



NewsLetter

Benton County Genealogical Society

formerly Mid-Valley Genealogical Society

Corvallis, Oregon
FOUNDED IN 1971

February 1996

Volume Eleven
Number Two

HOPE YOU AREN'T FROZEN

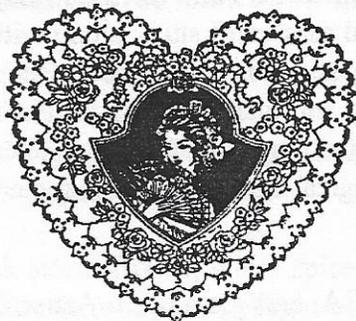
Program 13 Jan 96

Today's program is a continuation of the Feb and Nov 1994 programs. We will break into groups to discuss the areas of Computer New York and Indiana.

Next month Dennis and Carla Ridenour will present "Graphic Techniques for Genealogists"

Freebie

In our library we have a copy of the 84 page 25th Anniversary Edition of The Evening Journal of Washington Iowa, published on April 3 1926. This is in the SE part of Iowa. If you are researching in this area of Iowa, see the librarian for your own copy. First come first served.



Notes

If you want a copy of the new By-Laws, call the President.

The book list is available for \$2.00 each, while they last, in the Library.

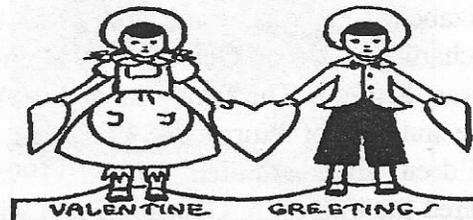
Book Committee

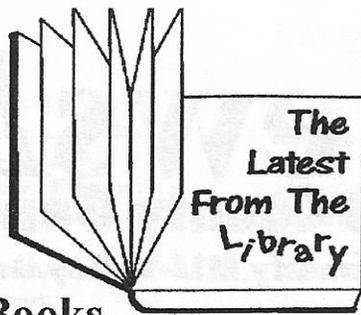
from Damaris Reynolds

Recently a 4 volume set "Genealogical Abstracts of Revolutionary War Pension Files" has become available. I saw and used these volumes at the Forum last summer. I don't believe anyone near has them. They are marvelous, give an incredible amount of information, some or all of the following is included; soldier's birthplace, age, wife's name, children's names and ages, where soldier was living when he applied for pension, etc. The volumes are on acid free paper with buckram bindings, books we would be proud to have in our library both for their content and their quality, but they are not cheap. They are \$565.00 postpaid. The book committee would like to know how much interest there is in the membership to buy this set. If a good number of people will pledge donations, that will show support. If you are reading this newsletter, but not coming to the meetings, give me a call at 753-1810. If only half a dozen people sign up, obviously there is not enough interest to warrant spending a big chunk of our budget.

CD-ROM'S

So far your Editor has received only two lists of what CD-ROM titles you have. The share program will not work well if we don't know what you have.





New MVGS Library Books

The information in parentheses is the location on the shelves.

Early Settlers of Montgomery County, OH (OH) Gift of Ken Bielman

Historical Records of Old Frederick and Hampshire Counties, Virginia (VA) Gift ?

Walter Goodwin Davis: A Scholar's Unique Contribution to New England Genealogy (New Eng) Gift Jan Barton

Devon (England) Family Historian - issues of a periodical. Gift ?

Articles in the New York Gene and Bio Record, 1983-1995. (VF Misc)

History of the Viceroy's of Ireland (IRE) Gift Ted Gump

Article

Your editor received a very nice thank you letter about our charter member recognition and the following article from charter member Mildred Blair Hawkins.

A TRIBUTE TO A FRIEND

The sweetly scented
White apple blossoms entice
the wandering bees.

Our genealogy Society owes a great debt of gratitude to Elizabeth Akin for the legacy she has left us. At a time when genealogy was beginning to be recognized as a valid study along with history, Elizabeth brought a keen intellect, an analytical mind and a capacity for persistence. Her research and dedication has given shape to our organization, our library and quality of work. For many years, she taught genealogy classes through Linn-Benton Community college, provided guidance and training at both the Linn Genealogy society and Mid-Valley Genealogical Society and conducted workshops, using her extensive library and supply of forms.

Elizabeth Akin was born March 6, 1918 at Charter Oak, CA, and grew up in Azusa CA. She married Richard A. Akin on October 8 1944 and moved with him to Placerville, where he worked for the Forest Service. The family moved to Albany in 1956 where the children, Diane and Rick grew up. The son did not return from Viet Nam, but over the years, Elizabeth and Dick enjoyed Diane's three children. Elizabeth died, July 22, 1995, after an extended illness. A niece, Pamela Knofler, has shared the interest in Genealogy and will carry on with a similar dedication.

Various Coming Events

Watch OPB April 29th at 8:00 p.m. for a 3 hour "In Search of the Oregon Trail". Narration by Stacy Keach.

May 8 to 11 1996 in Nashville TN. The National Genealogical Society (NGS) and Middle TN Gene Soc. (MTGS) are sponsoring The 16th Annual NGS Conference in the States. See Library BB for paperwork.

Coming in 1996 on your PBS TV Station. They will be showing a ten part series on **Ancestors** starting in September.

Monthly Question

Last month's answer is; The driver neglected to tie his rig to the hitching post.

This Month's question is; What was the most popular ballast on returning ships that transported American cotton and tobacco to Germany?

When I think of Elizabeth Akin, I think of violets and apple blossoms, of cats, of old books and stories. I see colors of mauve and cobalt blue, soft green, muted shades of brown and old rose. Hers was a warm, rich, enveloping personality that saw the best of all possible worlds around her. She was an idealist who wanted to recreate a good world, one who pursued knowledge relentlessly.

I met Elizabeth in 1972 in a genealogy class taught by Joan Harris at LBCC. We both became charter members of the MVGS at Corvallis. Others in the class like Ruth Lines Motley, Velma Parsons and Edna Wiese, would be leaders in developing interest in genealogy at the time of the Bicentennial in 1976. During Elizabeth's term as President of MVGS, we sponsored a seminar at LBCC put on by Arlene Eakle, co-author of The Source. The Eakle influence remained for several years for she was a strong voice in making Genealogy a recognized tool of historians.

Joan Harris had special expertise in research in the southern States. Elizabeth was working on the LAWRENCE family, her mother's line, which stretched from Missouri across the south to the Carolinas. Besides research and correspondence, she and Dick were able to travel to county courthouses and to make family connections. Besides the research, Joan and Elizabeth shared a close friendship.

Elizabeth loved the written word. My work was moving in the direction of writing, for besides finding records, I had stories to tell. Whatever class I taught, Writing Family History or Preservation of Books and Materials, Elizabeth was always there. When my work broadened to Creative Writing, Elizabeth followed. There were charming stories, poetry and Haiku. Especially Haiku, which suited her appreciation for small treasures.

There were many projects; extensive research on the Lawrence and allied lines, stories of her own childhood, stories of her children, and combinations of poetry with her fine photography. She wanted to leave a legacy to her grandchildren, and to give the gift of family connections to the wide circle of cousins and friends made through her searches.

The doors kept opening to new paths to explore. I would say to her, "You must bring this to a conclusion. Complete this project and PUBLISH! Finish this part and then you can move on!" But, she just kept pushing ahead until her health began to deteriorate. We who knew and loved her, grieved as we watched her move away from us. Regrettably, the projects remained unfinished. There is a lesson to be learned for all of us.

Elizabeth's spirit lives on! We remember her JOY in living, her generous outpouring in teaching, in guiding and in friendship. Who knows how many have been touched by this quiet, unassuming woman!

RAINBOW IN THE SKY
by Elizabeth Akin

Black storm clouds; white spires gleam
Against them in the spotlight of the sun.
And o'er the spires a brilliant rainbow
Flings a challenge and hope for time to come.



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 | 929-3731 |
| 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.

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 box 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.



BCGS Newsletter
800 S. 19th St.
Philomath OR 97370

Stamp

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.