



DISTANT VOICES

From the BEND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY *& LIBRARY*

February 2022 | Vol. 29 | Num. 2

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➔ **Until Further Notice** ←

Due to COVID-19 and our concern for the health and well-being of everyone in the Bend community, BGS is NOT scheduling in-person meetings or classes. All meetings are on Zoom.

The Library is open by appointment only (see p. 4)

Useful Information in the 1867-1906 Marriage and Divorce Book *by Brad Lemmon*

During Gena Philibert-Ortega's January presentation, "*Wives, Widows, Spinsters and Mistresses: Documenting Women's Relationships*," she mentioned the Census Bureau Special Report, *Marriage and Divorce 1867-1906: Summary, laws, foreign statistics* (Link to book on p. 2). I downloaded it from Google Books (551 pages, 50 MB). It contains statistics and laws for every U.S. state and several foreign countries (Canada, Japan, Russia, and most of Europe). I used the book to shed some light on my maternal grandmother's first marriage/annulment/divorce (even though it occurred after the time range of the book).

My grandmother Grace Langdon and Boyd Yetter, both Scranton, PA, residents, traveled to Binghamton, NY, and were married there on September 12, 1927. Binghamton is 60 miles from Scranton and just over the state line. Grace was 18, Boyd was 20. On the marriage license, they claimed Grace was 20 and Boyd was 21.

Here are the Pennsylvania and New York marriage guidelines from *Marriage and Divorce*:

Pennsylvania *Age at which minors are capable of marrying:*
 No age fixed by statute.
Age below which parental consent is required:
 Males, 21 years; females, 21 years.

New York *Age at which minors are capable of marrying:*
 Prior to February 21, 1887, the age was 14 years for females. Chapter 24, Laws of 1887, approved February 21, 1887, provided that the age of legal consent for contracting marriage should be 18 years in case of males and 16 years in case of females. The act of April 17, 1896, provides that the age of legal consent shall be 18 years for both males and females.
Age below which parental consent is required:
 No express provision.

(Continued on page 2)

My mother only recently told me about my grandmother’s previous marriage, but she knew none of the details. According to my mother, Grace’s father “immediately had the marriage annulled,” so Grace seemingly wouldn’t have gotten the parental marriage approval that Pennsylvania required.

I don’t know if Grace and Boyd ever lived together, but they were each living with their own parents in the 1928 Scranton city directory. Online, I found the marriage records and a newspaper article about Grace’s marriage to my grandfather in 1930 (see clipping). It says “divorced last year,” which would have been 1929, so maybe Grace and Boyd kept the marriage secret for a while.

As far as I can tell, Scranton’s divorce records, probably at the Lackawanna County, PA, Courthouse, are not online anywhere. Someday I hope to go to the courthouse myself, or ask someone else to look for me.

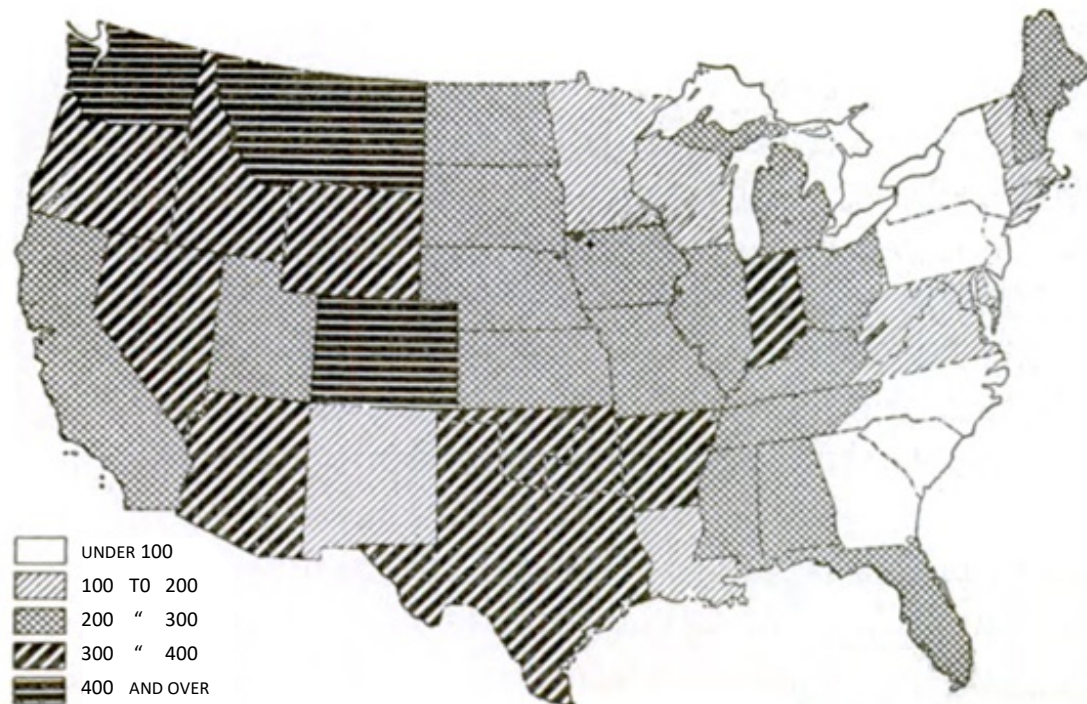


Shamokin News-Dispatch (Shamokin, PA), 11 Apr 1930, p. 7, col. 3, *Newspapers.com*.

There are plenty of interesting historical statistics and graphs in *Marriage and Divorce*, even if you don’t use it for breaking down brick walls. Give it a look. Also, thanks to Catherine Dulzo for asking Gena to clarify the book title during the presentation. [Click here to find *Marriage and Divorce* in Google Books \(free\)](#).

MAP 2.—Average annual number of divorces per 100,000 married population, for states and territories: 1900.

Map 2 is on page 16



BGS BOOK CORNER

By
Sue
Dolezal

CONVERSATIONS WITH BULLWHACKERS, MULESKINNERS, et al.

Voices of the Oregon Territory: Conversations with Bullwhackers Muleskinners Pioneers, Prospectors, '49ers, Indian Fighters, Trappers, ex-Barkeepers, Authors, Preachers, Poets and Near Poets & All Sorts & Conditions of Men was compiled and edited in 1981 by Mike Helm from interviews done by newspaperman Fred Lockley.

Bullwhackers is the second of three volumes of oral histories in Lockley's *Voices of the Oregon Territory Series*.

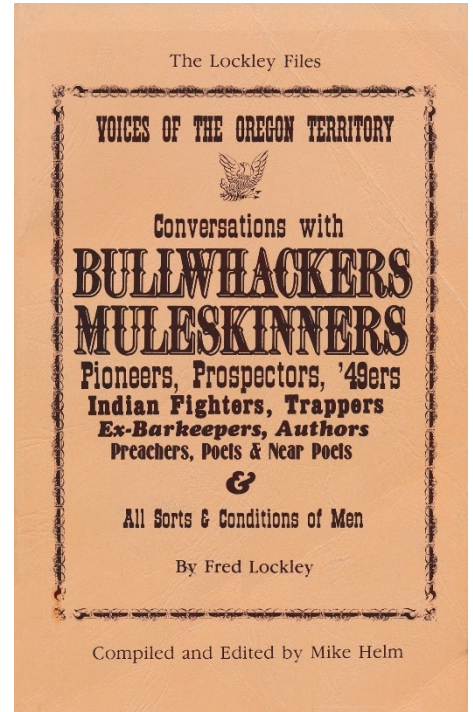
Fred Lockley, a newspaperman who arrived in Oregon in the 1890s, conducted over 10,000 interviews over his career covering just about every type of profession. He was also a prolific writer with many books about pioneer life and settling in the Oregon Territory. In the 1980s, 58 old black binders of his interviews were found wasting away in the Oregon Collection at the University of Oregon Library. Mike Helm compiled them into a 3-volume set.

While I didn't find anything that would help my family or FAN research, this is a book I enjoyed reading like a novel. Some of the stories are quite lively and fun! All of the interviews in this volume were from men from the Willamette Valley and Southwest-

Town, Charles H. 239	Umatilla Reservation 221	-W-
Townsend, Ira S. 104	Umatilla River 43, 64, 320	W. L. Hackstaff (ship) 320
Townsend, Mrs. 174	Umpqua Canyon 148	Waconda, Oregon 252
Trainer, Barney 231	Umpqua, Ore. 6	Wade, W. L. 193
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Tremont Collegiate Institute 167	Uncle Dave 7	Wagon Tire Mountain 280
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Tryon, Joe 237-8	Upper Agency Valley 279	Walden, John 312
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Tualatin Plains 312	Urquides, Jesus K. 248-250	Walker, F. P. 25
Tualatin Valley 281	Utter (nfn) 198	Walker, Mrs. Nancy 78
Tucker, E. E. 76		Walker, H. W. 149
Tule Lake 113		Walker, Mr. 320
Tull, William S. 68		Wallace, Isabella Ray 85
Tumwater, Wn. 38		Wallace, Jim 85
Turnbull place 252		
Turner, George 133		

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understanding of Oregon's beginning. If this book was in my research library, it would be well-used and dog-eared, and possibly held together with rubber bands because of its golden go-to information.



Lockley, Fred. *Voices of the Oregon Territory: Conversations with Bullwhackers, Muleskinners, Pioneers, Prospectors, '49ers, et al.* Compiled and Edited by Mike Helm. Rainy Day Press, 1981. 358 pages.

ern Washington. (Volume 1 of this series is oral histories of women.)

There are some rough and tumble stories, stories of bravery and sacrifice, funny stories and sad stories. The index to names and places is 16 pages of 3 columns per page (see example). Without a doubt, you can find names or places listed quickly, however, I found the accuracy of the page numbers, in a few cases, to be a bit off.

Multiple sketches illustrate the stories throughout the book. You can visualize the interviewee or their situation as you go. For Oregon history, this is one of the better oral history books I have read. Although not for my specific area of the state, I found myself enjoying the stories which gave me a better

Requesting a Library Appointment

APPOINTMENT-ONLY DATES/TIMES

We are asking you to suggest a couple of dates/times that are convenient for you. We will see if we can have a volunteer at the Library on one of the dates.

Please email BGS or use the Appointment form on the BGS website to communicate with us.

Website: bendgenealogy.org

Appointment Form on the website: bendgenealogy.org/Library-Appointments

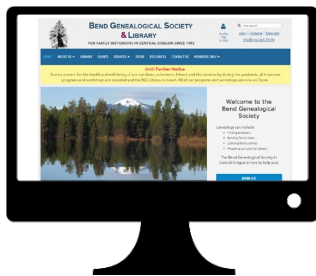
We are hoping you can be flexible about the appointment time. We may have to negotiate with you.

BGS Members can to check out books for 3 weeks at a time.

PROTOCOLS FOR OPENING THE LIBRARY: [Click here to open the Protocols document](#)

Please read the Protocols document. BGS is concerned about the health of everyone. The protocols are intended to allow one or two patrons and the librarian to be in the library and adjoining rec room in a safe manner.

FYI—If snow is heavy on the day of an appointment, we'll let you know if a volunteer cannot get to the Library to open it.



Recorded Videos in the Members-only Section of the BGS website

These are the recordings available now.

→ ***Tame Your Paper Piles: Tips for Organizing Genealogical Documents*** with Gary Putnam and Catherine Dulzo, recorded on 21 Sep 2021. Linda Martin describes her binder system, too.

→ ***Push and Pull: The Reasons for Migration*** with George G. Morgan, recorded 16 Nov 2021. Viewing availability ends 16 Nov 2022.

→ ***Sharing Genealogy Stories and Heirlooms*** with BGS members, recorded 21 Dec 2021.

→ ***Wives, Widows, Spinsters and Mistresses: Documenting Women's Relationships*** with Gena Philibert-Ortega, recorded 18 Jan 2022. Viewing availability ends 18 Mar 2022.

If you are a paid member of BGS, log-into our website, bendgenealogy.org with your email and password, and Members Only will appear on the Toolbar. Select Videos from the Members Only dropdown. Then, select the link to the video you want to view. It plays on YouTube.

If the presentation had a Handout or a Chat Log, there are links to them as well.

A World of Clues: Using County Histories to Find Your Family

Third Tuesday – February 15 – 10:00 am (Pacific) – BGS Zoom Meeting (free)

Everyone is invited to the Presentation
by Mary Kircher Roddy, C.G.



Hundreds of county histories were created in the late 19th and early 20th century. Learn where to find these books, and use them to explore your ancestor's life and community. Even if your ancestor wasn't featured in a biographical sketch, a county history can be a great resource for discovering your ancestor's story.

Mary Kircher Roddy, CG, lectures at regional and national events on methodology and unique ways to search. She has written for national journals and mag

Registration is Required! [Click this link to go to the BGS Website and Register](#)

After registering, the Zoom link will be emailed to you.

- *Don't panic when the Zoom link is not visible immediately when you open the email. Scroll down—the Zoom link is at the bottom of the email. See you on February 15.*

Later in February



German Interest Group on Zoom – Sandy Thompson, facilitator

- Get together for an hour or so with others who are researching German ancestors. Share your successes and websites you've found; discuss your research with others. It's amazing how much new eyes looking at records or problems can help.
- **Proposed Date/Time: Wed, Feb 23 at 1:00 pm (Pacific Time)** Please email BGS if you're interested **by Feb. 10**, including your choice date and time. If Feb 23 is not possible for enough participants, I can change the date/time; evenings could be okay, too. After the final date/time is determined, the Zoom meeting will be scheduled. Email your interest and preference to: info@bendgenealogy.org

Coming in March

Bridging the Gap: Finding Ancestors in the United States Between 1780 and 1840

Third Tuesday – March 15 – 10:00 am (Pacific) – BGS Zoom Meeting (free)

Are you tracing an ancestor between 1780 and 1840? Explore numerous records and methodologies to assist in tracing families during the Federal period, since this can be especially challenging period to establish family connections.



D. Joshua
Taylor,
MA, MLS

TIDBITS FROM THE WEB

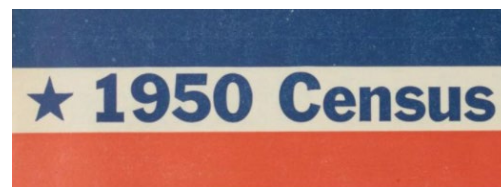


RootsTech 2022 is Coming Up on March 3rd to 5th. Just like last year, the entire event is FREE for everyone around the world. A million people registered last year. Maybe there will be more this year. There are keynote speakers, unlimited access to a new set of 1,500 educational sessions to choose from, and an Expo Hall with companies from around the world.

Registration is required: [Click here for the RootsTech Registration Page](#)

Connecting to your own relatives around the world through RootsTech is an amazing experience. **REGISTER TODAY** and put March 3rd-5th on your calendar. Sign into RootsTech with your FamilySearch account and Connect!

The 1950 U.S. Census will be online on April 1, 2022. Read about the release of the Census at the [National Archives News](#). It will be online entirely free at a dedicated 1950 Census website at the National Archives. The release will also include an OCR-generated name search function on day one. Complete indexing by Ancestry, FamilySearch, MyHeritage and other online sites will take a few months to complete.

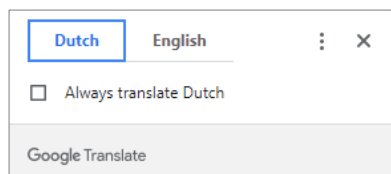


Stephen Morse, developer of the [One-Step Webpages](#), is already prepared for the 1950 Census. On his site, you can find a recorded presentation, [Getting Ready for the 1950 Census, Searching with and without a Name Index](#). He explains how to find Enumeration District (ED) numbers for millions of local addresses in the United States. If the initial OCR search fails to find your family, search for them manually in the appropriate ED. The [One-Step Unified Census ED Finder](#) can usually identify the one ED (or maybe two) by address. Searching through one or two EDs by hand is do-able. The 1950 ED Finder is already to go right now. All ED descriptions are in the database. I've already found the ED in Portland for my grandparent's house. The surname, Stromgren, usually confuses OCR even if the census taker spelled it somewhat correctly.

Even after the big websites complete their indexing, One-Step can still help you. If you don't find your ancestor's name, search directories or other records to find a possible 1950 address, and use the Steve Morse's ED finder to identify the ED to manually search. You might find your lost ancestor using the ED Finder, when all else fails.

Holland America Line

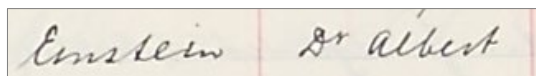
If you suspect your ancestor may have sailed to America on the Holland America Line from Rotterdam, a new database of passenger lists is now available online for free. It took volunteers 3 years to digitize about 150,000 handwritten passenger lists for the period 1900 to 1969 that had only been available for in-person research. [Click here for a Dutch News article about the digitization project](#). To search the archive, [Click here](#). Change the view from Table view to Detail view to access the scans.



When using Google and a foreign website does not come in English, right-click and select Translate to English. If English does not have a blue box around it, click on English, and the website page will be translated, sometimes not perfectly, but good enough for understanding the site. If a foreign website offers its own translation options to various languages, always use the

website's translation options and the translation will usually be much better than Google.

I searched for Albert Einstein's name and he's there. He started in Basel and sailed from Rotterdam on the Veendam on 10 Feb 1937.



MORE TIDBITS FROM THE WEB



Genealogical Forum of Oregon (GFO) House

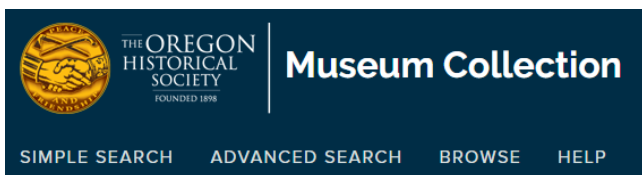
The GFO Virtual Open House is entirely FREE. There are 23 different classes being offered this year from March 26 to April 2. Each class requires its own advance registration.

[Click here for the Open House Flyer](#) and see the dates and times of all the classes on one page.

Three of the class titles are: *Navigating Hispanic Church Records; Finding German Church Records at Archion and Matricula; and Genealogy Problems Solvers SIG (Learn how the GFO's Problem Solver team approaches brick walls).*

[Click here for the GFO Open House webpage.](#) All 23 classes are listed, each with its own registration link.

Find a Will in the U.K. Ellen Thompson-Jennings, the Family History Hound on the Hunt, posted [I Bought My 4x GGfather's Will](#) on her blog on 23 Jan 2022, which documents her story about trying to purchase a will for her 4x GGfather, who died in 1858 in Wiltshire, England. One lesson in the post is to check your Spam (or Junk) folder for messages. She was successful and you might be, too. If you have an ancestor in the U.K. who had a will you'd like to purchase, you can order it [HERE](#).



The Oregon Historical Society (OHS) has launched a new [Museum Collection Portal](#) for its collection. The Society's museum preserves thousands and thousands of objects that document Oregon history. The current portal only includes a portion of the collection, but more records

are being added regularly. If you have Oregon ancestors, the Oregon Historical Society might have something that would be interesting to you and the new portal is one way to access information. The home page of the Oregon Historical Society is found at: <https://www.ohs.org/>. The website states that the Research Library is scheduling appointments now for in-person research and that there is no charge for admission to the Library.

Oregon State Archives – Early Oregonians Database.

This database includes approximately 101,000 settlers living in Oregon from 1800 to 1860. Certainly there were large populations of Native Americans in the Oregon Territory before 1840, but documentation is not available. [Click here for an introduction to the database.](#) To search the Early Oregonian Database, [click here](#). If you have an early Oregon ancestor and he/she is in the database, you might see date and location of birth and death, parents names, marriage date and spouse, census events, etc.



Historical Trademark Search.

If your Oregon family may have trademarked a product or business, you might find the trademark in the [Historical Trademark Search](#) at the State Archives. It would be fun to find one. None of my ancestors were that successful.



BGS FUNDRAISERS

Help support your Bend Genealogical Society when you shop!

From 1 Jun to 14 Dec 2021, BGS earned **\$79.09** from the fundraisers below.
Let's see if we can top \$200 this year! — We earn the most money from Fred Meyer.



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 regular Amazon login and password, but login at [AmazonSmile](#). You can change your charity of choice any time in AmazonSmile in the Supporting drop-down next to All once you're 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 and use **Good Search** or **Good Shop**.



- It's likely BGS will end this FY in the red. Building back our membership is slow after the long COVID closure.
- If you choose to, please log-into our [website](#) to support BGS and donate with a credit card.
- All donations are appreciated.

Bend Genealogical Society Financial Status

Year-to-date 21-22 FY (as of 19 Jan 2022)
Total Membership: 81 FY ends 31 May

Total Cash Assets	\$ 24,892.93
*Dues Income (76 new or renewals)	\$ 1,490.00
Other Income	\$ 901.78
YTD Total Income	\$ 2,391.78
YTD Total Expenses	\$ 2,529.08

*6 Memberships Lapsed

**BEND
GENEALOGICAL
&
RESEARCH
LIBRARY**



We want to help you

JOIN THE FUN TODAY!

Your membership year now runs for one year from the time you join or renew and is no longer tied to the BGS fiscal year.

[Open the paper membership application](#)

Or go to the secure BGS website and join online with your credit card: [bendgenealogy.org](#)

Renew Today

Join Today!

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

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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.