



Genealogy Journal

Official Publication of the
Grants Pass Genealogical Society
September 2016, VOL. 14 Issue 9

"Newspapers- A Window into the Past"
Where you can find them and some of the information
You can obtain from them.



Garnet Rigby-Wharton
September Guest Speaker

Garnet Rigby-Wharton has always been interested in family history research and started doing Internet searches in 2001. When she retired in 2010, she joined our club, bought a Legacy Tree program and started in earnest searching and discovering her ancestry. In the last few years she's used DNA to discover unknown relatives and has had many successes doing this.

Garnet is guest speaker at the September 13th meeting and has prepared three excellent handouts for her presentation. Don't miss this informative program that provides a powerful new tool to enhance your research.

Newspaper Research Takes Center Stage
On September 13th at 1:30 PM



Society Contact Information
 Grants Pass Genealogical Society
 P.O. Box 214
 Grants Pass, OR 97528
 Website: www.gpgenealogy.org

To contact GPGS via e-mail: grantspassgenealogy@gmail.com
 Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/gpgenealogy>

General Meetings held on 2nd Tuesday of each month (except July, August, December) at 1:30 PM at 1969 Williams Highway (corner of Harbeck), Grants Pass, Oregon. The Board of Directors meets at 12:30 PM before the General Meeting. All are welcome to attend the Board of Directors meeting.

Annual membership - \$15.00 for one individual, or \$20.00 for two or more individuals living at the same mailing address.

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HAVE SOMETHING FOR THE NEWSLETTER? Send it to: cacese36@gmail.com



President's Message For September

Dear Members,

It smells like fall now after and very short summer. We had two nice summer events that I enjoyed very much.... the yard sale earned over \$300 for the checking account and was a great opportunity to get rid of some extra stuff around the house. It rained that morning for about 20 minutes as we were setting up but the clouds moved on and the temperature was low and comfortable. The bank parking lot at 4th & "G" Street is the best place in town to hold this annual event. I hope you agree so we can do this again next July.

Thank you to Don and LaVona Ness for being our sponsors at County Side Village for the potluck luncheon. The food and company was wonderful and their staff made us feel welcome in a very beautiful and comfortable room. Thank you also to Barbara Johnson, Pat Heumann, Don Ness, Garnet Rigby-Wharton, Bev Wellington and new member Lloyd Smith for sharing some info about their research projects. I even got a chance to share my own recent discovery from a family photo taken in 1887.



We have a chance to earn 16th at a Cycle Oregon help set up tables and put than 800 riders arrive for their lunch stop in Wolf Creek. We meet at the Wolf Creek Inn at 6am and will be done about 1PM. When we did this six years ago we made a tidy sum and hope to do the same again. **Send me a message if you can help at cacese36@gmail.com or 541 660-8425. We earn \$66.67 per person who helps work that day. The weather is cool and the time goes by quickly at the work site in Wolf Creek**

some revenue for our club on Friday September meal stop in Wolf Creek. We need 15 people to out fruit, beverages and sandwiches as the more than 800 riders arrive for their lunch stop in Wolf Creek. We meet at the Wolf Creek Inn at 6am and will be done about 1PM. When we did this six years ago we made a tidy sum and hope to do the same again. **Send me a message if you can help at cacese36@gmail.com or 541 660-8425. We earn \$66.67 per person who helps work that day. The weather is cool and the time goes by quickly at the work site in Wolf Creek**

The Family History Center has a new director. The new director is Jan Hanson and Heidi Conrad who has been on the FHC staff for many years is aiding her. They're planning the October Community Seminar being held on Saturday October 15th in Grants Pass. Mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend this annual local event. More on this in the October newsletter and also in broadcast emails to our members.

I'm happy for former FHC director Beverley Wellington who has been relieved of this

responsibility after almost ten years on the job. Bev was director at the Roseburg FHC before moving back to Grants Pass and has done an outstanding job of updating the local FHC. New furniture, audiovisual equipment, faster WI-FI and new computers make the Grants Pass Family History Center a local resource and learning center for us all. Bev is a member of GPGS and working with her and husband Jerry has been a pleasure for many years. Thank you Bev and Jerry for all your support.

Our yearly workshop is being held on Saturday September 10th at the Family History Center in Grants Pass from 1-4PM. This is a workshop focused on starting family history research and both members and the public are invited to attend.

Thank you for all the nice get-well messages posted on our Facebook page for me in June. I'm feeling better and think the doctor got it right this time.

Lastly, I encourage everyone who is able to attend the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society Seminar on September 27 to get your reservation in ASAP. This seminar promises to be very informative. Information about the seminar is included later in this newsletter.

I look forward to seeing you all at our September 13th meeting in Grants Pass. Garnet Rigby-Wharton has prepared a splendid program about using newspapers in family history research. You don't want to miss her presentation.

Cheers to all,

Celeste Guillory

President GPGS



**Annual Workshop being held on Saturday
September 10th 1-4 PM
Grants Pass Family History Center – enter
from the Harbeck side of the building**

**How to start your family history project
Organizing your family treasures
Tools available locally
Using on-line resources
Local resources**

This event is held each year to educate our members & the public. The workshop is free & open to anyone interested in learning the basics of family history research.



UPDATE

How was your summer? Mine was a season to create lots of new family memories. My husband and I were delighted to get lots of time to bond with our sweet new granddaughter. We had opportunities to share good times with family, and I was especially thrilled to reconnect with a cousin I hadn't seen in 40 years! It was a very short visit as she was only in town briefly, but the years just melted away and we definitely will be getting together again during the next few years. So as September arrives, it feels like its time for me to hit the books and get back to some research too! I'm anxious to see you all again this fall and hear about your family history discoveries and family history in the making!

Don't forget that our Facebook page is a great genealogy asset! My guess is a lot of you too have been busy making family memories this summer as our Reach numbers are down. So if you haven't interacted with us in a while, please go to our page and look around. I just posted photographs from our summer Yard Sale and Potluck events. Not only will you get to see them, but you will also tell Facebook by your action that you want to see more of our posts!

We currently have 97 followers, up by two more "likes" over the summer. There were 44 postings during June, July and August. While I strive to post a good mix of general genealogy information, research-specific articles and local Society news, I'm pleased to report that several of our posts that were shared and reached the most people contained local news. We even had a "tie" for third place in June. Here is the breakdown of what took the top spots as most popular posts:

The most popular posts in June were:

1. Get Well Wishes to Celeste– Reached 77
2. Man Finds Deceased Grandmother’s Bible at Thrift Shop: “This is a gift from heaven”– Reached 57
3. When I die, I give my friend’s permission to change my Facebook status to “is visiting with ancestors.” – Reached 46
3. Info and flyer on our Yard Sale – Reached 46

The most popular posts in July were:

1. Things All Family Historians Should Know How to Do– Reached 56
2. Today’s the Day: Yard Sale & 50/50 Raffle Info– Reached 49
3. Dear Ancestor, I didn’t find you today, but it’s a three-day weekend and I have coffee. – Reached 46

The most popular posts in August were:

1. Reminder of Summer Potluck with flyer – Reached 48
2. Ten Places You Didn’t Think To Look – Reached 34
3. How to Make a Photo Album Your Family Will Love – Reached 28

Remember that all these topics and much more are available to you by scrolling back down our page. When you get to a place that says “Highlight,” just click on it and a drop-down box will give you an option to see “All Stories” that are archived on our page. As always, I’m happy to assist you if you have any questions about our Facebook page. Wishing you wonderful autumn and lots of fun discovering and preserving your family’s heritage!

Regards,

Cindy Suda, Facebook Coordinator

www.facebook.com/gpgenealogy



JACKSON COUNTY Genealogical Library

3405 South Pacific Hwy – Medford

541-512-2340



Judy Russell "The Legal Genealogist"

**Registration for the fall seminar during the
50th Heritage Celebration is still open.**

The guest speaker will present 4 seminar lectures on

**Sept. 27 8:30-4 at *INN at the COMMONS 200 N. Riverside Ave. in
Medford.* Check-in begins at 8:30 AM., Sept 27th; first
session starts at 9:15. To register go to either JCGL, or RVGS
or click this link, [Seminar Registration](#).**

AM:

“Don't Forget the Ladies: A Genealogist's Guide to Women and the Law”

In early America, women were all too often the people who just weren't there: not in the records, not in the censuses, not on juries, not in the voting booth. The common law relegated women to “protected” – second-class – status and understanding how they were treated under the law provides clues to finding their identities today.

“Beyond X and Y: The Promise and Pitfalls of Autosomal DNA Testing”

Autosomal DNA testing is the new kid on the block. Learn more about this exciting addition to the toolkit of 21st century genealogists. What's in it for you, and how can you make the most of this test.

NOON

BUFFET LUNCH

PM:

“No Person Shall ... Gallop Horses In the Streets: Using Court Records to Tell the Story of Our Ancestors' Lives”

Early court records give color and meaning to the lives and times of our ancestors. County courts often functioned as both judiciary and legislature, and appeals courts published fact-filled opinions. While the records often establish relationships to help build a family tree, they offer so much richness and depth to help tell a family's story.

“Dowered or Bound Out: Records of Widows and Orphans”

Widows and orphans have always had a special place in the law. But it's not always the place that 21st century researchers might expect. An orphan in the early days wasn't a child whose parents had died, but rather a child whose father had died. The law didn't care much about the mother... She was just the widow, entitled to her dower rights and generally not much more. Learn more of the way the law treated widows and orphans, and what the records may tell us about them.

**Jackson County Genealogy Library/Rogue Valley Genealogical Society
Celebrating 50 Years as an Organization**

The goal to pay off the mortgage of the Jackson County Genealogical Library by September 2016 was fulfilled recently when the final payment was made. Congratulations to the dedicated staff and members of the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society for this achievement. What a great way to celebrate 50 years as an organization!

The Jackson County Genealogical Library is the largest genealogical library between Sacramento California and Portland Oregon. Their on-line catalog has resources that cover both Jackson and Josephine Counties, has maps, pioneer family details and hundreds of genealogy related books. Yearly membership is \$30.00 per person and provides access to a mentor, many fee-based websites, special interest groups and informative monthly meetings.



LAURA KNOWS INTERESTING WEBSITES by Laura Dunwald-

The Stranger in My Genes: A Memoir by Bill Griffeth

The Stranger in My Genes will be the focus of national media in coming weeks, including four consecutive days of programming on Closing Bell, beginning Tuesday, September 6, at 3:00 p.m. (ET) on CNBC, through Friday, September 9. Special guests on the show, that Bill Griffeth himself co-anchors, will discuss a wide range of topics concerning genealogy and DNA. Appearing on the show on Friday will be Christopher C. Child, Senior Genealogist of NEHGS' Newbury Street Press and author of a regular column on "Genetics & Genealogy" in *American Ancestors* magazine.

Bill will also be appearing at [DNA Day: Everything you need to know about genetic testing for genealogy](#) on Saturday, October 22 at 9 a.m. in Worcester, MA

FamilyTreeWebinars.com

So far in 2016, **Family Tree Webinars has added 117 new webinars** to the library. That's about 60 more than planned - for the entire year - and it's early September. Sixty-one of these newly-added webinars are BONUS webinars, and are **available exclusively to webinar subscribers**.

Here's just a few of the highlights:

- Foundations in DNA - 5 course series by Blaine Bettinger
- Foundations in Irish Genealogy - 6 course series by Ireland's John Grenham
- Researching in Libraries and Archives - 5 course series by Melissa Barker
- Microsoft Word - 11 course series by Thomas MacEntee
- Scrivener software - 5 course series by Lisa Alzo
- Research Series for California, Pennsylvania, and Utah - 12 courses
- Lots more

[Click here](#) for the entire list of 2016 webinar recordings.

BCG Partnership

We also recently partnered with the [Board for Certification of Genealogists](#) and now serve as their host for their monthly live webinars. We are also publishing their past webinars and making them available to webinar subscribers. For upcoming or past BCG webinars,

visit <http://familytreewebinars.com/bcg>.

"Life is Short, Do Genealogy T-Shirts"

In case you missed it, my favorite webinar phrase is now available on a limited-edition T-shirt. I'm only doing one printing of these shirts, so order yours by Friday, September 9 at the very latest. Available in 2 styles, 4 colors, and lots of sizes. If you don't need at least one for every day of the week, you'll at least want one for Webinar Wednesdays. [Click here to browse the shirts.](#)

Lots of new books too

We've also recently partnered with Genealogical Publishing Company which means there's now lots and lots of books in our bookstore. Best of all, for the first time ever, most of these books are now available in PDF edition (instant download delivery). Popular books include:

- Professional Genealogy by Elizabeth Shown Mills
- The Genealogist's Address Book, 6th edition
- Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses

[Browse the book collections here.](#)

Subscriber Benefits

As a subscriber, you now have access to:

- 410 classes (576 hours)
- 1,810 pages of instructors' handouts
- Chat logs from live webinars
- On-demand access anytime
- Automatic 5% off anything in the store
- Use of the playlist and Table of Contents browsing

I hope you are LOVING your webinar membership! Have a great week! And remember, "life is short, do genealogy first."

EDITORS NOTE: This is one of my favorite tools and the "go to place" to learn a lot of new information.



"Uh, yeah, the picture resolution is great."

Rhonda Clark and Nicole Wedemeyer Miller are the co-authors of *Fostering Family History Services: A Guide for Librarians, Archivists, and Volunteers*. This is not a how-to genealogy title, rather a guide for those of who work with other genealogists. A variety of topics are covered including how to conduct a genealogical reference interview, planning programming, oral history projects, dealing with old photographs, providing good collection access, digitization projects, and more. This is the first book to cover this subject.

Further information on the book can be found online. A short video explaining how this writing project began can be found here: <https://www.facebook.com/fosteringfamilyhistoryservices/>

A review from *Library Journal* is here: <http://reviews.libraryjournal.com/2016/05/books/nonfic/soc-sci/professional-media-social-sciences-reviews-june-1-2016/>

Excerpts can be found both on Amazon and Google Books. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask!

I am my own grandpa!

Many, many years ago when I was twenty three,
 I got married to a widow who was pretty as could be.
 This widow had a grown-up daughter who had hair of red.
 My father fell in love with her, and soon the two were wed.
 This made my dad my son-in-law and changed my very life.
 My daughter was my mother, for she was my father's wife.
 To complicate the matters worse, although it brought me joy,
 I soon became the father of a bouncing baby boy.
 My little baby then became a brother-in-law to dad and so became my Uncle,
 Though it made me very sad.
 For if he was my uncle, then that also made him brother
 To the widow's grown-up daughter who, of course, was my step-mother.
 Father's wife then had a son, who kept them on the run.
 And he became my grandson, for he was my daughter's son.
 My wife is now my mother's mother and it makes me blue.
 Because, although she is my wife, she's my grandmother too.
 If my wife is my grandmother, then I am her grandchild.
 And every time I think of it, it simply drives me wild.
 For now I have become the strangest case you ever saw.
 As the husband of my grandmother, I am my own grandpa!