



# DISTANT VOICE

Newsletter of the Bend Genealogical Society

Our mission is to provide essential resources for researching, teaching, exchanging, and preserving records of family history.

February 2020 Vol. 27 | No. 2

P.O. Box 8254 | Bend, OR 97708-8254 | (541) 317-9553 | bgs@bendbroadband.com

Join us Tuesday, February 18 at 10 a.m. for a morning of genealogy. Williamson Hall • 2200 NE Hwy 20 (behind Jake's Diner) • Bend Devon Noel Lee of Family History Fanatics presents a live webinar: "Ticks & Tallies: What the Early U.S. Census Forgot"

## What Does it Say? What Does it Mean?

by Maggy Wilcox

s we all know, genealogy is so much more than birth, marriage and death names 'n dates. I've gone about as far back as I can with most of my ancestors, at least back to the American edge of that big pond we call the



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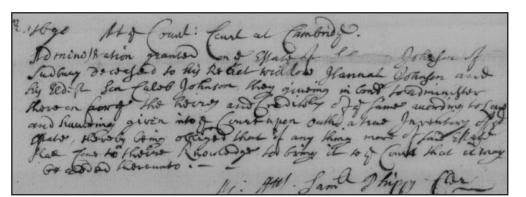
 RootsTech 2020 Live Stream Schedule

Atlantic Ocean. As most of my ancestors arrived in North America in the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries, and I had at least secondary vital stats, I decided to find out just where their properties were and to whom they left it all.

'Twas a big job I'd given myself. The land wasn't so challenging; with the help of FamilySearch.org, I've found oodles of deeds in Middlesex and Worcester Counties in Massachusetts. There was a time when the on-line wasn't. But even now, these deeds go back only so far, and present somewhat of a challenge, thanks to handwriting.

Maggy Wilcox **BGS Secretary** 

With practice, I've figured out that "sd" means "said," plus what it looks like, and "decd" means "deceased" and what it, too, looks like. There are others, but you'll figure them out eventually. Here's a tiny example of what I (and you, too, should you venture into this world) am up against:



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## What Does it Say?

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Some of it is legible, and with internet help, some more is legible. Each intestate (died without a will) probate record is several pages long, to boot.

There is definitely useful information in these records, though, which makes deciphering worthwhile. I've found that having an understanding the probate practices of the time helps quite a bit.

For example, widows were often the executrices, though they couldn't write their own names. The widow, if there was one, received one third (a dower) of her husband's property, and after she died, that dower was divided. A woman didn't have any property of her own because she was married; her spouse owned whatever she had prior to her marriage plus any inherited property.

Children, adult and younger, were noted in intestate records as all of the surviving children. The widow had to be named and included in the division of property.

The eldest son can be identified by his share of the property as he would be granted double what the other sons received. Married daughters were usually listed as "wife of so-and-so," another piece of information that can help with identification. Wills often named grandchildren, too.

And then there are the probate records that name guardians of minor children. While the widow took care of her children, she was not their legal guardian. (Click <u>HERE</u> for more on guardianship.)

It's all enough to make one's head spin, but working your way through records like these could bring a brick wall tumbling down.

## Newsworthy

## Massachusetts Records May Become Nearly Impossible to Obtain

According an article published January 30 in the <u>Boston Globe</u>, Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker "is seeking to dramatically restrict who has access to Massachusetts birth records, death certificates, and marriage notices under a proposal that, if adopted, would exempt many of the documents from public view for a virtual lifetime."

As <u>MassLive.com</u> explains, "Under the proposed change, birth and marriage records would be kept secret for more than 90 years, and death records would remain sealed until 50 years after a death."

"Baker's office," says MassLive.com, "told the Boston Globe, which first reported on the provision, that the provision would protect potentially sensitive personal information and mirror 'national best practices.""

"The proposal — which would need legislative approval —," the Globe adds, "provide[s] new kindling for the debate over how to best balance the public's right to access government records with a citizen's privacy."

*Read the entire Boston Globe article <u>HERE</u>. Click <u>HERE</u> to read the MassLive.com article.* 

Bend Genealogical Society Board of Directors					
Elected Officers	<b>Appointed Positions</b>	Contact Us			
President: Vacant	Parliamentarian: Glen Roberts	To reach any of the BGS officers of			
Vice President: Catherine Dulzo	Membership Committee: Judith Whitehead	committee chairpersons, send a			
Secretary: Maggy Wilcox	Hospitality Committee: Barbara McGee	email to the BGS general email bo			
Treasurer: Sandy Thompson	Librarians: Linda Martin & Sandy Thompson	or call and leave a message at the BC office/library.			
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	Newsletter: Catherine Dulzo	BGS Phone			
	Finance Committee: Sharon Freeman	(541) 317-9553			

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# **FEBRUARY PRESENTATION**

Tuesday, February 18 • 10 a.m. • Williamson Hall

## Ticks & Tallies: What the Early U.S. Census Forgot

Live Webinar with Family History Fanatic, Devon Noel Lee

Many researchers scratch their heads when they encounter the 1790-1840 US census records with few names and many tally marks. In a live webinar on February 18, you'll learn tools that assist in understanding the ticks and tallies in the early US censuses. Devon Noel Lee of Family History Fanatics will trace a famous American family as their documentary trail changes from named censuses to the unnamed enumerations.

The Mayflower

at Cape Cod



# The Mayflower at Cape Cod

What happened when the Mayflower anchored off Cape Cod for five weeks in 1620? In what ways can Pilgrim and Native experiences relate to issues today? Author and teacher, Rebecca Locklear, has just recently published a compelling lesson plan book that addresses these questions and more.

At our October 2019 meeting, we were treated to Rebecca's presentation, "Mayflower 400 — Looking Through a Lens," a fun and informative look at the lives of Natives and Pilgrims. We gained deeper insight into their lives and even learned a Native chant.

Rebecca's book, *The Mayflower at Cape Cod: Stories, activities and research that connect 1620 with life today,* is filled with fascinating stories and engaging activities comprising art, drama, cooking, discussions and games that support the examination of cross-cultural communication, environmental concerns, materialism, migration, self-sufficiency, tribal issues, and wilderness survival.

A Mayflower and Wampanoag descendent herself, Rebecca presents a balance of Pilgrim and Native information in this comprehensive, 7-lesson unit that connects 1620 with today.

You can download your own copy for \$8.80 <u>HERE</u>. Or, for

more information, go to www.rebeccalocklear.com.

## Coming Up at BGS

All sessions 10 a.m. to noon at Williamson Hall

February 17
 GS Board of Directors Meeting
 All members welcome

• February 18 • Ticks & Tallies: Early U.S. Censuses Live Webinar with Family Fanatic Devon Noel Lee

March 16
 BGS Board of Directors Meeting
 All members welcome

 March 17
 FamilySearch: Its History, Its Goal, and Looking to the Future with Vaunell Temple & Glen Roberts

April 20
 BGS Board of Directors Meeting
 All members welcome

• April 21 •

How Will You Share Your Family History? with Judith Whitehead

May 18
 BGS Board of Directors Meeting
 All members welcome

• May 19 • Alta California: Early Spanish Influence with Susan Agli

Regular program meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

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# **BGS Spring Seminar 2020**

Friday, April 24 & Saturday, April 25

## Something for Everyone at BGS Spring Seminar

This April, Bend Genealogical Society's annual Spring Seminar eill be presented by the Family History Fanatics! Known for their popular YouTube channel, Andrew and Devon Noel Lee are as informative as they are entertaining. Friday afternoon, Andy will conduct a DNA workshop. Saturday is an all-day event with both Andy and Devon presenting the topics below. Watch your email for registration information. Special discounts for BGS members.

### -> Simple Steps for Sorting Families with the Same Surname

Brick walls crumble when you begin to sort individuals with the same surname living in one place. You can discover extended family members hiding in plain sight. Learn how to separate the families without going insane.

### -> Synergizing Seven Resources to Solve Family Mysteries

When you combine four record sets and three research tools, you can begin solving your challenging genealogy mysteries. The class will discuss and demonstrate the principles through a case study, maximizing learning and retention.

### -> PROGRAM CHANGE: How to Write Compelling Family History Without Being Naturally Creative

(Replaces "Creating a Surname Reference Table for Genealogy and DNA Research")

If your family history project feels a little dull, you can spice things up using simple literary devices to enhance your story, even if you don't have a creative writing background.

### ↔ Organize Your Files for Genealogy Success and Legacy Preservation

Lean how to organize your photos, documents, and research with an eye towards efficient and effective genealogy research. An added bonus is that your organized research will be prepared for the next custodian of your treasures!

## **BGS GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY**

Thousands of Books and Journals from Around the World to Help You with Your Family History Research

## **Deschutes Public Library Donates Books to BGS**

The Deschutes Public Library donated two boxes of books from its reference shelves at the end of January. The books have not been processed yet so that you can check them out, but they are out of the boxes, so you can study them in the Library.

Included in the two boxes were all seven volumes of Colonial Families of the United States of America in which is Given the History, Genealogy and Armorial



Bearings of Colonial Families, who Settled in the American Colonies from the Time of the Settlement of Jamestown 13<sup>th</sup> May 1607 to the Battle of Lexington, 19<sup>th</sup> April 1775. The author is George Norbury Mackenzie and each volume has an index. Maybe one of your early families is in these books!

Library Hours				
Tuesday	1:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.			
Wednesday	1:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.			
Thursday	10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.			
Occasionally a volunteer is not available to open the library. Please call ahead of your visit to be sure someone is there. (541) 317-9553				

### Many thanks to our January BGS Library volunteers:

George Warren • Valerie Munson Jean Drayer • Sherry Hamilton Kim Anderson-Mitchell Brad Lemmon • Sandy Thompson



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# **BGS LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**

All held at the BGS Library in Williamson Hall

## **Beginning Genealogy**

with Pat Kliewer

#### Thursdays, February 13 & 27, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

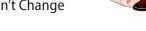
Held the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month, each session is tailored to the individuals in attendance and includes research practices applicable to the evening's topics. Registration is preferred, but not required; drop-ins welcome! WiFi is available. Call (541) 317-9553.

### **Writers Group**

with Sally Brown

#### Tuesday, February 25, 2p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Develop your writing skills with Sally Brown the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month. Topics are suggested below, but you can write on any subject you want. You can request critiques, ask for help, or just express yourself with others who share the same passion. February 25: A Hero in Your Life March 24: Things that Don't Change



### **One-to-One Mentoring**

Need help with your genealogy? Try BGS Mentoring. You don't have to be a member to schedule an appointment, and it's free of charge.

Mentoring sessions are held in the BGS Library in Williamson Hall. Wi-Fi is available, so bring your own device and work alongside the mentor if you'd like.



### **German Interest Group**

with Sandy Thompson

#### Tuesday, March 3, 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Our German Interest Group is back! Meetings will be held the first Tuesday of the month, from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. Come learn how to study and research your German ancestors, wherever they lived, such as areas now in Poland, Russia, Ukraine, South America, or wherever German people spread throughout the world, including of course, the United States.

### **DNA Workshops**

with Gary Putnam & Sandy Thompson

Thursdays, February 20, March 5 & 19, April 2 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.

We have planned four DNA workshops, one for each of the major DNA testing companies. At each workshop, we will focus on demostrating how to use the autosomal test features that the websites have, and answering your guestions about using the features effectively.

Since this is a workshop, bring your laptop or other device to be able to log into your DNA account. If you haven't taken a test yet, you may want to attend a workshop to see what DNA test results look like.

Workshops, Thursdays as noted below, from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. February 20: AncestryDNA

March 5: MyHeritage DNA March 19: FamilyTreeDNA April 2: 23andMe

If you have specific questions, email them to Sandy at thompss@bendbroadband.com, so we can be prepared.

If roads are unsafe for travel due to snow and/or ice, groups and workshops are canceled. For more information about, or to register for, any group or class, go to Bend Genealogy on MeetUp.com, call (541) 317-9553, or email bgs@bendbroadband.com. All opportunities are free and open to everyone.

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# **OREGON HAPPENINGS**

Genealogy Events Around the State

### Saturday, February 15, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Rogue Valley Genealogical Society Jackson County Genealogy Library, Medford

## **Brick Wall Roundtable**

with Marilyn Ayres & Denise Salthouse

Are you stuck? You've looked everywhere and can't push that ancestor back to the previous generation? Bring your information: who, when, and where your ancestor was, and what research resources you've searched.

*Free to all. For more information, call (541) 512-2340, or send an email to reception.JCGL@gmail.com.* 

#### Thursday, February 27, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Rogue Valley Genealogical Society Jackson County Genealogy Library, Medford

## Planning a Fun Family Reunion & Creating a Family Memory Book

with Marilyn Ayres & Barbara Grimes

Marilyn Ayres and Barbara Grimes will present strategies, themes, timeline, tips and, yes, pitfalls to avoid in creating a great family reunion. From initial contact to the clean up after, you can make it a low-stress and fun event for everyone. They will show you how to put together important photos, stories, lore, and genealogical info into a beautiful memory book you can make yourself. Marilyn and Barbara have both planned fun and successful family reunions and created memory books for their families.

\$10 for members, \$20 for non-members. For more information, and to register, call (541) 512-2340, or send an email to reception.JCGL@gmail.com.

## Sunday, February 23, 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Genealogical Forum of Oregon, Portland

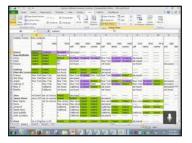
## Intermediate Excel for Genealogy

with Mary Kircher Roddy, CG®

Spreadsheets can be a powerful tool to help you analyze your genealogical data and keep track of your research; and they are essential in managing your DNA information.



During this 3-hour workshop, experienced spreadsheet users will learn more tricks to utilize spreadsheets in genealogy. You will work on stepping up your game by



incorporating color in worksheets, splitting columns, wrapping text, freezing panes, sorting, filtering, and more. We will discuss work-arounds for date issues in Excel, and we'll cover importing

data from websites including Ancestry.com, FamilySearch. org and other sites. You will follow along with several examples of how to use Excel to gain perspective and further your genealogy research.

Participants should bring their (fully charged) laptops pre-loaded with Excel.

\$35 for members, \$40 for non members. .

*Flyer and mail-in registration form are <u>HERE</u>. Online registration is available <u>HERE</u>.* 



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## **AROUND THE WEB**



#### Wednesday, February 12 at 5 p.m.

### "Best Practices for Success in Facebook Groups for Genealogy"

with Cyndi Ingle

With well over 12,000 Facebook groups for genealogy it's easy to get lost in the masses. We will discuss tips and tricks and help you

develop successful strategies for getting the most out of these valuable sources for research help, education, and so much more. *Register HERE*.

#### Wednesday, February 19 at 11 a.m.

## "Newspapers for People of Color Genealogy Research"

### with Nicka Smith

Newspapers can be a goldmine for genealogy, especially in the case of records destruction or when all other avenues have failed to yield findings on an ancestor. In this session, we'll discuss all you need to know to get the most out of using periodicals as genealogical resources for people of color communities. *Register <u>HERE</u>*.

#### Wednesday, February 26 at 11 a.m.

## "Using Snagit for Genealogy Visual Storytelling and Instruction"

with Colleen Greene, MLIS



Snagit screen capture software is Colleen Greene's go-to tool for capturing screenshots and converting those into compelling visual aids to enhance family history narratives and genealogy instruction materials.

She feels it is particularly useful for creating annotated images and privatizing sensitive visual information before sharing or publishing. Colleen will walk you through navigating the desktop application interface and using its various features, demonstrate some of her regular use cases, learn how to backup your Snagit Library, and discuss workflow for accessing projects on multiple computers. *Register HERE*.

**NOTE:** All times are PDT. Webinars are free on the day of the live broadcast and for one week thereafter.

## **Podcasts, Blogs & Articles**

### "The Genealogy Research Process: The WANDER Method"

Have you ever felt lost in your genealogy research? Running into brick walls, falling down rabbit holes, following the latest "bright shiny object"? If so, it's time to take a look at what the research process really is. Thinking about the genealogy research process — not just discovery of records and not just evaluation — can help us focus our efforts, lessen our frustration, and make more discoveries in our family history. Amy Johnson Crow explains the WANDER method and how you can use it to stay on the right path. *Listen or read <u>HERE</u>*.

### "Preserving Family Photos"



From school pictures to photographs of ancestors, almost everyone has treasured family photos that, in the face of natural or other disasters, are among the items people most want to save. Regardless of the age or condition of your photographs, your goal is to do no harm and to help ensure preservation for

future generations. This article provides tips for doing so. *Read HERE*.

### "10 'Must-Do' Genealogy Projects for February"

While the days are starting to get longer, it's not exactly spring-like is it? February, with its unique annual weather and Valentine's Day, is the perfect month to tackle genealogy projects like these 10. *Read* <u>HERE</u>.



It is indeed a desirable thing to be well descended, but the glory belongs to our ancestors.

Plutarch [A.D. 46~120]

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# **RootsTech 2020**

## Free Livestreaming Schedule Announced

If traveling to Salt Lake City isn't an option for you, don't worry, many of the sights and teachings from the conference will be streamed live on the RootsTech home page for free! Starting Wednesday, February 26, at 8 a.m., mountain standard time, enjoy learning from presenters such as Crista Cowan, Blaine Bettinger, Jenny Hansen, and others.

General sessions featuring keynote speakers will also be streamed. Join the conversation happening on social media using #NotAtRootsTech. You can view the full streaming schedule <u>HERE</u>. All times are listed in mountain standard time. If you need help calculating the time difference to your time zone, visit <u>TheTimeZoneConverter.com</u>. Sessions will be available to view on demand after the livestream ends. RootsTechisa4-dayeventheldannuallyinSaltLakeCity,Utah, dedicated to celebrating family and discovering family histories. *Register for RootsTech at Salt Lake City 2020, February 26 – 29,* <u>HERE</u>.

## **BGS Financial Status**

Year-to-Date (YTD) as of 18 January 2020

Dues Income (105 paid members)	\$ 2,069.00
Other Income	\$ 2,576.09
YTD Total Income	\$ 4,645.09
YTD Total Expenses	\$ 3,988.93

## **BGS FUNDRAISERS**

### Help support your Bend Genealogical Society when you shop!



You shop. Amazon gives.

goodshop
goodsearch

Link your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to Bend Genealogical Society, scan it every time you shop, and earn donations for BGS. To link your Rewards Card, click <u>HERE</u>. If you do not have a Rewards Card, you can sign up for one at the Customer Service Desk of any Fred Meyer store. *NOTE: Occasionally Fred Meyer may require that you select your charity of choice again. If you do NOT see Bend Genealogical Society at the bottom of a receipt, please select us again on the Fred Meyer Rewards website.* 

When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the same low prices, selection, and shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to BGS. On your first visit to AmazonSmile, select BGS as your charitable organization. Click <u>HERE</u> to get started.

GoodShop offers online shopping deals, "the best on the Internet," they say. Every purchase you make using GoodShop generates donations to BGS. GoodSearch automatically donates to BGS as you search the web. Sign up <u>HERE</u>, select BGS as your charity of choice, click the "Adopt This Cause" button, and you're good to go. *NOTE: Amazon purchases made through GoodShop do NOT generate a donation to BGS. Please use AmazonSmile*.

"Distant Voices" is the official newsletter of the Bend Genealogical Society (BGS). BGS is incorporated as a non-profit organization in the state of Oregon, and is an approved charitable and tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service.

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