

NewsLetter

Benton County Genealogical Society

formerly Mid-Valley Genealogical Society

December 1996

Volume Eleven
Number Ten

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Program 14 December 96

Our December program will be the Auction and Tea. Bring your goodies to share with the others, and your purse to purchase the auction items. Purchase your raffle tickets from Damaris. The price is the same as last year, One dollar each or six for Five dollars.

Shelf List Addition

We will have the shelf list additions available in the Library at a cost of \$0.50. These cover 1996 to date.

Charter Member Dies

Clara Lyndall Jans, 25 July 1897 to 22 Sept 1996, died at Corvallis Manor Nursing Home. She was 99. She was a charter member of the MVGS now BCGS. She was born in Denver CO to James A. and Mary L. (Trousdale) Jefferson. She married Fred Carl Jans in Denver 21 Jan 1921. He worked for the State Extension Service and then USDA.

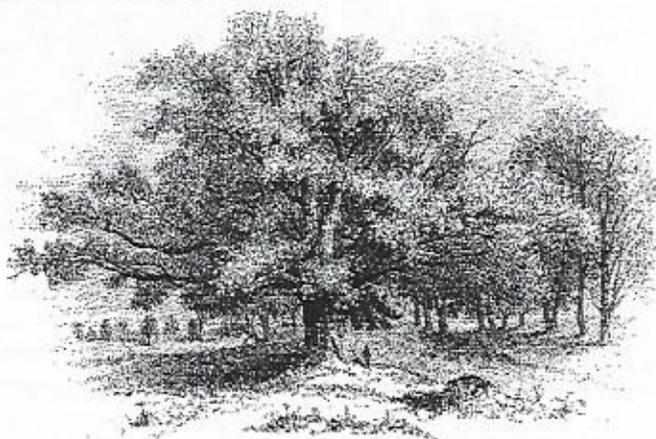
During WW II she worked for the Red Cross at Walter Reed in Washington. There she pursued her interest in genealogy with the DAR Library in DC. They retired to Corvallis in 1958.

For a complete obit see the Gazette Times Thursday 26 September 1996.

Today's Meeting

Our December meeting as stated on the masthead is our Auction and Christmas Tea. New Officer installation and Business meeting at 10:00 am, auction at 11:00 am and raffle after the auction. Ted Gump has agreed to be the auctioneer. This year we have the Throw, or Coverlet from Fern Shaffer. A very nice landscape painting by Charolette Blank, and a stained glass angel from David Barclay, Janice's husband. All three of these items are very nice and well worth your attention.

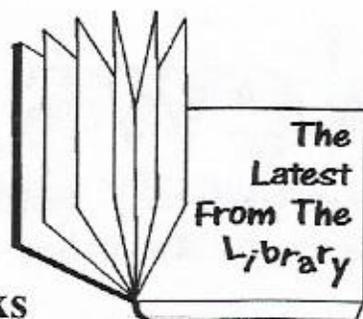
If you would like to purchase tickets, contact Damaris Reynolds. You can see her at the meeting or call her at 753-1810, although you only have a couple days. If you have friends that would like to have tickets, contact Damaris with this too.



Thought for Today PAY YOUR DUES

Edith Hughes Passes On

Obit next month.



New BCGS Library Books

The World's Funniest Epitaphs, by Bremer
Gift of Valerie Nichols

St. Paul, Oregon, 1830-1890, by McKay
Gift of the Beals

Ten Thousand Missouri Taxpayers, by Eddlemon

Newspaper Genealogical Column Directory, by Milner, 6th ed.,
revised and updated

Index to Genealogies in New Hampshire Town Histories, by
Copeley, Gift of Damaris Reynolds

Vital Records of Haverhill, MA, to the end of 1849, Vols I & II
Births, Marriages, and Deaths. (see below right)

Search for the Passengers of the Mary & John, 1630 Vol. 25.
Gift of Damaris Reynolds

Deeds of Valor, How America's Civil War Heroes Won the
Congressional Medal of Honor. Gift ?

A memorial gift of a book or its cost would be an enduring
Christmas remembrance.

Various Coming Events

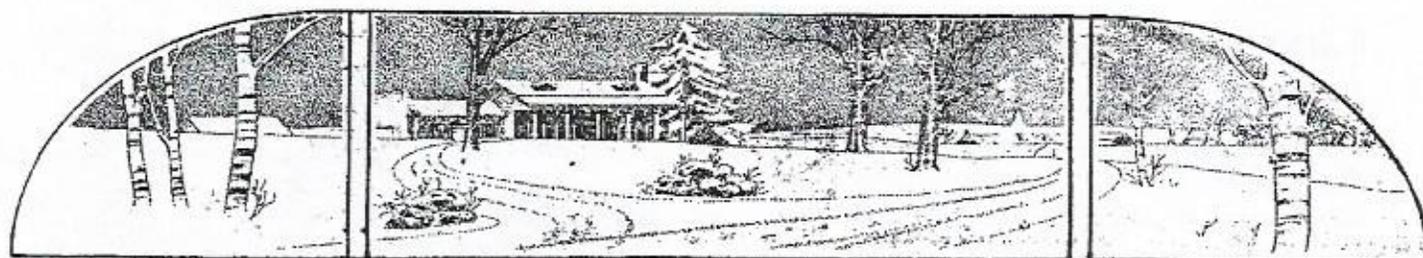
April 5, 1997 will be the fourth annual beginners class sponsored by the BCGS with assistance from the Historical Museum and the DAR. More info as we get closer.

Coming in 1997 on your PBS TV Station. They will be showing a ten part series on **Ancestors** starting Wednesday January 4, 1997, at 7:00 p.m.. See Web Sites for November.

New Officer Slate

The new slate of officers for next year is:

Gene Kelsey	President
Ken Bielman	1st Vice Pres
Judy Beals	2nd Vice Pres
Secretary	Leila Crawford
Treasurer	Gene Newcomb
Librarian	Jean Grube
Membership	Danell Aukerman



Web Sites

Here is another internet web page for you today.

The new version 3.4 of Family Tree Maker Deluxe is able to access the internet from within the program. If you are hooked up through the program, you can get into a special section for registered owners. If you are not and have web access their address is;

<http://www.familytreemaker.com>

Good Surfin' Ed

Thank You

Dan Froehlich was able, through his connections at the City/County Library, to have them give us their 2 volume Haverhill Vital Records. Thanks Dan, we really appreciate it.

If you see something in a used store or any other place, think of us.

Internet Search

by Gene Newcomb

Well we started to hunt for the graves, Charles was getting a little frustrated and commented that maybe the Norman's from Sterling Virginia had moved the graves to another location.

After about 15 minutes of pushing through the brambles, it was like trying to walk through barbed wire, we found a Towson grave and then just a few feet away I found Thomas Norman Esq. died 1848, 56 years old. Right next to his grave was his wife Paulina P. Norman's grave. I photographed both stones but I could hardly read them. To read Paulina's stone, I had to trace with my finger to determine what the spelling was. The stones were carved from some sort of shale and the Towson graves were carved in freestone, a native sandstone that was quarried within a thousand feet of the grave site. Charles said there should be a lot more gravestones on this site but we couldn't see anymore. Charles started pushing his way out of the brambles. I decided that I would try one more time to get into the heart of the brambles to see if there were anymore gravestones. After pushing through a solid wall of brambles, I surprised an eastern ribbon snake as I crawling under a downed cedar tree, I found about 8 Norman gravestones in a row, with two jammed under the fallen cedar tree. I crawled a couple more feet and got close to one of the gravestones. Within a year some of these stones will deteriorate to the degree and no one will be able to read them. I decided to withdraw from the site and planned to return with the proper pruning clippers to cut my way into the site so as to get the information off of the gravestones.

We withdrew from the site and retraced our path back out to the road. I took Charles back to his farm. Charles told me that the Norman's settled here in the 1600's. He also said the Norman's on this farm had made corn whiskey for Washington Continental Army.

After dropping Ruth Anne off at home, I took my pruning clippers and bow saw and went back to the site. This time I parked in the same place but when crossing the creek, I followed a line of blue blazes that were painted on a line of trees for surveying purposes. I climbed straight up the hill to the top. By the time I reach the summit I was wheezing from effort, but I was happy to find that my path intersected with a well worn path that was going parallel to the old road. The roosters were still crowing and the dogs were still barking and a new sound was added to the chorus, someone firing a shot gun, probable target shooting for it continued the whole time I was there. The path took me right back to the cemetery with very little effort. Using the pruning clippers I cut a path to the fallen tree. Using clippers and bow saw I cut my way under the fallen cedar tree. On the other side of the tree the first gravestone was of Elizabeth Norman wife of Thomas Norman who departed this life in the year 1771 at the age of 57 years of her life. I cleared the brambles away from each of the graves in this row. It took approximately two hours. The next gravestone was Thomas Norman, the dates have eroded away on this stone, but it was approximately the same design as Elizabeth's gravestone. To the left of Elizabeth's stone, wedged under another fallen tree was that of her son, James Norman. This stone was in surprisingly good condition for its age. I guess because it had been sheltered by the fallen cedar for so long. This one read, James Norman son of Thomas and Elizabeth Norman Oct. YE 11th A.D. 1771 in the 32nd year of his age. The next stone down from Thomas Norman was Thos & Ellinor Towson two infants died Dec 27 1809. The next one is Edward Norman who departed this life Dec 20 1814 in the 63rd year of his age. Next to him is Jane wife of Edward Norman died Dec 23 1814 at the age of 58 years. Next to her is James S. Norman died Dec 17 1814 and was 37 years old. Next stone was in very good condition and is Matthew Norman died Dec 24 1814 in the 35th year of his age. I thought, "these four died in a span of 10 days in the same year, what was this tragedy that took their lives, could be influenza, the war of 1812 or what". Then I had to circle around a large barrier of brambles to get back to the original two stones that I had photographed earlier. Thomas Norman Esq. died Dec 8th or 18th 1846, 56 years of age. Next to him on the left is Paulina P. Norman died August 8 1830. Intermingled are a few Towson gravestones and are very hard to read since they were carved in the sandstone. Unless this site is rescued soon, it may suffer further damage.

I have a few blisters from cutting away all the underbrush around the graves and a few cuts from the brambles, but I feel that I have accomplished something today.

Harry

Monthly Sharing

Each month we have a table to bring books or other artifacts to share with the other members, from the area we are specializing in. The items are used for that one day only, you take them home that night. Following is the listing for the ten months that we have meetings. If you have books or items to share, please bring them as shown below.

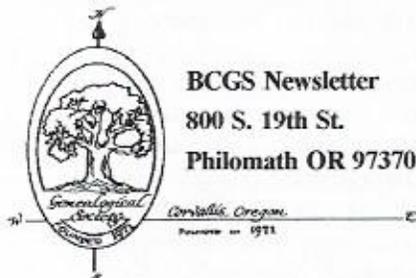
If we do not have your area of interest, please contact a board member and let's see if we can update the listing to satisfy your needs.

Jan	PA, OH, England
Feb	OR, WA, ID, MT
Mar	VA, WV, Scandinavia
Apr	NC, SC, KY, TN, and Germany
May	IL, MI, WI, Ireland and Scotland
Jun	IN, IA, KS
Sep	NY, NJ, MD, DC
Oct	NH, VT, MA, ME
Nov	CT, RI, DE
Dec	Auction and Christmas Tea

Membership Information

President	Ken Bielman	758-3769
1st Vice Pres	Gene Kelsey	753-8410
2nd Vice Pres	Judy Beals	745-5383
Secretary	Leila Crawford	929-5935
Treasurer	Ron Edwards	745-3048
Librarian	Jean Grube	758-7618
Newsletter Editor	Ed Stratton	929-6141
Membership	Danell Aukerman	752-6425

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



Mailing Label Coding

The two digits behind your name on the mailing label are:

S=Single; F=Family; E=Exchange.

Number is last of year; 6=1996.

L0 is Charter Honorary Life Member.

Canadian Interest Group

The Canadian Interest Group is for those searching for their roots in Canada. This group meets the third Tuesday of each month, from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Albany Public Library. 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.

Odds And Ends

Our number at the OSU Thrift shop 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. Mary Hamlin 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 Fireside Room 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 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 library is open.

Stamp