



## WILLAMETTE VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

*Volume XXXVII, Number 6 Salem, Oregon*

*June 2015*

President: Elizabeth Tice—503-363-0880—e-mail: eliztice@comcast.net  
Newsletter Editor: Elizabeth Tice—503-363-0880—e-mail: eliztice@comcast.net  
WVGS Web Site Address— <http://www.wvgsor.org>

### WVGS ACTIVITIES—SALEM

**June 11th, Thursday 11:30 am to 1:00 pm**  
**WVGS Executive Board Meeting.** We will meet at  
the Broadway Commons in an upstairs room.  
The Broadway Commons is at 1300 Broadway  
Street NE, Salem.

**June 13, 2015**  
**General Meeting—10: 30 am to 1 pm**  
**Salem Public Library**  
**Central Library**  
**585 Liberty St SE Salem, OR 97301**  
**Anderson Room A (Lower Level)**

**10:30am– 11:45 am General Membership**  
**Meeting** . A business meeting will be held to con-  
duct society business.

#### **12 noon to 1 pm Program**

Our speaker for June will be **WVGS member Thomas Branigar**. Tom will present a talk on the lynching of Oscar Kelty which occurred in Dallas in 1887. He had shot his wife to death at the home of her parents near Bethel in northern Polk County. Some friends of her family broke into the county jail and hanged him from an oak tree next to the courthouse. Tom says "It makes an interesting story because I was able to interview the granddaughter of the man who provided Kelty with the murder weapon. She gave me a few details of the affair that did not appear in the newspapers at the time. A few other details have turned up in the years since I did the original research."

Tom was born in Salem, Oregon, and grew up in Monmouth. He graduated from Central High School (Class of 1970) and Linfield College in McMinnville (Class of 1974). In graduate school he studied ar-

chives and records management at Western Washington University.

From 1977 to 2008 Tom was an archivist at the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library in Abilene, Kansas, a branch of the National Archives. His main task was to organize the records of the Eisenhower administration so they could be made available to historians. Significant collections on which he worked include the White House Central Files, the records of the National Security Council staff, and the personal papers of a number of administration officials. He also served as the Library's expert on the Eisenhower genealogy, and helped answer inquiries about President Eisenhower's family background.

Tom retired in October 2008 and returned to the Salem area. He is now volunteering part time as an archivist at the Polk County Museum in Rickreall.

Come join us and learn about our local history!

#### **June 1st, 2015 Moving Day**

On June 1st, WVGS will be moving our collection of almost 5,000 books from the Oregon State Library to Salem Public Library. Graebel Moving will handle the actual move. Oregon State Library catalogers will have made a database of our collection for Salem Public Library.

WVGS members will load the books on carts before the move. On June 1st, the carts will be wrapped in plastic and taken to Salem Public Library which is closed on Mondays. Volunteers will be at Salem Public Library to put the books on shelves.

However the collection will not be open to the public for at least another month. We will have to set up computers and train volunteers. We are planning an open house.

**WVGS News****MEMBERSHIP REPORT** By Suzan Rempel

Membership for May 2015 is 19 Life Members, 63 single memberships, 14 family memberships (28 individuals), and 3 Historical/Genealogical Societies for a total of 113 members.

**Welcome new members Donna Boeck of Ventura, CA, Mary Rains of Salem and Jane Shevchenko of Sheridan, Oregon.**

**Newsletter**

We send newsletters to our members and exchange societies **by email** from our Yahoo email account (willvgs@yahoo.com).

If any member would prefer a hard copy, please let me know. Or if we don't have your e-mail and you're willing to get your newsletter by e-mail, let me know your e-mail address. The same is true for our exchange societies and complimentary newsletters.

We also are emailing the Beaver Briefs to members. If you want a hard copy, the cost is still an additional \$6.50 for postage.

**Willamette Valley Genealogical Society's****DNA Project**

WVGS has a DNA Project for both men and women through **www.familytreedna.com**. If any of you have questions regarding DNA and which tests to order, please e-mail Emily Aulicino at: **aulicino@hevanet.com**. Emily is WVGS' Project Administrator.

The DNA Project is open to anyone, not just WVGS members. You are not charged until you send in your test kit. You can do the DNA testing through WVGS and submit it to other groups.

**NORPAC Label Redemption Program**

This money-making program is just to cut out the **UPC code on FLAV-R-PAC, Santiam, and WESTPAC products** and turn them in to WVGS. We then (as a nonprofit organization) mail them in once a year and receive 5 cents per label. **Labels can be turned in at any Saturday WVGS meeting or mailed to WVGS.**

**Members decided to continue this program. Cut off the UPC label on these products and bring them in!**

**WVGS News****Meetings****Upcoming programs:**

July 11th Max Marbles "Publishing Your Family History"  
 August 8th Aaron Auer "Jason Lee and Our Oregon Heritage"  
 September 12th Ellen Eisenberg "Jewish Research"  
 October 10th Kerry Wymetalek "Meek's Cutoff & Blue Bucket Mine/Settlements in OR & CA"  
 November 14th Mary Rains "Canadian Research"  
 December 12th Lunch & Installation of Officers

**Parking at Salem Public Library**

The Library Parkade is metered parking at \$.75 an hour. Parking is free after 6 pm. The Pringle Parkade is free on week-ends and after 6pm. Otherwise you will have to find street parking in the residential areas.

**Salem Public Library Hours:**

**Mon.** Closed

**Tues. - Thurs.** 10:00 am - 9:00 pm

**Fri. - Sat.** 10:00 am - 6:00 pm **Sun.** Closed

**WVGS Meeting 2015 Dates**

January 17	July 11
February 14	August 8
March 14	September 12
April 11	October 10
May 9	November 14
June 13	December 12

**WVGS Officers for 2015****Elected Officers**

**President:** *Elizabeth Tice*

**1st Vice-President (Program):** *John Cochran*

**2nd Vice-President (Membership):** *Suzan Rempel*

**Recording Secretary:** *Barbara Foster*

**Corresponding Secretary:** *Tony Hoff*

**Treasurer:** *Lauren Teubner*

**Appointed Positions**

**Newsletter Editor:** *Elizabeth Tice*

**Beaver Brief Editor:** *Susan Bell*

**Librarians:** *Jim Willhite and Susie Niggli*

**Volunteer Coordinator:**

**Publicity:** *George Cropsey*

**Webmaster:** *Dennis Hill*



## WVGS News

Members who have provided us with your email address receive our quarterly publication **Beaver Briefs** by email. All members and exchange societies and libraries can access our publications online.

To access **Beaver Briefs**:

- Go to the WVGS website: **www.wvgsor.org**
- Under **WVGS Document Resource PDFs** is \*Members: to access the WVGS Beaver Briefs [Click Here.](#)
- Enter your password in the box and click on **Submit.**

If you are unsure of your password, contact me, Liz Tice, at **eliztice@comcast.net**. Only members who have paid \$6.50 for postage for 2015 will receive issues in the mail.

**WVGS Update**

After June 1st, 2015, WVGS will no longer be associated with the Oregon State Library. We were there for 28 years (since April of 1987). WVGS now has a new opportunity at Salem Public Library.

Our society now has to re-organize everything we do and set up a genealogy department at a public library. We will need help. Projects we will need to work on:

- Record retention schedules, storing our materials at our office in Candalaria Terrace.
- Periodicals—make our periodical collection available at Salem Public Library as well as maintain subscriptions and exchanges.
- Our Surname files have been weeded and are in a filing cabinet at SPL. These files contain research we have done on local families.
- A large collection of Family Histories are stored at Candalaria and need to be made available to members and the public.
- Lists of microfilm, microfiche and CDs need to be maintained and used.
- We are working with SPL on training volunteers.
- Our biggest asset is our 5,000 books. These will be moved on June 1st. The books will be for library use only and will be in SPL's online catalog.
- We will have two laptops of our own and three of SPL in our area for genealogy.
- We have books that need sorting and repair.
- Our website will have databases of all our collections.
- Our constitution and by-laws will have to be revised.



## WVGS News

**Thanks to members!**

WVGS is very lucky to have members who have helped out with projects so far, such as putting security strips in our books and moving the books.

In addition, we have had many members support us financially. Thank you Life Member Joan Kaiser for providing funds for a year's rent and insurance at Candalaria. Jim Johnson has donated many items, including equipment to allow us to spiral-bind our books that need repair. Darlene Griffith has purchased one of the laptops for us.

In fact, we have a wonderful storage and workspace at Candalaria Terrace that has cost us only \$105 so far to equip!

We can't do it without you—thank you!

**May Program**

Our speaker for May was member Cliff Grimmell. His great-great grandfather Zachariah McCall got the gold bug and left Iowa in 1851 for California. He was gone for seven years and later died during the Civil War. Family stories said that he got mixed up in the Rogue Indian Wars in Oregon.

Cliff set out to see if the stories were true. He used original records to establish a family narrative for Zachariah. He used muster rolls to establish that he served. He then used reports, orders, newspapers and pay records to track Zachariah's movements with the militia.

Primary sources came from the Oregon Historical Society, Oregon State Archives, National Archives and newspapers. He also used memoirs and diaries and histories. Cliff gave a very interesting and informative talk on how you can research an ancestor using original documents to construct a narrative. Thank you, Cliff.

**Mark your calendars for June 20, 2015**

For a day of research at

**Brooks Historical Society**

3995 Brooklake Rd NE Brooks Oregon 97303

Hours: 10 am to 3 pm

**French Prairie Families are being honored.**



## WVGS News

### Fred Meyer Community Rewards

Willamette Valley Genealogical Society has signed up with Fred Meyer Community Rewards as a non-profit. If you shop at Fred Meyer and use your Rewards Card, it also helps us.

- Sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to Willamette Valley Genealogical Society at [www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards](http://www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards). You can search for us by our name or by our non-profit number **82436**.
- Then, every time you shop and use your Rewards Card, you are helping WVGS earn a donation!

You still earn your Rewards Points, Fuel Points, and Rebates, just as you do today

### The Next Genealogy Class

The Center 50+ will have a Genealogy Class, "Internet Sources for Genealogy" in the Computer Lab at the Center 50+ in partnership with the Willamette Valley Genealogical Society. Learn how computers and the internet can aid your research into family history, using popular, mostly free resources. Basic computer skills are needed as you will work on the computer.

**When: Mondays, June 8th to July 6th, 2015**  
from 10 am – 12 noon

**Where: Center 50+**  
**2615 Portland Rd NE**  
**Salem, OR 97301**

**Contact:** Alvin Scott / 503-588-6303 /  
[ascott@cityofsalem.net](mailto:ascott@cityofsalem.net)

**Information on Center 50+ classes: 503-588-6303,**  
<http://www.cityofsalem.net/Center50>

Salem Public Library is now our partner and continues to benefit from robust community support from the [Library Advisory Board](#), [Friends of the Salem Public Library](#), and [Salem Public Library Foundation](#). You can look into these from their website.



## Photo Preservation

### Beyond Photoshop

By Megan Hamby, *American Spirit*, *DAR Magazine*  
**Storing Your Photographs Digitally**

**The first step** to saving older photographs is to scan and upload them to your personal computer. If you don't own a scanner, retail locations like Walgreens and Costco often offer photo-scanning services at a low cost. If you plan to print the edited versions of your pictures later, scan the original photos at a resolution of 300 pixels-per-inch so your prints have the sharpest quality.

**Once your files are digitized**, organize them into folders by event, date, branch of the family or another logical system. Reviewing these old photographs also gives you a great opportunity to get in touch with other family members to determine who's actually in the photographs, and potentially learn even more about ancestors.

**You'll want to ensure** these family treasures are backed up securely in a locations other than your computer. The following websites offer unlimited uploads and storage at little-to-no-cost.



- Each Flickr user receives 1,000 GB of free storage—that's enough space for 500,000 photographs! Flickr will also sync with your smart-phone so you can upload photos directly to the website.



- The basic version of SmugMug costs \$40 per year, but members receive unlimited storage of photos up to 50 MB in size. Members also have the option of creating a website with private, password-protected galleries to share pictures with family and friends.



- Though known for their photo coffee mugs and calendars, Shutterfly also works as a photo storage website. Members of Shutterfly receive unlimited uploads and can create albums and share sites. Shutterfly is also beneficial for those who love to print their photos, turning heirloom photographs into canvases, scrapbooks and calendars.





## FamilySearch

### FamilySearch Free Historic Book Collection Online Hits 200,000th Milestone

**The following announcement was written by FamilySearch:**

Imagine a free virtual online library of rare historic books from all over the world to help you discover rich, unknown details about the lives of your ancestors. What if the historic book collections held by significant public libraries and venerable societies were the sources of these contributed books? You'd have a dynamic, price-less online repository of some of the greatest hidden historic treasures predominantly unknown to man. International, and a growing host of partnering libraries and organizations and volunteers, have announced today that they've reached the milestone of publishing 200,000 historic volumes online for free at

[books.FamilySearch.org](http://books.FamilySearch.org).

FamilySearch has mobile digitization pods at partnering libraries and organizations across the United States including Fort Wayne (Indiana), Syracuse (New York), Philadelphia (Pennsylvania), Independence (Missouri), Houston (Texas), at the University of Florida, and in Salt Lake City (Utah). Digitization is also being done at strategic FamilySearch Centers in Pocatello (Idaho), Mesa (Arizona), Oakland, Orange and Sacramento (California), and in Utah at the West Valley and Ogden Centers. . Most of the digitized publications consists of compiled family histories and local and county histories. The collection also includes telephone and postal directories and other resources.

A major player in this vast project is the [Allen County \(Indiana\) Public Library](#). Allen County's genealogical library is the second largest genealogical library in the world containing one million physical items and 2.5 million searchable items in their free online databases. FamilySearch has three sets of volunteers filming at the Library's Genealogy Center. Over the five year project some 14,000 volumes have been filmed and digitized (translating to an estimated two million pages). Allen County has an estimated 12,000 more volumes that are immediately available for digitization—perhaps another five years of work.

Houston Public Library (HPL) is regularly ranked among the top ten genealogical libraries. It joined the initiative in 2008. Sporting an extensive Gulf Coast family history and genealogical collection, as well as an extensive inter-



## FamilySearch

national collection, HPL's [Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research](#) and the Houston Metropolitan Research Center has contributed, so far, nearly 8,700 volumes to the FamilySearch project. Sue Kaufman, Manager of the Clayton Center, is quick to say what a pleasure it is to watch library-goers expand their research by being able to simply entering name, date and place data to quickly search personal histories and stories from the digitized collection online.

The project has made books available to anyone with an Internet connection. And even though the historic books are becoming available online, foot traffic has not decreased while the use of the family history content its online delivery has increased.

Like most of the digitization pods for this initiative, the digitization work at the Clayton Center is performed by full-time FamilySearch volunteers, although some locations are supported by local volunteers. Kaufman says, "I am humbled and honored to be part of this project. It is amazing what the FamilySearch volunteers do, closing their homes for 12 or 18 months to work 40 hours a week in a space that must seem the size of a closet. It is selfless. We couldn't have done it ourselves."

At the Historical Society of Pennsylvania (HSP), a unique, special collections library in the heart of Philadelphia, digitization efforts have been equally successful. According to Page Talbott, HSP President and CEO, they are planning to digitize 3,100 volumes of the Historical Society's 12,000 volume family history collection. To-date over 110,000 pages (about 800 volumes) have been completed. Talbot characterizes the digitization initiative with FamilySearch as "fabulous" and sees vast potential for future projects.

HSP was established in 1824 and has 21 million manuscripts and 600,000 bound volumes. In addition to the family history collection, it holds collections of vital records, directories, business histories, and prison records. HSP collects histories of all states from the east coast to the Mississippi River, including ethnic and immigrant histories, and has collected historical newspapers in 57 languages.

To search the digitized records go to [books.familysearch.org](http://books.familysearch.org), enter your ancestor's name into the search box and click "search."



## Death Certificates



Death certificates can contain a wealth of information on your ancestor. These are a few places where you can find a free copy of a death certificate or are part of an Ancestry.com subscription.

### Michigan

Images of **Michigan Death Certificates for the years 1897-1939**, and the Death Index for 1940-1952 are available from [www.seekingmichigan.com](http://www.seekingmichigan.com). The death certificates are free. Michigan has a 75 year waiting period before the certificates are available to the public. The 1940 certificates will be available January 2016.

### Vermont

**Vermont Death Records, 1909-2008** is on Ancestry.com. This data collection contains digitized images of death records from the state of Vermont from 1909-2008. The records consist of different types of certificates, including (1) Certificate of Death, and (2) Amended Certificate of Death.

### Pennsylvania

**Pennsylvania Death certificates, 1906-1963** is on Ancestry.com contains scanned copies of Death Certificates from Records of the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

**Philadelphia City Death Certificates, 1803-1915** on FamilySearch, for free, contains scanned images. This collection has several types of records: 1) Death certificate 2) Death register 3) Return of Death with a hospital certificate, physician's certificate, and an undertaker's certificate, and 4) Transit Permit with the permit to move a body and an undertaker's certificate concerning the move.

### Utah

**Utah Death Certificates Index 1904-1962** includes free downloadable images of the death certificates and also has unindexed images for 1963. See at **Utah Archives: Research: Indexes**

### Missouri

**Missouri Death Certificates Index and Images 1910-1964**, includes free downloadable images of the death certificates; see the "ordering vital records" section below for information on obtaining copies of MO death certificates after 1964. See at **Missouri Digital Heritage: Collections: Death Certificates**.

### Ohio

**Ohio Deaths 1908-1953** contains a name index and scanned images of statewide Ohio Death Certificates for free on FamilySearch.

### New Hampshire

**New Hampshire Death and Disinterment Records 1754-1947** includes scanned images of New Hampshire Death Certificates 1901-1947. Available on Ancestry.com.

### Texas

**Texas Death Certificates 1903-1982** contains scanned images of death certificates, on Ancestry.com.

**Texas Death 1890-1976** has an index and images of statewide death certificates for free on FamilySearch. **Texas Deaths 1977-86** is not fully indexed but contains digitized images of statewide death certificates, for free on FamilySearch.

### Arizona

**Arizona Death Records Index 1870-1964** includes PDF images of birth and death certificates (early years are spotty), for free on <http://genealogy.az.gov>

### Idaho

**Idaho Death Certificates 1911-1937** has a name index and image browse of Idaho Death Certificates, for free on FamilySearch.

### Massachusetts

**Massachusetts Death Records 1841-1915** contains digitized images of the death records, on Family Search for free.

### Georgia

**Georgia Death Certificates 1919-1927 index and images** and **Georgia Death Certificates 1928-1939 index and images** for statewide Georgia deaths is available for free on FamilySearch.

### Kentucky

**Kentucky Death Certificates and Records 1852-1953** includes Kentucky Death Certificates for 1911-1953, part of Ancestry.com subscription.

**Mailing Address:**

Willamette Valley Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 2083

Salem, OR 97308-2083

Email: willvgs@yahoo.com

**For more information:****WVGS Web Site Address:**<http://www.wvgsor.org>

The **Willamette Valley Genealogical Society** was organized in December 1968, to create and foster the study of family history, to aid in the publication of local history, and to aid in the establishment of materials in local genealogical library collections. It is an Oregon Non-Profit corporation, and was determined by IRS to be a 501 (c) (3) organization. Your donations may be federal tax-deductible.

**Membership Application**

- Members will receive a monthly newsletter informing them of programs, activities, and genealogical news.
- Members receive online access to **Beaver Briefs**, a quarterly bulletin featuring Marion County genealogy and history.
- Members benefit from research assistance, monthly programs, and access to WVGS's books, periodicals and CDs.
- Help for beginners at the Beginner's classes.

**WVGS MEMBERSHIP FORM** Please ☒ if this is a ☐NEW or ☐RENEWAL membership

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount enclosed -**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for Annual Dues (\$25 individual or \$30 family membership), includes Beaver Briefs on-line

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for postage to receive copies of Beaver Briefs in the mail (\$6.50)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for one-time payment for Life Membership ☐ Under age 70 (\$250) ☐ Age 70 or Over (\$200)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ other (please identify) \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL ENCLOSED

**Additional Donations**

- ☐ **Patron \$100**  
☐ **Sustainer \$250**  
☐ **Benefactor \$500**  
☐ **Corporate/Trust \$1,000**

- See our website for information on Life Membership or pick up a Life Membership form from an officer.

- **Pro-rated** Amounts for new members who join after March 31st:

SINGLE	FAMILY
Apr-Jun: \$18.75	Apr-Jun: \$22.50
Jul-Sept: \$12.50	Jul-Sept: \$15.00
Oct-Dec: \$6.25	Oct-Dec: \$7.50

**SIGNATURE** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

NAME-ADDRESS-PHONE	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
Woodburn LDS Family History Center 1000 Country Club Rd. [back- ring bell] Woodburn, OR 97071 / 503-981-4731	CLOSED		10 am— 2 pm	7 pm- 8:30 pm	4 pm - 8 pm	CLOSED	CLOSED
Salem East LDS Family History Center 862 45th Ave NE Salem, OR 97301 / 503-371-0453	CLOSED		9 am— 4 pm	2 pm— 9 pm	CLOSED	9 am— 2 pm	CLOSED
Salem LDS Family History Center 4550 Lone Oak Rd SE Salem, OR 97302 / 503-378-0383 ext 7	4pm— 7pm	CLOSED	9am— 9pm	By Appt.	9 am— 9pm	CLOSED	9 am- 12 noon
Oregon State Archives 800 Summer St NE Salem, OR 97310 / 503-373-0701	CLOSED	8 am—12 am and 1 pm—4:45 pm (CLOSED State Holidays)					CLOSED
Salem Public Library 585 Liberty St SE Salem, OR 97301 / 503-588-6052	Open 1 pm- 5 pm Sept-May	CLOSED	10 am—9 pm (CLOSED City Holidays)			10 am—6 pm	
Willamette Heritage Center Research Library 1313 Mill St SE Salem, OR 97301 / 503-364-2128	CLOSED	CLOSED	12 pm—4 pm				



June 2015 Newsletter

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Willamette Valley Genealogical Society  
P. O. Box 2083  
Salem, OR 97308-2083