aol.com/calebj/mayflower.html>

You will find a complete list of the "Mayflower" passengers, links to every passenger's genealogical and biographical information plus some early Plymouth passenger lists such as the "Fortune" in 1621 and the "Anne" in 1623. There is also a history of the "Mayflower", its dimensions and images as well as information about the crew and much more.

From: Shirley Hornbeck hornbeck@s-hornbeck.com Subject: This and That - Thanksgiving

Reprinted from: The Heritage Newsletter, Linn Genealogical Society, Volume 24, Nov 2010, Issue 11

Calculating a Birth Date

Do you ever have trouble calculating a birth date when you know the age at death and death date? Pro Genealogists has a free Birth Date Calculator at: <http://www.progenealogists.com/birthfromdeath.htm>

Reprinted from Willamette Valley Genealogical Society Newsletter Vol XXXII, Num 8, August 2010

Program Review

By Susan C. Hayes Program Chairman

Program - 9 October 2010

"Discoveries Await at OSU Archives"

Presented by Elizabeth Nielsen and Karl McCreary

Elizabeth and Karl described the wealth of information in the OSU Archives collection and briefed us on how to use the archives. The Archives is the official repository of records of Oregon State University and also contains materials generated or collected by individuals connected with the university be it students, faculty, regents or other employees. Types of records include paper records, photographs, moving images, oral histories, scrapbooks, publications and more. The Archives website (<http://osulibrary.oregonstate.edu/archives/>) has an excellent catalog as well as some of the finding aids and photographs online.

Using the example of OSU student, English professor and local historian Ken Munford, Karl gave us a better idea of the wealth of information that can help to fill out the life of a person who does have an association with OSU. Examples of resources are student records, student activity records (in this case, theater along with photos of drama productions), year-books, personnel documents, course catalogs, the Barometer (student newspaper), personal papers donated to the Archives, etc. If you are a fan of Ken's local history column in the Gazette-Times, the Archives has a binder with a copy of every column along with an index.

After the presentation, Karl and Elizabeth stayed to assist members and visitors use the archive collection for their research. Many thanks to Elizabeth and Karl and to OSU for opening this special Saturday opening! Normal hours are Monday - Friday, 9 am - 5 pm though the reading room (there are some good resources on the open shelves) is open during Valley Library hours.

The Archives has allowed us to publish the program handout on our website. You can find it listed under "Web Links of Interest" by clicking on the link entitled "Selected Genealogical Sources at the OSU Archives and the Valley Library." Also, a few extra copies of the handout are available in the BCGS library.

Upcoming Programs

December 11, 2010 - Auction and Christmas Party

January 8, 2011 - "Retrieving, Cataloging, and Identifying Photographs" by Don Ferguson, Shawdownsmith Photographics

February 12, 2011 - Round Table Discussions on Various Genealogy Topics tables led by society members

OSU Thrift Shop Donations

Damaris Reynolds will no longer be taking donations for the OSU Thrift Shop. Perhaps another Society member could take this over or members can also take their donations directly to the Thrift Shop. The OSU Thrift Store is a consignment shop and will accept most items (clothes, books—especially paperbacks, kitchen items, furniture, etc.) for resale. BCGS gets 75% of the value of each item donated. Be sure to give them the Society's Thrift Shop number 492.

◁New Search Engine:

http://www.genealogyintime.com/GenealogyResources/Tools/advanced_genealogy_search_engine.html?awt_l=J8Rcl&awt_m=1dZfsBUwEgk.Vy

1910 vs. 2010

Provided by LGS member Betty Thorn

If you are writing your Family Tree and would like some information to make it more interesting, this will help you to understand your ancestors that lived around the early 1900's. The year is 1910 - one hundred years ago. What a difference a century makes! The average life expectancy for men was 47 years. Only 14% of the homes had a bathtub. Only 8% of the homes had a telephone. There were only 8,000 cars and only 144 miles of paved roads. The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph. The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower. The average US wage in 1910 was \$0.22 per hour. The average US worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year. A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2,000 per year; a dentist \$2,500 per year; a veterinarian between \$1,500 and \$4,000 per year; and a mechanical engineer about \$5,000 a year. More than 95% of all births took place at home. 90% of all Doctors had NO COLLEGE EDUCATION! Instead, they attended so-called medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press and the government as "substandard". Sugar cost \$.04 per pound; eggs were \$.14 a dozen; coffee was \$.15 a pound. Most women only washed their hair once a month, and used Borax or egg yolks for shampoo. The five leading causes of death were: Pneumonia and Influenza; Tuberculosis; Diarrhea; Heart disease; and stroke. The American flag had 45 stars. The population of Las Vegas, NV was only 30! Crossword puzzles, canned beer, and iced tea hadn't been invented yet. There was no Mother's Day or Father's Day. 2 out of every 10 adults couldn't read or write, and only 6% of all Americans had graduated from high school. Back then pharmacists said "Heroin clears the complexion, gives buoyancy to the mind, regulates the stomach and bowels, and is, in fact, a perfect guardian of health"! 18% of households had at least one full-time servant or domestic help. There were about 230 reported murders in the entire U.S.A.

Reprinted from: The Heritage Newsletter, Linn Genealogical Society, Volume 24, Issue 9, October 2010

Early Oregonians Database Project Oregon State Archives

About the Database

As a legacy to the sesquicentennial of Oregon's statehood, the Oregon State Archives presents the Early Oregonians Database. This extensively researched resource uses data from census, death, probate, and other records to help researchers find relevant information and documents about people who lived in Oregon prior to statehood.

Scope

The database currently contains over 105,500 entries. Further review and editing will result in additional entries when evidence supports inclusion in the database. Because of limits on available records and documentation, the project can realistically be defined to include people living in Oregon from 1800 to 1860. Despite the fact that large populations of Native Americans lived in The Oregon Country prior to 1840, documentation of those individuals is scant and not readily available.

<http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/>

Select **Early Oregonians**, then **Early Oregonians Search**. If successful, there is information on the person, associated records, associated people and census information.

Reprinted from Willamette Valley Genealogical Society Newsletter, Volume XXXII, Number 11, Salem, OR, November 2010

From the Colorado Genealogical Society News: Colorado Marriages CD available by mail.

Denver Public Library volunteers compiled a complete cross-reference index to Colorado Marriages 1858-1939, based on the Works Progress Administration (WPA) index cards. Every Colorado county is represented and there are more than 912,000 separate entries. The CD was published by the Colorado Genealogical Society and is available by mail for \$10 plus \$2 shipping and handling charge. Address orders to:

CGS - Colorado Marriages CD, P.O. Box 9218, Denver, CO 80209-0218.

Reprinted from: Oregon Genealogical Society Newsletter, Issue 175, Nov/Dec 2010

WPA Historical Records Survey

Benton County, Oregon

by Mark Phinney

A Bit of History by **L. F. BELKNAP**

July 7, 1939

Hannah **BELKNAP GILBERT** was born in Conessee County, New York, December 21, 1814, and died at the home of her son Riley near Coulee City, Washington, aged 96 years and six months.

Her great-grandfather, Elisha **BELKNAP**, died at the battle of Bunker Hill. Her grandfather, Jonas **BELKNAP**, entered the service as a lad of sixteen and fought through the Revolutionary War. His fifth son, Jesse, was the father of Hannah **GILBERT**, and died in his ninety-eighth year.

In 1817 she moved with her parents to Kentucky, where they remained ten years, and in 1827 went to Ohio and she was united in marriage to **L. D. GILBERT**, who died in 1882.

They were the parents of nine children: [some of those were] Riley, of Coulee City, Washington; Phineas and Jesse, of Spokane; Jane, wife of Rev. Nelson **CLARK**, one of the few remaining pioneer members of the Oregon Conference; Mary, wife of Isaac **EDWARDS** of Junction City, Oregon; Emma, wife of Austin **WATTS** of Portland.

In the year 1847 Mrs. **GILBERT** set out with a large company of emigrants who left Iowa with ox teams, being more than six months on the road. She walked nearly the entire distance. She settled with her family in Benton County in what has since been known as the **BELKNAP** settlement. Here she reared her family and the privations and hardships of pioneer life and helped lay the foundation of Oregon Methodist. She helped to entertain that memorial (memorable ?) conference of 1854, over which Bishop **SIMPSON** resided.

(The following is a portion of a letter from J. D. **GILBERT** of Spokane, Washington.)

Feb. 15, 1926. - Phineas **GILBERT**, my grandfather on my fathers side, was a son of a revolutionary soldier. He died in Iowa about 1846. Jesse **BELKNAP**, my grandfather on my mother's side, crossed the plains in 1848 and settled in the famous **BELKNAP** settlement in Benton County, Oregon. His father and grandfather were Revolutionary soldiers.

footnote.com

355 South 520 West, Suite 250, Lindon, UT 84042
www.footnote.com

October 21, 2010, 1:08:00 PM PDT

Several weeks ago Footnote.com (as part of iArchives) agreed to be acquired by Ancestry.com and that transaction has officially closed today. As we join forces with Ancestry.com there is a huge opportunity to leverage each other's strengths and move even faster toward our goals. You may be curious about how this deal effects members of Footnote.com? The plan is to continue to run Footnote.com way we have always run Footnote.com—continuing to do what we believe is best for our customers, our business and our brand.

Now that the deal is officially closed we are excited to leverage some of Ancestry.com's resources and expertise to take Footnote.com to the next level. It has been exciting to see Footnote.com grow over the past 4 years. Footnote.com started with only 5 million historical documents and today we have nearly 70 million searchable documents, over 1 million members, nearly 100,000 Footnote pages, and over half million annotations added. We couldn't have done it without our members and the great team at Footnote.com and we are excited for Ancestry.com's support in the next chapter.

Footnote.com - a subsidiary of Ancestry.com

Genealogy Books

The Genealogical Council of Oregon has announced that the OSU Press and the OSU Center For Digital Scholarships and Services are making available Theodore Stern's two-volume works, "Chiefs and Chief Traders: Indian Relations at Fort Nez Perce, 1818-1855," and "Chiefs and Change in the Oregon Country." First published by the OSU Press in the 1990's, the books have been out of print for several years. The books are free online as high resolution searchable PDF files in the press's collection in the ScholarsArchive@OSU open access repository:

<http://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/xmlui/handle/1957/18857>

Reprinted from: Oregon Genealogical Society Newsletter, Issue 175, Nov/Dec 2010

Enjoy The Benefits of Membership In The Benton County Genealogical Society

NAME _____

First Name

Middle/Maiden Name

Surname

(Please print – Indicate name desired on nametag)

NAME(S) of other family members _____

(List only if family membership is desired)

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE # _____ E-MAIL _____

I would like to receive my newsletter by: E-mail Regular mail (add \$5.00 to dues)

New Membership **DUES ENCLOSED:** Single/Family \$15

Renewal Cash Check No. Date _____ Donation to BCGS _____

I am interested in volunteering to help in the society

Dues are due before January 1st each year.

Mail application with your dues to: Benton County Genealogical Society, PO Box 1646, Philomath, OR 97370

Membership Dues Changes

Due to increased cost of producing and mailing our Newsletter the BCGS Board has decided to make the following changes to the membership dues for 2011. If you receive your newsletter by **e-mail** dues will be **\$15**. If you receive your newsletter by **regular mail** dues will be **\$20**. The exception to this is if you are a lifetime member. If you have any questions please contact Margaret Fox.

The Manitoba.ca Project, Manitoba, Canada

The Manitoba.ca project is an initiative of the Manitoba Library Consortium and its partners. Its goal with this project is to "gather and render accessible a wealth of historically significant documents and publications free of charge to Canadians, young and old." The Manitoba website has a number of resources available. There are overviews and photo collections related to the origins and history of Manitoba, including immigration and settlement, the Manitoba Schools Question, World War I, Women and the Vote, and the Strike of 1919. Newspaper collection, stories and maps. <http://manitoba.ca>

Reprinted from Willamette Valley Genealogical Society Newsletter, Volume XXXII, Number 11, Salem, OR, November 2010

Virtual Vietnam Wall on the Internet

This really is an amazing web site. Someone put forth a lot of time and effort to create it. Those who served in Vietnam sacrificed a great deal for our country. The link below is a virtual wall of all those lost during the Vietnam War with the names, bios and other information on our lost heroes. Those who perhaps lost friends or family can look them up on this site.

<http://www.virtualwall.org/iStates.htm>

First click on a state. When it opens, scroll down to the city and the names of those from that area will appear. Click on a person's name and the site should show you a picture of the person, or at least their bio and medals.

Reprinted from: Oregon Genealogical Society Newsletter, Issue 175, Nov/Dec 2010

Board Meetings are usually two Mondays before the second Saturday [our regular meeting time]. Dates of the upcoming **Board** meetings are:

29 November for the 11 December meeting. Cookies — Sandy Potter

Membership Information

Names, email and phone contacts 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 www.bcs-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.

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!

Stamp

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S=Single; F=Family; E=Exchange.
Number is last of year 0=2010
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