

Benton County Genealogical Society

NEWSLETTER

Located in Philomath, Oregon
Founded in 1971 in Corvallis, Oregon
Volume 38 No.7: September 2020

<https://www.bcgs-oregon.org>



HELP NEEDED

OPEN POSITIONS FOR ONE YEAR

- Programs
- Library chair
- Membership
- Historian
- Photographer

The Benton County Genealogical Society

TYPICALLY meets on the 2nd Saturday of each month, September-June. The business meeting begins at 10:00 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!

Important Information

As of now, the **fall meetings**, September through December, are canceled, and the **Library** is closed. The Board and library volunteers have concerns about keeping the library safe and clean as well as concerns about gathering in a confined space for monthly meetings. We'll be back together when it's safe for everyone.

The **Museum** may eliminate its Tuesday hours at the Philomath Museum in order to help the new Museum in Corvallis get a good start. That means that we wouldn't have access to the Annex. So when we open again, we will only be open on Saturdays. We'll try it for a while to see if one day a week will work out.

In the meantime, let's keep in touch through our newsletter. Anything you can share will help strengthen our bonds as genealogists and friends. YOU might know something that helps a member



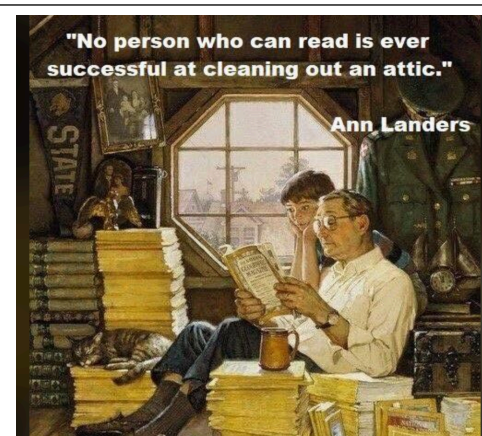
knock down that **OLD BRICK WALL!**

BCGS Treasurer's Report

We have \$6,041 in the bank. For this year, we have taken in \$230.00 more than we've spent, which is a net gain. *Lois Courtney, Treasurer*

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Suffragettes

Take Philomath Town Hall by Surprise



Since 2020 is the celebration of the hundredth year of women's right to vote, I searched Newspapers.com to see where Benton County stood on the idea. To my surprise the first article I found in The Weekly Gazette-Times was about Philomath, Oregon. The information came from the Chicago Daily Socialist.

Philomath is getting some advertising free of charge. The front page of the Chicago Daily Socialist of recent date contained a "scare-head"

article reading as follows: "A band of forty women rushed the polling place and insisted on voting at the town election at Philomath, Benton County. The militant suffragettes took the judges of election by surprise and immediately filling the town hall, where the voting was going on, demanded that they be given ballots. The election officers were completely cowed by the menacing manner of the women and immediately gave them ballots. After the ballots had been marked, one of the judges slyly placed a cross on each so they could be identified and dropped them in the boxes. When the ballots were counted those marked by the women were thrown out. The election resulted in the naming of the Rev. W.G. Fisher as mayor and a complete anti-saloon council. Fisher is an old Prohibition campaigner. Since the women's votes were accepted by the judges, it is contended by some that they had no right to throw them out. This may be made the basis for an election contest, which may change the result."

The Weekly Gazette-Times (Corvallis, Oregon) 16 Dec 1910, page 3

Source: Newspapers.com

Poster source: wuwm.com

I took a quick look through the Gazette-Times between 1910-1920 and couldn't find anything more for Benton County. I wanted to find out the women's names who were **"militant," "menacing" and demanding!** If any of you have relatives who were in the Suffragettes movement anywhere, I hope you would share what you know for the next newsletter.

Shared by Sue Van Laere

The campaign for woman suffrage was long, difficult, and sometimes dramatic; yet ratification did not ensure full enfranchisement. Decades of struggle to include African Americans and other minority women in the promise of voting rights remained. Many women remained unable to vote long into the 20th century because of discriminatory state voting laws.

<https://www.ourdocuments.gov/doc.php?flash=false@doc=63>



A Delicious Summer Project

My writing project for the summer is creating recipe books for each of my grandchildren (ages 12-16), which I will give them on their birthdays in the coming months. I have the recipe collections from my mother and my mother-in-law, which include notations that some of the recipes came from their mothers, grandmothers, and other more distant relatives.

Each of the books I am creating has a basic theme. Our soon to be 16 year old grandson is learning to bake pies from his father. Included in his book are recipes for basic pie crusts – very different between my mother and my mother-in-law – as well as specialty ones such as my mother-in-law’s “nut crust.” There are also recipes for a variety of fillings. I scan the recipe so it can be included in its original form. However, I also type the recipe as many of them are in cursive, which my grandchildren have not learned in school. I then write the story of why it is an important recipe in the family lore. I use the first names of each of the cooks rather than “great-great... .” For example, accompanying the recipe for custard pie filling from his great-great grandmother is this commentary:

“Elsie did not like milk and would not drink it, though she did put it in her coffee. She would not eat custard, unless it was in a pie crust! Walter loved pie, so custard pie was included in regular rotation of what she made. She passed the custard filling recipe along to Lucille who often made it because it was a favorite of Stan’s. His most significant experience with custard pie was in the restaurant where he worked in college. One of the cooks was a superb baker and often made custard pie. Once in a while there was a hole in the crust and the filling would leak through and cook under the crust. Obviously it could not be served to the diners in the restaurant, so the staff HAD to eat it. Stan eagerly awaited those days.”

Each of the books will contain a family tree with names of the cooks whose recipes are included highlighted as well as other who are mentioned in the stories.

Shared by Ann Bateman

Here’s a fun idea for an October article

Write a short paragraph about a great recipe that turned out to be delicious OR one that somehow missed the mark. It could be about you or a relative. I already have an idea for my paragraph that involves my mother, a live chicken and a loaf of homemade bread!

Thanks to Ann for writing such a good story and giving us a writing idea for ourselves. You can send your story to Sue Van Laere for the next newsletter.

THE STORY OF THE CABINS AT CORVALLIS'S AUTO PARK 1925-2020



Source: Flickr.com

On the corner of College Street and 19th in Philomath are two rows of pleasant studio apartments. These former little cabins haven't been in town very long, only 30 years, considering their real age. They were built in 1925 as an addition to the Auto Park in Corvallis. That makes them 95 years old.

In the early 1900's, autos allowed people to get around easier and in style. It wasn't long before "touring" became what lots of families did in the summer. By 1917, the earliest Gazette-Times article I could find, Corvallis was using the City Park for tourist camping. Part of the City Park was along the Marys River where Pioneer Park is today. If you go down into Pioneer Park, you'll see why it made a perfect camping spot. It backs up to a hill with Highway 20 above, making it shady, green and lovely.

Within a few years, Corvallis Auto Park's reputation spread, becoming a destination place for tourists from all over Oregon and beyond. Corvallis citizens volunteered to help by removing blackberry bushes and weeds and filling chuck holes. Between 1917 and 1923, the community added rest rooms, hot and cold showers, laundry trays (a tub to wash clothes by hand), and lights. The fee for these benefits was 50 cents the first night and 25 from thereon. In 1924, over 14,000 tourists spent the night in the camp, causing the Park Committee to suggest necessary upgrades such as clearing more of the park for camping and building cabins.

Nineteen twenty-nine was a watershed moment for the Auto Park. More than 100 Norway maple trees were planted by citizens on the first Arbor Day in Corvallis. Five cabins had been built in 1925 where the bypass is now (between 3rd & 4th Street.) A Mr. Reid, who was on the Park Commission, suggested that 40 cabins be built because of demand. I still haven't tracked down how many were actually built but I know for certain that there were seven cabins.

A small grocery store near the park, Auto Park Store, provided most of whatever tourists wanted, including fruit, bread, pastries AND tobacco. In 1929, a new owner renamed the store Wa-Wona Court Store and added a cafe. He also rented out the cabins to tourists. This store and the cabins were probably owned by the same person and not part of the Auto Park. The cabins became part of the Wa-Wona Court Motel in 1942, which later became the Patio Motel.

Here's where the cabins in Philomath come into play.

The site for the bypass around Corvallis was finally settled in the 1980's so in 1989, the Patio Motel was purchased by the State and demolished. Several investors bought eight cabins and moved six of them to Philomath. One was moved to Sunset Street in west Corvallis along with a house that was on the Patio Motel property. The cabin became a garage. I don't know what happened to the eighth one.

Initially, these cabins were separate. They stayed that way until they were moved to Philomath in 1990. At that time, they were placed together with exterior wood paneling, making each cabin a bit larger on one side, and skylights were added for more light. This year the apartments have new paint. The painters found the cabins had worn at least four different colors: yellow, green, red and possibly yellow again. They are now a refreshing cream color with blue gray trim.

Shared by Sue Van Laere

When Will We See the 1950 Census and Other Interesting Census Info

2020 Census



Have you filled out your census information yet? If not, here is the website:

<https://www.usa.gov/statistics#item-214651>

You'll also find lots of interesting information about the census.

<https://www.clipart/us-census-2020-529636.html>

According to the ["72-Year Rule,"](#) the National Archives releases census records to the general public 72 years after Census Day. As a result, the 1930 census records were released April 1, 2002, and the 1940 records were released [April 2, 2012](#). The 1950 census records will be released in April 2022. The Census Bureau has several publications that may be of interest to genealogists. Many can be downloaded from the [Genealogy Publications](#) Web page.

Measuring America:
The Decennial Censuses
From 1790 to 2000

Issued September 2002

PA0202 (M/B/S)



U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
Helping You Make Informed Decisions • 1902-2002

U.S. Department of Commerce
Bureau of Economic Analysis
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU



The Census Bureau's publication, "Measuring America," contains the questionnaires and instructions used by census-takers from 1790 to 2000.

https://www.census.gov/history/www/faqs/genealogy/faqs/does_the_census_bureau_publish_any_genealogy-related_books_or_pamphlets.html

Another RootsTech Gem

Go to rootstech.org. Scroll down to and click on ***“Writing Your Story in Hard Times.”*** You’ll find some ideas to help you write about what this Pandemic has been like for you, your family, and your friends. It’s part of our collective history now, not only for ourselves but for future citizens who will live their own challenges .

Thanks, Linda, for letting us know about these free sources.

From our website

<https://www.bcgs-oregon.org>

On the right side of the main page, you’ll find a list of genealogy links. Scroll down and click on ***“The Ultimate Beginner’s Guide to Genealogy DNA Testing Guides.”***

This guide is more than just information on DNA. The first section is full of information on how to use the major types of public records that are good hunting grounds for ancestors. There are lots of tips for beginning genealogists but it’s also a good reminder for those who have been doing genealogy for a while.

If you click on the home button, you’ll find a good explanation of the types of results provided by each of the major DNA companies.

The guide is worthwhile, and while you’re on the website, take a look at what else is there. You might find something you’ve been looking for!

<https://www.facebook.com/BentonCountyGenealogicalSociety>

Links

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

RootsTech Speakers—Free Online

*Speakers from the February 2020 RootsTech sessions are available to view for free.

*Choose from multiple speakers presenting a wide variety of genealogy programs. Click on the speaker’s picture to start a 55 minute video. Select a different speaker at any time. Perfect entertainment for rainy days or the long summer ahead.

<https://www.rootstech.org/category/2020-rootstech-sessions>

To view past speakers from RootsTech 2020 to 2015 for free, click here. Each year has multiple speakers all on different genealogy topics.

<https://www.rootstech.org/video-archive>

Shared by Linda Olsen

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Treasurer: Lois Courtney
loiscourtney@cmug.com

Appointed Positions

Membership: OPEN

Librarian: OPEN

Programs: OPEN

Audit: Connie Patterson

Refreshments: Pegge Gee

Host: Kathryn Moss

Research: Lois Courtney

Book Sales: Maridee Symons

Website: George Davidson

Facebook: Sue Van Laere

Publicity: Lois Courtney

Library Volunteers: Lois Courtney

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