



Volume 7 | Issue 6 | June 2022

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OUR MISSION

The mission of the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society 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

3405 S Pacific Hwy
Medford, Oregon 97501

541-512-2340
reception@rvgslibrary.org
www.rvgslibrary.org

LIBRARY HOURS

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



ANNUAL FUND DRIVE LAUNCHED

Dear Rogue Valley Genealogical Society (RVGS) Members and Supporters,

RVGS organizes one primary fundraiser each year, our Annual Fund Drive. This year the goal is to raise \$17,000, officially beginning on June 1, 2022, and closing on December 31, 2022. 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 costs are covered by funds raised through our Annual Fund Drive.

The Board of Directors thanks you for your support in 2021. Despite falling short of our goal by four percent, your donations ensured the financial viability of our society and library through a difficult time. To continue operating in a solid financial position, RVGS needs your help! Any amount you give will support our research library and our current level of educational programming.

In addition to operating costs, the 2022 Fund Drive will provide financial assistance for the following initiatives:

- Maintain our broad offering of subscription research websites
- Purchase and installation of audio/visual equipment for hybrid classes and meetings
- Implementation of a document management system and server upgrade within the library

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

1. Return the donation slip attached to the letter you received in the mail with your check to RVGS, 3405 S. Pacific Hwy, Medford, OR 97501.
2. Go to our website (<http://www.rvgslibrary.org>) under Support Us/Annual Fund Drive to donate online with a credit/debit card or PayPal account.
3. Drop off a donation at the library at 3405 S. Pacific Hwy, Medford, during library open hours: Monday - Saturday, 1-4 p.m.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you so very much for your donation!

Kim Thurman
RVGS President

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, June 4, 10:30 AM-2:00 PM, Workshop, "Researching Great Britain"



Kate Eakman will present strategies and sources for researching your ancestors in Great Britain. Cost: Members \$25, Non-members \$35.

Tuesday, June 7, 10:30 AM-Noon, Class, "Orphan Trains in America"



Learning about our U.S. history provides us with clues about where our family was located and perhaps what happened to them. The period between 1854 and 1929 is when the Orphan Trains in America operated. There were

over 200,000 children "placed out" for a variety of reasons in every state. Andrea Patterson will give suggestions as to where you might discover that missing ancestor.

Cost: Members \$10, Non-members \$20.

Wednesday, June 8, 10:30 AM-Noon, Genetic Genealogy Interest Group

Barbara Halvorsen facilitates this interest group for everyone interested in genetic genealogy. They meet on the second Wednesday of the month.

Cost: Free to all.

Wednesday, June 8, 1:30-3:00 PM, Great Lakes Interest Group

Kim Thurman will facilitate this group to discuss genealogy research in the Great Lakes region. Primary focus will be the states of Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio. This interest group is co-sponsored by the Genealogical Forum of Oregon and meets on the second Wednesday every other month.

Cost: Free to all.

Thursday, June 9, 6:00-7:30 PM, Genealogy Newbies Interest Group

Barbara Northrop facilitates Genealogy Newbies for new genealogists who want a small group setting to ask questions. The interest group will start with the first 45 minutes for topical structured content and the last half of the session will be open for general questions. The group meets on the second Thursday of the month.

Cost: Free to all.

Friday, June 10, 1:30-3:00 PM, Irish Interest Group

Barbara Halvorsen facilitates this interest group concentrating on Irish history, culture and researching Irish ancestors. The group meets the second Friday of the month.

Cost: Free to all.

Monday, June 13, 9:30 AM-Noon, Board Meeting

Starting in June, the Board will meet in person at the library. All members are welcome. Come to the library side door and ring the doorbell to join them.

Note: There will be no Board Meeting in July.

Cost: Free to all.

Monday, June 13, 2:00-3:30 PM, Colonial America Interest Group

Jeanne Hoadley will be focusing on the original 13 colonies in this interest group. Join her and bring your stories and research experiences. The group meets the second Monday of the month.

Cost: Free to all.

Tuesday June 14, 11:00-12:30 PM, German Interest Group

Mary Robsman facilitates this interest group

concentrating on German history and research. They meet on the second Tuesday of the month.

Cost: Free to all.

Tuesday, June 14, 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. They meet on the second Tuesday of the month.

Cost: Free to all.

Tuesday, June 21, 1:30-3:00 PM, Program and Member Meeting, “The Mysterious Case of the First Female City Recorder in Phoenix and a Historic Genealogist”



Maureen Battistella will tell us about the mystery that surrounds this woman, one that has yet to be revealed. It’s a mystery that shines a dazzling light on the importance of genealogy to local history and the dedication and

persistence of a heroic genealogist.

Cost: Free to all.

Tuesday, June 21, 6:30-8:00 PM, “Let’s Talk Genealogy”



All are welcome to join in on our open discussion related to genealogy. The focused topic for the evening will be “working with family photos.” Don’t let this limit the discussion. It is a time for

sharing new information you’ve run across, great books or websites you have discovered, your success stories, etc. The Let’s Talk Genealogy group meets every other month on the third Tuesday.

Cost: Free to all.



Friday, June 24, 10:30 AM – 2:00 PM, Workshop: “You’ve Taken a DNA Test - Now What?”

Kate Eakman will discuss how DNA is passed down from generation to generation; Autosomal, Y-DNA,

mitochondrial, and X-DNA tests: what they are and how they can be used by genealogists; and many other subjects.

Cost: Members - \$25, Non-members - \$35.



Monday, July 4, Library Closed for 4th of July Holiday

Special Interest Group News

Colonial America Interest Group



The next meeting of the Colonial America Interest Group will be June 13. Our focus this month will be on our Quaker

Ancestors. We will look at the history of the Quaker movement, the migration of Quakers into and around North America, and how to tap into the meticulous records kept by Quaker meetings.

Register for the Colonial America Interest Group on the RVGS website to be added to the mailing list for the Zoom link. The Colonial America Interest Group meets from 2:00-3:30 pm the second Monday of each month. [Click here to register.](#)

RVGS-GFO Collaborative Interest Group Announced



The Board of Directors of the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society and the Genealogical Forum of Oregon

(Portland) have approved the first collaborative special interest group sponsored by both societies. The new Great Lakes interest group will meet virtually every other month on the second Wednesday from 1:30-3:00 p.m.; the first meeting

will be on June 8. The group's new facilitator is Kim Thurman, president of RVGS and a member of GFO. When asked about the announcement, Kim stated, "I'd like to thank Laurel [Smith, Acting President of GFO] and the GFO Board of Directors for their willingness to join forces. Both of our organizations turned to using Zoom to reach our members during the pandemic. Two years later, our virtual programming experience allows us to partner with GFO in the spirit of shared learning. Fran Hart set a high bar to follow as the former facilitator for GFO, and I'm truly excited to get started!"

To register for the Great Lakes interest group or other SIGs offered by RVGS and GFO, please visit www.rvgslibrary.org > Programs & Classes > Special Interest Group Registration or <https://gfo.org/learn/special-interest-groups/>. All SIG meetings are held online and are free to attend for all.

Local Happenings



**Wednesday, June 1,
Noon – 1:00 PM,
Windows in Time
(Online or limited in-
person): "The Seamy
Side of Medford: 1884
– 1935"**

Medford resident Ben

Truwe will provide stories from the poorly documented underworld of Medford and readings from Medford's vice surveys of the 1950s.

Ben Truwe is a recovering printer and a former trustee of the Southern Oregon Historical Society. He is the author of the "Looking Back" Jackson County history books and creator of the [Southern Oregon History, Revised](#) website. [Click here](#) to register.

Wednesday, July 6, Noon – 1:00 PM Windows in Time (Online or limited in-person): Stories of Southern Oregon Heritage Trees"

From Eve's apple tree to Tolkien's grumpy Ents, trees have always captured our imaginations. Join Nancy Appling to learn about Southern Oregon's trees, like

the Hanley Willow, the Britt Sequoia, the McCall Magnolia, and the Beall Black Walnut.

For seven years, Nancy Appling lectured for the Oregon Council for the Humanities and talked about trees in every Oregon county. During that tenure, Nancy joined the Oregon Heritage Tree Program, where she continues to serve as the Southern Oregon representative, now in her twentieth year. [Click here](#) to register.

Virtual Opportunities

August 19 – 27, Southern California Genealogical Society Jamboree



Registration opened March 7 at GenealogyJamboree.com. Over 60 speakers in three events over nine days! The three virtual conferences include Solving Your DNA Puzzles, JamboFREE, and Preserving Your Family Tales. For 51 years the Southern California Genealogical Society has held a Genealogy Jamboree, and for the last 9

years a Genetic Genealogy Conference, with nationally known speakers covering the latest developments in genealogy. From across our nation, from neighbors Canada and Mexico and from the Old World, Jamboree speakers helped us discover our ancestors' lives and stories.

SOCIETY NEWS

Welcome New Members!



Welcome to the newest members of RVGS: Gail Rasmussen, Pat Johnson, Muriel Gerlach, Kate Eakman, and Robert Nicolls! Welcome back to Sharon Lee, Carol Doty, Carolyn Van Dyck, and Pamela Clarke!!

Volunteers Needed



RVGS is run completely by volunteers. We have no paid employees. Without volunteers there would be no society or library. Over the last two years, we have lost volunteers in key Society positions and volunteers who

already have responsibilities had to pick up the extra workload. RVGS is still looking for volunteers for the following positions:

- Finance Director
- Volunteer Director
- *Rogue Digger* Editor
- Maintenance Coordinator
- Education Committee
- Scholarship Committee
- Quilt Committee
- Zoom Hosts

For more information on these vital positions, see the **Support Us** menu > Volunteers Needed on our [website](#).

In Memoriam

Phil Hunter, Medford, OR, October 2021. Husband of Judy Hunter and member of RVGS since 2014.

1950 Federal Census - Indexing with RVGS



Are you currently indexing the 1950 Federal census on the FamilySearch

website? If so, we invite you to join the RVGS group! To request to be added, click on this link: <https://bit.ly/RVGSgroup>. Once you are a member, your indexing statistics for the census will be reported individually and with RVGS on the 1950 census homepage. We look forward to indexing with you!

LIBRARY NEWS

Jackson County Postmarks Quilt on Display

by Char Wirfs



Last February, Nancy Swan, a long-time member of RVGS, donated the “Jackson County Postmarks Quilt,” which will be on display at the RVGS Library during June 2022. It is the latest

quilt acquisition for the RVGS quilt collection. The quilt committee accepted Nancy’s donation at their February 2022 meeting where she also donated her PowerPoint presentation about the quilt along with accompanying speaker notes, post office map, and research notes.

The Jackson County Postmarks quilt is described as a modern friendship quilt. In 1982, Nancy and her husband Frank were active members of the Southern Oregon Philatelic Society (SOPS) (the local stamp club) but were moving to Wyoming. Evelyn Bryan, also a member, designed the quilt for other SOPS members to submit a signed block of their own making. Because many of the stamp club members were not quilters nor embroiderers, Evelyn used a popular fabric pen product called Tri-Chem Liquid Embroidery Paint for them to draw colorful designs on muslin fabric. Interspersed with these painted blocks were other blocks depicting postmarks of Southern Oregon towns. As a side project, the club’s post office study team researched Jackson County’s postal history and tracked down, saved, and exhibited postmarked envelopes. Once all of that was accomplished Evelyn stitched the quilt blocks together, assembled the quilt with a thin middle layer and a floral cotton backing, tied it, and finished it by bringing the backing around for the binding.

The Bryans gifted the quilt to the Swans when they



visited them in Wyoming in 1983. Upon moving back to Medford in 1999, the Swans brought the quilt back to Jackson County. They resumed their membership in SOPS and in RVGS. Nancy Swan first showed the quilt at a

program she presented on January 17, 2015, at the RVGS library, "Post Offices in Jackson County." In her program Nancy displayed a map of Jackson County which showed the names of current post offices as well as the names and locations of discontinued post offices. Nancy gave a history of several discontinued post offices that were named after families who lived in the area. Among those she named were Barron, Colestin, Deter, Leeds, Provost, Kubli, and Ruch.

The RVGS Quilt Committee uses the following criteria for accepting quilts offered to RVGS:

1. Does the quilt depict an aspect of Southern Oregon history and/or genealogy?
2. If not, does the quilt represent a Southern Oregon family that was here for a significant period of time and/or has a connection to Southern Oregon history and/or genealogy?
3. If neither #1 or #2, does the quilt represent a significant aspect of the history of quilts and quilting in Southern Oregon?
4. Is the donor willing to donate the quilt without restrictions, with the understanding that at some future time RVGS may choose to donate the quilt to another organization, sell the quilt, or donate the quilt to a descendant who has genealogical ties to the quilt?

The Jackson County Postmarks Quilt can be viewed in the library reading room during open hours, 1:00 - 4:00 PM, Monday through Saturday.

PERSI Now Free Online.



PERSI – PERiodical Source Index -- an index to articles in genealogy magazines and journals was previously available to us on Find My Past. It is now available free on the Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center website (<https://www.genealogycenter.info/persi/>). The search process is quick and streamlined. You can search for surnames; specific places in the US, Canada, British Isles, and other countries; research techniques; and keywords in title articles. If our library does not have the journal you seek, there is an order form for copies from Allen County, \$7.50 for up to six articles, plus 20¢ per page. Other free databases on the site provide in-depth access to Midwest states and to unique holdings of Allen County. [Tip: a surname search for "Yantis" yielded 19 hits, a keyword title search yielded 24. Try both ways.]

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.

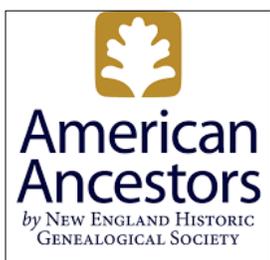
This month our focus is on the Facebook group **Culpeper, Madison, and Rappahannock Counties Virginia Genealogy** which is a "private" group. This means only members of the group can see who is in the group and what they have posted. This group is an example of genealogical Facebook groups that are focused on a specific area. You'll find groups for counties, countries, and entire regions. There are also geographical groups that are not genealogical in nature, but which can still be a great resource for

information about the area. Many of them focus on the history of a town or region, for example, the group [Medford Oregon And Surrounding Areas Memories](#) is a wonderful place to find old photos of the Medford area as well as bits of history. If you are on Facebook, do a search for groups in the areas you are researching.

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

American Ancestors

- Descendants of Nathaniel Woodward, 1630-1900. This database contains the book *Descendants of Nathaniel Woodward* who came from England to Boston about 1630. Searches result in robust pedigree information from the book.
- Boston, MA: Provident Institution for Savings, 1817-1882. Seven new volumes added, which completes this database. Documents daily bank transactions, often includes current address and place of origin.
- Dartmouth, MA: Quaker Records, 1699-1920.
- Massachusetts: Automobile Registrations, 1908-1910. A three-volume database.
- Massachusetts: Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston Records, 1789-1920. 29 new parishes.
- Massachusetts: Vital Records, 1620-1850. Nine new volumes of towns in Hampden and Hampshire Counties: Blandford, Florence, Goshen, Haydenville, Huntington, Middlefield, Monson, Pelham, and Plainfield.
- Pittsburgh, Pa: Gaines Funeral Home Records, 1925-1934.
- Early Vermont Settlers to 1784. Ten new sketches of Fort Dummer and Brattleboro residents.



Ancestry

- Utah, U.S., Mormon Pioneer Overland Travel Records, 1847-1868
- France



- Alpes de Haute Provence, Census, 1836-1911 (in French)
- Haute-Vienne, Births, Marriages, and Deaths 1792-1930

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

- Chile, Cemetery Records, 1821-2015
- France, Saone-et-Loire, Parish and Civil Registration, 1530-1892
- Norway, Probate Index Cards, 1640-1903
- Philippines Deaths and Burials, 1726-1957
- United States, Virginia, Library of Virginia State Archive, Births, Marriages, and Deaths 1853-1900



*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.

MyHeritage

- Germany, Hesse, Deaths, from several communities, 1848-1990
- Scotland, Mental Health Records: General Register of Lunatics in Asylums
- United States, Kansas, World War II Selective Service Records



15 New Books Added to the RVGS Library

The 15 books new to the genealogy library in May may seem like a small number, but they are potentially mighty in impact. Two are about researching the history of a house (728); three are about Lake County, California, (979.417), including

“Scottslandia” (which is about one of the three Scotts Valleys in California); and two are historical atlases: Missouri (977.8 A841 Raf) and Wisconsin (977.5 A841 Wis). Historical atlases are one of those truly hidden treasures: many of the maps may seem pretty far out or filled with mundane details, but then there are the ones that open important insights into what was happening where and when your ancestors lived. Don’t overlook them. [Click here for the complete list.](#)

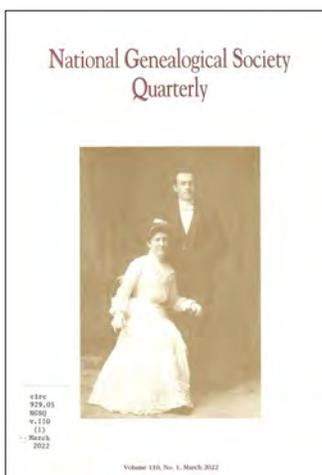
New Periodicals on the Shelf



American Spirit, Daughters of the American Revolution
 Circ 929.05 AmS v.156(3), May/June 2022
 Travel info for Ellicott City, MD (turning 250); the Pennock family home, Primitive Hall, in West Grove, PA; Early American recipes: Oysters; Preserved meats; Beer and other drinks; and Casimir Pulaski, “Father of the American Cavalry.”

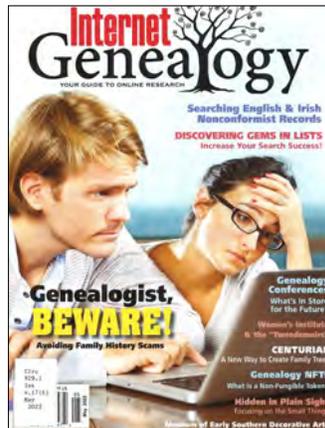


National Genealogical Society Magazine
 Circ 929.05 NGSM v.48(2), April/June 2022
 This issue concentrates on probate research:

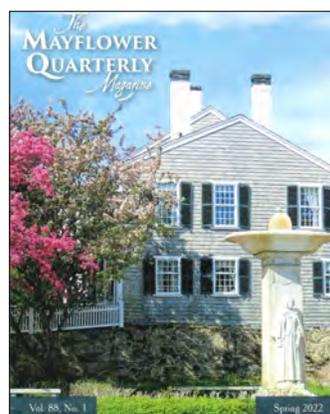


searching records, finding information about enslaved ancestors; legal lingo, New England records, and estate inventories.
National Genealogical Society Quarterly
 Circ 929.05 NGSQ v.110 (1), March 2022
 Parents for Corbett

Edward White (MA); John Stafford’s father (England); Two Richard Condons (Ontario, Canada); and Dirk Weversborg (Holland).



Internet Genealogy
 Circ 929.1 Int v.17(21), May 2022 (and on our website.)
 English and Irish nonconformist records; genealogy NFTs; genealogy scams; the future of genealogy conferences; Thomas Douglas, 5th Earl of Selkirk; Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts; “hidden lists”; and valuable Canadian resources.



Mayflower Quarterly Magazine, General Society of Mayflower Descendants
 Circ 929.3 MayQ v.88(1), Spring 2022
 “After the Mayflower,” the first of a three-part series, covers the voyage of the *Fortune*, (1621) including a list of possible passengers;

Susannah Bishop and her connection to Pilgrim lines; and using the Industrial and Manufacturing Schedules of the federal census.



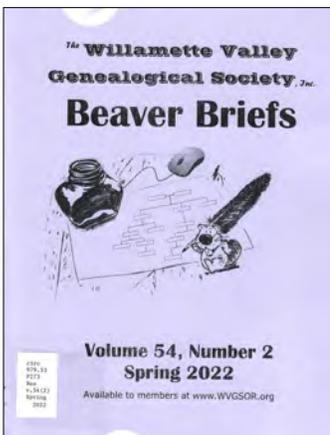
American Ancestors, New England Historic Genealogical Society
 Circ 974 P273 AA v.31 (1), Spring 2022
 The NEHGS 2021 annual report and their new website; researching mental health histories; using family letters to illuminate the past; the trousseau of Prudence

Merritt; and tracing a 19th century orphan.



New York Researcher, New York Genealogical and Biographical Society
Circ 974.7 P273 NYR v.33 (1), Spring 2022
Obtaining New York State birth records; New York City digitized vital records now online; and digitization projects at the Society.

Heir Lines, Genealogical Society of Siskiyou County
Circ 979.421 P273 Hei v.46(3), April 2022
Con Brown's store; and George Washington Arbaugh.



Beaver Briefs, Willamette Valley Genealogical Society
Circ 979.53 P273 Bea v.54 (2), Spring 2022
Oregon's strawberry season; America Waldo Bogle (African-American pioneer); Genealogy Toolbox: searching for obituaries; the beginning of the society's surname

vertical file (A-C); Sarah Helmick State Park and other state parks.

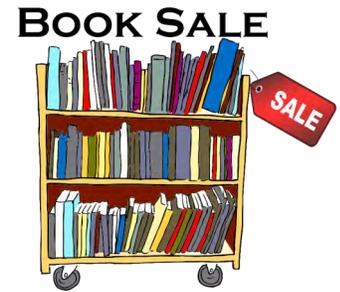
New issues to our files:

Overland Journal, Quarterly of the Oregon-California Trails Association
Circ 978 P273 Ove
Several years of issues have been added to the collection.

Surplus Sale books for June

- *Google Your Family Tree: Unlock the Hidden Power of Google*, by Daniel M. Lynch, 2008. \$3.00

- *Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy* by Blaine Bettinger, 2016. \$3.00 (2 copies)
- *Sleuth book for genealogists* by Emily Croon, 2000. \$3.00
- *Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives*, 1982. \$3.00
- *Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses, 1790-1920*, by William Thorndale and William Dollarhide, 1987. \$4.50
- *First Over the Siskiyou* by Jeff LaLande, 1987. \$25.00
- *Printed Sources: A Guide to Published Genealogical Records* by Kory L. Meyerink, 1998. \$3.00
- *Oregon and Applegate Trail Diary of Welborn Beeson in 1853, ... with introduction and contemporary comments by Bert Webber*, 1993. \$7.50
- *Oregon Trail Diary of James Akin, Jr. in 1852... contemporary comments by Bert Webber*, 1994. \$7.50
- *Oregon Trail Diary of Edward Evans Parrish in 1844...contemporary comments by Bert Webber*, 1998. #11.00 (2 copies)
- *Understanding and Using Baptismal Records* by John T. Humphrey, 1996. \$7.00
- *Adventures of Purse and Person, Virginia 1607-1624/5*, revised and edited by Virginia M. Meyer, John Frederick Dorman, 3rd ed, 1987. \$36.00
- *Black's Law Dictionary*, Rev. 4th ed., \$150.00
- *Dressed for the Photographer: Ordinary Americans & Fashion, 1840-1900* by Joan Severa, 1995.
- *Handybook for Genealogists*, 11th ed, 2006. \$30.00
- *They Became Americans: Finding Naturalization Records and Ethnic Origins* by Loretto Dennis Szucs, 1998. \$3.00
- *Timetables of History: New third revised edition* by Bernard Grun, 1991. \$4.00
- *Ancestry's Redbook: American State, County & Town Sources*, 1992. \$4.50



**Rogue Valley
Genealogical Society
Board of Directors**

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Vacant
**Technology and Data
Management Director:**
Rich Miles
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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 to join today.

The RVGS eNews

Editor: Rich Miles
Submissions due 20th of Month to enews@rvgslibrary.org

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

Join an RVGS Special Interest Group Today



The Rogue Valley Genealogical Society sponsors a variety of virtual 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 more information and to register for any of the following groups and receive the meeting Zoom link, [click here](#).

Colonial America Interest Group

The Colonial America Interest Group meets 2:00 - 3:30 PM on the second Monday of every month to discuss genealogy research in the original 13 colonies. Join facilitator Jeanne Hoadley and bring your stories and research experiences.

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 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

Barbara Halvorsen 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.

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.

Great Lakes Interest Group—Joint RVGS & GFO Group

Join facilitator Kim Thurman to share, discuss, and learn about the states of Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio. Researchers to the north and east along the lakes are welcome as well. The Great Lakes Interest Group will begin meeting June 8th from 1:30 - 3:00 PM, with subsequent meetings held **every other** month on the second Wednesday.

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.

Are we missing a Special Interest Group that you'd love to join? You may wish to check the available FREE offerings from the Genealogical Forum of Oregon (GFO) here: <https://gfo.org/learn/special-interest-groups/>. If you have an idea for an Interest Group that you'd like to facilitate, please complete our Volunteer Application on our website under Support Us > [Volunteer Application](#).