



Volume 5 | Issue 10 | Oct 2020

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#### OUR MISSION

The mission of the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society, Inc. 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 – Jackson County Genealogy Library

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[www.rvgslibrary.org](http://www.rvgslibrary.org)

#### LIBRARY HOURS

The Jackson County Genealogy Library is temporarily closed due to COVID-19.

## The RVGS eNews



### A Message from our President



Dear Friends,

The recent Almeda fire has broken the hearts of so many of our members, friends, and families that words cannot express our deep loss and sadness in Southern Oregon. Our prayers and thoughts are with many of our members and associates who have lost or cannot

return to their homes! The library was fortunate to survive the fire! We are eternally grateful to our first responders. We are so fortunate that the genealogical history of Southern Oregon has been preserved.

Southern Oregon Strong is truly what is happening in our community. Even when evacuated some of our members (volunteers) continued putting together a wonderful new Virtual Genealogy Week! We had an international attendance this year including folks all the way from South Africa, Australia, England, Canada, as well as from at least 20 states across the United States thanks to the new virtual classroom on Zoom!

Keep reading the eNews to see all the additional classes, programs, and seminars we have planned this fall with this wonderful platform!

Stay safe everyone!  
Katie Hauge,  
RVGS President



## CLASSES & EVENTS

The following RVGS classes and events are all offered via Zoom.



- Most classes and events require online advanced registration, see the **Programs & Classes** menu on our [website](#). Registration closes for most events the day before the event unless capacity is reached before then.
- New members to Interest Groups will need to register by [clicking here](#) to find the interest group of your choice.
- For more details, [click here](#) to view our website calendar.
- [Click here to find Zoom help on our website.](#)
- All times listed are Pacific Daylight Times.

**Wednesday, October 7, 10:30 - 11:00 AM**

**CLASS: German Interest Group (GIG) Search Resources**

This event will show you to how the German Interest Group worked together to make their wonderful [resource guide](#). FREE to all.

**Monday, October 12, 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM, RVGS Board Meeting.** Members are welcome. Email [webmaster@rvgslibrary.org](mailto:webmaster@rvgslibrary.org) if you would like to attend.

**Tuesday, October 13, 11:00 - 12:30 PM**

**German Interest Group**, facilitated by Mary Robsman. [Click here](#) to visit the group's webpage.

**Tuesday, October 13, 1:30 - 3:00 PM**

**Family Tree Maker Interest Group**, facilitated by Barbara MacMillen. Come with any questions about using "Family Tree Maker" software.

**Wednesday, October 14, 10:30 - 12:00 PM**

**Genetic Genealogy Interest Group**, facilitated by Jeff Roberts.



**Wednesday, October 14, 1:30 - 3:00 PM**

**CLASS: "Walk a Mile in Their Shoes: Using Maps to Understand Our Ancestors' Journeys"**

Kate Eakman will teach this class to help us understand our ancestors' journeys, using

terrain and topography; roads and bridges; etc. Discover how using Google Maps can expand our understanding of our ancestors' lives. \$10 for members, \$20 for non-members.

**Saturday, October 17, 10:30 - 12:00 PM**

**Brick Wall Roundtable**, Jan Dole will facilitate this discussion of your elusive ancestors. Everyone is welcome to this free event.



**Tuesday, October 20, 1:30 - 3:00 PM, Program and Member meeting, "The Station Master's Wife"**

The author Sue DeMarinis will tell us about a scandalous life exposed. This is a free program, all are invited. During the Member

meeting, RVGS members will be asked to vote on the proposed dues increase and the revised Bylaws.

**Thursday, October 22, 6:00 – 7:00 PM**

**CLASS: Researching Women's Genealogy"** with Barbara Northrop. Can't find your female ancestor? This class will help you explore record groups and research techniques that may help. \$10 for members, \$20 for non-members.

**Monday, October 26, 1:00 - 3:00 PM**

**CLASS: "Sneak Peek: 23andMe, Ancestry, Family Finder, MyHeritage"**

Lorita Cushman will teach this class in which you will learn a bit about the 4 major DNA testing sites. The tools available, where to find shared cM and what you can expect from each site. \$5 for members, \$10 for non-members.

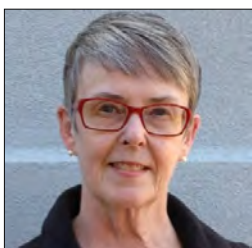
**Tuesday, October 27, 1:30 - 2:30**

**CLASS: Heirloom Genealogy: "Where were you?"** A Case Study on capturing historical events. Expanding your knowledge of the events in yours or an ancestor's life will add richness to your family's story. \$5.00 members; \$10.00 non-members.

**Wednesday, October 28, 1:30 - 3:00 PM**

**CLASS: "The Curious Case of Alma Summers"** Kate Eakman will present this class with only two clues regarding Alma Summers, his place of birth and the name of his wife. She will utilize traditional and unique document sets to discover the facts. \$10 for members, \$20 for non-members.

**Saturday, November 7, 9:00 - 4:00 PM**  
**SEMINAR: "21st Century Research for the Everyday Genealogist"**



Annette Burke Lyttle, professional genealogist will present this seminar. Classes will 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. \$45 for members, \$55 for non-members.

**Local Happenings**



**Jackson County Library Services** **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. Sessions are Sundays, 4 - 5 p.m.

| Date   | Title                                       | Presenter           |
|--------|---|---------------------|
| Oct 11 | How to Plan a Successful Family Reunion     | Marilyn Ayres       |
| Nov 8  | Save the Stories: How to Do an Oral History | Maureen Battistella |
| Dec 6  | Creating a Family Memory Book               | Marilyn Ayres       |

Registration is available now on the [JCLS website](https://jcls.libcal.com) (https://jcls.libcal.com) under Programs & Events/ JCLS Events Calendar.

**Virtual Opportunities**

Sponsored by **South King County Genealogical Society**, Washington  
**Two virtual sessions on DNA, Diahn Southard, Presenter**



**Saturday, October 24, 2020**  
 10:00 AM PDT, **No Tree? No Problem?**  
 12:00 Noon PDT, **Connecting Your DNA Matches**  
[Click here for more information.](#)

Sponsored by the **Genealogical Forum of Oregon**  
**Fall Seminar with Lisa Louise Cooke**  
**Saturday, November 14, 2020, 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM PDT**

- How to Reopen and Work a Genealogical Cold Case
- Search Strategies for Common Surnames
- Google Earth Pro for Genealogy
- Tap into Your Inner Private Eye: 9 Strategies for Finding Living Relatives

**Sunday, November 15, 2020, 1:00 PM – 3:30 PM PDT**

- How to Organize All this Genealogy Stuff
- How to Save Your Research from Destruction & Ensure Its Future Survival

[Click here for more information and to register.](#)

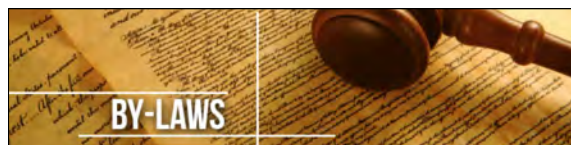
**RVGS NEWS**

**Welcome New Members!**



Welcome to Frances Huston, Nancy Nemer, Linda Holder, and Barbara Davidson, the

newest members of the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society! [Click here to join now!](#)



**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.



## UPDATED: 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. As the September 15 Society meeting was cancelled due to the Almeda fire, the approval vote has been rescheduled for the October 20 Society meeting. **If approved, the increase will take effect January 1, 2021.** For those who have been directly impacted by the Almeda fire, the Board has agreed to delay the membership fee change for one year.

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 homes. 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

## Register Now for November 7 Seminar



**Annette Burke Lyttle** will be our seminar speaker for the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society's first full day virtual presentation, "**21<sup>st</sup> Century Research for the Everyday Genealogist!**" [Click here to register now](#), or go to the Programs &

Classes menu on our website, [www.rvgslibrary.org](http://www.rvgslibrary.org) and join us **Saturday, November 7, 2020, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM.** Members: \$45, Non-Members: \$55.

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](http://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

This event is sponsored in part by a grant from the [Jackson County Cultural Coalition](#) funded by the [Oregon Cultural Trust](#) investing in Oregon's arts, humanities and heritage.

## Heirloom Genealogy: Case Studies, Where Were You?

by Sue Waldron

Those of you who do genealogical research know that when you begin your research there are several “tried and true” steps. You talk to your relatives, making notes of names and dates. You then work through as many family records as you can find. Census records are your next major source of information – while not gospel they are invaluable for putting your ancestor in a specific place at a definite time. Often your next step is one of the genealogy websites: Ancestry, FamilySearch, Rootsweb – all contribute more bits and pieces.



By this time, you are accumulating a few pieces of paper and some charts – at least some electronic ones. I would like to suggest that now you consider creating another document – a timeline. I really love the flexibility of Excel but am sure there are other data management programs that will work as well. The ability to add, subtract and move lines of data is invaluable. As you work through your records, you will probably find inconsistencies – the mother who had her first child at age five, the great-grandfather who lived to be 130! That is the wonder of a timeline – you can begin to “see” the errors.



I recommend another step while creating your timeline – add the dates of “significant events” during your ancestor’s lifetime – local, national and international. One person I was tracking left Vermont following a year of strange weather caused by the volume of volcanic ash in the atmosphere after the destruction of the island of Krakatoa half a world away. Perhaps there was a flood; even Missouri has earthquakes which may have motivated your ancestor to move. Include

the family’s memories of significant events: the Coronavirus Pandemic; the influence of the destruction of September 11, 2001; the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. These will enrich your story and just might explain some decisions.

You are invited to participate in the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society’s new *Heritage Genealogy: A Case Study* series. Knowledgeable speakers will suggest ways to trace the background of the heirlooms that make up your family’s heritage. Join us October 27, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. Speaker Sue Waldron will share the importance of recording your family’s memories of significant events and she will share the quilt she created after September 11, 2001. [Click here to register in advance](#) for this Heirloom Genealogy class, \$5.00 for members, \$10.00 for nonmembers.



Genealogy  
Week Huge  
Success

RVGS held its first virtual Genealogy Week the week of September 21–25. The response was astounding! We offered five free classes taught by four instructors; Anne Billeter, Lorita Cushman, Barbara Northrop, and Rich Miles. There were 414 people registered; however only 281 actually attended. Of those who attended, 61 were members and over 200 were non-members! There were attendees from at least 20 different states and four foreign countries including Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, and South Africa. Two classes were so large, extra sessions were opened for this week. The Rogue Valley Genealogical Society truly went international for Genealogy Week!

## Nominations are Open



Your Society needs you! Every 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. We currently have no one running for the office of treasurer.

Marilyn Ayres at [aayres@aol.com](mailto:aayres@aol.com)

Chloe Sternola at [cokiejcgl@gmail.com](mailto: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

## JCGL NEWS

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

#### Ancestry.com

- Arkansas
  - Marriage Certificates, 1917-1969
  - Divorces, 1923-1969
  - Death Certificates, 1914-1969
- Colorado, Select Colorado Marriages, 1863-2018



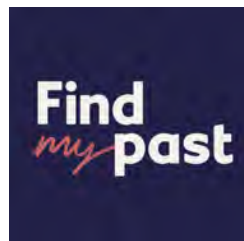
#### MyHeritage

In August, we added 19 million historical records in 15 different collections. They include 7 new collections from various U.S. states (Massachusetts, Wisconsin, Arkansas, Nebraska), with birth, marriage and death records; 3 new collections from Australia - a birth index, a passenger list, and a wills and probate collection; and several additional collections. In addition, updates were made to enlarge the Greece Electoral Rolls collection, the France Death Index, and the free Israel Genealogy Research Association collection.



#### FindMyPast

- Genealogical Guide to Early Settlers to America
- United States Passenger & Crew Lists (California, New York, Texas)
- Scotland
  - Burgess & Guild Brethren Index
  - Banffshire & Moray Life Events
- Wales
  - Probate Records, 1544-1858
  - Caernarvonshire Parish Registers
  - Denbighshire Burials (Wrexham Cemetery)
  - Montgomeryshire Monumental Inscriptions



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



- Mississippi County Marriages, 1858-1979
- New Jersey, Newark, Mount Olivet Cemetery Records, 1871-1984
- Virginia, Bureau of Vital Statistics, County Marriage Registers, 1853-1935
- Canada, New Brunswick, County Register of Births, 1801-1920

\*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.

## Nebraska Death Index (1904-1968) Now Online

Thanks to the work of Reclaim the Records ([www.reclaimthercords.org](http://www.reclaimthercords.org)), the 1904-1968 Nebraska Death Index is now available online. According to Reclaim the Records, “The Nebraska Death Index for 1904-1968 is now online for free public use at [NebraskaDeathIndex.com](http://NebraskaDeathIndex.com). Records for 1904-1955 are currently only available in image format, scanned from oversize books created by the state many years ago, while records for 1956-1968 are in a searchable text database.” [Click here](#) to read the entire story.



## 45 New Books Added in September

**45** new books were added to the JCGL collection in September before the Almeda Fire came close to, but did not

damage the Genealogy Library. **18** of the books are about **New York** (974.7), while the remainder are on a wide range of subjects, including Yugoslavia (949.7), *First One Hundred Years: Santa Fe Indian School* (978.956 S227 Fir), and *Story of the Negro Pioneer* [in Utah] (979.2 He88 Car.)

*Clarkson’s Mission to America, 1791-1792* is the fascinating and detailed first person account of John Clarkson’s voyage to Nova Scotia to recruit Black Christian settlers for Sierra Leone and of the voyage of the 15 ships to Sierra Leone. (971.6 H388 Cla)

For those of Norwegian heritage, the two-volume *Nordmaendene I Amerika, deres historie og Rekord* [Norwegians in America, their history and record] is an immense compilation of biographical and historical information **IN THE NORWEGIAN language** collected by Martin Ulvestad and published in these two volumes in 1907 and 1913. (973 H388 Ulv)

To see the complete five-page list [click here](#).

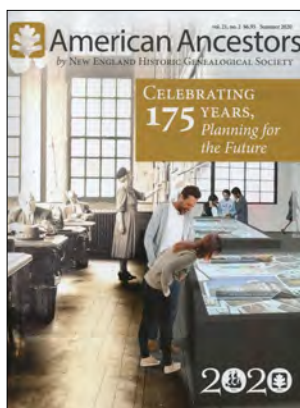
## New Periodicals



*Internet Genealogy*  
Circ 929.1 Int August/Sept 2020

Resources to understand your ancestors’ lives during Prohibition, Searching for maiden names, Genealogy podcasts, “The State of Genealogy Software, 2020”, Dealing with family stories and legends, Resources for the War with Mexico, French records, Records of prisoners, Photo identification using online resources.

Available on-line through the JCGL portal during the pandemic.



*American Ancestors*, New England Historic Genealogical Society  
Circ 974 P273 AA Summer 2020

New databases on [AmericanAncestors.org](http://AmericanAncestors.org), An illustrated history of the Society, Unearthing Sarah (Lees) Stott’s gravestone (in Yorkshire, England), and Burial of Salem witches.

**Rogue Valley  
Genealogical Society  
Board of Directors**

**President:** Katie Hauge  
**Vice President:** Kim Thurman  
**Secretary:** Loretta Barker  
**Treasurer:**  
Barbara Shrewsberry  
**Trustee:** Charlotte Wirfs  
**Past President:** Karen Asche  
**Library Director:** Anne Billeter  
**Membership Director:**  
Margaret Clark-Mayfield  
**Education Co-Directors:**  
Barbara Halvorsen, Pat Jenkins  
**Volunteer Director:**  
Terrie McCoy  
**Technology and Data  
Management Director:**  
Rich Miles  
**Finance Director:** Steve Kazar

**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.

**The RVGS eNews**

Editor: Rich Miles,  
[enews@rvgslibrary.org](mailto:enews@rvgslibrary.org)

**The Rogue Valley Genealogical Society, Inc. is 501 (c)(3) charitable organization, tax identification number: 93-0684590.**



*The Colorado Genealogist*, Colorado Genealogical Society

Circ 978.8 P273 Col August 2020

The Colorado Genealogical Society's writing contest, 2020, was to write something about food and their family. Three winners of the contest are published here. Continuation of transcriptions from Bible records in the Denver Public Library manuscript collection: families of Clark-Queer-Fleming, Fligg-Scarboro, and Morgan-Hazen.

*Douglas County Pioneer*, Genealogical Society of Douglas County

Circ 979.529 P273 Dou September 2020

Roseburg Pauper Cemetery (a continuation of obits and biographies of those buried there,) Douglas County name changes (1885-1908), County bridges named for women pioneers, Douglas County Marriage Book 6 (a continuation of a transcription project), Douglas county guardianships, volume 2, Early mail service to Canyonville, 1907 school census [Scottsburg, Roberts Creek, Long Prairie], Naturalizations ledger 6, and index.



*The Bulletin*, Genealogical Forum of Oregon

Circ 979.549 P273 Bul September 2020

George Henry McCoon (1828-1917)

[Portland, Gervais] and the value of church archives for researching his life, Augustus Right Dimick (1790-1863) and the development of the Dimick potato [Hubbard], A book from the library of Reginald Shield Radcliffe (1855-1941), Clara Elizabeth (Rands) Worden (1902-1998) and the Oregon pioneer ancestors of her husband Oliver Raymond Worden (1896-1954) [Goodrich family on the Oregon Trail-Barlow Road to the Willamette Valley], Edwin Walter Otey (1816-

1887) and Martha Jane Bunton (1828-1879) [Douglas and Wasco counties], and the Parrott family from England to Oregon by ship in 1852. Each of the biographical sketches is professionally researched and footnoted.

