



Benton County Genealogical Society

NEWSLETTER

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March 2020

<http://www.begs-oregon.org>

LOCATED IN *Philomath, Oregon*
FOUNDED IN 1971 IN CORVALLIS, OREGON

Note from the President...

The first day of spring (March 19th) is near. Many spring flowers already are showing around the valley. Enjoy their arrival!

I hope you will be able to attend our March 14 BCGS meeting with Tim O'Brien, "Family Search - Finding Digital Records" as our 10:30 a.m. program

George Davidson



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The Benton County Genealogical Society

meets on the 2nd Saturday of each month, September—June. The business meeting begins at 10 a.m. at the Benton County Historical Society, 1101 Main St., Philomath. ADA parking and access are available at the rear of the building. The program begins at 10:30 a.m. Refreshments follow at the Museum Annex. Guests are always welcome!

Coming Events

March 9—3:00p.m.

Board Meeting

Philomath Public Library

March 14—10:00 a.m.

BCGS Meeting

Benton County Historical Society Museum—
Moreland Auditorium

March 17—1:00 p.m.—3:00 p.m.

Writers' Group

BCGS Library in the Museum Annex

Tuesdays and Saturdays—1:00—3:00 p.m.

Genealogy Library Open in the Museum Annex
1101 Main St, Philomath

Remember that the information you give for the 2020 Census may provide a thrill for some of your descendents in 3030.

March 14—10:30 a.m.

FAMILY SEARCH—FINDING DIGITAL RECORDS

Presented by

Tim O'Brien

Tim has been speaking on a variety of genealogy topics for the past 15 years and was a research assistant for the Family History Center in Milwaukie and the Genealogical Forum of Oregon.

Tim's personal genealogical pursuits have taken him to France, Germany, Belgium, Switzerland, and Ireland. His U.S. focus includes Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Kansas, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Washington, Oregon and California.

Upcoming 2020 BCGS Programs

10:30 am to noon

Benton County Historical Society Moreland Auditorium

- April 11** *Sons and Daughters of Oregon*
 Pioneers with speaker Chris Meinicke
- May 9** *Captain Mark Stevens* -
 "Civil War - Life of a Soldier and more"
- June 13** TBA and Potluck
- July and August is Summer Break**
 Our BCGS Library is open as usual on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 1:00 to 3:00pm
- September 12** *Gathering Back Together & Sharing*
- October 10** *Patti Waitman-Ingebretsen*
 Stories of her great grandfather, Silas Norman Lilly, and local Benton County history
- November 14** *Pam Vestal*
 "How to Write Ancestral Stories Your Relatives Will Want to Read"
- December 12** *Silent Auction and Potluck*

Family Roots Adventure Family History Conference - "*Finding your Roots*"

April 25 - 8:30 am - 3:30 pm— Family History Center, 4141 NW Harrison Blvd., Corvallis

There will be workshops on a variety of family history topics taught by local experienced genealogists.

Possible Workshop Topics include

Family History Research 201 Importance of "Facts" German Genealogy
FamilySearch Wiki DNA – Which test is best Using the NEW Find a Grave
Canadian Research Home Genealogy Programs Unindexed Records Clues for finding females
United States Naturalization Records Learning how to digitize and scan your photos and documents

Registration and lunch are free. <http://familyrootsadventure.org/registration/>

WHAT THE CENSUS TELLS

Old censuses are valuable resources for those doing genealogical research. But there are gaps in census data resulting from changes in the questions asked from one census to another. For example, foreigners were noted in 1820 and 1830, but not 1840. Below is a list of questions asked in the decennial censuses from 1790 to 1920. Questions asked in 1930 and 1940 are available at

https://www.census.gov/history/www/through_the_decades/index_of_questions/

1790

Name of family head; free white males of 16 years and up; free white males under 16; free white females; slaves; other persons.

1800 and 1810

Names of family head; if white, age and sex, race; slaves.

1820

Names of family head; age; sex; race; foreigners not naturalized; slaves; industry (agriculture, commerce, and manufactures).

1830

Name of family head; age; sex; race; slaves; deaf and dumb; blind; foreigners not naturalized.

1840

Name of family head, age; sex; race; slaves; number of deaf and dumb; number of blind; number of insane and idiotic and whether in public or private charge; number of persons in each family employed in each of six classes of industry and one of occupation; literacy; pensioners for Revolutionary or military service.

1850

Name of family head; age; sex; race; slaves; number of deaf and dumb, blind, insane or idiotic; value of real estate; occupation; birthplace; whether married within the year; school attendance; literacy; whether a pauper or convict. Supplemental schedules for slaves and persons who died during the year.

1860

Name; age; sex; race; value of real estate; value of personal estate; occupation; birthplace; whether married within the year; school attendance; literacy; whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper or convict; number of slaves house. Supplemental schedule for slaves, and persons who died during the year.

1870

Name; age; race; occupation; value of real estate; value of personal estate; birthplace; whether parents were foreign born; month of birth if born within the year; school attendance; literacy; whether deaf and dumb; blind, insane, or idiotic; male citizens 21 and over, and number of such persons denied the right to vote for other than rebellion. Supplemental schedules for persons who died during the year.

1880

Address; name; relationship to family head; sex; race; age; marital status; month of birth if born within the census year; occupation; months unemployed during the year; sickness or temporary disability; whether blind deaf and dumb, insane, idiotic, insane, maimed, crippled, bedridden, or otherwise disabled; school attendance; literacy; birthplace of person and parents. Supplemental schedules for persons who died during the year.

1890

General schedules destroyed. Supplemental schedules for Union veterans of the Civil War and their widows.

(Continued on page 6)

COURT HOUSE RECORDS

We had an informative presentation by James Morales who is the Clerk and Director of the Records and Elections Department of Benton County. Mr. Morales has been working in county courthouses for 37 years and is very knowledgeable.

He told us how to find which records are available in the 36 counties in Oregon and how to access them. Since the list is very extensive, it cannot be written here. Of course, the records of most interest to genealogists are vital records and land records but you can even find dog licenses if you wish.

The website to get this information is: <https://co.benton.or.us/records/page/historic-and-vital-records>.

From the home page click on "This sentence is a link to the Oregon State Archives inventory for county records." This will bring up the State Archives home page. From the green list on the left of this page select "County Record Inventory" and the county you wish to research from the county list or the map. This will list alphabetically every title available. It will tell which are available at the State Archives, the County Courthouse, the genealogy section of the Corvallis-Benton Public Library and even the Historical Museum. You can also go directly to the same State Archives Page from the following:



<https://sos.oregon.gov/archives/records/county/Pages/benton-inventory.aspx>

See the last newsletter for published addresses and contact information for all states.

When asked about the cost of seeing courthouse records, Mr. Morales said that if WE do the research, the cost is free except for copying. If they do the research there is a cost. The amount of research they will do varies from county to county.

A team from Family Search has digitized many of the Benton County records, but not all. It was done carefully and on site, so the records were protected. It is not known how many of them are available on Family Search. There are pros and cons to having records digitized. It is a fast way to locate and retrieve records, gives permanent retention and recovery in case of a disaster, and is space saving. However, it is expensive and can cause some difficulty in maintaining privacy.

The staff at the courthouse has been indexing their records. They have them indexed back to 1978. It is a slow process. They have tried having other groups help but that has proved problematic.

Mr. Morales was very knowledgeable and enthusiastic about his work and will be a great help to us if we are doing research at the courthouse.

Submitted by Kathryn Moss



Your Society needs your help with a number of positions that aren't filled. Some of the positions require only two to four hours each month and can be done either at home or at the monthly meeting. Several others require more time but most of the responsibilities can be done at home. Please consider which of the positions you could do as a one year commitment. We'll have a sign-up sheet at the next meeting.

<u>Small time commitment</u>	<u>More time commitment</u>
<u>Historian (1 volunteer)</u>	<u>Newsletter editor (1 volunteer)</u>
<u>Photographer (1 volunteer)</u>	<u>Library Chair (1 volunteer)</u>
<u>Membership (2 volunteers)</u>	<u>Program Planning (2 to 3 volunteers)</u>
	<u>Audit Committee (2 volunteers once a year)</u>

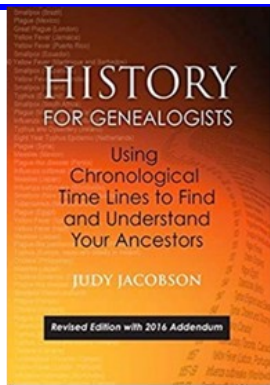
THANK YOU TO THE MANY VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVE STEPPED UP OVER THE YEARS!

Library News

This book, recommended by one of our members, was chosen in memory of Gene Newcomb, a long-time member of the Society. If you're looking for ways to understand the times in which your ancestors lived, you'll appreciate this book. Here's a snippet of what you'll find.

Chapter 3, "**Why Did They Leave?**," discusses topics such as religion, disease, economics, and disasters as causes for emigrants to leave their homes.

Chapter 5, "**Coming to America**," covers migration patterns for Europeans who came to North America and follows them as they moved about. There are lots of timelines for not only North America but also world-wide. Start with the **Index** to see the amount of information inside this helpful book.



Writers Group

The next meeting will be March 17, St. Patrick's Day, from 1:00-3:00 in the Annex. Here's a topic you might want to write about: Does your family or someone you know have a special day or period in the year that reflects a certain ethnic group? Is it still celebrated in the family?

If you've wanted to start writing about your ancestors or yourself, come join us. There are many ways to "write" without writing a book! We'll help you get started.

The Genealogical Forum of Oregon Mexican Ancestry group

is pleased to present 'An Evening with John Schmal' on Wednesday, March 18, from 6 to 8 p.m. He will talk about Mexican Genealogy at 6 p.m., and Indigenous Mexico at 7:15 p.m. Schmal is a historian, genealogist, and lecturer who specializes in the genealogical research and Indigenous history of several Mexican states, especially Chihuahua, Nayarit, Zacatecas, Jalisco, and Guanajuato. He is also the author of several books, including *Mexican-American Genealogical Research: Following the Paper Trail to Mexico* (Heritage Books, 2002) and *The Journey to Latino Political Representation* (Heritage Books, 2007). Additionally, he serves on the board of the Society of Hispanic Historical and Ancestral Research.

Check out his

[website about Indigenous Mexico.](#)

This event is part of GFO's

annual free Genealogy Open House.

There is no cost

and everyone is invited to attend.

2505 SE 11th Ave., Suite B-18, Portland, OR



From Dick Eastman's January 31, 2020 Newsletter

If someone calls you a Neanderthal, that might not be an insult! We all likely have a bit of Neanderthal in our DNA — including Africans who had been thought to have no genetic link to our extinct human relative, a new study finds. You can read more in an article by Katie Hunt in the *CNN* web site at:

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/01/30/africa/africa-neanderthal-dna-scn/>.

Now your challenge is to find the documentation that proves you have Neanderthals in your family tree!

In anticipation of St. Patrick's Day, a couple of Irish thoughts to ponder

"May you never forget what is worth remembering, or remember what is best forgotten."

"No matter how tall your grandfather was, you have to do your own growing."

(Census information continued from page 3)

1900

Address; name; relationship to family head; sex; race; age; marital status; number of years married; for women: number of children born & number now living; birthplace of person & parents; if foreign born, year of immigration & whether naturalized; occupation; months not employed; school attendance; literacy; ability to speak English; if on a farm; home owned or rented; if owned, whether mortgaged.

1910

Address; name; relationship to family head; sex; race; age; marital status; number of years of present marriage; for women: number of children born & number now living; birthplace & mother tongue of person & parents; if foreign born, year of immigration, whether naturalized & whether able to speak English; if not, language spoken; occupation, industry & class of worker; if employee, whether out of work during the year; literacy; school attendance; home owned or rented; if owned, whether mortgaged; whether farm or house; whether a survivor of Union or Confederate Army or Navy, whether blind, deaf & dumb.

1920

Address; name; relationship to family head; sex; race; age; marital status; if foreign born, year of immigration to US; whether naturalized, & year of naturalization; school attendance; literacy; birthplace of person and parents; mother tongue of foreign born; ability to speak English;

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Book Sales: *Maridee Symons*

Website: *George Davidson*

Facebook: *Sue Van Laere*

Publicity: *Lois Courtney*

Library Volunteers: *Lois & Sue*

Photographer: *Linda Olsen*

Do you have something you would like to see included in the newsletter?

Next Newsletter Deadline

March 30

Notice: Benton County Genealogical Society provides links to websites as a service to subscribers. Linked web sites are not controlled by Benton County Genealogical Society and the Society is not responsible for the information, advertising, products, resources or other material of any linked site. The inclusion of any link does not imply endorsement by Benton County Genealogical Society. In addition, please be aware that your use of any linked site is subject to the terms and conditions applicable to that site. Direct any questions regarding linked sites to the webmaster of that site.

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LINKS

<https://www.rootsmagic.com/>

<https://legacyfamilytree.com/>