



Volume 7 | Issue 1 | Jan 2022

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#### OUR MISSION

The mission of the 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.

#### CONTACT US

Rogue Valley Genealogical Society – Jackson County Genealogy Library  
3405 S Pacific Hwy  
Medford, Oregon 97501  
541-512-2340  
[reception@rvgslibrary.org](mailto:reception@rvgslibrary.org)  
[www.rvgslibrary.org](http://www.rvgslibrary.org)

#### LIBRARY HOURS

JCGL is open with temporary hours, Monday - Saturday, 1:00—4:00 PM



## CLASSES & EVENTS

The following RVGS classes and events are all offered via Zoom.

- Most classes and events require online advanced registration, see the **Programs & Classes** menu on our [website](#). **Registration closes for most events the day before the event** unless capacity is reached before then.
- New members to Interest Groups will need to register by [clicking here](#) to find the interest group of your choice.
- For more details, [click here](#) to view our website calendar.
- [Click here to find Zoom help on our website](#).
- All times listed are Pacific Time Zone.

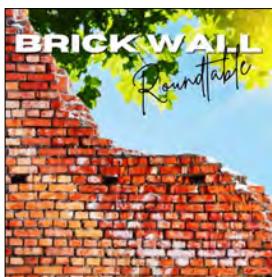
### Registration Now Open!

**Saturday, January 1, Jackson County Genealogy Library CLOSED for New Year's Day.**

**Thursday, January 6, 1:30-3:00 PM, Class: "Using Excel for Genealogy"**



In this class, Cheryl Azevedo Johnson will teach participants some basics of Excel spreadsheets and their potential use for timelines and resource logs.  
Cost: \$10 for members, \$20 for non-members



**Saturday, January 8, 10:00-11:30 AM, "Brick Wall Roundtable"**

Jan Dole will facilitate this discussion. Open to all. Bring your questions, puzzles, brick walls, and we will get our heads together to see if we can find a way to get closer to your goal.  
Cost: Free to all

**Monday, January 10, 9:30-Noon, RVGS Board Meeting**

All members are welcome to attend. Free to all. Email [webmaster@rvgslibrary.org](mailto:webmaster@rvgslibrary.org) if you would like to attend.

## **Tuesday, January 11, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM, German Interest Group**

This group is facilitated by Mary Robsman.

Cost: Free to members, \$5 for non-members

## **Tuesday, January 11, 1:30-3:00 PM, Family Tree Maker Interest Group**

This group is facilitated by Barbara MacMillen. Come with any questions about using "Family Tree Maker" software.

Cost: Free to members, \$5 for non-members

## **Wednesday, January 12, 10:30 AM-12:00 PM, Genetic Genealogy Interest Group**

This group is facilitated by Jeff Roberts.

Cost: Free to members, \$5 for non-members

## **Wednesday, January 12, 1:30-3:00 PM, Class: "Gorgeous Genealogies or Fabulous Family Histories"**



In this class, Dina Carson will give you some tips and tricks to focus your research and writing so that you can wrap up a project in time for a holiday or family gathering, then move on to the next interesting thing to share with your family.

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

## **Thursday, January 13, 6:00-7:30 PM, Genealogy Newbies Interest Group**

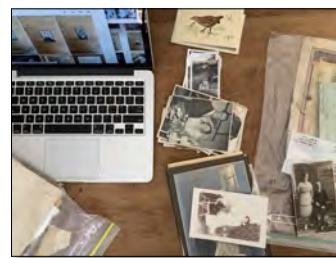
Barbara Northrop is hosting our newest interest group, Genealogy Newbies! This group is for new genealogists who want a small group setting to ask questions. The interest group starts with the first 45 minutes for topical structured content and the last half of the session is open for general questions.

Cost: Free to members, \$5 for non-members

## **Friday, January 14, 1:30-3:00 PM, Irish Interest Group**

Barbara Halvorsen facilitates this interest group concentrating on Irish history, culture, and researching Irish ancestors.

Cost: Free to members, \$5 for non-members



## **Tuesday, January 18, 1:30-3:00 PM, Program and Member Meeting, "Obtaining Your Certification"**

Barbara Northrop will discuss the path she took through classes, research, and proving her evidence to finally becoming a board-certified genealogist. Barbara is a certified genealogist who joined RVGS in 2005.

Cost: Free for all.

## **Wednesday, January 26, 1:30-3:00 PM, Class: "A Dark and Stormy Genealogy No Longer; Becoming a Great Storyteller"**



Although we'd all like to write the next great American family history, few of us find it easy. The key is in learning a few

tips from fiction writing and a few more from creative non-fiction--when to use them and when not to. Dina Carson will share a few quick and simple tips that will get you churning out chapters your relatives will read.

Cost: \$10 for members; \$20 for Non-members

## **Saturday, February 5, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM, Seminar "Genealogy Potpourri"**



Join professional genealogist, Jane Neff Rollins of Sherlock Combs Genealogy for our February virtual seminar, "Genealogy Potpourri." Sessions include: "Birth Records with or without a Birth Certificate," "A Picture is Worth a

1,000 Words: Dating Your Earliest 20th Century Family Photographs," "Death Decoded - Documenting Death Records with or without a Death Certificate," and "Sensitive Subjects: What to Conceal, What to Reveal." Registration is open now at [www.rvgslibrary.org](http://www.rvgslibrary.org) > Programs & Classes > Seminars. [Click here for more information.](#)

Cost: \$45 for members; \$55 for non-members

## Coming Soon!

**Monday, February 21, 10:30 AM - Noon, "How to search NewspaperArchive.com"**



RVGS President, Kim Thurman, will be teaching attendees how to use the newest JCGL subscription website NewspaperArchive. RVGS members can access the website remotely indefinitely.

It is also available at the library for all researchers.

## Local Happenings

**Wednesday, Jan. 5, Noon – 1:00 PM Windows in Time (Online): "When the Trains Came"**



Historian and quilt maker Sue Waldron will share two history-themed quilts from the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society's quilt collection. The quilts were made by the

Jacksonville Museum Quilters over thirty years ago to remember the 100th anniversary of the arrival of the Oregon & California railroad in the Rogue Valley. The Medford Railroad Centennial Quilt is on display at the Jackson County Genealogy Library throughout December. The Ashland Railroad Quilt will be on display at the Jackson County Genealogy Library throughout January. [Click here](#) to register for "When the Trains Came" by RVGS member Sue Waldron.

**Wednesday, Feb. 2, Noon – 1:00 PM Windows in Time (Online): "A 'Skyline Boulevard' for Crater Lake: The Army Corps of Engineers and Building Rim Road, 1910-20"**

Learn how Rim Road is part of a road system built more than a century ago for the newly established Crater Lake National Park and the subject of a historic district recently listed in the National Register of Historic Places (2019). Its construction is an epic tale about the perils and challenges of early road construction, when a state highway system in Oregon still lay squarely in the future.

Presenter Steve Mark has worked for the National Park Service for more than three decades and spent most of that time as a historian stationed at Crater Lake. In 2019, he was the lead author for a nomination that was listed on the National Register of Historic Places and called the "Army Corps of Engineers Road System Historic District." It involved extensive research, much of it at the National Archives branch in Seattle and a multi-year archeological survey conducted by a small team of NPS employees. Steve was born in Eugene and resides in Fort Klamath. [Click here](#) to register for "A Skyline Boulevard" by Steve Mark.

## Virtual Opportunities

**Thursday, Jan. 6, 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM, Kentucky Genealogical Society, "Essential Online Portals for Genealogy Research"**



Research portals make online records from many archives and

libraries available in a single search. Created by librarians and archivists, these free online portals are available for archives, genealogy books, digital libraries, maps, newspapers, and other resources essential to Kentucky research. Learn how to find and search these genealogical goldmines.

After a long professional career in academic archives and genealogy libraries, Nancy Loe, MA, MLS, launched SassyJaneGenealogy.com, featuring a monthly newsletter, blog and genealogy e-books on US and European research. Nancy also provides expert guidance on information management to help genealogists search smart and find more primary sources.

Free for Members, \$15 for Non-Members

[Click here for more information and to register.](#)

## RVGS NEWS

### Welcome New Members!



**Welcome** to the newest members of RVGS: Vicki Baird, Margaret & William Knorr, and Cleve Parker!

### Editor Position Open



Cara Davis-Jacobson has announced that she is stepping down from her position as editor of the *Rogue Digger*, our electronic periodical, after eleven years. Cara also previously edited *Between Us Diggers*, our

monthly newsletter now known as the *RVGS eNews*. The Board of Directors wish to thank her for the exceptional commitment to excellence she demonstrated while volunteering with RVGS. We appreciate your service, Cara!

With Cara's resignation, the position of editor for the *Rogue Digger* is currently open for an eager and qualified volunteer from our membership. Editing and publishing software experience is strongly desired. This position is critical to RVGS; if we are unable to fill the editor position, we will need to suspend publication! If you are interested in serving in this role, please complete the Volunteer Application on our website at [www.rvgslibrary.org](http://www.rvgslibrary.org) under Support Us > Volunteer Application.

### February 2022 Seminar Coming Soon!



The Rogue Valley Genealogical Society's Feb. 5, 2022, virtual seminar features Jane Neff Rollins of Sherlock Combs Genealogy. Jane says Sherlock Holmes is quoted as saying, "Every case requires keen observation, methodical analysis, and insightful interpretation to tease out the truth." Genealogy is like that, and the researcher must move forward and

backward in time to distinguish their ancestor from people with the same name and those lacking records.

Jane helped the Education Committee design four classes to offer something for everyone in our Seminar. Join us to learn how to look for birth and death records that don't have certificates, dating those old photos, and what to reveal with sensitive family subjects. View our [website](#) for details and registration.

### RVGS Quilt Raffle Tickets for Sale



The Giant Dahlia pattern is a medallion quilt designed by Hubert Ver Mehren of Des Moines, Iowa. The Iowa Button and Pleating Company was based in Des Moines and was Ver Mehren's primary business. He sold embroidery designs stamped on textiles in the mid-1920s under the name of Home Art Studios. Eventually he and his wife, Mayme Jacobs, began creating full-sized medallion quilt patterns and kits. The Giant Dahlia pattern, either pieced or appliqued, was their most popular pattern during the 1930s.

The queen-sized quilt pictured here was machine pieced by Karen Asche of Medford, Oregon, in 2007 from templates by Marti Michell. Sherry Dewey, of Nebraska, did the long-arm quilting. The quilt is included in the Oregon Quilt Registry Project.

Raffle tickets for the "Giant Dahlia" quilt are \$1.00 each; 6 for \$5.00; or 30 for \$20.00 and can be purchased at the Jackson County Genealogy Library.

## JCGL NEWS

### NEW Subscription Website - [NewspaperArchive.com](http://NewspaperArchive.com)

We're excited to announce that effective immediately, all RVGS members have remote access to our newest JCGL subscription service,



NewspaperArchive.com. You'll find over 16,000 publication titles on NewspaperArchive, including large city newspapers and their specialty—small town papers. Content covering 1607 to today from 48 countries and all 50 states is now available for you to research from the comfort of your own home, as well as at the Jackson County Genealogy Library!

In order to begin researching from home, log in to your member account at [www.rvgslibrary.org](http://www.rvgslibrary.org) and click the NewspaperArchive link found in the subscription services list on the homepage of our website. Be sure to keep a list of any questions you may have regarding use of the site, as we are offering a “how to” class on our newest service on Monday, February 21, 10:30 - noon.

Remote access to NewspaperArchive.com will be available indefinitely as the RVGS Board voted to pay for the extra service for our members.

As expected, remote access at home to the JCGL Ancestry Library Edition subscription ended as of January 1. Ancestry generously provided remote access to libraries with subscriptions during the pandemic when so many libraries were closed. With most libraries now reopened in some capacity, they are ending the service. You will still be able to use Ancestry Library Edition at the Jackson County Genealogy Library as you have in the past. We are open from 1:00 - 4:00 PM Monday - Saturday. As a reminder, masks are still required for everyone while in the library.



### Facebook Focus

Facebook is a wonderful resource for genealogists. There are a wealth of groups and pages that provide

resources for everything from organizing, photos, and graveyards, to groups and pages focused on research in specific counties, states, countries, and even specific surnames. There is something for everyone.

This month our focus is on the Facebook group [Technology for Genealogy](#) which is a “private” group. This means only members of the group can see who is in the group and what they have posted. The group discussion focuses on technology used for genealogy purposes including software, apps, tablets, computers, gadgets, news, and websites. Topics must be related to technology and have applicability as a genealogy tool. The group has about 22,900 members, so getting help with your genealogy technology questions is very likely. If you're on Facebook, check it out!

### New Records Added to Our Accessible Subscription Websites (Partial List\*)

#### American Ancestors

- Boston, MA: Provident Institution for Savings, 1817-1882 – 3 new volumes. About 80% of individuals who appeared in the early records of this Boston bank were immigrants. The newly added “waste books” provide lists of daily bank transactions, often transfers between accounts. Residences (usually a town) are included, and occupations are often recorded.



American  
Ancestors  
by NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

#### Ancestry

- England, Church of England Records
- Texas, U.S., Roman Catholic Archdiocese of San Antonio Sacramental Records, 1700-1995
- Wales, Glamorgan, Calendar of Prisoners, 1850-1920



#### FindMyPast

- England, Kent Electoral Registers, 1850-1970
- England, London, Synagogue



- Seatholders, 1904
- Leeward Islands Census Substitutes, 1678-1753
- Wales, Swansea, West Glamorgan Electoral Registers, 1839-1925 (1.6 million records)

### MyHeritage

- We've just published 359 million historical records from France from a **vital records collection** — including birth, marriage, and death records — and a **naturalization records collection**.
- We've updated our collection of Sweden, Household Examination Books, adding 13.2 million historical records from the years 1800 to 1819. The collection now contains 158 million records spanning the years 1800 to 1947, and includes quality scanned images, and thanks to its robust index, you can follow individuals and families throughout the generations and gain invaluable insights into the lives of your Swedish ancestors.
- **Update to Germany, North Rhine Westphalia (Arnsberg and Münster) Death Index, 1874–1938:** We've added 4.8 million historical records from the district of Arnsberg to the Germany, North Rhine Westphalia, Death Index in conjunction with the Landesarchiv Nordrhein-Westfalen, the State Archives of North Rhine-Westphalia. The collection was initially published with 2.4 million records from the district of Münster. In future updates, the death indexes from the districts of Detmold, Düsseldorf, and Köln from North Rhine Westphalia will be added.



**FamilySearch.org** (not a subscription; free, just open an account)

- Finland Passport Registers, 1900-1920
- New York, New York Index to Passengers Lists of Vessels, 1897-1902 (1,727,741 records)
- Texas Deaths, 1890-1976

\*To see the list of updated and new record sets, on FamilySearch go to "Records," click on "Browse all Published Collections," click twice on the right-hand



column heading "Last Updated" and you will see the list of the most recent updates and additions.

### 29 New Books added to JCGL in November



Variety is the keynote of the 24 books added in December, including 3 family histories (929.2 Cook, McCord, and Williams); 2 books of place names: Nebraska (978.2 G192) and Wisconsin (977.5 G192);

2 books about cemeteries: *Burial Grounds of Vermont* (974.3 C242) and *Southern Massachusetts Cemetery Collection, vol. 1* (974.4 C242); *Concise Historical Atlas of the United States Civil War* (973.7 A841 She), and others! [Click here to see the detailed list.](#)

### New Periodicals on the Shelf

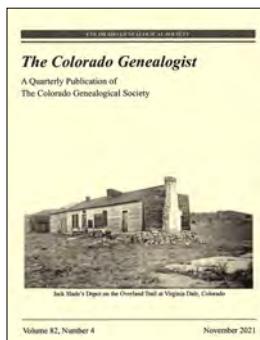


*Genealogist*, American Society of Genealogists  
Circ 929.05 Gen v.35(2), Fall 2021  
Peter Morris and Pierre Coëtou; the Mackworths of Shropshire; James and Mourning Ivey of Marlboro district, SC; John Ireland of Crofton Hall Yorkshire and Anne Arundel County, MD. Index to v.35.



*Internet Genealogy*  
Circ 929.1 Int Dec/Jan 2022 [and online on the RVGS website.]  
Freedman's Savings Bank; DNA research in Durham, England; Coping with the cold; "Dear Santa" letters; The historical marker database (US, Canada and other countries); Searching for cause of death of ancestors; "Principles of relativity" (defining kinship terms.); Online Repository Assistant (ORA), a program to help you keep track of on-line data; Jewish genealogy in NYC and the early 1900s TB epidemic; Finding heirs

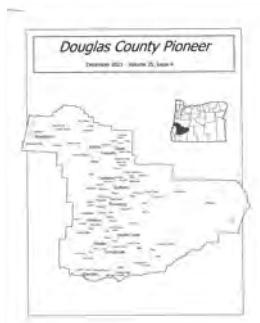
for your genealogical items; and interesting websites the authors thought useful.



*Colorado Genealogist*,  
Colorado Genealogical Society  
Circ 978.8 P273 Col v.32(4),  
Nov 2021

Bible records in the Denver Public Library manuscript collection – Timothy Clark, George Triplett family, Mellen-Scott, Daniel and Margaret Miller Family with John and

Mary Jane (Miller) Harris family (all in one Bible), Peter Wise, Thomas Steed, Jacob and Clarissa Lockwood Witbeck, J L Walker (West Virginia), and Kimbrough; Newspaper tidbits of genealogical interest. Index to v.32.



*Douglas County Pioneer*,  
Genealogical Society of Douglas County, Oregon  
Circ 979.529 P273 Dou v.35(4), December 2021

Gurney family of Tenmile;; Umpqua Coal Company; Extracted records from Douglas County Marriage Book 6,

Guardianships v.2 (Walker, Sehlin, Selig, Weatherly, Toussaint, Tipton, Atterbury, Waite, Young, O'Brien, Beckley, McGuire); Pioneer Swearingen family; and 1907 School Census for Nugget, Curtin, Cole, Drew, Bungalow (Buck Horn) schools; Naturalization petitions for Kromminga, Kingwell, Babka, Ceybird, Ulbright, Christianson and McDougall. Index to v.35.

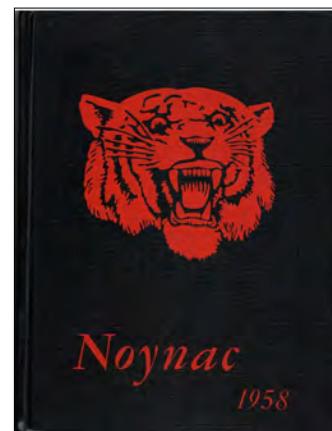


*The Bulletin*, Quarterly Magazine of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon  
Circ 979.549 P273 Bul v.71(2), December 2021  
Anna Mae Smith (homesteading in Canada); Emma J Ogan; Margaret R Henderson Wilson's family

bible; "Snow kids : a memoir"; and LeRoy Whitford of Chautauqua County, NY.

## Regional Yearbooks Added

Yearbooks, particularly more recent than the last released census, are another way to locate family names in an area. If your kids have abandoned their Southern Oregon yearbooks in your basement, maybe they'd like to donate them to JCGL.



Noynac; Orange and black; Tiger [Yearbooks of Canyonville High School.] 1958-1963

979.529 S227 Can Andrea Patterson donated five yearbooks from her school years in Canyonville. Over six years the yearbook had three titles which makes it an adventure to locate.

Wallulah, [yearbook of Willamette University, Salem, OR], 1936, 1939.

979.5 S227 Wal

The library also has a large collection of state-wide university yearbooks. Check the catalog to see if your year is needed.

Aesclepias of the University of Oregon School of Medicine and School of Nursing. [yearbook]

979.5 S227 Aes 1940

Photos of new doctors and nurses, faculty, and an informative (illustrated) history of buildings in use by the school from its founding. (Thanks to Shannon Cornish for the donation of the last two titles.)



**Rogue Valley  
Genealogical Society  
Board of Directors**

**President:** Kim Thurman  
**Vice President:** Katie Haugse  
**Secretary:** Loretta Barker  
**Treasurer:** MariJo Medcraft  
**Trustee:** Lynne Hunter  
**Past President:** Anne Billeter  
**Library Director:** Anne Billeter  
**Membership Director:**  
Margaret Clark-Mayfield  
**Education Co-Directors:**  
Barbara Halvorsen, Pat Jenkins  
**Volunteer Director:**  
Vacant  
**Technology and Data Management Director:**  
Rich Miles  
**Finance Director:** Vacant

**RVGS Membership**

Membership is available to all interested persons. Membership privileges include:

- Free use of library
- Volunteer opportunities
- Reduced fees for genealogy classes and seminars
- Check out of materials
- Free access to subscription websites
- Society publications
- Interest groups
- Free mentoring
- Access to members-only web content

Visit our website at [rvgslibrary.org](http://rvgslibrary.org) to join today.

**The RVGS eNews**

Editor: Rich Miles

Submissions due 20th of Month to [enews@rvgslibrary.org](mailto:enews@rvgslibrary.org)

**The Rogue Valley Genealogical Society, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization, tax identification number: 93-0684590.**

## Make a New Year's Resolution to Join an RVGS Special Interest Group



The Rogue Valley Genealogical Society sponsors a variety of interest groups each month. Members and patrons with a common interest gather to share information, strategies, and help each other with troubleshooting. Interest groups are free to attend for RVGS members and \$5.00 each visit after the first visit for non-members. Currently, all groups are meeting via Zoom. To register for any of the following

groups and receive the meeting Zoom link, [click here](#) to view our event calendar for specific information on each group.

### **Family Tree Maker User Group**

Barbara MacMillen facilitates this group. It meets from 1:30 - 3:00 PM on the second Tuesday of every month to discuss the Family Tree Maker software program and share ideas with each other.

### **Genealogy Newbies Interest Group**

Barbara Northrop moderates this interest group for new genealogists who want a small group setting to ask questions. The group meets via Zoom from 6:00 - 7:30 PM on the second Thursday of every month. The meetings start with the first 45 minutes of topical structured content and the last half of the session is open for general questions.

### **Genetic Genealogy Interest Group**

Jeff Roberts facilitates this interest group for everyone interested in genetic genealogy. They meet on the second Wednesday of the month from 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM. If you are not currently a group member, email Jeff Roberts at [jeffroberts@pobox.com](mailto:jeffroberts@pobox.com) for an invitation.

### **German Interest Group (GIG)**

Mary Robsman facilitates this interest group concentrating on German history and research. They meet the second Tuesday of the month from 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM. [Click here](#) to visit the GIG resources page. Contact the group at [GermanInterestGroup@rvgslibrary.org](mailto:GermanInterestGroup@rvgslibrary.org)

### **Irish Interest Group**

Barbara Halvorsen moderates this interest group concentrating on Irish history, culture and researching Irish ancestors. The group meets on the second Friday of the month from 1:30 - 3:00 PM via Zoom.