

KING FOLK

Newsletter # 32

King Family Association

Published April 2013

KING FOLK REUNION
SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2013
9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

KINGS VALLEY CHARTER SCHOOL
38840 KINGS VALLEY HIGHWAY
(IN THE GYM AT BACK OF SCHOOL)

The morning session is a workshop. Please bring King family material to share. Pictures are especially wanted and may be scanned to our CD's. (see info. in newsletter) Perhaps you will discover a new relative, or be able to assist someone else with their research. A copy machine will be available to use free of charge. Coffee and donuts provided.

NOTE: A group photo will be taken at 11:45 a.m.

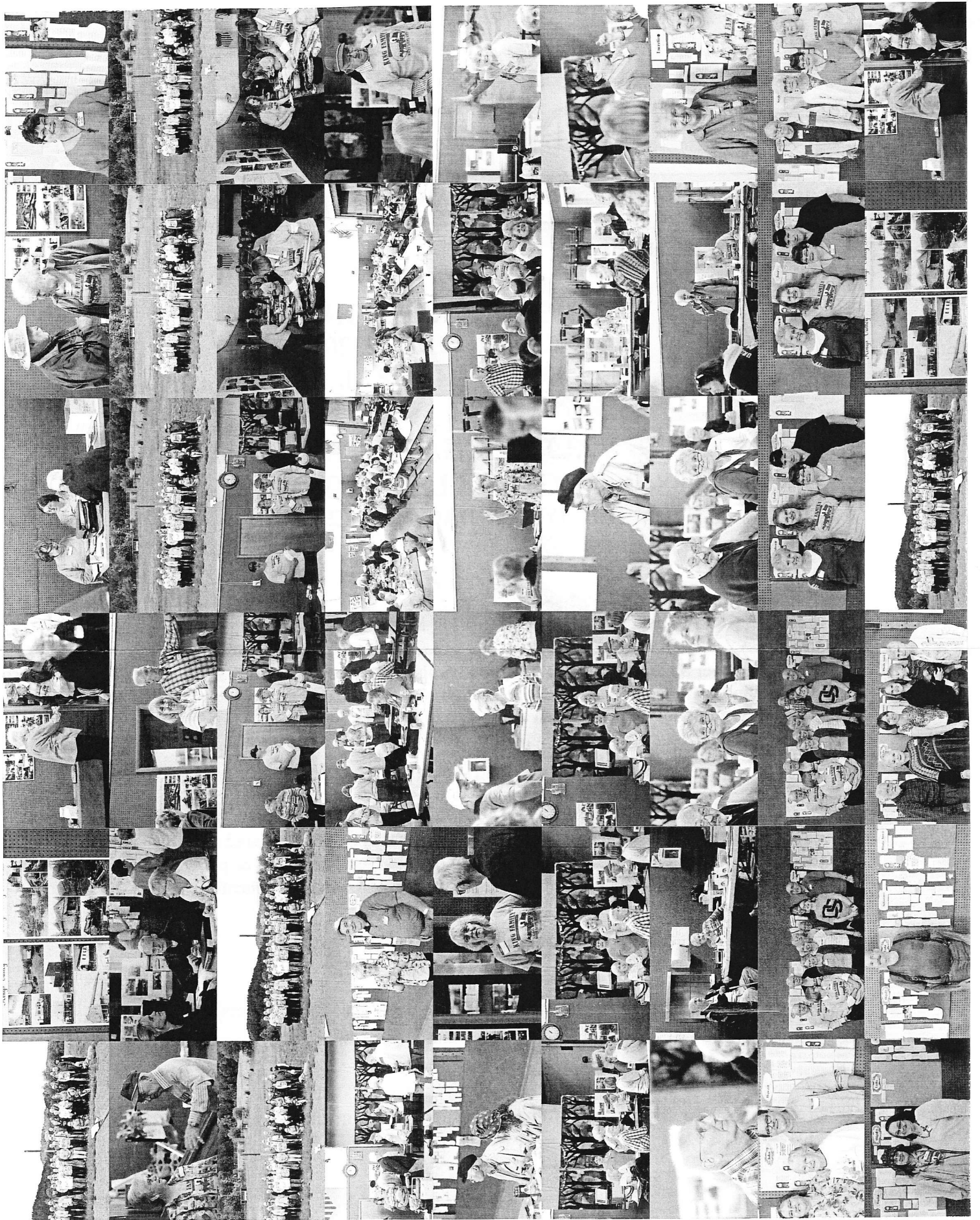
POTLUCK LUNCH AT NOON

Please bring a main dish and one other item of your choice (dessert, salad or munchies). Bring your own table service. Coffee, soda pop and bottled water will be provided. There is refrigeration in the kitchen but only a small microwave for reheating.

BUSINESS MEETING AT 1:00 P.M.

(Need more information? See back page to contact officers)

See next page for candid shots from 2012 reunion compliments of Nigel Parkhurst and David Rossi.



PRESIDENT'S LETTER – APRIL 2013 – MIMI STANG

Greetings King Family members. Being president of the King Family Association is very special. I am pleased to be a part of such a wonderful family. Working together, we have accomplished a great deal these past years. I appreciate you all.

Our reunion will once again be the Saturday immediately after Father's Day, June 22nd, at Kings Valley Charter School. We welcomed a number of new members last year which is always special – they add so much to our family knowledge. And it is always great to see the “regulars” as well. See the front page of the newsletter for complete information.

We always hope that many of you will join us for the morning session. This gives us the opportunity to visit and share as we are often overwhelmed at noon. Plus we are once again planning to take a group photo at 11:45 a.m. Reminder: we are set up and ready to go by 9 a.m. The morning is the time to have your photos scanned to our CD's, to purchase reunion T-shirts and other materials, to share information with fellow King family researchers and to look through our Historian David Trask's fabulous family notebooks. We have a copy machine for you to use. Our potluck lunch begins at noon followed by our annual business meeting.

In 2012 our number of dues paying members increased a little and we are at 85. I would like to see us increase even more because it helps our bottom line. We only ask \$10 a year per family and like most membership groups we rely on dues and donations to fund our organization. We send out a little over 200 newsletters - some go to libraries and genealogy societies but most go to folks with a King family connection. This newsletter printing and postage, rental of the school, liability insurance for the day and AV equipment are paid from our dues - dues and donations combined have allowed us to fund benches, kiosks and the King monument at Kings Valley Cemetery, the Lydia King Williams marker at Salem Pioneer Cemetery, and the King infant marker at Locke Cemetery. We are currently considering repairing some of the King family tombstones at Kings Valley Cemetery and, possibly, placing markers on some of the unmarked graves.

There are so many great articles in this year's newsletter – Historian David Trask has written a wonderful one on the “History of the Historian.” Char Wirfs has included another one of her fabulous articles: “Where They Rest.” Also there is news of what your King Family board is doing: CD's, Ancestry.com, Facebook, etc. I am sure you will enjoy reading them all.

As always, I am looking forward to seeing many of you at the reunion. If it is your first reunion, please let us know so that we can put you in touch with others in attendance that are connected to your family. Please do fill out a family form for our posters too. The gals at the registration desk can help you with that. And be sure to spend time looking through our Historian David Trask's wonderful family notebooks. They are amazing and so very special to our family.

BITS AND PIECES

King Family Reunion T-shirts – We still have some T-shirts left and now have them on sale for: \$5.00. The color is Serene Green. Sizes are limited.

Checks Reminder – Please remember to make checks out to “King Folk.” The Chase Bank where we have our checking account will not accept checks made out any other way – save our Treasurer, Anne Trussell, the trouble of having to send a check back to you to be reissued!

Inventory of King Family Reunion Items – Pat Plunkett Holler, our King Family Association Secretary, has taken on the huge task of gathering minutes, agendas, photos, etc. of past reunions. She has made great progress – everything she has collected to date she has scanned and we now have a CD available with the information. Pat has also scanned all 28 issues of the *King Folk* Newsletter and 27 parts of *Back When in Benton County* that contained King Family information. Pat is especially in need of minutes, etc. from pre-1981 reunions. Please get in touch with her at Lightandtruth@msn.com if you can add anything to her collection. What a wonderful gift this is to us – thank you, Pat!

Book with King Family Mentioned: At our 2012 reunion Traci Willey shared a book that had some info. on our King family. It's *A History of Northwest Portland from the River to the Hills* by Jame Comerford, Dragonfly Press, Portland, OR. At that time it was available at Powell's Bookstore in Portland and their online site: www.powells.com/

2-Family Reunion Held

150 Attend Gathering of Pioneer Norton and Plunkett Clan

A joint reunion of the families of Wiley Norton, Mrs. Ashnah Plunkett and Lucius C. Norton was held at the Norton home near Airlie, OR, June 7, it being the 60th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Wiley Norton. About 150 persons were present.

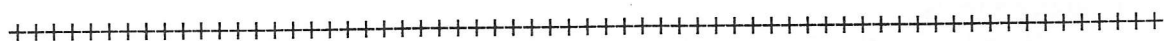
Wiley, Ashnah, and Lucius C. are the only children living of the family of Lucius C. Norton, Sr. who in 1845 in company with Amos N. King and others left Missouri for Oregon. There were 100 wagons in the emigrant train. Wiley was 1 year old at the time. The family spent the winter of 1845-46 near Forest Grove and removed to Kings Valley in Benton County, where they took a donation land claim, and where Ashnah and Lucius C., Jr. were born.

In 1865 Wiley was married to Nancy Ann Zumwalt, whose parents came to Oregon in 1847, and they lived near Blodgett, OR, for a number of years, removing to Airlie in 1900, where they now reside. Ashnah married James Plunkett, a Civil War veteran, who died a few years ago. She still lives at the old home in Kings Valley. Lucius C. Jr. married Ella Patterson, also of a pioneer family, and they are now living at Beaverton.

The Oregonian, Sunday, June 14, 1925, Page 16. Photo compliments of Earle Greig.



Wiley Norton, Nancy Zumwalt Norton, Ashnah Norton Plunkett,
 Mary Ellen Patterson Norton, Lucius C. Norton, Jr.



KING FAMILY DEATHS THIS PAST YEAR

Jim Kohl	16 February 1934 -17 March 2012
Tom Hudson	26 November 1920 – 30 March 2012
Maxine Bell	25 February 1924 – 22 April 2012
Alice Beebe-Blowers	17 June 1920 – 18 May 2012
James Hollis King	25 April 1923 – 8 August 2012
Roy Taylor	13 February 1924 – 13 January 2013

King Family CD, 2012 - Besides an index and a six-generation King descendant report, the 2012 CD contains 74 family photographs, many, many 2011 reunion photographs, King Folk newsletters 1992-2012, *Back When in Benton County* (#1-27), and King Family reunion info (1968-2011).

This photo collection includes pictures of Solomon King's organ as well as an ox bell and a cowhide covered trunk which both came across the plains with the family in 1845. All three of these items are in the Benton County Museum as are other family historical items.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the 2012 King CD: Earle Greig, Fred Ferris, Daniel Frommherz, Beckie Lynn Burgess King, Charlotte Langston, Anne & Peter Lema, Nigel Parkhurst, Ken Steele, Winnie Trump, Anne Trussell, and Char Wirfs.

All CD's, 2007-2012, will be available at the reunion. If you can't make it to the reunion and would like one (or more), email, call, or write: Anne Trussell, 2108 Stacia Way, Sacramento, CA, 95822; 916-452-0541; atru02@comcast.net.

Photo Scanning Project

We will again be scanning photographs and other family articles and documents at the reunion this year. Besides photographs, here are some other items to consider scanning: post cards, prints, hand-written documents, high quality photo copies, stories, news articles, diaries, old letters and envelopes, transcripts of court documents.

We will also photograph your King-related family heirlooms and artifacts, such as textiles, tools, utensils, hair wreaths, china, knick-knacks or any other piece of historical interest. We prefer to photograph these at the reunion, but we can arrange to come to your home or meet you at a designated place to photograph them. The best way is to photograph them yourself or have someone do it for you and email or mail them the photograph to us.

By allowing the King Family Association to scan or photograph your items, you will be preserving our family heritage for future generations. Thank you once again for contributing to this project.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM JUNE 2012 REUNION MINUTES

Patricia Plunkett Holler - Secretary

About 65 family members & guests attended, enjoyed visiting and a great potluck.

Descendants present today were asked to stand when their ancestor's name was called. Lucretia - 4; John - 3; Hopestill - 15; Stephen - 0; Isaac - 4; Amos - 0; Sarah - 0;

Lovisa – 4; Abigail – 2; Lydia – 0; Solomon – 3; Rhoda Ann – 6. Mimi asked all descendants to line up by families after the meeting for a photo opportunity.

Treasurer's Report: \$4234.80 balance in treasury.

Earle Greig and Pat Plunkett Holler are now members of the Kings Valley Cemetery board. We hope to work with them to repair/replace some stones in the cemetery.

Historian David Trask reported that all of his notebooks of 10,000 death certificates and obituaries have been copied onto archival paper. The notebooks are now kept in two separate places for safety. Thanks to George Davidson and Pat Holler, two of the notebooks have been scanned to CD's.

Char Wirfs reported on the King Folk tree on Ancestry.com (see more info. elsewhere in this newsletter).

Note: Copies of the complete minutes are available at the reunion or from Secretary Pat Holler.



HISTORY OF THE HISTORIAN

By David Trask

People ask if we have always had a King Family Historian. The answer is, No. When the family came out West, most settled in the Kings Valley area. However, different branches did migrate from there to other places, many in Oregon, while others went elsewhere such as Washington, Idaho and California. Communication back then was not real good. Remember that when our family traveled in 1845, there was no postal service. The first U.S. postage stamp was issued in 1847. The Pony Express was not established until 1860. The first Transcontinental Railroad was constructed between 1863 – 1869. So, within a few generations, different branches of the family soon became separated by what was then considered to be great distances. A trip to the Portland area would take days, and when families had to farm and work from sunrise to sunset in order to survive, such trips to visit family were rare.

We know that by the late 1860's the King family was meeting for an annual type of picnic. Photos allow us to know which family members were keeping in touch with one another, even those we know may have lived far away. We do have a number of photos of family gatherings, and also evident is the consistent absence of other family members. So we can assume that some branches of the family had regular contact with one another, and other branches probably had little or no contact with those who remained in the Kings Valley area. So, within several generations, different branches lost contact with one another and probably did not know of each other's existence. That is why as we all meet today, we still are thrilled to fill in the missing pieces of the puzzle that have been lost for so long, by sharing and documenting various bits and pieces of family history that had otherwise been lost to others for so long.

As the Historian, I inherited a vast amount of information from my predecessor, Nathan Andrew King, Sr., a descendant of Amos King. Among the information are original letters written by various family members, some dating to the 1920's onward through the 1950's, and then many written from the 1960's through the 1980's until Nathan died. Those letters from about 1960 are accompanied by a carbon copy of the letter Nathan would write requesting information. All these letters document first, who was interested in the family history, and when. Second, they document who knew of which branch of the family, and when, and which branches knew nothing about the other. The process of sharing information during those years was long and tedious. Letters required a response. Most information shared was basic and included names, dates of birth, death, children, marriage information, etc., with mention of what various family members may have done for a living, etc. Notable historians in those days included Minerva Watson Mueller, descendant of Rowland and Sarah King Chambers; Serena (Rena) Norton, descendant of Hopestill and Lucious Norton; Minnie and Ethel Price, descendants of Willard and Sarepta Norton Price who did a great deal of Norton research; and Bertha King, descendant of Amos King. Bertha coordinated a lot of information later documented and on file with the Oregon Historical Society and Genealogical Forum of Portland. There were many other family members of this era who contributed to the compilation of our family history. These just represent some of those whose letters I have in my possession,

and the letters clearly indicate the increase or interest of some family members in documenting the family tree.

Later on, another generation took on the task, and included people like Francis "Maxine" Bell, (Abigail King Fuller) who compiled a ton of information, and attended many of our reunions. She just passed away last year. James Hollis King (Isaac King); Frances Rexford (Lucretia King Halleck); Dorice Stewart (Lydia King Williams) are among others who attended reunions over the last 30 years and are now deceased. They contributed greatly to our present knowledge.

My predecessor, Nathan Andrew King, Sr., descendant of Amos King, was probably the first major King Family Historian of "modern" time. His work started in earnest in the 1950's. He was the first to really start to organize the known information of the different branches of the family. He is the one who gave me the bulk of the known information gathered by the time of his death in 1989, the time I became the designated Historian. I knew Nathan from 1983 until he died in 1989. I actually stumbled upon the King family because I had always known that my branch of the Kings settled in Southern Oregon in 1877, when my great-great grandfather, Alfred King and wife, Mary Fowler, came to Ashland. My great grandmother, Frances Margaret King, married George Aldon Trask. She died in 1918, but I have a hand-written letter written by her, dated 1897, where she wrote down some important notes about her family. She wrote down her known family tree. Most notable, was her mention of her relation to Isaac King, her grandfather and that her father, Alfred, Isaac's oldest child, had lived in a place called Kings Valley, Oregon. Of note, and perhaps the discussion of another article, she mentioned the "accidental hunting death" of her grandfather, Isaac. This incident has been discussed so many times at various reunions over the years, and theories abound as to whether Isaac was killed accidentally in an actual hunting accident, and, if so, who shot him; or did he accidentally shoot himself while cleaning his firearm; or whether he committed suicide; or, perhaps someone murdered him. Again, this incident is not the focus of my article, other than to mention that reading about my great grandmother's notes got me interested in looking for my roots. So while going to school in Portland in the early 1980's, I stopped in Kings Valley, went to the general store, introduced myself, and asked if the young lady knew of any King descendants. She laughed and said that she herself was, and she directed me to her great grandmother, Leota Lyday, a Hopestill descendant, down the highway. Leota invited me to the next Kings Valley reunion where I met Nathan later that summer. He was surprised to meet me, and to finally discover what happened to my branch of the family. I was impressed with the interest others had about my branch of the family, and I have tried to help merge everyone's information ever since. Over the next six years, Nathan and I worked together to merge the different branches of the children of Nahum and Sarepta King, something I still do today.

In the 1980's communication was basically writing letters and occasional telephone calls. It was tedious. Computers were truly in their infancy. Since 1989 I amassed the huge collection that I have today, consisting of 10,000-plus pages of information regarding our family. Whereas Nathan was the first historian to really start to coordinate the various branches of the family, I took it from there and organized the known information,

separating each branch into different notebooks, and with the help of many, have tried to maintain this information, verifying as much as possible and documenting sources. Many people have helped and every contribution is as important and is just as appreciated as any other. Most recently, huge additions have been made by Char Wirfs, Anne Trussell, Earle Greig, Pat Holler, Mimi Stang, George Davidson, Carole Putman, Ellen Craven and Daniel Frommherz. Daniel has particularly contributed to our knowledge of the generations before Nahum and Sarepta King. Many others have contributed greatly as well. These people represent those who regularly keep me updated on their present research.

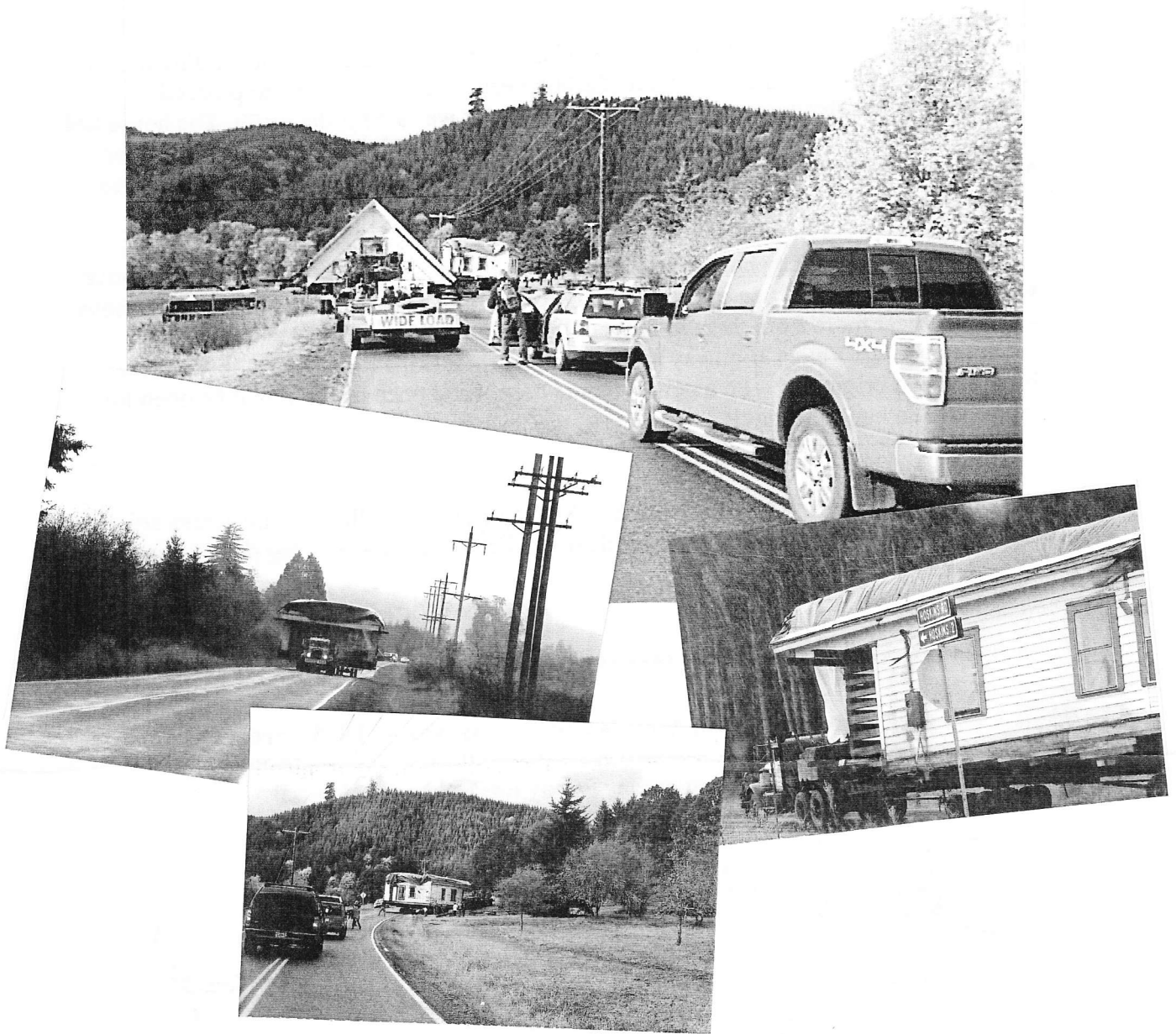
HISTORIAN REPORT

Things have been relatively quiet here. I have added about 150 obituaries to the collection and about 50 death certificates. We have not been able to scan much of the collection onto disk this last year. The time that it takes to do it remains a limiting factor. The good news is that I maintain two copies of the collection, each kept at separate locations. So the vast information that I have is safe. We can boast among the largest collection of obituaries and copies of death certificates associated with a single family anywhere. Our hope still is to preserve the entire collection electronically for future generations and to do so in a convenient format for everyone.

Also, we are trying to shift some of the information that I have onto King Folk (on Ancestry.com). This has been largely orchestrated by Char (Wirfs). I continue to appreciate copies of obituaries, death certificates, family trees, photos of grave markers, and other misc. information such as marriage certificates. We remain concerned that state governments will continue to push to limit access to copies of death certificates for 50 years after the death has occurred, in a futile attempt to reduce identity theft. Oregon already does this. This is despite the total lack of any evidence that those who engage in this crime got their information from death certificates. There are so many other very easy and cheap ways to get personal information in order to commit this crime. It would be a shame if such access is denied to us. The amount of information obtained from death certificates for genealogical purposes is limitless.

I maintain a working relationship with the head of the microfilm section at the University of Oregon Knight Library. She has helped to locate hundreds of obituaries for me, through resources available there at the library, including newspaper on microfilm. She has become so interested in our family that she considers herself an unofficial family member.

Thanks for continuing to send me information on the family to add to the collection.



FT. HOSKINS COMMANDER'S HOUSE

At last year's reunion Char Wirfs and Earle Greig told us of the plans to move the Ft. Hoskin's Commander's house from Pedee, where it has been located for over 150 years, back to Ft. Hoskins where it was originally built about 1856 when the fort was first erected. The house was built under the supervision of Lt. Phil Sheridan (later General Sheridan). The fort's first commander, Capt. Christopher Augur, lived in the house from 1856 to early 1861.

The house was still in wonderful condition and had never been significantly altered which made it even more desirable. The Benton County Parks Department had the task of

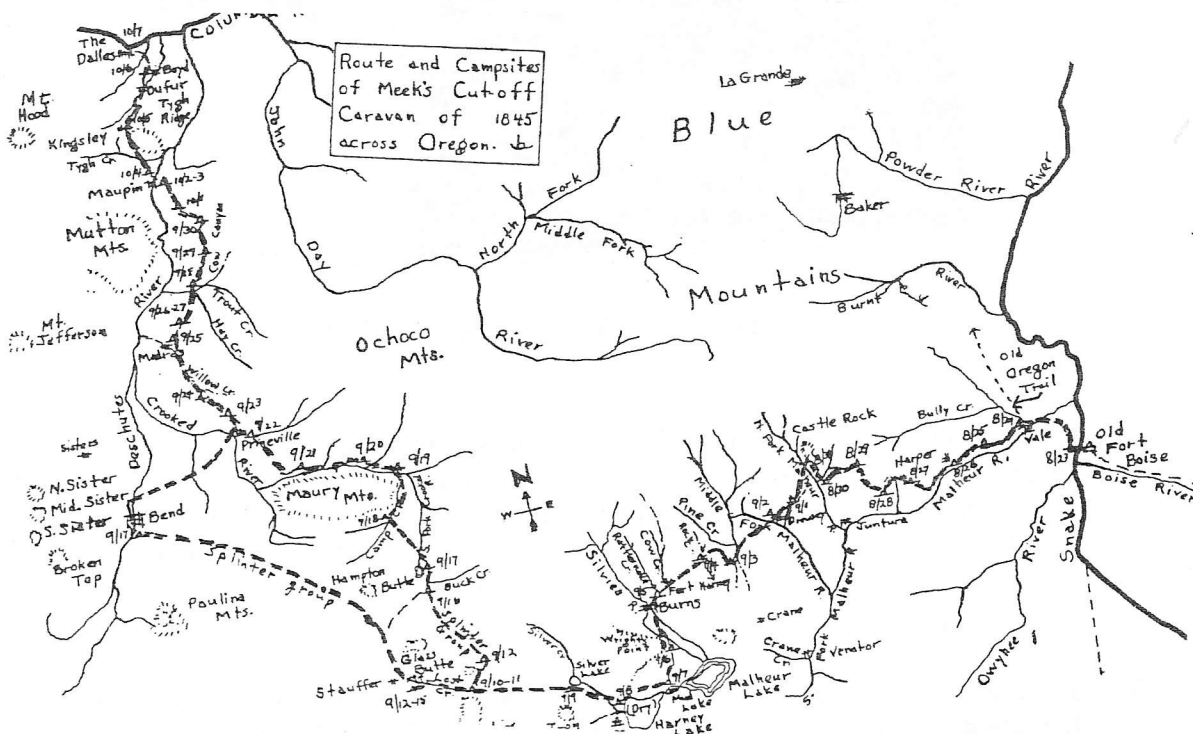
raising the money to move the house as well as overseeing the actual move. Finally, by last fall they had raised the more than \$52,000 needed and were ready to proceed. Contractors were lined up and a date of October 21st was set for the move. The house had to be cut into two sections for the trip – the ground floor and the A frame second floor – as it was too tall otherwise and would have required the added expense of taking down power lines along the highway.

As you can see from the photo it was a wet day – this is Oregon, after all – but the move went fairly smoothly. Some of our King family members were there to observe the move – you will hear more from them at the reunion. It traveled down Pedee Creek Road, south onto Kings Valley Highway and west on Fort Hoskins Road. The house is now back where it originated – on a new concrete base – and once restored will be open for tours. What a happy ending!

Editor’s Note: some of this information was taken from Corvallis Gazette Times articles: October 22, 2012 – *Returning Home* and November 16, 2012 – *Raising the Roof at the Old Fort*.

Route and Campsite of Meek’s Cutoff Caravan of 1845 Across Oregon

A Map In Mimi’s King Family Box - Source Unknown!



MESSAGE FROM LINDA CREW – author of *A HEART FOR ANY FATE*

Linda is not able to be with us this year but sends greetings to her special King Family friends. She notes that you can go to her website: www.lindacrew.com and order books directly from her (and have them autographed). *A Heart For Any Fate* is also available from Amazon.com and in local bookstores. She sent the following article to share with us:

Recently a lovely man in McMinnville wrote me that he had read my book, *BRIDES OF EDEN*, and then, because he liked it and because his family traveled the Oregon Trail, he also read *A HEART FOR ANY FATE: WESTWARD TO OREGON 1845*.

It's the first book I've read about the Oregon Trail, he wrote. I read a little about my ancestor's experience in the "HISTORY OF GRESHAM" but nothing was passed down. My great-great grandparents got married the day they departed (21 & 16). When they arrived near present day Gresham, they had nothing. That was 1853.

This sentence: "My great-great grandparents got married the day they departed (21 & 16)" absolutely gave me shivers. I guess I will always be in love with the very idea of setting out on the Oregon Trail, because if I hadn't already written my book, I swear that sentence would have inspired me to do so.

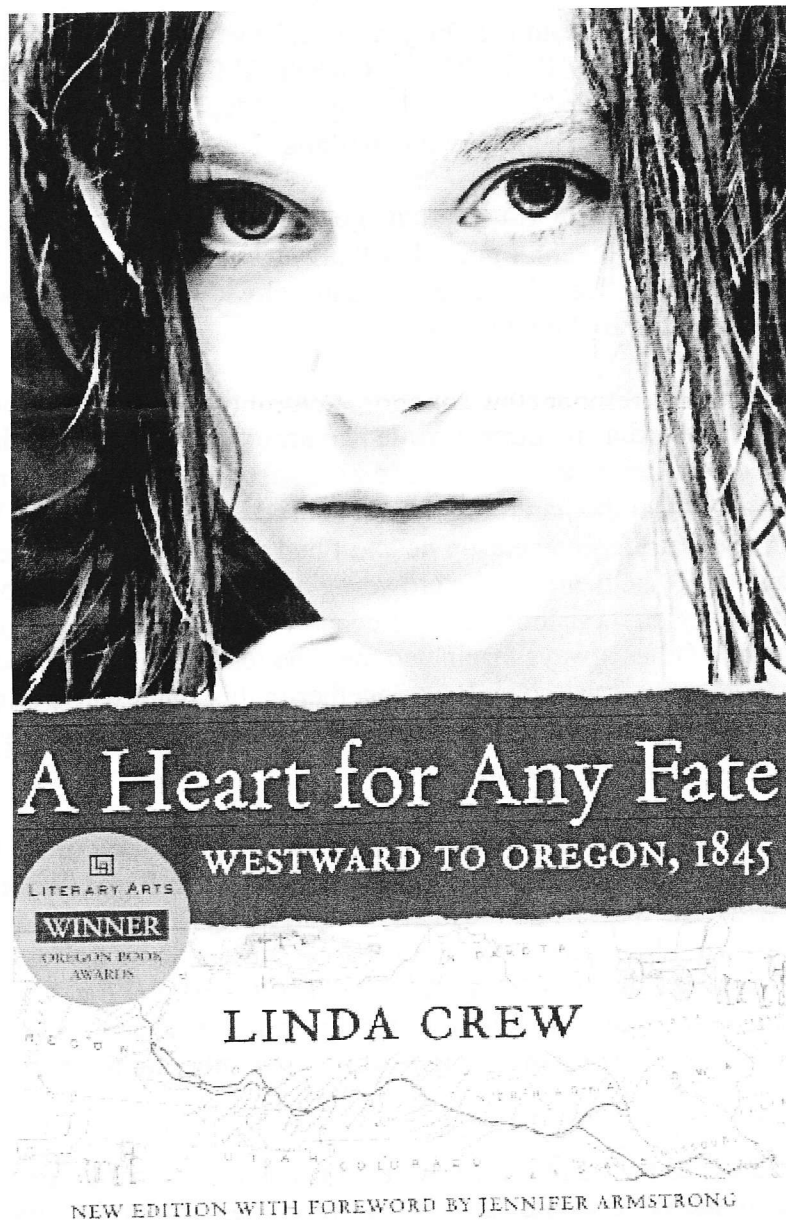
As we compared notes, it turned out this man's cousin from Corvallis was the teacher who'd taught in Cambodia and quite a while ago arranged for me to speak to English as a Second Language classes in several Portland high schools. (My book, *CHILDREN OF THE RIVER* is about Cambodian refugees and is used in many schools). I'm remembering now that for some reason he and I had stopped by his mother's house here in Corvallis and of all the memorabilia crowding her walls, I was struck by a large photo of a covered wagon. This was long before I began writing about the Oregon Trail, but it reminds me of how it has always fascinated me. She remarked that the picture had family significance, so now, putting two and two together in this small world of ours, I realize this covered wagon I was looking at must have been linked to those two young people who hit the trail the day they were married!

It seems that, like me, a lot of people are still enamored of the idea of the Oregon Trail, and not just members of the King family. A teacher in Green River, Wyoming, right on the trail, just wrote me that she had read all the trail novels available and chosen *HEART* as the one to use with her class of seventh graders. Just as I love the idea of teenagers in Phnom Penh learning English reading *CHILDREN OF THE RIVER*, I'm tickled to think of those seventh graders reading this story right where Lovisa and her family sat and listened to the wolves howling in the night while some other family buried their dead child.

When someone writes me that they've just read and loved my book, it's a satisfying reminder that no matter how long ago I may have written a story, it's brand new and fresh

for the person who just read it. Those characters come right back alive with every reader. I'm delighted the book sells enough through Amazon and various independent book stores that it is staying in print. Ooligan Press contracted with me a year ago to make the book available as an e-book and hopefully, that will happen soon.

This past year I've been lucky enough to keep my Kings Valley pioneer history alive by building a tiny cabin on our forest property bordered by Plunkett Creek. The Oregon Trail definitely shows up in the décor and my favorite picture of children in Kings Valley circa 1914 will be featured in a prominent place. Thanks again for making me an honorary King. If loving the place and maintaining the romantic spirit of the whole adventure counts, I'm doing my part!



Where They Rest

Charlotte L. Wirfs

One of the tasks of our historian, David Trask, is to locate and document grave sites of the King Family Association. He has dedicated much energy to compiling the records of earlier family researchers as well as current researchers and collecting photographs, obituaries, news articles, and names of cemeteries where our ancestors rest. Amazingly enough, all of us have been able to document many of these graves and cemeteries and quite a few people have visited them.

Amos King (1756-1839) and his wife Hopestill Haskins King are among those who are unknown. Not only are their resting places unknown, but the dates of Hopestill's birth and death are not completely accounted for. We have found a wedding record for the two and we also know that her first name was passed down through the family. She is also mentioned in her father's will. When there is no death information, particularly a cemetery or a marker, there are other ways of documenting where our ancestors are buried. One is to determine the last known residence through the census and land records. Another is to study where other family members are buried. Obituaries, wills, and death certificates are also helpful. For example, we do know through the obituary of Amos King that he died near New Lebanon, Columbia County, New York and just a few weeks before his death he was able to walk through the "family burying ground" to pick his own grave site. The obit did not name the cemetery or exactly where Amos was buried or who is buried there. Does Amos rest beside his wife or other members of his immediate family?

One well known cemetery in that area is the Sherman Cemetery at New Lebanon Center, Columbia County New York. Many of Amos's grandchildren and great grandchildren rest there. There is also a Cemetery of the Evergreens located in New Lebanon. More grandchildren and great grandchildren of Amos rest in the Vermont Cemetery, Fulton County, Illinois. Nebraska, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, California, Ohio, New York, is just a few of the states where we will find other cemeteries and graves of the children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren of Amos King, father of Nahum King (1783-1856).

It is important to know the final resting places of these people as it is usually the last physical evidence that they existed. That is where they remain and where the living can go to honor them. It is equally important for us to identify the markers that need replacements and in some cases relocation. Cemeteries can go through periods of time when they are badly managed and stones get moved, damaged, become illegible, or

lost. In some cases, no stones are placed at the resting site.

One such case is with the children of Nahum and Serepta, sisters and a brother buried in Darby Township Cemetery, Plain City, Madison County Ohio. Several family members have visited the graves of Dulaney King (1811-1823) and Hannah King (1817-1825). Photographs were taken to document them. Recently one of the stones has been misplaced. Their brother, James Russel King (1826-1829), is reported to also have been buried in that cemetery, but no one has located evidence that a stone for him existed. What can we do to help find those stones and get them replaced and documented, especially when we are so many miles away?

To help locate the cemeteries and markers of those old graves, I have been going through the data base and making an inventory of the gravestones and cemeteries for the first three generations of the descendants of Amos King. It began as a news article for the 2013 King Folk newsletter and quickly became a research task needing a spread sheet. I have set up one that lists the name, relationship to Amos, date of death, place of death or the last known residence, and the cemetery where each one rests. If there is a marker I indicate it with *. When this list is complete it may be too large to publish in a future newsletter, but I will make copies available to anyone who requests them and I will add it to David's reference collection.

Hopefully, I will have completed this list by our 2013 King Family Reunion and have copies available there. Wish me luck. I am amazed by the number of Amos's children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.



PLUNKETT DNA TESTING

By Pat Plunkett Holler

Having been stuck for many years at the proverbial “brick wall” in Ireland for anything back beyond James Plunkett’s parents who were born in County Down, Ireland, I seemingly could go no further with my research on the Plunkett family. So recently I asked a male Plunkett cousin (direct line descendant) to provide a Y-DNA sample from a cheek swab. He graciously agreed to do it. The initial results from the tests are in, though at the time of this writing I have not yet received word that they are completely analyzed. There are 33 Plunkett males that so far have been tested, and they all fit into 5 or 6 different Plunkett families in Ireland that are not closely related to each other!

We are a reasonably close match with 13 other tested Plunketts in what they have designated as the Meath/Louth Plunketts. We all share ancestry in the counties of Meath and Louth, just north of Dublin. They tell me that this means that we are most likely related to the Plunketts of Dunsany Castle and to St. Oliver Plunkett. That would be fortunate, because there are Peerage records of those Plunketts that go back to the 1300’s in Ireland. (Most Plunketts cannot prove their relationships prior to 1800 through Irish vital records, so DNA testing offers the next best hope).

By the time of our June reunion, hopefully I will have more information to share with any who are interested.





End of the Trail and Beyond Oregon City, Oregon

Here is your opportunity to learn more about the Oregon Trail and the hardy pioneers, like our King Family, who took that long journey. The 2013 Oregon-California Trails Association National Convention, **End of the Trail and Beyond, Oregon City, Oregon**, will be held the week of July 21, 2013 at the Monarch Hotel & Conference Center, 12566 SE 93rd Ave, Clackamas, OR.

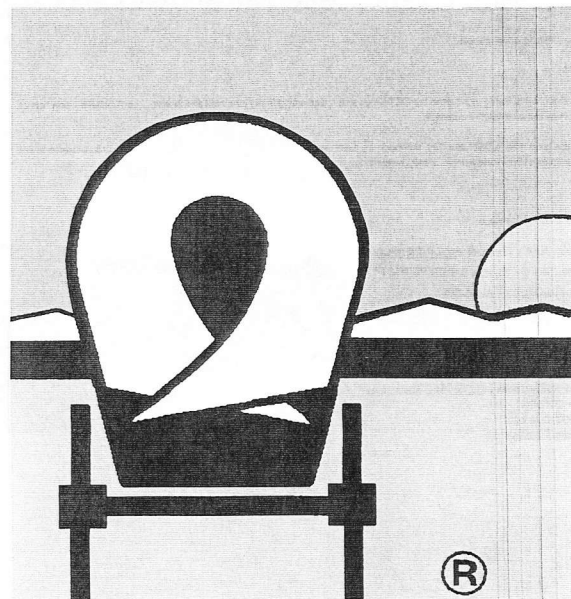
July 20 & 21: Pre-convention auto caravan tours along the trail – details at link below

July 22: Heritage Resources Fair – 70 or more historical societies, museums, Genealogical societies & similar heritage organizations

July 23 & 25: Speakers, workshops, and meetings relating to End of the Oregon Trail theme

July 24 & 26: Convention bus tours around Mt. Hood, Barlow Road, Oregon City. Five tour options available

For more information and details on each day, see <http://www.octa-trails.org/> or contact Anne Trussell, at 916-452-0541 or atru02@comcast.net.



KING FAMILY ONLINE

Charlotte L. Wirfs

There are two interactive web sites King family researchers can view online that are associated with the King Family Association of Oregon. They are King Folk on www.ancestry.com and the other is found on Face Book and is named Kings Valley Kin.

You do not have to be a member of Ancestry.com to access King Folk on www.ancestry.com, but if you are then you can search the public family trees for King Folk. When I search for it I usually find it by just searching the web or by going through the long list of family trees which include the name of Nahum King to find the one named King Folk. For me, I usually find it on page 13 of the list. If you are not a member of Ancestry.com, then you may email me and I will send you an invitation to view the tree. My email address is: charwirfs@gmail.com. Once I email you the invitation to view King Folk you may wish to telephone me so I can walk you through the process of viewing our King Folk family tree. My phone number is: 253-722-9254. The first thing Ancestry.com wants you to do is to start a free trial family tree so you must click on the x button to make that go away.

To access the Face Book Group page, Kings Valley Kin, you do have to be a member of Face Book. However, there are ways yet to get on the page without being a member. Two people who can help you see Kings Valley Kin are Anne Trussell and I. Anne's contact information is listed elsewhere in this newsletter.

Now is the moment to explain the difference of these two websites. Let's examine the Ancestry.com site, King Folk. King Folk started out several years ago as our own King Family database compiled for us by Mimi Stang. She downloaded it to Ancestry.com and the tree was named King Folk. Basically the tree begins with Amos King and his wife, Hopedill Haskins King and explores their descendants. The main focus is on their son, Nahum King and his wife, Sarepta Norton King, who moved to Oregon Territory in the spring of 1845 arriving a year later in Kings Valley, Benton County, Oregon Territory. We, The King Family Association of Oregon, are recording the genealogical data on the descendants of Nahum King.

To date there are over 10,000 descendants and their families listed on King Folk. Seven hundred photographs have been posted to the tree, 253 stories and 7,386 public records. Because it is a public family tree, people can use our data, ask us questions and post comments. Each year we answer about 50 queries and there are now 119 comments posted to the site. It continues to grow every day as new research, public documents, stories and photos are added to the tree. Everything that the King Family Association of Oregon posts on King Folk is identified with names, dates, and places and the final sentence ends with the phrase, "Posted by King Folk" which is like a family logo. One other thing you may want to know is that only one person can "own" the tree and I am

that person. It is my contribution to the King Family Association of Oregon to pay the annual membership fees that keep King Folk available to the public.

The Face Book group page, Kings Valley Kin, is for the living descendants of Nahum and Sarepta King as well as anyone interested in news and anecdotes relating to the King family or to the Kings Valley area. Recent postings have been announcements of new family members, deaths, many photographs, news articles such as the moving of the Commander's House from Pedee to Fort Hoskins. Three photos of oil paintings have been posted. Most importantly, group members can communicate with each other.

If you have not had an opportunity to view these two sites, please take a look. You may be pleasantly surprised.

KING'S HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT – PORTLAND
From City of Portland brochure: King's Hill Historic District Guidelines
Some Excerpts - Published December 2001

The first white inhabitant to settle at the base of what came to be known as "King's Hill" was early Portland "proprietor," Daniel Lownsdale, who filed a claim in 1845. Seven years later, **Amos Nahum King** and his wife Melinda filed a donation land claim for 513.01 acres. The southeastern portion of this claim, at the base of the West Hills, is the location of the King's Hill District.

Throughout the 1850's Amos King's claim remained undeveloped. For many years the residence and out-buildings of the King family were the only structures on the property. Transportation to this area was provided by a rough wagon route, located near present-day West Burnside Street, which was opened by Francis Pettygrove in 1845-46.

In the 1860's Amos King began selling off his land which in the decades to follow established the family fortune.

The Portland map of 1872 illustrates that the King's Hill area was beginning to be developed. Adjacent to King's Addition, the land where Amos N. King's home was located remained intact up to King Street.....

Like a majority of the earliest settlers in the Northwest, the King's first residence was of log construction..... It was in this log cabin that four of six children were born to Amos and Melinda.

“King Folk” is a newsletter published by the family of Nahum and Sarepta Norton King, Oregon Pioneers of 1845. A donation of \$10.00 per year is asked to help with the publication costs and other King Family projects. Please make checks payable to “King Folk” and mail to Anne Trussell, 2108 Stacia Way, Sacramento, CA 95822.

All information published in “King Folk” is printed as it is presented. For that reason, the information may not be completely accurate. Corrections and updates are published whenever they become known. Please submit material for publication to: Mimi Stang, 1290 Valley View Drive, N.W., Salem, OR 97304 or e-mail (see below).

The annual King Family reunion is held in June on the first Saturday after Father’s Day at the Kings Valley Charter School in Kings Valley, Oregon.

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Please send queries to David Trask, 1533 Nottingham Circle, Medford, OR 97504.
Note that David collects obituaries of the King Family and can look one up for you.

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