

From President George

Welcome to fall. Enjoy the warm afternoons and cooler nights.

I hope to see you
Saturday the 8th.
George



Benton County Genealogical Society

NEWSLETTER



Located in Philomath, Oregon
founded in 1971 in Corvallis, Oregon

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<https://www.bcg-s-oregon.org>

I'd like to let you know that I'll be stepping down from the Library Chair position. I've loved the nine years that I had the privilege to help care for this library.

One of the best parts was getting to know so many people. Every time we had a project to do, members were right there to help. The first project was to move all the books and bookshelves from the front room to the upstairs room and the other library room downstairs. Upstairs involved getting shelves up the stairs and fixed to the walls. Carrying loads of heavy boxes up the stairs and getting the books in the proper place was challenging. Downstairs, we moved hundreds of books to fit the new ones in the proper places. **So many members worked on this project.**

I wish we had taken photos.

Other times we worked together to keep the library in good shape

- The volunteer librarians faithfully kept the library open two times a week, and when they didn't have visitors, they worked on projects.
- We spent many hours together deciding which parts of the collection were no longer needed and were removed from the database. They were offered to the members for a small donation.
- Over the years there were large donations that needed to be accessioned.
- We repaired books, updated the contents of the two Vertical Files, and much more.
- Doing the yearly (now every other year) inventory of the library holdings was a big job.
- And many other things!

P.S. We'll still need help to finish putting the accession number and category on the book spines to make it easier to find the book you want.

There's more to say, but I'll stop here. Just know that I appreciate all of you. I'll be ready to answer questions for Liza Wilson who is taking the position. Thank you, Liza!

A favorite saying: *Many Hands Make Light Work!*

Thank You, Sue Van Laere

Open Library Changes

Our Library will be open to members and the public after our monthly meetings. (the 2nd Saturday in the month)

If you would like to use the Library during the month, contact Lois (loiscourtney@cmug.com or cell 541-760-0405.

Reminder: our website has the complete inventory of our wonderful Library.

IT'S OCTOBER TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

TWO WAYS TO RENEW

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT MEETINGS.

OR

A FORM IS ON OUR WEBSITE (SEE ABOVE). CLICK ON 'MEMBERSHIP, SCROLL DOWN TO "CLICK HERE TO ACCESS MEMBERSHIP FORM"

MEMBERSHIP IS \$20.00 PER YEAR

THIS IS FAMILY HISTORY MONTH

The Hall family of Blodgett, Benton County, Oregon

This Hall family story begins with Henry Clarence Hall. He was born at North Plains, Washington County, Oregon, August 5, 1869. His parents, Harry and Martha Davis Hall, crossed the plains to Oregon by ox team and were among the early pioneers settling Washington County, Oregon. Henry Hall farmed and logged so I assume that his parents did the same.

I wonder how Henry and Laura met since they were from different states. The counties where they lived were close together but separated by the Columbia River. Laura Myrtle Jenkins Hall was raised and educated in the same place where she was born in Silver Lake, Cowlitz County, Washington, December 9, 1880. Her parents were Samuel and Ella Davis Jenkins who raised Laura and at least three sons. On July 2, 1900, Henry C. Hall married Laura Jenkins and they continued to reside in Washington County until 1911 when they came to Benton County and farmed at Blodgett. In 1926 the couple moved to Corvallis.

Their oldest children, Twila, Forest (Bus) and Truman, were born in Washington and the three youngest children, Darline, Byrdee, and Samuel, were born in Benton County or Westport, Oregon. The children attended the Blodgett one room school house that is listed in the book "When School Bells Rang" by Marlene McDonald. (See two memorabilia photos of children including some of the Hall children standing in front of the Blodgett school about 1920 or earlier.)

Six children were born to Henry C. and Laura M. Hall:

1. Twila Myrtle Hall b. 1902 Olander, WA, d. 1969 OR, m. Oren Davis 10 June 1919, lived in Blodgett and operated a general store until 1964 when they retired and moved to Woodburn Senior Estates. Their son, Weldon "Pete" Davis b. 1922, joined the Marines, m. Harriet Scoville, and lived in Toledo at the time of his mother's death in 1969. Weldon and Harriet had at least two sons: Petey and Jackie Davis.

2. Forest Clifford (Bus) b. 8 Sept 1903 Ostrander, Cowlitz Co., WA, d. 26 Dec 1982 Benton Co., OR, buried Drain -Yoncalla Masonic Cemetery, Douglas Co., OR, beside wife Macel Stock Hall, b. 1910 d. 1997, m. 1928 in Eugene, OR. 1940 census lists Forest as owner of a sawmill, residence Blodgett, OR. The 1950 census for Corvallis, Oregon, lists him as a truck driver for an oil Company. Macel's occupation was listed as a waitress at a restaurant. Laura Jenkins Hall was living with them at this time and her occupation is listed as mending for a laundry. Their address in the 1950 census was 421 S. 8th St., Corvallis, OR.

3. Truman Henry b. 1907, Kelso, WA, d. 30 June 1948 Portland, OR, buried Oak Lawn Memorial Park, Corvallis, OR. m. Mildred M. 1930 census: Truman is listed as single, occupation: truck driver for Lumber Co. In 1935 he and his wife, Mildred, lived at Richmond, Contra Costa, CA. 1940 census: he is listed with wife Mildred 29 yrs, b. estimated 1911, Truman is 32 yrs, occupation is logging foreman in the Seattle Election precinct, King County, Washington. In October 1944 Truman is listed as a mechanic on a Voter Registration form with a Troutdale, Oregon address. After Truman's death, Mildred appears in the 1950 census as a widow, 39 yrs, occupation grade school teacher in Portland, Oregon.

4. Darline Martha b. 1912, Westport, OR, d. 2000 Salem, OR, m. Bill Coon 1935, Corvallis, OR. Both are buried at Belcrest Cemetery, Salem, Oregon. Darline attended a one room school house in Blodgett with her siblings and lived on a farm in Blodgett until her family moved to Corvallis in 1926. (See photos of her in two school group photos mostly likely taken in front of the Blodgett one room school house). In the 1930 census she is listed as a waitress in a lunch room. Her mother Laura is listed as a seamstress for a laundry. In 1935 Darline and her husband, Bill Coon, moved to Portland where Bill managed one of the first Safeway stores. In 1939, they moved to Salem and operated a market and restaurant, "The Top Hat", on State St., Salem, OR, until Bill's death in 1951 at age 47. Darline cared for her husband in their home in Salem through his lengthy illness.

After her husband passed away, Darline put her clerical skills to work and was hired at the Department of Motor Vehicles. She put together the first law enforcement data manual, which was used by local, state and federal agencies to obtain information on driving records. She trained various law enforcement agencies throughout Oregon and traveled to Washington D.C. to train the FBI in use of the manual.

She married Harold Waterbury, a sheep farmer, in 1958. Her two sons, Ronald Coon of Salem, Gerald Coon of Silverton and brother, Samuel Hall of Keizer survived her.

[My great Uncle Bill Coon accomplished a lot in his short lifetime:

Arid William "Bill" Coon operated the Auto Park grocery in Corvallis about 1925 when he was barely 20 yrs. Then he operated two Hamburger Inns near OAC, (OSU) close to 12th St., Corvallis. He married Darline Hall in 1935, moved to Portland and started a successful career first managing a new Safeway store and then moving to Salem and operating "The Top Hat" restaurant. LO]

Continues page 4

5. **Byrdee Murial**, b. 1914 Blodgett, OR, d. 1978, Corvallis, OR, m. Don Cameron in 1924, b. 1908 d. 1980. Her sister, Darline Martha Hall, witnessed their wedding in Vancouver, Washington. Byrdee and her husband are buried at Oak Lawn Cemetery in Corvallis, OR.

Following their marriage, they moved to Corvallis and lived there until 1976, when they moved to Waldport on the Oregon Coast. She worked in several cleaners businesses and Van Buren Street cleaners in Corvallis until retiring in 1973. She was a member of the Corvallis Women of the Moose. Her husband and son, Richard D. Cameron of Shedd, Oregon, survived her as well as brothers Forest Hall, Corvallis, Sam Hall, Salem; sister, Darline Martha Hall Coon Waterbury, Salem, and two grandchildren.

6. **Samuel Lyman** b. 1917 Blodgett, OR, d. 27 Aug. 2005, m. Pearl E. Reed May 1945. His sister, Darline Hall Coon, witnessed their wedding also. Sam was discharged from the Navy August 15, 1951. In the 1930 census: Sam is living with his family in Corvallis. By the 1940 census, Laura Hall, his mother is the head of household and Sam is 22 yrs. Laura's occupation is mending for a laundry and Sam is a laborer in a lumber mill. They are living at 343 N. 8th St. Corvallis. They lived in the same place in 1935. In 1930 the Hall family was no doubt living in a larger house with parents and more children at home. Their address in 1930 was 535 S. 14th St., Corvallis.

Sources:

Obituaries & Memorial Record booklet

Censuses

Family Search

Family group sheets

Personal information, "When School Bells Rang"



Ron, Darline, Bill Coon

Researched by Linda Olsen 541-929-3843

Memorabilia from Gerald "Jerry" Coon, son of Darline and Bill Coon

September 18, 2022



MORE FAMILY HISTORY MONTH

HOW DID WW 2 AFFECT MY FATHER, HIS FAMILY, AND TOWN?

At 19 years old, my Dad received his registration card for Selective Service on June 30, 1942, while he was living with his parents in Lexington, Nebraska. He went to the Court House and signed up the same day.

Sometime between July and December, he made his way to Willows, California, where his older brother, Claude, and sister lived. I believe he went by train because the only time he could have met our mother on a train was at that time. That story is for later.

Dad enlisted in the Army Air Corps in Sacramento, California, on December 13, 1942. Claude had already enlisted in the U.S Army Signal Corp in November 13, 1942.

P.S. I already had many of the details, but putting them all together has made me realize that I have more work to do to make this a good story! I found explanations of what age men had to be to register and when they would probably be drafted.

That helped me somewhat understand why both Dad and Claude enlisted when they did.



Bill Winkler, Private? 1942

Selective Training and Service Act of 1940

“The Selective Training and Service Act of 1940, also known as the Burke-Wadsworth Act, enacted September 16, 1940, was the first peacetime conscription in United States history. This Selective Service Act required that men who had reached their 21st birthday but had not yet reached their 36th birthday register with local draft boards. Later, when the U.S. entered World War II, all men from their 18th birthday until the day before their 45th birthday were made subject to military service, and all men from their 18th birthday until the day before their 65th birthday were required to register.”



President [Franklin D. Roosevelt](#) signs the Selective Training and Service Act.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Selective_Training_and_Service_Act_of_1940

Shared by Sue Van Laere

Suggestion

If you've found something new about an ancestor, other members would like to hear about it in the newsletter. It's a good way to help members find new ways to conquer the brick wall!

Thanks for helping to keep the newsletter interesting.

List of open positions

Membership:

Greet people and collect names at the monthly meeting. Keep track of new members.

Historian:

Insert newsletter, obituaries, pictures, special events into the society notebook.

Library Chair(s):

Accession and de-accession materials, attend board meetings once a month, oversee projects, write a short article each month for the newsletter.

Society Photographer:

Take photos at events, especially of swearing-in of officers and speakers, send photos to newsletter editor and society historian.

Programs Committee (need two to three volunteers):

Select, arrange for, organize, and execute programs for general meetings.

Contact President George at bcsor@gmail.com and he will direct you to the right person for information about the position you're interested in. Thanks for doing your part!

You can send to me:

vanlaere@proaxis.com

Benton County Genealogical Society

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Treasurer: Lois Courtney

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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: OPEN

Publicity: Lois Courtney

Library Volunteers: Lois Courtney

Writers Group: Sue Van Laere

Newsletter Editor: Sue Van Laere



<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/family-history-linkls-169025792239239504>