



DISTANT VOICES

From the BEND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
& LIBRARY

December 2020 | Vol. 27 | Num. 9

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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.

What's the Heirloom You Will Share on December 15?

Welcome to the December 2020 issue of Distant Voices! Because of the current pandemic, our annual BGS Holiday Potluck, when we shared genealogy stories, could not occur this year. However, in lieu of the brunch, our leadership council decided that a Zoom meeting featuring our members' heirlooms with a bit of story about each one would be fun, too. We hope that you will participate with an heirloom that you have.



Maggy Wilcox

How can this very Chinese table be an heirloom for a very Anglo person? My husband Steve's sister possesses this lovely old table, an heirloom from their mother's family. It came to the United States as part of a collection purchased as wedding furniture by their ancestor Captain Charles H. Allen in the 1830s.

Captain Allen went to sea when he was just sixteen years old. Salt water must have been in his blood as he spent his career traveling the world's oceans, finally retiring in 1860 to his large home in Salem, MA, across the street from "The House of Seven Gables." Steve and I have digital copies of many of his early letters written to his parents.

In 1836, he married Mary Penniman Wright. We hope that she agreed to his purchasing a house full of Chinese export furniture, as she would have to live among these furnishings the remainder of their lives! At age 50, Capt. Allen retired and joined her and their five children.

Besides his letters and the usual research, George G. Putnam published a set of four volumes, *Salem Vessels and Their Voyages*, in 1922 and 1924 (online now). Captain Allen's interviews provided welcomed details of his life as he circumnavigated the world three times, lost a ship while saving all its crew, among other adventures. Find these books in the Hathi Trust Digital Library (<https://www.hathitrust.org/>). Just search for the title above. They are free to read online. If you find stories by Capt. Allen, Jr., he was a nephew.

Continued on page 2



Capt. Allen's ship, The Syren

The photo of the ship, Syren, is one of several ships on which Capt. Allen sailed. The original was a painting made in China on one of his several voyages. We are very fortunate to have this photo from the original painting which is housed in the Peabody Essex Museum (<https://www.pem.org/>) in Salem, MA.

Please join all your genealogy friends on December 15 at 10 a.m. on Zoom to share the story of your heirloom. Be sure that you're logged into Zoom before you click the meeting link that BGS will be sending to you. I did not log in first before clicking the link once, and my audio did not work!

3rd Tuesday Zoom – Share Your Heirloom

Tuesday – December 15 – 10:00 am (PST) – BGS Zoom Meeting (free)



After short announcements, we will take turns sharing heirlooms and telling a story about them, almost just like we were in Williamson Hall swapping genealogy stories at the Holiday Potluck. Hold your heirloom up to the camera, so everyone can see it and tell us about it and why it is special to you. Heirlooms don't have to be really old. Anything can be a family heirloom, if it warms your heart when you think about the family member who owned it at one time.

You don't have to register for the 3rd Tuesday Zoom. BGS will send a message to our email group before Dec. 15 with the **link & password** to join the meeting at the appointed time. **Keep the email message**, so after you log into your Zoom account, you can click the link in the message 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 BGS@bendbroadband.com and ask for the Zoom link.

3rd Tuesday Zoom – January Meeting Preview

Tuesday – January 19 – 10:00 am (PST) – BGS Zoom Meeting (free)

Navigating the Records from the War of 1812 with Brian Rhinehart

Brian Rhinehart, of [Rhinehart Roots Genealogy](http://RhinehartRootsGenealogy.com), is a professional genealogical researcher and speaker, and specializes in Civil War and War of 1812 research at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. and has retrieved military files there for hundreds of clients. On January 19, he will help us learn about War of 1812 records, from bounty land to pensions. Learn how and why these records were created, how to make sense of them, and what they can contain for your ancestors!



Since most of us probably haven't had the opportunity to research at the National Archives, Brian will answer all questions you have about other records in the National Archives, in addition to those from the War of 1812 or the Civil War (since he specializes in Civil War records, too). Start thinking about what you would like to ask about the resources in the National Archives.

BGS LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

BGS meetings & workshops are virtual using [Zoom](#). All you need to do is install the FREE account on a device 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

If the meeting requires Registration, click the register button below for the meeting you want to attend. After clicking it, fill out the registration form you receive online and click Register at the bottom of the form. Zoom will send you an email with a **LINK** to join the meeting. **Keep the Zoom message**. Before the start time of the meeting, log into your Zoom app and click the emailed **LINK** to join the meeting.



LEARN ZOOM and Some Google Search Tips

Thurs. – Dec. 10 – 1:00 pm (PST)

LEARN ZOOM is designed to help you become comfortable using Zoom. In addition to practicing Zoom and learning about its tools, you'll learn a few Google Search Tips. Handouts included.

**Register
to attend**

**Register for
LEARN ZOOM**

For any meetings, you are encouraged to send questions in prior to the meeting. Email BGS, or the facilitator directly.

BGS Leadership Council

Thurs. – Dec. 17 – 9:30 am (PST)

If you are interested in BGS planning discussions, consider attending Leadership Council meetings. Length: 1-2 hours. To attend a Council meeting, email BGS indicating your desire to join the group and we will email the Zoom link to you.



German Discussion Group

*Continuing
once a month.*

Wed. – Jan. 6 – 1:00 pm (PST)

Get together with others who are researching German ancestors and share your research successes and your problems. We learn together as we share websites, search tips and information.

**Register
to attend**

**Register for
GERMAN GROUP**

DNA Workshop

Changes in AncestryDNA™

Thurs. – Jan. 14 – 10:00 am (PST)

Many changes have occurred in AncestryDNA in the last 6 months. On Jan. 14, we will review the changes and what they mean to us, when we're analyzing our matches. Ask questions and anyone in the group can help answer them.

Sandy Thompson & Gary Putnam, facilitators

**Register
to attend**

**Register for
ANCESTRY DNA**

Continues on 2nd Thursday, Feb: MyHeritageDNA, March: FamilyTreeDNA, April: 23andMeDNA.



BRICK WALL Workshop

*Continuing
meeting on
4th Thursdays*

Thurs. – Jan. 28 – 10:00 am (PST)

It is inevitable that you will encounter a brick wall multiple times, while researching your family. One strategy to try when you encounter problems is to discuss them with other genealogists. That is the purpose of the BGS Brick Wall Workshop meeting.

Outline your specific problem and anyone in the workshop can offer ideas about how you may be able to break through your brick wall. If two heads are better than one, then a dozen heads are a think tank.

Brad Lemmon, facilitator

**Register
to attend**

**Register for BRICK
WALL Workshop**

3rd Tuesday Zoom – February Preview

Tuesday – February 16 – 10:00 am (PST) – BGS Zoom Meeting (free)
Genealogy Brick Wall Breakthroughs with Thomas MacEntee



Want to see first-hand how to break through that persistent “brick wall” in genealogy? Using actual research problems submitted by webinar attendees, professional genealogist Thomas MacEntee will walk participants through a step-by-step research methodology process to find clues and possible solutions. Participants will have access to research logs, digital images and more during and after the webinar. Also included is a “habit recipe” to implement the same techniques used in the live webinar in your own research.



During the program on February 16, one lucky BGS member will have their long-standing brick wall examined by Thomas for possible breakthroughs. Please start thinking about your brick walls and formulating one to submit to Thomas. Click [HERE](#) to see Thomas’ Brick Wall Intake Form, so you will know what the fields in the form are. DEADLINE for submissions is 10 Feb 2021 and Thomas will choose the lucky winner.

We hope you will also join the BGS Brick Wall Workshop. The first meeting is on 28 January (see p. 3). We intend the workshop to continue on the 4th Thursday for several months this year. If we all work together on Brick Walls, 2021 will be the year when many breakthroughs happen! And Thomas will share several strategies and give us good advice about tackling Brick Walls on February 16.

Family Gatherings on Zoom

Maybe you are planning family gatherings on Zoom in the coming holiday season.

Pat Richley-Erickson, aka Dear Myrtle your friend in genealogy, with cousin Russ have produced 9 videos about using Zoom for family gatherings. Myrt and Russ explain the essentials of using Zoom in easy-to-understand short segments (less than 10 minutes). Just perfect to share with your family to get them started in doing Zoom gatherings.

Imagine recording your Zoom when grandma is telling stories of her childhood. What a treasure for future generations.

Find the free videos at Vivid-Pix Education:
<https://www.vivid-pix.com/zoom-classes>.



Bend Genealogical Society Family Meeting on Nov. 17

Dear Myrtle blog/website: <https://blog.dearmyrtle.com/>

NEWS FROM THE WEB

rootstech
CONNECT 25-27 February 2021
rootstech.org

February will be here before you know it and February means RootsTech!

The exciting news is RootsTech

in 2021 is entirely virtual, including a virtual exhibit hall, and **completely FREE** for everyone in the comfort of their homes. No expensive travel and hotel costs, or dealing with the massive crowds. There will be dozens of presentations by the top genealogists in the world and four keynote presenters to inspire you. **Register today at:** <https://www.rootstech.org/?lang=eng>. You can view six years of recordings from past RootsTech sessions in the video archive (free): <https://www.rootstech.org/video-archive?lang=eng>.



The Bulletin is the Quarterly Magazine of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon. It is a 46-page journal with all sorts of articles for genealogists. "Mindful Transcription: Adapting Methodology from my Television Career to Genealogy" in the December issue on page 15 has an interesting idea for learning to write better proof arguments. Click here to open the [December 2020 issue of the Bulletin](#) and Click here to find the [Archive of past Bulletins](#).

Irish Birth, Marriage & Death Certificates

Reprinted from [Dick Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter](#) – 7 Oct 2020

Now Available Online for Free

Great news for anyone researching Irish ancestry! An article in the *IrishCentral* website states:

"Irish birth and marriage certificates from as far back as 1864 are now available for free online, while death certificates between 1878 and 1968 are also accessible. A plethora of Irish genealogy records were made available online thanks to a joint initiative from the Dept. of Culture, Heritage, and the Gaeltacht and the Dept. of Employment Affairs and Social Protection, in 2019."

"A wealth of historical registers of marriages, births, and deaths are available to view for free on the website [Irish Genealogy](#) and covers births from 1864 to 1918, deaths from 1878 to 1968, and marriages from 1864 to 1943. The new additions include deaths in 1967 and 1968, births in 1917 and 1918, and marriages from 1864 to 1869 and 1942 to 1943, meaning that those looking to delve into their family's history online can now go deeper than ever before."

Read all the details on the *IrishCentral* website: <https://www.irishcentral.com/roots/genealogy/irish-genealogy-resource-free> and visit the Irish Genealogy website: <https://www.irishgenealogy.ie/en/>.

Comment posted 9 Oct 2020:

Old news—outdated. We have had births through 1919, marriages through 1944, and deaths through 1969 since the beginning of 2020. As of this week, we also have 1871–1877 deaths. We are now only missing 1864–1870 death images.

MORE NEWS FROM THE WEB



American Ancestors
by NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

The New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) has several upcoming events in December. Webinars and Author Events are free. There is a fee for the Online Conference.

- December 1 | Jewish and African American Cemeteries as Borders Uncrossed | WEBINAR
- December 3 | David S. Reynolds with Abe: Abraham Lincoln in His Times | AUTHOR EVENT
- December 7 | Nicholas Basbanes with The Life of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow | AUTHOR EVENT
- December 10 | Finding the Living: Doing Descendancy Research | WEBINAR
- December 11 | Winter and Christmas at Castle Howard | WEBINAR
- December 12 | Researching American Revolutionary War Patriots | ONLINE CONFERENCE
- December 16 | Christina Schwarz with Bonnie | AUTHOR EVENT
- December 17 | Tips for Interviewing Relatives | WEBINAR
- January 21 | New York and London in the Gilded Age | WEBINAR

Online events are open to anyone, but registration is required. Find descriptions of the webinars and register for them at: <https://www.americanancestors.org/education/online-classes>.

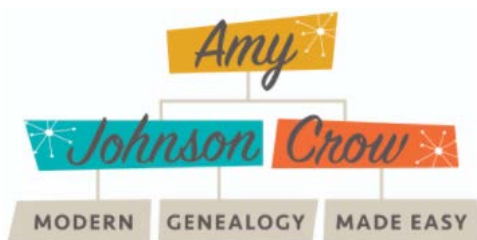


**NATIONAL
GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY**

The National Genealogical Society (NGS) has some educational resources and helpful tips on its website, free for anyone's use: <https://www.ngsgenealogy.org/free-resources/>. In addition to the resource links at the bottom of the above

link, there are additional resources for every level of family researcher. Click here if you are 1) [Getting Started](#), 2) [Going to the Next Level](#), or 3) [Building Advanced Skills](#).

NGS also has several courses that have a fee. One of the new courses is "[Reading Old Handwriting](#)," which has 10 modules. Cost \$75 for members and \$100 for non-members. Description: This illustrated course explains the writing systems and styles used in the United States during the last three centuries. Every module has multiple hands-on exercises to develop expertise in reading handwriting from a variety of locations and time periods. Upon completion of the course, students will have techniques and strategies for reading handwritten documents encountered in their research.



Some of you may remember when BGS had Amy Johnson Crow as our Spring Seminar speaker in 2018. She had the knack of explaining complex concepts in a way that benefitted everyone, beginners and advanced researchers alike.

Amy's website is full of helpful genealogical advice in many different categories. She posted "3 Biggest Mistakes in Genealogy Research" on 7 Oct 2020. You can read it or listen to it as a podcast at: <https://www.amyjohnsoncrow.com/mistakes-in-genealogy/>. She ends this post with:

"Family History Is a Journey, Not a Race

These 3 mistakes have something in common: Speed. We get excited about a new discovery that we want to zoom ahead to the next one. Ironically, we can make more discoveries when we slow down."

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 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.

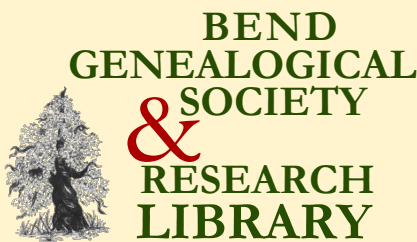
Bend Genealogical Society Financial Status Year-to-date 20-21 FY, as of 17 Nov 2020

Dues Income (70 paid members)	\$ 1,330.00
Other Income	\$ 1,019.48
YTD Total Income	\$ 2,349.48
YTD Total Expenses	\$ 1,385.72

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.