



# Genealogy Journal

Official publication of  
The Grants Pass Genealogical Society  
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Grants Pass Genealogical Society  
P.O. Box 214  
Grants Pass, OR 97528  
[www.gpgenealogy.org](http://www.gpgenealogy.org)

Meetings held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday  
of each month  
(except July, Aug, & Dec)  
1:30 PM at  
Josephine Community Library  
200 NW "C" Street  
Grants Pass, OR 97526

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### **President's Message:**

February is laced with holidays and other special events. For the romantic it's Valentine's Day with quaint cards, flowers and chocolate. For the patriot – it's Presidents Day, a three day holiday honoring George Washington, Abraham Lincoln all those who have held the Highest Office of the Land.

For those members of the Grants Pass Genealogical Society, February 2011 is when we switch from our former meeting location at Spring Meadow Retirement Community across town and return to The Ben Bones Room at the Josephine Community Library.



***OUR OLD MEETING LOCATION:  
SAYING GOODBYE TO SPRING MEADOW  
RETIREMENT COMMUNITY***

When I first became a Society member, the Ben Bones Room was where all our meetings were held. Eventually, GPGS meetings were transferred to the Josephine County Historical Society Barn and were held there for many years.

In order to present better programs each month, GPGS officers tried two other meeting locations where internet access was available. Programs were expanded and attendance at meetings increased. With the need for a larger meeting room, it was decided to return to the Ben Bones Room on February 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. We plan to hold all our meetings there in 2011.



***OUR NEW MEETING LOCATION:  
JOSEPHINE COMMUNITY LIBRARY  
200 NW C STREET GRANTS PASS***

February is also the month we join with the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society to plan a joint seminar on October 22, 2011 at the City Library in Medford. Guest speaker for the seminar will be Dr. Steve P. Morse, a well-known genealogist, speaker and author of the “One Step Portal” to doing genealogy research on line. As our two groups work out the details you will hear more about the 2011 Genealogy Seminar, and I know you will all support it enthusiastically.

This month’s speaker is LaVona Ness, a GPGS member, and an authority on the New Family Search project being developed by the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Lavona is especially gifted in presenting this topic. She will discuss changes, additions, databases, tools and many resources too numerous to list here.

A reminder that the Board of Directors meeting will be held from 12:30 to 1:15 before the general meeting and this “nuts and bolts” meeting is open to all members. I hope to see many of you at the meeting on Tuesday February 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m.

Cheers,  
Celeste Guillory  
GPGS President

**FEBRUARY SPEAKER TOPIC**

At our meeting on February 8<sup>th</sup>, we will have LaVona Ness as our speaker on the topic of New Family Search. LaVona has been a volunteer at the Family History Center for many years, as well as a genealogy researcher for over 50 years. New Family Search has been available to LDS members for about three years for functionality testing before its release to the general public. We are told it will be released “very soon.” At that time, all users will need to establish a user name and password and log in to use the site. The site is more user-friendly than before and contains much more data to search. Another benefit is that it will be possible to order and pay for microfilm rentals on-line and have them sent to your local Family History Center for viewing.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Writing Contest**

The Rogue Valley Genealogical Society is sponsoring a writing contest. The assignment is to write a family story around a certain family member, a place significant to your family, or an heirloom owned by your family. See [www.rvgsociety.org](http://www.rvgsociety.org) for the rules and additional information. This deadline is April 15, 2011. Contact Janis Seaton for a flyer if you are interested in entering this contest.

### **“Diggin’ In The Dark”--Free Research at Genealogy Library**

Join the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society staff and members for a free, full evening of family history fun from 3:00 PM to 10:00 PM on Monday, February 7, 2011. No previous genealogy experience is necessary. Bring your known family information, a USB flash drive for saving what you find, and your supper. See the attached flyer.

### **“Who Do You Think You Are?” Returns for Second Season**

The NBC program investigating the family trees of various well-known personalities begins its second season on Friday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 PM, Channel 5. First up is Vanessa Williams, followed by Tim McGraw, Kim Cattrall, Rosie O’Donnell, Lionel Richie, Steve Buscemi, Gwyneth Paltrow and Ashley Judd.

### **Ancestry.Com Subscription Available for Free at Local Library**

Don’t forget that you can access the full version of Ancestry.Com at our local library at no cost to you. There are ten or twelve computers available (two of which are dedicated exclusively for the use of genealogy researchers), or you can bring your own laptop computer to the library and use it to log on to the library’s subscription. You can either print off information such as census images at the library for a small fee or bring a flash drive and save it to print later at home.

## **Pass-Along Books**

I have a couple of interesting books I would like to pass along to someone else to read. Let me know if you would like to have one (or both) of them. They are “Isaac’s Storm” by Erik Larson (true story of the historic hurricane that struck Galveston in 1900) and “Empty Cradles” by Margaret Humphreys (about the 150,000 British child migrants shipped out of their country to institutions in Australia and elsewhere without their parents’ knowledge or consent).--*Janis Seaton*

## **Looking for a Home for Lynn Thomas’ Research Materials**

Lynn Thomas, a former President of the Grants Pass Genealogical Society, passed away five years ago. Her husband, Don Thomas, also a past President and long-time board member, is looking for a home for some of her research data. The materials include information on the following surnames: JOHN (Wales, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois and Montana), BLINZLER (Germany, Ohio, Missouri, Washington and Alaska), KEATON & RIGNEY (North and South Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky and Missouri), and PERRY (Maryland and Virginia). Let one of the board members know if you have an interest in these materials.

## **Computer Projector Donated by Southern Oregon PAF Users Group**

A few months ago the Southern Oregon PAF Users Group disbanded after more than 15 years as a non-profit organization. They donated a digital projector to GPGS, but the donation has been held up by “red tape” until now by officials in Salem.

The State of Oregon now agrees that GPGS can receive the projector as a non-profit organization as outlined in our bylaws and the bylaws of the SO-PAF Users Group.

I want to thank Helen Rhoades, SO-PAF Users Group Treasurer, for her help convincing officials in Salem that GPGS is in fact an eligible non-profit organization able to accept the donation of the projector by the SO-PAF Users Group. Our club will benefit from the use of this equipment for many years to come.—*Celeste Guillory*

## **Help Wanted for October Genealogy Seminar**

Help Wanted! Volunteers needed for October 22, 2011 Seminar. The Grants Pass and Rogue Valley Genealogical Societies are joining forces to present Dr. Stephen Morse, PhD. Dr. Morse is a renowned computer specialist who developed the One Step method of searching genealogy-related websites such as the Ellis Island website.

We will need volunteers to secure advertising sales for the syllabus, serve coffee, greet patrons at the doors, move furniture and other great jobs! Please contact RVGS Public Relations Director Carolyn Beron at [541beron@charter.net](mailto:541beron@charter.net) if you can help with any of these opportunities.—*From Rogue Valley Genealogical Society*

### **Digitized and Indexed State Census Images at FamilySearch.org**

You have probably researched U.S. Federal Census records for your ancestors, but have you checked out the various State Census records for those individuals? As a rule, these censuses were taken in between Federal census years, thereby filling in some of the blank years for us. Below is a list of some of the indexed and digitized images available at the FamilySearch.org web site.

**Florida** – 1885, 1935, 1945

**Massachusetts** – 1855, 1965

**Minnesota** – 1865, 1875, 1885, 1895, 1905

**New York** – 1865, 1892, 1905

**Rhode Island** – 1885, 1905, 1918, 1925, 1935

**South Dakota** – 1905, 1915, 1925, 1935, 1945

**Wisconsin** – 1855, 1875, 1885, 1895, 1905

*Note: I navigated to the correct spot on the site by clicking on “Try the updated site,” then Historical Records, then Browse by Location.--Editor*

### **Oregon State Hospital Hopes to Reunite Cremains with Past Patients’ Families**

Oregon State Hospital is the custodian of the cremated remains of approximately 3,500 people who died while living at Oregon State Hospital, Oregon State Tuberculosis Hospital, Mid-Columbia Hospital, Dammasch State Hospital, Oregon State Penitentiary, and Fairview Training Center between 1914 and the 1970’s. These cremains were never claimed. The hospital has posted a list of names in the hopes of uniting the cremains with family members. The web site where the list is posted is: [www.oregon.gov/DHS/mentalhealth/osh/cremains.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/mentalhealth/osh/cremains.shtml).

### **Organizing Your E-Mail In Box (One Topic per E-Mail Message)**

I found when I was President, that I got quite a lot of e-mail. It was much quicker to go through it and decide what to keep and what to delete if each e-mail dealt with only one topic, and if the contents matched the topic named in the Subject line. That way if you are going through your messages and want to sort them into folders (or delete some of them), you don’t have to open each one to see if it is really about what it says it is about. People often will use one of your old e-mails in the Reply mode to write to you on a new topic, so that the Subject line does not really indicate what the new e-mail is about. Also, if only

one topic is covered per e-mail, you can delete messages as each topic is handled, rather than waiting for several items to be completed.—*Janis Seaton*

### **Begin Saving Items for August Flea Market Sale**

As the weather warms up and we start to move outdoors, it's the time when people start sorting through things in storage, their yard and garage. As you gather items you no longer need or can use, please consider saving them for the Daily Courier Yard Sale being held in August. It's not too early to start putting items aside for the upcoming yard sale.

Last year GPGS benefitted from selling "stuff" at the Courier yard sale and we plan to do so again this year. Proceeds from the sale were very high considering the amount of time spent at the Courier parking lot.

Things we need other than white elephants are plants, garden equipment, trays, dishes, vases, glasses, sports equipment, etc. Please limit books as there are many vendors selling just books during the yard sale. Computer hardware and software is okay. Clothes are okay, but we have a limited amount of space to display them properly.

I suggest plants because many gardeners come to the yard sale. Lavender, rosemary, sage and other plants are popular and often the first to go. Contact me if you need one-gallon size containers for plants when dividing and replanting for the sale.

If someone wants to volunteer to head a yard sale committee, please give me a call. Those of us who worked at the sale last August enjoyed ourselves, and it was also an opportunity to publicize our group.—*Celeste Guillory*

### **Upcoming Events:**

- Feb 8        General Meeting Grants Pass Genealogical Society, 1:30 PM, Ben Bones Room of Josephine Community Library. Speaker LaVona Ness, on New Family Search.
- Feb 15       General Meeting Rogue Valley Genealogical Society, 1:30PM, 2495 S. Pacific Hwy, Medford. "Googling Your Genealogy Plus: Part II," presenter Barbara Basden.
- Mar 8        General Meeting Grants Pass Genealogical Society, 1:30 PM, Ben Bones Room of Josephine Community Library. Speaker to be announced.
- Mar 15       From 10 AM to 12 Noon: "DNA, Your Paper Trail," a genealogy workshop, at 2495 S. Pacific Hwy, Medford. The workshop is sponsored by the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society. The speaker will be Emily Aulicino, the

Regional Coordinator for the International Society of Genetic Genealogists for Oregon, Washington and Idaho. Cost \$10 for RVGS members, \$20 for non-members. Go to [www.rgvslibrary.org](http://www.rgvslibrary.org) or call 541-512-2340 to pre-register.

- Mar 15 At 1:30 PM: “Fattening Up Your Skinny Ancestors,” speaker Emily Aulicino, a retired teacher from Portland who has been researching her family’s genealogy for over 40 years. This presentation will also be held at 2495 S. Pacific Highway. No charge for this lecture.
- Mar 20 Research trip to Family History Library in Salt Lake City sponsored by  
thru Rogue Valley Genealogical Society. Fee of \$750 per person double  
Mar 27 occupancy includes round trip transportation by bus and six nights’ lodging.  
See flyer at end of newsletter.
- Apr 2 Spring Seminar, Genealogical Forum of Oregon. Speaker Thomas W. Jones. Topics: Five Ways to Prove Who Your Ancestor Was, How to Avoid Being Duped by the Internet, Solving the Mystery of the Disappearing Ancestor, Finding “Unfindable” Ancestors. 9AM to 4PM at the Milwaukie Elks Lodge. More information at [www.gfo.org](http://www.gfo.org).
- May 14 Spring Seminar, Bend Genealogical Society. Speaker Henry Z. “Hank” Jones. Topics: When Sources are Wrong!, Origins of 18<sup>th</sup> Century Palatine and Other Immigrants, Family Tradition: Separating Fact from Fiction, How Psychic Roots Became an Unsolved Mystery. 9AM to 4PM More information at [www.orgenweb.org/deschutes/bend-gs](http://www.orgenweb.org/deschutes/bend-gs).
- Aug 6 Fantastic Flea Market, 11<sup>th</sup> annual fundraiser for more than 50 local nonprofit organizations, takes place in the Daily Courier parking lot.
- Aug 9 Annual Picnic Potluck. You are invited to prepare an old family recipe and bring along the instructions to share with fellow members.
- Oct 22 Joint seminar with Rogue Valley Genealogical Society, featuring Stephen P. Morse of One-Step Web Pages as featured speaker. More details to follow.
- Dec 7 Christmas Holiday Luncheon Buffet at 12:00 Noon at the Taprock Restaurant. Note that this will be on a Wednesday this year instead of on Tuesday.

# Diggin' in the Dark: Genealogy After Hours

**When:** Monday, February 7, 2011 -between 3:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

**Where:** Jackson County Genealogy Library 95 Houston Road, Phoenix, Oregon.

*Join the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society staff and members for a free, full evening of family history fun. No previous genealogy experience is necessary. Bring your known family information, a USB flash drive for saving what we find and your supper.*

Please register by phone 541-512-2340 or in person at Jackson County Genealogy Library, 95 Houston Road, Phoenix, Oregon.





## SALT LAKE CITY - 2011

Raindance Tours will provide bus transportation and arrange lodging at the Plaza Hotel in SLC. We will schedule stopovers in Winnemucca at the (former Red Lion) both coming and going. Meals not included.

MARCH 20 – 27, 2011

**DATES;** LEAVE MEDFORD – **SUNDAY MORNING**, MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup>. – TIME TBA. LUNCH IN BEAUTIFUL DOWNTOWN LAKEVIEW.

- **SUNDAY NIGHT** IN WINNEMUCCA – WIN YOUR FORTUNE!!!!
- **MONDAY** - LEAVE WINNEMUCCA –LUNCH AT PEPPERMILL – ARRIVE SLC FOR DINNER.
- **FREE SEMINAR – MONDAY EVENING**, MARCH 21<sup>ST</sup>. – TOPIC TO BE ANNOUNCED.
- **RESEARCH TUESDAY - FRIDAY – STRIKE IT RICH WITH ANCESTORS!**
- **FRIDAY EVENING**, MARCH 25<sup>TH</sup>. – OPTIONAL NO HOST GROUP DINNER IN THE GARDEN ROOM HIGH UP IN THE BEAUTIFUL JOSEPH SMITH BUILDING AT 6:00 P.M.. LET CHARLEEN BROWN KNOW IF YOU WISH TO ATTEND SO RESERVATIONS CAN BE MADE.
- **SATURDAY – ~~APRIL 16<sup>TH</sup>~~ <sup>March 26<sup>th</sup></sup>**. DEPART SLC
- **SATURDAY NIGHT** IN WINNEMUCCA – 3<sup>rd</sup> CHANCE TO STRIKE IT RICH!!!
- **SUNDAY MORNING** MARCH 27<sup>TH</sup>. DEPART WINNEMUCCA FOR HOME.
- **SUNDAY AFTERNOON – ARRIVE IN MEDFORD.**

2 EVENINGS OF FUN AND GAMING IN WINNEMUCCA.

5 NIGHTS AND 4 FULL DAYS OF RESEARCH IN SLC PLUS THE FREE SEMINAE.

ALL THIS FOR THE NOMINAL FEE OF \$750.00 per person, double occupancy (single occupancy \$300) more).

Limited to 42 so make your reservation **NOW!!!!!!**

**Register with Raindance at 541-479-8217**

### OTHER THINGS TO DO:

**VARIETY OF REASONABLY PRICED SIGHT-SEEING TOURS AVAILABLE BUT NOT INCLUDED:**

**Lake City Tour – Enjoy sites of the city as you learn the history of settlement.**

**Park City Tour – Explore the historic 1884 silver mining town.**

**Kennecott Mine Tour – View the world's largest man-made excavation, ¾ mile deep and covers 1, Salt 900 acres. It can be seen from outer-space.**