



Genealogy Journal

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The Grants Pass Genealogical Society
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Grants Pass Genealogical
Society
P.O. Box 214
Grants Pass, OR 97528
www.gpgenealogy.org

Meetings held on 2nd Tuesday of
each month (except July, Aug,
Dec) at 1:30 PM at the LDS
Church, Relief Society Room,
1969 Williams Hwy, (corner of
Harbeck)
Grants Pass, OR 97526

President
Celeste Guillory
541-471-1944
cacese36@gmail.com

Vice-President
Linda Kent
541-592-3736
lindak@cavenet.com

Secretary
Barbara Johnson
541-226-6064
bjohn2@clearwire.net

Treasurer
LaVona Ness
541-479-2027
dolaness@clearwire.net

Newsletter
Janis Seaton
541-474-4686
janisseaton@earthlink.net

Telephone Committee
Nada Dusslier
541-479-0141
Esther Snyder
541-476-6161

Marianne Gordon
541-471-2251



Letter from the President

THE BIG DAY HAS ARRIVED!

The big day finally arrived on Monday, April 2nd, as the National Archives released the 1940 US Federal Census on-line. No surprises when I finally connected with my family living in Daly City – San Mateo County- California – ED

will be able to identify the ED (Enumeration District); then it's only a matter of time until you find your people.

If you know where your family lived in the 1930 Census, there is a good chance they will be in the same ED in 1940 unless they moved or lived in a large city, but that's a good place to start. Don't be timid--dive in there and you'll learn how to navigate the NARA.gov site very quickly. There is a tutorial to help and you will be teased by a connection to ancestry.com. Don't forget Dr. Morse's tutorial and one-step tools to research the 1940 Federal census (www.stevemorse.org).

Some very good news! We have outgrown the Ben Bones Room at the Josephine Community Library and starting April 10th meetings will be held at the LDS Church located at the corner of Williams Highway and West Harbeck Road. Please come to the Williams Highway side of the building, not the Family History Center side of the building. There is plenty of parking and the general meeting starts at 1:30. The Board of Directors meeting commences at 12:30 and members are invited to attend this meeting also if they wish.

41-08 Image 12. The entry looked like my mother's handwriting – nice and clear, but the surname was spelled incorrectly. I am not listed and was born a year later.

After almost two hours of gazing at names long forgotten from my youth, I found three policemen we all knew as teenagers who worked in trades other than law enforcement in 1940. My grammar school principal was single and head of the house with three small children. My Girl Scout leader was there with her husband and daughter before he was hired by the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office. He had just retired when my husband started working at the same place in the 1960's. A well-known businessman who made a living selling tombstones in later years owned our first house, which we purchased in 1965.

As mentioned previously, it really helps to know where your people were living on April 2, 1940. If you do, you

Thank you Beverly & Jerry Wellington, new members and current directors of the FHC, and former FHC Director Don Fairchild, for helping GPGS obtain permission to use the Relief Society Room for meetings. This is a fine location, with Internet access and plenty of room to grow.

Cheers and happy census hunting,

Celeste Guillory

April Presentation



Our April 10th speaker will be Linda Hugle, on the topic of “Cincinnati, A Crossroads Many of Our Ancestors Passed Through.” We were lucky to have had Linda, a former teacher and school principal, speak to us in the past about Jewish shtetls (communities) in Eastern Europe. We look forward to her newest presentation.

If you would like to find out a little more about migration and settlement patterns in Cincinnati and about the state of Ohio, here are a few useful websites.

www.ohiohistorycentral.org

Ohio History Central, An Online Encyclopedia of Ohio History.

<http://ohsweb.ohiohistory.org>

Ohio Historical Society.

www.ohgenweb.org

Ohio Gen Web.

Volunteers Requested for May 19th Retirement Expo

We have been invited to participate in the Retirement Expo to be sponsored by the Young At Heart (retirement magazine) folks at the Josephine County Fairgrounds next month. There will be various vendors and organizations staffing information booths. There will also be a Quilt Show going on in the next

building. I volunteered to coordinate the event for our club this year. We plan to set up a couple of tables and do genealogy lookups for visitors, as we did last year. It is a good opportunity to meet and greet members of the community and is a whole lot of fun, besides. The event runs from 10 AM to 4 PM. If you have a couple of hours (or a whole day) to spend, give me a call or e-mail me to volunteer some time.—*Janis Seaton, Editor*

My Roots Are Here T-Shirts

“MY ROOTS ARE HERE” T-shirts have been ordered and will be available at the meeting on April 10th. I'll take orders and have a color chart to help people choose what color they prefer for their t-shirt.

These are good quality garments - you add the sequin, button, or puff paint to "mark the spot" where you're researching. Shirts cost \$16.00 and are worth the price. Turnaround time is about 3 weeks.

Celeste Guillory
541 471-1944
cacese36@gmail.com

Google Yourself

Have you ever "googled" yourself? Try it and see how many hits you get.

To be alerted when someone does a search on your name, sign up for Google Alerts, a free Google service that advises you when your name comes up on a Web Search. It's easy. Go to Google.com, toggle over to "more" and go down to the "alerts" part of the page.

Letter to Daily Courier Editor from Our President

Dear Editor,

Those of us who have been bitten by the "genealogy bug" have been counting the days to the April 2nd release of the 1940 US Federal Census. We were prepared to access the archive site and hoped the National Archives would not be swamped with too many inquiries. Even though www.nara.gov had over 20 million hits on Monday, it was easy to navigate and very responsive. The tax payers are getting their money's worth at this government website.

The Federal Census is a tool genealogists employ to look back in time. Some of us have lived the 72 years since the Census was taken and can feel very special if listed in it.

Having grown up in a small town, I was amazed to see so many names of people I remember from my youth, the value of the house where I was raised and the names of my neighbors. So many of these young men went off to war within two years and this was their last census.

Thank you for printing such an interesting article about the 1940 Census in Monday's edition of the Daily Courier. You do not have to be 100 years old to enjoy viewing these records....go to www.nara.gov to find your family in the 1940 Federal US Census and step back in time.

Celeste Guillory
President
Grants Pass Genealogical Society

LATE BREAKING 1940 CENSUS NEWS

The following was reprinted from the April 6th Issue of Area-Info.net, Genealogy Newsline Newsletter:

Ancestry Has Finished the Indexing of the 1940 Delaware & Nevada Censuses

The following was received from Mathew Deighton at Ancestry.com this afternoon:

Ancestry.com is proud to announce the first indexed states of the 1940 U.S. Census are now ready for searching. After 72 years being held from public view, the Nevada and Delaware 1940 Census is now available and searchable for free on Ancestry.com. While the remainder of the U.S. states are digitized and available for viewing, Delaware and Nevada can now be easily searched by name, opening a window into the time of the great depression and WWII. Information that can be found in this recently released census includes: name, address, value of home, occupation and employment status, income in 1939, education, marriage information and much more.

READ THE FULL ARTICLE at: <http://www.genealogyblog.com/?p=17967>

The following was reprinted from April 5 Edition of Genealogy Insider, E-Newsletter of Family Tree Magazine. Go to the website www.familytreemagazine.com if you would like to subscribe to the newsletter.

How To Find Family in the 1940 Census

We've been blogging all week with search demos for using the 1940 census collections of the websites where the records are available. Check out our how-tos for finding ancestors on these sites:

- 1940Census.Archives.gov (We first blogged about this site on census launch day, when it was overwhelmed with traffic. It's working much faster now.)
- Ancestry.com
- FamilySearch.org
- MyHeritage.com (This was the first commercial site to upload 1940 census records for the entire country.)

1940 Census Searches Done for You

As name indexes to 1940 census records become available for each state, you can be automatically notified of records matching your ancestors.

[Find out how on the Genealogy Insider blog.](#)

How Popular Is the 1940 Census?

[These statistics tell you something about how many people have been looking for ancestors in the 1940 census.](#)

New Building for Jackson County Genealogical Library



The Rogue Valley Genealogical Society has announced the purchase of a new building for the Jackson County Genealogical Library. The new location is 3405 South Pacific Highway, between Medford and Phoenix. The building contains approximately 5,500 square feet (nearly double the current building size), and there are 60 parking spaces in the parking lot, wonderful improvements over the current setup in Phoenix. They anticipate moving in early this summer after completing some remodeling. To read more about it, go to www.rvgsociety.org, click on “Read Our Blog” at the bottom of the page, and then click on “April 2012 + New Building” at the top of the new window that opens up.

Be A Part of Indexing the 1940 Census

We all know that the sooner we get the 1940 census indexed, the sooner we can all use it as a useful tool in our genealogy research. I recently signed up to be an indexer at familysearch.org. I had previously registered to get a User Name and Password. Within a few minutes I downloaded the necessary software and got right to work on some beginner-level indexing projects. Besides the “warm fuzzy” feeling of being useful, I found out that IT’S LOTS OF FUN! There are a couple of sample 1940 Census Pages to practice on, and loads of other projects just waiting for some wonderful person like you to index them. Just follow the simple instructions and make use of the multiple opportunities on the website to get any questions answered. You know we’ve all benefited from the kindness of others. This is your opportunity to “pay it forward.” Try it, you’ll like it!—

Editor

Recommended Websites

www.1940census.archives.gov

This is the website to go to on April 2nd to view the 1940 census for the first time. Be patient, as there will be a few other people trying at the same time!

www.census.gov/1940census

This is an informational website about the 1940 census. It contains such interesting tidbits as the price of gasoline in 1940 (18 cents a gallon) and the cost of a new car (\$1,611). There are various comparisons made between America in 1940 versus America today. One major difference is that our population has more doubled since 1940.

www.familytreemagazine.com/info/recordreferences

Here are some downloadable cheat sheets and checklists that will come in very handy in your research. I recommend the Records Checklist to remind you of potential information sources to break down your brick wall. The Vital Records Chart lists the years that each state began keeping state-level birth, marriage and death records. There are a few other useful charts, too.

www.whatwasthere.com

This is a website where you can upload photos tagged by date and location, so that they can be viewed by others searching by location for relevant photos. If you prefer, you can be the searcher by entering a geographical place to see what is on file. I don't see anything there for Grants Pass yet!

Upcoming Events

NOTE: REGISTRATION FORMS FOR THE SEMINARS LISTED BELOW CAN BE FOUND IN THE FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER.



Apr 10 Monthly GPGS meeting at 1:30 PM in the Relief Society Room, LDS Church, corner of Harbeck Road and Williams Highway. Note that we have moved to a larger meeting site to accommodate our increasing number of members and attendees. Guest speaker

Linda Hugle will give a talk on “Cincinnati Research, A Crossroads Many Families Passed Through.”

- Apr 9-16 Research trip to Salt Lake City (Family History Library), sponsored by Rogue Valley Genealogical Society.
- Apr 17 RVGS General Meeting, 1:30 – 3:30 PM, 2495 S. Pacific Hwy, Medford. Four RVGS members will talk about their trip to the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy in January. Barbara Basden will also talk about the Roots Tech Conference in February.
- Apr 21 Bend Genealogical Society 2012 Spring Seminar. Featuring Dick Eastman, Founder and Editor of Eastman’s Online Genealogy Newsletter. 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Bend Golf & Country Club. Early Bird registration fees apply through April 13th. Go to this website for more information:
www.orgenweb.org/Deschutes/bend-gs.
- Apr 21 Spring Seminar, Genealogical Forum of Oregon, to be held at Milwaukie Elks Lodge. Speaker J. Mark Lowe, CG. Info at www.gfo.org.
- Apr 21 “How to Use Cemetery Sources,” Jacksonville Cemetery, 9:30 – 11:00 AM. Part of the “Mysteries in Our Backyard” series (sponsored by RVGS). Free
- Apr 21 Fort Vannoy Marker Dedication, Ft. Vannoy Farm, 11:00 AM.
- Apr 27 “Finding the Treasures in the Genealogy Library,” 9:30 – 11:30 AM, at Jackson County Genealogy Library, 95 Houston Rd., Phoenix, Oregon. (\$10 for RVGS members, \$20 for non-members.)
- Apr 28 “Brick Wall Roundtable.” 10:30 AM – 12:00 Noon, Jackson County Genealogy Library, 95 Houston Rd., Phoenix, OR.
- May 5 “The Do’s and Don’ts of Genealogy.” 1:00 – 3:00 PM, Jackson County Genealogy Library, 95 Houston Rd., Phoenix, OR. (\$10 for RVGS members, \$20 for non-members.)
- May 8 GPGS monthly meeting. “The 1940 Census.”
- May 15 Two classes offered prior to the RVGS General Meeting. “Understanding Emigration & Immigration” from 9:30-1030 AM

and “German Ancestry Explained” from 11:30 – 12:30. Price \$20 per class, guest lecturer is Susan LeBlanc.

- May 15 RVGS general meeting at 2495 S. Pacific Hwy., Medford, from 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM. “The Best Kept Secret: World Vital Records on the Internet.” Guest lecturer Susan LeBlanc. Free.
- Jun 9 Hugo History Day, Hugo Ladies Club, 9 AM – 3:30 PM.
- Jun 12 GPGS monthly meeting. Speaker Bob James, “Import/Export of Data.”
- July (No meeting scheduled.)
- Aug 14 GPGS Annual Club Picnic. Location to be announced.
- Sep 11 GPGS monthly meeting. Speaker to be announced.
- Oct 9 GPGS monthly meeting. Speaker to be announced.
- Oct 20 Graveyard Tour, IOOF Cemetery, 4 PM and 6 PM shows. Presented by Living History Players of Josephine County Historical Society.
- Nov 13 GPGS monthly meeting. Speaker to be announced. Annual election of officers.
- Dec 5 Annual Christmas Luncheon, TapRock Northwest Grill, 12:00 Noon. Installation of Board of Directors. Note: This event is on a Wednesday.