A Message from our President

Welcome to a NEW look for the RVGS eNews! The eNews is published monthly by the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society (RVGS), bringing you current information on happenings at the Jackson County Genealogy Library (JCGL), in the Rogue Valley, as well as in the greater genealogical community. You will also find tips for your genealogy research, new resources available, and general RVGS news. Watch for red text throughout the eNews, these are hyperlinks to important places. Because the eNews is only published once a month, we supplement it with news items on our website at rvgslibrary.org. There you can subscribe to our website to be sure you are staying up to date. Because the library is still closed and things are changing regularly, be sure to follow the calendar as well. Changes to events and additional events will be posted there.

Although the coronavirus has continued to spread and our doors may be closed, we have not stopped trying to bring you additional ways to continue researching your family ancestors! We are now offering all six JCGL subscription websites to our members through our website at rvgslibrary.org! More RVGS tidbits and things to do:

- Review the books in our catalog! Circulating items (books & magazines) with “CIRC” in the call number may be checked out. The 900 new items we received have been added to our collection!
- Volunteers are willing to do free look ups for you! Check out our website for more information.
- Our next Members Program & Meeting will be via ZOOM on September 15th. Jeff Roberts will be doing a presentation on Internet safety, including do’s and don’ts, is that link in my email safe? and password security.
- At the Members Meeting we will be presenting the RVGS Bylaws revisions we have worked on to comply with the new state laws. More information can be found in the eNews and on our website.
- We are excited to offer 5 FREE classes via ZOOM for Genealogy Week September 21-25. Please register for any or all classes on our website.
• The Heirloom Genealogy committee is gearing up to do Zoom “Case Studies.” Keep an eye out for more information on our website! Anne Billeter will be presenting the first case study on September 29th!
• The Education Committee has been busy too! They are lining up some wonderful virtual classes and seminars for everyone through Zoom. October promises to be busy!!!
• We are co-sponsoring programs online with Jackson County Library Services one Sunday a month this fall!
• We had to replace one of the 1996 air conditioning units at the library. We requested bids from numerous companies and awarded the replacement to Baumer’s Heating & Air in Eagle Point.
• And you just thought we were closed!

Looking forward to seeing you at our first Zoom Society Membership Meeting, September 15th at 1:30 PM. See below for links to the website to register and for help with Zoom.
Be safe!
Katie

CLASSES & EVENTS

The following RVGS classes and events are all offered via Zoom.
• Click here to find Zoom help on our website.
• See our website calendar for more details.
• 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.
• New members to Interest Groups will need to register here.

Tuesday, September 8, 11:00-12:30 PM
German Interest Group - This group is facilitated by Mary Robsman.

Tuesday, September 8, 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.

Wednesday, September 9, 10:30-12:00 PM
Genetic Genealogy Interest Group - This group is facilitated by Jeff Roberts.

Monday, September 14, 10:00-12:00 PM
RVGS Board Meeting - Everyone is welcome to attend.

Tuesday, September 15, 1:30-3:00 PM
Program and Member meeting. “Protect Yourself Online” Jeff Roberts will tell us about safe practices and how to manage email, phone, and computer-safe password recommendations. Members, see Programs & Classes > Programs & Member Meetings on the website for the Zoom link. Non-members may register here.

Tuesday, September 29, 1:30 - 2:30
CLASS: Heirloom Genealogy: A Case Study. "Maryum's Yellow Rose" is a quilt, a book, a rose, and John and Maryum McKee's local pioneer life story. Anne Billeter will explore how much can be documented. $5.00 members; $10.00 non-members.
FREE Genealogy Week - Sept. 21-25

This year we are thrilled to be able to continue to provide FREE Genealogy classes to assist you on your ancestral adventure! All classes will be presented on ZOOM! Information and registration are on our website www.rvgslibrary.org > Programs & Classes Menu. Be sure to REGISTER at least two days before the class – you will receive information on the class and the Zoom invite via email the day before each class.

Monday, September 21, 2:00-3:00 PM
Introduction to Genealogy - Anne Billeter will explain how to start, forms to use, documentation to seek, helpful clues, and why deduction is important.

Tuesday, September 22, 2:00-3:00 PM
DNA-Which test is best for you? - Lorita Cushman will explain the major DNA tests most commonly used and the results you may get with each.

Wednesday, September 23, 2:00-3:00 PM
Newspaper Research - Barbara Northrop will discuss the major websites devoted to newspapers as well as other newspaper sources that enrich your research.

Thursday, September 24, 2:00-3:00 PM
Organizing your paper files - Barbara Northrop will discuss various methods of organizing files to help eliminate clutter and chaos.

Friday, September 25, 10:00-11:00 AM
Organizing your digital files - Between downloading records and scanning photos, genealogy digital files can get out of control very quickly. Rich Miles will demonstrate ways to keep all your digital records organized for easy access.

Local Happenings

Who Am I?
A four-part workshop Zoom series
Presented by RVGS and Jackson County Library Services

Documenting a family's history is a key to understanding your own. Where did you come from? Who do you look like? RVGS and Jackson County Library Services (JCLS) will be offering the following Fall Zoom workshops that dive into the details of how to research and document your personal and family heritage. All sessions are presented by RVGS members and are FREE to the public.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sep 20</td>
<td>Genealogy 101</td>
<td>Kim Thurman</td>
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<td>Oct 11</td>
<td>How to Plan a Successful Family Reunion</td>
<td>Marilyn Ayres</td>
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<td>Nov 8</td>
<td>Save the Stories: How to Do an Oral History</td>
<td>Maureen Battistella</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 6</td>
<td>Creating a Family Memory Book</td>
<td>Marilyn Ayres</td>
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Registration is available now on the JCLS website (https://jcls.libcal.com) under Programs & Events/JCLS Events Calendar.
Welcome New Members!
Welcome to Holly Hinderer and Kellie Owens, the newest members of the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society!

Bylaws Changes Proposed
Changes to the Oregon Nonprofit Corporation Act went into effect January 1, 2020. Many of these changes affect the way RVGS conducts its business and were significant enough to require revision of our Bylaws. The Board adopted the new Bylaws on August 10, 2020, and we are now presenting them to the membership for approval. Click here to read a summary of the changes and find links to the current and proposed Bylaws.

Membership Dues Increase Proposed
On August 10, the RVGS Board voted to present a $10 increase of the individual membership annual fee from $30 to $40 for approval by our members at the September 15 Society meeting. The $15 annual fee for each additional household member, as well as the lifetime member fee of $500, would remain the same.

Since the last member fee increase thirteen years ago, the Society has seen many changes to the services offered to members. We’ve relocated into a larger building, providing additional library and meeting space. Our library collection has grown over 50% in number of cataloged books and other library materials to over 20,000. Seminars and classes taught by both local and national speakers continue to provide educational opportunities normally found in larger cities.

The coronavirus pandemic, which has led to a temporary closure of our library and cancellation of in-person gatherings, has not slowed the Board’s mission of keeping our members connected to genealogy research. The launch of our world-class website in March created the ability to offer our subscription services, like Ancestry and MyHeritage, directly to members in their home. The Education Committee, at the direction of the Board, has begun to offer classes via Zoom, with online seminars and programs also in the planning stages.

It is the top priority of your Board to ensure the financial viability of the Society and the library for many years to come, while providing the best possible value for the services offered to our members. A vote of “yes” for the change of the membership fee will directly support the RVGS mission: to inspire interest in genealogy, inform and educate the public, and maintain a growing sustainable library with a strong online presence.

Thank you,
Your RVGS Board

Seminar Coming Soon! Save the Date!
21st Century Research for the Everyday Genealogist - November 7, 2020

RVGS will be sponsoring our first full-day VIRTUAL SEMINAR!!

Annette Burke Lyttle provides professional genealogical services in research, education, and writing. She speaks on a variety of genealogical topics and loves helping people uncover and share their family stories. She was a faculty member at the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh in June 2020 and is course coordinator for "Researching Our Ancestors' Migrations in America" for the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy in January 2021. Annette is a member of the board of directors of the Association of Professional Genealogists. You can learn more about her at heritagedetective.com

Classes include:
- Genealogical Proof for the Everyday Genealogist
- How Research Plans Can Up Your Genealogical Game
• Find Your Family History in Free Online Newspapers
• Chasing Uncle William Through the Wilds of Cyberspace

“I love researching and uncovering facts, relationships, and the stories of our ancestors’ lives. We all have wonderful people and stories in our family trees, and it is my privilege to help you uncover your family’s stories.” Annette Burke Lyttle

Registration opens Sept. 15, 2020 at www.rvgslibrary.org > Programs & Classes menu. Members: $45, Non-Members: $55

Thank you to Jackson County Cultural Coalition & Oregon Cultural Trust for your support!

Heirloom Genealogy: Case Studies

RVGS is proud to announce a new monthly class series about family heirlooms and how research can lead to new genealogical discoveries. How can family stories about heirlooms be documented?

Register in advance for the first class in the series on Tuesday, September 29 at 1:30: Maryum’s Yellow Rose is a quilt, a book, a rose, and Jackson County pioneers John and Maryum McKee’s life story. The quilt was made in 1984 by the Jacksonville Museum Quilters. Dora Scheidecker created the overall design. Evelyn (Byrne) Williams, great granddaughter of John and Maryum McKee, drew the quilt blocks. The hand quilting was done by members of the Jacksonville Museum Quilters: Dora Scheidecker, June Haun, Mildred Stephens, Cecila Blew, Roberta Peck, Verda Sanders, Pat Thurman, Joy Nichols, Gwen Paden, Dorothy McDougall, Teresa Mattson, Vada Richey, Edith Hayes, Virginia Cook, Joetta Ortner, Arlene Worland, and Helen Culy. The quilt is part of the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society’s collection. The book was written by Evelyn (Byrne) Williams and is in the Jackson County Genealogy Library collection.

Zoom Co-hosts Needed

We have entered a new era for RVGS. During this time of COVID-19, along with many schools, we are entering the world of virtual education. Our instructors are learning how to deliver our classes via Zoom while you, our members, can attend from the comfort of your home.

For us to deliver a full slate of classes and events, we need assistance with Zoom. It is easier for the instructor to have a co-host, someone to monitor the chat log, check people in, and answer questions via chat. If you are comfortable with using Zoom, or would like to be, and would like to learn how to co-host or are even ready to go, please email Barbara Halvorsen at bjhh903@live.com or Pat Jenkins at pjenkins2364@gmail.com.

Nominations are Open

Each fall, RVGS members in good standing have an opportunity to serve the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society by running for a position and serving on the Board for the upcoming year. The Nominating Committee is interested to hear from you and has the information you need to make the decision to run for office. We hope that you will consider running.

The Board consists of Officers and Directors. The nomination committee sends a slate of Officers to be voted on by members at the general meeting in November. The Officers are sworn in at the December Society meeting. Directors are then selected by the incoming President. Both Officers’ and Directors’ term of service is for one year but can serve more than one term. Officers must run for office again to be re-
elected while Directors can be re-appointed. If you have served previously, you are eligible to serve again in the same or different position.

Officers include: President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, and Trustee. If you are interested, contact one of us on the committee via email about your interest.

- Marilyn Ayres at aayres@aol.com
- Mary Robsman at mrobsman@earthlink.net
- Chloe Sternola at cokiejcgl@gmail.com

Talk with current officers Katie Haugse, President, Kim Thurman, Vice-President, Loretta Barker, Secretary, Barbara Shrewsberry, Treasurer, and Charlotte Wirfs, Trustee, or with others who have served in the past to make our society the fun and fine society it is today.

Join your genealogically eager friends and work together as we move through and beyond this unusual time. The friendship and support you gain from volunteering are beneficial to all our members and it is also great for you. (It would be great if we had so many of you running for each position that there would be campaigning with all the hoopla, hats, horns, banners, speeches, and a convention.) Seriously, what we really are looking for is your willingness to serve. We look forward to hearing from many of you.

Cheers, your Nominating Committee

Salt Lake City FHL Trip Canceled

The Family History Library does not anticipate being open for groups, if at all, at the time of our planned trip in October. They are not scheduling any groups for the foreseeable future. This means that we are canceling the Salt Lake City research trip that was planned for October 3 through 10.

Watch Facebook, this website, and the RVGS eNews for information about the Family History Library reopening. We can start planning again then.

While we continue our quarantine, here is a link to free online classes available through the Family History Library.

GIG Webpage Launched!

Members of the German Interest Group (GIG), led by RVGS member Mary Robsman, have been bringing wonderful research sources to members’ attention for years, but there was no place to keep track of them. After discussing the problem, GIG took the dilemma to webmaster Rich Miles, asking if they might have a page to store the resources. Rich more than complied, working with GIG committee members Mary Tsui and Ann Baracker to develop an online resource page, arranged by topic, that links to a wealth of databases, organizations, events and official sites devoted to documenting the German diaspora. The site can be accessed through the RVGS Interest Group page. Please take a look! But come back often – the page is not yet complete and will be added to routinely.

I ♥ the Web
by Mary Robsman

In August, the International German Genealogy Partnership emailed our RVGS German Interest Group. The local family history book, Baltimore, 1st version, had just gone online. Our German partner described it, probably in German originally. I presume the "prescribed protection period" in the text refers to privacy laws.

"All entries from the church register of the Protestant Lutheran Zion Church in Baltimore are completely covered from the beginning of the church book from 1786 to 1920. Later entries still concern marriages and deaths until 1977 - depending on the prescribed
protection periods. In addition, entries from the U.S. Census, Find a Grave, and the Baltimore daily newspapers are also included. Individual families have already been supplemented with entries from German church records (Archion).

Baltimore was one of the largest immigrant ports after New York, and the new citizens chose German churches as the meeting place for their religious and other reasons. The Protestant Lutheran Zion Church in Baltimore was the first of its kind. It has held divine services in German since its beginning until today and in its long history it has only pastors who were born in Germany (with one exception).

So, it is not surprising that immigrants from all German-speaking (including former) countries appear in the church book. In my memory (but not assured) Lower Saxony is very strongly represented with Schleswig Holstein and Hamburg, Hesse, Baden and Bavaria.”

The Baltimore information can be found at https://www.online-ofb.de/baltimore that takes you to a mega-site IN GERMANY. I love this connection between United States and German researchers.

JACKSON COUNTY GENEALOGY LIBRARY NEWS

PERSI. What is it and how do I access and use it?

PERSI (PERiodical Source Index) is an index to articles in genealogical periodicals (magazines and journals.)

PERSI does not index every name in an article, but concentrates on major subjects: surnames, places, events. For example, a transcription of “marriage records from Green County, Wisconsin” would be indexed for Green County, Wisconsin, but not for the individual names of the brides and grooms. An article about the Broadhurst family, with multiple lines of ancestors and descendants with different surnames, would only be indexed for Broadhurst.

PERSI is available at FindMyPast, which RVGS members can now access through the RVGS website: rvgslibrary.org
1. Log in to the website.
2. Click on FindMyPast on the homepage, follow the directions.
3. At FindMyPast, look for “Quick Links” on the left.
4. Click “Newspapers and periodicals.”
5. Look for “Choose from our collection” on the left.
6. Click “PERiodical Source Index.”

PERSI is NOT the easiest index to use, so volunteer Diane Brenner has written a guide to help us navigate PERSI successfully. Click here to find the PERSI guide on the RVGS website under “Library” > “Research Resources.”

WHY should you bother with PERSI? Lots of detailed, genealogically valuable information can be found in genealogical magazines. From transcriptions of records that have not and may never be digitized, to in-depth research and analysis of who someone’s parents were, there are many buried treasures to be found. FindMyPast is in the process of digitizing some of these periodicals. Others you will find right on the shelves at the Jackson County Genealogy Library (JCGL) and almost all periodicals at JCGL are circulating, which means they can be checked out even while we are closed during the pandemic. Email reception@rvgslibrary.org to arrange to pick up (and return) circulating periodicals and books.
Free Access to MyHeritage Photo Enhancer & MyHeritage In Color

MyHeritage is unlocking both their popular photo tools — MyHeritage Photo Enhancer and MyHeritage In Color™ — for a whole month, until September 10, 2020. Normally, these features can be used by non-subscribers on up to 10 photos each, while users with a Complete plan enjoy unlimited use. But now, for a whole month, anyone can enhance and colorize as many photos as they would like for free!

This continues MyHeritage’s tradition of giving back to the community. With so many people currently confined to their home and doing their best to stay safe and healthy — they are giving everyone a fun way to pass the time and enjoy genealogy!

Using these tools, you can get to know your ancestors in a whole new way. Your old, faded, black and white family photos will come to life, in full color and sharp focus — making them look almost as though they were taken yesterday. Pull out your family photo albums today and join in the fun.

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

Ancestry.com
- USC Shoah Foundation, Holocaust – Jewish Survivor Interviews
  - Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials 1558-1812
  - Births and Baptisms 1813-1919
  - Marriages and Banns 1754-1935
  - Deaths and Burials 1812-1910
- New York, Auburn Prison Records, 1816-1942

MyHeritage
This past month, 19.4 million records in 9 collections were added to MyHeritage. The new U.S. collections include passenger lists from California and Seattle, an index of Navy and Marine awards, a New York City marriages collection, and an update to the New York City Death collection. The new collections from Navarre, Spain include a baptism index, a marriage index, and a death index. The final collection is an index of leading chess players from all around the world and is completely free to search. Who knows, maybe you’ll find a Grandmaster in your family tree!

FindMyPast
- London Gazette 1665-2018
- Scotland, Edinburgh Gazette 1922-2018
- Ireland, Belfast Gazette 1922-2018
- Ireland, Dublin Gazette 1750-1800
- Hampshire Baptisms, Marriages, Burials
- Surrey Baptisms, Marriages, Burials
- Warwickshire Burials
- Warwickshire, Coventry Pawnbroker Tickets, 1915-1923

FamilySearch.org (NOT a subscription); free, just open an account
- New York, County Naturalization Records, 1791-1980
- Michigan Obituaries, 1820-2006

*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.

An AMAZING 240 New Books Added in August

Our Book Committee (Anne Billeter, Marilyn Ayres, and Chloe Sternola) met in August via Zoom, and our catalogers (Sharon Freeburne and Diane Brenner) are continuing to come more often. The result: 240 new books added to the JCGL collection in August, including an astounding 125 Missouri (977.8) and 25 North Dakota (978.4)!! Other states are also represented, as are some less well-known tidbits of history, such as Kentucky colonization in Texas: a history of the Peters Colony (976.4 H388 Con) and
This is Three Forks Country; based on “Round-up” columns by the author appearing in the Sunday Muskogee, Oklahoma, Daily Phoenix and Times Democrat (976.682 H388 Har) and Speaking-out...on Sod-House Times: Interviews [Kansas] (Circ 978.4 H388 Die). To see the complete eighteen-page list click here.

New Periodicals

**NGS Magazine**, National Genealogical Society
Circ 929.05 NGSM v.46 (3), July-September 2020
Women’s suffrage issue – history and dates of women’s rights, use of voter lists and registrations in genealogical research, and the little-known law of women losing citizenship if they married foreigners. Resources for 19th-century women settlers in the west.

**National Genealogical Society Quarterly**
Circ 929.05 NGSQ v.108(2), June 2020
Parents of Isaac Garrett of Laurens county, SC; Parents of Sarepta McMillan of Ohio; and Peter Wingate of Cecil county, MD.

**Colorado Genealogist**, Colorado Genealogical Society
Circ 978.8 P273 Col v.81 (2), May 2020
The entire 20-page issue is an index of membership records, 1883-1900, of the First United Presbyterian Church of Denver (later known as Green Mountain Presbyterian Church of Lakewood, CO.) Organized by surname, it lists wives separate from husbands, includes membership number, earliest and latest membership dates, and a note for the source of the information. This is a useful source if you seek a Presbyterian in Denver who might have been listed in the missing 1890 Census.

Added from the Backlog

**Magazine of Virginia Genealogy**, Virginia Genealogical Society
Circ 975.5 P273 MVG
The quarterly journal publishes items and records of a state-wide interest to Virginia researchers. There are transcriptions of county and local records, wills, Bible records, and individual genealogies. Our holdings began with v. 21, 1983. From the backlog we were able to fill-in our run and bring the collection to v. 55, 2017. Number 4 of each volume includes an index for the year’s production. Additionally, the series is available on-line at Ancestry, complete with an OCR index.

Heir Lines, Genealogical Society of Siskiyou County (CA)
Circ 979.421 P273 Hei v.44(4)
Emily Hodgetts Lowder; about Youtube Genealogy podcasts, and abstracts from regional newspapers (1858-1890).

New to the Surplus Book Sale

Each month we will add books to the Surplus Book Sale, offering them locally (for less) before our internet book sale volunteers list them on Amazon. We want our members to have first chance! Books priced @ $1.00 will not be listed. While the Genealogy Library is closed for the coronavirus pandemic, you may email reception@rvgslibrary.org and we will hold the books you specify, for you to pick up by arrangement. Here are the books added in August:

- **Marion County History (OR)**, v.1-4, periodical, 1955-1956. $18.00
- **History of Schenectady during the Revolution** by Willis T. Hanson, Jr. $22.00
- **Genealogical Atlas of England and Wales** by Gardner, Harland and Smith. c.1960. $5.00
- **Early Ohioans’ Residences from the Land Grant Records**. Compiled by Mayburt Stephenson Riegel. $15.00
- **Marriage Records – Andrew County, Missouri, 1856-1870 and Naturalization Records**. $5.00
• Historical Atlas of Kentucky and her Counties by Wendell R. Rone. $20.00
• Kentucky Pension Roll of 1835. $3.00
• Kentucky by Arlene Eakle $3.00
• Genealogical Guide: German Ancestors from East Germany and Eastern Europe. $6.00
• Christian County Illinois Cemetery Inscriptions, vol. 1. $12.00
• Tombstone Inscriptions of Jasper County, Missouri, volume II. $9.00
• Heads of Families at the First Census of the United States taken in the Year 1790 – Pennsylvania. $11.00
• Death Records of Missouri Men from Newspapers, 1808-1854. $15.00
• Roster of Ohio Soldiers in the War of 1812. $11.00
• World Conference on Records, volume 5, parts 1 & 2, British Family & Local History. $30.00
• Indians of Western Oregon: This Land Was Theirs by Stephen Dow Beckham $8.00 well-used
• Cemeteries of Marion County Iowa. $56.00
• Ancestral Lines Revised; 190 families in England, Wales, Germany, New England, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Compiled by Carl Boyer, 3rd. $37.00
• Gone to Missouri: From Whence They Came – To Where and When. Compiled by Marilyn Moore. $30.00
• Genealogical Gazetteer of England by Frank Smith. $3.00
• Book of Names especially relating to the early Palatines and the first settlers in the Mohawk Valley by Lou D. MacWethy. $20.00
• Index to York County, PA Wills 1749-1900. $7.50
• Monmouth County Articles in “The Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey 1925-2000, Summary & Descriptions by Judith Green Watson. $21.00
• Records of Emigrants from England and Scotland to North Carolina, 1774-1775 edited by R. Newsome. $4.00
• Virginia and Virginians. Eminent Virginians 1606-1888. Campbell County. By R.A. Brock. $4.00

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, enews@rvgslibrary.org

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