

Benton County Genealogical Society
General Meeting Minutes - 10:30am, February 14, 2026
www.bcgs-oregon.org

President: Dana Sanchez called the meeting to order.

1. The January minutes were approved and posted on our website.
2. **Next Board meeting** - March 6, 2026, 3rd floor library in museum 1:00pm.
3. **Next General meeting** - March 14, 2026, 2nd floor in museum 10:30am.
4. Dana announced the program for today presented by Jim Birken.

Vice President: We have a vacant vice president position. Any member interested could contact any board member. Dana, current president, George, past president, Lois, Treasurer, Linda, Secretary, Liza, Librarian, Candy, Membership or Laurie, Newsletter.

Program Review: February's program: Lois introduced her husband, Jim Birken, who presented an outstanding program full of information on his quest to locate where his Polish ancestors had lived. Using genealogical information he had already collected from his relatives he requested help from an organization in Poland who accurately traced his ancestors. With a personally guided tour he visited the area where his ancestors had lived. His grandmother was born in Poland or what is now Poland. Borders changed during war times but the cities were still in the same place. The Holocaust took a toll in Poland. Jim toured and photographed some of the memorials. He took many photos of modern places he stayed, the food he ate-- lots of pickled vegetables, and vivid photos of buildings around a well kept city square, businesses, churches and much more. The information about his roots in Poland was priceless. He plans on visiting other countries soon.

Treasurer/Finance: Lois reported we have \$4,500 in the bank. However our largest expense of \$800 for the museum is yet to come. Our \$20 membership dues for 2026 need to be paid as soon as possible. Pay by check or cash at a meeting or Mail a check to:

Benton County Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 35
Philomath, OR 97370

Membership: Candy has recorded 22 paid memberships so far for 2026.

Webmaster: George posts all meeting minutes on our BCGS website. He and Laurie are taking care of the Bottle Drop cans and bags. Please bring your cans and bottles to a meeting or get a green bag with a label on it also available at a meeting.

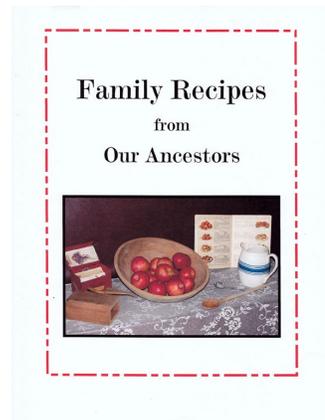
Library: Liza reported about half of the new library inventory is completed. She is sorting outdated brochures and non genealogical materials to be recycled plus shelving books with multiple volumes together.

Newsletter: Laurie Corliss reported she has all the information needed for a March BCGS Newsletter.

Recipe Project: Linda Olsen brought a copy of the first 10 pages of the finished part of the “Family Recipes from our Ancestors” cookbook to pass around. Copies will be made available to members as soon as a complete final copy is ready.

New Business: Our March program will be, “Moses & Me”, presented by Walter Frankle. The presentation will be focused on Victor and Vina Moses, an influential Benton County family.

Respectfully submitted
Linda Olsen, Secretary



Saving our family history