

NewsLetter

Benton County Genealogical Society

formerly Mid-Valley Genealogical Society

November 1996

Volume Eleven
Number Nine

TIME TO PAY YOUR DUES

Program 9 November 96

Saturday we will have the discussion groups that we had twice last year. The areas to be covered will be Pennsylvania and Missouri. One will be on computers.

December program see next article.

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.

December Meeting

Our December meeting as stated on the masthead is our Auction and Christmas Tea. If you have items for the auction, see Damaris at the meeting. The tickets are available for the raffle in December. As in years before they are one dollar each or six for five dollars.

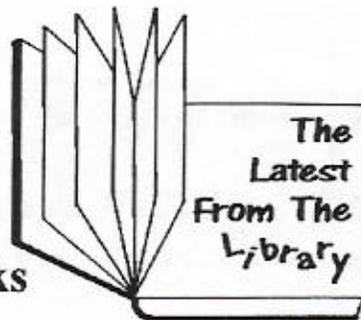
This year we have the Throw, or Coverlet from Fern Shaffer. A very nice landscape painting by Charolette Blank, and a stained glass item from David Barclay, Janice's husband. All three of these items are very nice and well worth your attention.

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



Thought for Today

Experience is the name everyone gives their mistakes - Oscar Wilde



New BCGS Library Books

CD Valley Quarterlies; Upstate New York (Index to over 300,000 names), late 1600's to early 1900's
1910 Oregon Census Enumeration Descriptions
Index to New York Foundling Hospital Federal, State, and Local Census Records (1870-1925)
Index to the Encyclopedia of Pennsylvania Biography, Vols I - XXII
Western New York Land Transactions, 1825 - 1835
Children's; Aid Society of New York; Index to federal State and Local Census Records of its Lodging Houses (185-1925)
Wisconsin Genealogical Research
History of Fannin county, Texas, 1885*
Marriage Records of Fannin County, TX (1838-1870)*
Bonham, TX - The Era Has Gone -- But Memories Linger*
Obituaries, etc; Fannin and Surrounding Counties of Northeast Texas, ca 1893-1923*
*Gifts of Nione Bethell



Web Sites

Here are two more internet web pages for you today. They both check out OK.

For maps, <http://www.census.gov/> wait for pictures then choose **Subjects A-Z > select G > Then Geographic, area profiles**. Then make selection.

Or for a specific map, you can find a new or historical location. Use <http://www.gnatnet.net/~vamp/mapping.html> Type in the location as near as you know it. This takes you to the above location with your request and surrounding area.

Good Surfin' Ed

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 in January 97. See Web Sites last month.

Book Donations

One of our members has donated a book in honor of her grandmother. We put a dedication plate on the flyleaf with the information on it. Perhaps others of our membership would like to do the same with a book of their choice or ours. This could be a book of some special significance.

If this appeals to you contact the book committee.

When People ask me if the Internet is any good for genealogy, I say of course, but the following is the perfect answer as to why we use the Internet. The story will be spread over the next two months. Ed

Internet Search

by Gene Newcomb

This is a story of the kindness of strangers to be found on the Internet. My sister and I had been searching via old maps of Virginia for a "TOWSON-NORMAN CEMETERY" for which she had some vague written directions, but could not find. She got on the Internet and connected with Harry who lived in the area. He kindly volunteered to search for it and the text below is an account of his adventures in so doing. Since then he has sent us a number of pictures of the gravestones.

NORMAN CEMETERY, VA

Carolyn Newcomb, from Huntington Beach California asked me via email, to try to find an ancestral family cemetery of hers in Stafford County. Her cousin's attempt last year to find it came up empty handed. So she asked me to try, since I live in Stafford. So I told her I would give it ago.

I went out to find your cemetery today. I followed the directions to the tee and could not find the private road. I reversed my direction and went down Norman Road. I came upon a farm with a farmer feeding his cattle on the side of the hill. I waved him over, it took awhile since he had to finish putting the hay down for his cattle. After a while Charles Janda a 72 year old farmer that has lived on this farm since he was 8 months old came over to see what I wanted, out of curiosity.

Since he appeared to be very old, I figured he knew where the Norman and Towson Cemetery might be, and sure enough he did. He offered to take me to it, telling me that he had taken a group of Normans' from Sterling Virginia there some years before. Charles said he needed a break from his chores, so he slowly climbed into my wife Ruth Anne's 1992 green Jeep Cherokee and off we went. I asked Charles if he was married. He said he never went into town with the other young men of his age, he was too interested in farming, so he never got to meet any girls or women. I asked him if he served in World War II, he said he had headaches and the draft board decided not to take him. I believe he doesn't own a telephone since he doesn't socialize with anyone and hasn't any relatives that would call him.

The private road which the directions from Musselman's 1983 Stafford Cemetery Book, no longer has access to Brent Point Road. It is behind the first house on the right past the Salem Methodist Church.

We parked just the other side of the house. The three of us, Charles, Ruth Anne and I, crossed the creek and started up the two hundred foot high hill. Charles leading the way, using a staff that he had broken off of a tree limb, for support and something to part the underbrush with. I followed close behind talking to him about his life on his farm. Ruth Anne followed, with her cane for support. Charles, leading the way, circled around to the property just behind the house. The back of the house yielded sounds of many roosters crowing constantly, dogs barking and excited chickens squawking. That is where we found the remnants of the old road. We followed the road up the hill a distance of approximately one half a mile. The underbrush wasn't too bad. The road has become a depression with rotting trees crisscrossed up and down its length. Upon reaching the top of the hill and the end of the road, we saw a flowered ground cover, vines up trees and brambles, completely different from the forest we had been moving through. This normally indicates that there had been a farm stay on this land at one time. Charles said that this type of flowered covering was brought from England by the original settlers. Charles said, "the grave site is around here somewhere, I should have brought my pruning clippers" for he was referring to the brambles that folks in North Carolina call "dammit weeds". The reason they use that term to describe brambles is because when you get stuck and cut by them you say real loud, "dammit".

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 Ankerman	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.

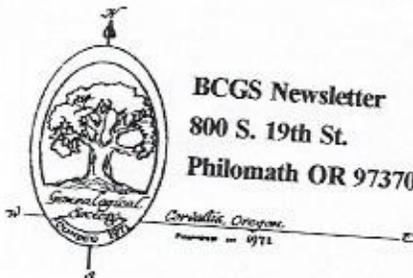
Please keep your Santiam and Flav-R-Pak labels coming in to the Library. There is a plastic sack in the library to keep them in. Mary Hamlin is in charge of the label program. All you need is the UPC Symbol from the label. Be sure that you leave some area around the label when you tear it off.

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.



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.

Stamp