



Genealogy Journal

Official Publication Of
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 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

I really enjoy this time of year and especially look forward to Halloween. The weather has gotten cooler, and fire season will be over when this message reaches you. As we spend more time indoors organizing family history files, now would be the time to give some thought to saving your research for future reference in the event of your death or extended illness.

One way to do this would be to create a "Genealogy Will" -- simply put, a Genealogical Codicil to your Last Will and Testament. This document would be directed to your spouse, children, guardian, administrator and/or executor. I've asked the Editor to include in this month's issue a copy of a Genealogical Will once published in a Heritage Newsletter many years ago.

I can't think of anything worse than having all my records tossed in a landfill someday by someone not knowing what my wishes were regarding my family history research. That's why I've created a codicil outlining what my wishes are about these valuable family records.

Later this month I hope you will join me at the Grants Pass Family History Center on October 15th for the annual seminar sponsored by the LDS Church. The seminar is free and runs from 9AM until 4PM. More

than 30 speakers will instruct on a wide range of topics, and many of these speakers are members of GPGS.

The following Friday and Saturday is the seminar in Medford featuring Dr. Stephen P. Morse, a well-known genealogical speaker. Dr. Morse will present a DNA workshop on Friday Oct. 21 from 7-9 PM at the library in Medford. The day-long seminar on October 22 from 9AM until 4PM will be outstanding, and you will learn Dr. Morse's "One Step" method of searching the Internet. To make a reservation go to www.rvgsociety.org and click on the "Seminar" link. Reservations can be made on-line through PayPal and cost \$65 for both days including lunch. This is a joint seminar between the Grants Pass and Rogue Valley Genealogical Societies. Don't miss out – make your reservation today.

Happy Halloween, and please do join me at one or both of these informative seminars this month.

Cheers,
Celeste Guillory

October Presentation

At the October 11th meeting, Don Fairchild will present resources and strategies for researching your British ancestors. Don draws on many years of experience researching his own family tree, and is the director of the local Family History Center, as well as a member of the GPGS. We hope you will join us for this valuable class.

GPGS on KAJO Radio Station



Thank you to Carl Wilson and the Grants Pass Broadcasting Company for featuring a Family History topic on KAJO's Tuesday Talk Show September 20th. Janis Seaton and I spoke about our Club, the seminars and what we offer as an organization. We had many phone calls from interested listeners during the 55 minute show.

We have been challenged to do some research for Carl Wilson on someone from his past when he was growing up in Oklahoma. This research project was prompted by him seeing the movie "The Help." He was reminded that his grandparents engaged the help of an African American domestic when he was very young. He remembers her fondly and would like to learn a bit about her. We hope to answer his questions through Ancestry.Com and other genealogical sources.

If you missed the show on September 20th go to www.kajo.com and click on "talk show." The entire program is there for you to review.

Celeste Guillory

Proclamation



Medford City Mayor Gary Wheeler presented Charleen Brown (President of the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society) and our President Celeste Guillory with a proclamation at a recent Medford City Council meeting declaring October 16-22, 2011, as Family History Week. Above is a photo of the presentation. The proclamation was requested in order to publicize the joint genealogy seminar scheduled for October 21 & 22 featuring Stephen P. Morse, PhD as guest speaker.

Family History Month Display at Evergreen Bank

Once again Evergreen Bank has put up a display to honor October as Family History Month and publicize the Grants Pass Genealogical Society. There are two decorated windows inside the entrance areas, one on the 6th Street side and the other on the 7th Street side. Information about our mission, website and meeting times is shown on a poster, and numerous family keepsakes are featured in the windows. We thank Le Raish, Shirley Rhodes, Jeri Paradise and Celeste Guillory for loaning interesting family items for the windows. The display will be up through the month of October. You should stop in and take a look at the windows when you get a chance.

Mentor Program

Five of our members have volunteered to serve as mentors to help others get started in genealogy, provide guidance or advice for breaking down brick walls. See the list on our website (www.gpgenealogy.org).

Election Slate of Officers

This is the slate of nominees proposed by our Nominating Committee for the November 8th election:

President	Celeste Guillory
Vice President	Linda Kent
Secretary	Barbara Johnson
Treasurer	LaVona Ness

Candidates are not limited to the above proposed slate. Any member can run for office and you are encouraged to do so if you are interested. The election will be held at the November 8th General Meeting held in the Ben Bones Room of the Josephine Community Library in Grants Pass.

I am still looking for a webmaster to replace Louise Ross who does not plan to remain in this position next year.

Celeste Guillory

Speakers for 2012

One of the tasks the Vice President of GPGS is responsible for is arranging for speakers at upcoming meetings. I want to thank Linda Kent for her help in booking interesting speakers for our meetings this past year.

Our meeting calendar is full through January 2012 and I encourage you to contact Linda if you are willing to make a presentation or know of someone who could speak on a genealogical topic for about one hour.

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

Celeste Guillory

Another Free Genealogy Software Program

Incline Software announced the release of its new free family tree program, Ancestral Quest Basics, this past spring. This company made the Windows version of the Personal Ancestral File (PAF) program possible a few years ago by providing the LDS Church with the code for Ancestral Quest. As you may expect, the Ancestral Quest Basics program is similar to PAF, and it has the added benefit of being able to click on selected ancestors and check for them on the www.familysearch.org website. For those who have a subscription to www.ancestry.com, the same can be done with that website. Should you want to add a few bells and whistles, the full (downloadable) version is available for \$29.95.

U.S. Railroad Workers Research

The September newsletter of the Chicago Genealogical Society contained an interesting article about researching railroad workers. Some people may not realize that the U.S. Railroad Retirement Board administers a Federal retirement benefit program covering railroad workers. The records of interest deal with administering and paying those benefits. They can provide some information on deceased persons for genealogical research. These records are limited to people who worked in the rail industry after 1936, and are organized by social security number. For further information, go to the website at <http://www.rrb.gov/mep/genealogy.asp>.

The 1940 Census is Coming!

The 1940 U.S. Federal Census will be released on April 2, 2012. Unlike previous censuses, there will be no microfilm created—it will be released digitally, and at first only at National Archives facilities and online at their website. To make it a bit more challenging, there will initially be no indexes available. We expect that Ancestry and HeritageQuest will create indexes, but those will probably come along later. If you can determine exactly where (city and street address) your ancestors were living in 1940, you will have a lot better success finding them on the census.

The census is organized by Enumeration District (ED), so you will need to know the ED for your ancestors in order to locate them in the census. Dr. Stephen

Morse has a project on his One-Step Web Site to convert street addresses into EDs. As of July they had all cities over 25,000 population indexed and are working on cities with populations of 15,000 to 25,000. By the way, Dr. Morse has promised to share a few tips with us at the upcoming October Genealogy Seminar on October 22nd. If you'd like to go to the One-Step Website and see the details for yourself, it's at www.stevemorse.org/census/1940instructions.htm.

D.A.R. American History Essay Contest

Each year the Daughters of the American Revolution conduct an essay contest for students in the fifth through eighth grades.

The 2011-2012 topic is **"Young America Takes Stand: The War of 1812"**

Applicants should imagine that they were alive then and had a friend who became famous in history because of standing up for America at that exciting but dangerous time. The friend should be described as well as how he or she stood up for America.

Go to <http://members.dar.org/committees/history/amhistory.htm> or contact your local DAR for details.

(Reprinted from SCCH&GS October 2011)

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.

Recommended Web Sites, British

www.genuki.org.uk

This is a non-commercial site that bills itself as a "virtual reference library." It includes such information as a Gazetteer, Church Database, general information on genealogical societies and events, and guidance for British research. You can go to specific localities to zero in on specific records (for example: Land and Property, Court Records, Church Records, Newspapers, History, Maps, etc.).

<http://mapco.net>

Downloadable maps of British Isles and 19th century Australia, 73 maps of London.

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

British National Archives. Contains various links to sites such as the General Records Office (GRO) and Wills from the Prerogative Court of Canterbury Wills (1384-1858) database. *(I downloaded a will from this database last year for the equivalent of \$5.60 US Dollars plus a \$0.16 foreign transaction fee assessed by my credit card company.—Editor)*

www.freebmd.org.uk

The FreeBMD project has transcribed and made searchable some 200 million individual index records to date. Once you find your ancestor in the index, you can order a copy of the certificate from the General Register Office.

www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content

General Register Office site for ordering birth, death and marriage certificates.

www.direct.gov.uk/en/Governmentcitizensandrights/Registeringlifeevents/

Go to the section entitled “Researching Family History” to learn about civil registration requirements and how government records can help you to pursue your genealogy research.

Other Recommended Web Sites

www.tabernaclelodge.com/links.html

Masonic Records: Masonic lodges keep records of their members. This website has a link to the worldwide Masonic lodge website.

www.germangenealogist.com

The German Genealogist: Karl-Michael Sala's blog, tips, tricks, reports, success stories and how to succeed in many other German related subjects.

<http://archives.lib.purdue.edu/collections/indianafarmer/about.php>

The Indiana Farmer newspaper published from 1851-1917. This newspaper recorded the evolution and growth of the Hoosier state during that time. These publications provide a rich history of the Hoosier farmland that was not addressed in other agricultural magazines of that time period.

(The above three website recommendations reprinted from the October 2011 SCCH&GS newsletter.)

Upcoming Events

- Oct 11 Monthly meeting of Grants Pass Genealogical Society at 1:30 PM in the Ben Bones Room of the Josephine Community Library, 200 NW "C" Street, Grants Pass. Speaker Don Fairchild will do a presentation on British research.
- Oct 12 Free talk at 12:00 Noon at the Ashland Library, 410 Siskiyou Blvd. The topic is "Who's Buried in Your Backyard: Forgotten Cemeteries." Ron Brown, reporter with KDRV-TV, will host the event. This is part of a continuing series entitled "Windows in Time" which is co-sponsored by Jackson County Library Services and the Southern Oregon Historical Society.
- Oct 15 **Grants Pass Community Family History Fair.**
Sponsored by the Family History Center, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. From 8:30 AM to 5 PM at 1969 Williams Highway, Grants Pass. Twenty-two different topics. **FREE**. See the seminar announcement at the back of this newsletter for further details and a registration form. You should also be able to pick up a copy at the GPGS meeting on October 11th.
- Oct 22 Graveyard Tours from 4:00 to 6:00 PM at the IOOF Cemetery, presented by the Josephine County Historical Society.
- Oct 21-22 Joint seminar with Rogue Valley Genealogical Society, featuring Stephen P. Morse of One-Step Web Pages as featured speaker. Flyers have been distributed to GPGS members, and the information is posted on both groups' websites. Price: \$25 for Friday workshop, \$30 for Saturday all-day seminar, \$10.00 for optional boxed lunch. See seminar announcement at the back of this newsletter.
- Nov 5 Ancestry Day in San Francisco 2011, Hyatt Regency Hotel. Join the experts at Ancestry.com and the California Genealogical Society and Library for a full day of classes. More info at <http://www.ancestry.com/ancestryday-sanfrancisco>.
- Nov 8 Monthly meeting of Grants Pass Genealogical Society at 1:30 PM in the Ben Bones Room, Josephine Community Library, 200 NW "C" Street, Grants Pass. Local historian and Grants Pass native, Jeanette Dickson, will speak about Bob Byrd and Byrd's Market.

- Dec 1 Deadline for submission of photos for the 2011 RVGS Ancestor Photo Contest. Winners will be announced at the January 17th General Meeting of RVGS.
- 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.
- Dec 4-10 27th Annual Salt Lake Christmas Tour. Leland Meitzler and entourage.
One-on-one assisted research and numerous classes during the week.
Details at www.saltlakechristmastour.com.
- Dec 17 Christmas at the Schmidt House (Josephine County Historical Society).

GENEALOGY WILL

Genealogical Codicil to My Last will and Testament

To my spouse, children, guardian, administrator and/or executor:

Upon my demise it is requested that you ***DO NOT*** dispose of any or all of my genealogical records, both those prepared personally by me and those records prepared by others which may be in my possession, including but not limited to books, files, notebooks or computer programs for a period of two years. During this time period, please attempt to identify one or more persons who would be willing to take custody of the said materials and the responsibility of maintaining and continuing the family histories., [If you know whom within your family or friends are likely candidates to accept these materials, please add' the' following at this point: "I suggest that the persons contacted regarding the assumption of the custody of these items include but not limited to" and then list the names of those individuals at this point, with their addresses and telephone numbers if known]

Name_____Address_____Phone: (____)_____

Name_____Address_____Phone: (____)_____

Name_____Address_____Phone: (____)_____

In the event you do not find anyone to accept these materials, please contact the various genealogical organizations that I have been a member of and determine if they will accept some parts or all of my genealogical materials. (List of organizations, addresses and phone numbers at bottom~ include local chapters, with their addresses, phone numbers and contact persons if available as well as state/national contact information and addresses]

1.

2.



GRANTS PASS AND ROGUE VALLEY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES PRESENT



OCTOBER GENEALOGY SEMINAR

SAVE THE DATES



DR. STEPHEN MORSE,
PH.D.

Dr. Stephen Morse is a computer professional with a doctoral degree in electrical engineering from New York University. He is best known as the architect of the Intel 8086 (the granddaddy of today's Pentium processor).

Besides working in the fields of research, product development and teaching, he holds four patents and has written four textbooks and many technical papers.

Several years ago in the course of doing his own web-based genealogy research, Dr. Morse developed the One-Step searching aids on which the Saturday seminar is based. At the Friday evening workshop, he will draw from his scientific knowledge to present genetic genealogy concepts in an easy-to-understand manner.

FRIDAY EVENING WORKSHOP

October 21, 2011, 7-9 PM
\$20.00 through 9/30/11
\$25.00 after 9/30/11

DNA to Genetic Genealogy
Genealogy Beyond the Y
Chromosome: Autosomes Exposed

SATURDAY SEMINAR

October 22, 2011, 9 AM-4 PM
\$25.00 through 9/30/11
\$30.00 after 9/30/11

One-Step Website: A Potpourri of
Genealogical Search Tools
One-Step Website: A Hodgepodge
of Lesser Known Gems

LUNCH BREAK

Creating One-Step Search Application
Phonetic Matching—Soundex with
Fewer False Hits

To be held at the Jackson County Library Services
Medford Branch
205 South Central Avenue
Medford, Oregon

Information and Registration for
October Seminar:
(541) 512-2340
www.rvgsociety.org
or
gpgenealogy.org