



Genealogy Journal

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Grants Pass Genealogical
Society
P.O. Box 214
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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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President's Message

Have you been bitten by the bug?



There are tonics like

Ancestry.com, Heritage Quest, Footnote and other online sources. All of these online databases help relieve the discomfort associated with having the genealogy bug. And don't forget genealogy magazines such as

Family Tree Magazine with many research avenues to navigate.

Sometimes this ailment can be soothed by attending a seminar, monthly Society meeting, or taking a trip to Salt Lake City or the National Archives.

Often family historians become infected after their oldest living relative is unable to answer questions posed to them about the family. Then the family historian has to start from "scratch" assembling records, pedigree charts and photographs. The family historian accepts this bitter pill and moves on.

The family historian inherits dozens of photographs from Great Aunt Penny but none of the photos have any names written on the reverse side. Names on the reverse of a photograph are like receiving an inoculation.

The family historian learns quickly to live with this bug and accepts his/her limitations.

The family historian spends a considerable amount of time in cemeteries but has found many online databases indexing long-lost family members and containing many clues. Finding this information is quite soothing to the family historian.

The family historian has learned to live with this ailment, adjusts to new circumstances and challenges, and limps along like the "walking wounded".

Family historians are tough and resourceful. They deserve a lot of credit for what they do and they are always willing to share their talents. I salute them whether they are newly infected or long-time patients.

Celeste Guillory
GPGS President

Get Well Soon

Don Ness had a mishap last month that resulted in a broken wrist. He was scheduled to be our presenter at the May 10th meeting, but will not be able to

fulfill this task due to his injury. We wish Don a speedy recovery and hope he feels up to attending our meeting.

Welcome New Members

We want to welcome new members Wally Zittle and Judy Leipold who joined us last month, and wish them much success in their family history research.

May Presentation



At this month's meeting we will be treated to a video tour of the Granite Mountain Vault in Cottonwood Canyon, Utah. This climate-controlled vault is where the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints stores the original reels of microfilm and sheets of microfiche which were obtained by traveling to the world's archives, courthouses, churches and libraries. The Genealogical Society of Utah (now known as FamilySearch) started microfilming these records way back in 1938. Since 1998 they have been working to digitize the microfilm and microfiche and are currently posting many of the records on the free website www.familysearch.org. Copies of most of the records stored in the Granite Mountain Vault are available for review at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Today the Family History Library collection size is estimated at 2.4 million film reels, one million microfiche, 356,000 books and 4,500 periodicals.

A Research Question Received by Our President and Her Advice to the Writer



Looking into my crystal ball, I see a message from Beverly Wellington of Roseburg. She writes.....

Please help me find info regarding the murder of my 3rd great-grandfather, Phillip Mallory. He was born in VA about 1815, m. Amanda Mahoney 1838 in Indiana. He was a blacksmith, but evidently the gold bug caught him and he went to Montana. He died there at the age of 51. Phillip was murdered in Diamond City, Montana on 2 Aug 1866 by James H Foster. Other information follows:

"History of Washington, Idaho, and Montana 1845-1889" by Hubert Howe Bancroft, San Francisco, The History Company, Publishers, 1890, p.654.

"No capital offence was tried in the United States courts until in August 1866, when James H. Foster was tried for the murder of Philip Mallory, in Judge Munson's court at Helena, pronounced guilty, and sentenced to be hanged on the 5th of October.

Foster's attorneys, however, managed to secure for him a new trial, on the grounds of a defective indictment, but the grand jury again found a true bill for murder."

Montana Organization, Boundaries, Elections 1864-1866

Indeed, the absence of a penitentiary had been one, if not the principal, reason for the prompt executions of the vigilance committee. Now, persons convicted of offences for which they were sentenced to a period of incarceration not exceeding three years were confined in the county jail, these sentenced to a longer term being taken to Detroit and confined in the Michigan penitentiary by order of the government. The expense attending the journey of the United States marshal, and the opportunities for escape which were offered, made this method of disposing of criminals anything but economical or satisfactory. These were some of the obstacles in the way of the smooth working of the judicial machinery. No capital offence was tried in the United States courts until in August 1866, when James H. Foster was tried for the murder of Philip Mallory, in Judge Munson's court at Helena, pronounced guilty, and sentenced to be

hanged on the 5th of October. Foster's attorneys, however, managed to secure for him a new trial, on the ground of a defective indictment, but the grand jury again found a true bill for murder.

Phillip Mallory August 1866 US Court Montana James H Foster tried for the murder of Phillip Mallory in Judge Munson's court, first capital case US Courts...sentenced to hang 5 Oct 1866. Requested new trial but jury found a true indictment. Philip Mallory's widow roomed at 217 E Front Street Deer Lodge Mt

Dennis Shoolin

History of Montana, by Joaquin Miller, 1894

May be copied for non-profit purposes.

USGENWEB Montana Archives

The Montana Republican of the 6th ULT. contains an account of the sentence of James H. Foster, for killing Phillip Mallory at Diamond City, on the second of August last. He was sentenced to suffer the extreme penalty of the law on the fifth of next month. Foster will be remembered by a number of our citizens as a dissipated man and quarrelsome when in liquor, but we never heard him spoken of as dangerous. Strychnine whiskey has ruined him – as it has many another – and further comment would be useless. –Col. Mining Journal Reprinted in The Montana Post, Saturday, October 13, 1866

I have not used The National Archives much so I am unfamiliar with how to go about accessing its records. I have been on the site and looked around but have not done any actual research on it. Any help you can give me is appreciated.

I would like more info on the actual trial of James H. Foster and any other information I can find. I think I have exhausted Google. I did not find any listing for Phillip in the local cemeteries near Diamond City.

The Crystal Ball says thatMontana was a territory in 1864 – and Helena, Montana (where the trial was held) was part of Nebraska Territory until becoming a state in 1889. The next Federal Census was held in 1890 but that census is not available because it was destroyed in a fire. About 5000 records survived the fire. If your Phillip Mallory was a veteran his widow may have received a pension, and you are in luck if there is a listing in the few 1890 Census Union Veterans & Widows records that did survive the fire.

The National Archives – Denver Branch may hold records you need to finish your search. Go to www.nara.gov and access branch locations. Once at the branch website, click on the **Guide to Archival Holdings - Table of Contents**. This guide provides record group level descriptions for archival holdings maintained in the [Archives Division](#) of the Rocky Mountain

Region (Denver).

I believe the US Marshal would have taken Foster to Detroit, Michigan for execution because there was no Federal prison in Montana. Remember, because Montana was a territory, court and other records would have gone to a Federal repository. Go to www.nara.gov and look for a branch close to Detroit with holdings from that city.

A simple search at nara.gov (use the dialog box) produced the following result under [Court Records](#):

... Court Records ... Case Files, United States Circuit Court, District of Connecticut, 1790 - 1911 ... Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska and the Southern District of ...

<http://www.archives.gov/research/arc/topics/courts/>- 93.6KB - Archives.gov

Another suggestion would be to check what is available through the local Genealogical Society. I imagine those records would be worth checking, in view of this being a prominent case in their area. Try contacting Lewis & Clark County Genealogical Society, PO Box 5313, Helena, MT 59604 (www.mth.mtlib).

One other site worth checking is www.geneasearch.com, which has many on-line free databases. Using the National Archives is very rewarding, but prepare yourself for an overload of information sources.

Happy hunting.

Invitation for Newsletter Submissions

We are always looking for newsletter submissions from our members, especially those with ties to Oregon or the Grants Pass area. How about a little story about a favorite ancestor or family or a brick wall you have overcome? Maybe you would like to describe your brick wall and ask our members for suggestions on how to break it down. We like receiving suggestions on recommended websites, too.

Listen to the Experts at Jackson County Genealogy Library

The Rogue Valley Genealogical Society is offering a series of video classes created by experts in the field of genealogy. All classes will be held at the JCGL classroom (95 Houston Road, Phoenix Oregon) on Thursdays at 11:00 AM. Upcoming presentations include:

12 May 2011, Elizabeth Shown Mills

“Okay, I Got the Neighbors—Now What Do I Do with Them?”

19 May 2011, Elizabeth Shown Mills

“In a Rut? Seven Ways to Jump Start Your Research”

26 May 2011, Elizabeth Shown Mills

“Coincoin of Cane River: How to Recreate the Life of a Female Ancestor”

Editor Note: Elizabeth Shown Mills is a nationally recognized genealogy expert and is widely acknowledged as the authority on proper genealogy documentation. Her book “Evidence! Citation and Analysis for the Family Historian” is considered to be the Gold Standard for citing your sources.

Recommended Web Sites

www.josephinehistorical.org

Website of the Josephine County Historical Society. Members of this group had been receiving a hard copy of the quarterly newsletter via the US Mail; however, the Jo Co Historical Society has now switched to posting the newsletter on their website. Anyone who goes to the website can view the current and past newsletters, which contain many interesting articles as well as a listing of upcoming events.

I noted in the Spring 2011 newsletter that there is a nice article about our new member Patricia Heumann. She volunteers several days a week at the Historical Society.

There is also an article written by Don Ness, describing local resources to help people research their families' history.

--Janis Seaton, Editor

<http://famhist2.blogspot.com/2011/03/will-my-genealogy-records-survive-me.html>

The Genealogy News—Daily Edition (15 March 2011). Carol Bray submitted this useful website blog that details how to make sure your genealogy records outlive you. The author was prompted to write about the subject in the aftermath of the 22 February 2011 earthquake in New Zealand, when so many people lost all their prized photos and family records. Some of the suggestions are to: digitize your photos and records, disseminate copies to other family members and other locations, leave written instructions for disposition of your genealogy records and data, and communicate your wishes to your family. Some things you might not think of are e-mail accounts, websites or blogs that you maintain, and your Facebook account. I recommend that you read the full blog at the above website, because it is impossible to capture all the details in this brief synopsis. *Tip: You can hold the keyboard's Control key down and click with your mouse on the above website URL and go directly there without having to enter it by hand.*

www.raogk.org

Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness. This website contains a list of volunteers to do lookups for people who are researching their ancestors from afar. There are volunteers for every state in the USA and many other countries, as well. They will perform lookups or take cemetery photos, for example. They perform this service free of charge, although they are allowed to recover their expenses from you (copying or mailing charges or some reimbursement for mileage). I have used this service in the past and found the volunteers to be exceedingly helpful. One time I asked for a copy of a death certificate and the volunteer offered to go get a copy of the obituary, as well. They will often scan the record and e-mail it to you to save mailing costs. You may feel motivated to participate as a volunteer yourself after you have experienced the benefits!

In Honor of Cinco de Mayo (Hispanic-Themed Websites)



www.hispanicgen.org/links.html

These are web links from the website of the Colorado Society of Hispanic Genealogy. Many of the links focus on Colorado and New Mexico, but there are also a huge number of general sites listed. If I were researching Hispanic ancestry, I would head straight to this site for a fun-filled session of genealogy research.

www.davidrumsey.com

This link leads you to the David Rumsey Historic Map Collection, which contains 18th and 19th century North American and South American maps (as well as many others) that you can use to trace your family roots. For example, when I searched on the keyword “Mexico,” I netted 480 results. There is an opportunity to print the map yourself or order a copy.

<http://garyfelix.tripod.com/index1.html>

Genealogy of Mexico. This is a comprehensive resource for Spanish genealogy that goes way back to the early days of the conquistadores and names of the first Spanish settlers in California. Besides the website creator’s family genealogy and photos (which were fascinating in themselves), it contains pages on Southwest and Mexican history, surnames, DNA result charts and recommended reading. Even though I don’t have any Mexican ancestry myself, I still found this website very appealing and interesting. *Note: I didn’t have any luck opening this website via the Control/Click method. For some reason, I had to type in the URL as listed above.*

Upcoming Events

- May 9 Monthly meeting of Grants Pass Genealogical Society at 1:30 PM, Ben Bones Room, Josephine Community Library, Grants Pass. Virtual video tour of the Granite Mountain Record Storage Vault near Salt Lake City, plus tips for making a research trip to the Family History Library.
- May 14 Beginning Genealogy workshop taught by Charleen Brown, president of Rogue Valley Genealogical Society. Class to be held from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM at the Jackson County Genealogy Library, 95 Houston Road, Phoenix, Oregon. Free and open to the public.
- May 14 Spring Seminar, Bend Genealogical Society. Speaker Henry Z. "Hank" Jones. Topics: When Sources are Wrong!, Origins of 18th 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.
- May 17 General meeting of Rogue Valley Genealogical Society, 1 PM to 2:30 PM. The winners of the 2011 writing contest will be revealed and will discuss their winning entries. Meeting location: OEA/Uniserv Building, 2495 South Pacific Highway, Medford.
- May 23 "Diggin' in the Dark: Genealogy After Hours." Free evening of family history research in the Jackson County Genealogy Library, from 3:00 to 10:00 PM. Pre-register by phoning 541-512-2340, e-mailing info@rvgslibrary.org, or visiting the library at 95 Houston Road, Phoenix.
- June 3 "Basic US Internet Navigation for Genealogy," by Andrea Patterson, Technology Chairman at RVGS. 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM at Jackson County Genealogy Library. Cost is \$10 for RVGS members, \$20 for others. Pre-register by one of the methods shown above for the Diggin' in the Dark event.
- June 4 Hugo History Day, "Railroading in Hugo," Hugo Ladies Club, 9 AM – 4 PM.

- June 14 Monthly GPGS Meeting, 1:30 PM, Ben Bones Room, Josephine Community Library. Speaker to be announced.
- Jul 29 Pie Contest and Ice Cream Social, Josephine County Historical Society, 5-8 PM.
- Aug 6 Fantastic Flea Market, 11th annual fundraiser for more than 50 local nonprofit organizations, takes place in the Daily Courier parking lot in Grants Pass.
- Aug 9 Annual Picnic Potluck at the home of Don and LaVona Ness. You are invited to prepare an old family recipe and bring along the instructions to share with fellow members.
- Oct 22 Graveyard Tour, by Josephine County Historical Society. More details to follow.
- Oct 21-22 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.