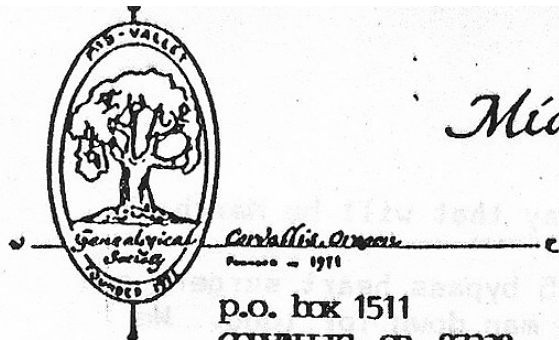


Mid-Valley Genealogical Society



p.o. box 1511
CORVALLIS, OR 97339

President: Ed STRATTON

NEWSLETTER

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WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS- Willis B and Syble ALBIN, Bob BULCHIS, Linda WEAVER, Gene KELSEY, and Shirley HILL

COMING EVENTS

March 15 - Heritage Quest Road Show - 6:30 - 10 p.m. Senior Center, 2601 NW Tyler. There is no admission charge. Please come and support your society's effort to bring a good program of interest to Genealogists.

March 23 & 24- Sweet Home annual 2 day workshop. At Church of Christ, 18th & Long St. Friday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday -9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Fee \$4.00 per day or \$7.00 for both days. See folder for classes offered and other info. They have a lot of books for research plus books & forms for sale.

March 31- Oregon Genealogical Society, Eugene, presents "Research Sources II" Topics for the day include: Museum Collections, Adoption Records, Using the University of Oregon Library, Genetic Research, Land Records, Family Histories, and Family Reunions. Registration through Mar. 24- \$12.50 or at the door \$15.00. Time is 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Place: Wesley United Methodist church, located at the intersection of Cal Young Road and Oakway Road (1385 Oakway Rd.) Eugene.

May 19 - Annual Open House and Family History Fair- a tradition of the Genealogical Forum- Portland. During the 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. program, featured speakers will be Connie Lenzen, C.G.R.S. on where to find Naturalization Records and Multnomah County Sources and Ellen Benedict, Ph.D. on Military and Pension records. Located at 1410 SW Morrison, Portland. Admission is free.

PROPOSED BY-LAWS CHANGE

At the 10 February, 1990 meeting, past Treasurer, John MATUSZAK, proposed that a change be made in the Mid Valley Genealogical Society By-Laws. Under Article VII, Section B, Duties of the Treasurer, paragraph 5, the By-Laws now read: "The duties of the Treasurer shall be: to receive all monies and make disbursements as approved by the Board of Directors; to make a report of financial standing at each meeting; and to prepare account books for an annual audit and report such audits at the February meeting." Because the Board of Directors for at least the past two years has instructed the Treasurer to make all disbursements without obtaining approval for each expenditure, it is proposed that the By-Laws read: "The duties of the Treasurer shall be: to receive all monies and make all disbursements ~~as approved by the Board of directors;~~ to make a report of financial standing at each meeting, and prepare account books for an annual audit and report such audit at the February meeting." A vote on this By-Laws change is planned for the 10 March meeting.

HAPPENINGS:

Congratulations to Harriet Moore on her 94th Birthday that will be March 27.

Get Well wishes to Willis ALBIN who recently had a 5 bypass heart surgery and who we hear is doing fine- like you can't keep a good man down for long. We are thinking of you, Willis.

Gladys PARKER is recovering from a bout with the disease, Lupus, that hit her suddenly when she was on her way home from our meeting in December. We are rooting for your fast recovery too Gladys, so NO "set backs", hear?

The Benton County Historical Society is celebrating the completion of their Challenge Fund Drive on Sunday, March 11 at 2:00 p.m. The program will include ceremonies, music, and a tour of the renovated third floor. What a milestone!

Damaris REYNOLDS is presently on a trip to Bangkok and due to return very soon. We look forward to hearing about all the interesting and exotic sights.

Attention! Any member who does not want his/her name to be sent out on a mailing list, please notify Ed Stratton, Pres. We seldom have the opportunity or need to send out lists but occasionally have an offer of catalogs or recently to receive copies of a bulletin "the Forum". Speak up if you object.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT a little levity and some sage advice

Mother was in the sewing room. Little Bill came in and asked "Mama, where'd I come from?"

Silence - cough - cough - choke - Ah... well...After about two hours of struggling mother had given little Bill a complete lecture on the birds and the bees. "Does this answer your question, son?" she asked.

Not really, Mama, Joey came from Chicago, where'd I come from?

Quite often we find ourselves in the same position as little Bill. We have so many unneeded facts that we can't find out "where'd I come from?" Don't let yourself be overwhelmed by all of the available information. Get only what you need to find "where'd I come from", and put the rest away until you need it..Ed

NEW BOOKS IN OUR LIBRARY:

411 "Historic Spots in California" by Mildred B Hoover, Hero Rensch & Ethel Grace. Revised by Wm. Abeloe. This book was donated by Charles SARTWELL.

412 "A Dictionary of Surnames" by Mark Antony Lower This book was donated by Mary YOKE.

Thanks to Charles and Mary for these gift books. We shall all enjoy them.

A REMINDER

Next meeting- April 14. Bring books to share on: North Carolina, Kentucky, and Tennessee. See you at the Heritage Quest Roadshow, Thursday, March 15.

FELGER, Jacob S.—the subject of this sketch, a view of whose premises will be found in this work, was born in Wayne county, Ohio, 1 March 1824, where he resided until 1845, in which year he proceeded to La Salle county, Illinois and maintained a residence there up to 1851, having in the meantime learned the trade of miller. In the spring of the last mentioned year he joined a train bound by way of the plains to Oregon, and on the fifth of September arrived at Foster's Ranch. There selling his stock he went to the mines in Humboldt county, California, but at the end of 6 months returned to Oregon, took up his residence in Polk county and worked at his trade. Mr. FELGER subsequently was employed at Santiam for about 6 weeks when, returning to Polk he was engaged by General NESMITH. In the fall of 1852 he transferred the scene of his labors to the JONES grist mill at Cloverdale, Lane county, and taking up a donation claim was there married, 25 September 1855 to Nancy E, daughter of O. S. MITCHELL, an early pioneer of that section. Having continued his domicile in that county till 1867, he then disposed of his property, removed to Benton county, purchased his present estate—the well-known FELGER MILLS on Mary's river, a description of which is given elsewhere, and in 1881 built his residence adjacent to the mill site. Mr. FELGER has a family of 6 children, viz: Columbus G., Mary F. (now Mrs. Albert RICE), Elizabeth L. (now Mrs. James M. READER), Benjamin F. Olive A., and Amy M.

FISHER, Ernest W.—we have here in the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this sketch an example of what a man with energy and perseverance combined with business ability can do. On entering the confines of Benton county, Mr. FISHER was almost destitute and his first night, spent on the banks of Mary's river, his small stock of provisions was stolen from him, but coming from a country where there is known no such word as failure, Mr. FISHER concluded to seek his fortune in the gold fields of Yreka, reaching the latter place in the fall of 1851. There he followed mining for one winter and then, in the spring of 1852, returned to Corvallis where he opened a saddle and harness shop, having learned the saddlers trade previous to his leaving Germany. He then manufactured the first harness and saddles ever made in Benton county. He continued at his trade until 1856, when he returned, via Panama, to the east, where, after a sojourn of 3 months, he again came to Oregon and opened his former business in Corvallis, and one year later, married Miss Amelia, daughter of Joseph DILLARD, and at that time purchased his present farm where he now resides, two and one-half miles north of Corvallis, consisting of 480 acres. A view of his residence will be found in this work. He also owns the well-known Fisher block in Corvallis, together with other valuable property, until now he is the second largest tax payer in Benton county. Mr. FISHER was born in Saxon Germany, 25 May 1815, emigrated to America in 1849 and crossed the plains to Oregon in 1851. He has a family of 8 children, viz: Annie, Lena (now Mrs. R. RABER), Charles, Frank, Emma, Mollie, Clara, and John.

FOSTER, John—this highly respected pioneer of Benton county, a brief sketch of whose life we now give to the reader, was born in Coshocton county, Ohio, 3 March 1822, where he resided until he reached the age of 13 years, when he accompanied his parents to Platte county, Missouri, where he remained until the spring of 1845, when his father, mother, one sister and 2 brothers started with ox teams to cross the plains to Oregon. Upon arrival in the fall of that year, Andrew FOSTER, the father, took up his donation claim about 8 miles southwest of the present site of Corvallis, and there resided until his demise. In the spring of 1846 our subject located on his present farm, a claim of 640 acres, to which having added, he now owns 2200, on which he is engaged in general farming, and largely so in stock-raising. He married in the spring of 1846, Miss Mary A. LLOYD, who crossed the plains to Oregon in 1845 and died in 1853. Married, secondly, Miss Eliza BUCHANAN. His family consists of 5 children, viz: William, Jasper T., Mary A., Thomas W., Ella, and Emma (deceased). Mr. FOSTER is one of the "solid" men of Benton county, and is now able, after long years of toil, to surround himself with the comforts which his integrity and uprightness entitle him to.