



Corvallis, Oregon  
FOUNDED IN 1971

# NewsLetter

## Mid-Valley Genealogical Society

November 1995

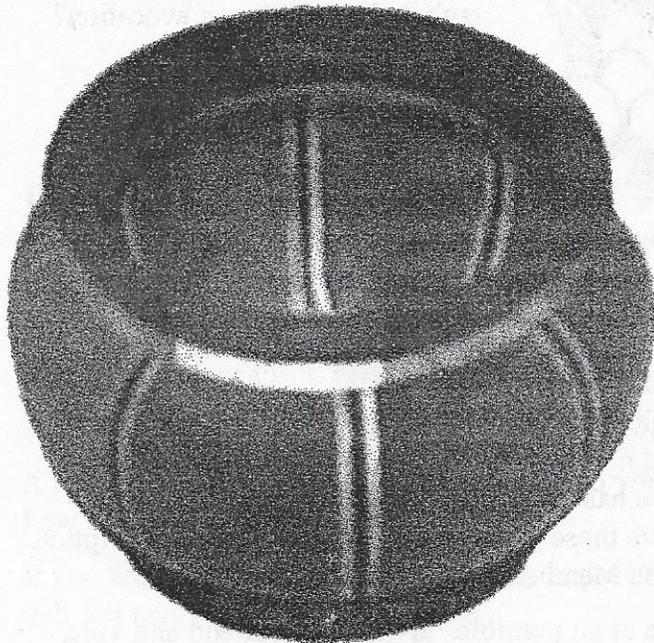
Volume Ten  
Number Nine

# FROST ON THE PUNKIN'

## Program 11 November 95

Today's program is part four in the series "Genealogist's Video Research Guide", from our library. This one will be on Compiled Sources, or where to look to find the lists.

The December program will be our annual auction and tea. Meeting at 10:00 am, Auction at 11:00 p.m.. Bring a snack and/or goodies to share. Raffle at the end of the auction.



Beautiful turned bowl by John Martching for our raffle.

## Society Officer's for 1996

Sorry I had the wrong name for one of the Nominating Committee members. I said that Becky Kiger was one and it should have been Joy Read. Sorry about the goof.

The Proposed Slate of Officers for 1996 is:

President	Ken Bielman
1st VP	Gene Kelsey
2nd VP	Judy Beals
Treasurer	Ron Edwards
Librarian	Gene Grube
Secretary	Leila Crawford

The slate will be presented and voted on at the meeting. Nominations will be accepted from the floor.

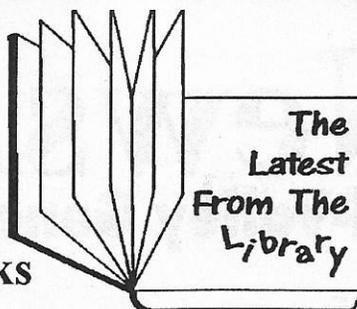
## Annual Dues

At the June meeting a new fee structure for our dues was voted on and approved. For the 1996 year the dues will be \$10.00 (ten) for a single membership and \$13.00 (thirteen) for a family.

Dues paid after 1 September are applied for the rest of the year and for the next calendar year. Therefore your dues are now payable for 1996.

Since we are sending the newsletter to each member the by-laws will be followed. They state that if the dues are not paid by the 15th of January, the member will be dropped from the rolls until the dues are paid.

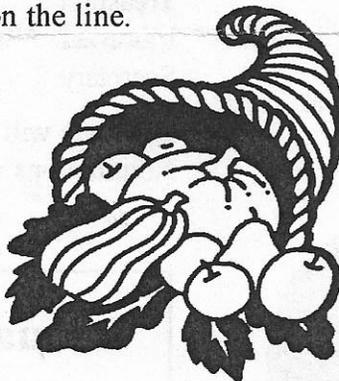
## New MVGS Library Books



- Old New Hampshire Gravestone Inscriptions gift of Damaris Reynolds
- Moslon-Knob Hill Chesaw Community Study Okanogan Co. WA
- Corvallis Stake FHC Subject and Master Shelf List gift of Jim Russell
- Oregon Trail Inquiries by Linn Co. Gene. Soc. gift of John Redman
- Genealogical Extracts from New Hampshire Spy 1784 to 1793 gift of Damaris Reynolds
- Genealogist's Guide to South Eastern Wisconsin

Our Librarian will have a new shelf list available, to purchase, shortly after the first of the year. The new list is going to be at least 27 pages long, and will be in Landscape mode, or long ways on the paper, so a more complete listing can be on the line.

## Voting on By-Laws



At the October meeting, the proposed changes to the By-Laws were presented to the membership.

In accordance to Article IX of the By-Laws, we will vote on the changes at the November meeting.

The changes for the most part are housekeeping changes. These are changes where the wording should be changed to make the intent clearer. The one major change is the name change of the society. When we started 25 years ago we were truly the Mid Valley Genealogical Society. Since that time there are several more societies that have come into existence in the area, and now we are essentially the Benton County Genealogical Society, so that is what the By-Laws committee has come up as a name change. It is more descriptive of our current operation. Benton County will give those out of the area a more clear description of our actual location. A second major change is to make the Membership Chair an elected office.

It is imperative for you to attend the business meeting if it is at all possible. If you don't attend and vote, then you will have no say in these changes. Your editor considers voting on these type of changes your duty as a member, so please come if it is at all possible.

## Various Coming Events

November 17 - 18 1995. NEHGS - NYG&BS Joint Conference in Tarrytown NY.

9 December 1995 our annual Auction and Christmas Tea.

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** stay tuned for more information.

## Monthly Question

Last month's answer is; The developers of Des Moines WA were Robb, Steele and Cheatham.

This Month, Where does genealogy rank nationwide as an avocation? Worldwide?

## Another from Myra

Since 1987, there has been an explosion of Italian researchers involved in tracing their ancestry. When Dr. Thomas E. Militello, of Palos Verdes, Calif., created an organization called POINT (Pursuing Our Italian Names Together) that year, he began with a computer database of Italian surnames and a small newsletter. Within two years, the database contained 5,445 surnames, and by March of 1994 it had grown to 13,750 surnames submitted by people from 49 states and several foreign countries.

Compared with many other ethnic groups, Italian Americans have some unique advantages in pursuing their family histories, among which are the family unity typical of Italian society, the relatively recent period of major Italian immigration to America, the relative immobility of the Italian people within Italy itself and the record keeping of Catholic priests.

Most Italian Americans today are third or fourth generation Americans. Many have letters, photographs, family records, family stories, baptismal or marriage certificates or other documents that relate the story of immigration and identify family members and the town of origin in Italy. All of these sources help to create a sense of family history, and they establish a starting point for genealogical research.

What has been needed for some time is a reference book dealing with Italian records of genealogical value what they are and how to access them. Now there is one: "Italian Genealogical Records: How to Use Italian Civil, Ecclesiastical, & Other Records in Family History Research," by Trafford R. Cole. It is published by Ancestry, PO Box 476, Salt Lake City, UT 84110 (180052311790).

"Italian Genealogical Records" is a large book (8 1/2 inches by 11 inches) containing more than 200 pages of valuable information. It sells for \$39.45 postpaid.

## Psychiatric Hotline

Welcome to the Psychiatric Hotline.

If you are obsessive-compulsive, please press 1 repeatedly.

If you are codependent, please ask someone to press 2.

If you have multiple personalities, please press 3, 4, 5 and 6.

If you are paranoid-delusional, we know who you are and how to find you. Please hang up.

If you are schizophrenic, listen carefully and a little voice will tell you which number to press.

If you are manic-depressive, it doesn't matter which number you press. No one will answer.

Part II of the book deals with the records: civil vital records (state and parish), Napoleonic civil records (birth, marriage and death) and parish records (baptismal, marriage, death and burial and status animarum records). The latter is the Latin for the Italian stato delle anime, which translates as "state of the souls." This record is basically a census that lists all the living members of each household, and it usually provides personal information such as age and relationship of each family member.

These records were created by the Papal States as a census of the population for tax purposes. They provide a comprehensive, easy to consult family group for every family in a parish.

Information is provided about alternative ecclesiastical records, such as diocesan, Waldensian, Jewish and Greek Orthodox records. Alternative records such as conscription and military, notary, tax assessment and census, passport and emigration records and passenger records and university records are explained along with many illustrations of various documents.

Part III deals with the actual research process research procedures, including research by correspondence to sources in Italy, the parish priests and state archives.

Moreover, there are tips on reading and interpreting the records. Appendix A lists addresses of the Italian State Archives; Appendix B provides addresses of the Diocese Seats. Sample letters dealing with various genealogical requests are included, which will make writing to officials in Italy much easier for many Italian Americans.

Part I includes an introduction to Italy and Italian records, an excellent history of Italian record sources. It also contains a chapter on the meaning and origin of Italian surnames and one on noble families.

If you have Italian roots, this is the reference book you need.

Tacoma genealogist Myra Vanderpool Gormley's syndicated column appears each Sunday in SoundLife. Los Angeles Times Syndicate

Ed Note: As you may have noticed, since I became Editor, I really like what this lady writes. Thank you Myra for all the information I have gotten from you and passed on.



# 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 lets 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

# 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.

## Membership Information

President	Ken Bielman	758-3769
1st Vice Pres	Danell Aukerman	752-6425
2nd Vice Pres	Judy Beals	745-5383
Secretary	Cecilia Anderson	757-0627
	Mary Yoke	752-6126
Treasurer	Ron Edwards	929-3731
Librarian	Jean Grube	758-7618
Newsletter Editor	Ed Stratton	929-6141

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

## More Member Info

The meeting is held 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. Starting at 12:00 and continuing until 3:00 p.m., we have the research time at the Museum annex where our library is situated.

Library 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.



MVGS Newsletter  
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