



BETWEEN US DIGGERS

ROGUE VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

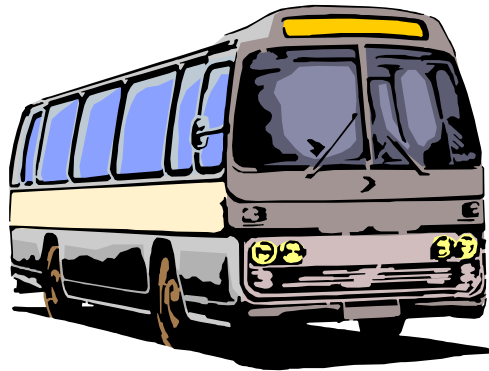
NEWSLETTER



SINCE 1966

VOLUME 15, NUMBER 1

MARCH 2013



WE ARE GOING TO VISIT SALT LAKE CITY APRIL 8 - 15

The 2013 RVGS-Raindance bus trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City is scheduled for Monday April 8 through Monday April 15 and seats are still available! We will spend Monday in Winnemucca and will arrive in Salt Lake City around 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday. We will have Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and a full day on Saturday for

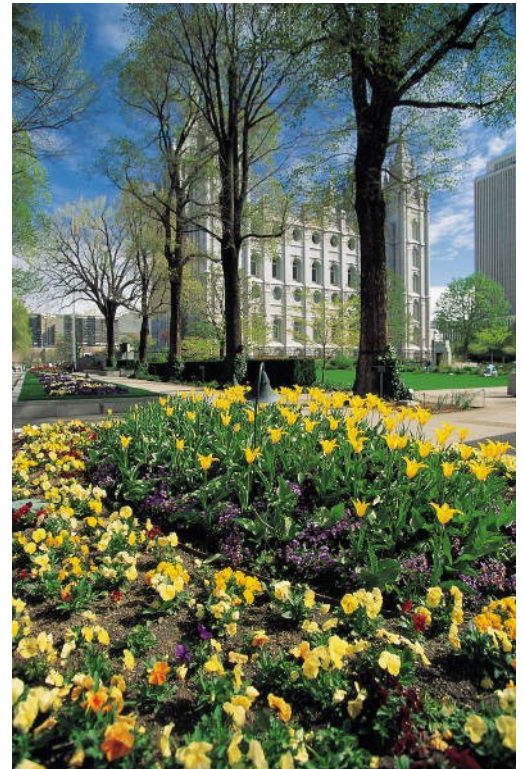
research. We will leave on Sunday morning and spend Sunday night in Winnemucca, arriving back in Medford on Monday afternoon.

Rhonda at Raindance Tours has the itinerary ready. The fare includes all baggage handling and although the modern and comfortable bus has its own bathroom, the trip includes frequent stops along the way to stretch or to grab a cup of coffee.

We will stay at the Salt Lake Plaza Best Western Hotel, which is just a few steps from the Family History Library and adjacent to Temple Square. The free downtown light-rail (TRAX) runs right by the hotel's front door and connects you to many of SLC's best attractions. The cost of this trip will be \$850 per person for double occupancy if 20 or more participate. Single occupancy will be \$1,175. The price will be adjusted if fewer than 20 sign up. Be sure to call Rhonda at 541-479-8217 to reserve your spot and sign up on the list at the Jackson County Genealogy Library (JCGL) or call (541)512-2340 and provide your email address so that we can keep you informed about the full itinerary. There will be a pre-trip-meeting at the JCGL to help you plan ahead and use your research time wisely.

Come to the largest genealogical library in the world and learn more about your roots!

Or just come and enjoy the beauty of Salt Lake City in the Spring!



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

3405 S. Pacific Hwy. Medford, OR, P.O. Box 1468, Phoenix, OR 97535-1468 ~ Phone: 541-512-2340

<http://www.rvgsociety.org> and <http://www.rvgslibrary.org>

WELCOME NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS!

Paul Lofland
 Marjorie O'Harra
 Kitty Whitlock
 Joe Heath
 P. Marie Paloma
 Michael A. Nowland
 Anne Jenkins
 Douglas Kirkpatrick
 Gail D. Bailey
 Marvin Depue
 Ralph Roberts
 Jim Gleaves
 Charles Hutson
 N. Lynne Simmons
 Larry Martin
 Mary Lynn Lucas
 Estelle Voeller
 Sara Brooks
 Ken Kelley
 James and Marsha Markham
 Bob and Dawn Hulse
 Alice and Larry Mullaly
 Susan Moulder
 Rosemary Adalian
 Linda Lipkind
 Ginger, Wolf, and Heidi Montes
 Deborah Thomas
 Charlene Jurgens
 Janet L. Session
 Marilyn White
 Don E. and Linda Herbert

~~ REMEMBERING ~~

Catherine G. Lynch Kellogg
 Born April 18, 1914
 Died January 5, 2013
 Member since 1966



CLASSES & EVENTS

Friday March 8, 2013—10:00 to Noon, Jackson County Genealogy Library (JCGL), 3405 S. Pacific Hwy., Medford, OR

Class: *Using the Library Effectively*. Presented by JCGL Library Director Anne Billeter.

Cost: \$10 members/\$20 non-members

Monday, 18 March 2013—10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., JCGL, 3405 S. Pacific Hwy., Medford, OR

Event: *Starting Your Genealogy Project from Scratch*. RVGS President Charleen Brown will teach the basics for building your family tree. Find the *fun* in the *fundamentals* of genealogy. The information you gain will help you succeed in compiling your family history.

Cost: Free!

Tuesday, 19 March 2013—1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. General Meeting Program, JCGL, 3405 S. Pacific Hwy., Medford, OR

Event: *The Recovery and Conservation of the Confederate Submarine H.L. Hunley*. Doug Devine offers a presentation on the Confederate submarine, *H. L. Hunley*, the first submarine to sink a warship in battle, and was sunk in 1864 during the Civil War. The tiny sub had a crew of 8 and was found in 1995 off the coast of Charleston, SC, under several feet of silt.

Cost: Free and open to the public! Call your friends to join you for this informative event! Refreshments will be served.

Tuesday, 19 March 2013—3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., JCGL, 3405 S. Pacific Hwy., Medford, OR

Event: *Diggin' in the Dark*. A free afternoon and evening with librarians available to help you.

Cost: Free and open to the public!

Saturday, 23 March 2013—10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., JCGL, 3405 S. Pacific Hwy., Medford, OR

Event: *50 Do's and Don'ts of Genealogy*. Member Betty Miller will teach you the things you wish that someone had told you at the beginning of your research. Fifty points to start you off and keep you on track for successful research.

Cost: \$10 for members; \$20 for non-members.

Thursday, 4 April 2013—10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.,
JCGL, 3405 S. Pacific Hwy., Medford, OR

Event: *Google Tools for Genealogists*. Barbara Basden will teach you about tools such as alerts telling you when new information has been found on the internet about your ancestor. Google Drive provides free online storage complete with a word processor, spreadsheet and other features. A Google account is required and is free and easy to set up.

Cost: \$10 for members; \$20 for non-members.

Monday, 8 April through Monday, 15 April

Event: Our Salt Lake City research trip. Join us for the week at the largest family research library or join us and just enjoy the city's sights and surroundings.

Cost: \$820 double; \$1,175 single

Tuesday, 16 April 2013—1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. General Meeting Program, JCGL, 3405 S. Pacific Hwy., Medford, OR

Event: *Capturing Oral History on Video; Tips for Storytellers and for Behind the Camera*. Presenter: Dan Shaw

What does it take to capture compelling video of personal stories? You'll find it useful to be familiar with some of the situations that often occur in capturing oral history on video, as well as how to prepare and respond with ease and professionalism. With just a basic grasp of the technology and these tips and techniques, you will feel confident to tell your own stories and to gather others' stories on camera. Dan will speak a bit on the subject and then demonstrate by filming a story from someone in the audience.

Cost: Free and open to the public! Call your friends to join you for this informative event! Refreshments will be served.

Event: *Digging' in the Dark*. A free afternoon and evening with librarians available to help you. Begins immediately after the General Meeting Program and continues to 9 pm.

Cost: Free and open to the public!

Saturday, 18 May 2013—10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon,
JCGL, 3405 S. Pacific Hwy., Medford, OR

Event: *Brick Wall Roundtable*. Do you have an elusive ancestor you have searched for in vain? Or an

ancestor you can trace only so far and then have hit the "brick wall"? Members will be available to offer suggestions for researching and locating some of that missing information.

Cost: Donation suggested

Tuesday, 21 May 2013—1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. General Meeting Program, JCGL, 3405 S. Pacific Hwy., Medford, OR

Event: *Speaker to be announced*

Cost: Free and open to the public! Call your friends to join you for this informative event! Refreshments will be served.

Event: *Digging' in the Dark*. A free afternoon and evening with librarians available to help you. Begins immediately after the General Meeting Program and continues to 9 pm.

Cost: Free and open to the public!

Tuesday, 18 June 2013—1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. General Meeting Program, JCGL, 3405 S. Pacific Hwy., Medford, OR

Event: *Speaker to be announced*

Cost: Free and open to the public! Call your friends to join you for this informative event! Refreshments will be served.

Event: *Digging' in the Dark*. A free afternoon and evening with librarians available to help you. Begins immediately after the General Meeting Program and continues to 9 pm.

Cost: Free and open to the public!

NARA ANNOUNCEMENT!

This week, the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) announced that it has made available for the first time online more than 5.2 million records of some passengers who arrived during the last half of the 19th century at the ports of Baltimore, Boston, New Orleans, New York, and Philadelphia. The records can be accessed through NARA's online Access to Archival Databases (AAD).

<http://aad.archives.gov/aad/index.jsp>

HAVE YOU JOINED THE RVGS 5/60 CLUB FOR 2013?

By now you have heard about, read about, seen a picture of, or visited the exciting new location of our Jackson County Genealogy Library at 3405 South Pacific Hwy., Medford, OR. We are all very pleased with the new building and the expanded services we are able to provide in this larger facility. These expanded services include the following:

- ◇ More patron computers
- ◇ A large reading room
- ◇ Laptop usage areas
- ◇ A mentoring service area
- ◇ Larger classroom, more classes
- ◇ Expanded meeting area
- ◇ Events in our own building
- ◇ And last but not least, plenty of parking



Member contributions to the Annual and Building Fund Drives have made this move possible and we thank each and every one who donated so generously. However, this is just the beginning, because we still need the support of our membership to pay off the mortgage. Our other building is for sale and we have had some interest but as you know the real estate market is slow so selling it may take some time. In the meantime, we are faced with mortgage payments on the new building. We can do this, but we need your help.

That is why we are inviting ALL members to join our annual "5/60 Club." What is that? It is very simple! If each member would contribute as little as an additional \$5 per month or \$60 per year, the funds would reduce the mortgage considerably. For example, 500 members (we have over 600) each donating \$5 monthly or \$60 annually would generate \$30,000. This would easily make the mortgage payments (\$1,600 per month) as well as reduce the principle by approximately \$10,000.

So, we are asking each member, even if you have already donated, to join our club and make a tax-deductible donation for 2013. It will make a big difference in paying off the mortgage.

Thank you for your support,

RVGS Board of Directors



2013 5/60 CLUB MEMBERS

Glenn Bailey

Colista Bailey

Al Beron

Leona Blankenship

Charleen Brown

Carolyn Craig

Carita Culmer

Chuck Eccelston

Colleen Eccelston

John Ferrell

Ruth Gerety

Sharon Hambly

Melinda Henningfield

Charlotte Henry

Gene Henry

Barbara Johnson

Sybil Russell

Alan Marion

Barbara MacMillen

Richard MacMillen

Betty Miller

Barbara Middaugh

Connie Miller

Barbara Shrewsberry

Chloe Sternola

John Stewart

Janie Stewart

April Thomas

Patricia Tracy

Jan Wright

PUBLICATION CHANGES AT RVGS

PLEASE READ!

Due to printing and postage expenses (over \$300 per year), we will phase out mailed newsletters and publications (BUD/The Digger) by Jan 2014. At present, about 90% of our members are notified when these publications are made available online. Members who don't own or use computers would be able to read printed copies at the library. Members who do use computers would be able to read the publications online at our library, the public library, or a friend's home. Please provide a valid email address to the library if you want to receive notifications about our newsletters and publications. Send an email to info@rvgslibrary.org indicating that you would like to be notified when the BUD and Digger are available online. Providing your email address will also enable you to receive our monthly publication, the *eNews*. We do not share your email address with others and we send notifications to you as blind carbon copies so that your email address remains private.



RVGS has had many significant memberships taken with the society in the past months. In this issue the BUD features a 25-year member and four Life Members; others will be featured in future issues. We thank all of them for their confidence in and continued support of the society.



25-YEAR MEMBER

**SHARON ANN
(SHOEN) FREEBURNE**

I was born Sharon Ann Shoen in southern California after my dad returned from WWII. My family converged in Orange County in the early 1910s and 1920s from Idaho, Texas, and North Carolina. I arrived in Oregon (Brookings) in 1970 and moved to Medford in 1975 where I went to work for the Jackson County Library.

After several years of helping people with their genealogy questions (Ruby Lacey was one of my regular users and Anne Billeter was a co-worker), I got interested enough to look up the genealogy library in the old upstairs location in downtown Medford. I was immediately hooked. When the library moved to its downstairs location I became a volunteer librarian and have remained in that position. Last year I also added cataloging to my duties at the library where I do that on most Mondays.

Of course, I still work on my own genealogy and have corresponded with far flung family members that are part of my tree. There is never an end to searching and I still enjoy the thrill of it all.



LIFE MEMBERS

**ELLEN BRANNICK
AND
CAROL BROCKFIELD**

In the 1960s, Carol reconnected with her father and then moved on to use genealogical research to reconstruct the history of both sides of her family. This predated the LDS Church’s creation of online record databases and Ancestry.com. Genealogical research then required going to the county courthouse to read and delve into records, and Carol’s ancestors were in Pennsylvania. The trail next led into Poland, from which her maternal grandparents had emigrated.

As Ellen became intrigued by Carol’s research, she allowed herself to be dragged to the genealogical library in Napa, CA, where—blessed with luck—she found her family immediately. In the Iowa book section was a county history describing her father’s family back to her great-great-grandfather and telling of his life in early America. After much diligent work she now has found family back before the Mayflower, while Carol is still stuck in the 17th century.

They both think that JCGL is basic to anyone’s hunt for their past. It offers classes in research, reliable source books, helpful volunteers and free access to internet sites. “It is a privilege to contribute to the ongoing and future needs of our local genealogical base.” RVGS thanks Ellen and Carol for their support and Life Memberships.



LIFE MEMBERS

WARREN BROWN AND CHARLEEN BROWN

Charleen's story: My first experience with family history came when I was about 14 years old and traveled by train with my grandmother to a Moore Family Reunion in Pixley, CA. I was too young to appreciate all she did at the time but she saved documents, letters and family heirlooms and I am proud to have many of those artifacts today. However, this early interest was put on hold when Warren Brown and I married in 1960 and spent the next 35 years making a home and raising our family. It wasn't until after retirement in 1993, that my interest was rekindled.

One day I was driving through Medford on South Central when I happened to see a sign that said GENEALOGY at 133 S. Central Ave. Remembering my early interest, I drove around the block and parked in front of the building. Strangely enough it was a Tuesday and the sign on the door said that the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society was closed on Tuesday. Disappointed, I vowed that the next time I was in Medford, not on a Tuesday, I would definitely try again. Just over a week later, I walked in, took the tour and immediately signed up to be a librarian. One week after that, I took the library training and was scheduled to be a volunteer librarian once a week. That was in 1995. My interest continued to grow and by 1996, I was working on the obituary project as well as being a librarian. In 1998, I was elected Secretary of the Board and by 1999, I was elected Vice President. I became President in 2000 when the elected President resigned. The rest is history.

Warren was always interested in hearing about my genealogy research but not in researching himself. He became a member of RVGS in 2003 when the society purchased the building at 95 Houston Road and we became co-signers on the mortgage. Having more of an interest in woodworking than research, he contributed by building 66 bookcases for the new library expansion project. In 2012, when the society purchased the building at 3405 S. Pacific Highway, he built 17 more matching bookcases for the new library space. We became life members of RVGS because we want to continue to support the Society's goal of preserving the past for the future.

**RVGS THANKS CHARLEEN AND WARREN FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT
AND MANY YEARS OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SOCIETY!**



2012 ANNUAL REPORT

The year 2012 will go into RVGS history as a milestone year for the library. By now everyone knows that we purchased and remodeled the building at 3405 S. Pacific Hwy., Medford, OR. When we signed the papers in March, our 5-year goals had to be altered to include the extensive remodeling of the building in keeping with Goal 6 below, to provide a professional and functional facility. This took most of the year, but we are proud of the result.

We started by contracting to have the asbestos removed. This was necessary for the safety of our volunteers and patrons. We had a new roof put on, and volunteers began the arduous tasks of interior demolition. We had an architect who helped with the planning of the interior. Volunteers did a lot of tearing out, cleaning up, and hauling of debris. While some worked inside, others worked outside painting and gardening. The outside looked great with new paint, a new roof and fresh landscaping. The inside took much longer. All the floor coverings and tile had to be removed, new walls and partitions needed to be built, and a beam needed to be replaced to open up two large rooms. The electrical, plumbing, insulating, heating and cooling were contracted out and had to be completed before interior paint could be done. When new floor coverings were installed, we were ready for the big library move. We had a deadline of September 21, 2012, for our "Grand Opening" and **WE MADE IT!** More than 300 people attended the festivities to see our beautiful new library. We are very pleased with the results even though it was a bigger job than first anticipated. The remodeling expenses have all been paid, so now we can concentrate on paying down the mortgage. The continued support of member donors is very important in meeting this financial obligation. Although much energy was expended on the new building, we still managed to meet many of our goals:

Goal 1 Develop and implement a marketing plan to improve the professional image of RVGS in Jackson County.

- We purchased new signs along Hwy. 99 to identify our location.
- We changed name of the library to Jackson County Genealogy Library for better identification.

Goal 2 Expand library services for volunteer staff and patrons.

- We conducted a five-week series of genealogy classes through Southern Oregon University and for patrons.

Goal 3 Develop an annual and long range financial plan sufficient to achieve future financial stability.

- We purchased and remodeled a building to house the Jackson County Genealogy Library.
- We continued classes and other income-producing activities and fundraisers.

Goal 4 Expand membership through recruitment and retention.

- We continued to develop procedures for and implemented phone call reminders for new members.
- Our new location increased our visibility, so usage increased.
- Over 300 attended the "Grand Opening" and 84 attended the Christmas Party.

Goal 5 Develop a plan to enhance the collection through technology to add value to our services, increase efficiency and effectiveness, and provide compatible technology services that support our mission, are cost justified, and are easy to use and support.

- We combined circulating and research books in the collection for better usage.
- We continued to keep our technology equipment and software current.

Goal 6 Provide professional and functional facilities that support our goals for volunteer staff and patrons.

- We met this through the purchase of new building. See remodeling described above.

Goal 7 Annually evaluate circumstances and capabilities and adjust management and operations to assure ability to meet established strategic goals.

- Board Retreat was held in November to evaluate and adjust long-range goals.



ANNUAL FUND DRIVE

Thanks to the support of our members, we are pleased to announce that the 2012 Annual Fund Drive exceeded the goal of \$8,500 by \$230 for a grand total of \$8,730! This generosity and support by our members is greatly appreciated. The Annual Fund Drive donations were added to the building remodeling project to complete our new building. This has been a big help in meeting remodeling expenses.

However, we aren't finished yet! We received wonderful member support through volunteer workers and contributions of money to the Building Fund, but, we still need more of both and now we need to meet the ongoing mortgage payment. If you haven't made your donation for 2013, it is not too late! We need your help now!

Please contribute and help RVGS make our Jackson County Genealogy Library the pride of the membership!

WHAT'S A VOLUNTEER WORTH?

As an all volunteer organization, RVGS is proud of our dedicated volunteers who devote many, many hours of service. The total number of hours for 2012 was **19,057!** Using an average value estimate of \$21.36 per hour, the volunteer worth was \$407,050 to our organization. This is astounding!!! However, there is another aspect to add to the value of this volunteer work. If you ask those patrons who were treated with a beautifully remodeled building and then were helped to break through that "brick wall" and find a long-lost relative, their answer would be "**PRICELESS.**" Thank you volunteers, we couldn't succeed without you.



Volunteer Services

ADD SOACC SHOW AND GENEALOGY WEEK TO YOUR CALENDARS !



Please mark your calendars! The Southern Oregon Antiques and Collectibles Club show is March 16th and 17th at the armory. The fall dates are September 28th and 29th. Genealogy Week will run September 30th through Saturday Oct 5th at JCGL, immediately after the SOACC show.

ENDLESS SILENT AUCTION!

Bidding on items for the February Endless Silent Auction will begin February 19th and will close March 11th. **You won't want to miss this one!** Below some of the new items are pictured and described. The pictures don't do justice to the items, so please come in to view them and make your bid. This is a fun way to add to our building fund so we hope you will participate by bidding and/or donating. Due to space constraints on this sale, some already donated items will be held over for the March auction. They include another hand crafted knife, a designer pillow, wrought iron plant hanger, a set of Japanese coasters, and a 10 piece craft punch set, just to mention a few. More items for the March auction are being accepted, so if you wish to donate an item please drop it off at the library.



Scrimshaw whalebone cribbage board



Chess set



Pewter flask



Decorative Milk Jug



Hand-crafted knife and sheath



Leather belts with decorative buckles



Velvet photo album

... PLUS BOOKCASES, CERAMIC BOWLS, GLASS AND CERAMIC SERVING DISHES, VASES, AND MORE! COME TO THE LIBRARY TO SEE THESE WONDERFUL AUCTION ITEMS!

OFFICERS

President
Charleen Brown
Vice President
Connie Miller
Treasurer
Colista Bailey
Secretary
Andrea Patterson
Trustee
Marie Fulbright
Past President
Chuck Eccleston

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**DIRECTORS**

**Library**  
Anne Billeter  
**Education**  
Chloe Sternola  
**Membership**  
Charlotte Henry  
**Finance**  
Barbara MacMillen  
**Public Relations**  
Carolyn Beron  
**Maintenance**  
Al Beron

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GENERAL MEETING

The third Tuesday of each month at 1:30 p.m.
(Except July, Aug., and Dec.)
Usual location:
Jackson County Genealogical Library
3405 S. Pacific Highway
Medford

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**MEMBERSHIP**

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

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LIBRARY HOURS

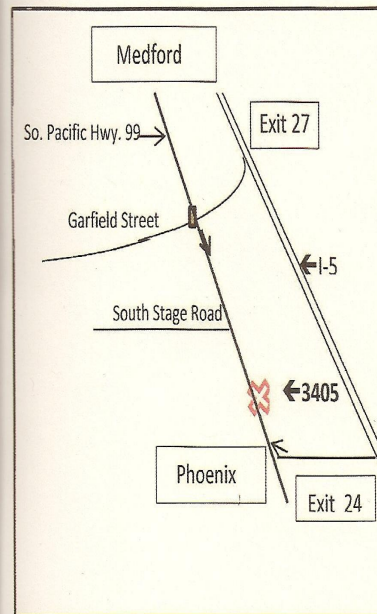
Monday - Saturday
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

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**Directions to the Library**

Coming South on I-5: Take Exit 27. Turn right onto Garfield. Turn left onto South Pacific Hwy 99. 3405 will be 1.6 miles on your left.

Coming North on I-5: Take Exit 24. Turn left onto Fern Valley Road. Turn right onto South Pacific Hwy 99. 3405 will be 1 mile on your right.



**Society Contact Information**

(541) 512-2340  
www.rvgsociety.org  
E-mail: info@rvgslibrary.org

**Rogue Valley Genealogical Society Membership Application**

\_\_\_ **Annual Membership:** \$30 for an individual/ \$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 \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Where did you learn about the Society/Library? \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make your check payable to RVGS at our mailing address: P.O. Box 1468, Phoenix, OR 97535*

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

### March

|    |         |                                                     |
|----|---------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 11 | Monday  | Regular Board of Directors Meeting, 9:30 a.m., JCGL |
| 19 | Tuesday | General Membership Meeting, 1:30 p.m., JCGL         |

### April

|    |         |                                                     |
|----|---------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | Monday  | Regular Board of Directors Meeting, 9:30 a.m., JCGL |
| 16 | Tuesday | General Membership Meeting, 1:30 p.m., JCGL         |

### May

|    |         |                                                     |
|----|---------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 13 | Monday  | Regular Board of Directors Meeting, 9:30 a.m., JCGL |
| 21 | Tuesday | General Membership Meeting, 1:30 p.m., JCGL         |

### June

|    |         |                                                     |
|----|---------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 10 | Monday  | Regular Board of Directors Meeting, 9:30 a.m., JCGL |
| 18 | Tuesday | General Membership Meeting, 1:30 p.m., JCGL         |

Be sure to look inside for more events and activities or check our online calendar at <http://www.rvgsociety.org/Calendar.html> and our blog at <http://rvgslib.wordpress.com/>

Current and recent back issues of *The Rogue Digger* and *Between Us Diggers* are available 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).