



Volume 8 | Issue 4 | Apr 2023

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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

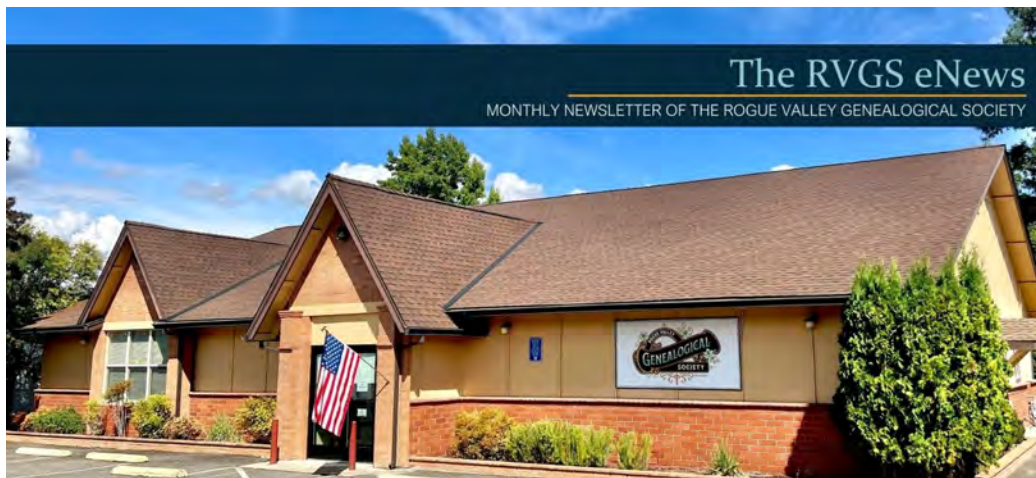
Rogue Valley
Genealogical Society

3405 S Pacific Hwy
Medford, Oregon 97501

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

LIBRARY HOURS

RVGS Library is open
Monday - Saturday
10:00 AM — 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 unless noted otherwise. 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, April 1, 10:30 AM - Noon, Class: Lakes, Lumber, and Lighthouses: A Genealogical Exploration of Michigan

The only state to border four Great Lakes; European settlement began in 1668. Kim Thurman will share with us the wealth of sources and records of interest to Genealogy.
Cost: Members \$10, Non-members \$20.



Thursday, April 6, 10:30 AM – Noon, Class: Oregon Society of Mayflower Descendants

The Pilgrims - What is fiction; what is fact? What do we really know about the English who came to the New World in 1620? Descendant Governor Beth Lambright will share the answers.
Cost: Members \$10, Non-Members \$20.

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

Barbara Northrop facilitates this group that is 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 usually meets the second Thursday of the month but was moved for this month only.

Cost: Free to all.



Monday, April 10, 9:30 AM - Noon, RVGS Board meeting (in person at library)

All members are welcome. Come to the library side door and ring the doorbell.

Cost: Free to all.

Monday, April 10, 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, April 11, 11:00 - 12:00, German Interest Group

This interest group concentrates on German history and research. They meet on the Second Tuesday of the month.

Cost: Free to all.

Tuesday, April 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. They meet on the second Tuesday of the month.

Cost: Free to all.

Wednesday, April 12, 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, April 12, 1:30 – 3:00 PM, Great Lakes Interest Group

Kim Thurman facilitates this Interest Group which meets the second Wednesday of even numbered months to discuss genealogy research in the Great Lakes region. Bring your stories and research experiences.

Cost: Free to all.

Friday, April 14, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM, Crater Lake Chapter of DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution).

This meeting is free for everyone interested. For the program this month Patty Ware will be sharing information on the DAR sister societies.

Cost: Free to all.

Friday, April 14, 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.



Tuesday, April 18, 1:30-3:00 PM, Program and Member Meeting, "Hidden in Haarlem"

Sue DeMarinis will share with us the story of a teenage boy and his survival during World War II in his home in Holland

during the occupation by the Nazis.

Cost: Free to all.

Wednesday, April 19, 1:30 – 3:00 PM, Roundtable: Let's Talk Genealogy

Let's Talk Genealogy meets the third Wednesday of even numbered months. It is a chance to get together with others who share your same interests. We will start with a focus and see where it goes.

Cost: Free to all.



Thursday, April 20, 1:30 - 2:30 PM, Program: RVGS Quilt Collection Bed Turning AND Quilt Raffle Drawing. (In Person at RVGS Library in Meeting Room).

Charlotte Wirfs will showcase 15 quilts

representing a wide variety of quilt styles and eras. Raffle quilt winner will be drawn as the grand finale. Cost: Free to all. Email reception@rvgslibrary.org to reserve one of the limited number of chairs.

Friday, April 21, 10:30 AM – Noon, Class: Documenting Your Heirlooms

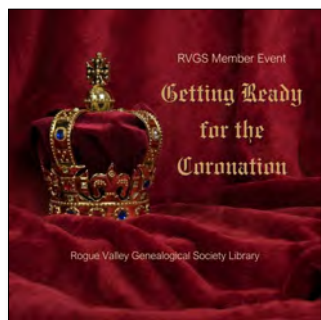


There are many things in your family history that are important and worth documenting beyond birth, marriage, and death dates. Family traditions and stories about items in the family can enrich the family history and ensure

that the information is passed onto future generations accurately. Glenda Lloyd will share how this is done.

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

Saturday, April 29, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Member Event: “Getting Ready for the Coronation” (In Person at RVGS Library)



RVGS members, join us to start the celebration of Charles III's historic coronation. Watch our visual presentation that will inform and guide you through the fascinating steps of the actual coronation that takes

place on May 6. Learn about the history of the British monarchy, the long tradition of the coronation and expose yourself to our Library's many resources for genealogy associated with Britain. Cost: Free to Members.

Coming Soon!



- May 10, Class: Researching Female Ancestors
- May 13, Brick Wall Roundtable
- May 16, Program & Member Meeting: Railroading in Southern Oregon
- May 19, Class: Eastern Europe
- May 25, Class: Works Progress Administration (WPA)

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP NEWS

The **Colonial America Interest Group** meets via zoom on the second Monday of each month at 2:00 PM. For our April 10 meeting we will take a look at Colonial Maryland and some unique resources to help you find your early Maryland ancestors. In May we will head south for a look at colonial Georgia. You only have to register once. Your name will remain on the mailing list unless you ask to be removed.

LOCAL HAPPENINGS



Windows in Time: Jacksonville Then and Now: A Photo Essay
Wednesday, April 5, 2023, Noon – 1:00 PM
Medford Library: Online or limited in-person.

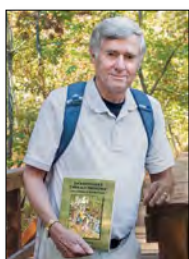
[Click here to register](#)

Wednesday, April 12, 2023, Noon – 1:00 PM **Phoenix Library**

Peter Britt, and later his son Emil, photographed Jacksonville, Oregon's transition from a gold mining camp in the 1850s to the late 19th Century hub of Southern Oregon; then, when the railroad bypassed the town in 1927, to its decline to a backwater town. Ken Gregg, Jacksonville resident and professional photographer, has captured the Jacksonville of today, its places and people, in stylized photographs that illustrate the revival of the town that became the first group of buildings on the West Coast to be declared a National Historic Landmark. This photo essay will present a "then and

now" look at the town, alternating between historic and contemporary photographs, where, particularly in this case, a picture is worth 1,000 words.

Ken Gregg was born in Los Angeles, California. At ten years old, his parents gave him an old box Brownie camera. In less than a year, he had built a darkroom in the home basement and was printing his own black and white images. His interest in photography continued through high school and college. After graduation, he worked for The North Face for ten years photographing outdoor equipment for their catalogs. In 1981, he transitioned into art photography, selling his imagery to luxury hotels throughout the world for their décor. Since moving to Jacksonville in 2012, he has been photographing what life looks like in this unique historic town. A selection of 35 of these images has been compiled into a photo-pictorial book "A Year in Jacksonville."



Talent Historical Society, Thursday, April 25, 6:00 PM, "Jacksonville's Emerald Necklace." Larry Smith will share the heartwarming story of how Jacksonville created the most successful all volunteer land preservation project in the state of

Oregon. Talent Museum, 105 N. Market St., Talent. Free to all.

Windows in Time: Moonville Rediscovered: What History and Genealogy Reveal about a Once Thriving Community in Sams Valley, Oregon
Wednesday, May 3, 2023, Noon - 1:00 PM **Medford Library**: In-person and online. [Click here to register](#)
Wednesday, May 10, 2023, Noon - 1:00 PM **Phoenix Library**

Sams Valley has had a number of small settlements over the years. When and how did Moonville flourish, and what led to its disappearance? What happened to the 13 Moon children, who were all born in Jackson County? Are their descendants here now? Anne Billeter uses a blend of historical and genealogical resources to look for answers to these and other questions about the Moons and Moonville.

Anne Billeter is Library Director of the Rogue Valley

Genealogical Society Library and has previously worked at the Southern Oregon Historical Society Research Library, Jackson County Library Services, Josephine County Library System, and the SOU Hannon Library. She has served on the Boards of RVGS, SOHS, and the Josephine County Historical Society. She has lived in Southern Oregon for over 44 years and enjoys researching local history and genealogy.

SOCIETY NEWS

Welcome New Members!

Welcome to the newest members of RVGS: Kathleen Woods, Peter Finkle, Carol Camacho, Katheryn Slezziak, Sue Dolezal, Kelly McCray, Irene & Raynee Oldenhage, Jan Ritter, Chase & Tanea Browning, Melissa Henrie, Anna Kaegi, Carolyn Allman, Bonnie-Jean Woodcock, Cyd Hutton, Mark Cook, Frank Marksman, Anne Plummer, and Vicki Von Arx! Welcome back to Cheryl Lynne Babbe, Consuelo Rodriguez, and Susan Deaton!



RVGS Quilt Collection Bed Turning

April 20, 2023, at 1:30 PM, Rogue Valley Genealogical Society will be showcasing 15 quilts, representing a wide variety of quilt styles

and eras. Many are from the RVGS collection of Jacksonville Museum Quilters (JMQ), including the Lady Oscharwasha - Indian Jenny quilt made in 1983, which is based on a Peter Britt photograph, the Table Rock quilt with wildflowers designed by artist Evelyn Byrne Williams, and the beautiful Manzanita of Kanaka Flats quilt honoring early Hawaiians in Jacksonville, Oregon, designed and appliqued by Dora Scheidecker. A few of the quilts are from the Oregon and RVGS Quilt Documentation Project, which results in their inclusion in the national **Quilt Index**: The Four Sisters Basket Quilt: made about 1907, red and white baskets; Zach's Imagination Quilt, designed by Zach and recently made by

Thelma Goodnough; the RVGS Anniversary Quilt, designed by Sue Waldron, with bookcase construction by Cheryl Luschen and applied by Nell Mathern and Sue Waldron. AND MORE!

LAST CHANCE to buy Quilt Raffle Tickets

The winner of the “Giant Dahlia” raffle quilt will be drawn on April 20, as the grand finale of the free Quilt Program, RVGS Quilt Collection Bed Turning. Come BEFORE the program (which starts at 1:30 PM) to purchase raffle tickets for \$1.00 each; 6 for \$5.00; or 30 for \$20.00. Bring return address labels to put on the raffle tickets you purchase.



The 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. This queen-sized raffle quilt 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 and is on display in the Quilt Niche.

2023 Salt Lake City FamilySearch Library Trip - Now One for the Memory Books

Our group consisted of Mary Robsman, Loretta Barker, Barbara Mumblo, Barb Grimes, Deb Callen, Elsie and Dale Deatherage, and Ann and Ron Baracker. We all came away with varying degrees of success, but the entire group felt the six days of concentrated research made the trip worthwhile. Not only did we research, but we also had time to get to know each other better over dinners.



Mary came to Salt Lake fully prepared. She had microfilm numbers to look up. Her

first day combing the films gave her marriage records and children’s baptisms. They were all on the same film. A German specialist translated and then typed an Old German script document along with the translation for her. The specialist also explained the format for births and marriage records so Mary can now better understand the document set up.

Loretta did not find who she was originally researching. Her female ancestors are still hiding well. She was also looking for her grandfather’s immigration papers. She had a specialist’s help and realized those records are not on file at the FamilySearch Library. Yes, they don’t have everything. She now knows where to write for these records.

Ann spent time researching her German family in America. She found nothing in Baltimore during the 1850s and early 1860s and will now focus only on marriage records there. She did strike luck reviewing church records in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, during the late 1860s and the 1870s. She now has baptismal records for four daughters and a death record for a father-in-law. These documents establish birth dates for all five people. For one of the daughters, it is the only documented proof that she ever existed since she died before she was a year old. She had only been listed in family documents.

All of us found records in the FamilySearch Library, but none of the documents were indexed. The records were filmed but had to be combed the old-fashioned way – reading line by line. Good thing we had a week to concentrate on our research.

Great trip! Hard work! Plan to come along with us in 2024.

RVGS Salutes the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth on the Upcoming Coronation!

RVGS members, join us on Saturday, April 29 to start the celebration of Charles III's historic coronation. Watch our visual presentation that will inform and guide you through the fascinating steps of the actual coronation on May 6 and learn about the history of the British monarchy, the long tradition of the coronation, and expose yourself to our library's many resources for genealogy associated with Great Britain.



- Wear your fascinator or top hat (if you choose)!
- Listen to the type of music that will be heard at the Coronation Concert.
- View and learn about our British Empire and Commonwealth genealogy books, maps, and websites. (And we won't stop you from looking at our resources from other lands.)
- Mingle with other attendees and visit friends – or make new ones!

Attendees are automatically entered into our door prize drawing. Someone will win a Union Jack flag throw blanket. It could be you!

Our Coronation Celebration Open House will be Saturday, April 29, 2023, from 11:00 AM until 3:00 PM, at the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society Library, 3405 South Pacific Hwy, Medford. There is no charge for admission. If you have questions, call 541-512-2340.



BottleDrop Earth Day Give

BottleDrop Give is celebrating Earth Day and Earth Week by hosting their 3rd Earth Week Give campaign, a combination of

matching funds raised and a contest with prizes. Save up those cans and bottles then pick up your FREE Blue Bags at the RVGS library. Take those filled Blue Bags to a BottleDrop Redemption Center or drop them off at RVGS Library **between April 10 – 22 to earn a 20% match for RVGS**. Your family and friends might be happy to help with the donations during this week. Thank you for your generous support in making the previous matching BottleDrop campaign a success. Let's see if we can make this one even better.



Become an RVGS Volunteer in 2023!

RVGS is 100% volunteer run. 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. RVGS is looking for volunteers for the following positions:

- *Rogue Digger* Editor
- Technology Coordinator
- Public Relations Coordinator
- Building Maintenance Coordinator
- Education Committee
- Quilt Committee
- Scholarship Committee
- Zoom Hosts

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

LIBRARY NEWS



A Library Hero

Library Heroes occasionally find treasures while traveling or shopping at garage sales. In this case, Barbara Northrop found a run of the *Oregon Blue Book*, from

its earliest issue, 1911, into the 1940s, in a thrift shop near Eugene. She looked up our holdings on her phone, pulled out the dates missing in our collection, and brought eleven volumes to RVGS. The Blue Book is an invaluable reference for Oregon research. Of particular interest to Barbara is the regularly updated synopsis of US immigration law as it changed in the 20th century, answering that question, "What was the law when Grandma arrived?" Keep your eyes open for things we might need and become a Library Hero like Barbara. Thanks, Barbara!



Association of Professional Genealogists - APG

Do you have a research problem that requires a particular skill to solve? Perhaps your needed evidence is located in a distant repository? If so, consider hiring a professional genealogist. The Association of Professional Genealogists (APG) members offer a broad range of specialties and are located around the globe. Locating a genealogist with the required skills is as easy as 1-2-3 when you use their searchable directory. Check out what APG offers by visiting their website here: <https://www.apgen.org>.

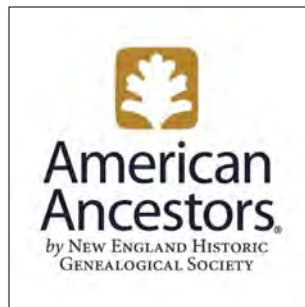
New Records Added to Our Subscription Websites (partial list)

AmericanAncestors.org

- Massachusetts: Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston Records, 1789-1920, 16 new parishes,

including Georgetown, Kingston, Lawrence, Lowell, Maynard, Plymouth, Revere, Salem, and South Boston

- *The Genealogist* - 9 new volumes (1980-1989) of the biannual publication of the American Society of Genealogists



Ancestry.com

- United Kingdom, British Air Force Lists, 1919-1922 and 1938-1945
- United States, New Jersey, Birth, Marriage, and Death Records, 1711-1878



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

- Austria, Vienna, Jewish Registers of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, 1784-1911
- United States, Alaska, Village Census Rolls, 1919-1972
- United States, Alaska, Vital Records, 1816-2005
- United States, Connecticut, Coroner's Records, 1883-1934
- United States, Massachusetts, Boston Tax Records, 1822-1918
- United States, Michigan, Eastern District, Naturalization Index, 1907-1995
- Various Latin American countries, Civil Registration records, various dates, including: Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Uruguay



MyHeritage.com

- Connecticut, Birth Records index, 1897-1917
- Maryland, Washington County obituary index, 1790 onwards



- Massachusetts, Boston newspaper obituaries index, 1790 onwards
- Index of records of voter registrations from Idaho, Missouri, Ohio, Oklahoma, and Utah
- New England, an index of records of passenger and crew lists, who arrived via ships at various ports in New England, 1829-1957 with images
- North Carolina, Wilmington and Morehead City, an index of passenger and crew lists of ships arriving, 1908-1958 with images
- Utah, Utah County marriages, 1938 onwards

35 Books Added to the RVGS Library

Seven books about Arkansas (976.7) and four each about North Carolina (975.6) and Oregon (979.5) are only a few of the books newly added to the RVGS Library. Two of the Oregon books contain maps (979.5 M177), one of Oregon cities and the other of Oregon counties, but many other states and topics are also represented. [Click here for the complete list](#). Come to the RVGS Library to see them on the New Books shelf.

New Periodicals on the Shelf

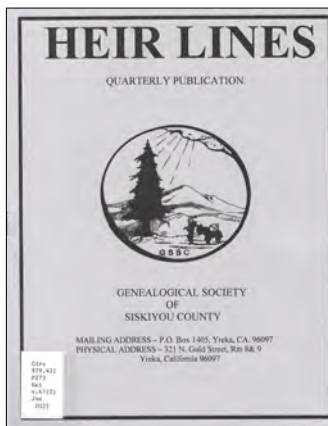


American Spirit, Daughters of the American Revolution
 Circ 929.05 AmS
 March/April 2023
 John Trumbull, Revolutionary War artist; History of the Statue of Liberty; and Travel to Massachusetts and Glacier National Park.



Internet Genealogy
 Circ 929.1 Int Feb/March 2023
 (and on-line on our website.)
 Exploring local histories online; Researching modern ancestors; Searching on-line newspapers; Colonial American genealogy sources; Book review – Guide to Norwegian genealogy,

emigration, and transmigration; Gibraltar’s census records; Trusting family stories; How to research your home; Interesting job titles and what they mean; Military reenactments; Cemetery records; and News of websites.



Heir Lines, Genealogical Society of Siskiyou County
 Circ 979.421 P273 Hei
 Jan 2023
 Collections in the Society’s library (and what’s on their website); The Rosborough family of Siskiyou County, including transcribed letters; and notes on O A Bennett, F A Autenrieth, Thos. Greenwood, J H Rand and George Chase.



Bulletin, Genealogical Forum of Oregon
 Circ 979.543 P273 Bul
 March 2023
 Paul Frederick Grafe (1890-1978); William Russell (1771-?); Polish ancestors and research tips; Margaret Craig (Stevens)

Williams (1880-1965) of Medford; Mariruth Helen (Olsen) Hanna (1935-2021) of Sherwood and her Norwegian/German collection housed at GFO; and Transcription of records from the Bible of William C Humphrey and Mercy Cheney.



**Rogue Valley
Genealogical Society
Board of Directors**

President: Katie Hauge
Vice President: Chris Mason
Secretary: Cathy Ullrich
Treasurer: Kim Thurman
Trustee: Chris Galligan
Past President: Anne Billeter
Library Director: Anne Billeter
Membership Director:
Margaret Clark-Mayfield
Education Co-Directors:
Barbara Halvorsen, Pat Jenkins
Volunteer Director:
Lynne Hunter
**Technology and Data
Management Director:**
Rich Miles
Finance Director: Jim
Seagraves

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 a 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 and strategies, and to 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

Led by Jeanne Hoadley, it meets 2:00 - 3:30 PM on the second Monday of every month to discuss genealogy research in the original 13 colonies.

Family Tree Maker User Group

Led by Barbara MacMillen, it meets from 1:30 - 3:00 PM on the second Tuesday of every month to discuss the Family Tree Maker software program.

Genealogy Newbies Interest Group

Led by Barbara Northrop, it meets from 6:00—7:30 PM on the second Thursday of every month. This group is for new genealogists who want a small group setting to ask questions.

Genetic Genealogy Interest Group

Led by Barbara Halvorsen, it meets on the second Wednesday of the month from 10:30 AM - Noon. This group is for everyone interested in genetic genealogy.

German Interest Group (GIG)

This group meets the second Tuesday of the month from 11:00 AM - Noon. The group focuses on German history and research.

Great Lakes Interest Group—Joint RVGS & GFO Group

Led by Kim Thurman, it meets from 1:30 - 3:00 PM **every even numbered month** on the second Wednesday. The group meets to share, discuss, and learn about the Great Lakes states.

Irish Interest Group

Led by Barbara Halvorsen, it meets on the second Friday of the month from 1:30 - 3:00 PM. The group focuses on Irish history, culture and researching Irish ancestors.

Genealogical Forum of Oregon (GFO) Special Interest Groups

Are we missing a Special Interest Group that you'd love to join? You may wish to [check the available FREE offerings from GFO here](#), or contact the group facilitator by clicking on the group name below.

- African American Group
- British Group
- DNA-Advanced
- DNA Q&A—The Basics
- Family Tree Maker
- French Canada Group
- Genealogy Problem Solvers
- German Group
- Irish Group
- Italian Group
- Learn & Chat
- The Q Review
- RootsMagic
- Virginia Group
- The Writers' Room

