

Benton County Genealogical Society

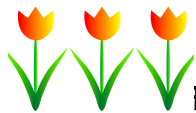
NEWSLETTER



Located in Philomath, Oregon
Founded in 1971 in Corvallis, Oregon
Volume 39 No.4: APRIL 2021



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



From the President

Hi all, Spring has arrived, vaccines are being given, do we see the light at the end of the tunnel?

I hope this summer brings good news and that we'll be able to determine a time frame to resume our meetings.

Enjoy the warmer weather as the spring flowers bloom.
Sincerely, George

What's Inside

Page 1: From the President; Gazette-Times clipping
Page 2,3: History of Arbor Day
Page 4: Finding Elusive Ancestors; Top Libraries for Genealogy Research in the US
Page 5: Family Heirlooms
Pages 6,7: Learning Opportunities
Page 8: Call for some of you to share your stories!

Preparing for Springtime in Corvallis 1926

Young Men's Felt Hats
For Now—Fancy Bands

There are hats and HATS. This new model has everything that an exceptionally good hat should have. To begin with, it is low priced at—

\$3.98

Bound edge, curl brim. In the new shades of Pearl, English, Brown, Moth, and Surf.

Satin lined and excellent quality silk band and sweat-band. If ever a hat had assured style, this has.

Fancy Bands!

Corvallis Gazette-Times 23 Mar 1926 p6

SMART NEW FROCKS FOR EASTER

\$10.50—\$15.00—\$25 to \$39.50

A host of new models are here, ready for selection, in styles especially adapted for Spring and out-of-doors. Novelty fabrics, crepes, satins, georgettes in both plain and printed effects. Bright colors and pastel tints are favored, also navy and black. Sizes, 16 years to large matron styles.

J.H.Harris
THE STORE OF SATISFIED CUSTOMERS



HISTORY OF ARBOR DAY

April is the month to celebrate trees, specifically on Arbor Day.

Arbor Day has always had a special place in my heart. I think it's because Arbor Day originated in Nebraska in the late 1800's, so every year teachers would make the story part of their curriculum. We were proud that Nebraska was known as a state that loves trees.

People who live in a tree state like Oregon might drive through Nebraska and wonder where all the trees are. They're there! Before the beginning of Arbor Day, most of the trees were near a river or a creek, and even then, they were sparse.

But today drive out of town and down roads with crops on both sides and you'll find some very important trees. There you'll see long rows of trees spaced far apart. Those trees are standing in "windbreaks" and doing their duty to slow down the wind that has always been the scourge of the prairie. My family always called them "windrows" instead of windbreaks. Windrows are actually long rows of crops or compost left in the field to dry. I still prefer the word "windrow!"



This is a family photo taken on my Uncle Lawrence and Auntie Ferne Rankin's farm. My sister Sharon is only a chin, I'm the top of the head, and brother Bill has a whole head. Baby Coleen must have been in the house. In the background is my uncle's windbreak that protects the house and outbuildings. Their farm produced only grains like wheat and milo because there was no abundant irrigation water available. Beyond the house and barn were the dry gullies and windswept prairie built by the leftovers of the Ice Age. Our aunt and uncle did quite well on a dryland farm. That always surprised me. Later I found out that he, along with many farmers, sowed the wheat in the fall so it could come up while the water from snow was still in the dirt. It worked. How we loved that farm and our aunt and uncle.

Shared by Sue Van Laere

This year's Arbor Day is April 30, 2021!

On the next page is an excerpt from the Arbor Day Organization about its beginnings.

As pioneers began moving into the Nebraska Territory, the lack of trees was felt deeply. Not only did the new residents miss the trees they left behind, they were also left without the trees they needed as windbreaks to keep soil in place, for fuel and building materials, and for shade from the hot sun.

Nebraska newspaper editor and resident of Nebraska City, NE, J. Sterling Morton had an enthusiasm for trees and advocated strongly for individuals and civic groups to plant them. Once he became Secretary of the Nebraska Territory, he further spread his message of the values of trees. And on January 4, 1872, Morton first proposed a tree planting holiday to be called “Arbor Day” at a meeting of the State Board of Agriculture.



The celebration day was set for April 10, 1872. Prizes were offered to counties and individuals for the largest number of properly planted trees on that day. It was estimated that more than 1 million trees were planted in Nebraska on the first Arbor Day. Arbor Day was officially proclaimed in 1874 by Nebraska’s Governor, Robert W. Furnas, and the day was observed April 10 that year. In 1885, Arbor Day was named a legal state holiday in Nebraska.

And while Nebraska City, NE, is the official birthplace of the Arbor Day holiday, communities around the globe gather every year to celebrate trees and plants for a greener tomorrow.

While most holidays celebrate something that has already happened and is worth remembering, Arbor Day represents a belief that the trees will grow to provide us with clean air and water, cooling shade, habitat for wildlife, healthier communities, and endless natural beauty—all for a better tomorrow.

<https://www.arborday.org/celebrate/history.cfm>



This is a photo of the black walnut tree that was planted by Joseph C. Avery in 1875 or 1876. It’s on the right as you drive down 4th Street just before you turn to go up the ramp to Highway 20. This location was once part of the Avery homestead.

heritagedata.prd.state.or.us>historic.pdf

In 2015, the tree was trimmed and shored up with steel cables.

(Gazette-Times, August 31, 2015)

Finding Elusive Ancestors

Ways to Track Ancestors' Movements

- Track origins of neighbors and friends.
- Economic conditions drove some settlers farther west.
- Consider the personal and social motivations for migrations: death of parents; young people wanting to start off on their own.
- Did entire congregations or family clans move together?
- Debt, personal obligations and legal entanglements motivated some.
- How were deeds purchased: gift; handed down from a relative; who signed as security?
- Tax records: what was ancestor taxed for?
- Find ancestors' relatives by reconstructing relationships:
 1. Who were sponsors at family baptisms?
 2. Who helped to establish the local church at the same time as your ancestor?
 3. Who were the guardians for his children?
 4. Who did his daughters marry?
 5. Who supported his pension or bounty land application?
 6. Look for relationship "webs," not straight lines.

From *The Family Tree Problem Solver* by Marsha Hoffman Rising

Top Libraries for Genealogy Research in the US

(From www.familytreemagazine.com on 2/2/2021)

- Allen County Public Library (Fort Wayne, Indiana)
- Family History Library (Salt Lake City, Utah)
- Mid Continent Public Library (Independence, Missouri)
- Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research (Houston, Texas)
- Birmingham Public Library (Birmingham, Alabama)
- Denver Public Library (Denver, Colorado)
- New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) Library (Boston, Massachusetts)
- Detroit Public Library (Detroit, Michigan)
- Library of Congress (Washington, DC)
- Dallas Public Library (Dallas, Texas)
- Los Angeles Public Library (Los Angeles, California)
- National DAR Library (Washington, DC)
- The New York Public Library (New York, New York)
- Cincinnati & Hamilton County Public Library

Another Beautiful Sample of a Family Heirloom



My mother's two younger sisters traveled from Southern California to Guatemala by ship in the early 1930s. It must have been quite an adventure for the two young women. They were often invited to dine at the captain's table. The colorful Guatemalan serape was obtained on this trip. Surely the cultural experience was momentous for them since it was the first time they had experienced a foreign country. The serape hangs on the back of a chair in our home.

Shared by Mary Dean Snelling

Here is a great way to create a family heirloom

Design a Thoughtful Heirloom Book

Creating a family heirloom through preserving family photos is an excellent and precious way to cherish your roots, but also to share them with your children and great-grandchildren. One of the best and most captivating ways to create a family heirloom photo book is by designing the pages with thought, stories, memories, and of course pictures. An heirloom photo book of your grandparents, parents, or current life story, is one that can capture the interest, respect, and high regard of your descendants for generations. [amishhandcrafted.com/family-heirloom/]



Two Pages Of Online Genealogy To Entertain Your Brain!

The National Genealogical Society is sponsoring the SLAM showcase as part of their yearly conference. The cost for this part of the conference is \$35.00. See other information below. You don't need to be a member; to sign up you'll be asked to make a free account.

The SLAM! Idea Showcase is just one of several new components of the week-long virtual NGS Family History Conference, 17–21 May 2021. The showcase will highlight creative and innovative projects or programs by **societies, libraries, archives, and museums (SLAMs)**. The program will also include presentations that assist librarians and others who serve genealogists. You are automatically registered for this free event when you register for NGS 2021 Live! If you are **not** planning to attend NGS 2021 Live!, you will need to register for SLAM!

Go to: <https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/> Then click on the SLAM icon, click on register now. This is where you sign up. The cost should be \$35.00.

Who should attend?

Information providers (genealogical society members, volunteers, information professionals) who serve genealogical researchers or the genealogical research community.

Individuals and organizations looking for ideas and fresh approaches in serving their research constituencies. **Shared by Ann Smart**



The Fort Dearborn Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, will be continuing our Genealogy Workshops through July. This April, we are excited to welcome back D. Joshua Taylor. On Saturday, April 24th at 10am CDT, Joshua will be presenting his talk on "Strategies to Find & Use Vital Record Substitutes". All our of these workshops are of no charge but registration is required. If you would like to attend, please register at <https://www.dearbornsar.org/rsvp.html>.

Shared by Mary Dean Snelling

**Announcing the 2nd Annual 24-Hour Genealogy Webinar Marathon - April 8-9, 2021 -
Registration now open (and free)**

March 11, 2021



**THE 24-HOUR
GENEALOGY WEBINAR
MARATHON**

April 8-9, 2021



https://familytreewebinars.com/intermediate_page.php?diplay_nm=24

Shared by Mary Dean

OHS Exhibits, Online!

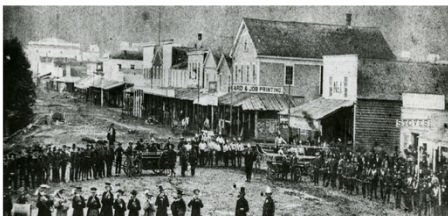


The Oregon Historical Society continues to add to its online exhibit offerings! Visit the website below to view a full list of offerings.

P.S: Click on any photo on the website to enter the exhibit. There are some great exhibits to explore.

Example below---

ohs.org/exhibits



ONLINE EXHIBIT

Portland: A Lot of People Have Lived Here

Call it the Clearing, Stumptown, City of Roses, P-Town, PDX, Ripcity, Bridgetown, or Little Beirut—Portland answers to them all. The city sits on the Willamette River, both sleepy and overwrought, dominating Oregon in population and voting trends. Obama loved it, George H.W. did not, Teddy Roosevelt slept here, and the Queen of Romania stopped by for dinner.



In preparation for becoming a working Society again, take a look at the open positions and think about which one sounds just right for you (and maybe a co-leader, if that sounds good.)

Benton County Genealogical Society
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President: George Davidson, 928-205-2121

Gid1943@gmail.com

Vice President: Kathryn Moss

mosskathryn@gmail.com

Secretary: Debbi White

genodebbi@gmail.com

Treasurer: Lois Courtney

loiscourtney@cmug.com

Appointed Positions

Membership: OPEN

Librarian: OPEN

Programs: OPEN

Historian: OPEN

Photographer: 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

Writers Group: Sue Van Laere

Newsletter Editor: Sue Van Laere

vanlaere@proaxis.com

I have a story I want to tell for next month's newsletter. It's about how my parents, my husband and I met a whole lot of cousins with the help of serendipity!

Maybe some of you have had the same experience of "having good luck in finding something of genealogical value unintentionally."

I hope you will share a little of your story, too.

Deadline is April 27.

Sue



ALMOST SUMMER!

www.riverbendmanor.ca