

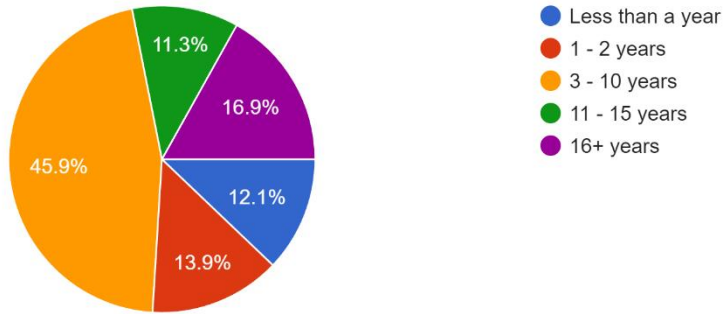
2024 Members Survey Results

Be sure to note the number of responses to each question, not just the percentages on the chart. There were 234 total survey responses. We did not require respondents to answer any questions, so many were skipped.

MEMBERSHIP

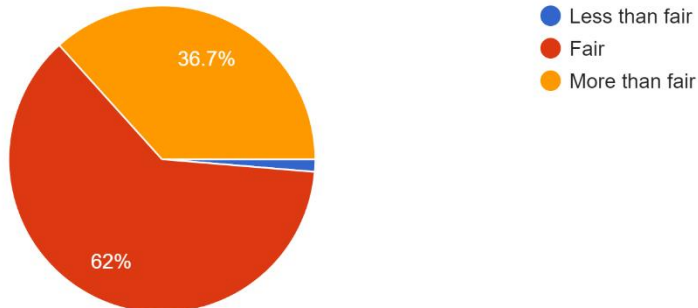
1. How long have you been a member?

231 responses



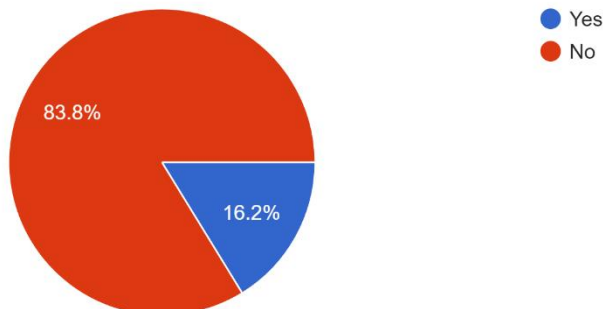
2. Do you feel your \$40 annual membership fee is:

229 responses



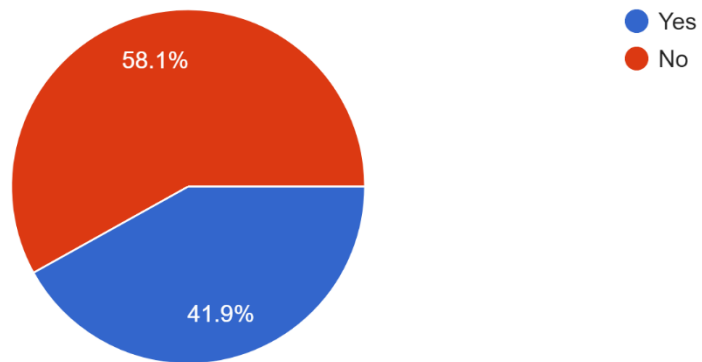
3. Did you donate items to the RVGS Library in the last year?

228 responses



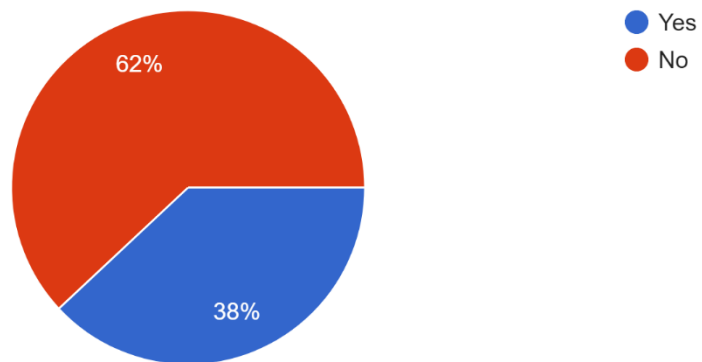
4. Did you donate money to RVGS in the last year?

229 responses



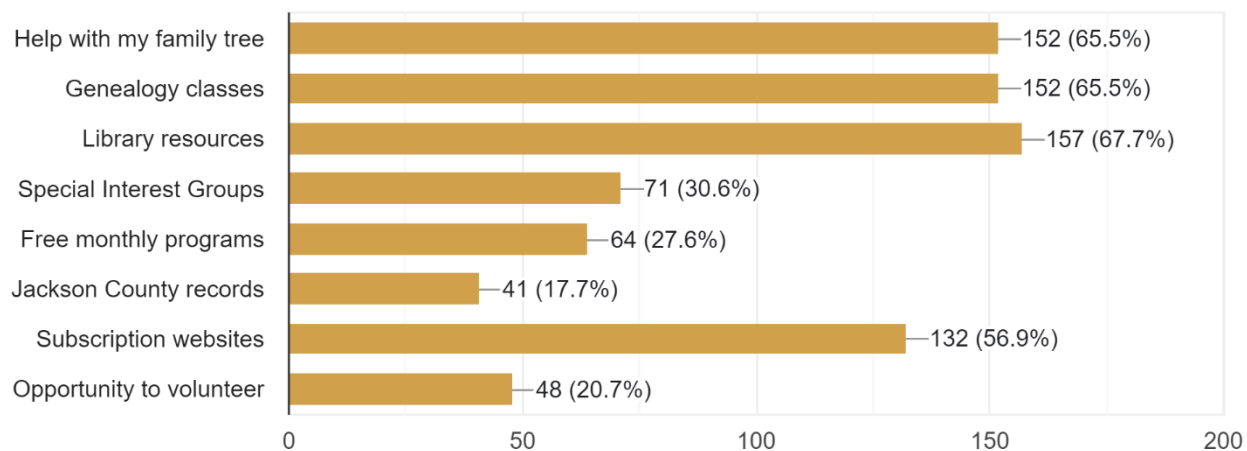
5. Have you ever volunteered with RVGS?

234 responses



6. Why did you join RVGS? Check all that apply.

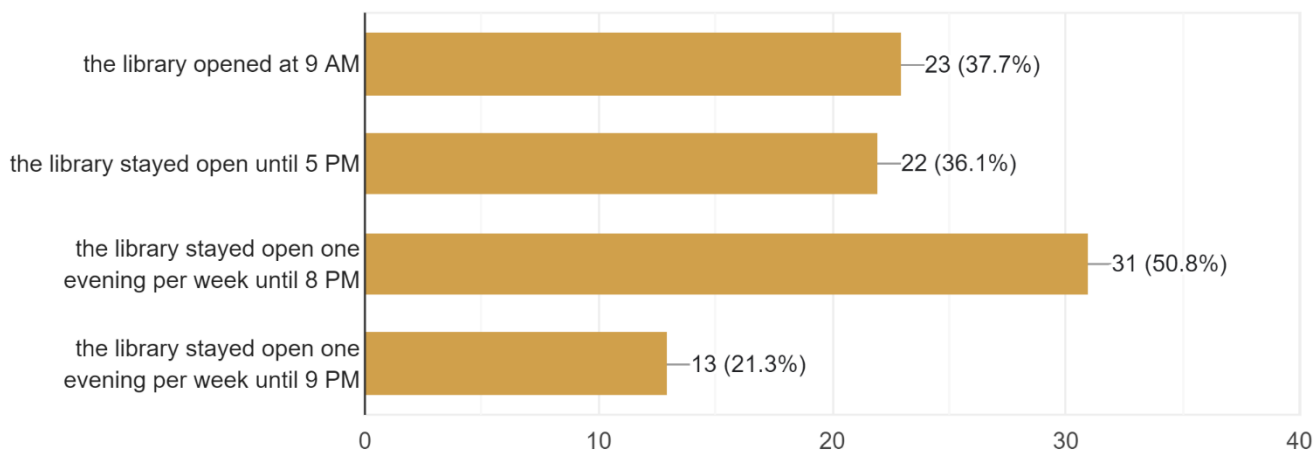
232 responses



RVGS Services

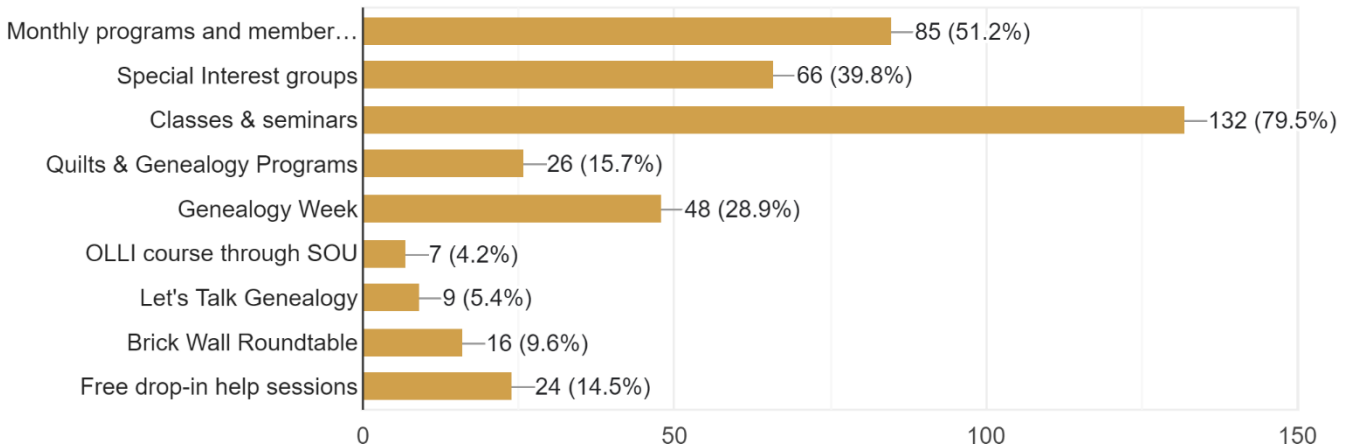
7. The RVGS Library is currently open 10 AM - 4 PM Monday through Saturday. Would you be more likely to use the library if... (Check all that apply, if any.)

61 responses



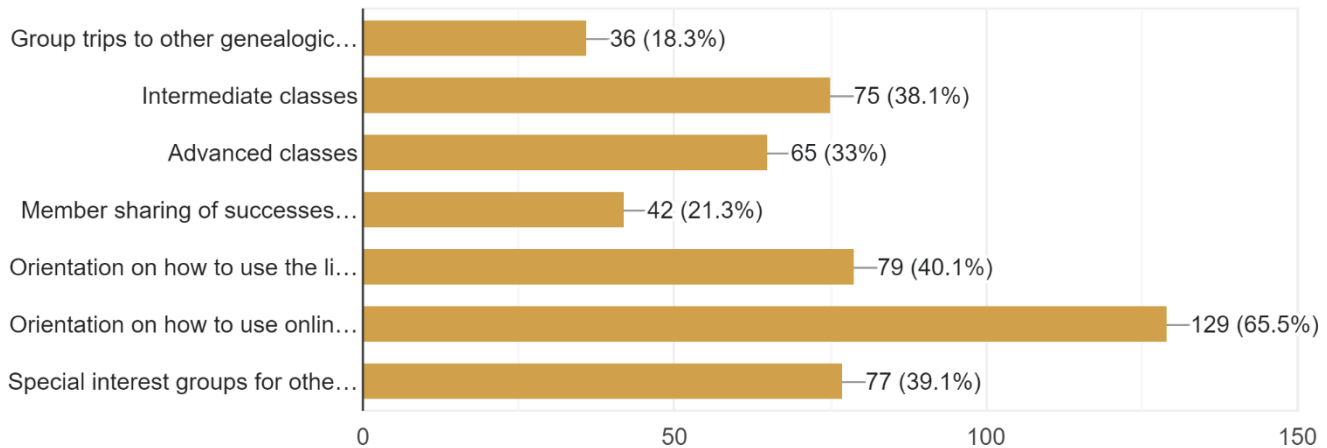
8. What events have you attended in the past year? Check all that apply.

166 responses



9. Which of these possible future activities would you participate in? Check all that apply.

197 responses



If you checked Special Interest Groups for other U.S. states and countries, which states and countries are you interested in?

- Kansas, Iowa, Virginia, Connecticut
- Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio
- Germany, Washington State, Ohio
- Illinois, Connecticut, Wales, Scotland (I have missed these if they were offered)
- France, Missouri, Virginia
- New Jersey, Illinois
- Poland, Belarus, Ukraine, Russia
- New York, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois
- New York State, New York City
- My genealogy interests are in the northeastern US and the British Isles.
- Kentucky
- "North Carolina
- New York
- Missouri, Ireland, Scotland
- Massachusetts
- Nova Scotia. Expand German interest group to cover Friesen Islands at least once or twice. Limited interest area but that's where my mother's family immigrated from, and

probably had earlier ancestors immigrating to those islands from Scandinavia?

- Ontario, Canada
- Italy
- Germany
- Virginia
- US States: Pennsylvania, Indiana, Kansas.
Country: Portugal & Azores
- Scandinavia and Slavic countries
- Iowa / California / Nevada
- MO TN MS
- Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina
- Germany, Ireland, Scotland, Russia
- North Carolina, Virginia, Kentucky
- Illinois, Wisconsin, Germany
- All
- British Isles, France, Virginia
- UK
- New York, Ontario Canada, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin (or Midwest), Germany (Rhineland-Pfalz)
- Kansas, Missouri, North Dakota
- New York, Virginia
- Pennsylvania New Jersey. South Dakota
Minnesota Canada
- Missouri. California. Scotland.
- Pennsylvania, Germany and England
- Quebec, Canada East
- Ohio, England, Ireland, Poland, Germany
- Scotland and Russia/Belarus
- any place that can assist in filling in my family history
- Italy
- MA, Lyons France, New York
- Idaho
- All U.S. states especially California and Hawaii;
Japan and Canada
- United Kingdom, Scandinavian countries
- IL, MO
- Denmark
- Maryland, Pennsylvania, Minnesota,
Wisconsin, Illinois, New York
- Ireland, Canada, England and Germany in Europe. In the US, Wisconsin, Iowa, New

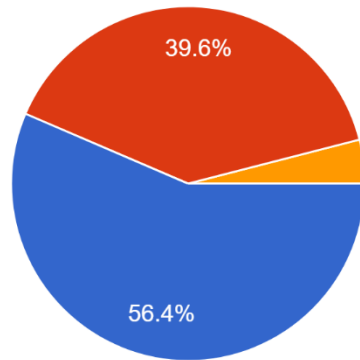
York, Massachusetts, Illinois and the Dakotas.

- Denmark, Missouri, Calif
- Scotland
- California Illinois Ireland England Germany
Canada
- Canada's
- Minnesota, Iowa, Washington
- Northeast
- Italian immigration and websites
- Canada, Ireland, military records
- Pale of Russia; Ukraine
- Norway
- Pennsylvania, USA and Portugal
- Maine/Massachusetts and NH in the US;
England and Scotland in Europe.
- Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas,
England, Ireland, Scotland
- Early French Canada,
- Norway
- Too many to list
- Missouri, Tennessee, Oregon
- WISCONSIN AND ILLINOIS
- Ohio & Nebraska
- Countries: England, Scotland; US States:
Virginia, Connecticut, Maryland
- Washington State and California
- Georgia and Alabama
- UK, Scotland, Missouri, Kentucky, Virginia
- Ireland, UK
- "Varies
- Scotland, England and Ireland
- Kansas, Italy
- Pennsylvania, Ireland, Germany, Basque
- Korea, Norway, Scotland, Ireland, Missouri,
Montana, Minnesota, Idaho, Washington,
Illinois, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Tennessee
and Texas
- Hungary
- Colorado, United States
- Scotland Ireland
- Germany
- Sweden

10. Which of the following member benefits have you used? Please respond to each item with one of the three choices: Have used, Have not used but I am aware of the service, Have not used and I was not aware of the service.

10a. Library books and other library materials (periodicals, maps, CD's, etc.)

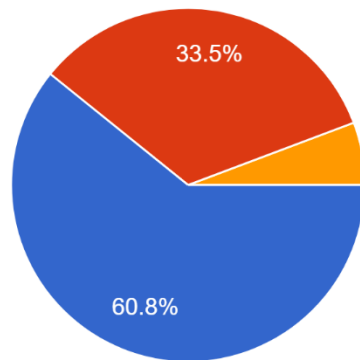
225 responses



- Have used
- Have not used, but I am aware of the service
- Have not used, and I was not aware of the service

10b. Subscription websites at the library

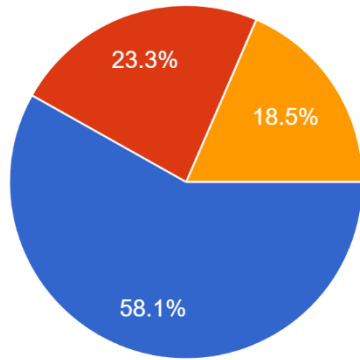
227 responses



- Have used
- Have not used, but I am aware of the service
- Have not used, and I was not aware of the service

10c. Remote access to subscription websites at home

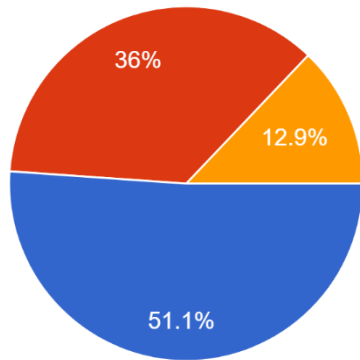
227 responses



- Have used
- Have not used, but I am aware of the service
- Have not used, and I was not aware of the service

10d. Wireless Internet access at the library

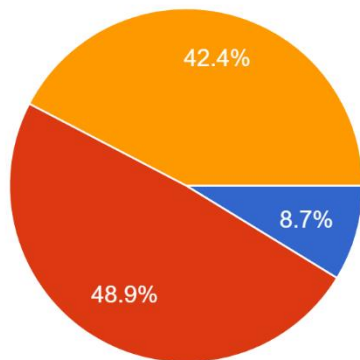
225 responses



- Have used
- Have not used, but I am aware of the service
- Have not used, and I was not aware of the service

10e. Three hours of free one-on-one mentoring

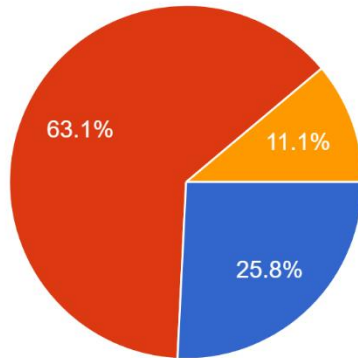
229 responses



- Have used
- Have not used, but I am aware of the service
- Have not used, and I was not aware of the service

10f. Library book checkout

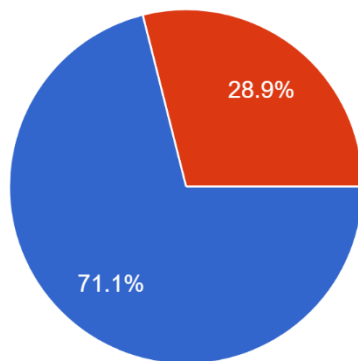
225 responses



- Have used
- Have not used, but I am aware of the service
- Have not used, and I was not aware of the service

10g. Classes

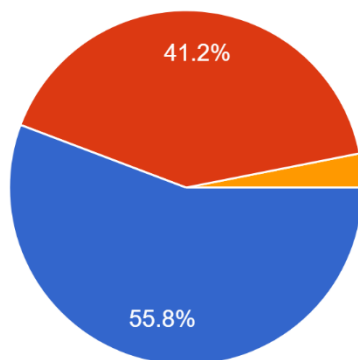
228 responses



- Have used
- Have not used, but I am aware of the service
- Have not used, and I was not aware of the service

10h. Seminars

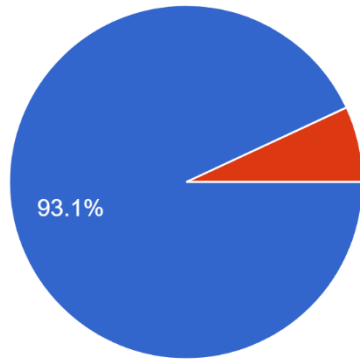
226 responses



- Have used
- Have not used, but I am aware of the service
- Have not used, and I was not aware of the service

10i. RVGS eNews (monthly electronic newsletter)

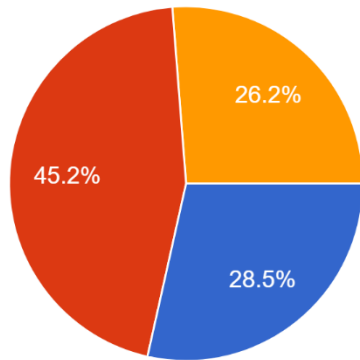
231 responses



- Have used
- Have not used, but I am aware of the service
- Have not used, and I was not aware of the service

10j. New Member Orientation

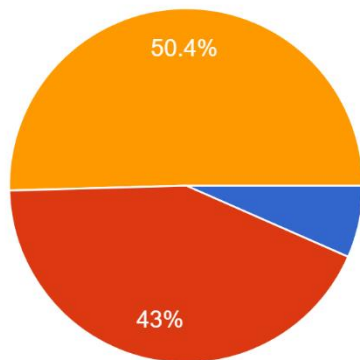
221 responses



- Have used
- Have not used, but I am aware of the service
- Have not used, and I was not aware of the service

10k. Photo restoration

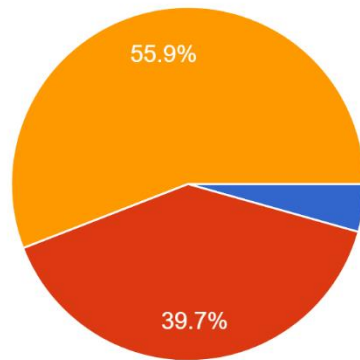
228 responses



- Have used
- Have not used, but I am aware of the service
- Have not used, and I was not aware of the service

10l. Photo scanning

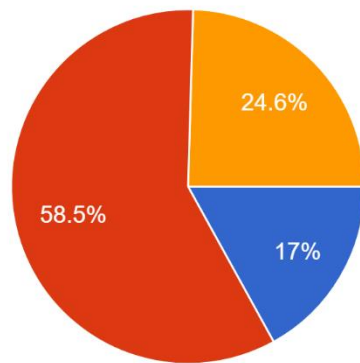
229 responses



- Have used
- Have not used, but I am aware of the service
- Have not used, and I was not aware of the service

10m. Free help sessions

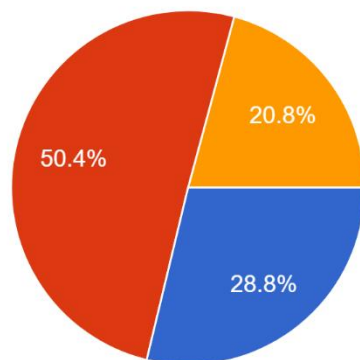
224 responses



- Have used
- Have not used, but I am aware of the service
- Have not used, and I was not aware of the service

10n. Videos of classes & seminars

226 responses

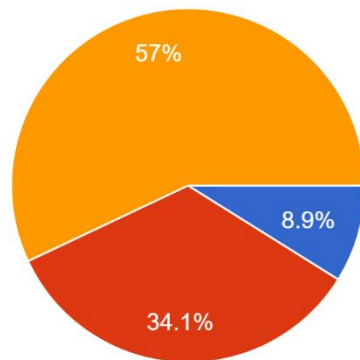


- Have used
- Have not used, but I am aware of the service
- Have not used, and I was not aware of the service

11. Which of the RVGS subscription websites do you use?

11a. American Ancestors

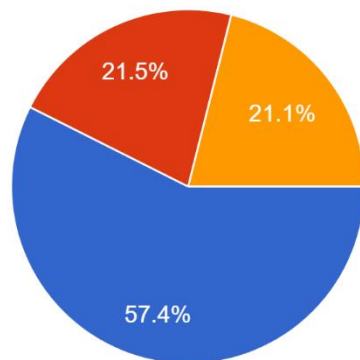
214 responses



● Frequently
● Seldom
● Never

11b. Ancestry

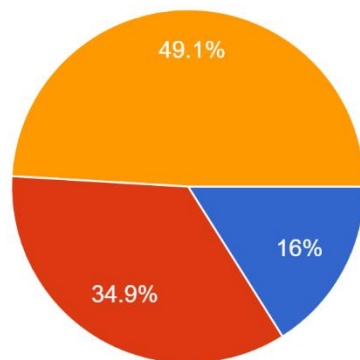
223 responses



● Frequently
● Seldom
● Never

11c. FindMyPast

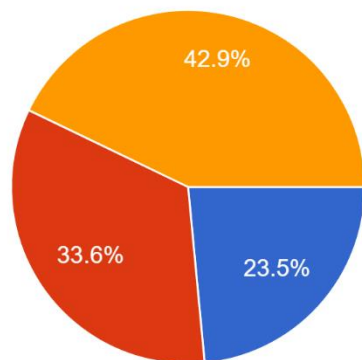
212 responses



● Frequently
● Seldom
● Never

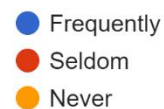
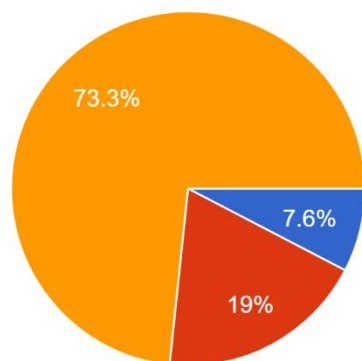
11d. Fold3

217 responses



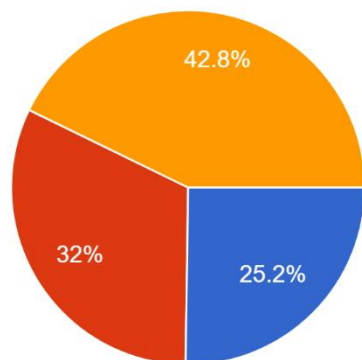
11e. HistoryGeo

210 responses



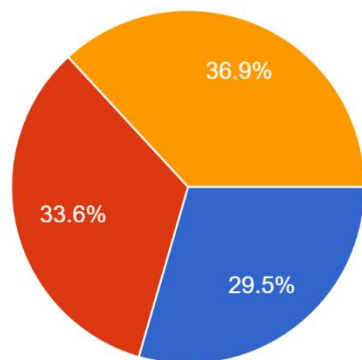
11f. MyHeritage

222 responses



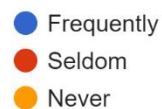
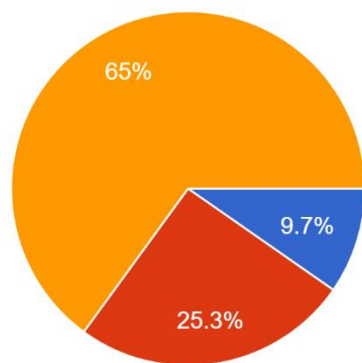
11g. NewspaperArchive

217 responses



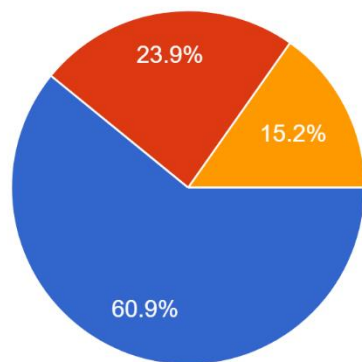
11h. Newspapers.com Oregon Collection

217 responses



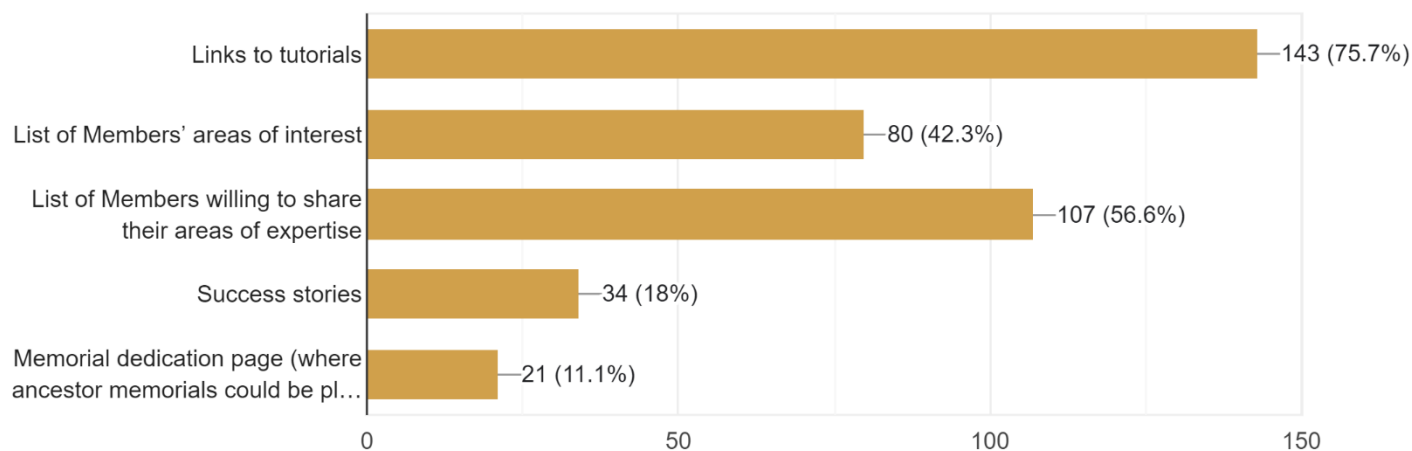
12. Do you use FamilySearch.org?

230 responses



13. Which of these benefits would you use if they became available on the members-only section of the website?

189 responses



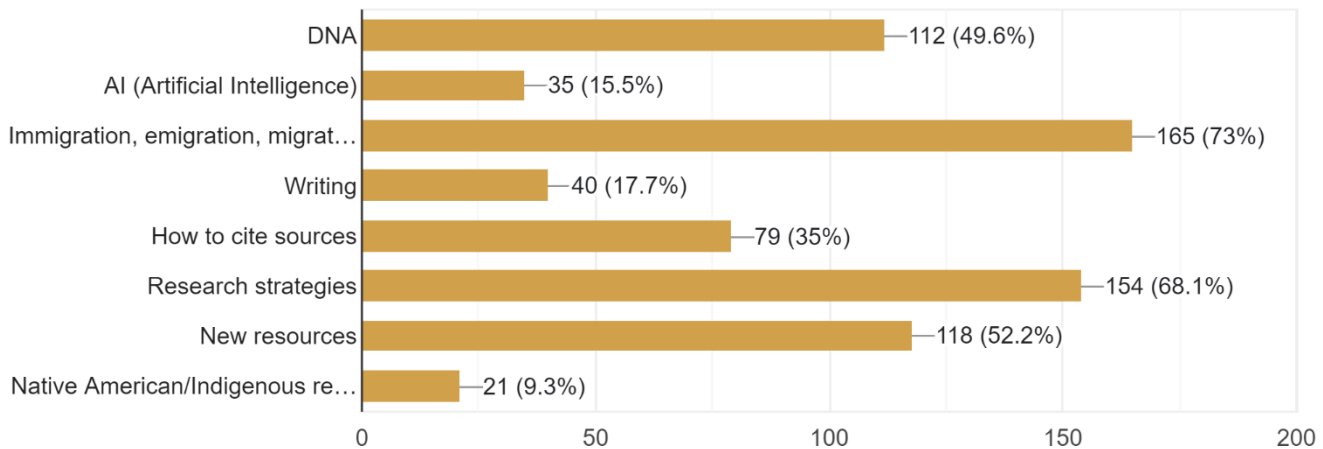
13a. Other member-only features you would like to see on our website?

- Pioneer family files
- I was disappointed in not having Newspapers.com and Fold 3 available. I hope you will consider renewing those subscriptions.
- Genealogical Source Index (PERSI) <https://www.genealogycenter.info/persi/> ; Also there should be a free site list for exploration - Internet Archive, US National Archives, Digital Public Library, Hathi Trust, Google Books, Google Scholar, DAR, David Rumsey Historical Maps, Steven Morse On-Step Site, Cyndi's List, FamilySearch, Atlas of Historical County Boundaries (Newberry Library), Old Fulton Postcards, Veterans Nationwide Gravesite Locator. This could perhaps provide great list for members and drive folks to the RVGS website. Any chance of a member access agreement with Lexis Nexis for their news archive? :-)
- No suggestions. I just need to get serious one day and start working in earnest to do some work on my family's history.
- Help with 1700's and before.
- Look-up books owned by members (Counties, States)
- Newspapers.com
- AI
- Access to foreign genealogy sites.
- Lookups in books at the Library for out of state visitors who cannot visit
- One on one help when I hit a brick wall and I'm just learning genealogy.
- Tutorials for maximizing use of sites
- I need to use this feature as I haven't in years he past
- A library archive for local classes that I missed the sign-up deadline. Maybe allow zoom attendees to signup the day of a class which generates a link to sign in. I missed the class on WWII and another recent class. Although I read the RVGS News, I miss deadlines to signup for the class. I am willing to pay a fee or subscribe to a video archive to view a a class in addition to my yearly fee. Work, travel, and family often interfere with my ability to attend classes.
- On-demand vidoes of workshops and tutorials.
- Honestly so busy with 2-year-old that I don't get much genealogy done or watched.
- One on one brickwall help
- Web links for areas of interest, like German resources page

- Technology related tools such as Family Tree Maker, Family Book Creator, Google Maps, AirTable, GEDMatch, DNA Painter, Ancestry’s new tools, MyHeritage tools, etc.
- Help with fixing family trees
- Unsure
- You are doing a great job! We are so lucky to have this important resource.
- Newspapers.com All Access
- A note on the subscription sites in question 11 is that I intend to use more of them and more often.
- IN MY RENEWAL LETTER, I WAS MADE OF MANY MORE (LIKE ONLINE PASSTHRU) AS A PART OF MY MEMBERSHIP. I RESIDE IN ALASKA AND AM DELIGHTED THAT I FOUND YOU DURING THE COVIDIAN ERA. I AM DISAPPOINTED WHEN CLASSES ARE NOT ZOOM, TOO!
- It's awesome, sadly I don't utilize all the benefits.
- n/a
- Don't know
- I don't use this often enough to always remember how to use the site.
- A list of “HOW TO” access EACH of the RVGS subscription websites without stopping someone else to help me. I feel guilty taking someone else’s time away. RVGS has many excellent services that I would love to use. With the limited hours I have to go the library - most of my research time is wasted asking “how-to-get-back-on” questions.
- Ancestry via home computer. All your subscriptions website via home computer. You are to far away to quickly access.
- Unknown
- Not sure
- I would like to view other members binders and notebooks. I would like to see presentations of bound materials.

14. What genealogy-related topics are of most interest to you? Check all that apply.

226 responses



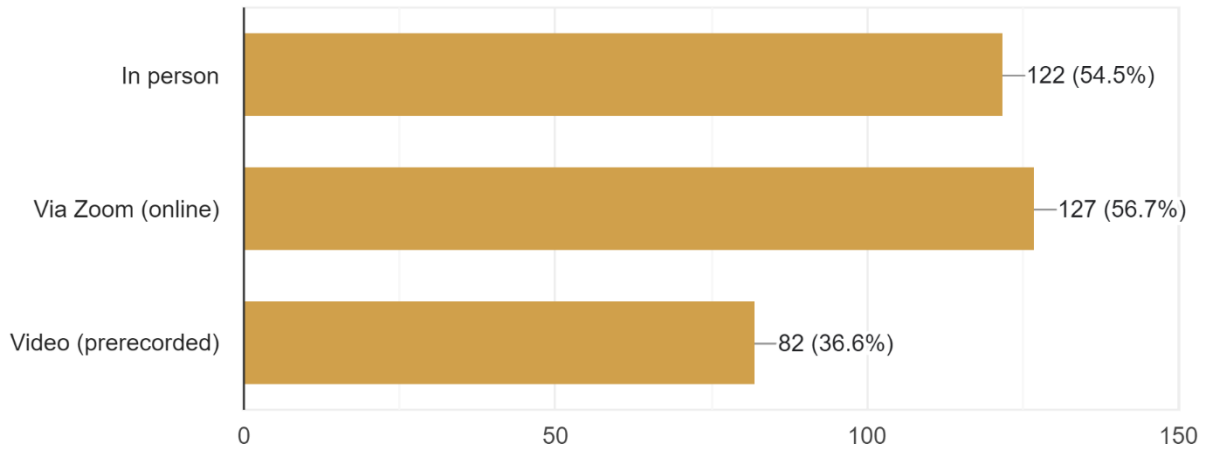
14a. Other genealogy-related topics you are interested in?

- use of offline software like Family Tree Maker, Roots Magic, etc.
- Class on Google maps
- land platting
- Italian immigration
- Small tribes on east coast-Nansemond tribe
- How to use Ancestry more efficiently. More classes on how to use the other web sites listed above.
- How about a free day for people of African descent? Like MLK day? Advertised. with extra helpers.

- Newspapers
- How to search for ancestor info in China
- Organization of non-internet information (paper) vs Internet information
- Little known resources - public and private collections in archives & specialty libraries
- How to use Ancestry.com and list facts that you find on your own.
- Genealogy software.
- Organizing data and multiple trees
- General genealogy
- Geography/maps across the centuries
- Seminars available (in-person or zoom) within Oregon presented by well-known genealogy educators.
- Italian migration
- Contact information of European researchers for hire
- WWII Japanese ancestry internment
- pre 1800's including UK area
- Japanese ancestry
- Researching Irish records
- Preserving and storing physical artifacts
- I love doing research, but, I'm at a point where I need to reduce the amount of paper in my house and become more efficient in using technology to "modernize" my work.
- Features on ancestry
- Correcting family trees on websites
- How to organize, "summarize" and choose a way to save and/or publish your research for future family viewing. What "templates" are available online, cost and ease of use.
- interaction with Family Search...how to, protocols etc
- KEEPING UP WITH TECHNOLOGY AND USING SOCIAL MEDIA/INTERNET TO BRING "LIVING FAMILIES" TOGETHER. GONE ARE THE DAYS OF WAUSHARA COUNTRY, IN THE DEERFIELD AREA, CONTAINING MANY OF MY RELATIVES!
- Using DNA information
- Always interested in Oregon history, the Oregon Trail, westward movement, etc.
- Don't know
- Access to more records in VA
- Jackson Co. post offices
- Quilts and the story they tell
- Ship logs, cemetery info, how to access local histories of cities/counties across America, DAR
- Unknown

15. What are your preferred ways to view classes and seminars?

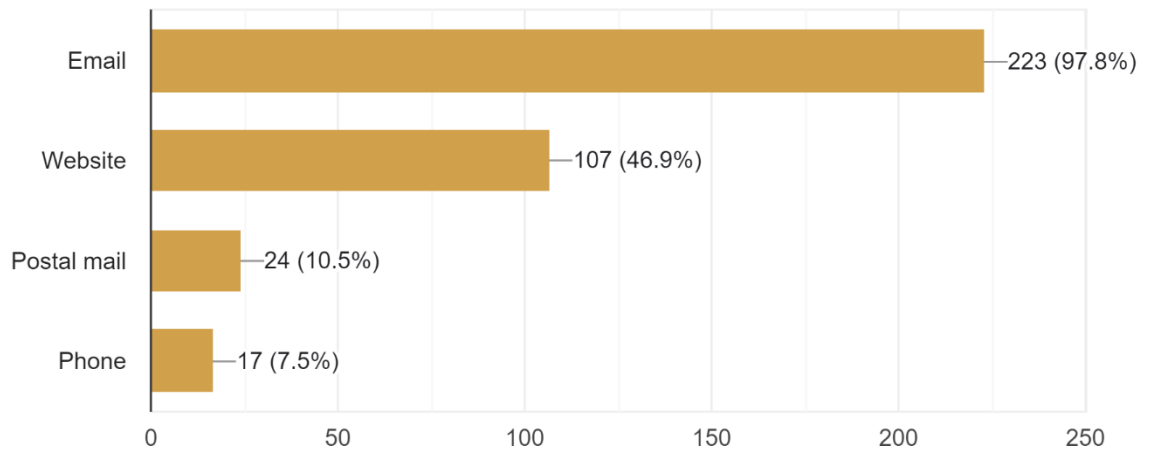
224 responses



Communication

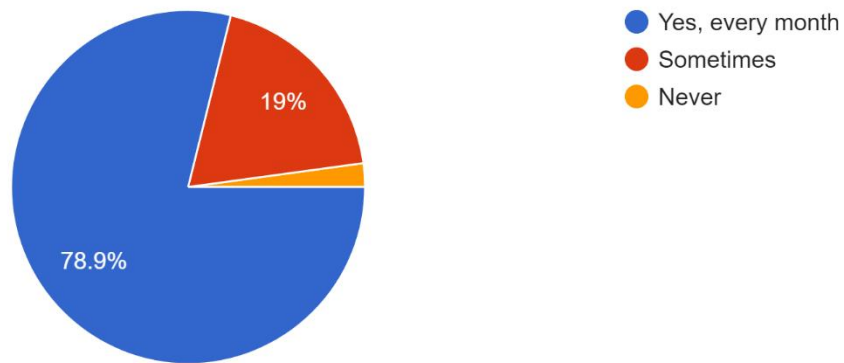
16. How do you prefer to hear from RVGS? Check all that apply.

228 responses



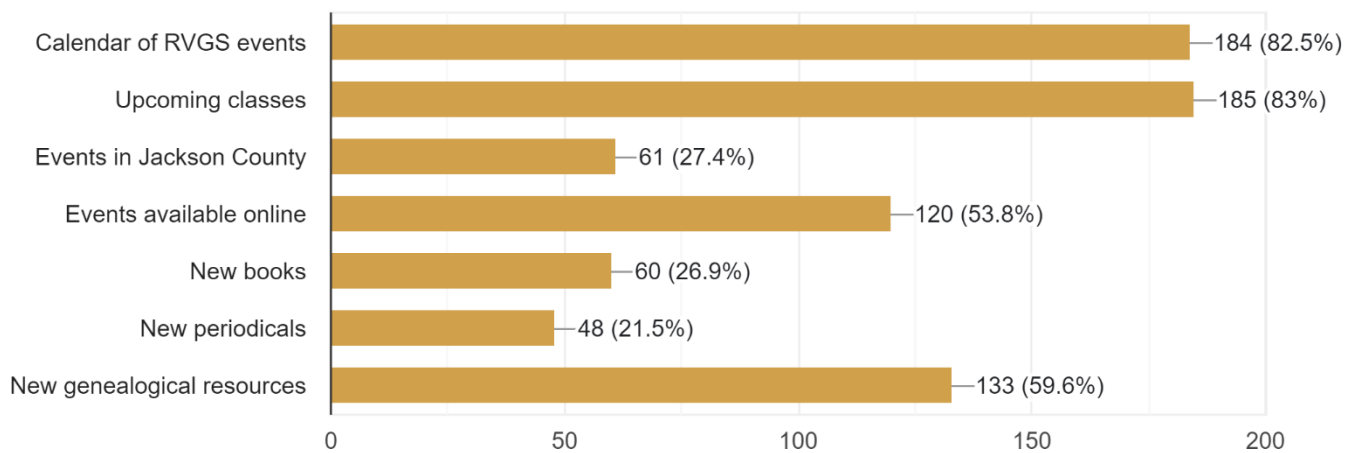
17. Do you read the RVGS eNews?

232 responses



18. What is the most important content in the RVGS eNews? (Check all that apply.)

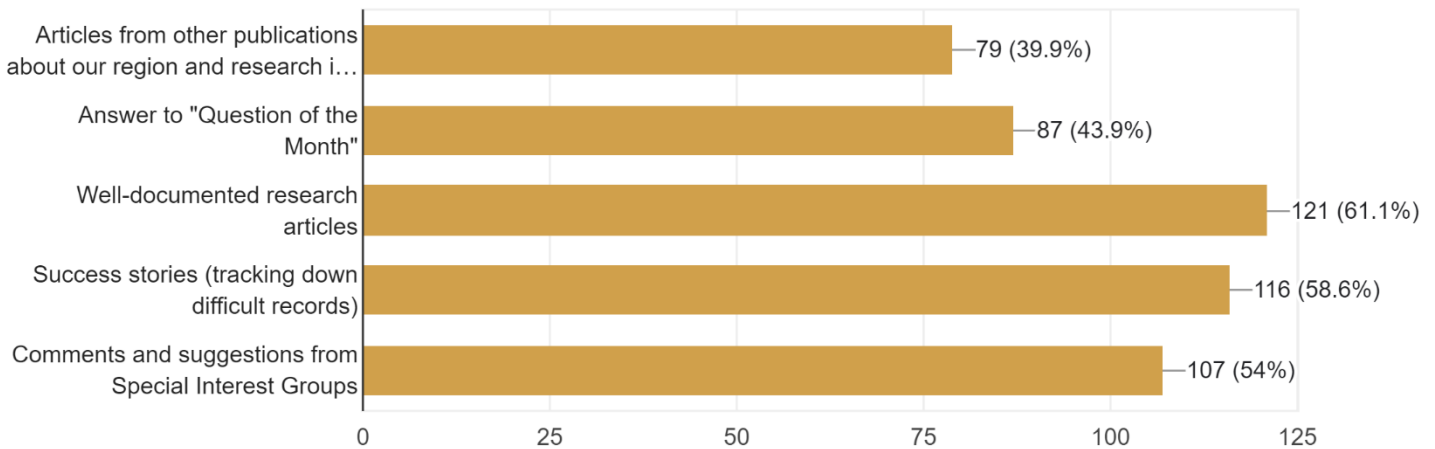
223 responses



19. What type of content would you like to see published in the RVGS eNews or Rogue Digger?

Check all that apply.

198 responses



19a. What specific topics and/or research tools would you like more information on?

- A good proven method for organizing all this info!! It's a bear!
- "Thank you for all you do. I really appreciate that I can attend zoom classes that have been recorded. Your classes conflict with my work schedule.
- I am having difficulty in researching my French family since all the records seem to be scattered in different departements. Is there a good primer available?
- Again, thanks for being there! "
- how to locate burial location of ancestors on line
- Google maps
- My present age is almost 95, and I am no longer driving. I have researched my family since 1990. Before my move to Oregon 11 years ago, I researched on line, at the San Luis Obispo LDS library and on three trips to Salt Lake City. I have a rather large substantiated family tree with one brick wall. I live at Mountain Meadows and would like to connect with an active member who attends events at the library so I might find transportation.
- Mostly, just what is new in the world of genealogy. Keeping up to date with the times.
- This survey has such thoughtful and informative questions! Since I am still a beginner, my current task is to learn how to document the sources that I found for each relative on ancestry.com. I also need to organize the information that has been given to me and to identify those relatives that I have information about. These topics were covered in the classes I took during 2023 Genealogy week, but I was such a beginner a lot of that information was beyond my grasp. I need to review those notes to see what I can understand now.
- I live out of state but I am a Daughter of an Oregon Pioneer and below to that organization. I have visited your library and several times and always had wonderful help. I participate in Zoom sessions of interest as often as I can. Please keep up the good work!
- land platting
- Life member living out of state - no access to the library for about 20 years.
- How to use RVGS subscription websites
- I'll use this section to explain my non-use of your subscription websites. One reason I haven't used them is that I was unaware that you had some of these subscriptions, which may have been from my lack of exploration when I signed up as a member, or because I already am a subscriber which means I don't need free access to them/or use only the free aspects of them (e.g. American Ancestors). However, it is good to

know for in the future when I either can't afford access or don't need to afford access since you have access through your membership. Thank you for highlighting the fact that you have these subscription websites. I am bad about using my memberships well at the societies that I belong to.

- How to find someone immigrating with a very common name.
- Researching in New York State
- I will be moving to Arizona in the next couple of months. I have no ancestors in this area.
- Early America- research in UK back to 1066
- I was so disappointed in my few visits that I just stopped coming. I started with Ancestry and I have visited Family Search in Salt Lake City twice and they were incredibly helpful. I may try again.
- DNA / Research in Europe
- I have no Oregon connections except that I live here so I am interested in research in other states.
- Fact Finders: genie folk that will go to ground and dig up docs in various locations (courthouse, public archives, libraries) free or for costs.
- ?
- Organizing research
- more energy on my part, don't think you can do anything about that :)
- I am not in the area, so online sources. But my roots are in southern Oregon
- "I haven't been able to take advantage of RVGS services but hope to in the near future.
- I'd like to learn how to research family records that are in another language."
- newspaper search on family and people that lived around the world.
- Immigration from Italy
- DNA
- ?
- Surname spelling changes when country of residence changes (W European to E European)
- Navigating online National Archives and Records Admin for specific collections or record series accessible online.
- My problem is getting to the library. Hopefully, my schedule will change in the next year or two.
- Civil War, Coal Miners
- None
- Japanese ancestry, embarcations, other documents.
- Better researching
- Anything related to the technology dependent resources and tools.
- Using Google Earth to show immigration route, overlay maps etc
- "Have not used you folks for 2 years now. Please remove me from your e-mail notification.
- Thank you.
- Carole J. Karvis"
- How to use google search for Geneology
- Using RVGS online subscription services at home.
- I live out of state but like to keep in touch. Zoom sessions are great for me as well as articles in the newsletter.
- Building and correcting an online family tree
- I'm happy and feel very blessed to have a whole library devoted to learning about our heritage. I just need to schedule more time for my own research.
- I can see from the questions that I am not well-informed about what I could be using. As a new member, I need to explore a lot more!
- Using the Leaving a Legacy Book to create a publishable summary of FTM data for my family.
- Self-publication of family histories. I think the drop-in workshops are important.
- interaction with Family Search if I have new info
- "I AM A MACINTOSH USER AND WHILE MUCH WORK (WORD/SCANNING/PHOTOS ARE NON-DENOMINATIONAL), PERHAPS REVIEWING AND LIVE USE OF THE MAC GENEALOGICAL PROGRAMS? YA'LL DO A GREAT JOB AND I APPRECIATE YOUR EFFORTS TO NOT ONLY ""DIG THE BONES,"" YET ""DIG

FOR BEST PRACTICES AND NEW TECHNOLOGIES"! NOW, MY REQUEST -- TOPICS ON ""HOW TO FIND TIME TO DIVE IN AND ESCAPE LIFE"" SO I CAN WORK ON MY FAMILY TREES! LOL I HAVE STARTED BOOKING OUT ""TIME,"" IT SEEMS ""SILLY"" YET...A GAL HAS TO DO WHAT A GAL HAS TO DO. NAY?

- AND TO THE RVGS BOARD -- THANK YOU FOR ASKING! I WAS NOT AWARE OF ALL THE RESOURCES, PERHAPS A ""SECTION OF RESOURCES"" REVIEWED/PROMOTED EACH MONTH? BE WELL. CHERYL LYNN"
- DNA, researching immigration records
- Get a birth certificate from a foreign country.
- Would like more information of early pioneers who traveled the Oregon Trail
- Civil war soldiers
- Finding death certificates, mostly for “ cause of death” .
- Finding proof for early Oregon settlers and those who arrived between 1600 & 1700
- Inactive due to moderately severe health issues
- Jackson Co. Postoffices/ Michigan immigrants
- I need to come in and have a new member tutorial or some thing. Even though I've been a member for years.
- Finding lost relations.
- Nothing specific to recommend presently. I should use the RVGS more and more often.
- cemeteries
- RootsMagic
- Unknown
- Do you ever quit feeling like a beginner? I've been doing this more years than I care to say and still feel like a beginner. by the way I don't drive. still learning at plus 90, genealogy, computers, any thing else that catches my attention. Thanks for letting GPGS transfer to your group.
- FYI: I am new to RVGS and have not yet started to fully use their resources, but I will be active very soon and have great interest in what RVGS has to offer