



BETWEEN US DIGGERS

ROGUE VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER



SINCE 1966

VOLUME 14, NUMBER 2

JUNE 2012

BUILDING EXCITEMENT!



In early March, your society completed the purchase of the new library building and signed loan documents. The building at 3405 South Pacific Highway now belongs to the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society!

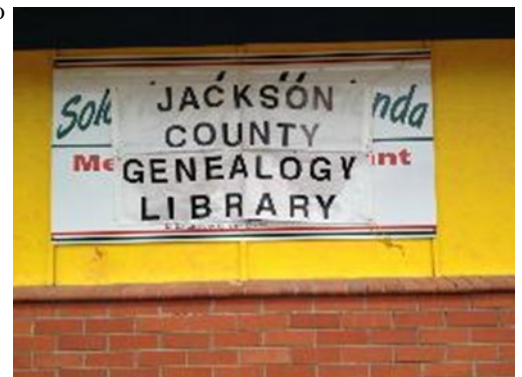
There is much news to share regarding this new venture, and you can support it in many ways, as you'll read in this article.

Our press release says it all: *"The Rogue Valley Genealogical Society, Inc. (RVGS) today purchased a new building for the Jackson County Genealogy Library, at 3405 South Pacific Highway, Medford, Oregon. This building will provide almost 5400 square feet for the library, classes, meetings, and offices. RVGS membership and library use has been growing 10% each year, and interest in family history is at an all-time high. Remodeling and painting should be finished by July 2012. A major fundraiser 'Building Excitement' will kick off the campaign to defray the costs of the purchase and remodeling. The library and society will keep P.O. Box 1468, Phoenix, Oregon 97535 as the mailing address. If you are interested in a naming opportunity or wish to contribute to the fundraising campaign, please contact the Society at that address. All contributions are most welcome and appreciated."*

We hope to have 100% participation from members, no matter how small the contribution. You can contribute money, time, talent, or any combination of those. Please mail your donations to the Phoenix address or donate using a credit card by going to the [Rogue Valley Genealogical Society website](http://www.rvgsociety.org). There is a Donate button near the top of the home page. When you donate online, you can designate how funds are to be used; you can also give in memory of or in honor of another individual on the last web page where you confirm your transaction.

The Board of Directors met, voted, and approved some of the expenditures to get the project started. Asbestos removal; legal, attorney, and filing fees;; electrical, new sheet rock, paint, \$5000.00 worth of insulation and pre-wiring were all approved.

The Design Committee met to talk about the initial ideas for the design of the library and the floor plan was available at the monthly meeting in May and was presented by Anne Billeter, who took the measurements and drew up preliminary plans to give to architect Bob Seibert. Anne and Bob are working



Between Us Diggers is the Membership Newsletter of the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society, Inc.

95 Houston Rd, P.O. Box 1468, Phoenix, OR 97535-1468 ~ Phone: 541-512-2340 <http://www.rvgsociety.org> and <http://www.rvgslibrary.org>

on the final design and layout of the library. Thank you to Anne and Bob for donating their time and efforts!

Al Beron, acting as contractor, has called on other professionals to get quotes on the asbestos removal, new roof, gutters, electrical, heating, and air conditioning.



Center at 611 N. Main Street in Phoenix, came to help with the demolition. Stan and Bryce used a bobcat to take out walls, saving the demolition crew many hours of work.

The demolition process was largely completed by May 1.

Carolyn Beron called Energy Trust to see if we were entitled to incentives for work done. An ad to sell carpeting from the building was placed on Craig's List. Carolyn then started a comprehensive budget for all areas of the purchase, as well as remodeling and construction costs. Charleen Brown and Colista Bailey mailed the annual fundraising letter to all members. Donations are now being received for this "Building Excitement" project; a list of donors follows in this issue.

A huge "thank you" goes out to all those who answered the call for funds or donations of particular items. To date, we have received pledges for donations of the new carpet and installation, flag pole holders, a new refrigerator and sink for the kitchen, paint, re-roofing, and stacking chairs for the meeting room. Andrea Patterson is selecting the carpet she and Jack will be donating, choosing interior and exterior paint and trim colors, and color and type of roofing material. Decisions, decisions, decisions! A list of donors who designated funds for specific items in the new building will be included in next month's newsletter.

So much work has already been completed! The asbestos company removed all the asbestos from the building and then our wonderful "demolition crew," masks on their faces, started the demolition, taking out the unnecessary walls, tile, pillars and equipment. They discovered an ant nest—the biggest one anyone had ever seen—and with the biggest ants anyone had ever seen! Many dump runs with personal pickup trucks were made by the awesome demolition crew. Stan Bartell and one of his employees, Bryce, from Phoenix Auto

The hood, fire suppression system, grease trap and old carpet were sold for a total of \$1,500. They have been removed from the building by owners of Las Palmas Mexican restaurant. The fan on the roof has been left and will be removed when the roof is replaced. The walk-in freezer and coolers could not be rescued and have been demolished. Mold is being removed from the areas around the walk in freezers and coolers.

Our current library has been put on the market for sale.

"For Sale by Owner" ads were placed in the newspaper and the Oregon Legal Journal. Carolyn Beron made up the flyers and placed the ads.

Come July and August we hope to move into the new building. Library Director Anne Billeter will be in charge of gathering boxes and organizing the move. Volunteers are definitely needed! Contact Anne at billeter@entwood.com and put "Helping with the Move" in the subject line.

Andrea Patterson, Connie Miller, Marie Fulbright and Carolyn Beron are planning the celebration and public awareness events for the upcoming year.

Please mark your calendars:

Friday, September 21, 2012 Ribbon-Cutting and Grand Opening Reception with tours starting at 3:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. Invitations will be sent at a later date.

♦Saturday, September 22, 2012 Open House all day with tours being given of new library



♦ **October 25, 2012 8:00 A.M. Medford/Jackson Chamber of Commerce, Greeters Meeting**

♦ **November 6, 2012 8:00 A.M. Phoenix Chamber of Commerce, Greeters Meeting**

♦ **December 7, 2012 8:00 A.M. Ashland Chamber of Commerce, Greeters Meeting**

Special meetings will be scheduled to decide the procedure for vacating and cleaning the 95 Houston Road building, select a roofing contractor, finalizing the design of the new building and determining pre-wiring of the building for computers and other equipment.

Below is a list of volunteers and donors to date. Thank you very much! If your name is not yet included we will be updating the list regularly in our print and online publications. (Please note that people who donated money to become Life Members and Life Benefactor members as part of a donation to the "Building Excitement" campaign must await passage of the proposed motion to alter the by-laws. Current by-laws stipulate that funds contributed for extended membership programs go to the Endowment Fund. If the changes in the by-laws are approved, then the funds can be diverted to the building fund or to other funding categories.)

Contributors to the New Building: Work, Time, and Expertise Thank You!

Al Beron
Warren Brown (bookshelves)
Chuck Eccleston
Jack Patterson
Andrea Patterson
Wayne Henningfield
Melinda Henningfield
Colista Bailey
Connie Miller
Stan Bartell
Bryce (Stan's employee)
Roger Roberts
Dick Raffensperger
Bob Seibert

Anne Billeter
Alan Marion
Roanne Lyall
Betty Heniga

People providing/bringing water/lunch/food:

Anne Billeter
Carolyn Beron
Melinda Henningfield
Andrea Patterson
Roanne Lyall

Contributors to the New Building: Donations Thank You!

Silver Club (0-\$49)

Richard Croly
Arlene Pugh, in memory of Leona Borough
David Hogan
Angela Bergelt
Roanne Lyall
Patricia Glidewell
Barbara Shrewsberry
Gayleen Hanscom
Betty Hayes
Arthur Bigelow
Edmund Dews
Rick & Nancy Aubin
Carolyn Craig
Charlene McKnight
Larry Henderson
Sharon Freeburne
Dennis J. Sorensen
Vanya Sloan
Chuck & Leslie Walton
Charleen Brown, in memory of Bruce Duncan
Colleen Eccleston, in memory of Bruce Duncan
Katherine Alsing

Gold Club (\$50-\$99)

Mary Anne Bryne
Brian Gorham
Patt Spielbusch

Stacy Dawkins
 Betty Drake
 Steve Kious
 Hugh Barnhill
 Linda Hildreth
 Margaret Shreader
 Geoge Busby
 Pam D'Allira
 Karen Asche
 Ron & Gloria Bartlett
 Judy M. Davidson
 Roger & Nancy Roberts
 William Mathers
 Arlene Scharich
 Diana Rasmussen
 Carol Wolf
 Marty & Carol Hoist

Century Club (\$100-\$999)

Betty Miller
 Al & Carolyn Beron
 John Ferrell
 Darlene Brown, for mentoring by Tom Sayre
 Carol Wilder
 Karen Scott
 Winfield & Clare Frazier
 Linda Carr
 Frank & Deirdre D'Antonio
 Ruth Gerety
 E. Kendall Clarke
 Barbara Middaugh
 Jackson & Carolee Jones
 Dorothy Throne
 Wanda Perdue
 Judy Mallchok
 Gene & Donna Brewer
 Chuck & Edith Carlson
 Otis & Georgia Blankenship
 Sybil Russell
 Beverly Calkins
 Sallie K. Riehl
 Helaine Noble
 Carol Barker
 Duane Murray

Mary Amaro
 Flo Bohnert
 Michael Phillips, in honor of Aileen Koster
 Audrey Berry
 Bon Dysart
 Evan & Dorothy Pruitt
 David & Carol Rugg
 Roberta Ortega (Life Membership Pending)
 Carita M. Culmer
 Evan & Dorothy Pruitt
 Vicki Bryden
 Barbara & Dave Basden
 Maureen Matousek, in memory of Marjorie Eleanor Wilson
 Sylvester

Diamond Club (\$1000 and over)

Gene & Charlotte Henry, Life Benefactor Membership
 Pending
 Anne Billeter, Life Benefactor Membership Pending
 Chuck and Colleen Eccleston
 Ellen Brannnick



NEW "BUILDING EXCITEMENT" OPPORTUNITIES

Our new library lunchroom has some specific needs that you could sponsor:

Kitchen Cabinets	\$ 1353.00
Formica Countertops	\$ 300.00
Refrigerator	\$ 1376.00 DONATED
New kitchen sink and faucet	\$ 600.00 DONATED
Kitchen and Office Windows	\$ 300.00

We hope to have 100% participation from members, no matter how small the contribution!

WELCOME NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS!

Karen Grandpre
Fran Brown
Geneva Lovell
Nancy Roberts
Nancy Nelson
Naomi Giordano
James Mess
Gene Austin
Ronald & Linda Johnson
Kelleigh Ray Duncan
Russ Graham
Judy Simpson
Winston & Cynthia Lora
Carolyn Ames
Elizabeth Wechlo
Joyce Nieto Keefe
Joan Arant
Angela Bergett
Mary Graham
Janice S. Brown

~~ REMEMBERING ~~

Jean Lydiard Seibert

Born January 30, 1925

Died March 8, 2012

~~ REMEMBERING ~~

Bruce Chapin Duncan

Born June 4, 1922

Died April 6, 2012



CLASSES & EVENTS

JUNE

Free: Diggin' in the Dark--Genealogy After Hours

When: Tuesday June 12, 20, 2012 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Where: Jackson County Genealogy Library, 95 Houston Road, Phoenix, Oregon

Description: Join the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society volunteers for a free, full evening of family history fun. No previous genealogy experience is necessary. Bring your known family information, a USB flash drive for saving what we find and your supper. Please register by phone 541-512-2340 or in person at Jackson County Genealogy Library, 95 Houston Road, Phoenix, Oregon.

Class: "Colonial Wars"

When: Tuesday June 19, 2012 10:00 a.m.

Where: OEA/Uniserv Building located at 2495 S. Pacific Hwy., Medford

Description: Patricia Healy, member of APG, NGS, and the Genealogical Society of Siskiyou County, will present "Colonial Wars." Are you proud of your Revolutionary Ancestors? Did you stop your research with their service in the Continental Army? Have you ever considered what their life was like before the Revolutionary War?

If your ancestors settled in Virginia, New England or the Southern Colonies they probably participated in the Colonial Wars. From 1607-1763 the colonies were a war zone of constant conflicts and hardships. These skirmishes produced records of the lives of the men and women that lived in that difficult period of early settlement. Introduction to Colonial Wars, 1607-1763 will help you find the records to complete your ancestor's military history and round out the portraits of their lives.

Price is \$10.00 for Members-\$20.00 for non-members. Please call 541-512-2340 for reservations.

Free: Genealogy Program for the Public

When: Tuesday June 19, 2012 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Where: OEA/Uniserv Building located at 2495 S. Pacific Hwy., Medford

Description: Patricia Healy's lecture at our 1:30 p.m. Membership Program will cover "What's New on the Internet." Genealogy



CLASSES & EVENTS (CONTINUED)

information available on the internet is growing daily! The internet has made our world smaller and today it is possible to find thousands of web pages and sites with a wealth of information about your ancestors. You can use the internet in many ways: you can gather data, reconstruct your ancestors lives and connect with distant cousins. We have available at our fingertips historical sites and online books as well as databases and actual digitized documents. "What's New on the Internet" will introduce you to podcasts, webinars, and blogs. In addition to exploring what is new on traditional sites, we will look at other sites you may not have considered.

Class: Starting your Genealogy Project from Scratch

When: Saturday, Saturday, June 23, 2012 from 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Where: Jackson County Genealogy Library 95 Houston Rd., Phoenix, OR

Description: Charleen Brown will teach the basic information needed to get you started on your family tree. The class is designed for the true beginner who wants to learn how to start a genealogy project. Save time by organizing what you already know by filling out an Ancestor Chart before going on the computer. Learn what types of documents will be useful in helping you trace your family. Put the fun in fundamentals of genealogy. The information you learn along the way will help you succeed in compiling a commendable family history. This is a free class for those just beginning their genealogy project.

Class: Finding the Treasures in the Genealogy Library

When: Friday, June 29, 2012 from 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 p.m.

Where: Jackson County Genealogy Library 95 Houston Rd., Phoenix, OR

Description: Library Director Anne Billeter will show you what's where, the hidden treasures our library holds, and how to use the library's online catalog.

Price is \$10.00 for Members-\$20.00 for non-members. Please call 541-512-2340 for reservations.

JULY

Free: Brick Wall Roundtable

When: Saturday, July 21, 2012 from 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Where: Jackson County Genealogy Library 95 Houston Rd., Phoenix, OR

Description: Charleen Brown will lead a round table discussion to help you find ways to find that elusive ancestor. Bring your questions (For example, "Who were my ancestor's parents?") and the list of the sources you have used to try to solve your problem. This class is free to members and non-members.

CLASSES & EVENTS (CONTINUED)



Event: 2012 State Conference

When: Saturday, 28 July 2012

Where: Lane Community College, Eugene, OR

Description: Announcing the 2012 statewide conference. A dozen concurrent lectures, the popular “Ask the Experts” sessions, and a packed vendor area are scheduled for this Summer Genealogy Fest. Featuring John Philip Colletta, Thomas MacEntee, and a host of other regional lecturers.

For More information and a schedule of classes go to: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~orgco2/>

BUILDING EXCITEMENT WITH FUNDRAISERS!

ORDER YOUR SCRAMBLED GENEALOGY PICTURE TODAY—READY TO FRAME!

Send your words or names to 541beron@charter.net to have your words randomized into a beautiful piece of artwork.

All profits to go to the building fund to remodel the new building.

\$25.00 for 8x10 with white or ivory background

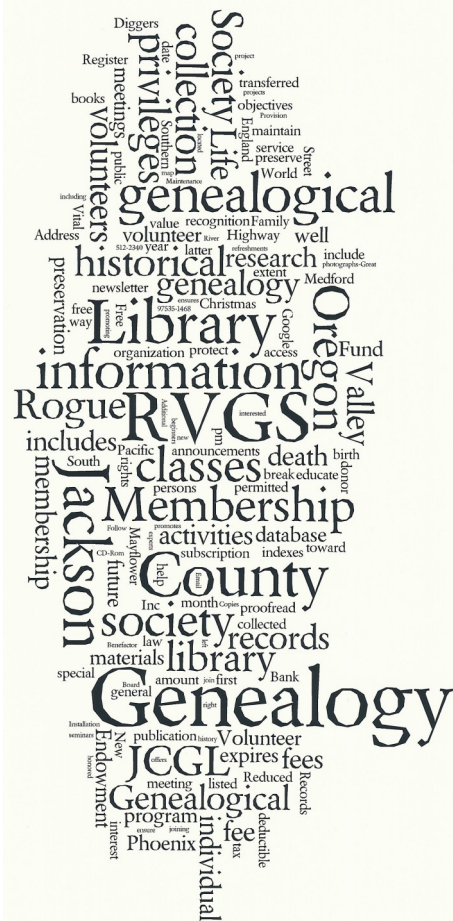
\$35.00 for black background

\$45.00 for 11x14 white background

\$55.00 for 11x14 black background.

COMING IN JULY—dine out and donate at the same time!

Keep your eye out for an email inviting you to eat out in July at Mucho Gusto restaurant in Medford. A sizeable percentage of the cost of your meal will be donated to support the “building excitement” campaign!





ANNUAL SALT LAKE CITY TRIP A SUCCESS!

The annual trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City was a huge success and a lot of fun. Fifteen people shared a relaxing bus ride from Medford to SLC and back via Lakeview and the beautiful high desert country of eastern Oregon and northern Nevada. En route we saw wild

horses, burros, and herds of antelope, as well as cranes and herons. We even shared one long quiet stretch of road momentarily with a herd of cattle, calves and all! Once in Salt Lake City, we attended classes, received great advice from experts, and searched among the millions of world-wide records there on microfilm, microfiche, and online, making many important and exciting discoveries as we researched family trees.



As you can see from the photo of the group below (including Dan, our bus driver), which was taken as we prepared to leave Salt Lake City, a great time was had by all! Won't you come join us next spring? We'll be sure to have a seat ready and waiting for you in 2013!



GARDENERS

Do you have a green thumb? Do you hate weeds? Well you are the person or persons we are looking for to help us get a head start on the weeds that are trying to take over at the new building. If you can help, grab your clippers, weed eater or other helpful tools and head to 3405 S. Pacific Hwy. Then, take a whack at the weeds. Call Chuck Eccleston at 541-776-0778 or the Library at 541-512-2340 to schedule a time to work or to put your name on the list for volunteering.

Not interested in gardening? There are other volunteer jobs available at the new building that just might suit you better. We will soon need people to help with a wide variety of jobs such as, painting, clean up, etc. Again, call the Library and put your name on the list to be contacted when help is needed.



IMPORTANT REMINDER REGARDING LAPTOPS USED IN OUR LIBRARY

Please note: When they are at the library, patrons with laptops can access all of the sites on our Website Menu EXCEPT Ancestry and Genealogy Bank. Under no circumstances should the username and password for those two sites be given to or used by patrons to enter in their laptops. Why not? We pay for eight seats using Ancestry—the seven patron computers + the one reception computer. If a laptop has one of the username, password combinations, and is logged in to Ancestry, then he/she is using one of the library's eight seats. Please help us stay in compliance with our licensing agreements!

You are welcome to use the remaining sites on the menu when you are at the library. The address of the menu is <http://www.rvgslibrary.org/WebsiteMenu.html>



OFFICERS**President**

Charleen Brown

Vice President

Connie Miller

Treasurer

Colista Bailey

Secretary

Andrea Patterson

Trustee

Marie Fulbright

Past President

Chuck Eccleston

DIRECTORS**Library**

Anne Billeter

Education

Sue Dunford

Membership

Charlotte Henry

Finance

Barbara MacMillen

Public Relations

Carolyn Beron

Maintenance

Al Beron

Electronic Publications

Barbara Basden

GENERAL MEETING

The third Tuesday of each month at 1:30 p.m.

(Except July, Aug., and Dec.)

Usual location:

OEA Uniserv Building

2495 S. Pacific Highway

Medford

MEMBERSHIP

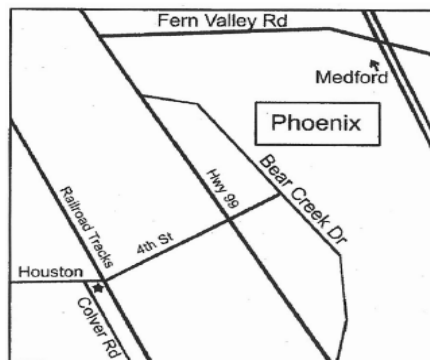
Annual dues are \$30 for an individual and \$15 for each additional member of the same household. This includes library checkout privileges.

LIBRARY HOURS**Monday - Saturday****10:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

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**Directions to the Library**

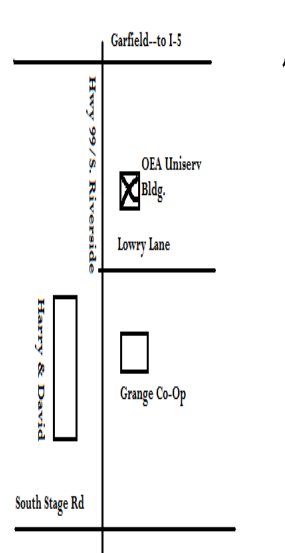
Enter Phoenix from I-5 or Hwy 99 and drive South on Hwy 99; Turn right on 4th, and continue until crossing the railroad tracks. Jackson County Genealogy Library is on the left.



**Directions to the  
OEA Uniserv Building  
2495 South Pacific Hwy**

**From Medford (north):** drive south on Hwy 99. Turn left at the light on Lowry Lane. The building is on your left.

**From Ashland (south):** drive north on Hwy 99. Turn right at the light on Lowry Lane. The building is on your left.

**ROGUE VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Annual Membership:** \$30 for an individual and \$15 for each additional household member

\_\_\_\_\_ **Life Membership:** \$500 for an individual (\$200 is tax deductible)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Life Benefactor Membership:** \$5,000 for an individual (\$4,700 is tax deductible)

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Where did you learn about the Society & Library? \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make your check payable to RVGS, (95 Houston Rd.), Mail to: P.O. Box 1468, Phoenix, OR 97535.**

**Please call 541-512-2340 if you must receive our newsletter by postal mail.**

ROGUE VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
95 Houston Road  
P. O. Box 1468  
Phoenix, OR 97535-1468  
[www.rvgsociety.org](http://www.rvgsociety.org) and [www.rvgslibrary.org](http://www.rvgslibrary.org)  
Return Service Requested

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### June

- |    |         |                                                                                                                             |
|----|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11 | Monday  | Regular Board of Directors Meeting, 9:30 a.m., RVGS Library                                                                 |
| 19 | Tuesday | General Membership Meeting, 1:30 p.m. OEA Uniserv Bldg. , <i>What's New on the Internet; guest speaker, Patricia Healey</i> |

### July

- |   |        |                                                             |
|---|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9 | Monday | Regular Board of Directors Meeting, 9:30 a.m., RVGS Library |
|---|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------|

### August

- |    |        |                                                             |
|----|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 13 | Monday | Regular Board of Directors Meeting, 9:30 a.m., RVGS Library |
|----|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------|

**Be sure to look inside for more events and activities. Also, check our online calendar at <http://www.rvgsociety.org/Calendar.html> !**

Current and recent back issues of *The Rogue Digger* and *Between Us Diggers* are under NEWS on our society website: [www.rvgsociety.org](http://www.rvgsociety.org). You can access information about our library at [www.rvgslibrary.org](http://www.rvgslibrary.org).