

eNEWS JANUARY 2017

The monthly eNewsletter (eNews) for the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society (RVGS) and Jackson County Genealogy Library (JCGL) has three sections:

- (1) Classes and Events both at the library and elsewhere
- (2) RVGS News of member and society activities
- (3) JCGL News about our book collection and internet resources

Classes and Events

Jackson County Genealogy Library

Tuesday, January 3, 1:30-3:00 p.m. **Family Tree Maker Group for PC users.** This group meets to discuss the FTM program and share ideas. Free for members, \$5 for non-members. To register, please call 541-512-2340, email: reception.JCGL@gmail.com or stop by the library.

Monday, January 9, 9:30 a.m. Board Meeting. The monthly RVGS board meeting is open to all.

Monday, January 9, 1:00-3:00 p.m. **DNA interest group**, for those who have tested. Lorita Cushman facilitates this interest group. Free for members, \$5 for non-members. To register, please call 541-512-2340, email: reception.JCGL@gmail.com or stop by the library.

Tuesday, January 10, 3:30-5:00 p.m. **German Interest Group**. Mary Robsman facilitates this interest group concentrating on German history and research. Free for members, \$5 for non-members. To register, please call 541-512-2340, email: reception.JCGL@gmail.com or stop by the library.

Wednesday, January 11, 10:00-11:30 a.m. **Family Tree Maker Group for MAC users.**Barbara MacMillen facilitates this group to discuss the FTM program and share ideas. Free for members, \$5 for non-members. To register, please call 541-512-2340, email: reception.JCGL@gmail.com or stop by the library.

Thursday, January 12, 1:30-3:00 p.m. **Irish Interest Group.** Bruce McGarvey facilitates this monthly meeting of people interested in the history, genealogy and culture of all things Irish. Free for members, \$5 for non-members. To register, please call 541-512-2340, email: reception.JCGL@gmail.com or stop by the library in person.

- *** A SERIES OF THREE FREE CLASSES DESIGNED FOR BEGINNERS TO GET A GOOD START ON GENEALOGY RESEARCH WILL BE PRESENTED THIS MONTH.
- * Saturday, January 14, 10:30 noon. How to Start Your Genealogy Project. FIRST IN SERIES FOR BEGINNERS. Charleen Brown, instructor. This class will give you the basics of ancestor charts, family group sheets, building trees, logging research and where to look for records. Free. To register, please call 541-512-2340, email: reception.JCGL@gmail.com or stop by the library.

Tuesday, January 17,1:30 p.m. January Program for the public and membership meeting. Larry Smith, our speaker this month, will give an interesting and informative program, *The Chinese in Southern Oregon*. Come to hear this popular speaker share with us how the Chinese immigrants lived in Jacksonville as well as throughout Southern Oregon in earlier times. Note: Our third Tuesday programs for the public are always free for everyone to attend.

Wednesday, January 18, Understanding and Using Land Records. Designed for intermediate and advanced genealogy researchers. Two class sessions on one day.

10:30 – noon. Understanding Land Descriptions. Bruce McGarvey, retired from Bureau of Land Management (BLM), is the instructor. The Federal Land Survey Program and terms such as meridians, sections, and townships will be explained. The focus is to understand the legal description of land in records and how to read the maps. By the end of this lesson students will be able to locate a

section in a township, know what a tract of land is and how to write its legal description.

1:15-2:45 p.m. **Using BLM Land Records.** Mary Tsui, a mapping/data consultant and amateur but stubborn genealogist, is the instructor. The use of BLM online search tools and online wikis for researching Federal and some earlier State land records will be covered. Learn how to order land patent applications (the actual documents about the person applying for the land) from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), and discover books and other online land record tools useful for finding valuable information about your ancestors.

Cost: for members: \$10 for one session or \$15 for both morning and afternoon sessions; for non-members: \$20 for one session and \$30 for both sessions. To register, please call 541-512-2340, email: reception.JCGL@gmail.com or stop by the library.

- * Thursday, January 19, 10:30-11: 30 a.m. Overview of Using the Genealogy Library. SECOND IN SERIES FOR BEGINNERS. Anne Billeter, RVGS President, instructor. This class for beginners will give you Tips and Tricks for how the library is organized and reveal research treasures you can use. Free. To register, please call 541-512-2340, email:

 reception.JCGL@gmail.com or stop by the library.
- * Saturday, January 21, 10:30-noon. Paper Organization. THIRD IN SERIES FOR BEGINNERS. Barbara Northrop, instructor. Useful, practical strategies to organize your records, documents, and materials offline using paper folders, notebooks and other tips for successful retention of your research. Free. To register, please call 541-512-2340, email: reception.JCGL@gmail.com or stop by the library.

Monday, January 23, 1:00–3:00 p.m. **DNA Interest Group for beginners** who have not yet tested. Lorita Cushman facilitates this interest group. Free for members, \$5 for non-members. To register, please call 541-512-2340, email: reception.JCGL@gmail.com or stop by the library.

Tuesday, January 24, 1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. **Quilts and Genealogy Talk,** *The Hawaiian Quilt.* Joedy Kimmel, experienced quilter, will explain the traditions and techniques behind this unique form of quilting. Some suggestions for researching Hawaiian families. Free and open to all.

A Peek into February

Saturday, February 4, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Brick Wall Roundtable.** Andrea Patterson and Melinda Henningfield will moderate this session. Bring your stumbling blocks and with others find answers to getting rid of the brick wall in your research. Free for members, \$5 for non-members. To register, please call 541-512-2340, email: reception.JCGL@gmail.com or stop by the library.

Tuesday, February 7. 1:30-3:00 p.m. FTM for PC users.

Wednesday, February 8, 10:00-11:30 a.m. FTM for MAC users.

Thursday, February 9, 10:30 – noon. **DNA for Genealogy-What is it all about?** Presented by Melinda Henningfield. Have you wondered what a DNA test would tell you? This one-and-a-half hour class will cover the four tests most commonly used for genealogy along with what results from the three main testing companies might tell you. \$10 for members, \$20 for non-members. To register, please call 541-512-2340, email: reception.JCGL@gmail.com or stop by the library.

LOCAL EVENTS

Windows in Time:

Bill Miller, speaker

"Writing the Great War: Southern Oregon Stories and Letters from World War One" Wednesday, January 4, 12 noon-1:00 p.m. Medford Public Library. Wednesday, January 11, 12 noon-1:00 p.m. Ashland Public Library.

Silent Auction Winners

The Silent Auction of the heirloom quilt tops and blocks brought in over \$500 for RVGS. The winning bidders were: Karen Asche, Karen Bates, Leah Bird, Edith Carlson, Linda Helm, Mary Kwart, Barbara MacMillen, Nell Mathern, Marcia McNamare, Misty Orlando, Lynn Ransford, Rosalie Rybka, and Denise Yates. Congratulations to the winners and thanks for participating.

Lake County Quilt Trail Project

Librarian Terrie McCoy shared this: My husband and I on a recent return trip from Sacramento took Hwy 29 around the other side of the Clear Lake area. All through our Lake County drive, we saw what looked like quilt squares painted on barns and buildings. Beautiful and intriguing. I looked up online and found THE LAKE COUNTY QUILT TRAIL PROJECT http://lakecountyquilttrail.com/ An idea that came from Ohio. A painter wanted to honor her mother, an expert quilter, and the Appalachian agricultural heritage in their county.

Take time to visit the site. It is well done, with a map of the quilt trail and a list of colorful quilt blocks. One of which is a basket of pears created for their Pear Festival. That catches the eye because our valley celebrates the pear. How about a leisurely drive next spring?

RVGS News

NEW MEMBERS IN DECEMBER

Nancy Clark Sara Brooks Charlotte & Walt Wirfs

Lyle W. & Lyla H. Heigl Susan Mead Gary M. Miller Cheri Rugraff Marla Cates Mary L. Davis Delores Federico Tom & Cheryl Roberts Dolly Travers

MENTORING COORDINATOR

Ruth Wade is now the Mentoring Coordinator. Thanks to Tom Sayre for his years of mentoring.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Do you fit any of these descriptions? Are you looking for a new and enjoyable way to contribute your time and energy to RVGS and JCGL? Do you know someone who would be "just right" for one of the positions? Please email president@rvgslibrary.org to volunteer or suggest "just the right person."

EDUCATION DIRECTOR

With the assistance of an active working committee, recruits teachers to teach genealogy classes throughout the year and public meeting speakers for programs on the 3rd Tuesday of each month (except July, August, and December.) Prepares for publication the monthly schedule of JCGL Classes and Events. Coordinates the details that result in well-presented classes and programs. Coordinates Interest group facilitators. (We currently have 4 interest groups: Irish, German, DNA for Beginners, and DNA for those who have been tested.) Coordinates annual Genealogy Week classes and OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) 4-part "Introduction to Genealogy" course. This is an RVGS Board position. The RVGS Board meets on the 2nd Monday of each month from 9:30 – noon.

SIGN CHANGER

The Highway 99 message sign provides ample opportunity for advertising upcoming JCGL classes and programs to those who drive north and south past JCGL. The Education Committee decides when the messages should be changed and what they should say, but would greatly appreciate a volunteer who would manually change the message (letter by letter, the old-fashioned way.) A similar, much smaller scale sign in the foyer also needs regular updates.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Recruitment and recordkeeping are the main tasks of the Volunteer Coordinator. This position has in the past been an RVGS Board position, and the Board would welcome a new Board member. If a volunteer comes forward who would prefer NOT to serve on the Board, but has excellent communication skills, this would be considered. Record-keeping involves keeping track of each volunteer's contact information and monthly volunteer hours, and reporting those hours to the Board. Recruitment of volunteers relies heavily on requests from the Project Director and the Library Director, and occasionally from other Board members when volunteer opportunities arise.

REPRESENTATIVE TO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GREETERS

This could be one, two, or three volunteers. RVGS is a member of the Chambers of Commerce of Ashland, Medford, and Phoenix. The Ashland and Medford Chamber Greeters meet weekly, in a different member business, Ashland on Fridays at 8 a.m., Medford on Thursdays from 8 – 9:30 a.m. The Phoenix Chamber Greeters meet monthly the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 8:30 a.m. in a different member business. Attendees are given a very brief moment (30 seconds in Ashland and Medford; 30 or so in Phoenix) to introduce themselves and their businesses. For RVGS/JCGL this is our opportunity to announce upcoming classes and programs and generally acquaint local businesses with who we are and what we do. It also provides our representative with the opportunity to learn about local businesses and meet friendly and helpful people. NOTE: RVGS representatives do not need to attend every weekly greeters meeting: Appearing periodically is effective and fun.

2016 Holiday Party



A good time was had by all, as the 2017 RVGS Officers were installed, the RVGS Board retirees were recognized, volunteers were thanked, and a feast was devoured! Andrea Patterson, 2014-2016 President, gave an entertaining and thoroughly researched explanation of the genealogy of Santa Claus. (Yes, even Odin was involved!)

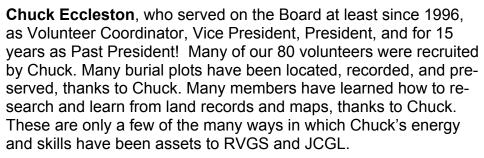


Installation of officers (pictured above, left to right): Karen Asche, Vice President; Sheila Kimball, Secretary; Anne Billeter, President; Betty Miller, Trustee; and Barbara Shrewsberry, Treasurer. Ruth Wade (far right) conducted the ceremony.

Retirees included:



Director **Marilyn Ayres** (standing), who for three years has arranged interesting speakers (with some unusual subjects), dynamic and informative classes and seminars, and much more. We're pleased that Marilyn will continue on the Education Committee.





Charleen Brown, who served on the Board not only for 14 years as President and three more as Past President, but was also Secretary...and perhaps more! She is the writer of our 40-year history (10 Years ago), "How to Start Your Genealogy Project" teacher for countless beginners, the compiler of Jackson County Post Office history, the beginning compiler of our place names spreadsheet, the donor with her husband Warren of the design and building of ALL of the shelving in the library, our representative to the Jackson County Heritage Association, and the energy behind three efforts to create a Jackson County Heritage District. We honor Charleen for these and her many other contributions.

In Memoriam: Volunteers who passed away in 2016 were remembered at the volunteer luncheon. RVGS recently received word that volunteer Etheljane "EJ" Clutter passed away December 10, 2016 in Kalispell, Montana. EJ has been a member of RVGS since 1998 and served in the past as Secretary for General Meetings.

RVGS FINANCIAL NEWS

2016 has been a banner year for the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society. Thanks to the generosity of our membership, we were able to pay off the mortgage on the Jackson County Genealogy Library! Financial goals for 2017 include paying for our new web site which will debut some time during the year, purchase and installation of the folding wall to separate the meeting rooms, keeping our online subscriptions current, and much more.

Your donation, big or small, will serve us both...you receive a tax deduction just by donating to the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society Fund Drive and RVGS can continue to provide the programs and services you need to find your ancestors!

Your generous and faithful participation in our Society is vital. Contributions can be made in two ways.

- 1) Go to www.rvgsociety.org/Donate.html to make a donation online or click on the Donate Now link on our Facebook page.
- 2) Drop off a donation at the library at 3405 S. Pacific Hwy, Medford.

All donations are tax deductible as RVGS is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, #93-0684590. If you take Required Minimum Distributions, you can donate all or any part of the distribution directly; send your request to the administrator of your fund. In addition, if you donate a matching amount to the Oregon Cultural Trust, you can receive a tax credit for the ENTIRE amount of your donation (maximum \$1,000 for couple; \$500 single). Just go to www.culturaltrust.org/donate for more details.

As an all-volunteer organization, all donations are put into the operation and improvement of the library. No funds are received from any government sources. It is because of YOU that the library has grown to be the largest genealogical library between Portland and Sacramento. I hope you will consider making a generous donation to the RVGS Annual Fund this year.

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR 2016 ANNUAL FUND DRIVE DONORS THUS FAR!

(If your contribution came in after December 15, watch for the complete 2016 list in the February 2017 eNews.)

Katherine Alsing, Vernon & Marti Arnold, Al and Marilyn Ayres, Colista Bailey, Roberta Becker, Robb Beckett, Carolyn Beron, Arthur Bigelow, Anne Billeter, Stephen Bosbach, RE & Donna Brewer, Patricia Brewer, Glen Briggs, Warren & Charleen Brown, Bill & Marion Collins, Sheila Couey, Carolyn Craig, Carita Culmer, Julie Drengson, Chuck & Colleen Eccleston, Kathy Edwards Estate, John & Lorraine Ferrell, Sarah Forbes, Sharon Freeburne, Marie Fulbright, Norbert Leiberg, Rich Miles, Ginger Montes, Janet Gleaves, Janet Gregory, Dorothea Hatch, Robert Hawk, Gene & Charlotte Henry, Monty & Carol Holst, Horton Family Foundation, Larry & Ann Horton, Thomas Hunt, Barbara Jarvis, Jackson & Caroline Jones, Florence Kemp, Sheila Kimball, Mary Lynn Lucas, Barbara & Dick Mac-Millen, James Maize Jr., Judy Mallchok, Barbara Middaugh, Sharan Newman, Dennis Patterson, Jack & Andrea Patterson, Charlotte Redfield, Shirley Rhodes, Richard Ritchie, Roger & Nancy Roberts, David Rodkey, Deanna Russell, Anita Seulean, Shalom Spendthrift Thrust, Barbara Shrewsberry, Vanya Sloan, J. Stevens, John & Janie Stewart, Dorothy Throne, Kim Thurman, Linda & Robert Turner, Ron & Jackie Wagner, William Walker, Muriel Williams

Newspapers.com

Our subscription to Newspapers.com is up for renewal and we are suffering from severe sticker shock: \$3407.04 for one year. Our entire website subscription budget is \$5,000. We do not feel able to renew, unless we receive substantial donation pledges dedicated to renewing Newspapers.com ...and we need the pledges by the January 9 Board meeting, in order to decide. Please email reception.jcgl@gmail.com if you wish to make a pledge for Newspapers.com's renewal.

JCGL News

SPOTLIGHT ON ROGUE VALLEY PIONEERS

This is the first in a series of *Spotlights on our Rogue Valley Pioneers* from the Pioneer Files at JCGL. Volunteer Dorothy Cotton is keeper of the pioneer files located in the gray file cabinets to the right as you enter the library. She wrote this story about a local state legislator and yeoman in World War I.

Marian B. Towne was born in 1880 in a mining camp on Sterling Creek in Jacksonville. Soon after, she moved with her family to Phoenix where her father William Frances Towne opened a mercantile store. Following graduation from high school, she worked as an assistant to William G. Coleman, County Clerk.

In 1908 Marian was clerking by day and studying law at night. She left Oregon for a course at the University of Michigan law school, then returned to work at the County Clerk office. Marian saw many defects in the law and lawmaking system and believed "she could do better" as a legislator.

Marian filed her candidacy for representative from Jackson County not long after women had won the right to vote in Oregon. She ran a successful campaign and in 1914 was elected as the first woman legislator in Oregon. She was also the second woman elected to a state legislative office in the United States.

Marian served only one term, but while she was there she served on three standing committees in the House. Two of these, the Education Committee and the Health and Public Morals Committee, dealt with issues of traditional concern to women.



When the US Naval Reserve office in Medford announced it was accepting applications for women recruits in 1917 just before the beginning of WWI, Marian applied and was assigned the rank of Chief Yeoman F. She then applied for a commission in the Navy but her request was denied. Naval officers of that time declared, "no woman would ever become an officer."

Following WWI, Marian was released from active duty in 1919 and discharged from the reserves in 1920. She then spent time in San Francisco working for the California Bar Association before moving back to her home in Phoenix. Marian died in 1966 and is buried in the Phoenix Pioneer Cemetery.

BOOK SALE AT JCGL

Volunteer Rene Forncrook provided this small sampling of the books available for sale at the genealogy library. Currently 271 books are available in the two bookcases designated Sale Books.

Memoirs of Southern Arkansas	\$52.00	Arkansas
Pioneers and Makers of Arkansas	\$12.00	Arkansas
The Brown Palace in Denver	\$3.00	Colorado
History and Genealogy of Families of Old Fairfield	\$94.00	Connecticut
Some Connecticut Nutmeggers Who Migrated	\$11.00	Connecticut
Calendar of Delaware Wills New Castle Co 1682-1800	\$10.00	Delaware
List of Early Settlers of Georgia	\$15.00	Georgia
Guide to County Records Illinois Regional Archives	\$6.00	Illinois
Guide to County Records Illinois Regional Archives	\$8.00	Illinois
Origins and Evolution of Illinois Counties	\$4.00	Illinois
Prairie Pioneers of Illinois	\$13.00	Illinois

NEW ADDITIONS TO JCGL

FASHION

771.4 Ger

Gernsheim, Alison

Victorian and Edwardian Fashion, A Photographic Survey

GENEALOGY - HOW TO

929.1 Bet Circ 929.1 Cra Bettinger, Blaine T. Crandall, Ralph

Genetic Genealogy in Practice Shaking your family tree: a basic guide to

tracing your family's genealogy

Circ 929.1 Jon Circ 929.1 Mor Jones, Henry Z. Morgan, George G.

Psychic roots: Serendipity & intuition in genealogy Advanced Genealogy Research Techniques

929.1 Mor

Morgan, George G.

How to do everything: Genealogy

FAMILY GENEALOGIES

929.2 Burget 929.2 Coughenour Bayer, Frank D. Landen, George E.

Adam Burget Family: Children and Descendants of Coughenour Family in America

Adam Burget and Maria (Mary) Puterbaugh,

ca. 1760-1987

929.2 Gochenour
Gochenour, Harry W.

Gochenour's

929.2 Gochenour
Gochenour, Harry W.

History & Genealogy

henour's History & Genealogy of the

James Harvey Gochenour Family, 1838-1966

929.2 Gochenour Evans, Robert Lee

History of the Descendants of Jacob Gochenour

929.2 Lemaster

Lemaster family, U.S.A., 1960

929.2 Mathers

Todt, Susan Mathers

Memoirs of a frontiersman, Wm. Frank Mathers

929.2 Miller

Becker, Clair Albert

Circ 929.2 Grant

929.2 Logsdon

Henshaw, Betty Grant

Logsdon, Wm. Robert

Logsdon Family Genealogy

Samuel Miller and Mary McClain Family: a Quaker from Ireland and some of his

Children of the Dust: Okie Family Story

descendants of Bedford County. Pennsylvania... ca. 1757-1992

929.2 Moody

Moody, Marilyn R.

Moody's and Coffin's and Everyone: our family's

tales and genealogy

929.2 Teaford

Wood, Nellie Teaford

Teaford Families of America

SCOTLAND

941.1 H388 Mac

Maclean, Fitzrov

Scotland, A Concise History

NORTH CAROLINA

975.668 C242 Ree

Reeves, Henry

Cemetery Inscriptions, Davidson (Old Rowan) County, North Carolina

SOUTH CAROLINA

975.7 G242 Col 975.7 M177 Mar

Collection of Upper South Carolina Marriage Notices in the South-Carolina Gazette and

Genealogical and Family Records, Volume 1 its Successors (1732-1801)

TEXAS

976.4 B352 Jud

Judges of the Republic of Texas (1836-1846), A Biographical Directory

ARKANSAS

976.7 M343 Tur

Turnbo, Silas Claborn

History of the Twenty-Seventh Arkansas Confederate Infantry

TENNESSEE

976.8 M343 Ten

Tennesseans in the Civil War: A Military History of Confederate and Union Units with Available Rosters of Personnel

Part I: Military History of Confederate and Union Units

Part II: Available Roster of Personnel

KENTUCKY

976.9 A101 Hog

Hogan, Roseann Reinemuth

Kentucky Ancestry: A Guide to Genealogical and Historical Research

OHIO

977.169 M177 Sin Sinclair, Mary Donaldson Early Marriages of Jefferson County, Ohio

MISSOURI

977.8985 H388 Ant Anton, Mary Sue

New Madrid: A Mississippi River Town in History and Legend

OREGON

979.5 H388 Eng

Engeman, Richard H.

Oregon Companion: An Historical Gazetteer of the Useful, the Curious, and the Arcane

MAGAZINES RECENTLY RECEIVED

The most recent issue is shelved in the wire rack at the end of the 929.2 book stack [Partial contents listed]

NGS Magazine, v 42 #4, October-December 2016. (Circ 929.05 NGSM)

* "The Perils of Accepting Copies of Original Records at Face Value." The cemetery on a death certificate did not exist. Other information on the certificate led to the correct burial place.

The NEHG Register, v 170 #680, Fall 2016.

(Circ 974 G242 NEHGS)

Theme of this issue: Immigrants to the US may already have American ancestors. Articles provide examples of families who came here, later went back to their homeland or settled in Canada, Caribbean, South America, etc. and then returned to the US.

American Ancestors, New England Historic Genealogical Society, v 17 #4, Winter 2016-2017. (Circ 974 P273 AA)

- * "The Stranger in My Genes." Bob Griffith, financial journalist on NBC, writes how a DNA test turned his life upside down.
- * "Manuscripts at NEHGS: World War I Collections." NEHGS and the Jewish Heritage Center plan an exhibit of WW I soldiers to mark the 100th anniversary of US entry into the war.
- * "Following the Tax Man." Tax Assessment Records in New York back to 1799 contain information on taxpayers' location, relative wealth compared to neighbors, and what was taxed (e.g. dogs.)

Oregon Historical Quarterly, v 17 #4, Winter 2016. (Circ 979.5 P273 OHQ)

* "Frederick Homer Balch (1861-1891), Romantic and Historian." Balch in his books about the early Pacific Northwest balanced his faith and history. *Genevieve: A Tale of Oregon* was released in 1938.

Oregon Humanities, Fall/Winter 2016. (special issue)

* "Within Makeshift Walls." Portland's Expo Center was a prison for Japanese-Americans during World War II. Japantown records are preserved at the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center in Portland.