



Mid - Valley Genealogical Society

Corvallis, Oregon

FOUNDED IN 1971

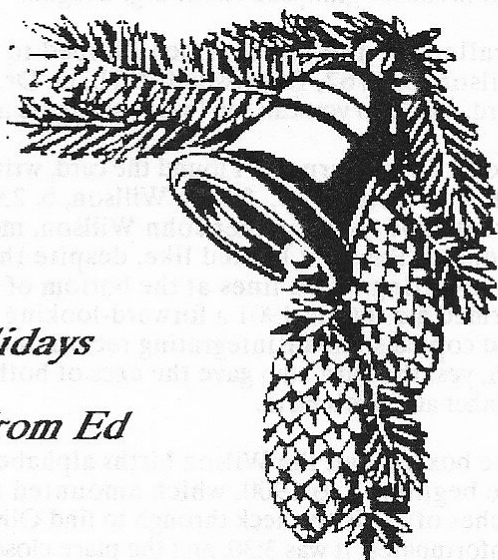
PO BOX 1511
CORVALLIS OR 97339

PRESIDENT: DANIEL FROEHLICH

NEWSLETTER

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EDITOR : ED STRATTON



Happy

Holidays

from Ed

NEW MEMBERS

We have six new members this month. They are;

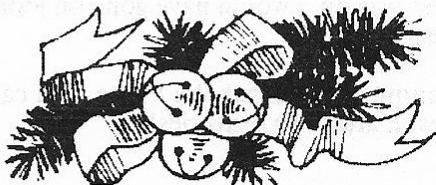
Ann Vasconi	6613 NW Grandview Dr	97330
Russell and Ann Lincoln	7 NW Edgewood Dr	97330
Teri Phillips	317 N 7th, Philomath	97370
Jan Lowther	2709 Chapel Dr.	97333
Cynthia McCann	1150 SW 35th	97333

DUES DUE

Speaking of members, as we were above, have you paid your membership dues for the 1992 season. If you want to be on the new listing, get them paid now. The membership chair has to redo the listing two or three times when the members are late getting their dues paid.

FAMILY HISTORY CENTER LIBRARY

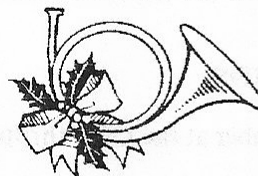
According to Ted Rosenbalm, the Library on Harrison street will close on December 22 for cleaning, painting, and general revamping and repair. It will reopen on January 7th. You will need to schedule your genealogical research accordingly.



MONTHLY SHARING

Each month we have had a table to bring books or other artifacts to share with the other members, from the area we are specializing in. Following is the listing for the ten months that we have meetings, as corrected from the listing that was in last month's newsletter. If your state is not listed, and you have books you would like to share, let one of the board members know so we can add to the list.

Jan	PA, OH
Feb	OR, WA, ID, MT
Mar	VA, WV
Apr	NC, KY, TN
May	IL, MI, WI
Jun	IN, IA
Sep	NY, NJ, MD, DC
Oct	NH, VT, MA, ME
Nov	CT, RI, DE
Dec	Christmas Party



TOUR OF SALEM FAMILY HISTORY CENTER

In the November Newsletter, comment was made about a tour of the Salem East Family History Center.

Eleven members of the society went on the field trip on November 15th. The LDS Family History Center was opened especially for the group and three librarians came to help with the research.

Although no major finds were made by the researchers, everyone felt the trip was worthwhile. The FHC has over 3500 films on indefinite loan, plus over 200 microfiche and some books. At present, they have members who are doing research on Native American Ancestors, so they had a large collection of films and books on Native American records.

President Daniel Froehlich plans another field trip in the spring and is asking for suggestions of places members would like to go for research.

QUERIES

George J. **CHAPMAN** was born 1854 in Kansas and died in 1950. He is buried in Corvallis. Any info on his wife or anything else would be appreciated. From Daniel **Froehlich**, President.

LAMMON/LAMON "resided in the Willamette Valley as early as 1850-53". Searching for Mary Ann who married Alfred R. **LOFTON**, probably in Illinois. Lammon's in Douglas county and Thelma L. **LOFTON** of Corvallis do not appear to be relatives. From Mrs. Audrey E. **Hansen**, 2158 Bower Ct. SE, Salem 97301.

Addie **HOOKE**r married Newell **PERCIFIELD** in Brown or Bartholomew county Indiana. The 1880 Indiana census shows that she was born in Indiana. Her parents came there from Kentucky according to family oral history. In 1877 their daughter Katherine, married my Grandfather John **STRATTON**, in Bartholomew county Indiana. Any information on this line would be appreciated. From Ed **Stratton**, Editor.

S.N.O.B.

A few years back Jim **CLOUTIER** the author of the sayings such as "Oregonians don't tan, they rust", and the "OREGUN" series of books came up with the SNOB (Society of Native Oregon Born). In order to be a member you had to be born here or have lived here for 99 years. If you haven't read any of his books, the Library in Corvallis has three of them on the shelves. Your sides will split from laughing.

Betty **SWAN** wants to know if you fit this designation. If you are native Oregonian, give Betty your name(s) and when your ancestors first came to Oregon. The sooner Betty gets the list the sooner the list can be compiled.

ODDS AND ENDS

Remember our number at the OSU thriftshop is 492.

Don't forget to bring in your Flavor Pak and Santiam labels.

Since September you have been able to pay your 1992 dues.

THE SERENDIPITY OF BATHSHEBA PEES

by **Charlene Talbot**

Vital statistics for the state of New Hampshire are at Concord in a fairly new government complex at the edge of town with easy parking. My cousin and I went there in October with plenty of family research to work on. We especially had a list of women's names we wanted to follow up. One of these was Olivia, or Olive, Wilson.

Despite the relative newness of the building, the Vital Statistics room (small) was poked away in the basement. Work space was provided, but the files lining the walls had obviously been moved from elsewhere. They were



oak-fronted boxes about ten inches high, four inches wide, and maybe 12 inches deep, made to hold thin yellow cards about 8 1/2 by 3 1/2. The cards had spaces (if filled in) for all the information one could hope for.

Two people from the Concord genealogy club were generously volunteering their time to get out the files, refile the cards and replace the files, and they were busy. Most of the chairs were occupied. On the day's sign-in sheet I glimpsed Roseburg, Oregon.

I called for the file in which I hoped to find Olivia Wilson, b. 1762, Brentwood, N.H., m. Dr. John Hubbard, 1784, so you can see I was back there a ways.

Well! To my surprise, I found the card, written in black ink with a steel nib. "Olive Willson, b. 23 June 1762, Brentwood, N.H., father John Willson, mother Bathsheba ... Pear," it looked like, despite the beautiful handwriting. Two lines at the bottom of the card informed me that in 1901 a forward-looking genealogist had copied some disintegrating record onto this form. Oh, yes, the card also gave the ages of both father and mother at Olive's birth.

The box held all the Wilson births alphabetically from the beginning to 1900, which amounted to about 12 inches of cards to check through to find Olive's siblings. Unfortunately it was 3:30, and the place closed at 4:00.

I made a start. In the A's I found Abigail, the Willson's first child.

Then in the B's I found Bathsheba Pees, b. 16 Mar 1734, at Exeter, father Nathaniel, mother Phebe." Bathsheba Pees Wilson? Nathaniel Wilson? John Wilson must have married his cousin.

Before closing time I got as far as Betsy Willson, b. 1775 at Brentwood, John and Bathsheba's eight child.

My cousin and I returned to the motel that evening, puzzling about Bathsheba Pees Willson. What a name to sock a child with!

"There's a family name, Peace," my cousin said, casting new light on the matter.

Next day at the New Hampshire Historical Library, also Concord, I looked at a Pease family genealogy, on the off chance. And there was Bathsheba -- her father Nathaniel Pease, her mother Phebe Sanborn, and Phebe's mother was Sarah Philbirck. Three more lines to follow!

If Bathsheba's birth record had not been filed mistakenly under Wilson, I would have gone on looking for Wilson babies.

But with a name like Bathsheba Pease, you can't disappear, not even after two centuries!

FAGAN: HISTORY OF BENTON COUNTY, OREGON BIOGRAPHIES 1885

PARKER, Hon. Allen -- was born in Ross county, Ohio, in the year of 1828. He remained in his birth-place and attending school until 15 years of age. His parents moved to Iowa, where he lived on a farm until the spring of 1852, he then crossed the plains to Oregon, first settling in Linn county; where he afterwards became a prominent farmer, warehouse and mill owner. In 1872 Mr. **PARKER** was elected Sheriff of Linn county, and Mayor of Albany in 1876; he was also elected in the latter year by the State Legislature, Lock Commissioner of the Willamette falls. In 1878 he came to Benton county and purchased his present large property at Oneatta, on Yaquina Bay, where he has since resided, mostly engaged in running his large sawmill at that place. In 1880 Mr. **PARKER** was selected to represent Benton county in the State Legislature, and again in 1882 was returned to the House of Representatives. Mr. **PARKER** therefore, has had his share of political glory. He has left an untarnished name and has made a large number of staunch and admiring friends. In every office Mr. **PARKER** has filled he has always used his best endeavors for the advancement of his county and for the benefit of the State at large. It is no flattery to say he filled them with credit, satisfaction to his constituents, and honor to himself.

PEARCE, Ashby -- is the son of Philip **PEARCE**, who was born in Baltimore, Maryland, in the latter part of the last century, and is a direct descendant of some of the first settlers in America. Our subject was born in Harrison county, Indiana, 30 June 1821; when fifteen years of age his parents moved to Knox county, Illinois, where he followed farming. March 29, 1847 he joined what was known as Nathaniel **BROWN**'s train and came across the plains to Oregon, arriving at Oregon City in the fall of that year. In October 1847, he came to Benton county and located on the land now owned by Caleb **DAVIS**, remaining there, however, but a short time, when he went to Linn county. In 1848 he enlisted and went north to fight the Indians in which he was engaged for 6 months. In 1849 he went to the gold mines of California for a short period, when he returned to Albany, Linn county, and for the next 10 years followed clerking in different stores in the latter town. He then retired to his former donation claim seven miles south of Albany. In 1866 he purchased his present valuable farm located at the Albany Ferry in Benton county, consisting of 530 acres. And at that time purchased the above ferry which he has since operated. A view of Mr. **PEARCE**'s home will be found in this History.

PEARSON, William -- a former pioneer of Benton county, but now a wealthy farmer of Marion county, was born in Indiana, 19 January 1820. In the spring of 1852, he, with his family, left Union county, Indiana, with horse teams and came across the plains to Oregon, first locating at Oregon City. In the fall of 1853 he came to Benton county and took up the place now owned by Jasper **NEWTON**. He lived in this county, engaged in farming and milling, until 1871, when he moved to Waitsburg, Washington Territory, where he resided for 10 years. He then came to Marion Station, Marion county, and purchased a valuable estate of 850 acres,

where he is a well known dealer in Norman horses. Mr. **PEARSON** was married in Indiana, to Miss Frances F. **WEBB**, a native of that state and has 4 living children, viz: m. Cerilda (now Mrs. Henry H. **PEARSON**), Mary A, wife of Rev. E.C. **WYATT** of Philomath; Otto H. B., and William O.

PHELPS, Edwin C. -- was born in Hebron, Grafton county, New Hampshire, September 20, 1843. In the spring of 1851 his parents, with their family, came to Cincinnati, where they purchased wagons and had them shipped from Hannibal, Missouri, where they outfitted, and with a team of 8 wagons started across the plains to Oregon and settled in Linn county. Our subject, in 1861, was apprenticed to the printer's trade with the Hon. James H. **SLATER**, at that time the proprietor of the "Corvallis Union", a profession that Mr. **PHELPS** has since followed at different places on the coast until 1874, when he took up his residence in Newport where he now resides. Married in Linn county to Miss Mary **ROSS**, by which union they have seven children.

PITMAN, William M. -- was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, 12 January 1827, and at the age of 13 years commenced an apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade, an occupation he afterwards followed, combined with farming, in his native state. In the spring of 1851, Mr. **PITMAN** started to cross the plains to California, but on arrival at Salt Lake altered his course for Oregon and in May of that year took up his residence in Benton county. Having from that time resided in King's Valley, in 1871, he removed to Corvallis, worked at his trade until 1875, and built his sash and door factory. To this gentleman is the honor of having sawed the first plank of lumber in Benton county -- in 1851, in the mill of **HARTLESS & MATZGER**. During the year 1868-69, Mr. **PITMAN** held office of Fire Commissioner in Corvallis.

POLHEMUS, James S. -- to the ability and engineering skill of the subject of this sketch does Yaquina Bay owe much of its present and future prospects. Although a young man he has taken a deep interest in the work on which he has been employed, and we doubt if the Government could have found a more capable man to take charge of the improvement of the Yaquina Bay, a detailed account of which appears in this work. Mr. **POLHEMUS** was born in Astoria, Queens county, New York, 26 March 1852. When 16 years of age he was sent to the Lehigh University of Pennsylvania, from which he graduated in 1872 as a Civil Engineer. The following years until 1880, Mr. **POLHEMUS** was in the Government employ as engineer on some of the most important works in the Southern, Eastern, and Middle states. In the above year he was selected chief local engineer, to build the jetties at the mouth of Yaquina Bay, a work that he has since been engaged upon and in which he has been eminently successful. Mr. **POLHEMUS** was united in marriage in Portland, the fall of 1884, to Mary C. **DALY**.