



Volume 8 | Issue 7 | July 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

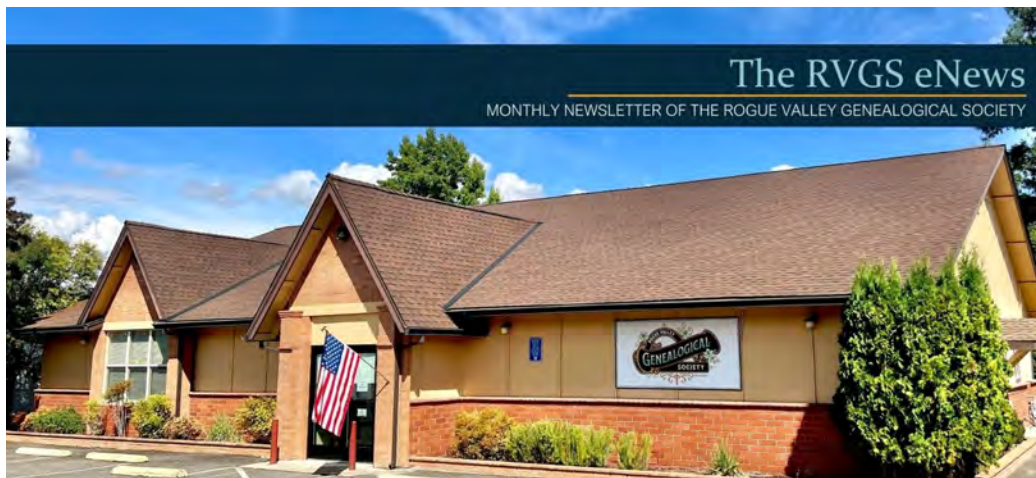
Rogue Valley  
Genealogical Society

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



## CLASSES & EVENTS

The following RVGS classes and events are offered in a variety of ways. We are increasing the number of hybrid (in person AND via Zoom) events. Please note in the event description the ways you can attend.

- Unless noted otherwise, most classes and events require online advanced registration, see the **Programs & Classes** menu on our **website**. **Registration closes at noon 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 event details and updated information, **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!

**Friday, July 7, 10:30 AM – Noon, Class: Naturalization and Citizenship Records**



Naturalization is the process by which an alien becomes an American citizen. These records can provide a researcher with valuable information such as a person's birth date, birth location in the old country, occupation, and many other facts. Christine Cohen will teach how to access them.

Hybrid - Zoom AND in person at the library.  
Cost: Members \$10, Non-Members \$20

**Saturday, July 8, 10:30 AM – Noon, Brick Wall Roundtable**

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.  
Zoom only. Free to all

**Monday, July 10, 9:30 AM - Noon**  
**RVGS Board meeting**

All members are welcome. Come to the library side door and ring the doorbell.  
In person at the library. Cost: Free to all.

**Monday, July 10, 2:00 - 3:30 PM**  
**Colonial America Interest Group**

Jeanne Hoadley focuses 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.  
Hybrid - Zoom AND in person at the library.  
Cost: Free to all.

**Tuesday, July 11, 11:00 - Noon**  
**German Interest Group**

This interest group concentrates on German history and research. They meet on the Second Tuesday of the month.  
Hybrid - Zoom AND in person at the library.  
Cost: Free to all.

**Tuesday, July 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.  
Zoom only. Cost: Free to all.

**Wednesday, July 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.  
Zoom only. Cost: Free to all.

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

Barbara Northrop facilitates this group that meets the second Thursday of the month and 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 will be open for general questions.  
Zoom only. Cost: Free to all.

**Friday, July 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.  
Zoom only. Cost: Free to all.

**Wednesday, July 19, 1:30 - 3:00 PM, Class:**  
**Memento Mori: Records of the Dead and Dying**



By Jennifer Roodzant, a professional genealogist. The dead and dying create evidence from information

items within a source and correlate them to test the evidence and prove an ancestor's identity in the cemetery. Jennifer will demonstrate how to locate record sets and considerations such as evidence analysis and conflict resolution. Learn what records collections to search to answer your research question about the dead.

**Calendar Notes:**

- RVGS Library will be closed for July 4th.
- There will be no RVGS Program & Member Meeting in July or August.
- The Crater Lake Chapter of DAR does not meet in June, July, or August.

## Coming Soon!

- Thursday, August 10, 10:30 – Noon, Class: Telling Stories Through Digital Scrapbooking
- Wednesday, August 16, 1:30 – 3:00, Let's Talk Genealogy Roundtable

## LOCAL HAPPENINGS



### **Windows in Time: Memorable 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebrations in Jackson County**

Wednesday, July 5, 2023,  
Noon - 1:00 PM **Medford  
Library**, In-person and  
online.

[Click here to register](#)

Wednesday, July 12, noon - 1:00 PM **Ashland  
Library**, Gresham Room

July 4th has been an important community holiday in Jackson County since the late 1800s. Join Peter Finkle on a journey through time in the form of July 4th photos and stories. Learn what has stayed the same in our celebrations for more than 100 years — and what has changed.

Peter Finkle is the founder of [WalkAshland.com](http://WalkAshland.com), the premiere website about life in Ashland, Oregon. It is filled with photo essays about Ashland history, art, neighborhoods, gardens, holidays, Trees of the Year and more. Peter leads Ashland History and Art walking tours, as well as speaking to local community groups. He also writes for [Ashland.news](http://Ashland.news), *Ashland Living* magazine and other publications.

### **Windows in Time: Acorn Woman Mountain: New Names Honor Native American Culture**

Wednesday, August 2, Noon - 1:00 PM, **Medford  
Library**, in person and online. [Click here to register.](#)  
Wednesday, August 9, Noon - 1:00 PM, **Ashland  
Library**, Gresham Room

Last year, the U.S. Department of the Interior announced name changes for more than a dozen geographic features in Jackson and Josephine counties that used the word “squaw,” a derogatory

slur applied to Native American women. Rogue Valley journalist Vickie Aldous will discuss these new names for lakes, rivers and mountains and their origins from Native American legends – like the tale of Acorn Woman, a powerful mythological figure for the Takelma people of the Rogue Valley.

Aldous has lived in the Rogue Valley since 1999. She was a reporter for the *Ashland Daily Tidings* and *Medford Mail Tribune*, and Vickie currently works for the *Grants Pass Daily Courier* — a newspaper founded in 1885 that continues to publish today.

## **Jacksonville History Comes to Life this Summer!**



Historic Jacksonville, Inc. is now offering four ways you can explore Historic Jacksonville in person this summer!

1. Take a morning stroll through Jacksonville history every Saturday while learning how a gold mining camp became the 19th Century hub of Southern Oregon.
2. Visit the oldest financial institution in the Pacific Northwest every weekend and hear about the \$40 million in gold that crossed its counters during Jacksonville's heyday in the late 1800s.
3. Tour the home of the town's wealthiest and most prominent pioneer family every Saturday and learn about local Victorian lifestyles.
4. Learn about the spirits that haunt Jacksonville's historic buildings on the 2nd Friday night of each month.

Complete information on these and all other options for exploring Jacksonville history are available at <https://www.historicjacksonville.org>. You can also contact <mailto:info@historicjacksonville.org> or 541-245-3650 for specific details.



## Special Interest Group News

### Colonial America Interest Group



The Colonial America Interest Group meets the second Monday of each month at 2:00 PM. The

group went hybrid in May but so far no one has taken the opportunity to join us in person at the library. We'll give it a couple more months before reverting to zoom only, so if you are interested in attending and live in the Medford area please come on down to the library. For our July 10 meeting we will take a look at everyday life in Colonial America. In August we will take a summer break so that leader Jeanne Hoadley can focus on teaching a class in digital scrapbooking (which you may want to sign up for). Since June's presentation on Pennsylvania did not go well due to technical difficulties we will have a do-over on Pennsylvania in September. Bring your questions and stories of your colonial ancestors.



### Genealogy Newbies Interest Group

July's meeting will begin to look at the nuts and bolts of land records including the necessary vocabulary to understand them. Come join us.

### Let's Talk Genealogy Roundtable



Greetings from the new host of the "Let's Talk Genealogy" Roundtable. I'm Rich Cunningham, currently living in Portland. I thought I'd tell you a little about myself. I recently retired from Providence Health & Services

after 28 years. I maintained and repaired diagnostic imaging systems across the entire Providence system (including Medford). I was born and raised in

Medford and Cave Junction prior to joining the Navy. My main interests are genealogy (I've been using Family Tree Maker for over 25 years, but only got serious about it last year), stamp collecting (dusting it off after being in the closet after 40 years), and my 3-year-old granddaughter. I'm also an ardent geocacher (meaning I use multi-million-dollar government satellites to find Tupperware containers in the woods), and did I mention my granddaughter, who is now 3?



I've been active at RVGS for a little over a year and have enjoyed the roundtables, seminars, and classes that I've participated in. So, I was honored when I was asked to take on the responsibility for this

group. It's always had a wide range of discussions on a variety of topics, and I'd like to continue that. My approach is that we're just a group of friends sitting around the kitchen table with a cup of coffee, chatting about what we're doing with our genealogy tasks and research. I will have a topic for general discussion for each meeting but I'm open to letting the discussion flow wherever it takes us. I'm open to any and all suggestions so please reach out to me at my email, [ivhs72@comcast.net](mailto:ivhs72@comcast.net) with ideas. I'm looking forward to our next Zoom meeting!

## SOCIETY NEWS



### Welcome New Members!

**Welcome** to the newest members of RVGS: Janis Payne, Diane Dekany, Rose & James Bunch, Matt Weismantel, Rosie Cole, and Hillary Wallace! Welcome back to Benjamin Bellinson, Mike

& Monica Neimoyer, and Marita Ulrich!



## A Special Thanks

Dear Rogue Valley Genealogical Society,

*I am very honored to have been a recipient of the Rogue Valley*

*Genealogical Society Scholarship this year. No words can express how grateful I feel to have had this opportunity and to meet such amazing people working to help young students like me. You have lightened my financial burden, which allows me to focus more on the most essential aspect of school: learning. Your generosity has inspired me to help others and give back to the community. One day I will be able to help students achieve their goals just as you have helped me.*

*After high school, I will attend the University of Oregon as a Human Physiology major. I chose this major because I have always been interested in learning about the human body and its fascinating processes, forming the foundation upon which we build our knowledge of "life." This major will surely help me build my knowledge and allow me to conduct all kinds of research, which I am very passionate about. In the future, I want to become a Physician Assistant, and the education I gain as a Human Physiology major is a fantastic opportunity to gain knowledge that will help me accomplish my career goals.*

*Lastly, I'd like to share something beyond my education. I am very adventurous. I hope to one day travel the world. I love to read, hike, and stay active. I am also a major basketball fan, having played it most of my life. Furthermore, towards the end of my senior year, I have also completed my C.N.A. certification, so I plan to start working in the hospital this summer and while I go to college. Helping and caring for others has always been a passion of mine, and your generosity and support have been inspirational. Thank you again for this scholarship; I promise to work very hard and eventually give back to others as a Physician Assistant and possibly give a scholarship to future students like myself.*

Sincerely,  
Diya Patel, University of Oregon

## Oregon BottleDrop Hidden Bottle Hunt

In 2021, Oregon BottleDrop celebrated the 50th Anniversary of Oregon's iconic Bottle Bill by hiding six commemorative bottles across the state, all in

the special places the Bottle Bill helps keep litter free. Thousands of Oregonians joined in the hunt, went outside, and followed the daily clues to search for the hidden bottles. The lucky "finders" got to keep the commemorative bottle (they're like a trophy!) and were also able to direct a donation to the BottleDrop Give nonprofit of their choice. Kim Thurman, the RVGS President at that time, FOUND the bottle in our area, and RVGS received a generous donation from Oregon BottleDrop!



The Bottle Hunt was so much fun, they decided to continue the Hidden Bottle Hunt to celebrate Oregon's Bottle Bill around its anniversary each year! This year's hidden bottles have a whole new look, celebrating the State of Oregon's iconic flag and official colors, and the lucky finders

will be able to direct a \$1,000 donation to the BottleDrop Give nonprofit of their choice for each bottle found.

Just like last year, each bottle will be hidden in a different geographic zone of Oregon (follow the link for the map), and they'll release separate clues for each bottle at 10:00 am, every day of the hunt. Sign up to receive the daily clues by [clicking here](#).

## Volunteer Star of the Month

By Leslie Compton



Many of you may already know Marijo Medcraft or M.J. as she likes to be called. If not, let me introduce you to this volunteer librarian.

After 42 years in various fields of nursing in community health, working at the VA, and being a visiting nurse, she wanted to fill her life with different enjoyments. Reading had always been a

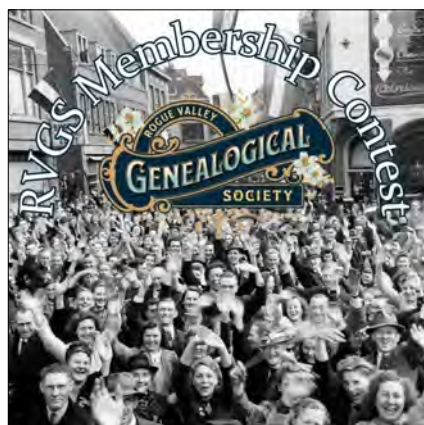
love of hers. So, her first thought was to be a volunteer in her library in Eagle Point where she continues to be part of the "Friends of the Library". She then joined the Women's Club in Eagle Point and became its treasurer. M.J. quickly filled up her days.

During this time, she decided to have her DNA analyzed to learn if a young man who had contacted her was really her nephew. She had buried her half-brother in 1985 never knowing he had born a son and, as she was to learn, a daughter as well. They both have become cherished family members. She also learned through her DNA that she had 15% Ashkenazi Jewish blood in her background. She became hooked on researching her genealogy.

M.J. signed up for a genealogy class in 2020 taught by Kim Thurman to help her begin her search. She learned the need for volunteers and answered the call. In 2022 when the library reopened its doors after COVID she was asked to be the treasurer.

Today you will find M.J. at the front desk of the library twice a month for a full day. I know you will recognize her; she is the one who is soft spoken, always willing to help, and greets you with a friendly smile.

## Boost Our Membership Contest



Who do you know who could benefit from membership at the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society? Help spread the word about our wonderful resources! On July 1, 2023, we are

launching our "Boost Our Membership" contest. Tell your friends!! Each month from July through November, 2023, our Membership Director, Margaret Clark-Mayfield, will track the number of

new members who joined because a current member referred them. The member who refers the most new members each month will receive a prize! Who do you know? Questions? Contact Margaret at 541-292-9053.



## Annual Fund Drive Launched

The Annual Fund Drive allows RVGS to continue the operation of the library while keeping our membership dues affordable.

Membership dues only cover about a third of our financial needs. Through other donations we have grown our library collection to over 26,000 items, offer access to eight genealogical websites at no cost to members, and provide educational classes and programs.

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 in the envelope provided.

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 South Pacific Hwy, Medford, during library open hours: Monday – Saturday, 10 AM – 4 PM.

All donations are tax deductible as RVGS is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, #93-0684590. If you take Required Minimum Distributions, you can donate all or any part of the distribution directly; send your request to the administrator of your fund. In addition, if you donate a matching amount to the Oregon Cultural Trust, you can receive a tax credit for the ENTIRE amount of your donation (maximum \$1,000 for couple; \$500 single). Just go to [www.culturaltrust.org/donate](http://www.culturaltrust.org/donate) for more details.



## Volunteer Luncheon Held



Prior to our June 20 Program & Member Meeting, RVGS held a luncheon to honor our volunteers. RVGS is an all-

volunteer non-profit. We would not exist without the many volunteers who serve as librarians, Board members, researchers, indexers, presenters, and much much more! A special thanks to Volunteer Director Lynne Hunter for organizing the luncheon funded by a grant from the Oregon Heritage Commission. If you would like to be a part of the cadre of RVGS volunteers, see the next article. RVGS needs you!

## Become an RVGS Volunteer!



We are planning lots of fun things at RVGS! As you know, we are 100% volunteer run. Without volunteers there would be no society or library. Do you enjoy planning events? Fixing little things around the house?

Know how computers and tech things work? Enjoy greeting people, learning about genealogy, teaching, or assisting others? Enjoy organizing things? RVGS would love your input and enthusiasm. Please consider volunteering! We need you! Some of our volunteers work independently and some work closely with others. Come meet new friends and join the fun. Please consider volunteering by completing a volunteer application on our website by [clicking here](#). Below are a few positions that need a few extra hands:

- Finance Director
- Classes and Programs Registration Coordinator
- Technology Coordinator
- Public Relations Coordinator
- Building Maintenance Coordinator
- Grounds Keeper

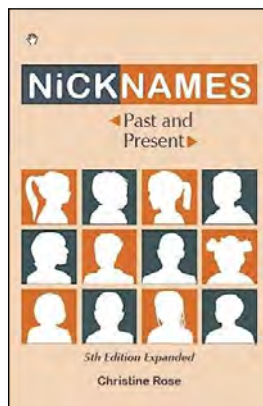
- Education Committee members
- Quilt Committee members
- Scholarship Committee members
- Zoom and Class Hosts

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

## LIBRARY NEWS

### Are You Stumped by a Nickname?

At the recent “Genealogy Cha Cha” class by Sara Cochran a discussion about nicknames arose. Did you know Polly was a common nickname for Mary? Other “Mary” nicknames were Mae, Mamie, Mitzi, and Molly? Nelly was a nickname for Cornelia, Prunella, and Eleanor? Fred, Freddie, and Freddy were nicknames for Alfred, Frederick, and names ending with fred, such as Wilfred?



RVGS has a slender but helpful book: *Nicknames, Past and Present* by Christine Rose (929.4 Ros) to find name variations that just might help you with a mysterious name (or nickname!)

### Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War's National Graves Registration Database

In 1996, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) began their National Graves Registration Database. The Database went online in 2005. Currently there are nearly 800,000 graves registered

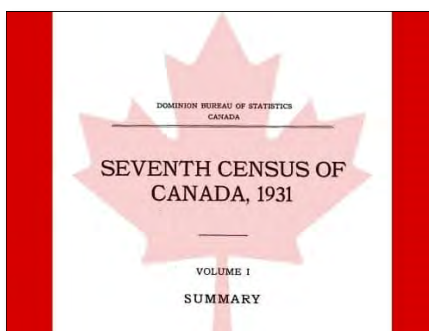
out of the estimated 2.2 million Union soldiers who served in the Civil War. Anyone may SEARCH the database. Anyone who wishes to add information to the database must register as a volunteer submitter. Submissions could include additional



information about an already registered soldier's grave, or it could be about a soldier's grave which is not yet in the database. Submissions are reviewed by administrators before being added. The website is: <http://www.suvcwdb.org>

Many thanks to presenter Randol Fletcher, who shared this during his informative program on the *Hidden History of Civil War Oregon*. RVGS is in the process of adding Randol's book of the same title to the RVGS Library. (Circ 979.5 H388 Fle)

## 1931 Census of Canada Released



On June 1, the digital images of the 1931 Census of Canada were released by the **Library and Archives of Canada** (LAC). Researchers can

browse the images by census district and sub-district. The indexed versions are available on Ancestry thanks to "proprietary handwriting recognition technology." RVGS members can search the 1931 Census of Canada at the RVGS Library using our Ancestry Library Edition. Ancestry World Explorer subscribers can search the indexes at home.

## Quilt in the Niche: Ginger Rogers Crazy Quilt



This quilt won Second Prize at the 4th Annual Quilt Show of the Newhall Women's Club, Southern California, on November 20, 1935. It was a gift to Ginger Rogers when she was a starlet. Ginger and

her mother, Lela, donated the quilt to the Rogue Art Gallery to be an auction item. It was purchased by Robinson Collins, who subsequently donated it to the Jacksonville Museum Quilters. The quilt is embellished with many decorative elements related to horses and showcases a wide variety of embroidery stitches. The quilt is on display at RVGS in July.

## New Records Added to Our Subscription Websites (partial list)

### AmericanAncestors.org

- Canadian Headstones: Cemetery Heritage Records of Canada. (Currently 104 cemeteries)
- Early New England Families, 1641-1700: 1 new sketch: John Doane, Jr., who settled primarily in Plymouth and Eastham, Massachusetts



### Ancestry.com

- 1931 Census of Canada
- Florida, US, Early Auto Registrations, 1905-1917
- Wisconsin, US, Divorce Records, 1907-2015
- Northern Ireland, Valuation Revision Books, 1864-1933



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

- Virginia, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Birth Records, 1853-1896
- Ireland, Catholic Parish Records, 1740-1900
- Russia, Tver Confession Lists, 1728-1913 (for those living within an Orthodox congregation, their ages and whether or not they attended confession. Most records 1738-1900)





## MyHeritage

- Arizona, Biographical Database (records of individuals mentioned in books, newspapers, and other records at the Arizona State Archives, 1860-)
- Canada
  - British Columbia Births and Baptisms, 1773-
  - British Columbia Deaths, 1872-
  - Prince Edward Island Marriages, 1827-1920
- Ireland, 1766 Ireland Religious Census



questions; Military service records; [Historypin.com](https://www.historypin.com); Preserving shoes. Research guide: Montana and Vermont. Cheat Sheet: Polish Genealogy.



*Bulletin*, Genealogical Forum of Oregon (Portland)

Circ 979.549 P273 Bul v.72(4)  
June 2023

Mary Feldschau comes to America; Funeral book of John Henry Ostertag (Columbia, Lancaster county, PA); A family-

history travel saga by Laurie J Kilbourn; "Flirting by fruit box", an early 'dating' app; The 1938 scrapbook of Helen Radcliffe (Klamath Falls); Transcriptions from Bibles of Robert Little and James Fletcher, (Northumberland County, PA); Obituaries for Joan Doris (Wood) Witter, Joan Elizabeth Griffis, Judy (Kellar) Fox, and Roger Duane Wallingford.

## 52 Books Added to the RVGS Library

52 Books were added in June 2023, including seven family histories (929.2), eight about Pennsylvania (974.8), six about Missouri (977.8) and at least one book each about 15 other states! Scandinavia now has *Thus They Wrote: A Guide to the Gothic Script of Scandinavia: Denmark, Norway, Finland, Sweden*. (948 A101 Joh). If you have an early ancestor from Brunswick, Germany, take a look at *Brunswick Troops in North America, 1776-1783: Index of All Soldiers Who Remained in North America*. [Click here](#) for the complete 52 book list.

## New Periodicals on the Shelf



*American Spirit*, Daughters of the American Revolution  
Circ 929.05 AmS v.157(3)  
May/June 2023  
Marian Anderson (Historic homes); Yellowstone Park (Travel); My Patriot – Benjamin Franklin; Caroline Scott Harrison, first president general.

### *Family Tree Magazine*

Circ 929.1 FTM v.24(4) July/Aug 2023

101 best genealogy websites; FamilySearch's Family Tree as a place to start; Sorting-out same named people; Scanners and scanning apps; Apply the scientific method to your genetic genealogy

## Surplus Sale books

Price does not include shipping costs.

- *Handbook on Irish Genealogy: How to trace your ancestors and relatives in Ireland*, 1978. \$6.00
- *New Englanders in the 1600s: A Guide to Genealogical Research Published between 1980 and 2005* by Martin E. Hollick 2006. \$7.00
- *Irish Family History* by Marilyn Yurdan, 1990. \$6.00
- *The Chesapeake in the Seventeenth Century: Essays on Anglo-American Society*, 1979. \$12.00
- *Colonial Chesapeake Society*, 1988. \$19
- *Isanti County Minnesota: An Illustrated History* by Vernon E. Bergstrom and Marilyn McGriff, 1985. \$19.00
- *A History of Sweden* by Ingvar Andersson, 1956. \$18.00
- *The Swedes in Minnesota*, Edited by Byron Nordstrom, 1976. \$13.00
- *The Progressive Era in Minnesota 1899-1918* by Carl H. Chrislock, 1971. \$14.00
- *The Emigrant Novels* by Vilhem Moberg. All 4 for \$19.00
- *The Emigrants*, 1951. *Unto a Good Land*, 1954. *The Settlers*, orig. 1956. repr. 1995.
- *The Last Letter Home*, orig. 1959. repr. 1995.

**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 Director:**  
Pat Jenkins  
**Volunteer Director:**  
Lynne Hunter  
**Technology and Data  
Management Director:**  
Rich Miles  
**Finance Director:**  
Vacant

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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](http://rvgslibrary.org) to join today.

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**The RVGS eNews**

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

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**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 and hybrid 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

