



2018 Annual Fund Drive Rogue Valley Genealogical Society & Jackson County Genealogy Library

3405 S Pacific Highway, Medford, OR 97501 ☎ 541-512-2340
www.rvgsociety.org ☎ info@rvgslibrary.org

May 2018

Dear Rogue Valley Genealogical Society Members and Supporters,

Thank you for making 2017 another successful year! Our membership grew to over 830 members with over 14,000 volunteer hours recorded, and thanks to generous donations to the Annual Fund Drive, we surpassed the goal set by the Board!

In addition, in 2017, RVGS held another successful seminar, *Gateway to Germany*. We installed the long-awaited acoustic quality accordion doors in our meeting room, partially funded by a grant from the Jackson County Cultural Coalition, which created two meetings spaces! We received a large donation of books from the Barbara Freshwater estate and second large donation from a woman battling cancer, while successfully holding a surplus book sale that netted over \$1900 for the library. Our library now houses over 19,000 items! We added a subscription website to our patron computers called HistoryGeo.com. Our public programs are now being video recorded and made available on YouTube under *Stories of Southern Oregon*; and we added a new interest group, Genetic Genealogy. All-in-all, a busy and fruitful year.

Why donate? In place of a variety of rummage and bake sales, RVGS holds one main fund raiser each year, our Annual Fund Drive. This year, our Annual Fund goal is \$16,000. Your generous contribution to the Annual Fund will allow RVGS to keep our membership dues low and assist in covering operating expenses. Membership dues only cover about one-third of our operating expenses. The remaining expenses are covered by monies raised through our Annual Fund Drive. Any amount you give will help to provide support to RVGS to continue the current level of programming. See the back side of this letter for the many services RVGS provides.

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

- 1) You can return the donation slip attached below with your check in the envelope provided,
- 2) go to www.rvgsociety.org/Donate to donate online, or click on the **Donate Now** link on our Facebook page, NO PayPal account is necessary, or
- 3) you can 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.

Please help us by giving what you can to our Annual Fund Drive. Unlike other non-profit organizations, RVGS/JCGL is an all-volunteer organization, and every dollar you give goes to support the library. No funds are received from any government sources. It is because of YOU that the library has grown to be the largest privately-owned genealogical library between Portland and Sacramento.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you so much for your donations.

Richard J Miles
RVGS Finance Director

YES! I want to be a part of the future of the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society & Jackson County Genealogy Library.

_____ Here's my tax-deductible donation to the Annual Fund Drive: \$ _____

_____ I pledge to donate \$ _____ each month as part of the Monthly Givers Club.

Name _____ Business _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____



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Why donate to the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society?



- RVGS promotes family history research by providing educational and research opportunities at our Jackson County Genealogy Library (JCGL) and through our two websites, rvgsociety.org and rvgslibrary.org, which provide a growing number of indexes and databases for Jackson County.
- RVGS maintains the largest privately-owned genealogy library between Portland and Sacramento. The JCGL has an extensive collection of birth, marriage, and death records; family histories, books, bulletins, cemetery records, obituaries, local maps, microfilm and microfiche, and newspaper abstracts for every state and many countries.
- RVGS is an all-volunteer organization that is thriving without public funding.
- RVGS has almost 100 dedicated volunteers serving over 830 members.
- RVGS has served all of the Jackson County community for over 50 years.
- RVGS houses over 19,000 items in the library, all catalogued online.
- RVGS hosts multiple genealogy subscription websites available for research on 15 computers in the library.
- RVGS sponsors regular public historical and genealogical programs.
- RVGS offers genealogy classes on a range of topics for beginners to experts.
- RVGS publishes a monthly e-newsletter with valuable information regarding classes and genealogy research.
- RVGS sponsors a variety of projects and programs including: Historic Cemeteries, Survey Maps and Records, Pioneer and Early Settler Certificates and Files, and the Historic

and Genealogical Quilt Collection.

- RVGS Membership is available to all interested persons for only \$30 a year. Membership privileges include: free use of the library, volunteer opportunities, genealogy classes, check out of materials, subscription websites, society publications, interest groups, and free mentoring.

The mission of Rogue Valley Genealogical Society, Inc. is to inspire interest in genealogy, inform and educate the public, and maintain a growing sustainable library with a strong online presence.

