Mid - Valley Genealogical Society

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Corvalis, Oregon.
Founders in 1971

PRESIDENT: DANIEL FROEHLICH

NEWSLETTER

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EDITOR: ED STRATTON

SOAP BOX

One of the nicer parts to being Editor is that I can spout off about things that bug me. In any organization there are the volunteers that will do anything, quite often without asking. There are those, that if asked, will pitch in and give their all. There are those that will help if there is no way out, and there are those that do nothing but coast along.

For some people, their jobs are such a load that they can't find much time, and are stretched too thin to help. And then there are the other ones. Any group that is not sponsored by a millionaire needs volunteers to do the normal day to day work of the group. We need you. If you can spare any time to help please contact one of the board members and pitch in to keep our group going.

Thanks for my time on the soap box.

TODAYS MEETING

Todays program is the one from February, that was cancelled because of the snow.

Margaret Ingram of Albany will present a program on "Writing a Personal History" at 2:00 pm today.

GARAGE SALE

This is a repeat notice. Just to remind you to keep thinking about the garage sale we will share with Mabelle Martching, this spring. If you have anything that might be of interest to garage sale patrons, call Damaris Reynolds at 753-1810, to arrange pickup. Everything that we can sell will add more to our book fund.

ODDS AND ENDS

The Library is open every Tuesday afternoon from 12:30 until 3:00 pm. Librarians are on hand to help you with your questions. You may return books on Tuesday, but no books may be checked out.

Remember our number at the OSU thriftshop is 492.

If you don't already belong to the Benton County Historical Society, why not consider joining? Contact a board member to find out what it is about.

LABELS

Don't forget to bring in your Flav-R-Pak and Santiam labels. There is a plastic box in the library to store them in.

NOTE: All you need to bring in is the UPC Symbol. Be careful to cut a little extra package around the Symbol so that all of it is there. If you bring just the UPC Symbol, it will take less room in the library.

Also, thank you Audrey Broadley for taking care of this project for as long as I can remember. This job is one of those that brings in about \$20.00 to our book fund and Audrey does a fine job of it. Also thank you Jean Grube for helping Audrey this year.



CANADIAN INTEREST GROUP

Canadian Interest Group, is for those searching for their roots in Canada. This group meets the third Tuesday of each month, from 12:30 to 3:30 pm at the Albany Public Library. If you have a specific area of Canada you are interested in, please let me know so we can have books and printed materials there for you to look at. We have resources available for Manitoba, Ontario, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and some Quebec, plus Canada in general. Car pooling can be arranges. Call Pat Rawlinson, 752-2243.

MONTHLY SHARING

Each month we have a table to bring books or other artifacts to share with the other members, from the area we are specializing in. The items are used for that one day only, you take them home that night. Following is the listing for the ten months that we have meetings. If you have books or items to share, please bring them as shown below.

If we do not have your area of interest, please contact a board member and lets see if we can update the listing to satisfy your needs.

Jan PA, OH

Feb OR, WA, ID, MT

Mar VA. WV

Apr NC, KY, TN, and Germany

May IL, MI, WI, Ireland and Scotland

Jun IN, IA, KS

(NOTE: new this month is KS.)

Sep NY, NJ, MD, DC

Oct NH, VT, MA, ME

Nov CT, RI, DE

Dec Auction and Christmas Tea

BEGINNERS CLASS

Last April 4th we held a beginners class. It was very well received by all that attended. We will have another beginners class on April 17th.

We have had several meetings of the principals from the class. The preparation for the class is nearly done. If you would like to attend, or have someone you are trying to start into genealogy, have them sign up at the Museum.

CEMETERY BOOKS COMPLETED

After nearly six years of labor, the final volume in our Cemetery book series is complete. The Oaklawn book is now in our library. We want to thank the committee members for all of their dedicated work in researching all of the graves, this was often done when the Oregon 'sun' was pouring down. Then all of the information was checked and rechecked. After all of the information satisfied the committee, it was put in book form and we now have six volumes in print.

If you want one of the new books they are \$29.00, or if by mail, they are \$32.50 post paid.

NEW BOOKS

The list of new books is so long that it would take most of the newsletter to print out. We have fifty (50) new books to list this month and last.

We hope to have a new shelf list ready within the next month. We will also try, repeat try, to have a separate update for those that bought the old list. We have found some errors in the old one, that have been corrected in the computer listing, and can't be in the updates.

By the May meeting, or possibly sooner, the new list should be ready.

LIBRARIAN

Our librarian, Wendy James, is now in Virginia. She received a job offer that she couldn't refuse, and left last Thursday for Virginia.

We shall miss her energy in the volunteer corps that keeps the Society moving ahead. The first time your Editor saw her was in his front yard, when she came to help on the book shelves, the day we installed them in the new library. Jean Grube and Damaris Reynolds have volunteered to take over her duties for the remainder of the year.

We owe Wendy a debt of gratitude for all the work she put in, with the book committee and other volunteers, setting up the library. Hope you have a wonderful time in your new home, Wendy.

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BORN IN VIRGINIA?

Are you sure? When reference is made to a person having been born in Virginia as early as 1728 or as late as 1853, this could indicate that he was born in any part of the following:

Illinois	1781-1818
Indiana	1787-1816
Kentucky	1775-1792
Maryland	1775-1792
North Carolina	1720-1779
Ohio	1778-1803
Tennessee	1766-1803
West Virginia	1769-1863

From Ogle County Newsletter, Oct. 1992

ILLINOIS VITAL RECORDS ACT

Changes to the Illinois vital records act. As of January 1, 1993, the Illinois Vital Record Act will include the provision that birth and death certificates shall be issued to persons having a "genealogical interest". The amendment further provides that a genealogical interest shall be a proper purpose with respect to births which occurred not less than 75 years and deaths which occurred not less than 20 years prior to the date of the written request. A certificate which is requested for genealogical purposes shall be stamped "FOR GENEALOGICAL PURPOSES ONLY".

ILLINOIS 19TH CENTURY WAR VETERANS

The Illinois State Archives has indexed the names of men who served from Illinois in the Indian Wars, the Civil War and Spanish American War. On request, they will research one index and provide information on two persons at one time. Send an SASE to Illinois State Archives, Archives Building, Springfield, IL 62756.

The two articles on Illinois are from the DuPage County (IL) Genealogical Society Newsletter, January 1993.



TOMBSTONE BIRTH DATE

There are a lot of ways to calculate birthdate when you don't know it, but have you ever used the Formula of 8870? It works.

When the age is given on a tombstone or in an obituary, use the formula of 8870 to determine the date of birth.

18890506	=	died May 6, 1889
- 710709	=	aged 71 yr, 7 mo, 9 da
18179797		renak selesel kantan merek aka
- 8870		
18170927	=	born Sep 27, 1817
		9th month 27th day

Thanks to Jean Grube for furnishing this data.

QUERY

From Babette J. Dague, Grandview WA, the following query.

John Finley Duncan in Soap Creek, with daughter Mary Pettyjohn, in 1860 census. Liberty Post Office. At that time 85 years old. She is also wondering about the cemetery where he is buried.



CHARTER MEMBERS by Lee Rudisill.

EDITH HUGHES - CHARTER MEMBER

Back in 1972 when the Genealogy Society organized, Edit Hughes went to the meeting with Mrs. Peffer. Edith became interested in researching her roots when her youngest daughter was born and her other 2 children decided she should be named Cynthia. That was interesting because g.grandmother was Cynthia.

Edith has been helped by the many books that have been written about her lines. Kimberly, Campbell, Roberts, Therlkeld, Ransdell (which were Vikings). A good many countries are represented also. Wales, England, Scotland and Ireland to name a few.

Society of the Cincinnati is the oldest military organization in the United States. Officers of the Continental Army founded it in 1783. George Washington served as its first president. The organization restricts membership to male descendants of commissioned officers in the regular forces of the Continental Army or Navy. Edith's third great grandfather was an officer stationed at Valley Forge and an original member of this organization. One member of each generation has been a member to this day. George Washington gave a land grant in Ohio to the g.g.g.grandfather but one provision in each contract gave 1/3 of any ore found on the property to the government. Edith is a member of the Colonial Dames of the 17th century. One relative figured up that Edith is second cousin seven times removed from George Washington.

The g.g.g.grandfather of Edith's husband (who is deceased) was shanghaied at Edinburgh and pressed into ships service. He managed to escape in Boston. He was befriended by a man with a daughter which g.g.g.grandfather later married.

The original spelling was Hugh but some where along the line it was changed to Hughes.

Edith was secretary for the Society for a time. She advises beginners to start with the first clue they find, write lots of letters, and question as many relatives as you can.

Edith is interested in a great many hobbies. She loves to read, crochet, knit, do needlepoint, collect antiques, and at one time loved to tailor clothes and make suits and coats. If this isn't enough she had a quilt under way while I was there.

She has so many interesting stories about her families to tell and she plans to get them all written down soon..

OTHER THAN WHITE ON CENSUS

The following is from the Prodigy Bulletin Board. Your Editor spends a lot of time on the Native American board and the following reply is to a question on what the "M" on the census meant.

This is from Lisa Mitchell in Alabama.

Georgia: Hope I can shed some light on your mulatto question. I have Indian lines through both my parents, and have upon occasion found my ancestors listed as mulatto. Back in the 1960's my Mom has told me that those terms frequently caused many a researcher to stop working on their line, however, I learned in a lecture that the term mulatto was used not only for mixed African/white individual, but the term was applied to anyone of a mixed race...depending on the census taker's interpretation. Jew's are frequently listed as mulatto, as are early emigrants from the Slavic regions which would be indicative of Romany blood.

The trick is finding someone in that census that you KNOW is Indian, or Jewish, or Slavic. Then you can get an idea what the census taker was thinking when he looked at the person. I also learned in the lecture that frequently if the census taker knew the family personally, knew they were Indian, then he would list them as white, merely to protect them. One more hint, in the 1790, 1800 and 1820 censuses of the southeast, there are many regions where you will find a large number of women, with children of varied ages, including infants, and the women are listed as heads of household. We were taught in this lecture that if you come across this repetitively in a region, then the census taker was most likely one of those who was NOT of that region and had been instructed not to count any Indian males as head of house. (Did I explain that well?)

I have this with an ancestress who would appear on the surface to have been a loose woman if you just go by the census, so I was especially grateful to learn this process. If the census taker was from the region, knew the family, again, he would usually count the Indian male in spite of directions and list him as white.

Lisa in AL.

Thank you for the use of your information Lisa.



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