



Corvallis, Oregon  
FOUNDED IN 1971

# NewsLetter

## Mid-Valley Genealogical Society

October 1995

Volume Ten  
Number Eight

# WELCOME BACK MEMBERS

## Program 10 Oct 95

Today's program is a continuation of the programs from November 1994 and February 1995. We will hold discussion groups on several areas of study.

There will be one on OH, IN, IL and MI, one on "The South", and a computer study group.

Members can attend any of the programs that they would like to. If your area has not been covered, volunteer to the program chairman and during the next study group, you could lead your group.

The November program will be one of our new Videos.

Danell will have the Archival Supplies at the meeting for sale.



## Society Officer's for 1996

The Nominating Committee has been selected by the President, as directed by ARTICLE VIII of the By-Laws. They are Damaris Reynolds, Betty Swan and Becky Kiger.

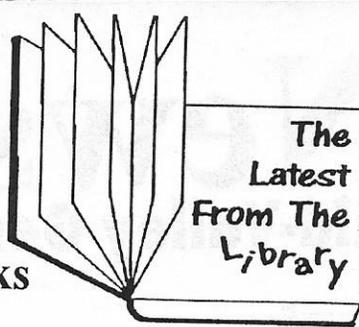
They are working on the slate of Officers to place before the membership, at the November meeting, to be voted on. The Installation for the new officers will be at the December meeting. It will be to your advantage to be there to cast your vote.

## 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

- Gateway to the Palouse (Spangle, Washington)
- Corvallis Church Records (to 1920)
- The Great Migration Begins
- Early New Brunswick Probate Records, 1785-1835
- To Maryland from Overseas
- Genealogist's Video Research Guides, Part IV, Compiled Sources
- Intent and Petitions for Naturalization in Sioux City, Iowa
- Oregon 1841-49, 1850, 1851-59, 1860, 1870 Census Indexes (5 books)\*
- California 1850 and 1860 Census Indexes (2 books)\*
- Washington 1850 Mortality Schedule\*
- Washington 1850, 1857,60,61, 1857, 1860, 1870 Census Indexes (5 books)\*
- How Justice Grew; Virginia Counties^
- The First Seventeen Years, 1607-1624 (Virginia)^
- History of Woburn, Middlesex County, Massachusetts (2 volumes)^
- Massachusetts Bay Connections^
- Will and Estate Records in the Virginia State Library^
- Marriage Records in the Virginia State Library^
- Early Marriages, Wills, etc., Botetourt County, Virginia^
- 1787 Census of Virginia; Augusta County^
- 1787 Census of Virginia; Rockbridge County^
- Forests and Clearings, 1792-1874 (Stanstead County, Quebec)#
- Early Days on the Upper Willamette#
- Yearbook--1949, Siskiyou County Historical Society (California)#
- Index of Confederate Pension Applications, Kentucky
- 1991 Directory of New York State County & Municipal Historians (with 1995 Supplement)
- Andreas' Illustrated Historical Atlas of Minnesota, 1874 (Microfilm)
- Comprehensive Index to Andreas' Illustrated Historical Atlas (book)
- When Your Ox is in the Ditch ("How-to")

- \*Gifts of Mr. and Mrs. Valenzuela
- #Gifts of Zira and Darrell Kahl
- ^Gifts of Damaris Reynolds



## Various Coming Events

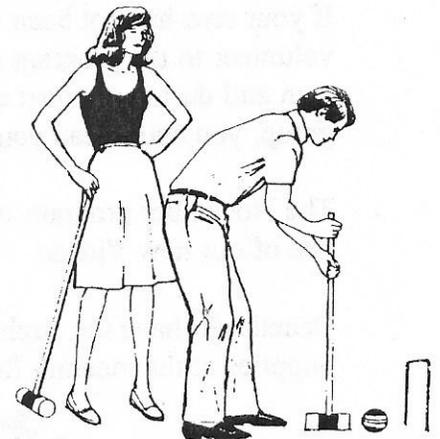
October 28 Tabor Heights Methodist Church, Portland. Genealogical Forum of Oregon Fall Seminar with John Philip Colletta Ph.D. author, "*They Came in Ships*". Registration \$25. See flyer in Library.

November 4, 1995. Everton Workshop, Wesley United Methodist Church, Eugene. At 8:30 am, \$30 registration. See flyer in Library.

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

9 December 1995 our annual Auction and Christmas Tea.

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

Each month we will ask a question. The answer will be given at the meeting. If you live out of the area, you will find out in the next newsletter.

Why were the people reluctant to purchase land in Des Moines Washington?

## Early Ohio



*During the past summer, a trip to the hills of eastern Ohio, allowed us to visit the vicinity described in the journal of my ancestor, Lewis Hutchinson Davidson. Some excerpts from that journal may describe what life was like during his lifetime. It was interesting to see the same localities as they are today.*

“In 1801, my father and mother and a number of other families moved down the Ohio River on rafts made of several large canoes fastened together. They landed on the west side of the river, opposite from where Catlettsburg, Kentucky, is now located. After remaining there about a year, my father, Lewis Davidson, bought land in the French Grant in Scioto County, Ohio.

This proved to be an unhealthy location, and chills and fever were not uncommon. Two of their little girls died; Rosanna, in 1807, and Nancy, early in 1809. I was born in that place in February of 1809.

My parents proposed to move back to Pennsylvania. Having sold their land and the weather being fine, in the last week of March they commenced their tedious journey. All that they had, they packed on the backs of two large mares. My mother carried me in her arms on horseback, and an older brother, John S., rode behind her. Little Mordecai was in father's strong arms on the other mare, and William who was in his tenth year, walked alongside.

They came to the Muskingum River at Zanesville, Ohio, on April 2, 1809. My mother forded the river, carrying me in her arms. They had fine weather for traveling, and all went well until they reached Big Stillwater Creek between Smyrna and Moorefield. One of the mares, being very warm, drank too much water. By the time they reached the John Lamb farm, one mile east of Moorefield, the horse was so sick that they stopped, and there she died. This stopped them in their journey back to Pennsylvania.

My father rented a small cabin nearby where the family spent the rest of the summer and the following winter. On March 10, 1810, he entered on a quarter section of land about three miles west of Freeport. In a few days, he had a cabin built and the family moved in. It had a ‘cat and clay’ chimney, split puncheons for a floor, clapboards pinned together with wooden pegs for a door to keep out the wolves but which did not prevent us from hearing them howling a few yards from the door at night.

The cabin was surrounded by wild game such as bears, deer, turkeys, and smaller animals that were much used for food by the families living there. Those were trying times, indeed!

Daniel Esley had a little mill built of small logs with a dam constructed of brush and dirt, and very leaky at that. When the weather was dry, we often had to pound our corn into meal on a hominy block, and live on potatoes, squash, pumpkin, roasting ears, and beans.

In 1812, my father built the first hewed log and shingle-roofed house that was ever built in the valley of Crab Orchard, on land that he cleared with an axe in the dense forest. Just when the few settlers had cleared patches to raise their corn and potatoes, the War of 1812 called out all of the able-bodied men to arms. It is well known that Ohio and the western frontier suffered more than any other part of the United States because of the alliance between the British and the local Indian tribes.”

*Harrison County, Ohio, today is a beautiful area of dense hardwood forests, quiet streams, and wild white Austrian roses growing along the roadsides. Freeport is a hilltop village crossroads with the old Methodist church sheltering the cemetery where its founders lie buried.*

**Kathleen Osborne Coan**

## 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	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.



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

Corvallis, Oregon  
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## 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

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.

Stamp