



Mid-Valley Genealogical Society

NEWSLETTER

November, 1986

A WARM WELCOME to new members: Theresa Skidmore, Lucy Axtell, Esther Forsyth, Sarah Berry, Walter Downing, Mary Ann Rushing and Jerry Davis.

THANKS TO Virginia Koos and Gladys Parker for furnishing the refreshments today.

BEST WISHES to Elizabeth Aiken who had surgery very recently and is now recovering with the strength and determination that she does with all things.

PLAN AHEAD TO THE December meeting and our annual Auction and Cookie spread. Hopefully each member will bring a plate of cookies or other goodies to share plus one or more items to be auctioned off. These can be handmade gifts, Xmas decorations, baked goods, candies, or your white elephants. If you are one of the super busy people and can't bring anything - come anyway and enter into the bidding and the spirit of fun. All proceeds from the auction goes to purchase new books for our library.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mary Kellis who has a picture now hanging in the Benton County Museum Senior Art Show. Congratulations to Frances Hallam who won several ribbons at the County Fair for her art work.

COMING EVENTS: a siminar sponsered by the Coos Bay Genealogical Forum and LDS branch Library - November 15 - 10 am to 4:30 pm at 3950 Sherman Ave, North Bend. All invited. Cost \$10 - includes lunch. Keynote speaker from Salt Lake Library. Sessions include: Beginning research, Researching in Germany, in England, in Scandanivia; military records, using the census plus others that you may choose.

NEW BOOK has been purchased - FOUNDER AND PATRIOTS - a revised edition by Colket. This second edition of FOUNDERS OF EARLY AMERICAN FAMILIES is about the emigrants who came to America during the first fifty years of the settlement of Jamestown, 1607 - 1657.

BENTON COUNTY PIONEERS BY Mabelle.

LAND DONATION CLAIM..No. 2784- BLAKESLY, Amos, Benton County; b. 1795, Hartford, Conn; Arr. 1 Dec 1844; SC 27 Nov 1850. Wm. M PITTMAN signed Oath of Allegiance as purchaser of c. Aff: Luke(X) MULKY, Job S. HAYWORTH.

Does anyone have any information about Amos BLAKESLY? Did he marry Caroline CASTEEL of Lane County?

.....
Through our grandparents we receive God's gifts of love, kindness, wisdom, and understanding.....

RAKING THROUGH THE LEAVES
UNDER THE OLD OAK TREE.

The brilliant foliage and crisp fall air has reminded me of the early 70's when MID-VALLEY SOCIETY took shape. I needed help as I realized I was the one who must tackle the growing mounds of family records appearing on my doorstep. Velma Parsons had also become aware of similar needs as the older generation of the Keepers of our Heritage pressured her to do something to maintain the continuing concern for preservation.

We are deeply grateful to the charter members who set up an organization where members could study, share, and work together for the common good. Through dues, memorials and gifts, a collection was begun. Very carefully, a selection committee used funds as they became available to build a basic resource collection with additions made to relate to the research needs of the members. We have been fortunate to have had donations of DAR Records and various materials. Work to maintain the collection has been done by volunteers, an especially important job since leaving the city library. We need to be aware that the need continues to add useful volumes and these can be added only from our dues and gifts that are contributed. We are privileged to have this resource available and need to continue our vision of building a rich heritage for the generations to come.

THANKSGIVING.

Millions of Americans can now claim lines, one or more, back to the original Pilgrims that landed on the rocky shores of Plymouth in December, 1620. But whether you do or not, you would be interested in their story, for it is our common history.

Saints and Strangers, by George F. Willison, (Reynal & Hitchcock, N.Y. 1945) is still a good reference to explain their origin in England, their move to Holland in 1607 and the journey to North America in 1620. The progress of these people is continued through the century as they adapt to the wilderness and begin to conquer the land. In the appendix, there is a list of the passengers on the MAYFLOWER with brief biographies. Other boats arriving later are also listed: FORTUNE, SHALLP FROM SPARROW, ANNE OF LONDON (1623), MAYFLOWER (not the original boat, 1629), TALBOT, AND HANDMAID. The people arriving at Plymouth are divided into Saints Strangers, Hired-hands, and Servants, a total of 362 souls who had arrived by 1630. However, as you will recall, half of the first boatload on the Mayflower, died during the first severe winter.

There is also a selective bibliography helpful to anyone wanting to dig deeper into the Pilgrim question.

The Mayflower Quarterly is published by the General Society of Mayflower Descendants, Plymouth, Mass. Membership is available to anyone who can prove a pedigree back to one of 25 passengers on the Mayflower landing at Plymouth Rock, Dec. 1620. Any Library will have copies of their extensive research and established pedigrees.

*NOTE. I have quarterlies for over 15 years.