



NewsLetter

Benton County Genealogical Society

formerly Mid-Valley Genealogical Society

LOCATED IN *The Lewis & Clark Oregon*
FOUNDED IN 1973 IN GORVILLAS, OREGON

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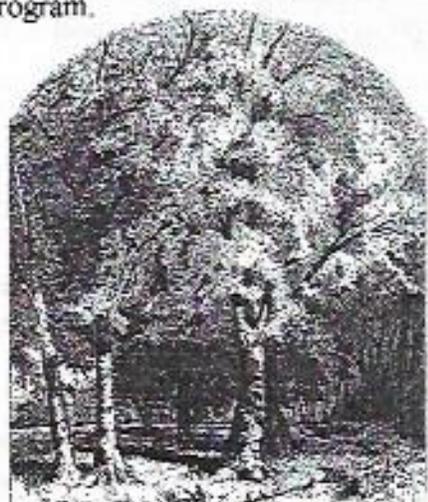
SEPTEMBER IS GENEALOGY MONTH

Program 13 September

SHOW & TELL to be
Part of Program for
September Meeting

Have you written your life story, or a part of it? Is it published in any form? If yes, how about sharing the fruits of your labors with the membership at our next meeting? Long-timers may remember that traditionally the September program consists of short presentations by some of our members on "What I did, genealogically, this past summer." For the upcoming program we're including the **SHOW & TELL** feature which will add some diversity.

So, if you have prepared a written family history or a photo album with genealogical supplements, please bring it to the September meeting and spend a few minutes telling us about it as part of the program.



Genealogy Month.

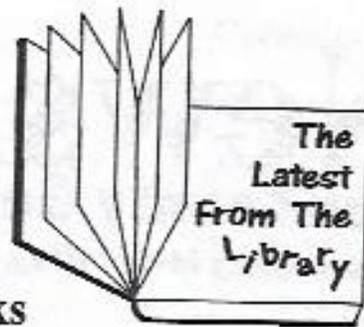
The governor has proclaimed September "Family History Month". Local officials have designated the week of 8 through 13 September as "Genealogy Week". Our September 13 meeting will start at 10:00 am with the regular business meeting. From 11 to 3:00 pm it will be a "Genealogy Faire". The public is invited.

There will be exhibits, a "show and tell" period, a DAR "how to". Computer questions that you have will be answered. Bill Lewis, the Museum Director, will show what Benton County genealogy questions can be answered at the museum. Members are urged to bring special genealogical material for the exhibits. If you plan to bring something, call either Jean Grube or Damaris Reynolds so we can arrange the space.

Invite anyone at all interested in genealogy to attend.

Thought for Today

A genealogist is someone who jumps for joy when they receive a death certificate in the mail.

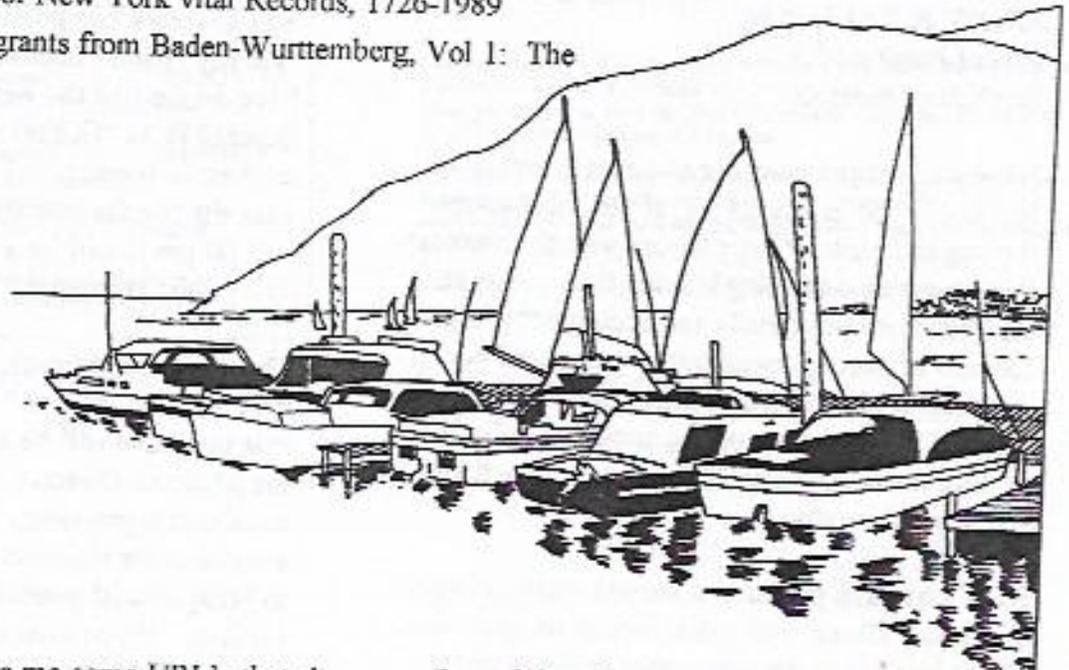


New BCGS Library Books

New Jersey Biographical and Genealogical Notes (From NJ Archives)
Historical Collections of the State of New Jersey
Connecticut Nutmegger Index, Vol 1-28, 1968-1995
Genealogical Dates: A User-Friendly Guide
The Beginner's Guide to Using Tax Lists
Directory to Collections of New York vital Records, 1726-1989
Nineteenth Century Emigrants from Baden-Wurtemberg, Vol 1: The Enzkreis

Garage Sale

The fall garage sale will be Saturday, September 6 at Damaris Reynolds' in the Timberhill Townhouses. We very much need donations and we will need helpers. Please call either Damaris at 753-1810 or Jean Grube at 758-7618 if you can contribute time and/or goodies.



Web Sites

Pat Rawlinson gave me some URL's that she uses. One of them is new to me so I checked it out. If you want anything in the UK or Ireland, this one needs to be checked out. [Http://midas.ac.uk/genuki](http://midas.ac.uk/genuki) I think you will be very happy. At the seventh level in I found a Genealogical Society page in Perthshire.

Remembrances

We have lost another of our dear members. Fern Shaffer moved to the high desert to help with her health. For our new members, she is the lady that made the coverlets that were the main item in the Christmas raffles. She was a dear friend to a lot of us, me included.

The society will be buying a book dedicated to Fern. Members may wish to remember Fern and her generous gifts to the Society by contributing towards this book. Checks may be mailed to the Society

Computers

What does the computer really do for the genealogist. Is it a magic box, or what?

"I wouldn't have one of the things in my house. It's the greatest thing a genealogist could own."
I imagine you fall somewhere in the middle of these two statements. Most of us do.

All a computer can do is answer yes or no! That doesn't seem to be a magic box does it? We can do that. Remember the TV program a few decades back called "Twenty questions"? The panel would ask the guest questions in order and if they could guess the guests occupation within 20 questions the guest got some cigarettes and a thank you. If they didn't, the guest won.

A computer is like that. The main difference is that it can ask the questions, and get the answers at a rate of tens of millions of times a second. If you know the right questions to ask and then what to do with the answer, you could find anything you wanted in a few seconds.

The other thing that a computer system does is store data. Things like names, addresses, dates, and any other things you would like to store. There are young folks, and a few older ones, spending their days and nights writing programs that will store just the data you want stored. There are also organizations that have corps of volunteers that are entering information from various sources all over the world. Once it is stored, you can go in and with the programs written for you to find the data, ask it your tens of million questions a second and come out with just the item you want. Where is this data? It is on floppy disks, on your hard disk, and on CD-ROM's. It is also in data banks in all the colleges, universities and libraries around the world. You can access the data stored in a library in India or New York if you have the proper software to do the job.

How accurate is this data? That is a question that bothers all of us that use computers. It is only as accurate as the person that enter the data, or wrote the book, or gave the talk or lecture. If the person has always had their facts straight and didn't say or write anything that they hadn't fully researched, you can probably trust that the information is pretty well correct.

Remember the Seems Right article in June?

If you put tomfoolery in a computer, nothing comes out but tomfoolery.
But this tomfoolery, having passed through a very expensive machine,
is somehow ennobled and none dare criticize it.

If on the other hand you see that the person responsible for the information is one that is noted for sloppy work, you had better double and triple check the information with other sources. This holds whether it is computer data or a book from the library shelves.

Do you need a computer? Maybe you already have one and use it every day. I can't answer whether or not you need one, only you can answer the question.

Ed

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

Membership Information

President	Gene Kelsey	753-8410
1st Vice Pres	Ken Bielman	758-3769
2nd Vice Pres	Judy Beals	928-1749
Secretary	Leila Crawford	929-5935
Treasurer	Gene Newcomb	929-5715
Librarian	Jean Crube	758 7618
Membership	Danell Aukerman	752-6425
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.

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 Santism 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

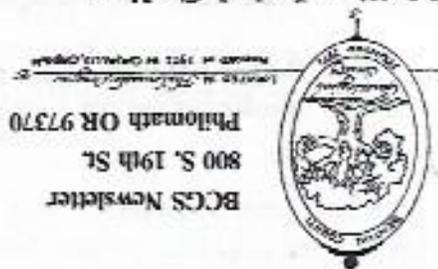
Our meetings are held on the second Saturday of September through June, in the Fireside Rooms of the College United Methodist Church, on the east side of the parking lot, in the 1100 block of Philomath. Business meeting is at 10:00 a.m. with the program at 11:00 a.m.

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.

The two digits behind your name on the mailing label are:
S=Single; F=Family; E=Exchange.
Number is last of year; 6=1996.
LO is Charter Honorary Life Member.

Mailing Label Coding



Stamp