

NewsLetter

Benton County Genealogical Society

May, 2000

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Number Five

MAY MEETING

The program for May 13 will feature Layne Sawyer from the Oregon State Archives. She will talk about doing genealogy at the Archives.

The June 10 meeting will be the "Pot Luck" and Summer Book Sale. This meeting is the last of our BCGS year.

The first meeting in the fall will be September 9 and will be our "Show and Tell" meeting where members report on summer genealogy trips and their findings. Hopefully, some will have made discoveries that will give us all new clues on where and how to do research.



TRIP TO SALT LAKE CITY

In September, Danell Aukerman will be leading an LBCC class of 30 participants on a trip to Salt Lake City, Utah, for a whole week of research at the library there. Accommodations will be at the Plaza Hotel, which is right next door to the library. The cost of the trip is projected to be around \$500 per person, which includes hotel and non-stop flights between Portland and Salt Lake City. The target dates are September 18 through September 23, but are not set in stone. There will be an initial meeting for all interested people on May 22 at 7PM at LBCC main campus in room B101. The meeting will be used to determine how many people are interested in the trip and if it is time to discuss possible changes in the trip dates to accommodate the most people, and to answer any further questions. Call or e-mail Danell if you have questions at: Danell Aukerman

752-6425 (home)

917-4352 (work—LBCC)

aukermd@gw.lbcc.cc.or.us

KITH AND KIN

BY CHARLENE TALBOT

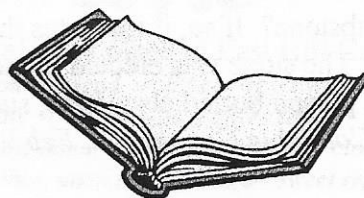
QUOTING SOURCES

The question that comes to mind from time to time when we're reading articles in genealogical magazines or on the Internet is "How seriously are we going to take this business of quoting sources? Will someone in the future REALLY care where we got our information? Our relatives in the present don't seem to care very much. Indeed, one might say they don't give a hoot."

Of course, if you are a professional genealogist writing an article or a column, you have to put in all the information about doing it right, or you'd lose the respect of your peers, plus it gives you something to write about, but for us garden variety genealogists it's another question. What if getting too picky takes away all the fun of sleuthing out the actual people?

We are looking at a column that came over the Internet. The question is: If a census index leads you to the actual census record, should you record the index as a source as well as the census itself? The columnist thinks you should. Gosh, we have to confess that sometimes we haven't even gone on to look at the census itself. We've been satisfied with the information we got off the Soundex card. Are we the only sinners?

Here's another problem about quoting sources. A volunteer in San Diego was kind



Kith and Kin continued

Enough to look up and send us the death certificate of a man we were hunting for. However, his birth date read Eighteen Eighty-Nine. His niece had previously filled out a Family Group Sheet for us, giving his birth date as Eighteen Ninety-Nine, which fit in with the births of the rest of the family—1891, 1894, 1897, 1900, 1906. So someone wrote 89 when they meant to write 99. We have been assuming that it was the volunteer in San Diego who copied the number wrong or the person who typed the death certificate. Should we make a big deal out of a typographical error, and write a subparagraph about it? But now, as we write this and look at the notes, we see that the niece who wrote 1899 on the Family Group Sheet, put this man as the first-born, which he would have been if he'd been born in 'Eighty-Nine. This does indeed call for a note.

What it comes down to, we suppose, is how much time do we want to spend copying sources for all our data? While all the time there's another question nagging at the back of our minds. Will anybody besides us ever look at this?

Another question: What do we do when someone gives us data and tells us the source? Do we reference the person or the original source, or both? We have copied and pasted into our research workbook the following admonition: A researcher may report only that which is personally examined. Any reference must reflect the exact form in which the researcher personally found the source.

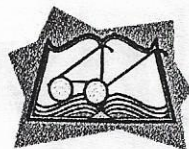
But what happens when the source we've examined has disappeared? People change e-mail addresses quite often.

In the end, let's face it, by the time someone starts picking at our research, we'll probably be listed with the ancestors.



CENOTAPH: Have you ever seen this word engraved on a tombstone? If so, it indicates that the grave is empty. The stone was erected in memory or in honor of a person buried elsewhere, such as at sea.

Columbia Connection, Feb 97



NEW BOOKS

These are the new books purchased by the BCGS this month.

Jean Grube, Librarian

Tracing Your Dakota Roots; a Guide to Genealogical research in the Dakotas

Johnson County, Iowa, Landowners 1859 Map Index*

Washington County, Iowa, Tax records, 1860-1979; Iowa Township Index*

Johnson County, Iowa, Probates Index*

Index of Maryland Colonial Wills, 1634-1777

CD – Marriage Index: Michigan and Wisconsin, 1830-1890

CD – Passenger and Immigration Lists: Germans to America, 1875-1888

CD – Canadian Genealogy Index, 1600s – 1900s

** denotes gifts of Ken Bielman*

There is a supply of "National Archives Orders for Copies of Veterans Records in the Vertical File under "Military". (only usable until June 30, 2000.

A REMINDER

The Society's spring garage sale will be held at Jean Grube's home on May 20. Anyone with things to donate can contact Jean or Damaris Reynolds. It is not too early to start collecting items to be sold. Remember, we do not accept clothing since it does not sell well. It can be taken to the OSU Thrift Shop where our number is 492.

Jean and Damaris will also be happy to sign up helpers who will be willing to work on the day of the sale.

SIGNATURES WITH AN "X"

It is generally supposed that if a person's signature on legal document contained an "X" that he/she could not write. This may or may not be true. About 20% of the population in the early 19th century could not write. However, many who could write refused to sign a document they did not understand.

from Tree Climber, Stark County, Ohio

AN OBITUARY

From Mabelle Martsching
Miss Lizzie Dawson.

Miss Lizzie, aged 13 years, daughter of James and Julia Dawson, was fatally burned in the destruction of her father's house, by fire, on the night of the 22d ult, (May 22, 1886) and died the next morning, after seven hours of terrible suffering. One day later, her baby sister joined her in the sleep of death—a second victim of this awful calamity. In any of its forms, death has its terrors, but in this, they are the most dreadful. Awakened by her mother's cry of danger, the daughter's first thought was of her two sisters, sleeping with her, and she imperilled (sic) her own life in trying to save theirs. The older of these escaped safely, but with the younger in her arms, the brave girl became bewildered in the dense smoke and scorching heat, and was only gotten out of the building by the united strength of father and mother. When returning consciousness revealed to her the ruin wrought, she threw her arms around her father's neck, exclaiming, "Oh, father, our house is burned, and we have no home," thus showing her devotion to home in the forgetfulness of self, although in agonizing pain.

But no, she was not left homeless. Although her earthly home was destroyed, she was soon welcomed to a better and fairer one beyond.

Being our friend and former pupil, we would add a tribute to her memory and say, that Lizzie was always a dutiful and lovable child, a favorite with her mates and with all her acquaintances. A peculiar trait was her disposition to sacrifice her own wishes to those of others, when differences arose. In the home, the same noble virtues crowned her life, as elsewhere, and her father, speaking of these, said that Lizzie was never heard to speak harshly to any one.

That such an awful fate should terminate this promising life so early, and blast the fondest hopes and aspirations, is one of the mysteries of Him, whose wisdom mortals should not question, "Whose ways are past finding out." To the bereaved parents it is precious comfort to know that "He doeth all things well," and that the darlings they have lost He will tenderly care for and keep.

The funeral occasion was one of unusual sadness
cont —>

PROPOSED CHANGES IN COST OF MILITARY & PENSION RECORDS AT NATIONAL ARCHIVES

From Ohio Genealogical Society

We had been informed by reliable sources that on July 1, 2000, the cost of the Military Records was going from \$10.00 to \$17.50 and the cost of the Pension Records from \$10.00 to \$40.00.

We did some further checking and found out that this is a *proposal* that the above changes be made. The information has to first be published in the in the Federal Register. Once it is in the Federal Register, the public has 60 days to respond. You may want to check their web site and you may want to send right away for the records you've been meaning to send for before the cost goes up!

Also, go to: < <http://www.nara.gov/fedreg/public.html#top> > to read the information that was to be published in the Federal Register on March

OREGON GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Presents "Telling Your Story" on May 20, 2000 at Wesley United Methodist Church, 1385 Oakway Road, Eugene. Speakers for the event will be Margaret L. Ingram, Linda Van Orden and Dr. Maurice H. McDowell. All are well known speakers and authors. A wide selection of research forms and publications will be available for purchase.

(OGS has moved to 955 Overpark Arcade, Eugene, an alley between Willamette & Oak)

SHELF LIST UPDATES

From Ken Bielman

Shelf list updates are now available in the library. The update includes all books added to the library since the last Shelf List was made at the end of November 1998 to April 10, 2000. The cost is 25 cents for the four-page update.



And the burial took place in East Hill Cemetery.

*Rest dear young friend, with baby sister nigh;
Whilst o'er thy lowly bed the zephyrs sigh,
Life's brief day done; its conflict's speedy close,
Secured for thee, unending pleasure—sweet repose.*



WE WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Ms. Chris Paglia
340 N. E. Cambridge Circle
Corvallis, OR 97330
Pagliac@proaxis.com

We now have a total of 129 members
(26 of these are family memberships.)

Membership Information

President	David Kribs cdkribs@pioneer.net	929-6079
1st Vice Pres	Bill Gleaves	929-4087
2nd Vice Pres	Charlene Talbot	929-6079
Secretary	Teri Greene mmteriaproaxis.com	
Treasurer	Gene Newcomb newcombg@bec.orst.edu	929-5715
Librarian	Jean Grube	758-7618
	Ken Bielman	758-3769
Membership	Leila Crawford leila@peak.org	753-4153
Newsletter Editor	Dorothy Burt dgburt@pioneer.net	424-3021
	Janice Barclay jbarc@pioneer.net	847-5610

Dues are \$10.00 single and \$13.00 family per calendar year.
Dues paid after September 1st are credited to next year.

Web page URL <http://www.rootsweb.com/~orbentgs/>

Canadian Interest Group

The Canadian Interest Group is for those searching for their roots in Canada. The April meeting will be Wednesday, April 12, Albany Public Library, 12:30-3:30. The May meeting will be Wednesday, May 17., same room, same time. If you have a specific area of Canada you are interested in, please let me know so we can have books and printed materials there for you to look at. We have resources available for Manitoba, Ontario, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and some Quebec plus Canada in General. Car pooling can be arranged.

Call Pat Rawlinson, 752-2243, for further info.

E-mail: sprawlinson@proaxis.com

Odds And Ends

Our number at the OSU Thriftshop on Second Street in Corvallis is 492.

Please keep your Santiam and Flav-R-Pak labels coming in to the Library. There is a plastic sack in the library to keep them in. Leila Crawford is in charge of the label program. All you need is the UPC Symbol from the label. Be sure that you leave some area around the label when you tear it off.

More Member Info

Our meetings are held on the second Saturday of September through June, in the NE Dining Hall of the College United Methodist Church, on the east side of the parking lot, in the 1100 block of Philomath. Business meeting is at 10:00 a.m. with the program at 11:00 a.m.

Our Library, in the museum annex, is open to members and visitors on meeting days from 12:00 noon, or when the program is over until 3:00 p.m. IF we can keep enough volunteer librarians, it will be open every Tuesday afternoon from 12:30 until 3:00 p.m.

Members in good standing may check out and return books any time the li-

Stamp

The two digits behind your name on the mailing label are:
S=Single; F=Family; E=Exchange.
Number is last of year; 8=1998
L0 is Charter Honorary Life Member

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Several books by Benton County authors have been added to the library collection recently, including autographed copies of two recent works, Evelyn Whitfield's *Three Year Picnic* and Frances P. Stilwell's beautifully illustrated book, *Come Walk Through Spring with Bessie Gragg Murphy and her Willamette Valley Wildflowers*. We have also received a copy of *Charley's Heaven* by Charles Stovall, published in 1957.

- *Three Year Picnic* describes Evelyn Whitfield's life inside civilian prison-camps during World War II, under the Japanese occupation of the Philippines.
- Stilwell's book is beautifully illustrated with photographs of original pastels by Stilwell and is a tribute to long-time Benton County resident Bessie Gragg Murphy. Using Murphy's own words, the book weaves together her love of wildflowers, and her view of life in Benton County in the early 20th century. (The author is to be commended for having the book printed on acid-free paper.)
- *Charley's Heaven*, an autobiographical work, describes what it was like growing up on Woods Creek in the early part of the 20th century. The book provides insight into life in general in the rural areas of Benton County at that time and is particularly suited to young readers.

Other objects donated include: a combination mirror and 1939 calendar from Barclay's Confectionary in Philomath; a whetstone and case dating to 1926 from Charnholm's Hardware in Corvallis; a token from the Hancock bus line in Corvallis; a toy doll carriage from 1923; and a chisel used by the Civilian Conservation Corps.

The costume collection saw the addition of two pairs of shoes and two hats, all in exceptional condition, from the 1950s, and two sweatshirts; one from the library centennial celebration, and the other from Roosevelt School in Corvallis.

We received some significant contributions to our document collection during this period, including 22 original record books from Philomath College and the College of Philomath, along with eight bundles of College of Philomath registration cards for 1901-1913. Another donation was a ledger book from the Whiteside Brothers Theater for 1918-1920, a period in which they leased the Majestic Theater.

Other additions to the museum archives include: a scrapbook of newsletters listing the events and activities for servicemen stationed at Camp Adair during World War II, with a schedule for the local USO (United Service Organization); the original manuscript and associated materials for Marlene McDonald's book on Benton County Schools entitled, *When School Bells Rang*; and a video and curriculum produced by Starker Forests.

The Museum received a number of family photo collections, including photographs of the Francisco and Solomon Brown families. A collection of photographs showing the Corvallis depot move of 1982 was also donated.

The following people donated items to the museum collection during the first four months of this year: Gene Newcomb; Charline Edwards; Michael Gallagher; J.B. Bielman; Cathy Nix; Barbara York; Harland Pratt; Evelyn Whitfield; Joe Malango; Mark Gullickson; Philip Dole; Alan Richards; John Kuzma; United Brethren Church in Christ; Marlene McDonald; Judy Juntunen; Bird Johnson; May Dasch; Murle Scales; Virginia Hoeye; the City of Corvallis; Dolly Ness; Paul Miller; Alvah Hinton; Starker Forests; Harris Olson; Lee Gentenmann; and Frances P. Stilwell. **Your generosity is greatly appreciated.**



The Francisco Family photos included this snapshot of a band at the Corvallis Elks Club in 1956. The musicians are (from left): Ken Jarrott, Cliff Francisco, Ken Bielman, and Everett "Les" Brown. Yes, that's our own Ken Bielman: engineer, musician, and former BCHS Board member.