



DISTANT VOICES

From the BEND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY & LIBRARY

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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 right now. All meetings are on Zoom.

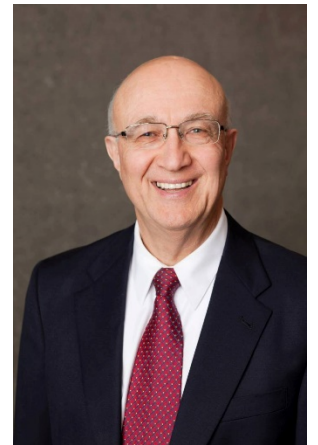
We are assessing the situation and will announce when in-person/hybrid events might be able to occur. The BGS Library is open by appointment only (see p. 4)

My Genealogical Journey

by Gary D. Putnam

When I began my genealogical research at the early age of 17, very little was known regarding the histories of either my paternal or maternal families. Fortunately, all four of my grandparents were still living and I was able to acquire and record what limited information they possessed. Of course, I didn't know how to conduct genealogical research. I bought a book entitled *Know Your Ancestors* by Ethel W. Williams* which taught me the rudiments. I sent away for the death certificates of my paternal great-grandparents who died in the early 1900s in Pennsylvania; but when I received those certificates they appeared to lead to dead ends.

In the mid-1960s, I was living in Washington, DC, working in the Congress, so had access to the Library of Congress, the National Archives and the extensive DAR Library. I drove one weekend to Binghamton, New York, to visit my grandfather's nephew who had retained family records and conducted limited research of his own during the 1920s. I copied all of his records, including notes of his interviews with then-elderly family members and transcriptions from now-lost family bibles. He also had a copy of a letter written in the 1880s that provided the names of my second- third- and fourth-great-grandfathers. At the National Archives, I was able to read the original pension records of my fourth-great-grandfather, Thomas Putnam, the Revolutionary War Patriot Ancestor for my SAR membership (I have 16 known direct ancestors who were Revolutionary War Veterans).



Gary D. Putnam

Using census, land, probate and town records as well as county and town histories, I was able to steadily extend most of my genealogical lines back to the immigrant ancestors and further to Europe for some families. I ordered many Family History Society microfilms and made numerous research trips to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. As I made business trips to various locations in the United States, I visited libraries with large genealogical collections and met with other researchers with whom I had come in contact.

After Odette and I were married, I interviewed all her elderly relatives to obtain information regarding their families. We took trips to New England and Old England to visit the sites where our ancestors had once lived. I like to say that our two sons grew up believing that a family vacation was to be spent prowling through old cemeteries, copying tombstone inscriptions!

(Continued on page 2)

The availability of DNA evidence in recent years has assisted me in developing new lines and confirming hypothetical relationships for which documentary evidence is sparse or non-existent.

Today I have almost 30,000 living and deceased persons comprising more than 13,000 families in my private RootsMagic database. My public RootsMagic database, which I upload to online sites, includes only deceased individuals, and contains more than 22,000 persons representing 9,500 families. I maintain public databases on Ancestry, RootsWeb and My Heritage. I have uploaded more than 900 family photographs to my Ancestry family tree, some of them from as early as the mid-1800s.

I have written eight lengthy books detailing the histories of my families, my wife's families and the families of a daughter-in-law. One of my books entitled *Putnams At War* contains the World War II letters of my father and uncle together with explanatory material regarding the campaigns in which they participated. Another book consists of all the non-public documents that are keys to our genealogies. My books have been revised and updated as new information has become available. They have been copyrighted, and are in the collections of the Library of Congress, as well as the New England Historic Genealogical Society and the Family History Library.

In keeping with my legal training, I always have placed a great emphasis on sources and citations. All my books and online databases contain source citations for each factual element set forth. I believe that it is extremely important to underpin genealogical data with sources, and that statements that are unsourced are useful only as possible hints and not to be regarded as facts. I am constantly being confronted with questionable, unsourced and often patently false "research," particularly in this internet age.

My purpose in creating my public online databases and books has been to ensure that all the genealogical research I have performed will be preserved for future generations. Recently, I wrote two more books intended to be read only by close family members. One is called "*Our Family Story*" and presents the histories of our families in a more-abbreviated format with emphasis on recent generations. The second is entitled simply "*Memoir*" and provides details regarding the lives of Odette and me.

Throughout my lifetime of genealogical activity, I have been able to assist many other researchers, both individually and through group workshops and mentoring sessions. I conduct a lively correspondence with genealogists in the United States, Canada, Australia and Europe. I have been rewarded by seeing others solve their relationship puzzles and develop their family histories.



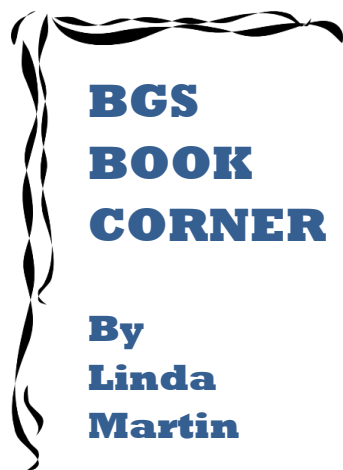
Gary's paternal great-grandparents, Francis Emery & Theodosia Victoria (Graves) Putnam, and their 12 living children of 16 total. Gary's grandfather, Louis Lamont Putnam, is in the back row on the far right.

(Continued on page 3)

It has been a great privilege for me to serve as a director of our Bend Genealogical Society for four years and as your president during the past two years. I will be stepping down from those leadership roles in May; but I will remain an active member of BGS and hope to make continuing contributions to Central Oregon genealogy through educational and mentoring programs.

Gary D. Putnam

Thank You Gary, from everyone in the Bend Genealogical Society. We are grateful for your strong leadership during the last six years, but especially during these two years of pandemic restrictions on activities. You helped us navigate how to keep going and continue offering education to genealogists near and far. We look forward to hearing about your next adventures!



THE OLD FAMILIES OF SALISBURY & AMESBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

The Old Families of Salisbury and Amesbury, Massachusetts by David W. Hoyt is a gem in the BGS Library, because there are three volumes and a supplement complete in one book. In 1982, the three volumes were reprinted in one volume by the Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc. However, the three volumes were actually printed much earlier.

Volume I was printed in five parts between 1897 and 1899. Volume II was printed in 6 parts between 1902 and 1905. Volume III was printed in one part in 1916 and the supplement to Vol III was printed in 1919.

In addition to genealogical information, this hard cover book has a small amount of history of Salisbury and Amesbury. Volume I includes some related families of Newbury, Haverhill, Ipswich and Hampton. Vol II and III includes related families of towns and in York County, Maine.

All volumes have a general index, an index of places and an index of surnames. Included in each volume are additions and corrections. It would be nice if there was a table of contents so that one would know where to find each of the three volumes. However, on the back of the title page there are numbers which indicate where each volume begins. Because this is a used book, there is some underlining, highlighting and notes. Perhaps, you'll find some ancestors from Salisbury and Amesbury, Massachusetts.

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF AMERICAN COUNTY HISTORIES

Last month, Mary Kircher Roddy, recommended *A Bibliograph of American County Histories* by P. William Filby, as one source where you can find titles of County History books. Brad Lemmon checked it out for FREE at Internet Archive and reports that it lists the titles of about 7,200 books. You can check it out for an hour at a time after logging into the site. If you don't have an Internet Archive account, click SIGN UP at the top of the page and create one. [Click here to go to the page with Filby's book.](#)

If you like looking through printed pages, the BGS Library has a copy of *A Bibliography of American County Histories* by Filby on the shelves.

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

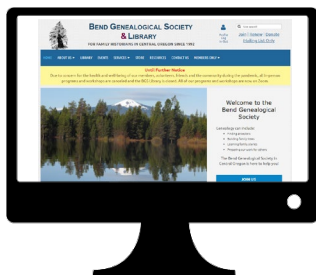
We are hoping you can be flexible about the appointment time. We may have to negotiate with you.

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.**
- ➔ ***A World of Clues: Using County Histories to Find Your Family***, recorded 15 Feb 2022. **Viewing availability ends 3 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.

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)

Presentation by D. Joshua Taylor, MA, MLS



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 an especially challenging period to establish family connections.

D. Joshua Taylor, MA, MLS, is a nationally known genealogical speaker and author and specializes in New England and New York families. He is the President of the NY Genealogical & Biographical Society and hosted the Genealogy Roadshow on PBS.

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 March 15.*

Thursday, March 10 at 10:00 AM on Zoom (free)

MY TRUE ANCESTRY

My True Ancestry is a website that reveals your links to ancient civilizations or historical figures. It has a large database of samples of ancient DNA from persons who lived hundreds or thousands of years ago throughout the world, and compares the samples to your uploaded DNA test results.

Gary Putnam will facilitate this workshop utilizing his and his wife's *My True Ancestry* test results to illustrate what can be learned about your ancient past from your DNA. For example, are you related to ancient Romans, Greeks, Lombards Vikings or several other ancient civilizations?

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

Wednesday, March 30 at 4:00 PM on Zoom (free)



German Interest Group – Sandy Thompson, facilitator

Get together for an hour or so with others who are researching German ancestors. Jim Kleinschmidt will share his technique for finding locations in Germany and beyond, such as in Bohemia or other areas in Europe. Learn many tips for locating elusive villages.

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

3rd Tuesday, April 19 at 10:00 AM

Right now, unknown if Zoom-only or Hybrid

Stories from Rancho de Santa Manuela, Arroyo Grande, California

Presentation by Susan Agli, DAR & Descendant of Early California Spanish Pioneers

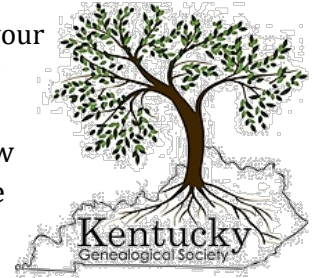
Hear pioneer stories about Susan's 3x great-grandmother, who traveled on horseback to San Luis Obispo in the 1800s with husband and children to their newly Mexican-granted 17,000 acres to build a home.

TIDBITS FROM THE WEB



RootsTech 2022 is Happening on March 3rd, 4th and 5th. The entire event is virtual and FREE for everyone around the world. A million people registered last year. There are keynote speakers, unlimited access to 1,500+ new on-demand educational classes, and an Expo Hall with special deals from companies from around the world. You can register now or anytime during the live days. All the classes are available for FREE viewing for many months after the event, too. [Click here for the RootsTech Registration and Log-In Page](#)

Finding Your Celtic Ancestors, a webinar series in March. Researching your Irish and Scottish ancestors? Struggling to piece together these branches of your family tree? The Kentucky Genealogical Society is presenting a five-part series in March featuring leading educators for only \$40.00 (non-members). You will be able to view all the sessions on-demand for one month after the live event, too. Session dates are March 7, March 15, March 19 and March 26. [Click here](#) to see the topics for the five sessions, the speakers, the times on each date, and register for the event.



Genealogical Forum of Oregon (GFO) Open House. This virtual event 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.

Three of the class titles are: *Family Tree Maker Tips & Techniques for Media and People Workspace; Finding Your Polish Ancestors; Great White North 101-Canadian Genealogy); and 20 other great topics!*

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

Historic Images From Carmel, Indiana Are Online Now. Through a partnership between the city of Carmel (just north of Indianapolis) and the Carmel Clay Historical Society over 1,000 historic photos are freely available for viewing. [Click here to read about the partnership](#) and [Click here to go to the online collection.](#) The “Random Images” selection illustrates the wide variety of images in the collection.



The Deschutes Historical Museum has thousands of photos in its holdings as well, and a portion of the collection is online. [Click here for the Photo Collection page.](#) Excellent search functions and has “Random Images,” too.

Maybe there is an online image collection for the area where your ancestors lived. Use your browser of choice to search for possibilities. Collections might be at Historical Societies/Museums, Cities, State Archives, Libraries, or Universities. The list is endless. Try the search phrase: Historic photos of place name and see what comes up.



The Story of the 1950 Census P8 Indian Reservation Schedule. [This long blog post](#), dated 25 Jan 2022, from the National Archives includes many record examples of the P8 form and questions. While every Native American was enumerated on Form P1 (Census of Population and Housing), which was used across the entire US, Form P8 was not used on every reservation. It's interesting reading. The P8 schedules will be released in April via the same [Archives' 1950 census web page](#), where the rest of the schedules will be.

MORE TIDBITS FROM THE WEB



He saw a man in a 4-second news clip – who turned out to be the brother he never knew he had. In this [Washington Post article](#) from 11 Feb 2022, the story of a serendipitous moment is told. It's likely impossible to calculate the odds of the incredible result of one 4-second news clip. This story by Cathy Free will make you smile, and no DNA are tests involved.



Blog Post: How Ancestry.com's Find A Grave Encourages Bad Actors and

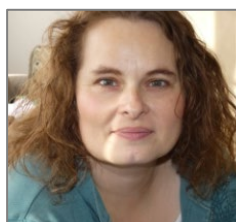
Bad Data. Brad Lemmon found this [blog post dated 5 Aug 2019](#), written by Katie Reid, which is sub-titled, "By glamifying memorials, FindAGrave.com became a Wild West for chronicling the dead." Brad felt the title is a bit darker than the overall content of the blog and recommends it as a thought-provoking read. The writer interviewed several memorial creators for the post: "one Florida man I spoke with has single-handedly

documented the death of over 3 million people on the platform."

This post was written 3 years ago, and FindAGrave has been modifying its policies lately, which improves some issues, but probably not all. Certainly we've all found mistakes on FindAGrave and requested to have them fixed. Many times the fix happens quickly, which is nice. As genealogists, we understand that FindAGrave and sites like it are a secondary source of information, and using them for hints is the best use of a secondary source. Katie does end the post on a personal, positive note, unlike the title.

"History remembers only the celebrated, genealogy remembers them all."

*Quote from
Laurence Overmire,
an American poet, author,
actor and genealogist,
born in New York in 1957.*



Find Lost Russian & Ukranian Family,

subtitled "Uncovering the secrets of finding family and records in the former USSR," is the blog of Vera Ivanova Miller, who is sharing what she learns while researching her own family. The [Lost Russian & Ukranian Family site](#) is more than just a blog. There is a Beginner's Guide and all sorts of helpful links to many specialized databases for researching lost Russian or Ukrainian

Family, in addition to Vera's two books. It's worth exploring all the category links at the top of the website.

[New Ukrainian database breaks down a brick wall on Christmas morning](#) is Vera's blog post on 25 Dec 2021. She describes the database and gives directions for using it without knowing Ukrainian. I bookmarked the site intending to get back to it. The database is from the City of Kyiv archives. The links do not connect to Kyiv today.

Will records be lost during the current Russian invasion? Certainly billions of records have been lost through centuries of military actions throughout the world, so if the records noted in Vera's the blog are lost, it won't be first time it's happened. It would be sad for genealogists, but the loss of lives of Ukrainians and Russians will be devastating for their families. The loss of records can't be compared to the loss of lives.

Bend Genealogical Society (BGS) Leadership Council

President:	Gary Putnam, retiring	We need help	Director:	Sherry Hamilton, <i>not active</i>
Vice President:	<i>Vacant</i>	managing	Director:	<i>Vacant</i>
Secretary:	Brad Lemmon	BGS.	Council:	Linda Martin, Library
Treasurer:	Sandy Thompson	Can you help?	Council:	Sue Dolezal, Communications
Past VP:	Catherine Dulzo, retiring		Council:	Sharon Freeman, Finance

BGS FUNDRAISERS

Help support your Bend Genealogical Society when you shop!

From 1 Jun 2021 to 16 Feb 2022, BGS earned **\$104.68** from the fundraisers below. Let's see if we can top \$150 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 16 Feb 2022)
Total Membership: 86 FY ends 31 May

Total Cash Assets	\$ 24,927.85
*Dues Income (83 new or renewals)	\$ 1,590.00
Other Income	\$ 1,067.76
YTD Total Income	\$ 2,657.76
YTD Total Expenses	\$ 3,117.89

*6 Memberships Lapsed

**BEND
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&
RESEARCH
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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

Website: bendgenealogy.org — Email: info@bendgenealogy.org

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.