



Genealogy Journal

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

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

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**Looking Back and
Looking Ahead to
2012, A Message
from the GPGS
President**

Happy New Year everyone! 2011 was a banner year for GPGS and I want to remind you of some of the things done during the year.

Also in August – the Courier Parking Lot sale – good publicity and we made enough money to buy two nice banners for advertising. Thank you, Judy Leipold, for doing the legwork so the BOD could OK purchase of the banners. Janis Seaton, Barbara Johnson, Judy Leipold, and Don & LaVona Ness worked hard that day...thank goodness it wasn't too hot!

All year long the Seminar Committee worked on the October Seminar along with the RVGS – we had fun, learned a lot about Dr. Morse's website and made a nice profit. Barbara Johnson obtained many quality door prizes for the event that spiced up the day for everyone.

The Mentor Program commenced and is on the website. New and longtime members are encouraged to team up with one of the volunteers or volunteer to be a Mentor themselves.

In September Janis Seaton and I were on the KAJO Talk Show for about an hour. This was an opportunity to promote the October Seminar and the annual Grants Pass Genealogy Seminar at the Family History Center.

A \$100.00 donation was made to the Josephine Community Library as a token of our appreciation for using the Ben Bones Room. I hope our members will make a small donation each meeting day to the Library for use of the Ben Bones Room

We moved to the JOCO Library for our meetings in February, which gave us access to the internet. Thank you to Don Ness for coordinating use of the internet by using the projector and his laptop. The projector was donated to GPGS by the SO-PAF Users Group when they disbanded. Having the projector has been a big step towards making presentations more interesting.

Two classes were conducted at the Josephine Community Library to help researchers use Ancestry.com.

In June we had an information table at the Senior Fair – great exposure and we helped some researchers, too.

August – a fun annual picnic at the Ness House – Thank you, Don & LaVona, for hosting this event again. Award ribbons were presented for the best entrée, dessert, and salad.

each month. FYI - the Library is not charging us to use the Internet or the Ben Bones Room for our meetings.

In October a month-long display was featured at the main branch of Evergreen Bank – I hope this will be a yearly activity for GPGS. Thank you to Janis Seaton and Louise Ross for spearheading this activity.

Our Newsletter is attracting new members and interest in what we do as an organization thanks to Janis Seaton's talent as Editor.

Barbara Johnson and Don Thomas were interviewed by the Daily Courier and that interview was printed in the November Weekend Supplement. A lot of material was covered and well presented by Patti Richter of the Daily Courier.

The GPGS website (www.gpgenealogy.org) is up, running and attracting much interest. I'm so happy we have it as a club resource. Thank you to Louise Ross for being Webmaster for the first year it was on-line.

Thank you also to Nada Dussler, Esther Snyder and Marianne Gordon for making phone calls to remind members about upcoming meetings. You do a great job, which is appreciated very much.

Vice President Linda Kent produced some very interesting speakers for the monthly meetings. She has been working on programs for 2012 – the January program is about Ellis Island. Check the web-calendar for a list of all upcoming programs for 2012.

LaVona Ness has done double duty as Treasurer for GPGS and Co-Treasurer for the October Seminar. In addition, LaVona has taken on the duties of Membership Chairman with the assistance of Louise Lydon. As membership has grown in 2011, the work for both LaVona and Louise has increased. I thank them both for their efforts.

We welcomed Hal Hutchens, the new director of the Grants Pass Family History Center at the Christmas Luncheon. Hal gave a short presentation about all the new computers and internet access at the FHC. Hal and his wife Diana replace Shar and Don Fairchild who held this position for more than four years. Don Fairchild has made presentations at GPGS meetings about portable scanners and the new Family Search.

The annual Christmas luncheon was held at the Tap Rock Northwest Grill in a lovely setting. A warm fireplace and Christmas decorations along with a view of the Rogue River was a charming setting to hold the well-attended luncheon. I

hope everyone enjoyed themselves. Le Raish won the grand prize – a ***MY ROOTS ARE HERE*** T-shirt.

GPGS business meetings are held in the Ben Bones Room at 12:30 before the general meeting and all are invited to attend. The BOD meeting is over by 1:30, when the general meeting commences. Officers for 2012 are: President Celeste Guillory, V/President Linda Kent, Secretary Barbara Johnson, and Treasurer LaVona Ness. Pat Heumann and Jeri Paradise appointed Parliamentarian and Member-At-Large respectively. Louise Lydon assists LaVona with membership duties.

I want to thank all our members both new and longtime and encourage you all to mentor, teach and enliven the Grants Pass Genealogical Society in 2012.

Cheers and Happy 2012

Celeste Guillory

Get Well Wishes to Dee Swanson

We send our best wishes for good health to Dee Swanson, who has been recovering at home from recent surgery.

Webmaster Needed

We are still looking for a webmaster to replace Louise Ross who plans to move on to other activities in 2012. It's not that hard, and we can show you how to do it. Please volunteer!

January Presentation



At our January 10th meeting, we will view a video about Ellis Island and explore the website using our computer projector to display the images on a screen. Ellis Island in New York Harbor was the nation's busiest arrival port from 1892 until 1954, replacing Castle Garden Immigration Depot. Of particular interest is the website's database of arriving passengers.

Ellis Island Web Sites

<http://www.ellisland.org>

This is the official website for the Ellis Island database.

<http://stevemorse.org>

One Step Webpages by Stephen P. Morse. Steve Morse has made it easier to search Ellis Island arrivals using his one-step method.

<http://cyndislist.com/ellis-island>

Look here to discover many other websites relating to Ellis Island, passenger lists, and immigration.

Getting to Know You – Louise Lydon



My Great Grandparents came from Iowa on the Immigrant Train and settled in Willamina Oregon in the 1880's with his parents who were Quakers and had sailed around to San Francisco in order to come to Oregon. Anyway around the 1890s they came down the Applegate Trail to settle in Applegate, where they bought a land grant on Thompson Creek Road and proved it with fruit trees etc. My grandmother was born and raised there. The family worked in the hop fields during the summer in threshing crews.

My grandfather came from Wisconsin, stopping in Colorado to attend the School of Mining before he was even twenty. He met and married grandma, my mother was born in Rogue River, then they lived for awhile at Waldo, Oregon. My grandpa was a gold ore panner and placer miner in all of southern Oregon.



This photo of my Grandpa was taken circa 1910 in the Cascade Mtns. He took it himself by setting the camera up, putting a string on it and pulling the string to take the photo. He was very proud of that fact because that's what he wrote on the back of the photo. He was a placer miner, gold panner(I have his gold pan), and had many mine claims. He worked as foreman in a couple of mines in southern Oregon, like The Greenback.

I was born in Japan during the American Occupation after the WWII in 1950, as my father was a Captain in the US Army Engineers. He was part of the 300th Division based at Camp White, where my mother met him in 1943 at a USO dance with other girls from Grants Pass.

In 1958 we went back to Japan for part of a year. I held onto my grandpa and did not want to leave. He told me, "Weesie, you are a part of our family and we will never leave and you will always have a home with us in Grants Pass." Hence I kept that safe in my heart and believed every word. We moved a couple times after that but my home was and still is my HOME SWEET HOME. My history, story, my roots and my legacy are here.

I love that I am a part of GPGS, you help to keep my passion and mission alive in me. Thank you. In 1965 my grandmother opened The Black Suitcase and I didn't know til the 1990's that it would give me a new vision of myself and where I came from. I now believe that she was giving me my Legacy of Love. The irony here is that her last name was Love and love was what I was searching for. In the 90's my mother (after much encouragement from me) wrote and gave my sisters and me a family tree book with much pedigree info and incredible oral history.

So in search I went to find who I was and research the missing links. From this, my mission to write the stories of the Love family as portrayed through the black suitcase of photographs. For I AM THE STORY TELLER!!!!

Family Surnames: Love, Wright, Shafer, Johnson, Armstrong, Wise, Caroon, Carawan

I look forward to a New Year searching with you.

Louise Lydon

Family History Materials Collection: The Mulvihill Family of Chicago

Craig Pfannkuche, Corresponding Secretary of the Chicago Genealogical Society, has granted permission for us to reprint the following article he wrote for the December issue of the CGS Newsletter. Even though the setting is Chicago, the lessons are universal. This article contains essential information for all of us who want to make sure our lifetime of work and research is put to good use after we depart the planet. Please make writing your family's history one of your New Year's Resolutions. Janis Seaton, Editor



Recently, two four inch thick binders of family history data (including original photographs) concerning the Mulvihill family of Chicago were donated to the Chicago Genealogical Society. The donation came about because the person who spent much of her life collecting and organizing the data could not, upon her death, find any family members who were willing to take the material.

The material prompted your CGS Corresponding Secretary to try to find a place to archive that collection. Since the Chicago Genealogical Society does not have an archives of its own (We have no permanent home.), it was thought that Chicago's Newberry Library would be a fine place to deposit that material. I brought the material to the Newberry for Matt Rutherford to look at and discuss the possibility that the Newberry Library might want to take it. As much as Matt

felt that the collection was very interesting and well researched, he said that the Newberry could not take it in its present format.

Mr. Rutherford said that the Newberry wants to collect family history material which is “bound, with page numbers, and with an all name index.” He went on to say that all too often material offered is organized in a manner which makes sense to the compiler but not to anyone else. His rule of thumb for acquisition is that if staff members cannot make sense of the material’s organization fairly quickly, then patrons will probably have the same problem. This is why Mr. Rutherford decided not to accept the Mulvihill family history binders.

In essence, Mr. Rutherford believes that family history materials cannot be useful to Newberry patrons unless they are presented in a published manner such as that which is often family or privately published. The “Donations” portion of the Newberry web site states that they collect “published genealogies, indexes, and local histories.”

Mr. Rutherford additionally pointed out that some of the material in the binders contains family information such as birth certificates and photographs of living descendants. He pointed out that the Newberry does not want to deal with materials concerning living family members without the permission of those living individuals. He said that having such material without such permissions can cause legal and privacy problems which the Newberry does not want to deal with.

Mr. Rutherford also mentioned that the Newberry would rather NOT accept donations of family history material in an electronic format (i.e., Disks and CDs) unless they are accompanied by a PAPER version of the same material. He cited the example of some family trees which were donated to the Newberry on 5.25” floppies 15 or so years ago and are not usable now!

Beyond the Newberry Library, I was informed by the Chicago History Museum that they do not accept such material for the same reasons which Mr. Rutherford gave. They would rather that the Newberry Library be the repository for family genealogies. Further, the Chicago History Museum is, in fact, not now accepting any new acquisitions at all unless the material is an addition to a collection already at the History Museum’s archives.

Up to the time of this writing, the Irish-American Heritage Center has not responded to requests for donation information concerning the Mulvihill material.

Your Corresponding Secretary accepts and respects Mr. Rutherford's contention that acceptance of "raw" family history material collections also poses an economic problem for the Newberry and the Chicago History Museum. Archival space is at a premium. Additionally, there is a monetary cost involved in the maintenance of collections. This cost is a serious problem for many historical and genealogical archives in these difficult economic times.

Your Corresponding Secretary accepts and respects Mr. Rutherford's contention that acceptance of "raw" family history material collections also poses an economic problem for the Newberry and the Chicago History Museum. Archival space is at a premium. Additionally, there is a monetary cost involved in the maintenance of collections. This cost is a serious problem for many historical and genealogical archives in these difficult economic times.

Thus, what can we do to protect our life work of family history research? Your Corresponding Secretary strongly believes that we must sit down and write family histories rather than just keep the raw data on some computer program on or paper. Home publishing can be done. Writing is certainly difficult but the loss of one's research efforts for use by future researchers and interested related family historians would be a greater hardship.

Keep an eye out for Mulvihill family information in a future issue of our CGS Quarterly. We certainly solicit your responses to the above.

Craig Pfannkuche

Indexing 1940 Federal Census

The following information was submitted from Don Ness. It comes from a recent issue of the Family Search Indexing newsletter.

Is there someone you are looking forward to finding on the census? Is it you?

On April 2, 2012, the [National Archives](#) (NARA) will provide access to the images of the 1940 U.S. Census for the first time. Upon its release, FamilySearch and [many top genealogy organizations, archives, societies, and individuals](#) will coordinate efforts to provide quick access to these digital images and immediately start indexing these records to make them searchable online for free and open access. Through this joint initiative, the index and images will always be available for free on [FamilySearch.org](#).

How quickly these records get published depends on how many volunteers help. FamilySearch currently has a lot of great indexers like you, but we're going to need tens of thousands more in order to get these records published sooner

without sacrificing quality. If we all work together and get our friends and neighbors involved in indexing, we can all be searching these records in no time.

Think of this as a fun and historic national service project with room for everyone to get involved. You'll be hearing a lot about the census in the press next year and through shared experiences as the project moves forward. I hope you'll all take the chance to invite your friends and family to work on it together and be a part of history.

You might be thinking, "Why are you telling me about this now? The census won't be available for over three months." Here's the thing. You and I know that indexing takes a little getting used to. If you want your friends to be ready to start indexing the census on April 2nd, I'd suggest they start indexing now. There are several projects currently available to help them get comfortable with the process:

So spread the word about this exciting event starting just 110 days from now. And if you are already very comfortable as an indexer, consider becoming [an arbitrator](#). These records cannot be published until they are both indexed and arbitrated. To learn more about arbitration, talk to your local group administrator, stake indexing director, or [FamilySearch support](#).

Alright, I'm done flapping my lips. I know y'all are a bunch of eager beavers, and you won't pass up the chance to be a part of the next great generation by helping to index a nation! Grateful researchers worldwide are counting on you!

To learn more about the 1940 U.S. Census, go to www.familysearch.org/1940census.

For more fun facts about the 1940s, go to <http://www.thepeoplehistory.com/1940s.html>.

For more slang words and phrases from the 1940s, go to <http://1940s.org/history/on-the-homefront/forties-slang-40s/>.

Speakers for 2012

Do you have any speaker topic suggestions? Let Linda Kent know so she will have enough time to arrange for a presentation. She can be contacted at: 541-761-5418.

Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness

Bridgett Schneider, the administrator of the website Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness (RAOGK), passed away on November 12. She notified the public in October that her website was shutting down due to illness. Her

husband Doc has stated that RAOGK will be reactivated in the future, to honor his promise to Bridgett. In the meantime, there are some people helping out with requests at the RAOGK Facebook page located at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/33868082803/>.

Social Security Death Index Database

The social security death index is a database of deaths reported to the Social Security Administration since about 1962. Effective November 1, 2011, the Death Master File will no longer contain protected records the SSA received from states. 4.2 Million of the 89 million deaths in the file will be removed and about one million fewer deaths will be added each year. As a result, RootsWeb has removed its free SSDI database; however, Ancestry.Com has stated that those records now in their database will remain unaffected. The database can also be accessed for free at FamilySearch.Org.

Upcoming Events

- Jan 10 Monthly GPGS meeting at 1:30 PM in the Ben Bones Room, Josephine Community Library, 200 NW “C” Street, Grants Pass. Topic: Ellis Island.

- Jan 17 RVGS meeting at 1:30 PM, OEA/Uniserv Bldg., 2495 S. Pacific Hwy., Medford. Anne Billeter, RVGS Library Director, tells the story of “Sarah Ann: A Jackson County Mystery.”

- Jan 21 Research Workshop “Mysteries in Our Backyard.” 9:30 to 11:00 AM, presented by RVGS, OEA Uniserv Bldg., 2495 S. Pacific Hwy., Medford.

- Feb 14 Monthly GPGS meeting at 1:30 PM in the Ben Bones Room, Josephine Community Library, 200 NW “C” Street, Grants Pass. Topic to be announced.

- Feb 21 Monthly RVGS meeting at 1:30 PM, OEA/Uniserv Bldg., 2495 S. Pacific Hwy., Medford. Program features the winners of the 2011-2012 Photo Contest.

- Apr 9-16 Research trip to Salt Lake City (Family History Library), sponsored by Rogue Valley Genealogical Society. Cost: \$759 per person double occupancy if 20 or more participate. Travel is by bus arranged through Raindance Tours. Call Rhonda at Raindance, 541-

479-8217 to reserve your spot or call 541-512-2340 for more details.

PO Box 214
Grants Pass, OR 97528

December 9, 2011

Kathy Wallmann
TapRock Grill
% Evergreen Federal Bank
969 SE 6th Street
Grants Pass, OR 97526

Dear Kathy,

I want to thank you and the staff of the TapRock Northwest Grill for making our annual Christmas Luncheon so enjoyable for us.

The dining room was beautifully decorated and the warm fireplace made the room even more pleasant. I must say the service was excellent and the menu at each place featuring our choice of entrée was a very nice touch.

I heard no complaints, only “let’s do this again here next year” from our members. Please save Wednesday December 5th for our next annual Christmas luncheon and I hope this becomes a tradition for our club.

Enclosed is a group photo taken at the end of the luncheon. I think you will agree we were having a great time.

Very truly,

Celeste Guillory

President
Grants Pass Genealogical Society



Grants Pass Genealogical Society
Annual Christmas Luncheon
December 7, 2011
TapRock Northwest Grill