



Genealogy Journal

Official Publication of the
Grants Pass Genealogical Society
January 2019 Vol. 19 Issue 1

Happy New Year
All members and the
public are invited to attend the
1st Grants Pass Genealogical Society meeting of 2019

"Tell Us A Story"
featuring
**Memories of our families told by
members who want to share those tales
to inspire other family historians**

Tuesday January 8th 1:30PM
1969 Williams Hwy.
(The LDS Church)

The program follows the
Board of Directors
meeting that starts at 11:30 am..... all
members are welcome to attend the board meeting.

**"Educating Family Historians
For Over 50 Years"**



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.

President

Celeste Guillory

Cacese36@gmail.com

Treasurer

Polli Kucharik

pkuch6950@gmail.com

Vice President

Barbara Ruffner

bruffner14@gmail.com

Secretary

Joan Edwards

jjedwards@charter.net

Facebook Manager

Cindy Suda

ncb@grantspass.com

Webmaster

Tiffany Hicks

www.CornerstoneGD.com

Research

Don Ness

donness14@gmail.com

Membership

Mary Ann Blackledge

Blackledge41@msn.com

Appointed Advisor

Beverly Wellington

bevewel@gmail.com

GP Family History Center Liaison

Jan Hansen

jhansen3536@gmail.com



January 2019 President's Message

Dear Members,

We had an excellent turnout for the Christmas luncheon in December at the Golf Club and I hope we can return there for our next Christmas luncheon. It was nice to meet some new members, Sharon and Paul Porner as well as hosting long-time member Laura Dunwald-Uhlig. There were over 30 members and guests this year.

Our first meeting on January 8th is a bit different – **Tell Us A Story** – share a family legend, heirloom, special photo ...up to six presentations...and please volunteer to be a presenter. If you are interested in telling a story please contact Barbara Ruffner at Celeste Guillory at cacese36@gmail.com. V/president Barbara Ruffner - bruffner14@gmail.com encourages you to give her suggestions for interesting programs in the coming year and be one who tells a story at the January 8th meeting.

I have a subscription to Family Tree Magazine and devour each issue when it arrives. Each issue features two states with helpful sources many we have never used before reading in the magazine.

If you haven't paid your dues yet please do so soon so Treasurer Polli Kucharik can close out her report. Polli does a great job and is appreciated for all the extra effort she puts into her job.

New Year Resolutions: Have you made one yet? How about resolving to make a research plan and do something genealogy related for 30

minutes each day. Identify photos, throw out old magazines, review pedigree charts, up-date your family tree on Family Search, Ancestry.com or Roots Magic. Update DNA files; take an on-line class via utube. This is a great way to keep all those loose records current.

I look forward to seeing you all at the January 8th meeting. The Board of Directors meeting starts at 11:30 and is open to members.

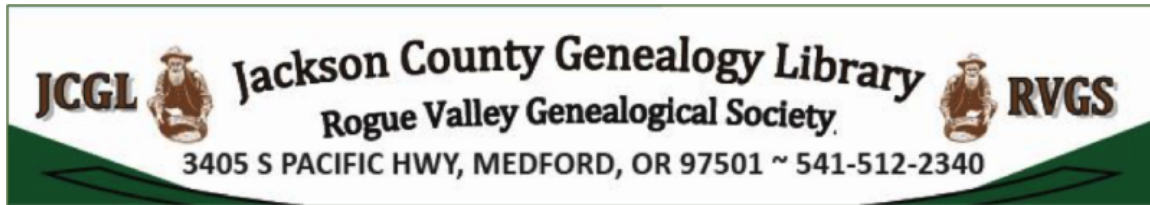
Committee Jobs that need to be filled: Program Committee, Research assistant to Don Ness, Fundraising Committee, Scholarship Committee, Budget Committee

Celeste Guíllory
President GPGS



*New Officers are sworn in at Christmas Luncheon held
at Grants Pass Golf Club.*

Beverly Wellington swears in 2019 GPGS Officers. Treasurer Polli Kucharik, Secretary Joan Edwards, Vice President Barbara Ruffner & President Celeste Guíllory



Salt Lake City Here We Come!

RVGS members are now finalizing their plans to research at the amazing SLC Family History Library this coming March 3 to 10, 2019. There are still a few dedicated rooms available at the conveniently located Plaza Hotel for our attending members. Now is the time to reserve your room, just call the hotel at 1-800-366-3684.

Be sure to ask for your discounted 2019 RV Genealogical Society rate when you call. Make your reservations directly with the Plaza Hotel before **February 1, 2019** to qualify for the special rate. This discount will be honored even if you stay less than the entire week.

Great News! It looks like we have enough people going to Salt Lake to be able to take advantage of the free seminar offered through the Plaza. The list of topic choices will be emailed to all those listed in the trip binder at the library by December 15. All those attending should review and send their top three seminar choices to abaracker@gmail.com before January 1.

For Further Information: Add your name & contact info to the Salt Lake City Trip Binder at the Library Front Desk or contact Ann Baracker at 541-261-4874 or abaracker@gmail.com. Remember to make your flight and room reservations directly with the hotel and airline of your choice.

January Classes

Saturday, January 12, 10:30-12:30 p.m.

"How to Start Your Genealogy Project"

FREE

Thursday, January 24, 10:30-1:30 p.m.

"Oral History Class and Workshop"

\$10 members; \$20 nonmembers

Tuesday, January 8, 1:30-3:00 PM

Family Tree Maker Interest Group
PC and MAC users.

Wednesday, January 9, 1:30-3:00 PM

German Interest Group

Thursday, January 10, 1:30-3:00 PM

Irish Interest Group

Monday, January 14, 1:00-3:00 PM

Advanced DNA Interest Group

Monday, January 16, 10:30-12:30 PM

Genetic Genealogy Interest Group

Brick Wall Session

Saturday, January 19, 10:30-12:30PM

Members are welcome. Free to all.

For more information, stop by or call 541-512-2340

Monday, January 28, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Beginning DNA Class Series "Gedmatch"

\$5 members; \$10 nonmembers

Free Programs

Tuesday, January 15, 1:30-3:00 PM

Public Program and Member Meeting

"Be Talented"

Rod Medinger from the Talent Historical Society and Museum
will share with us the history of Talent and of the Talent
Museum.

Tuesday, January 22, 1:30-2:30 PM

Quilt and Genealogy Talk

"Table Rock and Native American Life"

Tom Smith (Native American) will talk about activities of daily
Native American life and share his collection of native artifacts



BLAINE BETTINGER, PhD., J.D.
The Genetic Genealogist

Rogue Valley Genealogical Society presents **DNA WORKSHOP & SEMINAR**

April 19 & 20, 2019

Smullin Center * 2825 E. Barnett Rd.

Medford

WORKSHOP - USING AUTOSOMAL DNA FOR 18TH AND 19TH CENTURY MYSTERIES

Friday, April 19, 1:30-3:30pm * Workshop Fee: Non-Members - \$45; Members - \$35

- This two-hour unique approach in presenting how to use atDNA will capture your interest. Learn how to use autosomal DNA to attack and potentially solve genealogical mysteries.

SEMINAR - CLASSES

Saturday, April 20, 2019 * Seminar Fee: Non-Members - \$60; Members - \$50

Registration: 8:30 am; Program: 9am-4pm

- **Using Y-DNA and mtDNA to Explore Your Ancestry** – Y-DNA and mtDNA testing are the workhorses of genetic genealogy, and have helped genealogists break through thousands of stubborn brick walls. Learn about the unique inheritance of Y-DNA and mtDNA in your family, how these tests can be used to explore your ancient ancestry, and how the results can identify your relatives both close and distant.
- **Using GEDmatch and DNAPainter to Analyze Your Autosomal DNA** – Although DNA testing companies provide their own analysis of test results; there are third-party tools that allow test-takers to learn even more about their genomic heritage, including admixture calculators, the identification of genetic cousins, and segment mapping. Learn how to wring every dollar out of your test results!
- **Advanced Third-Party Tools** – We will examine tools like Phasing, Matching Segment Search, Lazarus, and Triangulation tools offered by GEDmatch, DNAGedcom, and others. These tools are almost always excluded from typical third-party tool lectures.
- **The Danger of Distant Matches** – Those distant genetic matches are exciting, but they can be dangerous! Evidence shows that distant matches sharing a small amount of DNA are often false positives and fail to match either of our parents. We will examine the problems that can arise when reviewing distant genetic matches at your testing company and ways to evaluate and use them.

REGISTRATION

Dates: Members - November 1, 2018 * Open Registration: begins January 15, 2019

Make checks payable to the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society, and mail your completed registration form and check to the Jackson County Genealogy Library, 3405 S. Pacific Hwy., Medford, OR 97501. Or you may sign up at the library. Cancellation Policy: Refund requests must be in writing and received by April 15; there will be no refund after April 15.

Thank you Jackson County Cultural Coalition & Oregon Cultural Trust for your support!!

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Please print legibly. Registration confirmations will be given by email (or in-house receipt).

RVGS Member # _____ *Workshop: \$ _____ * Seminar: \$ _____ Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email: _____ Home PH: _____ Cell: _____

.....

For Office Use only:

Receipt #: _____ Librarian: _____ Confirmation Email Date: _____ Database Date: _____

Not Smith and Jones – Rare British Surnames On The Cusp Of Extinction – reprinted from MyHeritage Blog

Do you have a rare surname? Could your family be amongst the final bearers of near extinct British surnames? If your surname is Miracle, Villan, Relish or Tumbler for example, then you're a dying breed in Britain. If your surname is Bread or Spinster...then we will be surprised as you're presumed extinct! Read more to find out!

To mark the completion of the 2011 UK census – when every person in the land is required to enter their personal details for posterity, we've identified the rarest British surnames: unusual last names that have lingered for centuries but are on the cusp of extinction (with just a handful of bearers), endangered (with under 200 bearers), or now missing, presumed extinct in 2011. Here we reveal these names and the origins and history of each. We're also seeking the general public's help to confirm whether surnames thought to be extinct have truly disappeared and, if so, just who the last bearers were. So if your surname is amongst the rare or presumed extinct names listed below – we'd love to hear from you!

BRITISH SURNAMES ON THE BRINK – with fewer than 20 bearers

Sallow (English)

Sallow (as distinct from the plural form of the surname, Sallows) was the common mediæval word for the willow tree, and would have been applied to one whose dwelling was near to such a tree or a copse of them. It is strictly speaking a 'location' nickname, and derives from the Old English word for the willow, *sealh*. An early bearer of the name was Nicholas de Sallowe, mentioned in the Shropshire *Rotuli Hundredorum* of 1254.

Fernsby (English)

Fernsby also appears to be diminishing in frequency. It is a hybrid of the Old English *fearn* – a fern and the Danish suffix *-by*, indicating a settlement, or even a farmstead. The meaning was clearly 'a dwelling near the ferns' and the surname was later derived from this.

Villin or Villan (English)

Villin (and **Villan**) referred to a commoner (the villein, as we have it today), though there could have been few reasons to single out such a man, unless he was a servant in a noble household.

The Norfolk pipe rolls for the year 1167 lists one, Ernald Vilein. There were only 2 people on the 2009 electoral roll by the name of Villin, located in London.

Miracle (Welsh)

The surname **Miracle** is Welsh in origin, first recorded in Anglesey. It is a Celtic in origin, derived from the personal name Meuric, which is the Welsh form of Maurice. The surname Miracle is ultimately derived from the Latin personal name Mauritius, which means *dark*.

Dankworth (English)

The name is made up of two elements, the first of which is probably a shortening of the Old German male personal name Tancred (having acquired the hardened initial letter 'd' in Englishmen's speech). The second element, '-worth', is a common Anglo-Saxon suffix, referring to a farmstead or an enclosed settlement – meaning that the name probably locates 'the farmstead belonging to Tancred'.

Though 18th and 19th Century migration resulted in the Dankworth surname becoming well-established in the US, particularly in Ohio and Texas (with the late, Texas-born Ed Dankworth being a Former Alaska legislator), the family in the UK has remained small, with fewer Dankworths appearing to be recorded in the 21st Century than at the start of the last. The most famous British bearer of the name was John Dankworth (1927-2010), the jazz composer, saxophonist and clarinettist, who were married to Cleo Laine, and whose children Jacqui and Alec have followed in their father's footsteps as leading performers of British jazz.

Relish (English)

Relish was first recorded in English as a word during the 14th Century, to refer to 'taste or flavor' derived from the Old French 'relaisse', meaning "something remaining, that which is left behind". It is not known when it first appeared as a surname in the UK, but is recorded in small numbers in 19th Century censuses.

MacQuoid (Scottish)

There are only two examples of the surname MacQuoid in the British electoral records. It seems likely that the name is related to MacQuaid (a name still found in Co Monaghan). The meaning of MacQuoid is obscure, and no authority offers an origin (although in Scotland, the name would appear to be affiliated with the MacKay clan).

Loughy (Scottish)

Loughy is considered as a variation of Lochty, the name of two villages in Tayside (one a couple of miles west of Perth; the other about 6 miles west of Brechin). It is most likely that Loughy, Lochty (also Loughtie) are surnames from a place name. The word 'loch' is, of course, 'a lake or inlet'; and the suffix '-ty' usually signified the diminutive, the implied meaning being 'of, or by a small lake'.

Birdwhistle (English)

Birdwhistle relates to any of these 'lost' medieval villages: Birtwisle, near the town of Padiham in Lancashire; Briestwistle near Dewsbury in Yorkshire; or Breretwisle near Wath-upon-Dearne (also in Yorkshire). The meaning of the name has been given as a fork or junction on a river where birds nest, from the pre 7th century

“bridd – twissel”. It has also been recorded in the spellings Birdwistle, Birdwhistell, Birtwhistle and Burtwhistle.

Berrycloth (English)

This location name is from the place called ‘Barrowclough’ near Halifax in West Yorkshire. The derivation of the place name is from the Old English pre 7th Century ‘beara’, meaning grove, or wood; and “cloth” (a ravine or steep slope). Locational names were distributed around the country when those who bore the name moved from their original homes and went to live or work in another town or village, becoming known as ‘Berrycloth’.

Culpepper (English)

Culpepper was an occupational name for a herbalist or spicer, from Middle English *cull(en)* to pluck, pick and *peper* (Old English *piper* – pepper). The prefix ‘cole’ means ‘false’ in some constructions: ‘Coleprophet’ means a false prophet, so another explanation is that Culpepper may mean a ‘false pepperer’, or ‘sham grocer’ i.e., one who traded outside the Fraternity of Pepperers, the Guild whence sprang the Grocers’ Company, incorporated in 1345.

Tumbler (English/Scottish)

The **Tumbler** was an acrobat and sometimes an acrobatic dancer, often recruited to a nobleman’s court to provide entertainment, though just as often, he would be an itinerant performer. The name has long been shortened, in characteristic English fashion, to **Tumber**.

Tumbur is mentioned in an Oxfordshire document dated 1276. The origin of the word may be the Old English *tombere* – a dancer or acrobat, or Old French *tombeor* of the same meaning. There are a small number of Tumblers located in the area of Strathclyde, Scotland.

Other British surnames that are within a hair’s breadth of vanishing are those which recall the months **January, February, April, June, September, October, November** and **December**.

BRITISH SURNAMES THAT ARE ENDANGERED – with fewer than 200 bearers in the UK

Ajax (Welsh)

This very unusual surname seems to have arrived in Wales in the late 17th Century. It is possible that the name was brought by Huguenot refugees fleeing religious persecution in France. The Edict of Nantes was revoked in 1685 and large numbers of Protestants fled the country around that time.

Edevane (Welsh)

A rare Welsh surname, believed to be of Cornish origin. This surname is made up of two elements. ‘Ed’ is not a shortened form of Edward, but derives from the ancient (Old English?) ‘ead’ meaning ‘prosperity’ and/or ‘happiness’. This also gave rise to names like Edmund (‘prosperity protector’), Edward, (meaning ‘prosperity

guardian') and Edwin ('prosperity friend'). The second element, 'vean' or 'vane' means 'little' or 'the younger'. The Cornish 'byghan' became mutated in the same way as the Welsh 'bychan' became 'fychan' (i.e. 'vychan') when added to a personal name, and performed the same service of distinguishing between father and son where they had the same name. In Wales, this ultimately led to the well-known surname Vaughan. Edevane and variants, therefore, would seem to have the sense 'the younger happy one' or 'the younger prosperous one'.

Gastrell (English)

The original meaning of the surname Gastrell is uncertain. It appears to have a mediaeval Norman diminutive suffix '-el' (which signifies affection), which may be coincidental. There are currently 44 listed in nationwide electoral records (though in the 1901 census 148 were listed – showing a significant decline). The Gastrell family crest is a snarling lion's head, and the USA has a larger proportion of bearers of the name than the UK.

Gastrell (English)

The name Gastrell – despite its rarity – has the unique feature of being banned in Stratford-upon-Avon. This is owing to the dramatic action of Rev. Francis Gastrell, who resided in New Place (once William Shakespeare's home) during the 18th Century. Irritated by the large numbers of passers-by staring at the Bard of Avon's former residence (particularly a mulberry tree supposedly planted by the poet, which enticed people to trespass and steal cuttings from it), Gastrell cut down the tree and chopped it to pieces. An alternative story suggests that Gastrell believed this action would lessen the value of the property (and the amount of tax he would have to pay).

In an apparent bid to avoid taxes, Gastrell went so far as to have New Place pulled to the ground entirely in 1759. This unforgivable action resulted in Gastrell being forced to leave the town, never to return. To ensure that neither the Reverend (nor his descendants) ever entered Stratford again, a bylaw was passed prohibiting anyone with the name Gastrell from taking residence in the area.

Slora (Scottish)

Slora seems to have several variations, including Slorra, Slorah, Slorach and Slorrance. There are currently 41 records of Slora, 5 of Slorah and over 200 of Slorach listed in current mainland electoral rolls (which thought to predominate in the Banff and Buchan districts of Scotland). The names are likely to have originated in the Gaelic 'sluagdach' ('leader') and may initially have referred to the clan elder. The names are associated with Clan Davidson.

BRITISH SURNAMES PRESUMED EXTINCT IN 2011

Bread (English)

Bread, as a relic of the occupation of baking, derives from the Old English *bregdan* (meaning to plait cord or yarn, and was associated with the emerging weaving industry). Geoffrey Braid is listed in 1198 in the Norfolk Fines archive. Though there were Breads in the mid-20th Century, the family name is thought to have died-out.

MacCaa (Scottish)

MacCaa has many clan associations; the most prominent being with the Stuarts of Bute, the Clan MacKay, the Clan MacFarlane, the Clan MacDonald and Clan Galloway. The name is a phonetic variation of MacKay, meaning 'son of Aoh (i.e. the champion)'. Other similar names in the group are MacCaw, MacCay, MacGaw, MacGee and MacKee. There seem to be over 900 holders of the name in the USA.

Spinster (English)

Spinster is the old feminine form of Spinner (itself a rare surname with a nucleus of bearers in the Thanet and Canterbury districts.) The word is Old English in origin – *spinnan* – to spin thread. It was freely applied in mediæval times to unmarried women, with no family of their own and whose everyday tasks were therefore centred round the domestic spinning wheel. The surname's earliest record is John le Spinner, Worcester, in 1270.

Pussett, Puscat and Pussmaid (English)

Some mediæval nicknames which look as though they may have vanished from the surname registers within the last century are **Pussett**, **Puscat** and **Pussmaid**. These may now have vanished. **Puscat** had indeed disappeared from all mainland telephone directories by the end of the 20th century and it is some years now since the name **Pussmaid** last appeared in the Severnside telephone book. **Pussett** was listed only once in the 2009 Tamworth (Staffs) telephone book. These names were clearly used affectionately and probably most often applied to a little 'minx' of a girl by her parents, though a Thomas Pusekat, appears in a Northumberland document of 1256. **Pussett** illustrates the use of the French diminutive suffix *-ett*.

Bythesea and Bytheseashore (English)

'Location' names that may have gone for good are **Bythesea** (pronounced 'Bithersee') and **Bytheseashore** ('Bitherseeshore'). The first was early represented in 1336 by William Bythesea in Somerset. The bearers of these descriptive names would have recalled someone whose abode was close to a lake or pool (Old English *sæ* – a lake and *scieran* – an edge or margin) or even a stream.

Why And How Do Surnames Decline?

There are numerous explanations for the decline and disappearance of certain British surnames. Occupational surnames linked to common professions such as Smith and Baker enjoyed a natural head-start when last names first started to be recorded in the 13th and 14th centuries (Henry VIII making it compulsory for marital births to be recorded under the surname of the father): unusual names linked to localised topography or more niche professions were always going to be fewer in number.

In addition, the Napoleonic conflicts and the First World War saw entire generations of young men wiped out: boys who often bore distinctive surnames relating to the villages or hamlets from which they came. Likewise, migration resulted in already rare names leaving British shores, in some cases enjoying a new lease of life in the Americas or Australasia: an unusual trend is for British surnames which had

become extinct being recently reintroduced to the UK as a consequence of economic migration by Americans now-resident in London. Another interesting development has been 19th Century migrants, particularly from Eastern Europe, anglicising their names and inadvertently breathing new life into an extinct British name.

A further explanation for decline is developing trends in slang and language, which have given once-innocent names crude or humorous connotations in the modern age, prompting bearers to seek to amend them to avoid ridicule or negative associations.

However in many cases the principal cause for a name dying-out is more linked to simple fate: in less enlightened times, a man with only daughters was guaranteed that his family name would end with him!

If your surname is one of those listed above or you believe you have a rare surname – we'd love to hear from you! (Feel free to write in the comments section of this blog or email caroline@myheritage.com).

With thanks to William Lewis, author of What's In Your Surname? (<http://www.brazenheadpublishing.co.uk>) and to www.192.com for their research help.



Grants Pass Genealogical Society
will now benefit from the
Fred Meyer Community Rewards
program.

Link your Fred Meyer Reward
card by going to:

www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards

Use this registry number - 90538
GPGS will benefit and your purchases
your personal rewards will not be affected.