



Volume 7 | Issue 7 | July 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 Monday -
Saturday, 1:00—4:00 PM



The RVGS eNews

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ROGUE VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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!

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



Friday, July 8, 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.

Saturday, July 9, 10:30-Noon, Brick Wall Roundtable— CANCELED

This discussion is open to all. Bring your questions, your puzzles, your brick walls and we will put our heads together to see if we can find a way to get you closer to your goal. You don't even have to have a "wall" to join us. We welcome you anyway and who knows? You may have a nugget that would help someone else.

Cost: Free to all.

Monday, July 11, 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 July 12, 11:00-12:30 PM, German Interest Group

Mary Robsman facilitates this interest group concentrating on German history and research. They meet the second Tuesday of the month.
Cost: Free to all.

Tuesday, July 12, 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 the second Tuesday of the month.
Cost: Free to all.

Wednesday, July 13, 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.

Thursday, July 14, 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.

Monday, July 18, 1:30-3:00 PM, Class: “What Do You Know About the National Archives?”



In this class, instructor Celeste Guillory will highlight the resources available both online and in person at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).
Cost: Members \$10, Non-members \$20.

Coming Soon!

September 17-23, RVGS 2022 Genealogy Week



Free classes all week via Zoom with in-library viewing available as well. Watch

for more information in the eNews, on our website at rvgslibrary.org, and on social media.

Local Happenings



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.

Wednesday, August 3, Noon – 1:00 PM Windows in Time (Online or limited in-person): “Rogue River Preserve: Deep Roots in Jackson County History”

Pat Acklin, Professor Emerita of Geography and Environmental Studies at Southern Oregon University, will explain how the Rogue River Preserve is recognized by naturalists and conservationists in Southern Oregon as one of the most important natural areas in the upper Rogue Valley. This 2.4 miles of unbroken and largely intact forest along the Rogue River is located north of Dodge Bridge on Highway 234.

A resident of the Rogue Valley since 1971, Pat Acklin has taught local geography and land use planning for 25 years. She also was employed as a Land Use Planner and Sanitarian/Soil Scientist for what is now Jackson County Development Services and as Citizen Involvement Coordinator for a regional transportation planning effort coordinated by the Rogue Valley Council of Governments. [Click here](#) to register.

Virtual Opportunities

August 19 – 27, Southern California Genealogical Society Jamboree



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. Register at GenealogyJamboree.com.

SOCIETY NEWS



Welcome New Members!

Welcome to the newest members of RVGS: Richard Schoenberg, Barbara Driscoll, Lee Fitzsimmons, Gerry Lenzen, Steve Morrell, James Linder, and Cristie Prince!

Welcome back to Mary Mitchell, Jim Gleaves, Lyndi Farmer, and Jamie Fields!

Annual Fund Drive – Your Donation Matters



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.

- 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!

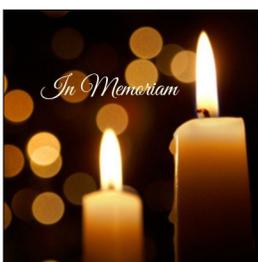
Volunteers Needed



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
- Quilt Committee
- Zoom Hosts

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



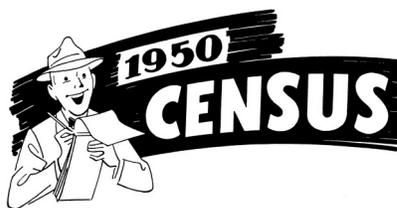
In Memoriam

Allan "Al" Cotton (5 June 2022) - Al was a member of RVGS since 2013. Along with his wife, Leah, he volunteered with RVGS managing our surplus

book sales on Amazon. He also served as a substitute librarian when needed and could be found in the RVGS library on most Tuesdays. Our condolences go out to Leah and his sister, Dorothy, both members of the society.

Helen Wolgamott (13 May 2022) - Helen was a member of RVGS since 1997. She served over ten years as a volunteer librarian at our Central Avenue and Phoenix locations.

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!

RVGS Research Trip to the Family History Library, Salt Lake City

Arrive SLC – Sunday, March 05, 2023

Depart SLC - Sunday, March 12, 2023



It's been a long time coming! Our lives have been crazy the last couple years, but the Rogue

Valley Genealogical Society wants to get back to what we do best - genealogical research. We are marking our calendars for March 5 through 12, 2023, for our "annual" trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Start checking your schedules and making plans to join us! Research your roots at the Family History Library, with five floors of unique genealogical resources.

If you are flying, remember that prices go up the closer we are to the departure date. Reserve your flight now to save money.

Stay at the nearby Plaza Hotel. Our discounted rooms at the Salt Lake City Plaza Hotel will be held for us to reserve until February 1, 2023. Call now to book your room. Ask for Rogue Valley Genealogical Society discounted room rate. The room discount

will only be honored if booked before February 1, 2023, but will be honored even if you are staying less than the entire week. Standard, Deluxe, and King Rooms are available. A complimentary seminar will be available through the hotel if we have 12 attendees.

For Further Information and to let us know you will be attending, email Ann Baracker at abaracker@gmail.com.

What's in a coin?

By Katie Hauge



I like to help at Jacksonville Cemetery when I can. Usually, every May and November I spend time helping to place and remove flags

on our Veterans' graves. This May, after helping with this task, I was visiting with friends and commented that I usually see pennies and mentioned I saw a few more dimes this year. My friends were curious about my comment and asked what each coin meant. So, I thought I would share it with all of you. Tears always come to my eyes when I see a quarter. Thank you to all our Veterans for your service!

Have you ever been in a cemetery and seen coins on a headstone? A coin left on a headstone lets the deceased soldier's family know that somebody stopped by to pay their respect. A penny means you visited. A nickel means you and the deceased veteran trained at boot camp together. A dime means you and the deceased veteran served together in some capacity. A quarter is very significant because it means that you were there when that veteran died. The tradition of leaving coins on the headstones of military men and women can be traced to as far back as the Roman Empire. Soldiers would insert a coin into the mouth of a fallen soldier to ensure they could cross the "River Styx" into the afterlife. In the US, this practice

became common during the Vietnam war, due to the political divide in the country over the war. Leaving a coin was seen as a more practical way to communicate that you had visited the grave than contacting the soldier's family, which could devolve into an uncomfortable argument over politics relating to the war. What happens to the coins? They are collected from the gravesites monthly and the money is used for cemetery maintenance, the cost of burial for soldiers, or the care for indigent soldiers.

Source: <https://dma.mt.gov/MVAD/MVAD-Images/Coins-on-headstones-meaning.pdf>, edited for clarity.

LIBRARY NEWS



Manzanita of Kanaka Flats Quilt on Display

by Char Wirfs

If you search the 1860 US Census records for Jackson County, Oregon, Post Office, Jacksonville, between the dwelling numbers

of 200 to 300, you will find about 40 individuals living there with the same single name of "Kanacker." They are between the ages of 57 years old and age one. Most are male, a few are female, and very few are children. Their occupations are listed as "miner" and their birthplaces are almost always "The Sandwich Islands," with the exception of two children: one born in Oregon, and one born in California. Of all those individuals, only one family is listed under their surname of "Main Top." These are the people who lived in Kanaka Flats, Jackson County, Oregon. In the Hawaiian language *kanaka is the word for person, particularly a person of the working class.*

The mining community of Kanaka Flats, Oregon, was located where the two forks of Jackson Creek come together. It was situated in a canyon about a mile southwest of Jacksonville that was not suited for

agriculture or for the establishment of a traditional community but was perfect for placer gold mining. It only existed for a few decades between 1850 and 1880 when the gold mines of Jackson County finally played out. Today you will find very little evidence, other than a few ditches, that people ever lived there. You can drive up Kanaka Flats Road, which was built about 1950, to view this rugged terrain.

A quilt honoring these Hawaiian gold miners of Jacksonville was the historic theme which Dora Scheidecker chose to design for the Jacksonville Museum Quilters' historical quilt for 1979. The finished quilt was first displayed at their 1980 quilt show which was held in the ballroom of the second floor of the U S Hotel building in Jacksonville. An earlier visit to Hawaii had inspired Dora to design this quilt. While in Hawaii Dora had learned the unique technique of producing the classic Hawaiian quilt and brought her knowledge back to share with the quilting group. The quilt they created is displayed in the RVGS Library meeting room for the month of July.



The quilt features the unique style of a solid-color, single design which is hand-appliquéd to a solid-color background. Two contrasting colors predominate. This style emerged in the 1800's

when missionaries taught the women of the Sandwich Islands quilting techniques. Plant designs were a common feature of these quilts. Hawaiian quilting designs were created by folding a large



piece of fabric in fourths and free cutting a design, much like cutting snowflakes from folded paper. Dora decided to design the Manzanita of Kanaka Flats quilt by combining the history of Kanaka Flats with the manzanita plants which grow in that area. Shades of green were chosen for the two contrasting colors. The hand-quilting design that the group used

is called echo quilting and follows the outlines of the medallion appliqué piece, resembling ocean waves.

While viewing the quilt in the niche for July, one can clearly appreciate the stunning result that Dora and the Jacksonville Museum Quilters created.

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

Ancestry

- East Sussex, England, Church of England AND (separate record sets)
- West Sussex, England, Church of England
 - Births & Baptisms, 1813-1920
 - Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, 1538-1812
 - Marriages and Banns, 1754-1936
 - Deaths & Burials, 1813-1995
- Norway, Emigration Records, 1874-1960 (in Norwegian)
- Virginia, U.S., Birth Registers, 1853-1911



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

- France, Creuse, Parish and Civil Registration, 1568-1903
 - New York, Birth Indexes Outside of New York City, 1881-1942
 - United Kingdom, Prisoners of War, 1715-1947
- *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

MyHeritage recently published 11 million historical records from two death collections that include images: Germany, Hesse, Deaths, and an update



to Germany, North Rhine Westphalia Deaths 1874–1938. The North-Rhine Westphalia death collection is exclusive to MyHeritage and cannot be found on any other commercial site. With this update, the total number of German historical records on MyHeritage is 187 million.

39 New Books Added to the RVGS Library



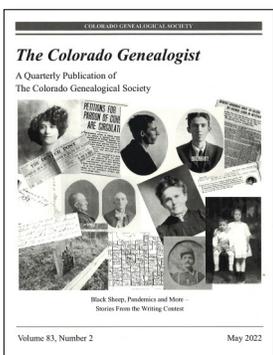
Of the 39 books new to the genealogy library in June, 17 are about Kentucky (976.9), and 11 of those are about Hickman County, Kentucky (976.998)! Three bibliographies (an often-overlooked resource) may

lead you to unknown and unexpected manuscripts and diaries (016.9) in the Huntington Library and elsewhere. Three books, which may be checked out, are about everyday life in the United States, covering different time periods: 1790-1840, 1860-1876, and 1876-1915 (Circ 973 C988). [Click here for the complete list.](#)

New Periodicals on the Shelf



New York Genealogical and Biographical Record
Circ 974.7 G242 New v.153(2), April 2022
Wives of Evert B Delaney [polygamist] (NY); John Underhill (England, NY); family of Abigail Dart (cont.); William and Thomas Becraft; and Rufus D Stephens (NY, Canada, MI and IL).



Colorado Genealogist, Colorado Genealogical Society
Circ 978.8 P273 Col v.83(2), May 2022
Essays from the society's seminar writing contest "Impact of COVID on my research."



The Bulletin, Genealogical Forum of Oregon
Circ 979.549 P273 Bul v.71 (4), June 2022
An old house in Hillsdale; What is a one-place study?; Albert Edward Pilkington; Katherine Marie Munro; the challenge of Google Translate; family Bibles

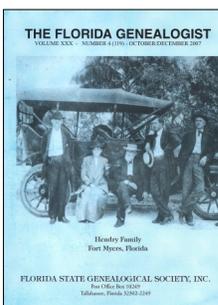
of Martin Sisk McFall and his wife Harriet Brown (KY), and Bowerman/Chope/Southmayd (Coos county, OR.)

New (to us) Periodical Titles, short holdings, most indexed in PERSI.

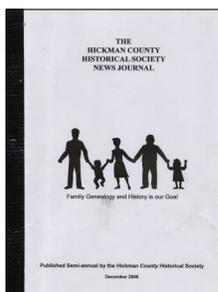
The library adds short runs in hopes that you will find useful data or will be prompted to search PERSI or online sites for further issues.



British Connections, International Society for British Genealogy and Family History
Circ 942 P273 Bri (Quarterly) misc. holdings, (2020-2021)



Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey, Genealogical Society of New Jersey
Circ 974.9 P273 GMNJ (3 issues/year with index) v.95-96 (2020-2021)
Florida Genealogist, Florida State Genealogical Society, Inc.
Circ 975.9 P273 Flo (Quarterly) v.30 (2007)



Roots Digger, Ballard-Carlisle (KY) Historical and Genealogical Society
Circ 976.99 P273 Roo (2 issues / year) v.14-20 (2007-2013)
Hickman County [Kentucky] Historical Society News Journal
Circ 976.998 P273 Hic (2 issues / year) 2007-2014

FREE Duplicate Copy Periodicals

Please take these duplicate periodicals located on a cart inside the front door of the library. Dates are inclusive but runs may not be complete. [few = less than 3". lots = more than 8"]

- American Ancestors, 2008-2022 [lots]
- Genealogist, 2007-2020 [lots]
- NEHG Register, 2008-2021 [lots]
- New York Genealogical and Biographical Society Record, 2008-2019 [few]
- NGS Magazine, 2008-2022 [lots]
- NGS Quarterly, 1992-2021 [a whole shelf full]
- Oregon Historical Quarterly, 2018-2021 [few]
- Searcher (So. CA), 2006-8 [few]

Surplus Sale books for July

- *Source: A Guidebook of American Genealogy* edited by Loretto Dennis Szucs and Sandra Hargreaves Luebking, Rev. ed, 1997. \$4.50
- *Organize Your Genealogy* by Drew Smith, 2016. \$9.00
- *Walking With Your Ancestors: A Genealogist's Guide to Using Maps and Geography* by Melinda Kashuba, 2005. \$7.50
- *Roots for Kids: A Genealogy Guide for Young People* by Susan Provost Beller, 2nd ed., 2010. \$3.00
- *Zap the Grandma Gap: Connect with your family by connecting them to their family history* by Janet Hovorka, 2013. \$4.00
- *Zap the Grandma Gap: Power Up Workbook* by Janet Hovorka, 2013. \$4.50
- *Zap the Grandma Gap: My British Ancestor Activity Book* by Janet Hovorka and Amy Slade, 2013. \$7.50
- *Zap the Grandma Gap: My Civil War Ancestor Activity Book* by Janet Hovorka and Amy Slade, 2013. \$7.50
- *Zap the Grandma Gap: My German Ancestor Activity Book* by Janet Hovorka and Amy Slade, 2013. \$7.50
- *Zap the Grandma Gap: My Swedish Ancestor Activity Book* by Janet Hovorka and Amy Slade, 2013. \$7.50
- *You Can Write Your Family History* by Sharon DeBartolo Carmack, 2003. \$4.50
- *Conversations with Pioneer Women* by Fred Lockley, 2nd ed., 1993. \$3.00
- *Stories in Stone: A Field Guide to Cemetery Symbolism and Iconography* by Douglas Keister, 2004. \$7.50
- *Byrne's dictionary of Irish Local History from earliest times to c.1900* by Joseph Byrne, 2004, \$15.00
- *The Rogue Valley* by John Kemper, 2006. \$6.00



Rogue Valley Genealogical Society
2022 Genealogy Week
September 17-23
Free Classes all week via Zoom/Classroom
Watch for more information at:
<https://rvgslibrary.org>

**Rogue Valley
Genealogical Society
Board of Directors**

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**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](#).