



**All BGS meetings and activities in May have been cancelled.
There will be no general membership meeting this Tuesday, May 19th,
and the BGS Library remains closed.
We look forward to seeing you, one way or another, in September.**

Wrapping Up Our Program Year

Ordinarily our May meeting is when we elect the new BGS Board for the coming year. However, as we all know, nothing is ordinary right now. In light of the pandemic, the current Board has agreed to continue to serve through the summer to facilitate a smooth transition into the next program year.

We are actively (and socially distantly) planning the September 2020 – May 2021 programming. Of course, our preference would be for us all to meet in person when we resume in September. We miss getting together with everyone to enjoy each other's company and a fun presentation in person. But, our priority remains the health and safety of all our members. To that end, we are working on setting up contingency plans to provide presentations online if necessary.

Depending on how much, or whether, pandemic restrictions ease, we may be able to open the Library on a limited basis sometime in the summer. We'll keep everyone posted via email on all the latest news about BGS.

Election of a new Board will occur in September. Perhaps you have a talent or skill you could contribute? We have several board openings for the next program year. We also need someone to produce the BGS newsletter. Nominate yourself or someone you know via BGS email at BGS@bendbroadband.com. Our board is vibrant and highly collaborative, with myriad talents and skills that blend together to support the success of our terrific Society. New Board members, who usually hit the ground running in June, but won't take over until October this year, will have the benefit of all the planning the current Board is doing this summer!

On another note, we'd like our members to know that we are grateful to be financially solvent enough that we can get through this difficult time without borrowing funds. Thanks so much for your support over the years.

Take care everyone, and remember to watch your email for the latest BGS news and announcements over the summer!

Fondly,

Catherine, Maggy, Sandy, Judith, Gary, and Glen

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Honoring Our Ancestors by Preserving the Past

by Judith Whitehead

Last Sunday, while working away at my desk, I found myself wishing a happy Mother's Day to my mother as I glanced at the vintage photograph on the wall. My mother and her mother. My inspirations for tracing my maternal line.



The next day, I watched a 2017 PBS production of British historian Michael Wood's "The Story of China." In it, Wood was attending a temple festival, the Qingming Festival of Light, to which entire families travel many miles to honor their ancestral family.

Wood joined the Chin family who have traced their roots back over 1,000 years and can name over 30 generations. One family member started tracing their history nearly 40 years ago. He calls it his "personal journey of discovery." Another relative said, "I come to discover where our roots began."

Reflecting on my "personal journey of discovery" — that of tracing my maternal line — I was reminded of my role in preserving the past; that the mere act of recording my ancestors' names — of recognizing their existence — honors them.

And so, on the occasion of Mother's Day, I honor her line: Dorothy Jean Logan Henderson, Wilhemina Christina Doyle Logan, William A. Doyle, William Doyle, and James Doyle.

Reorganizing My Records

by Kim Anderson-Mitchell

I'm lucky in that much of my and my husband's family history has already been done by various relatives. My continuing long term project is basically a reorganization of my records.

In putting together biographies of my children's ancestors for them, I realized that my records were not set up for easy source documentation. I figured out an organizational scheme that works much better, but about two-thirds of the way through, decided what I really needed was a new computer database.

Using Roots Magic, I'm organizing my sources so I know exactly what information each contains and updating my new database to reflect

accurately what info I already have. As this involves going through most of my old records, I'm also filling in the "low-hanging fruit" by confirming information that I might not have a source for. (Love those attached sources on FamilySearch!) As I fill in the easy information, I set up research logs for the information I am missing and can't easily find. When I get bored with the organization, I pick one of my research logs and practice making a research plan and implementing it.

In addition to working on my database, I have been watching more genealogy webinars and researching different record sets that are pertinent to my areas of research.

AROUND THE WEB

Family History Fanatics



It was so disappointing to have to cancel the BGS Spring Seminar with the Family History Fanatics (FHF) in April, as we had planned such an exciting two-day event. They have numerous videos available on their YouTube channel though. Can you remember the dozens of surnames in your direct line as you go back in time? The FHF video(s) on how to construct a Surname Table have been updated.

The playlist for the new and updated videos featuring Devon Noel Lee can be found [HERE](#).

American Ancestors by NEHGS



Free Guide to Massachusetts Research

Massachusetts is a treasure trove of genealogical source material, including probate records, church records, cemetery records, and vital records. Couple this with genealogical societies, published journals, and ongoing study projects, and you have a lot of research options when you hit a genealogical brick wall.

American Ancestors has a massive collection of resources and records pertaining to Massachusetts from the seventeenth to the twentieth century. This guide will introduce you to some of the most useful online records to help you with your genealogical quest. *Receive your free guide [HERE](#).*

Free Guide to Proving Your Mayflower Ancestry

In September of 1620, 102 passengers—men, women, and children—and a crew of approximately 30 left England aboard the Mayflower. While nearly half of the passengers who arrived on the shores of Massachusetts died during the first winter, 26 Mayflower families are known to have left descendants. An estimated 35 million people can trace their ancestry to the Mayflower. Are you among them? Use this guide to search your ancestry for Mayflower connections. *Receive your free guide [HERE](#).*

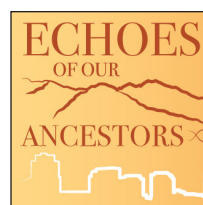
National Genealogical Society

FREE ACCESS to NGS Monthly Archives!

This is an AMAZING offer from the National Genealogical Society — access to the NGS Monthly & Archive! Usually reserved for NGS members only, the NGS Monthly contains many articles to expand your genealogy education and improve your research skills. Now through July 31st, 2020 everyone interested in family history can read insightful articles in their digital publication archive. *More information [HERE](#).*



2020 NGS Family History Conference — Now Virtual



Due to the continued spread of COVID-19 across the nation, and out of concern for the health and safety of attendees and staff, the National Genealogical Society (NGS) 2020 Family History Conference will now be online only. NGS Virtual Family History Conference registration features two components: NGS 2020 Live! on **May 20** at 11 a.m., and NGS 2020 On-Demand!, that will open July 1, 2020.

NGS Live! on May 20, is a full day of NGS 2020 featuring opening remarks from the NGS President, lunch speaker Stephanie Raff, NGS award announcements, and exciting presentations from Thomas W. Jones, Judy G. Russell, Elizabeth Shown Mills, and Blaine Bettinger, plus online chat during each session and a short Q&A after each session facilitated by Ann Staley.

On-Demand! features audio-video sessions streamed to your computer and an electronic copy of the virtual conference syllabus. In addition, the featured speakers' presentations from NGS 2020 Live! will also be included in your NGS 2020 On-Demand! Streaming options beginning July 1, 2020.

Three packages are available. More information [HERE](#).

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Please feel free to contact us for any reason via phone or email.

(541) 317-9553 • bgs@bendbroadband.com

WEBINARS THROUGH SUMMER

Tuesday, May 19 at 5 p.m.

Discover the Holdings of German Archives

with Teresa Steinkamp McMillin, CG



German archives hold many records valuable for expanding our genealogical research. Church records not available digitally may be waiting in archives. State and local archives may contain emigration, court, tax, and other records to fill in our ancestor's story. This webinar will explain how to find relevant archives and discover their holdings. It will describe how to navigate detailed online finding aids when available. One need not be fluent in German to do this research. Essential vocabulary and translation tools will be discussed. *Free on the day of the live broadcast and for one week thereafter. Register [HERE](#).*

Wednesday, May 20 at 11 a.m.

Time-saving Apps for Busy Genealogists

with Lisa Alzo, MFA

"So many ancestors; so little time." If you find yourself repeating this mantra, come learn about the best timesaving apps and tools to help you get a handle on those backed-up research or photo-scanning projects, society meetings and conferences, and never ending "to-do" lists! Session will include a broad review of online tools, as well as apps for Android and iPhone/iPad platforms. *Free on the day of the live broadcast and for one week thereafter. Register [HERE](#).*




Tuesday, May 26 at 11:00 a.m.

Enlightened Design with the MyHeritage Chart Creation Tool

with Janet Hovorka

Show off your MyHeritage tree to your family and friends with a beautiful chart. Learn all the hidden tips and tricks to create a customized masterpiece a perfect representation of your family history.

 Just a few easy steps and your beautiful chart arrives in a tube on your doorstep. *Free on the day of the live broadcast and for one week thereafter. Register [HERE](#).*

Wednesday, May 27 at 11 a.m.

Mistrust Transcriptions: And Here's Why

with Dr. Bruce Durie

We've all been there...we find a transcribed Birth/Baptism, Marriage, Death/Burial or Census entry, and it either 1) looks completely wrong, 2) looks too good to be true, 3) has no supporting citation or source information. So, how do we know 1) where it came from? 2) whether it's actually correct, or even complete? 3) what the transcriptional errors might be? The answer, of course, is to find the original document. But that isn't always possible. Particular bug-bears are 1) the dreaded "Selected Births and Baptisms, Scotland," 2) census transcriptions, 3) indexes, 4) online Family Trees. Join Dr. Bruce Durie for a Cautionary Tales tour of some of the worst offenders and howlers, and gives hints and suggestions as to how to get around them. *Free on the day of the live broadcast and for one week thereafter. Register [HERE](#).*

Tuesday, June 2 at 7 p.m.

Sources for Landed and Titled People

with Paul Milner




Learn what original, published and internet sources are available for tracing your "upper crust" ancestors, those who are titled and/or owned land. Prove those connections to royalty. *Free on the day of the live broadcast and for one week thereafter. Register [HERE](#).* Image: britannica.com

Wednesday, June 10 at 5 p.m.

Using DNA to Answer Real Research Questions: Three Case Studies

with Gail Blankenau

 DNA tests provide opportunities for researchers to solve specific research questions. Gail Shaffer Blankenau will demonstrate how to combine DNA results with traditional research methods to make those fascinating DNA results useful. *Free on the day of the live broadcast and for one week thereafter. Register [HERE](#).*

WEBINARS THROUGH SUMMER

Tuesday, June 16 at 5 p.m.

Genealogical Treasures in Irish Archives

with David Ouimette

An enormous variety of Irish manuscripts tell the stories of our ancestors. Parish registers, census returns, Griffith's Valuation, and civil registration of births, marriages, and deaths provide a great beginning for Irish family history research. However, a careful search of record repositories in the Republic of Ireland and the United Kingdom reveals many more Irish archives of great worth. These include estate papers, tenement and townland valuations, valuation revision books, tithe applotments, poor law registers, vestry minutes, ordinance survey maps, deeds and memorials, National School registers, militia lists, electoral rolls, Petty Sessions court registers, Irish Reproductive Loan Fund records, outrage papers, and much more. This presentation highlights the value of these Irish records, where they are found, and fruitful research strategies. *Free on the day of the live broadcast and for one week thereafter. Register [HERE](#).*

Wednesday, June 24 at 11 a.m.

Utilizing the HathiTrust Digital Library for Family History Research

with Colleen Robledo Greene, MLIS

This robust digital repository, underutilized by many genealogists, is packed with digitized publications from academic and research institutions that are relevant to your family history. This lecture walks you through HathiTrust's discovery and access tools, showcases U.S. and international collections that are particularly relevant to genealogists, and demonstrates search strategies to help you find those valuable sources. *Free on the day of the live broadcast and for one week thereafter. Register [HERE](#).*

Tuesday, June 30 at 7 p.m.

The 1939 Register for Family Historians

with Fiona Brooker



Following the declaration of War, on Sept. 29, 1939, the details of the population of Great Britain and Northern Ireland were recorded and identity cards were issued. Findmypast has now published the registers for England and Wales. This talk will look at searching the 1939 Register and what to do with the information you find. *Free on the day of the live broadcast and for one week thereafter. Register [HERE](#).*

Wednesday, July 1 at 11 a.m.

Finding a Father for Molly – Using DNA

with Jill Morelli, CG

Oral tradition told the story; DNA identified the father. The case study illustrates using matches on Ancestry and GEDmatch to narrow the number of candidates, developing and implementing a targeted testing plan, hypothesis development and using documentary evidence to support the conclusion, all while complying with genetic standards. The use of the X-match, not often employed is utilized as well. It's a simple case to illustrate basic principles without jargon.



Free on the day of the live broadcast and for one week thereafter.

Register [HERE](#).

Wednesday, July 8 at 5 p.m.

Turning Dry Facts into Exciting Narrative

with Carol Baxter

The literary world condemns most family histories as 'fact-driven and tedious' because they are usually little more than prose timelines. Yet the phrase 'family history' communicates the three ingredients needed to produce a piece of prose that is interesting to read: 'family' (the facts about the family), 'history' (the historical context) and 'story'. This seminar focuses on the first two ingredients and shows how we can weave our facts together in such a way that the reader is keen to keep on reading. *Free on the day of the live broadcast and for one week thereafter. Register [HERE](#).*



Wednesday, July 22 at 11 a.m.

50 More Websites Every Genealogist Should Know

with Gena Philibert-Ortega

We are so lucky to live at a time when we have a wealth of information at our fingertips. Previously Gena explored 50 websites you should know so now it's time for 50 more! And these aren't just the same old, same old websites. Let's take our research around the world and explore more websites that are vital for the family historian. *Free on the day of the live broadcast and for one week thereafter. Register [HERE](#).*

WEBINARS THROUGH SUMMER

Half-Day Live Online
Interactive Workshop

Sunday, July 26

Noon – 2:30 p.m.



What the Heck Does That Say? The Challenge of Difficult Handwriting with Pam Vestal

Deciphering the handwriting in old documents can be difficult, but a few good strategies can make all the difference. We'll look at a variety of ways to figure out what the chicken scratches on the page say, and also what the style of writing can tell us about our ancestors.



Early-bird Registration! Now through June 30: Members \$20, non-members \$25. The price goes up \$5 each on July 1. Register [HERE](#).

Wednesday, July 29 at 11 a.m.

Researching a Loyalist Soldier

with Craig R. Scott, MA, CG, FUGA

Approximately one-third of the people living in the Colonies at the time of the Revolution were loyal to the King. During the War some fought in Loyalist units. By the end of the war, most were forced to leave, either north to Canada or back across the ocean. Many filed claims with the British government for failing to protect them from the rebels. Learn about the records of their service and of their times after the War. *Free on the day of the live broadcast and for one week thereafter.* Register [HERE](#).

Tuesday, August 4 at 7 p.m.

Tracing Australian and New Zealand World War One Ancestors

with Helen V. Smith

The ANZACs were young men from Australia and New Zealand who answered the call in World War One. Using a variety of records, it is generally possible to trace their service and find what they did in the war. *Free on the day of the live broadcast and for one week thereafter.* Register [HERE](#).



Wednesday, August 12 at 5 p.m.

Dissecting a Civil War Pension Packet — Union and Confederate

with Jill Morelli, CG

These records are the most accessible of all military records.

We will discuss the history of these records, who was included and excluded, and the changes in the law. We will compare two pension packets, Confederate and Union, and how to acquire and use them and the stories they tell. *Free on the day of the live broadcast and for one week thereafter.* Register [HERE](#).



Wednesday, August 19 at 11 a.m.

Getting to Know Mexican Church & Civil Registration Records

with Colleen Robledo Greene

These records are often described as the best family history records in the world due to their wealth of genealogical information typically included. Learn how to find and analyze Mexico civil and church registration collections to build out your Mexican family history. *Free on the day of the live broadcast and for one week thereafter.* Register [HERE](#).



Wednesday, August 26 at 11 a.m.

Slack for Genealogy Projects

with Thomas MacEntee

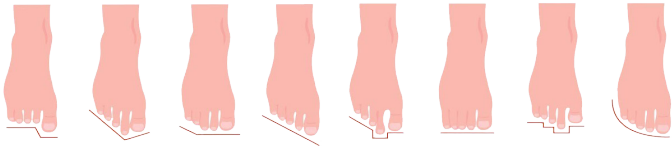
Whether you're a professional genealogist trying to manage multiple clients and projects or just trying to juggle your own personal research, you may need to move beyond your current management tools. Slack is a FREE online collaboration hub (web-based and app) that is used by major corporations as well as non-profit organizations and individuals to manage and improve workflow. Genealogists of every level can easily leverage this user-friendly platform to increase productivity as well as improve efficiency. Participants will learn how to install Slack and also delegate admin and other roles. Once installed, we'll review sample projects as well as sample communications in REALTIME during the lecture. Finally, we'll review available options for project management and data successorship. *Free on the day of the live broadcast and for one week thereafter.* Register [HERE](#).



PODCASTS, BLOGS & ARTICLES

Your Foot Shape and Your Genealogy

Have you ever heard of foot shape genealogy? It is a concept out of the 19th century that still has some adherents today. It is based on the belief that the shape of your foot can tell you one of five ancient ethnic groups to which your ancestors belonged. Here is what you need to know about it. *Listen or read [HERE](#).*



How to Stay Focused in Your Genealogy Research

Genealogy research is filled with distractions. There are so many cool things to explore about our family history that it's easy to fall into a research rabbit hole. Fortunately, there's a simple thing you can do to get focused and make more discoveries. *Listen or read [HERE](#).*

Missing Persons Listings in Old Newspapers: Use Them to Find Your Ancestors

Have you used the 1940 census in your family history research? If you have been doing genealogy for a while, you probably have used it many times. Whether you are experienced with it or are new, there are probably some things in it you have missed. Here is how to get the most valuable genealogical information out of the 1940 census. *Listen or read [HERE](#).*

Finding the True Identities of Your Female Ancestors

Are your female ancestors a mystery? It's not uncommon. While you may know the first name of a female ancestor, finding their maiden name and birth family can sometimes be a challenge. Here are some tips to get you past this incredibly common genealogical issue, and find your female ancestors at last. *Listen or read [HERE](#).*



How to Analyze Your Genealogy Research

When you have a question in your genealogy, it's natural to want to go find more records. But going to your favorite website or the nearest library right away isn't the best approach. Indeed, the answer might be in records you've already found. Learn how to analyze your genealogy research (and why you need to). *Listen or read [HERE](#).*

Homes on the Range The Bureau of Indian Affairs Industrial Surveys of the 1920s

The Blackfeet Agency was one of the first to conduct the surveys that would eventually be ordered for every reservation in 1922 by the commissioner of the Bureau of Indian Affairs—surveys that sought to catalog Indian homes, family members, farming activity, health, and debt.



Today these records, found in National Archives Record Group 75, Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs

Blackbull, a 52-year-old Blackfeet, shows off his granddaughter in 1921. [archives.gov](#)

are a rich profile of the lives of American Indian families and provide ephemeral information not typically captured in federal records. The photographs and the detailed reports give us a fascinating glimpse of day-to-day life on the reservations. *Read [HERE](#).*

For more about American Indian Records in the National Archives, click [HERE](#).

National Archives News Citizen Archivists Triple Contributions to National Archives Catalog During Pandemic

"People are excited to help us and do volunteer projects," said Suzanne Isaacs, a National Archives Catalog community manager. "Their work unlocks some amazing things." *Read more [HERE](#).*



Bend Genealogical Society Board of Directors

Elected Officers

President: Vacant

Vice President:
Catherine Dulzo

Secretary:
Maggy Wilcox

Treasurer:
Sandy Thompson

Director at Large #1:
Judith Whitehead

Director at Large #2:
Gary Putnam

Past President:
Glen Roberts

Appointed Positions

Parliamentarian: Glen Roberts

Membership Committee:
Judith Whitehead

Hospitality Committee:
Barbara McGee

Librarians:
Linda Martin & Sandy Thompson

Education Committee: Vacant

Records Preservation:
Eileen Krueger

Publicity: Sandy Thompson

Newsletter: Catherine Dulzo

Finance Committee:
Sharon Freeman

BGS Financial Status

Year-to-Date (YTD) as of 3 May 2020

Dues Income (121 paid members)	\$ 2,189.00
Other Income	\$ 2,710.27
YTD Total Income	\$ 4,899.27
YTD Total Expenses	\$ 4,760.16

Contact Us

To reach any of the BGS officers or committee chairpersons, send an email to our general email box, or call and leave a message at the BGS office/library.

BGS Email
bgs@bendbroadband.com

BGS Phone
(541) 317-9553

BGS FUNDRAISERS

Help support your Bend Genealogical Society when you shop!



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 [HERE](#). 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 [HERE](#) 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 [HERE](#), 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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