

Mid-Valley Genealogical Society

PO BOX 1511
CORVALLIS OR 97339

NEWSLETTER

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PRESIDENT: KEN BIELMAN

EDITOR: ED STRATTON

TODAYS MEETING

We will have the second part of the Video Tape on Intermediate Genealogical Study, by Arlene Eakle, for our program today.

The March program will be Joanne Perry, on her trip to Salt Lake.

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 pm 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.

PAF USERS GROUP

The PAF Users group meeting is on the last Friday of the month. This month will be the 25th, at 7:30 pm, at the LDS Family History Center.

RON BREMER

Genealogical Lecturer, Ron Bremer, will be with us on the evening of May 16th at 7:30 pm. The program will be in the meeting hall of the Museum. This will be sponsored jointly with us and the Museum. Long time members will remember Ron from the November 4th 1989 visit he paid us. More later.

ODDS AND ENDS

The Library is open every Tuesday afternoon from 12:30 until 3:00 pm. Librarians are on hand to help you with your questions. You may check out and return books on Tuesday.

Remember our number at the OSU thriftshop is 492.

If you don't already belong to the Benton County Historical Society, why not consider joining? Contact a board member to find out what it is about.

LABELS

March is when we turn in our labels. So gather all of your Flav-R-Pak and Santiam labels for the March meeting. There is a plastic box in the library to store them in.

NOTE: All you need to bring in is the UPC Symbol. Be careful to cut a little extra package around the Symbol so that all of it is there. If you bring just the UPC Symbol, it will take less room in the library.

VOLUNTEERS

There are several areas that need volunteers to keep them going. Among them are the library, snacks for each meeting and cleaning up afterward, extracting the GT records and others that come up from time to time. If the masses of the membership do not act to fill these open spots, there is one inevitable consequence, the program or activity will close or be considerably curtailed. Please help us by keeping the volunteer chair of each projects list full to overflowing.

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
Feb	OR, WA, ID, MT
Mar	VA, WV
Apr	NC, 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



DUES

If your dues are not paid this month, you will not be a member in good standing and if you are mailed the newsletter you will not receive one, and you will not have library privileges.

Your dues are \$9.00 for a family and \$6.00 for a single membership. Make checks payable to Mid-Valley Genealogical Society. Give them to the treasurer at the meeting or mail them to PO Box 1511, Corvallis OR 97339.

PORTLAND SEMINAR

The Genealogical Forum of Oregon will present Bill Dollarhide on March 12, 1994.

The location is the First Presbyterian Church on 13th St., in Portland

Check bulletin board for more info

NEW BOOKS

List of books as of February 1994:

1061 UPSTATE NEW YORK IN THE 1760's; TAX LISTS AND SELECTED MILITIA ROLLS OF OLD ALBANY COUNTY, 1760-1768, BY Florence Christoph.

1062 A CALENDAR OF DELAWARE WILLS, NEW CASTLE COUNTY, 1682-1800, by the Colonial Dames of Delaware. Gift from Kathleen Coan.

1063 MAYFLOWER FAMILIES THROUGH FIVE GENERATIONS, ed. by Lucy Mary Kellogg. Vol. 1. Our second copy. Donated by Anna Griffis.

1064 YE KINGDOME OF ACCAWMACKE ON THE EASTERN SHORE OF VIRGINIA IN THE 17TH CENTURY, by Jennings Cropper Wise. Donated by Damaris Reynolds.

1065 MARRIAGE NOTICES 1785-1794 FOR THE WHOLE UNITED STATES, by Charles Knowles Bolton.

1066 CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE GENEALOGIES OF THE FIRST SETTLERS OF THE ANCIENT COUNTY OF ALBANY, FROM 1630-1899, by Jonathan Pearson.



GERMAN RESEARCH

Last month, on the back page, was a sheet to inquire about German ancestors. At that time Mabelle Martching had sent for some information. She has since received one very positive report and one that turned up blank.

The price as stated has increased to \$5.00 plus shipping.

We will have new request forms if you require them.

Mabelle was very satisfied with their response.

BOOK COMMITTEE

Damaris Reynolds

We bought over \$1500 worth of books last year and we have the same amount in the budget this year. This is only possible because we have raised money through garage sales, thrift shop donations, and the Christmas auction. If we get enough contributions, Jean Grube has offered the use of her garage for a sale in May. Please let me know if you have a few articles to contribute. We will need to know by the April meeting if we have enough to make a sale worthwhile. If there isn't enough for a sale, articles will be sold through the thrift shop, but we don't make as much that way!

VANCOUVER CONFERENCE

The Washington State Genealogical Society is having their 1994 Conference at the

Red Lion at the Quay in Vancouver WA

on April 28, 29, 30, May 1.

We will be receiving registration forms sometime this month. Anyone who wishes to attend will be able to get the forms next month.



Happy Birthday Oregon, Feb 14 1859

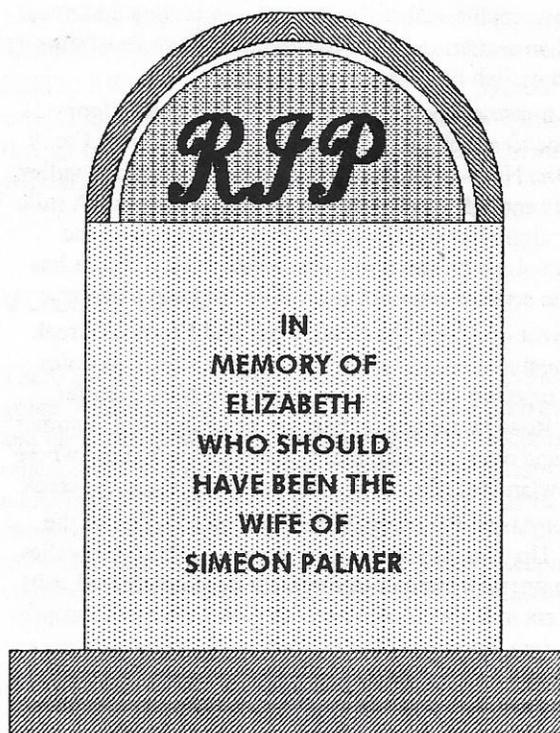
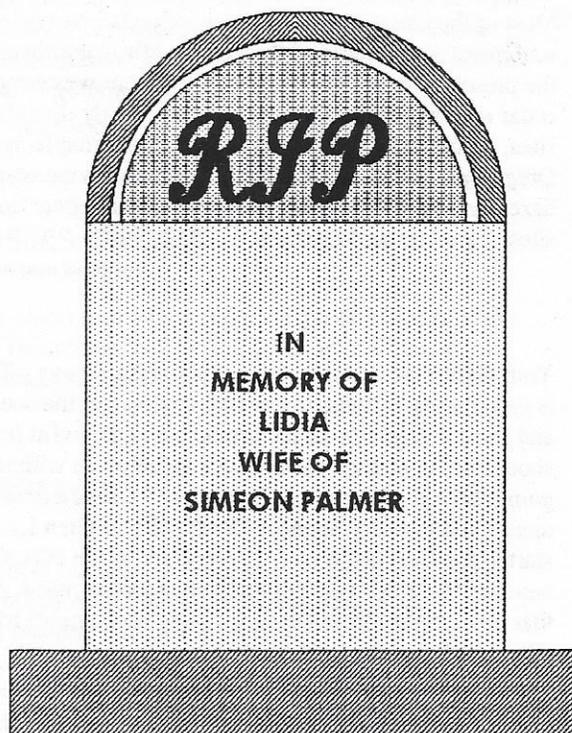
CALCULATIONS

If you are a 10th generation American, your genealogical work is easy - you have only 512 total ancestors to locate. If you find one each month it would take 42 years to complete a 10 generation chart. A 14 generation chart would take 665 years if you find one each month.

TOURS and THINGS

Attraction Tours of Salem has a brochure on the bulletin board in the library.

Also there is one from the Southern California Genealogical Society for their Jamboree '94, and further info from the Washington State Conference at Vancouver mentioned earlier.



HISTORICAL OVERVIEW of the ALSEA/LOBSTER VALLEY Region of BENTON County OREGON

This series of articles is from a paper written by Susan P. Reynolds for the Benton County Historical Museum in 1986.

It is to be reprinted here, in monthly installments, by permission of the BCHM.

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The Alsea/Lobster Valley region of Benton County is composed of a series of interconnected river valleys tucked within the steep ridges of the Coast Range. Alsea Summit, which marks the separation of the Alsea River and its tributaries from the Marys River system, is located about ten miles southwest of the Willamette Valley town of Philomath. From this point, the waters flow to the Pacific Ocean, about 40 miles to the west.

The North Fork of the Alsea River originates in Lincoln County and flows southeast for several miles to its confluence with Crooked Creek, whose tributaries form near Alsea Summit. The headwaters of the South Fork lie near the Lane County line about ten miles southeast of the town of Alsea. Bummer Creek, a major tributary, enters the South Fork just south of Alsea. The confluence of the North and South Forks lies just a few hundred yards from the center of town.

The general topography of the area is readily visible to the traveler on Highway 34. The road crosses Alsea Summit below Marys Peak and descends along the narrow, forested valley of Crooked Creek for several miles. Just above the confluence of Crooked Creek with the North Fork of the Alsea, the valley begins to widen. Farms appear in the bottomlands while timber still covers the hillsides. The view into the valley of the North Fork reveals an arable valley floor about a mile long and never more than a quarter-mile wide occupied by a few farms and a state fish hatchery.

As the highway continues westward, the valley floor broadens to about half a mile. Soon Honey Grove Creek enters the North Fork from the east, where its small valley contains enough arable land for a few more farms. A mile further along lies the town of Alsea, which sits at the break-in-slope on the north side of the valley. Alsea has been the service center of the valley for over a century.

Southwest of Alsea, the South Fork and Bummer Creek have created a broad valley that stretches for two miles before tapering back between confining hills. Lobster Valley Road continues up past the headwaters of Summer Creek and over the ridge into Lobster Creek Valley, where meadowland fills the narrow bottom lands along the creek.

West of Alsea, Highway 34 hugs the north edge of the valley. Up to a mile wide at its greatest extent, the valley floor supports a number of farms on its good alluvial soils. About six miles west of Alsea the valley narrows abruptly as the river swings south and then north again to pass around Digger Mountain. This part of the valley is known as Missouri Bend. By the time the Alsea regains its westerly bearing, the river has crossed the boundary into Lincoln County.

The Coast Range ridges through which the Alsea River flows are formed primarily of marine sandstones that erode fairly easily. The prominent peaks that overlook the Alsea/Lobster Valley region, such as Marys Peak, and Grass Mountain, are capped with harder gabbros that resist erosion. Soils developing on the sandstones are generally classified as Western Brown Forest soils. (Franklin and Dyrness, 1973: 11-13). The upland soils are excellent for forest production but not suitable for agriculture. Arable soils are limited to the bottomlands and low terraces along the major streams, where silty clay loams have developed on alluvial deposits. (Corliss, 1973: 36-37).

The climate of the Alsea/Lobster Valley region is characterized by mild, wet winters and warm, dryer summers. Temperatures are mild all year round. The area receives from 60-80 inches of precipitation annually, with about 90 percent occurring in the months of October through May. Cloudy skies and dense fog are common in the cool months, while the shorter warm season is generally clear and sunny. (Loy, 1976: 130-137).

The Alsea Valley and upper Lobster Valley both lie in the *Tsuga heterophylla* vegetation zone. This zone is named for the western hemlock, which theoretically would dominate the area under ideal climax conditions. Most of the Coast Range has been logged or burned since settlement, however, and the Douglas fir is dominant in the present forest. Other common trees are western red cedar and grand fir. On riparian and recently disturbed sites, hardwoods such as red alder, bigleaf maple, and Oregon ash are found. Common shrubs are vine maple, hazel, and salal. Ferns are the major groundcover on wet sites. (Franklin and Dyrness, 1973: 70-88).

Continued next month.

Your Editor was raised in this area of the county. There is one glaring mistake (to an old resident) in the second and third paragraphs of the article. It is unlawful (or should be) to change the name of some place without going through channels. The Crooked Creek that is mentioned is really Spencer Creek. When Glen Lyons started the Crooked Creek Trailer Park in the 50's, the name of the creek was gradually changed on maps, after that time, to the current usage. I have been unable to find when anyone went through the process of changing the name. Check an old Metsker map if you want to.

Ed