



Mid-Valley Genealogical Society

NEWSLETTER

VOL III NO. 5

MAY 1988

WELCOME to new member: Louise Phillips COPES.

COMING SOON

May 14 Open House- Genealogical Forum of Oregon- 1410 SW Morrison Portland. 10 - 4 pm. No fee, all genealogists welcome.

May 21- Meeting of Genealogical Council of Oregon - 9:30 am at State Library, Salem. This group, with members from all societies in the state is a coordinating group who meet twice yearly, April and October. Dues are \$5 per year. Visitors are welcome and membership encouraged.

June 9- Our Society -regular meeting and 2nd annual pot luck. Each member is invited to attend- bring a main dish, salad, or dessert. Paper plates and plastic forks will be available. Donations for the book fund will be requested. Lunch will be served at 12 and the business meeting will follow at 1pm. The program will be a slide show by Damaris REYNOLDS and Gretchen MORRIS on "A Trip to China." This will be our last regular meeting until September so you wont want to miss the fun and food.

CEMETERY NEWS

Jean GRUBE, Zira KAHL, Danell KNIGHT, Rebecca KIGER, Damaris REYNOLDS, and Lee RUDISILL have been busy checking the typed copy against the original gravestone listings. The copies have also been checked with the Sexton's records for Crystal Lake and IOOF Cemeteries. When finished, these will surely be the most accurate and extensive lists in existence, at least for Benton County burials. Additional information from the Sexton's records has also been added. These sometimes include the birth place and date, names of next of kin and parents names. Sincere thanks to these dedicated workers who are contributing a great deal toward preserving some Benton County history.

Have you ever wondered how to figure a birthdate from a tombstone or other record? Here is a formulae that has been used for many years in the U.S. It automatically eliminates Leap Year and variance in days of months. Each month is given 30 days, and can be figured simply, when the record gives the age in years, months, and days: **EXAMPLE:** John Q Doe - Died June 15, 1915, Ae 89y 10 m 6 da

the date is first written down:	YEAR	MONTH	DAY
	1915	6	15
then age at death:	89	10	6
	<u>1825</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>

The birthdate is therefore 9 August 1825.

Subtract the DAY column first; if amount in the lower column is larger than the figure above, borrow 30 days from the month column

BENTON COUNTY PIONEERS

The NEWSLETTER plans to publish copies of some of the Biographies of Benton County Pioneers as they appeared in David D FAGAN's HISTORY OF BENTON COUNTY, OREGON 1885

Thanks to Danell KNIGHT for the typing of these and others to follow.

BIOGRAPHIES

ABBEY, Edwin Alden-- was born in Watertown, Jefferson Co, NY December 9 1823, and in 1832, accompanied by his parents, located in Cleveland, Ohio. Here he resided until 1844, when he went south, being employed on the Mississippi river. In the month of September, 1846, he sailed from New Orleans to Mexico, being attached to the Quartermaster's department in the divisions of General WOOL and TAYLOR. Having served until near the close of the war, he accompanied Col. COLLINS to Chihuahua, with dispatches to General PRICE to evacuate that portion of the country, which duty being performed he rejoined the army on the line of march to Sante Fe, and was destined to accompany Company I, First Dragoons, as Wagon Master, and was thus engaged with that corps until 1851. Mr ABBEY now came overland, traveling as far as Fort Laramie with the famous Kit CARSON, and arrived in Benton County in the fall of that year. He located his claim about four miles from what was then Marysville (now Corvallis) having for his nearest neighbor Elijah LIGGETT, and at once set to work farming. In 1856 Mr ABBEY, with Dr. T. J. RIGHT and E. HARTLESS made the pioneer journey to Yaquina Bay, the former's reason for the journey being one of simple pleasure and adventure; but with Dr. RIGHT it was different, as he was appointed Surgeon to the agency which had then been recently established on the coast. There were no roads, and Phil SHERIDAN then a Lieutenant, was having his men cut a trail over the mountains to lead from the reservation to civilization. Mr. ABBEY, following the trails, made Yaquina Bay about 2 miles from its mouth. At that time there was not a single resident in that part of Benton county. In 1862 he took up his residence in Corvallis, and there resided for about 3 years and then moved to Yaquina and located a large tract of land which he still owns near Elk City, 22 miles from Newport. Mr ABBEY has again taken up his residence in Corvallis. Married in Benton Co, Oregon, 4 July 1852, to Miss Miranda PENLAND, who crossed the plains the previous year, and has a surviving family of one son and one daughter, Viz: Richard M. and Clara A. (4)

ABBEY, Peter M--born in Cleveland, Ohio, 19 Aug 1837, and resided in the Eastern States until 1866, when he came across the continent to the Golden State whence, after a short sojourn, he came to Oregon first locating in Corvallis, when one year later he moved to Newport, Yaquina Bay and engaged in merchandising until 1870, when he built his present commodious hotel, the "Bay View House", which, under his management, aided by his estimable wife, has given to the Bay one of the very best hotels in Oregon. Here can the weary pilgrim find rest for the body and strength for the inner man in all the good things that abound on land or in the sea, and at the same time enjoy the comforts of a happy home.(4)

ALFORD, James P--was born in Chariton co, Missouri, 10 Aug 1849. When but an infant his parents with a family of 9 children crossed the plains to Oregon, arriving in Linn county in the fall of 1850. In 1875, our subject came to Benton county, and in 1880 purchased his present farm 3/4 of a mile south of Monroe. In the spring of 1884 he was elected county assessor of Benton county.

(4)

and add to the figure in the upper day column. After this is done, then subtract lower figure which will give the DAY of the month. When you borrow 30 days, reduce figure given for month by one.

To find the month, if amount in lower column is larger than the figure above, borrow 12 months from the year column, which reduces it one year. Add the 12 months to the number of months in the MONTH column, then subtract the lower figure and this will give you the MONTH.

Then subtract AGE date from figure in DEATH DATE column and you will have the BIRTHDATE.

VETERAN'S MARKERS- a Veteran of the United States armed forces is entitled to a grave marker as well as other death benefits if he has a discharge other than dishonorable. The marker can be of white marble, upright, or flat granite, or flat bronze, or a flat slate. It can have a christian symbol, jewish symbol or buddist symbol, as well as other vital dates and name of branch of service and rank. The VA will also pay an allowance for a privately purchased headstone or marker if no government marker has been previously provided. If you have a relative who would qualify, that has no marker, information may be had from the local VA representative. Arrangements at the time of death are usually made by funeral arrangers at the request of family. (taken from Hlstory PaperNo I Washington Co. Historical Society.

MICROFILMS FROM NATIONAL ARCHIVES:

These film have been ordered by Society members and may be available to borrow if you do some negotiating with the borrower or Mary YOKE

1840 Census, VA - Amherst, Bedford, Brunswick & Buckingham Counties -	- Virginia KOOS	M704	550	due May 20
1850 Census NY, Ulster Co	Fern SHAFFER	M432	607	"
1850 Census NY, Ulster Co M	Mary YOKE	M432	608	"
1850 Census VA Cabell, Campbell co	V. KOOS	M432	938	June 22
1860 Census, PA, Warren Co	Fern SHAFFER	M653	1190	"
Rev. War Records-3rd Regt NY BU - D	Lee RUDISILL	M881	698	"

ADDITIONS TO REFERENCE HOLDINGS (from the winter newsletter) OREGON STATE ARCHIVES

During the past six months the Archives has made significant additions to the reference materials available for use in the research room. Most have been purchased but some have been donated.

The Archives purchased ninety two reels of Donation Land Claim records (1851 - 1903) from the national Archives as well as three reels of naturalization records for OR covering the years 1859 - 1892. They have received a donation of 3 Metsker Atlases, covering Marion, Polk, and Linn Counties. These are particularly useful as supplements to the Donation Land Claim records. In addition to showing property ownership in the counties at the time they were published they also outline and give the names to donation land claims filed in those counties.

The Archives also purchased FRONTIER JUSTICE from the Washington State Archives. This consists of a 2 vol. guide and index to court cases in Washington Territory from 1853 to 1889, as well as microfilm of each court case. Many individuals associated with early Oregon history can be found in these records, since before it became a separate territory it was part of Oregon Territory.

This growing collection of published resources is available to reseachers at the Archives during regular hours, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. 1005 Broadway N.E., Salem, OR