



DISTANT VOICES

From the BEND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
& LIBRARY

November 2020 | Vol. 27 | Num. 8

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→ Until Further Notice ←

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic and concern for the health and well-being of our members, volunteers, friends and community, **all in-person classes and programs are canceled and our library is closed.** We thank you for your patience, understanding, and support as the world recovers from the pandemic in the coming months.

BGS Has Virtual Programs Now!

It was so much fun to finally “see” our genealogy friends again on Oct. 20, our first meeting since everything was canceled in mid-March. It turned out to be a terrific Zoom meeting. Almost 30 attended. Gary gave an excellent presentation, there were many questions, and Zoom worked beautifully.

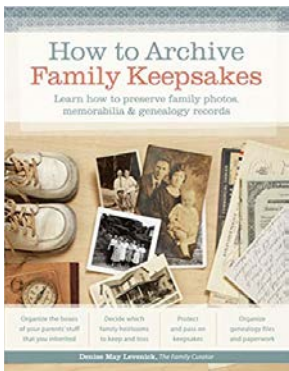
We are looking forward to having you participate on **Tuesday, Nov. 17**, when Maggy Wilcox, Catherine Dulzo and Don Robinson will help us learn about the resources and procedures of the Sons (SAR) and Daughters (DAR) of the American Revolution (see p. 2 for more details).

We have a fun program planned for **Tuesday, Dec. 15**, in place of the usual Holiday Potluck. We still want to share genealogy stories, but this year, let’s share family heirlooms along with a story about them. Because, it’s highly likely that during the pandemic, all of us have been sitting in houses full of heirlooms, in addition to our research logs and family trees. What is an heirloom? Anything that is significant to you (see page 3).



Denise May Levenick is the Family Curator. Find her website at: <https://thefamilycurator.com/>. Denise’s goal is to inspire and

encourage other family curators to preserve and share their own family treasures.



She’s the author of “*How to Archive Family Keepsakes*,” which is a good resource for learning about preserving family photos/treasures. It’s available for checkout in the BGS Library, once it eventually opens.

One of her short blog posts is: [5 Things You Can Do Right Now to Save Your Family Heirlooms.](#)



BGS LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

All programs & workshops are virtual using **zoom**. All you need to do is install the FREE account on your device that has a camera, mic and speakers, and is connected to the internet.

Sign up at: <https://zoom.us/>. Use the “Sign Up It’s Free” button.

All BGS meetings are **FREE** to members and non-members. Questions: bgs@bendbroadband.com

LEARN ZOOM and Some Google Search Tips

Another LEARN ZOOM meeting is scheduled to help anyone become comfortable using Zoom before the November meeting. In addition to practicing Zoom, you’ll learn a few Google Search Tips.

Thursday – Nov. 12th – 1:00 pm (PST)

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

You must register by clicking the button above to attend LEARN ZOOM. After clicking the button, fill out the registration form you receive online. After clicking the Register button at the bottom of the form, Zoom will send you an email with the **LINK** to join the meeting. **Keep the Zoom message** so you can click on the URL link to join the meeting at the appointed time.

If you have trouble registering or have Zoom questions, email, Sandy at: thompss@bendbroadband.com

3rd Tuesday Zoom Membership Meeting – DAR AND SAR

After short announcements, the DAR/SAR panel discussion will begin and features Catherine Dulzo, DAR Registrar, Maggy Wilcox, DAR, and Don Robinson, SAR Registrar. Central Oregon is fortunate to have DAR and SAR Registrars in the area. Learn a bit about the Registrar’s role in the application process and how the generations are listed in applications. Also learn about resources for finding documentation that constitutes “proof” for applications. The DAR/SAR requirements are really just good genealogy practices that everyone can use. There will be plenty of Q&A time.

Tuesday – Nov. 17 – 10:00 am (PST) – Zoom Meeting

You don’t have to register for this meeting (as above). BGS will send a message to our email group before Nov. 17 with the **link & password** to join the meeting at the appointed time. **Keep the email message**, so you can click the link in it to join the meeting. If you are NOT located in the Pacific time zone, please convert PST to your time zone. If you are not in our group, please email us and ask for the Zoom link.

BGS Leadership Council Zoom Meeting, Thursday, Nov. 19

If you are interested in BGS planning discussions, you may want to attend Leadership Council Zoom meetings. The next one is on Thursday, Nov. 19 at 9:30 a.m. Length: 1–2 hrs. To attend the Council meeting, email BGS indicating your desire to join the meeting and we will email you the Zoom link.

BGS Workshops and Classes

BGS workshops, classes and interest groups, including DNA and Beginning Genealogy, will start on Zoom in January and February. If you are interested in facilitating a special class or group, email BGS.

BGS Email Address: bgs@bendbroadband.com.

What is an Heirloom?

What is the heirloom that you will share on Zoom with your BGS friends on Tuesday, December 15? Webster defines *heirloom* as a valued family possession that is handed down from generation to generation. Heirlooms be any shape or size, or made of any type of material, precious metals to a scrap of paper. To start you thinking about an heirloom to share in December, Brad Lemmon wrote this story:

“I’m not sure if this picture has been in my family for enough generations to be considered an heirloom, but I think of it that way.

It was created by my maternal grandfather, Harry Heiss, leading up to Christmas 1965 while he had leukemia and was too sick to work. Harry was reputed to be a gifted artist, and drew quite a bit when he was young. Unfortunately, this is the only piece of art that survived his mother’s dislike of clutter. It is about 3 feet tall and made out of glitter glued to white felt. To preserve it, my father added a frame around 1968.”



Standing Left: Brad’s great-grandmother, Sarah (Everett) Heiss [1887–1978]—the de-clutterer.

Standing Right: Brad’s grandfather, Harry Heiss [1908–1966]—the artist.

Sitting: Brad’s great-great-grandfather, John Everett [1862–1952]

On Lap: Brad’s mother, Nancy Heiss [1932–]

Taken in Danville, PA, 1932

NEWS FROM THE WEB



Thomas MacEntee is a genealogy educator and author with over 42 years of experience researching his family history. His mother shared this wisdom with him: *“You can’t hold on to anything in this life – knowledge, memories, family photos – with a tight grip. You need to let them go so that you can hold that hand with the palm up . . . to receive the next good thing coming your way.”*

Thomas’ website is aptly named [Abundant Genealogy](#). The site is filled with free resources and articles. He freely gives just as his mother taught him. Thomas’ other site is [Genealogy Bargain\\$](#), and again it is full of bargains and free stuff. He has redesigned his Genealogy Cheat Sheets. He’s up to 30 of them now, all free. [Click here to see the Cheat Sheet titles](#) and download as many as you want to. If you sign up for his newsletter, you’ll receive an email a day from Thomas with all the latest sales, bargains and free stuff.



The FREE online GenTalk on November 21 at 2:00 pm at the GFO should be very good. Katherine Willson will be presenting on the topic: **“Genealogical Timelines & Research Checklists.”** She is an excellent speaker and one of the founders of the Virtual Genealogical Association. Though the event is free, registration is required—go to [GFO GenTalk page](#). Read the [Nov. issue of The Forum Insider](#) to learn about everything that’s happening. Interest groups are free and open to all.



Ethnicity results (more aptly called geographic origins) have been updated by three of the largest DNA testing companies—AncestryDNA, 23andMe, and FamilyTreeDNA. Gilad Japhet, CEO of MyHeritage, announced on June 23, that an ethnicity update is coming for MyHeritageDNA. To Gary Putnam and Sandy Thompson, the 23andMe update seems to match the geographic origins in our paper trees better than the updates from AncestryDNA and FamilyTreeDNA.

The geographic origins part of DNA test results is certainly very popular with consumers, but the results are still variable between the companies. What did you think about your updated ethnicity results?



Momondo, a European travel fare metasearch company, asked 67 people from all over the world to take a DNA test. The company then produced a video, which shows some individuals’ thoughts about their ethnicity before taking the test and when the ethnicity results were revealed to them. It is interesting and only about 5 minutes long.

Watch [The DNA Journey](#) on YouTube. It illustrates why ethnicity results are popular, and that maybe DNA testing can even unite the world. Following the introductory video, there are several other videos that show more footage of the individuals featured in the short 5 minute one. This was an intriguing idea.



The WWI Centennial Commission and the Doughboy Foundation continue to produce high quality webinars about WWI topics, in addition to update videos about the construction of the WWI Memorial. *Finding Your WWI Ancestors* is a terrific genealogy workshop that will benefit every genealogist searching for WWI ancestors. There is also a FREE 100-page research guide book that goes with it.

Some other webinars are: *The Hello Girls, America’s First Women Soldiers; Adapting to a Pandemic Coping World; Doughboy MIA; Poppyganda, Historical & Cultural Impact of a Flower*. [Click here to find the 2020 Webinar Series](#). The links to handouts or the 100-page research guide are under the box that you click to start a video. An update on the progress of the WWI Memorial is at the beginning of each video.

Lisa Lisson — Are You My Cousin?

Resources & Tools to Confidently Research Your Genealogy — <https://lissalisson.com/>

To describe her website, *Are You My Cousin?* genealogist Lisa Lisson writes: “I believe researching your genealogy does not have to be overwhelming. All you need is a solid plan, a genealogy toolbox, and the knowledge to use those tools.” Her blog articles cover a wide variety of genealogy topics to help beginners and experienced genealogists with their research.

You might enjoy this article: [What a Cupcake Taught Me about Genealogy Research](#). I’ll vote for using cupcakes to teach me about researching efficiently by having a workflow system (research log) and using checklists.



Lisa has grouped together a series of articles about researching women: [Women in the Family Tree](#), [Everything You need to Know](#). Vintage cookbooks are one of the resources that she covers. I wish the pictures weren’t quite so big on her website, but the content between the pictures is good.

Another cooking-themed article (Lisa has a sweet tooth): [A Baker’s Dozen of Free Genealogy Websites! Are You Missing These?](#) Everyone knows FamilySearch is free, so it’s not on this baker’s dozen list. Lisa’s list is eclectic and there are a couple that I’m definitely going to check out. How about you?

Dia de los Muertos Celebrating Our Dearly Departed on Nov. 1-2



Anna Melendez
Johnson

Learn more about this annual celebration of life from Anna Melendez Johnson. Though Anna lives in Arizona now, she has never forgotten her time in Bend, when she worked for Deschutes County from 2002 to 2015. She also served on the Deschutes County Historical Society (DCHS) Board of Directors (2006-2015).

Join Anna in a video presentation to discover the true meaning behind the traditions of Dia de los Muertos, a vibrant and colorful Latin American celebration of loved ones who are no longer with us that honors their contribution to who we are today. It is a reunion between the living and those no longer with us.

In the 15-minute video, Anna will discuss:

- What the symbolism is around the Dia de los Muertos regalia and makeup.
- How the festival is celebrated around the world and in the United States.
- The history of this life celebration and ways that you can participate.

[Click here to view the video on YouTube.](#)



The Deschutes Historical Museum brought Anna’s video to us this year. Even though she’s no longer in Bend, she is still a loyal supporter of the Museum. **The Museum is open.** Masks are required and to maintain safe social distancing, visitors are asked to make reservations to visit. Phone: (541) 389-1813.



Let There Be Light: The History of Bend’s Water Pageant is a new film from the DCHS and Future Filmworks. The Water Pageant, a floating parade on Mirror Pond, was an annual celebration for three decades. The film features photos from the DCHS archives and interviews with past pageant royalty. A DVD will be available in the Museum store in November, just in time to be a holiday gift.

BGS FUNDRAISERS

Help support your Bend Genealogical Society when you shop!

Last fiscal year, 1 Jun 2019 to 31 May 2020, BGS earned **\$210** from these fundraisers. In the current fiscal year, we have earned **\$85.93 to date**. With your help, maybe we could top last year's amount!



Earn a donation for BGS from **Fred Meyer** every time you shop and they scan your Rewards card. Go online and link your Rewards card to Bend Genealogical Society in your **Fred Meyer Rewards** account. Once linked, you should see BGS at the bottom of your receipts. The donation does not affect the rewards that you earn. Link your card to BGS at: [Fred Meyer Community Rewards](#)



Shopping through **AmazonSmile** is exactly the same as shopping on the Amazon site. The added bonus is that Amazon donates 0.5% of qualified purchases to a charity of your choice. Please choose Bend Genealogical Society. Use your Amazon login and password at [AmazonSmile](#). You can change your charity of choice any time in Your AmazonSmile in the Your Account drop-down menu once logged in.



GoodShop offers online shopping coupons and special discounts for 1,000s of retailers on the web. Your favorite store is likely apart of **GoodShop**. Every time you shop at a store of your choice using **GoodShop**, you get a special deal and BGS receives a donation. **GoodSearch** makes a donation for every internet search (Yahoo). Register at: [GoodShop](#) & adopt Bend Genealogical Society as your cause.

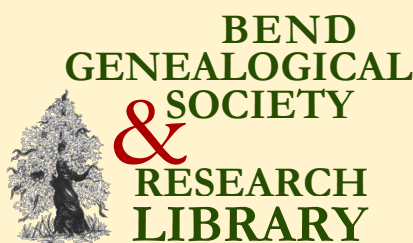
Bend Genealogical Society Financial Status Year-to-date 20-21 FY, as of 19 Oct 2020

Dues Income (63 paid members)	\$ 1,190.00
Other Income	\$ 989.48
YTD Total Income	\$ 2,179.48
YTD Total Expenses	\$ 888.52

BGS Leadership Council

President: Gary Putnam	<u>Members-at-large:</u>
Secretary: Brad Lemmon	Sue Dolezal
Treasurer: Sandy Thompson	Maggy Wilcox
Director: Sherry Hamilton	Sharon Freeman
Director: Linda Beilby	
Past VP: Catherine Dulzo	

[Would you like to help BGS, too?](#)

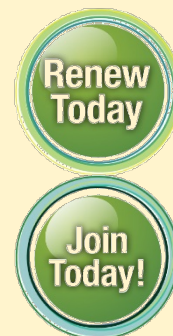


We want to help you

JOIN THE FUN TODAY!

Our membership year runs from June 1 to May 31. Please Renew or become a New Member for the 2020–2021 program year now. [Click here to open the membership application.](#)

Mail to BGS with your payment. Thank you so much for supporting genealogy in Bend.



DISTANT VOICES is the official newsletter of the Bend Genealogical Society (BGS).

Mailing Address: PO Box 8254; Bend, OR 97708-8254. Phone Number: (541) 317-9553

Web Page link: [Bend Genealogical Society](#) – Email: bgs@bendbroadband.com

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.