

Celebrating 50 Years

of the

Benton County
Genealogical Society

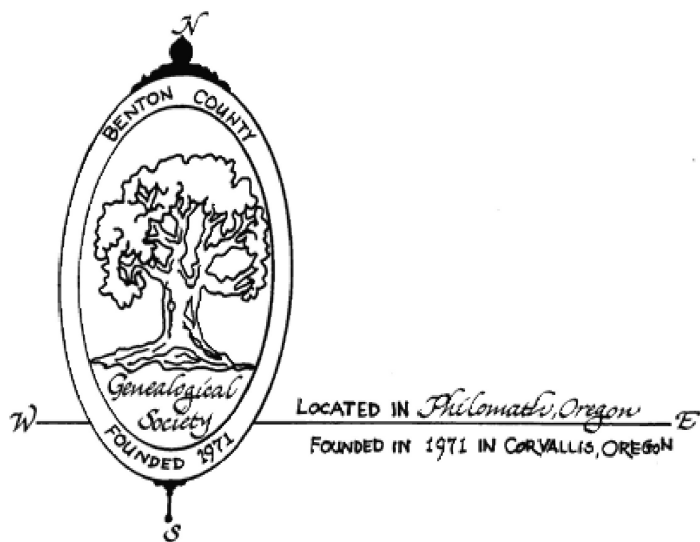
formerly known as

Mid-Valley Genealogical
Society

1971-2021

Cover Page
and
Chronological Table of Contents
for the
Benton County Genealogical Society
formerly
Mid-Valley Genealogical Society

**In celebration of our 50th year as a
society**



**The Benton County Genealogical Society 50th Anniversary
Historical Collections of Officers and Appointed Positions
History and Past Events of the Society
1971- 2021**

The 50th anniversary of our Benton County Genealogical Society is celebrated here with information found in past Mid-Valley Genealogical Society and Benton County

Genealogical Society newsletters, meeting minutes and society agendas. E-mails and personal knowledge of the society were collected from 1971 through January and February of 2020. The last two programs were presented before closing down in March 2020 due to the pandemic of 2020/2021/2022. The BCGS Library was opened on Saturdays only when it was reasonable to do so. Our society plans to gather together again as soon as members feel it is safe.

This history of our society is dedicated to the officers, appointed position members and committee members who faithfully served the society and will serve as a foundation for the years ahead. Names of members who served in other capacities are also recorded as found.

More information will be added from member recollections in our “Memories” section. Anyone with corrections or additions may contact Linda Olsen

thekeeper@ronsarchive.com

See the first 25 year history of our society composed by Virginia Hoeye covering the time period 1971- 1996 included at the beginning. Also see the first scrapbooks of the 1971- 1979 time period for our society which are now in the Benton County Historical Museum.

Programs in the early history of our society consisted of slide shows presented by members or an invited speaker. Early presentations on different types of genealogy software were also common programs. Members of the society were often speakers.

They took trips by bus or van to other genealogy societies to see their research materials. Communication with other genealogy societies was frequent and trips in groups or by single members to the LDS church facilities to use microfilm, OSU Library for research, or Knight Library in Eugene were frequent.

These society materials were researched and collected by Linda Olsen, past board member, and reviewed by our current Board members:

President: George Davidson, Vice President: Kathryn Moss, Secretary: Debbi White, Treasurer: Lois Courtney, Newsletter: Sue Van Laere and Membership: Connie Patterson with contributions from members of our society.

Chronological Table of Contents

The Beginning

1971-1979

Three scrapbooks containing information about the Mid-Valley Genealogical Society are held in the Benton County Historical Museum. They contain newspaper clippings, photos of early society members and a list of charter members. Original sign-in sheets with names and addresses and memorabilia posters and booklets are included. Page one of Virginia

Hoeye's History of the first 25 years of our society lists the first officers of 1971.

President ---- Velma Parsons

Vice President — Celia Wilson Coon

Secretary/Treasurer — Josephine Zadina

Directors — Hazel Beals, Harriet Moore, Bernice Robinson

Also present were Mary Pepper, Norma Pennington, Lavohn Watts and Edna Wiese

1971-1996

Virginia Hoeye's six page history of the first 25 years of our society is attached. See the list of charter members on the first page. A framed list of charter members is located on the wall in the Annex building where we meet next door to the Benton County Museum.

1974-1989

A white notebook labeled 1974 - 1989 is stored in BCGS upstairs closet in the Annex. The 1974 section has only a newsletter dated December 1974. Most of the remaining years

have a complete or nearly complete set of Board and General meeting minutes.

1994-1996 and 1997, 1998, & 1999 files on floppy disc

A blue/green notebook labeled 1994-1996 from the BCGS upstairs closet in the Annex holds meeting minutes and agendas. The floppy disc found in an envelope in the front of this notebook contains four files, one from 1997 (committee assignments), two files from Dec 1998 (General and Board meeting minutes), and one file from 1999 (elected officers for 1999). Most of the rest of the notebook is complete with only an occasional record missing.

2001 (Nov & Dec) and 2002

BCGS Officers and history November and December 2001 plus all of 2002 from our newsletters are listed together.

2003 to 2021

BCGS officers and our society events are listed from our newsletters and Board and General Meeting minutes.

1971 - 1979

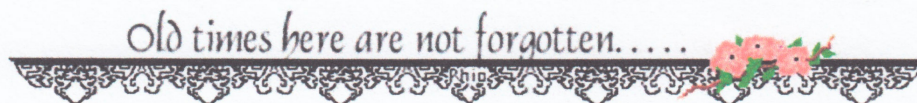
Three Scrapbooks

Filled with Society Memorabilia

When our society was first known as

The Mid-Valley Genealogical Society

Old times here are not forgotten.





Pictured above is the first of Three Scrapbooks stored in the Benton County Historical Museum collections under Mid-Valley Genealogical Society/Benton County Genealogical Society. Each scrapbook contains three years of society memorabilia.

1971 - 1973

1974 - 1976

1977 - 1979

#3 pages 155-172

MID-VALLEY
GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY

SCRAP BOOK

1977
1978
1979

...will talk on
research in Germany.

EDNA WIESE
Speaker
October 1971
Research in Germany



Edna Wiese, 411 S. W. 9th Street
Corvallis, Oregon.
A former teacher and nurse, now
connected with the committee on
Housing and Health for the aged.
Descendant of early Oregon
pioneers (one of whom was a
Cyrus). She has done and still
is collecting a vast amount of
history on her family.

Information received
from Mary Peffer

Oct. 9, 1971

The following women were at the organizational meeting of the
local Genealogical Society, at the Corvallis Public Library.
(All from Corvallis unless otherwise noted)

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------|
| BEALS, Hazel A. (Mrs. F. Wayne)
2715 S.E. Third St. | 753-6741 | Corvallis, OR 97330 |
| COON, Celia Wilson (Mrs.)
3615 Sylvan Drive | 752-1737 | |
| Moore, Harriet (Mrs.)
285 N.W. 35th St. | 753-6615 | |
| PENNINGTON, Norma (Mrs. Paul)
Rt. 1, Box 44N
LEBANON -97355 | 258-2858 | |
| PARSONS, Velma (Mrs. Theran)
2515 N.W. Arthur Circle | 753-8556 | |
| PEFFER, Mary (Mrs. Ray M.)
5825 SW Plymouth Drive | 753-5655 | |
| ROBISON, Bernice W. (Mrs. W. E.)
277 N.E. Conifer Blvd. Ap. 108 | 752-0746 | |
| WATTS, Lavohn M. (Mrs. Blaine C.)
311 N.W. 3KXX Polk Ave. | 753- XXXX 3560 | |
| Wiese, Edna (Miss)
411 X S.W. 9th St. | 753-7085 | (See photo at top) |
| ZADINA, Josephine (Mrs. Anton)
1140 N.W. 16th St. | 752-6278 | |



Officers elected for the year 1977 from left, Vernon Stryker, Jr., Treasurer; Valerie Nichols, Second Vice President; Peggy Mason, Secretary; Clara Jans, First Vice President; Ted Gump, President.

Advanced Genealogy Workshops are coming to Central Oregon

The Mid-Valley Genealogical Society invites you to attend a remarkable new series of advanced genealogy workshops.

Each workshop will focus on practical, how-to-do-it techniques to help you solve your specific pedigree problems.

Here are the topics.

Solving American Pedigrees — Migrational Patterns

(Friday evening, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.)

By understanding migrational patterns, you can trace your ancestral families even when the sources do not state places of origin. We will discuss specific migrational patterns, places of origin of cooperative and religious migrant groups, and those sources which can lead you to places of origin.

How to Find Birth, Marriage and Death Dates Prior to 1900

(Saturday morning, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.)

If your ancestor lived before vital statistics were kept, where can you find his birthdate? This workshop will focus on those American sources prior to 1900 which yield birth, death and marriage dates.

Solving American Pedigrees — Land, Probate, Court and Tax Records

(Saturday afternoon, 2 to 4:30 p.m.)

No other records in America carry the potential for genealogical proof as property records. They can yield missing surnames, genealogical relationships and individual identity if you know how to use their evidence.

ALSO INCLUDED

- **Free Consultation on your Pedigree**
Lecturers will be available one hour prior to workshop sessions for free consultation.
- **Packet of Research Material**
A different research packet accompanies each workshop which contains 60-100 pages of information worth \$3.50 per packet, much of it previously unpublished.
- **10% Discount at Publications Table**
Save money on work forms, research aids and teaching materials specially designed to apply the Jurisdictional Approach® to your pedigree.
- **Informative Displays**
Browse among interesting displays on various aspects of genealogy and family history.
- **Surname Register**
List your surnames or place a free query of any length in our Annual Surname Register.

FRIDAY and SATURDAY
MAY 17-18, 1974
Lynn-Benton Community College
6500 S. W. Pacific Blvd.
Albany, Oregon



Arlene Eakle



Nancy Poolman

WORKSHOP TEAM

Heading the workshop team is Mrs. Arlene Eakle. Mrs. Eakle is co-author of *Genealogical Research: A Jurisdictional Approach*. She is completing her PhD in British history and is an expert in tracing American, Canadian, and British pedigrees.

Joining Mrs. Eakle will be Miss Nancy Poolman, a graduate of U.C.L.A. in languages and former European analyst for the B.Y.U. Genealogical Research Center. Miss Poolman, who speaks 9 languages, is completing her MA in French history.

We invite you to attend one workshop session or to attend the whole series. Why not bring a friend with you to conserve gasoline and to share what could be an important breakthrough in your search for ancestry.

Pre-Registration Price:

One session	\$7.00
Series of 3	\$18.00

At Door Price:

One session	\$8.00
Series of 3	\$21.00

Student Price:

One session	\$5.00
Series of 3	\$12.00

**Spouse admitted for
\$1.00 per session.**

RESERVE YOUR TICKET NOW

Pre-registrations must be postmarked by 10 May, 1974. Reserve your ticket now by sending your check or money order to The Genealogical Institute, 10 South Main Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84101. Reservations can also be made by calling Mrs. Richard Akin, Albany (503) 926-4039.

Presented for the Mid-Valley
Genealogical Society by
The Genealogical Institute
10 South Main Street
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

March 9, 1974

Name	Address
Edna E. Wise	411 S.W. 9th Corvallis
Elizabeth W. Akin	880 SW Bryant Way, Albany
Mildred B. Hawkins	3155 E 15th Ave Albany
Susan Mayer.	935 N.W. Beca, Corvallis
Frances Hallam	842 N.W. 2nd #16, Corvallis
Hazel A. Beale	2715 S.E. 3rd, Corvallis.
Felma Parsons	2515 NW Arthur
Bill Reasons	2523 NW. 25th Corvallis.
F. Fillein Herton	1350 N.W. 14 ✓
Edith M. Hughes	544 N.W. 16th "
Bernice W. Robinson	277 NE Conifer 108
Lillian Legard	1330 E Water Albany
Bernice Legard	950 airport rd #42 Albany
Betty Moore	624 W. 9th Albany
Dorothy Brust	1825 N.W. Broadway Albany
Jean Vanderpool	PT. 4 Box 503 Albany Ore.
Celia W. Coon	3615 Sylvan Dr. Corvallis
Audrey Broadley	3010 N.W. Orchard, Corvallis
Roy C. Palmer	1580 WALNUT, ALBANY
Ruby E. Boyce	3220 E 15 "
Bessie Murphy	7355 N.W. Valley View Dr.
Kristine Hansen	1510 St Alexander
Clara Jans	1213 N.W. Tyler av
Raymond L. Stone	2549 Newton - Philo.
Harriet Moore	285 NW 35
E.M. Beard	1745 N.W. 14th St. Corvallis.

Genealogy Notes

By Mildred Hawkins

GENEALOGY TODAY

We live in a time when it has become the smart thing to do to "debunk" the great tear down the historical legends and the traditions about those persons who founded our country.

Is it anymore realistic than the period that preceded this? A period that over sentimentalized and glossed over the past? Over-reaction can be out of focus and distorted. Are we any closer to the truth by looking only at the faults and limitations of our forebears?

The pursuit of FAMILY TREES brings to light the personal papers and family keepsakes of generations that have gone before. I am reading through a collection of letters written during and after the Civil War. Lucy Stimson writes to her husband who has enlisted with the Minnesota Regiment. It could be written today by a woman left alone with two small girls, concerned about the problems of her household as well as the welfare of her husband. In turn, she writes her from his camp in Tennessee. He misses his life and his small daughters. She wonders if she has paid certain bills, and how the crops are coming. Two years ago, there is a letter written to Lucy to her husband's family telling about her husband's death following a long illness. The feelings, concerns come through as well in this letter of July 7, as a letter that I might receive in today's mail.

People are people, whenever they live. There is some good, some evil, and a great deal of neutrality, all mixed up together. The basic characteristics of men and women haven't changed, it is the time which we live that shapes and molds our destinies.

There is a great deal of history yet to be written. And even more that needs to be rewritten. Let's hope it will be written more through the eyes of the common people, instead of from the papers of the generals and the officials.

With computerization, it is possible that archives and museum collections can be made available to our writers. Up to now the staggering job of research made the problem too great, but now access is becoming possible so that the journals, the personal papers of the common citizen can come to light. The comments of Lucy Stimson and her husband on course of the Civil War are very different from those of the Generals whose papers have determined what went into the History books.

Genealogy Notes

By Mildred Hawkins

The OREGON HERITAGE COUNCIL is an organization that is concerned with the preservation and the coordination of records within the state. It has its headquarters in Salem. It seeks to bring together the Historian, the Genealogist, the Archivist, and any one else interested in Oregon and its Heritage.

It began several years ago, in a small way, with the meeting of concerned persons once or twice a year. These people were aware that groups around the state were engaged in researching projects, such as cemetery records. The problem was that no one else knew that this work was being done. This presented several problems, the first being duplication of effort. If a cemetery had been properly indexed, why should another group repeat the process.

The other problem was that a researcher had no way of knowing where to find indexes, reports, or records that had been copied.

At the present time, the Projects Coordinator, Erma Lee Brown, of Salem is work-

ing on the ORIGINAL OREGON AIDS CHECKLIST. When complete it will consist of about 100 pages of material which will give the location of materials, that can be found in the state.

County by county it might list Cemetery records, Census records, histories, marriage records, probate, military records and others. Then it will indicate the form in which it exists, who is doing it, and where it is available.

This is certainly a worthy undertaking and represents a great deal of effort on the part of many contributors. It has long needed to be done.

For further information you can write to the OREGON HERITAGE COUNCIL, P.O. Box 3424, Salem, OR 97302. Membership is \$3.00 a year and is open to the general public as well as Libraries, Genealogical and historical societies, Archivists and patriotic organizations.

This is an organization to watch. The need is great, and it is hoped that there will be interest enough to spur on their efforts.