



NewsLetter

Benton County Genealogical Society

October 2010

Volume Twenty-Five
Number Eight

9 October Program

"Discoveries Await at the OSU Archives"

Our program for October will be a field trip to the Oregon State University Archives. The University Archives is the repository for official and unofficial records that document OSU's history. Archivists Karl McCready and Elizabeth Nielsen will provide us with a 30-minute orientation session to resources at the OSU Archives useful for genealogical research on OSU alumni, staff and regents. Part of the presentation will also be an overview of researcher protocols: sign-in sheet, researcher forms, and other guidelines for research in the Archives reference room. Check out the Archives website in advance to learn more about their historical records collections at <http://osulibrary.oregonstate.edu/archives/archive/> and formulate your research plan.

After the presentation, Karl and Elizabeth will be on hand until 1 p.m. to assist with anyone wanting to do research using the archival materials. Among the real "stars of the show" will be a talented and historic cast of important primary sources - yearbooks, course catalogs, alumni directories, Barometer indexes, and many other collections.

Schedule and Venue Change for October 9 Business and Program Meetings

Please note the following schedule changes for the October meetings

The Business and Program Meetings will be held at the Oregon State University Archives on the 3rd floor of the Valley Library on campus. The closest cross street is SW Waldo Place and SW Jefferson Way. Enter through the main library door from the library quad. Elevators are to the right off the main lobby. The library building opens at 10 a.m. on Saturdays.

Parking is available north of Benton Hall, in the parking lot at the northeast corner of 15th and Jefferson, and in the parking lot between McAlexander Fieldhouse and Snell Hall. The campus parking map and guidelines are available at <http://oregonstate.edu/campusmap/>. The metered lot between the MU and the Valley Library and next to the bookstore is also available, but is not free during weekend days. Meters run for 30 and 60 minutes. The football Beavers will be playing at Arizona that day so you do not have to worry about game day traffic and parking.

Modified Schedule

10:15 a.m. to 11 a.m. Business Meeting

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Program Meeting - formal presentation until 11:30 a.m., research at archives from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. with assistance from OSU Archive staff.

12 noon - 3 p.m. Cookies and coffee at society library in Philomath; library open for research until 3 p.m.

Tongue In Cheek: It's thought that you can use flour to dust old, old tombstones so you can read the inscriptions. Just be sure to use plain flour - don't ever use self-rising in a cemetery.

Nominating New Officers

It's that time of year to think about new officers for the Benton County Genealogical Society. We are still recruiting for the positions of Vice-President and Treasurer. If you are interested and would like to be nominated for either position, please contact Margaret Fox at 541-754-7623. The selection of nominees will be presented to the Society's October General Meeting on Saturday. Also, if you are interested in serving on a Committee, please let Margaret know.

Benton County Pioneers

We are going to order some copies of "**Benton County Pioneers**" by Shirley H. O'Neil. Please notify Margaret Fox at the October meeting if you want to reserve a personal copy.

The book is exceptionally well written and researched. It starts with one hundred and fifty Benton Co. households in 1850 which included 814 individuals. Please bear in mind that Benton County extended all the way to California and to the Pacific Ocean in 1850. Shirley traced these 150 households up through 1880. She included numerous wills, probate records, diaries, marriages, Wagon Train registers, bibles, etc. A wealth of information.

Incidentally, we are also going to order some of her Polk County books that are similarly researched. Please let us know if you might be interested in a copy of the **Polk County Pioneer** book.

Earle L. Greig

Archives of Maryland

From court and land records to probate information and even city directories, the Archives of Maryland Online is a great source for finding information about family members who lived in the state, source years from the 1700's and up.

www.aschivesofmaryland.net/html/index.html

Maryland Digital Cultural Heritage Program

A gateway to Maryland history with resource databases, city directories, maps, books, memorabilia. www.mdch.org

Reprinted from the Willamette Valley Genealogical Society Newsletter, Vol. XXXII, Number 6, June 2010

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

- **Rogue Valley Genealogical Society and Jackson County Genealogical Society** present their **OCTOBER GENEALOGY SEMINAR, Friday and Saturday, October 15 & 16, 2010**. Featured Speaker: **Karen Clifford, AG, FUGA**. The Seminar will be held at the **Medford Branch, Jackson County Library**, 205 South Central Avenue, Medford, Oregon. For information phone (541) 512-2340 or e-mail: info@rvgslibrary.org
- **Seattle Genealogical Society FALL SEMINAR, SATURDAY, October 23, 2010, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm** at the **Nordic Heritage Museum, 3014 Northwest 67th Street, Seattle, WA**. The topic is **“On the Move...Roads, Rails, Ships and Trails: How Our Ancestors Came West.”** The seminar will cover western migration through history and you can select three of nine presentations available. For information and to register go to: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~waseags/2010FallSeminar.html>
- **Genealogical Forum of Oregon Fall Seminar, Saturday, October 23, 2010, Milwaukie Elks Lodge**.
Featured Speaker: **Paula Stuart-Warren, CG**
Paula's Topics: **"Research Rewards in County Courthouse and Town Hall Records"**
"Tho' They Were Poor, They May Have Been Rich in Records"
"Lord Preserve Us! Church Records for Family History Research"
"Midwestern & Plains State Level Census Records"
The Seminar also features Book Vendors, Genealogical Treasures, Other Genealogical Societies, GFO Surplus Book Sale.
For information: phone (503) 963-1932 or e-mail www.gfo.org
- **Linn Genealogical Society FALL SEMINAR, Intermediate Genealogical Research. November 6, 2010, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm**. Presenters will be **Connie Lenzen, Gerald Lenzen and Susan LeBlanc**. Following along the historical theme, the seminar will be held in the **Whitespire Church** on the corner of **Washington Street and SW 5th Ave., in the Monteith Historic District** near downtown **Albany, Oregon**.
The pioneer architect Walter D. Pugh designed the structure and the corner stone was laid on June 20, 1891. Tours will be offered during the lunch hour. Parking is available on nearby streets at no cost.
Cost: \$20.00 if received by November 1, 2010; \$25.00 if received after November 1, 2010. Lunch is not included in the registration fee, but there are numerous restaurants in downtown Albany (directions will be provided). You are welcome to bring a lunch with you, or you may order a box lunch at the time of pre-registration. Classic box lunch is \$8 and premium box lunch is \$9.
Seminar Schedule:
9:00—9:30 Registration (coffee available), **Welcome and Announcements**.
9:30—10:30 Session I - Connie Lenzen, “Twentieth Century Research: If I Knew Them, Why Can’t I Find Them?”
10:30—10:45 Break and Refreshments
10:45—11:45 Session II - Gerald Lenzen, “Footprints Of Our Wonderers (America to Germany).
11:45—1:00 Lunch Break and Building Tours
1:00—2:00 Session III - Susan LeBlanc, “Immigration and Naturalization.”
2:00—2:30 Break and Refreshments
2:30—3:30 Session IV - Susan LeBlanc, “Military Records—What You Can Learn From Them.
3:30—4:00 Wrap Up and Review
- **Oregon Genealogical Society** presents its **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.

Program Review

by Margaret Fox, President

Program: 11 Sept 2010

Show 'N' Tell

The Show N Tell session went quite well. Almost everyone present had a story to relate. A sampling included Margaret telling of her embarrassing moment while getting Elizabeth Shown Mills to autograph her book at the GCO conference. Leila recounted the tale of the deer in her living room and her lovely wood floors which had to be refinished as a result. She also told of her good fortune in getting photo prints of her family from an historical society back east. Ted told of his success in matching a picture of Wren to his relatives, and Grace shared her good deed in returning photos she had found to their rightful owners. If you are interested in the details feel free to ask the story teller at the next meeting.

Upcoming Programs

November 13 - Newspaper Research: Find It in The Past; Preserve It for theFuture by Leslie Brinkley Lawson

December 11 - Auction and Christmas Party

Membership

Renewals

Gary Beck
Dorothy Brandner
Leila Crawford
Ray & Roberta Glass

Kathryn Honey
Gene Newcomb
Georgia Prichard

New Members

Richard A. Sandler

Spotlight: *Free Databases: Land Records*

By Valerie Beaudrault

Cabarrus County Register of Deeds, North Carolina

http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?et=1103466773409&s=29038&e=001JnWsx6uIP06o5VO9SswuCThCGd6M328R-YWwOtuom7wop4WX7IJK6n74b72r_Jn1037mY53hfdANwGiVzMr9P-BISgPiT-gDeNCS7WSrSjOnvWNFLkWFw==

Cabarrus County is located in the south-central part of North Carolina. Its county seat is Concord. Indexes and images of documents from 1792 to present may be found on the Cabarrus County Register of Deeds remote access site. Subdivision plats, condo plans, and North Carolina right of way maps can also be found on this site.

As noted on the homepage, "(t)he records on this site are unofficial records made available for informational purposes only. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information, the Register Of Deeds does not certify the authenticity or the completeness of any record or of the information presented."

To access the database, click on the 'Acknowledge Disclaimer to Begin Searching Records' link. This will open a new page with links to scanned index books and land record images. The index books cover the period from January 1, 1791, through December 31, 1982. Click on the Scanned Index Books link on the left side of the page to view the index. To search the index, select type of record (Land or Highway Maps), select the Sub-Type (Grantor or Grantee), choose a date range, and then choose Human or Corporation from the dropdown list and enter a name in the search box.

Newsletter Resources From Other Societies

Indiana Historical Society:

The Hoosier Genealogist: Connections is a biannual family history journal. "Today, we offer substantive material about family and community life in Indiana as well as indexes into rare source material and guides for conducting research". If you have ancestors from Indiana, check their publication at the Oregon State Library or their website: www.indianahistory.org for their collections or research help.

Clark County Genealogical Society, Vancouver, WA

The CCGS Trail Breakers and Newsletters are available on their website www.ccg-wa.org/ Clark County is located in Southwest Washington and Vancouver is only an hour away from Salem and the CCGS has their own Library.

Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association is located in Shreveport, LA. The Genie is published quarterly. All material published in the Genie is compiled and contributed by the members, contains short family history narratives, sketches, town histories, book reviews and queries.

Eastern Washington Genealogical Society is located in Spokane, WA. The EWGS Bulletin is a 50-60 page quarterly journal which contains excellent genealogical research stories and records in each issue. Website: www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~waewgs/

Northeast Pennsylvania Genealogical Society is in Shavertown, PA. Their publication, The Heritage Newsletter, contains historical stories, vital records, census, Pennsylvania resources, biographies, ancestral charts and much more. www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~panegs/

Oregon Genealogical Society is in Eugene, OR and publishes the OSG Quarterly, with genealogical and historical information from the Eugene and Springfield area www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~orlncogs/
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Spotlight: Free Databases: Land Records

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The search results for the older deeds are returned as a list of surnames found in the index. Click on the surname link to view the page. To view the document, go to the View Image menu on the top right of the page. Select the type of document from the drop down list and then enter the book and page number in the search boxes. Click on the View link to read a digitized image of the document. You can then use the previous and next page links to move through the books. Please be advised that these documents are in PDF format. You will need Adobe Reader to view them.

Cumberland County Register of Deeds, North Carolina

<http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?>

[et=1103466773409&s=29038&e=001JnWsx6uIP048ejH_bCiiimchUM0iyQjKlrAYgsAsfd3wZWRx24v-RD0BPimCHH3fiwXCX4rvVY0DBNewHQwDyMVB6vl4RM4O7VDmNpgHxpVARvSR-Sfo5XHkC5kMQxqV4](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?et=1103466773409&s=29038&e=001JnWsx6uIP048ejH_bCiiimchUM0iyQjKlrAYgsAsfd3wZWRx24v-RD0BPimCHH3fiwXCX4rvVY0DBNewHQwDyMVB6vl4RM4O7VDmNpgHxpVARvSR-Sfo5XHkC5kMQxqV4)

Cumberland County is also located in south-central North Carolina. Its county seat is Fayetteville. The Cumberland County Register of Deeds remote access site contains the following: indexes to land records from 1754 to July 14, 1985 (scanned index books) and land record images starting with Book 1 (beginning in 1754) through the present.

Cumberland County provides a similar disclaimer to that provided by Cabarrus County with regard to the accuracy of records. Click on the Disclaimer link to access the data. Detailed instructions tell you how to search the database. To view the instructions, click on the 'click here' link at the end of the section describing the Scanned Indexes. The process of searching the Cumberland County database is similar to that described above, except that you do not have to choose a record type. Be sure to click on the search button to initiate your search of the index and on the view button to open a new browser window to display the document. *Reprinted from eNews, Vol. 13, No. 23, Whole #482, June 2010, eNews@nehgs.org*

OCTOBER 2010 IS FAMILY HISTORY MONTH.

WPA Historical Records Survey
Benton County, Oregon
by Mark Phinney

Mr. Edward H. BELKNAP

August 1938

Mr. **BELKNAP** was interviewed on his farm about two and one half miles southwest of Monroe, Oregon. Although 77 years old, Mr. **BELKNAP** still runs the farm. When the field worker called he was plowing and the interview had to be postponed until the noon hour. **BELKNAP'S** mind is as keen as his body is rugged.

"My father, Ransom **BELKNAP**, came in 1847 with the first party to settle in the Belknap Community. My Grandfather came in the year following, 1848. They left Iowa largely on account of the severe winters and because they had heard of the mild climate of the Willamette Valley. My mother had been Mahala **STARR**, sister to Sam **STARR** of Starr's Point, who was the first sheriff of Benton County. Lorenzo Dow **GILBERT** and Hawley **CHAPMAN** who settled near Alpine were married to sisters of my father. My parents and grandparents left no written records. Things just went on from day to day and there seemed nothing worth recording. Five of my fathers children are still living (1936) and our combined ages are more than 400 years. All are over eighty except me and I am 76. The names are: Webster C. and Lewis Franklin **BELKNAP**, Angie **BELKNAP ANDERSON**, Addie **BELKNAP KYLE**, and myself. My sisters are twins.

I attended the old Ebenezer schoolhouse after it was moved from the original location. It was built on a hill just south of Alpine and about 1860 it was moved to a site on S. R. **HAWLEY'S** farm a mile and a half west. This was a more central location. My first teacher was Enoch **TURNER**. Another was Champ **MANN**. (**CHAPMAN**?) When Alfred **NICHOLS** taught there were 75 pupils and only one teacher. Mrs. **DONNY** was a fine teacher and taught several years in succession. My cousin Jesse **BELKNAP** taught and Mr. **ARNOLD**, Mr. **MARTIN**, and Mr. **HAUERT**. Mr. **MARTIN** went with a party prospecting for medicinal herbs and was poisoned in some manner in the Klamath country. Judge **EAKIN**, who died while a justice of the State Supreme Court, taught and boarded at our house. He read law in the evenings preparing for his bar examination. In addition to the common branches instruction was given in higher arithmetic and algebra. After getting what I could in the district schools I went to Willamette University at Salem and was graduated in 1884 with the B.S. degree. Then I studied law in Portland in the office of **WILLIAMS** and **THAYER**. This was W. W. **THAYER** who was afterward governor of the state and justice of the State Supreme Court. I was admitted to the bar in 1887 but never practiced except to write a will or draw up a legal paper for a neighbor. I had learned so much of the "slippery tricks" practiced by the lawyers that the profession did not appeal to me. One of the men under whom I studied was called "Slippery Dick" **WILLIAMS**.

I was elected to the State Legislature in 1889, and served in all five sessions. In 1889 I married Ida **BOOTH**, whose parents, Robert and Mary **BOOTH**, were pioneers of Douglas County. My wife's father was the Methodist preacher who was particularly honored by the monument "The Circuit Rider" at Salem. I have two sons, Harlan C. and Gilbert M. The house built by my father is about the oldest in this community still standing. It was built in 1855 and is a mile south and a mile east of Alpine. My nephew, Foster **BELKNAP**, lives there now. The lumber for this house and other early houses was sawed at **GILBERT'S** Mill on Muddy Creek. It was an old style 'jig saw'. The logs came from a pine grove that stood on a hill about a mile and a half southwest of Monroe. (Note - This grove has entirely disappeared.) All the lumber in the house was dressed by hand. The early sawmills were rather crude and the lumber was not all even in width. In siding a house or ceiling the inside the carpenters would work around the room, matching the boards for width so that the cracks would come even. The farm I am now living on was the claim of my uncle. That fir covered ridge about a mile to the south is a long spur of the Coast Mountain foot hills. It is called **HOUCK** Mountain from an early settler. The old Indian trail used to come around the shoulder of that hill, down past the house and out through the gap to a hill near Alpine where there was an Indian cemetery. They brought their dead from some distance to be buried there. The settlers could tell a funeral party long before it came in sight by the loud wailing of the hired mourners. The dead were buried in the ground and not placed in trees as some of the Coast tribes were said to do. My aunt told of one small babe whose mother had died. It cried so constantly that it was wrapped in the blanket and buried with the mother.

The 'lone fir' tree that used to stand on the summit of **HOUCKS** Mountain was visible as far as Salem. It is still standing but is hidden by the 'second growth' trees that have sprung up since the white man came. The young, close-growing trees grew taller than the old long tree. When I was a youngster there were not so many distractions to take a person's mind off their studies. We had ball games at school and winter sports, skating and coasting. The winters were more severe then and there was sometimes skating or sleighing for weeks at a time. We had parties on different pretexts in the winter months. I have never backslidden from either one. I have heard some of my friends confess to having voted for **WILSON** or **ROOSEVELT** but I have no such glip on my conscience. . . . I think the world is coming on all right and gradually coming nearer to what it should be. There are periods of apparent recession, "Winters of civilization", but I believe that God works by evolution, not only in the field of living forms but in society, and I believe that in the course of the ages will appear the society that ought to be.

Continued next page

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**

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

WPA Interview With Mr. Edward H. BELKNAP

Continued from previous page

(When questioned further about the burial of a living infant, Mr. **BELKNAP** said the Indians concerned were of the Calapooia tribe.) "The Indians in Benton and Polk counties were **Klickitats** whose original home had been north of the Columbia River. They had forced their way south, displacing the **Calapooias** who were in Lane County at the time of the immigration of the white men. The **Klickitats** had horses but the **Calapooias** were unmounted. The **Klickitats** were better disposed toward the white men. At the time of the settlement of southern Benton County the tribes were not at war and the **Calapooias** brought their dead to an old burial place just to the southeast of the hamlet of Alpine. So far as I know the burial of living infants was not an established custom with these Indians. Of course since the Indians had no way of feeding a very small infant, destroying it quickly instead of allowing it to starve slowly might be considered an act of mercy.

German Research

To get your German research started, you can get help from Family Search. From the opening page, click on the link to the **German Wiki**. Listed there are 36 topics pertaining to German genealogy, all sorts of aid posted online and links to all the government and nobility areas. Also the Utah Genealogical Association's Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy has a German tract every other year, so watch for it in 2011. <http://wiki.familysearch.org/>

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Early Ancestors From New England

The Massachusetts Vital Records are essential for researching your early New England ancestors. With non-conventional spellings, it is often necessary to look at the books themselves rather than relying on Internet information and to check the source for yourself. The Oregon State Library has a complete set of the original books! Come check them out.

Also WVGS is purchasing the Great Migration series and donating them to OSL. This series, produced by New England Historic and Genealogical Society in Boston, begins with 1620 - 1633, consolidating research information now available on these early ancestors.

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

1 November for the 13 November meeting. Cookies — Margaret Fox
29 November for the 11 December meeting. Cookies — Sandy Potter

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 www.bcgs-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

The two digits behind your name on the mailing label are:
S=Single; F=Family; E=Exchange.
Number is last of year 0=2010
L9 is Charter Honorary Life Member

Mailing Label Coding

