

April 2020 News



QUICK LINKS TO THE APRIL 2020 NEWSLETTER

1. [News About Rogue Valley Genealogical Society and Members](#)
2. [News about the Jackson County Genealogy Library](#)

Dear Members,

I hope our eNews finds you all well this month! We sure are exploring uncharted ways of life in facing the COVID-19 Virus! Imagine what our descendants will read in our diaries!

Even though we have had to close the library doors and cancel the spring 2020 seminar with Dr. Colletta, on immigration, we are busy behind the scenes working on rescheduling many fun classes and programs. Keep your eyes on the new website:

www.rvgslibrary.org! The website is also getting updates in many areas for you to search and keep you informed about our status! Check out the [Activities for Homebound Genealogists](#) for some ideas to keep you busy at home.



In the meantime, there are some wonderful **free sites** for you to explore at home:

- Have your Jackson County Library card handy and log into the library service at www.jcls.org, click on RESEARCH, then down to HISTORY & GENEALOGY. You will be able to access Heritage Quest!
- Set up a free account on [FamilySearch](#) or [Find A Grave](#).
- [Cyndi's List](#) is another great site with links to wonderful sites and interesting articles!

Kim Thurman also recommends:

Sites with an immigration focus (now that we've canceled our spring seminar)

- stevemorse.org - great tools for immigration records, census records, vital records, as well as other applications
- <https://www.jewishgen.org/infofiles/manifests/> - A guide to interpreting passenger list annotations; great for those doing immigration research
- norwayheritage.com - wonderful research resource if you have Norwegian immigrant ancestors

Update from [Oregon State Archives](#) - new records available in 2020!

Birth Certificates for 1919

Death Certificates for 1969

Marriage and Divorce Returns for 1969

Contact reference.archives@oregon.gov or 503-373-0701, option 1

[linkpendium.com](#) - resource directory for internet information on countries (U.S., U.K., and Ireland links) and surnames

<https://www.census.gov/history/> - website for the U.S. Census Bureau, has information on census instructions, questionnaires and overviews of the 1790-2010 censuses

[hathitrust.org](#) - similar to Google Books, with millions of digitized public domain titles available for viewing. Free guest login available using Google, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, or Microsoft.

If you have made any wonderful discoveries, please let us know! Email your story to the eNews editor to share next month! eNews@rvgslibrary.org

I would also like to send a Thank You to the RVGS Board, Directors and Volunteers who are doing so many projects at home while the library is closed!

Wishing you all well and wonderful discoveries! Looking forward to seeing you as soon as we can!

Katie Haugse
RVGS President



eNews Submissions - Members are invited and encouraged to write articles and/or submit photos for the eNews that are relevant to genealogy research, RVGS, and/or JCGL.

The eNews is published on the first of each month. The deadline for article submission is the 20th of the preceding month.

Please ONLY use the 12-point "Arial font" when typing. ALL submissions should be sent as a **Word document in an attachment** and sent in an email to: enews@rvgslibrary.org. Photos must be your own or permission obtained from the original photographer.

FREE from MyHeritage

- To mark the 2020 U.S. Census, [MyHeritage](#) is providing free access to its entire collection of U.S. censuses, **now through April 5, 2020.**
- [MyHeritage in Color](#) is now free and unlimited until April 22. Colorize and save as many old family photos as you want! Easy to use, dramatic results!

Is Some German in Your Garden? submitted by Mary Robsman

The following article “Go German in your garden” by Edie Adam, *Partner Zeitung* editor, came to RVGS German Interest Group from the International German Genealogy Partnership. Our group is a partner:

It was a sunny, warm day that hinted at the arrival of spring, and the local garden club was having a meeting at the library. The pile of garden catalogues was irresistible. The catalogs were featuring heirlooms, those plants “grown and maintained by gardeners and farmers, particularly in isolated or ethnic minority communities.” So it wasn’t surprising to find a number of plants connected to German-speaking areas and immigrants. For family researchers, the plants preserve a history just as valuable as documents and DNA. They take you into your immigrant ancestors’ kitchens. (The topic might make an interesting program for your local society, too!)

The following plants are offered in catalogs from [Seed Savers Exchange](#) and [Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds](#). Both companies have a mission to collect heirlooms in order to preserve them for future gardeners. Those marked with an * are available from Seed Savers. Those marked with two ** may be ordered from Baker Creek.



Cabbage

Premium Late Flat Dutch was introduced into the U.S. by German immigrants around 1840.*



Cucumber

The Russian Pickling cucumber is believed to have been brought to Hutchinson County, South Dakota, by the Black Sea Germans in the 1870s.*



Kale

The great-grandparents of Irene Kemper of Nebraska brought Smooth German kale with them when they emigrated from Germany.*



Ground Cherry

Maria Loewen Regehr brought this to Canada from Russia in 1925. It’s now called the Loewen Family Heirloom Ground Cherry.*



Hinkelhatz pepper

The Pennsylvania Dutch have grown the Hinkelhatz pepper since the 1880s. The name translates as “chicken heart.”*



Derksen Pepper

Donated by the Derksen family; it came to the U.S. from Russia in the 1850s with German Mennonites who settled near Mountain Lake, Minnesota.*



Schwarzenbeeren

Brought to Kansas by Volga German immigrants about 1875, and still used in such traditional recipes as Kuchen, Maultaschen, Klump and Knebel.**



German Pink Tomato

This Bavarian original was introduced to America in 1883 by Michael Ott, great-grandfather of Seed Savers Exchange co-founder Diane Ott Whealy.**

SPRING

ROGUE VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWS



New Members

Welcome to our newest members: Anna Beauchamp, Dan Ahern, Diana G. Bostwick, Donald L. Hogge, George "Tony" Hesch, Heather Kerth, Jean Kraft, Joyce Heim, Micha Hurst, Nancy M. Cox, Sharron Lawson, Susan Bausserman, and Valerie Rasmusson.

Finance News

During this time of a global pandemic, the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society has closed the doors of the Jackson County Genealogy Library and canceled all events in compliance with the Governor's Executive Order and to keep our members safe. Our library events, including classes and our spring seminar, are a source of funding for the Society. **Even though we are closed, we still have bills to pay, including our popular website subscriptions.** You can help keep our income stream flowing in three easy ways. RVGS has partnerships with BottleDrop Oregon, Amazon Smile, and Fred Meyer Rewards. [Please read more about these programs here](#) and consider helping out in any way you can. Thank you!



Donna Lynn (Johnson) Brewer

It is with regret that we mark the passing of Donna Brewer, known to many RVGS members for her years on the RVGS Board as Treasurer, 1998-2003, and her invaluable assistance as a CPA, setting up our professional bookkeeping system, and helping negotiate the purchase of the first building we owned on Houston Street in Phoenix.

Many will also remember her enjoyment of the annual bus trips to Salt Lake City, to research at the Family History Library with her husband Gene and other RVGS members.

Donna was born 4 October 1926 in Minneapolis, MN to Leslie and Irma Johnson, the oldest of four. She married Robert (Gene) Brewer in 1956 in Eugene, Oregon. They raised their family in Camarillo, CA, retired in 1984 to Yachats, OR, and moved to Medford in 1995. She was preceded in death by her husband, Gene and son, Richard. She is survived by her son William of Las Vegas, NV, and daughters Judith McQuone of Medford and Patricia Bolander of Talent, and numerous descendants. She is buried with her husband in Eagle Point National Cemetery. Additional details are in the [obituary](#) published in the March 15, 2020 *Medford Mail Tribune*.

JACKSON COUNTY GENEALOGY LIBRARY NEWS



Volunteer Librarians Needed

Learn more about the Genealogy Library's hidden treasures by volunteering to be a librarian. No experience necessary. Training will be provided. There are three-hour (9:45 AM - 1:00 PM and 1:00 PM - 4:15 PM) and six-hour shifts available (9:45 AM - 4:15 PM), as well as five-hour Tuesday evening shifts (4:00 PM – 9:00 PM). Contact Library Director Anne Billeter at annebilleteroregon@gmail.com for additional information.

Rogue Digger Contributors Needed

Have you found a technique or resource that has helped you in your research or that might help others? Have you discovered something interesting in local history or genealogy that you would be willing to write about and share with our membership?

If so, our publication, The Rogue Digger, needs you! *The Rogue Digger* is a genealogical periodical that reports information helpful to members and researchers by sharing the results of genealogical investigations, especially those related to the Rogue Valley or to our membership. Submissions can be a mere page long or up to 10 pages long, with or without photos or illustrations. If you have an idea but don't quite know how to pull it together, our editor can advise and help; contact her at caradavisjacobson@gmail.com.



New Records Added to [Familysearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org)

While the Genealogy Library is closed and we can't access our subscription websites, take a look at some of the new records added to [familysearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org):

- United States Deceased Physician File (AMA), 1864-1968. This is a great supplement to the
- 2 volume set of books in our library collection, also from the AMA: *Directory of Deceased American Physicians, 1804-1929*. (920.9 Dir)
- United States, GenealogyBank Obituaries, 1980-2014. **30,312 browsable images**
- Alaska, Alien Arrivals at Various Locations, 1906-1956. 12,001 indexed records.
- Illinois Deaths and Burials, 1749-1999. 571,558 indexed records.
- Indiana Deaths and Burials, 1750-1993. 145,186 indexed records.
- Maryland, Baltimore Passenger Lists Index, 1897-1952. 131,259 records.
- New Mexico, Catholic Church Records, 1701-1956. 30,312 browsable images.
- Washington, Deaths and Burials, 1810-1960. 650,057 indexed records.
- England, Isle of Wight Parish Registers, 1538-1983. 705,906 indexed records.
- France, Morbihan, Parish and Civil Registration, 1530-1892. 4,140,622 indexed records.

New Books Added to JCGL in March

[Click here for the complete list.](#)



89 items were added to JCGL, including a spectacular 47 volume set, with multiple parts of many volumes so there are actually 100 books in the set: *War of the Rebellion: a compilation of the official records of the Union and Confederate armies, Series I*. See below for some details about the set.

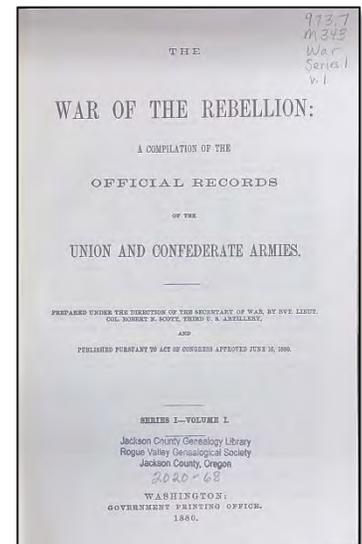
In addition, there are 4 foreign language dictionaries: Dutch (439.3 NTC), Swedish (439.7 Pri), Norwegian (439.8 Eng), and French (443 Cas). Additions to some of the smaller states include Delaware (975.11), West Virginia (975.451), and Wisconsin (977.515) and 5 books about Arkansas (976.7). For exact titles and call numbers, look at the list...and look at the list for other places and subjects not included here. *Don't forget to look at the New Books when you come to the Genealogy Library. You never know what treasure you may find!*

Are you trying to trace your civil war ancestor's military service?

By Barbara Northrop, MSW

RVGS has acquired a new book series entitled, *War of the Rebellion: Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, Series I, vols. 1-47 plus index. This compiled collection contains formal reports, correspondence, orders, and miscellaneous reports from both Union and Confederate military operations and campaigns in chronological order. While your specific ancestor may not be named, unit reports and correspondence provide a look into the daily life of a company soldier. Use the 1 volume index first, then the index to the specific volume.

A cautionary note: It is helpful to know your soldier's company and unit, union or confederate, as well as the state and period in which he served. Come and explore it!



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...come in to see what is on the shelf. Here are the books added in March:



- *Stories of Cherry Creek, Nevada, and surrounding country* by Muriel E. Feticc \$48.00
- *Early History of Gallatin County, Montana* by E. Lina Houston \$18.00
- *Basin, A History [Montana]* by Jo Jensen \$16.00
- *History of Bonner County [Idaho]* \$11.00
- *Families of Early Guilford, Connecticut* by Alvan Talcott \$75.00
- *Pre-1841 Censuses & Population Listings in the British Isles* by Colin R. Chapman \$12.00
- *1787 census of Virginia, Culpeper County [personal property tax lists]* by Netti Schreiner-
- Yantis and Florene Love \$7.50
- CD-ROM *A Dictionary of Law* by Henry Campbell Black, 1st ed. 1891; 2nd ed. 1910 \$22.00
- Quarter Sessions Records for Family Historians: A Select List by J.S.W. Gibson, 2nd ed., 1986 \$3.00

New Periodicals

Circ 929.05 AmS v.154 (2), March/April 2020

American Spirit, Daughters of the American Revolution

The Boston massacre; Women's influence in some states, suffrage and published journals; Divorce and separation in Colonial and early America.



Circ 929.1 Int v.14 (6), February/March 2020

Internet Genealogy.

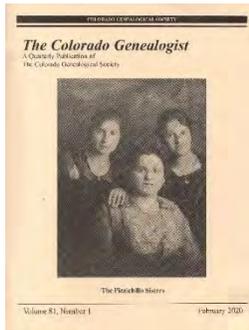
Masonic records, Searching for obituaries, Agricultural fairs, The importance of dates (in history) in the lives of ancestors, Everyday objects, *A Street Near You* (new resource for researching WWI ancestors), Online European archives, Writing family memoirs using StoryTerrace, *The War of the Rebellion* (review of the 128-volume set of Civil War official records, recently added to the RVGS Library.)



Circ 974 P273 AA v, 20 (4), Winter 2020

American Ancestors, New England Historic Genealogical Society.

Special edition: The 2020 guide to the Mayflower 400th anniversary. All things Mayflower, including DNA details. Index of persons in volume 20.



Circ 978.8 P273 Col v.81 (1), February 2020

The Colorado Genealogist, Colorado Genealogical Society.

Death and burial of Louisa Pizzichillo (Denver); St. Andrew's Mission records, 1873-1891 (Manitou Springs); Bible records in the Denver Public Library [families Rugg, Oard, JS Walker, Cady, Rogers/Sively/Levering, Swift, and Frenoe/Freano.]

Circ 979.421 P273 Hei v.44 (2), January 2020

Heir Lines, Genealogical Society of Siskiyou County, California.

"Occupations" [hint: use to sort your ancestor from a person with the same name.], telephone technology, and newspaper clippings from the West about Yreka and Weed.

Circ 979.529 P273 Dou v.34 (1), March 2020

Douglas County Pioneer, Genealogical Society of Douglas County, Oregon.

Stevenson family, John S Catching murder, Roseburg Pauper cemetery (continued), Burchard families, Pensioners list – 1883, Douglas County marriages (Book 6) and Guardianships (v.2), 1907 Yoncalla school and grain census, naturalization petitions (Brelage, Kohl, Peterson, Domenico, Armstrong, and Kluge), and Name index for volume 34.

Bottle Drop Give UPDATE:

By Nancy Roberts, RVGS Recycling Coordinator



Happy Spring everyone! Our [BottleDrop Give](#)

fundraising program is alive and well. Thank you to RVGS members who have been actively using this program. As of March 31, 2020, the balance is **\$203.38**. As soon as the Genealogy Library re-opens, we will be happy to receive your full blue bags and give you empty ones to fill.

