

## WILLAMETTE VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume XLII, Number 7 Salem, Oregon

July 2020

President: Elizabeth Tice—503-363-0880—email: eliztice@comcast.net  
Newsletter Editor: Elizabeth Tice—503-363-0880—email: willvgs@yahoo.com  
WVGS Web Site <http://www.wvgsor.org>

### WVGS ACTIVITIES—SALEM MEETINGS

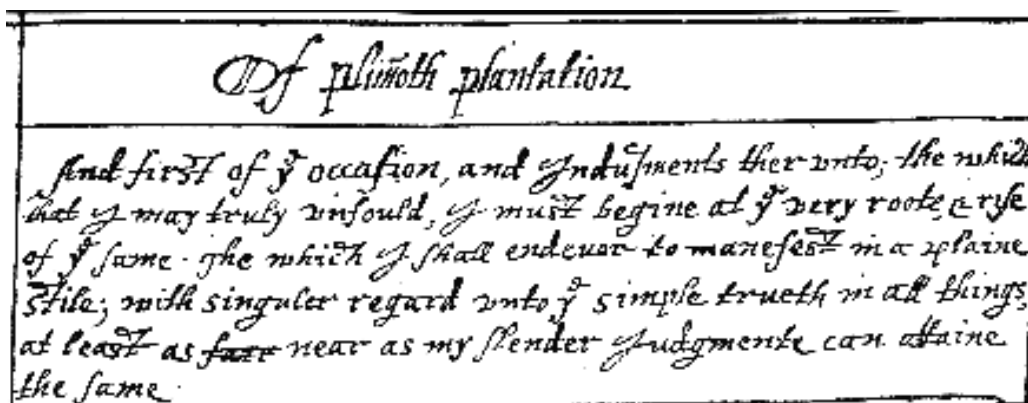
#### Willamette Valley Genealogical Society Meeting

Marion County is in Phase 2 of COVID-19 restrictions which means groups of up to 100 are permitted to meet. Marion County has the second highest number of cases per county in Oregon. So our Board has decided to delay meeting until August. **We are planning our meeting on August 8th, 2020. This is just tentative and will depend on the situation at that time.**

We are lucky (thanks to member Kerry Wymetalek) to meet at the VFW Hall, which is a large space. We will be able to space chairs 6 feet apart and will require masks to be worn. No refreshments will be served in order to help keep people apart.

VP Doug Crosby will work with Pam Vestal. She is our tentative program speaker. Her topic will be **“What the heck does that say?” The Challenge of Reading Difficult Handwriting**. Pam has previously been a speaker and does an excellent presentation. She will do her presentation remotely and we will project it on the screen for the audience. We are hoping that members will be able to attend in August.

Can you  
read this?



#### Upcoming Programs for 2020 (tentative)

Zoe Morrison “Preserving Family Photos” will be rescheduled.

August—Pam Vestal “What the heck does that say?”  
The Challenge of Reading Difficult Handwriting

[www.wvgsor.org](http://www.wvgsor.org)

Be sure to check out our website. **Dennis Hill** is keeping it up to date. We’ve added new cemetery databases, available to anyone, as well as searchable topics for Beaver Briefs. The full Beaver Briefs are available to members. Also exchange publications are available to members.



## WVGS Information

### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT** By Suzan Rempel

Membership as of June 13, 2020 was 1 society, 22 Life Members, 44 single memberships, and 10 family memberships (20 individuals) for a total of 87 members. No changes since then.

### **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 \$7.00 for postage. **Beaver Briefs** can be accessed by members on our website under Member Page with a password. If you need your password, contact Liz Tice.

### **WVGS and Salem Public Library**

Both of Salem Public Library's current physical branches, Salem Public Library at Broadway and the West Salem Branch Library, will be closed to the public until further notice, in accordance with the Governor's policies designed to slow the spread of COVID-19. We'll keep you posted: We will continue to consult with county health departments, the Oregon Health Authority, and the Centers for Disease Control for guidance about when and how we can safely reopen.

The main library on Liberty Street is undergoing construction to make it safer in an earthquake, improve accessibility within and around the exterior of the building, and make other critical improvements to include replacement of Library shelving. Construction began in March 2020 with the Library set to reopen in the summer of 2021.

### **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. You can do this on our website under **Help**.
- 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. Thank you
- WVGS's Fred Meyer Community Rewards number is **IW083**.

### **Meeting Dates for 2020 (if held)**

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

**Salem Public Library is closed do to COVID-19. You can check the online catalog at [https://catalog.ccrls.org/client/en\\_US/spl/](https://catalog.ccrls.org/client/en_US/spl/) . Our collection of genealogical materials is in storage. But, the Library is now able to offer contactless curbside pickup to their collection, by appointment only, to City of Salem resident cardholders.**

### **WVGS Officers for 2020**

#### **Elected Officers**

President: *Elizabeth Tice*  
 1st Vice-President (Program): *Doug Crosby*  
 2nd Vice-President (Membership): *Suzan Rempel*  
 Recording Secretary: *Sally Broadwater*  
 Corresponding Secretary: *Tony Hoff*  
 Treasurer: *Barbara Foster*

#### **Appointed Positions**

Newsletter Editor: *Elizabeth Tice*  
 Beaver Brief Editors: *Dennis Hill & Craig Smith*  
 Librarians: *Deanne Smith*  
 Volunteer Coordinator: *Craig Smith*  
 Publicity: *George Cropsey*  
 Webmaster: *Dennis Hill*  
 Periodicals: *Jerry Rodgers*



## WVGS News

### President's Report for June 13, 2020

Oregon Governor Kate Brown's proclamations prohibited large gatherings due to coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak in Oregon. Therefore, the WVGS Board meeting scheduled for June 11th and the General Meeting scheduled for June 13th were cancelled. Members were notified in the June newsletter that the meetings had been cancelled.

1. Treasurer's report: Barbara Foster compiled a Treasurer's report for the month of May. Income was \$25 for dues, \$60 research, \$350 donation, \$40.12 Fred Meyer Rewards and \$4.01 in interest for a total income for May of \$479.13 Expenses were for rent at Candalaria \$344.21, \$11 stamps for Treasurer, \$50 copy card for newsletter, \$37.20 for postage for mailing Beaver Briefs, total for expenses for the month \$442.42. BALANCE on May 31, 2020 was \$33,602.16.

The \$350 donation was from a Life Member. Liz sent a thank you letter.

2. Membership Report from Sue Rempel: We have 1 Society, 22 Life members, 10 families/20 members, and 44 singles for 77 memberships or 87 members.

3. Meetings and speaker were cancelled.

4. Salem Public Library is closed. Volunteers will not be at the desk until July 1st, 2020 at the earliest.

5. Corresponding Secretary Tony Hoff reported "We had a little uptick in research requests for May. We had 5 requests, all sent to our society. There were requests for birth certificates, obituaries, and information on a maternal grandmother line. This last one was a Marion/Polk County freebie. We also had a request to manage a family tree on Ancestry (which I declined) and a request regarding a possible member of the first Oregon Legislative session."

6. Craig Smith is working on the Summer issue of Beaver Briefs, Vol. 52, #3 which is due out on August 1st.

7. Dennis Hill has kept our website updated.

8. Liz Tice updated Shaw Cemetery database which was part of our Cemetery Project. We have now finished updating Chemawa Cemetery and Shaw Cemetery. Data bases are posted on our website.

**Liz Tice, President**

### July 2020

The WVGS has a large collection of periodicals and family histories at our Candalaria space. The oldest periodicals date back to the mid-1800s. There are over 500 books in the family history collection. Lists of these publications are available on the WVGS website under materials stored offsite. There are also printed lists on the work table at Candalaria.

These publications are available during the pandemic for members to read and research either at Candalaria or to check out to take home. To reserve a date, call Jerry Rodgers at 503-507-7455 or Liz Tice 503-363-0880. One of us will meet you at Candalaria (wearing a mask) to provide access and give a brief organizational overview of the space. You'll need to record any books that you check out and make sure the door is locked when you're done. We ask that checked out materials be returned within 3 months, but this is flexible.

A number of measures will be used to insure safety.

-Only one member will have access per day. You can spend all day or just a short time to box up materials for home use.

-Disinfectant wipes and hand sanitizer will be available.

A little research prior to visiting can help you save onsite time by finding articles that are of interest. After reviewing the list of available publications, PERSI (Periodical Source Index) a consolidated index to the records of over 8000 genealogical and historical publications from all over the world can be used to find articles within those publications.

<https://www.findmypast.com/persi>

**Jerry Rodgers, Periodicals**





Oregon State Archives and  
Ancestry.com



### **Oregon State Archives and Ancestry.com**

From the Oregon State Archives:

We have good news for Oregon genealogists.

Marriage returns from the Oregon State Archives recently became available on the Ancestry.com website. These are the first of several vital records series that will be available through a cooperative project between Ancestry and the Oregon State Archives.

The marriage returns span the years 1906-1910 and 1946-1966 and consist of 1,441,718 entries.

Marriage returns are the forms completed by the counties and filed with the Vital Records office (now called Center for Health Statistics). They provide slightly different information than what is found on marriage certificates or licenses.

Probably the most unique (and perhaps useful) information on the form is the number of marriages for each individual. You would be surprised how often people will see that it was the 2nd or 3rd marriage for one of the parties. The returns also provide place of birth and nativity for the parents which can provide good information for pursuing additional genealogical information.

We hope you will find these indexes and the images of the records useful in your research but keep in mind that the reference staff is also still available to assist you in your research. Happy hunting!

**Layne Sawyer, Oregon State Archives**

The database is labeled "**Oregon, State Marriages, 1906-1966**" on Ancestry.com

**Oregon State Archives**, 800 Summer St. NE  
Salem OR 97310. 503-373-0701

<https://sos.oregon.gov/archives/Pages/default.aspx>

### ***Oregon Marriages Online***

[United States Marriages – Oregon, 1826-](#)

[1975](#) (\$) **Find My Past:** index and some images

[Oregon Marriage Records, 1849-1952,](#)

**FamilySearch:** Index and images

[Oregon, County Marriages, 1851-1975](#)

**FamilySearch.org:** Index and images

[Oregon, County Marriages, 1851-1975, \(\\$\)](#)

**Ancestry.com:** Index and images

[Oregon, Marriages, 1853-1935](#)

**FamilySearch.org:** Index only

[Oregon Marriage Indexes, 1906-1924, 1946-](#)

[2008](#)] (\$) **Ancestry.com:** Index only

[Oregon, State Marriages, 1906-1966 \(\\$\)](#)

**Ancestry.com:** Index and images

[Oregon State Archives Marriage Index](#)

**Oregon State Archives:** Images

**RETURN OF MARRIAGE** 12317

1. Place of marriage: (a) County Multnomah (b) City or town Portland

2. Date of marriage Nov 27 - 1948 3. Title of person officiating minister

GROOM		BRIDE	
4. Full name <u>Outzer C. Vegas</u>	18. Maiden name <u>Chrys Coothoorides</u>	19. Residence: State <u>Calif</u> County <u>San Francisco</u>	19. Residence: State <u>Calif</u> County <u>San Francisco</u>
5. City or town <u>San Francisco</u>	20. Color or race <u>W</u>	21. Age last birthday <u>23</u>	22. Birth date <u>April 19 - 1925</u>
6. Color or race <u>W</u>	23. Previous marital status <u>(Single) widowed, or divorced</u>	24. Number of this marriage <u>(1st 2d, 3d, etc.)</u>	25. Birthplace <u>Utah</u>
7. Age last birthday <u>23</u>	26. Usual occupation <u>College student</u>	27. Industry or business	28. Birthplace <u>Breece</u>
8. Birth date <u>April 19 - 1925</u>	29. Usual occupation <u>College student</u>	29. Usual occupation <u>College student</u>	29. Usual occupation <u>College student</u>
9. Previous marital status <u>(Single) widowed, or divorced</u>	30. Birthplace <u>Breece</u>	30. Birthplace <u>Breece</u>	30. Birthplace <u>Breece</u>
10. Number of this marriage <u>(1st 2d, 3d, etc.)</u>	31. Usual occupation <u>College student</u>	31. Usual occupation <u>College student</u>	31. Usual occupation <u>College student</u>
11. Birthplace <u>Utah</u>	32. Birthplace <u>Breece</u>	32. Birthplace <u>Breece</u>	32. Birthplace <u>Breece</u>
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Ceremony performed by Wm. H. French Signed Al L. Brown Registered No. 17653  
(County Clerk)

A sample of a document from the Oregon State Archives Collection on Ancestry.com:

Of course, there is still is the issue of incorrect information on the original:

The groom's information was written down for the bride also!

Don't forget—WVGS is offering either one hour of free research or one newspaper article/obituary per household. This is for residents of Marion and Polk Counties.



## Castle Garden

### History of Castle Garden Emigrant Landing Depot From FamilySearch

- In the 1850s, New York City and state officials pooled their efforts to create a more protective landing experience. Their solution was the country's first immigration station: the Emigrant Landing Depot at Castle Garden. At the time, Castle Garden was already a local landmark. Originally a military fort on an artificial island, the city had filled in land to connect it to Manhattan and turned the old fort into a theater and restaurant complex. (World-famous opera singer Jenny Lind performed there in 1850.)
- Castle Garden opened to immigrants in 1855 on the eve of a dramatic wave of European immigration. During the next 35 years, more than 8 million people passed through Castle Garden, especially from Germany and Ireland, and later from Italy and Eastern Europe. The place was a cultural cacophony. According to the New York Historical Society, Yiddish immigrants coined the term "Kesselgarten" from their experience here, meaning "any space that was noisy, chaotic, and confusing."
- **Ellis Island Replaces Castle Garden.**  
Some of this chaos can be chalked up to so many new arrivals crowding together from so many different countries. Additionally, the Immigration Act of 1882 imposed new immigrant screening requirements for which the facility was ill-equipped. Dishonest employees made things worse for immigrants, too. Castle Garden wasn't always the safe haven it was meant to be.
- In 1890, the federal government took over immigrant processing, citing corruption at Castle Garden as one reason. Castle Garden's Emigrant Landing Depot closed. A temporary facility opened at the nearby Barge Office while the new Ellis Island Immigration Station was being built. When that facility opened in 1892, it ushered in an even more massive wave of migration.



## Castle Garden

### Castle Garden and Ellis Island Immigration Records

- Whether your ancestors arrived in New York before, during, or after the Castle Garden era, you can now search for them in free FamilySearch record collections:  
[New York Passenger Lists \(Castle Garden\) 1820–1891](#)
- This collection combines surviving passenger lists for those who arrived during the Castle Garden era with previous New York arrivals (back to 1820) and federal records kept before Ellis Island opened. You can search the name index for your ancestors or browse the record images.  
[New York Passenger Arrival Lists \(Ellis Island\) 1892–1924](#)
- Search for your immigrant ancestors in this index of names and record images for immigrants who passed through Ellis Island from its beginning until 1924.  
[New York, New York Passenger and Crew Lists 1925–1957](#)
- These post-Ellis Island passenger lists include nearly 29 million indexed names of international arrivals in New York Harbor and at New York airports, and are linked to 5 million respective images of the original records.
- You can search at [familysearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org) or <https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/ny-castle-garden-ellis-island/>
- The Castle Garden records are now accessible online at the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation website at [libertyellisfoundation.org](https://libertyellisfoundation.org)





### *Shaw Cemetery Project*

#### **Shaw Cemetery Updated Database**

As part of our 2019 cemetery project, some members of WVGS decided to update our database on Shaw Cemetery, as well as Chemawa Cemetery.

The cemetery in Shaw, Marion County, Oregon is across the street from St. Mary's Catholic Church and has been called St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery as well as Shaw Catholic Cemetery or just Shaw Cemetery. Currently it is listed on Find A Grave as "Shaw Catholic Cemetery, formerly known as Saint Marys Cemetery". Former "Beaver Briefs" Editor Sue Bell surveyed the cemetery and published the records in BB Volume 45, Issue #2-4 and BB Volume 46, Issue #1 in 2013. She used the church records, newspapers and Oregon Death Certificates from the Oregon State Records.

According to St. Mary's Church records, the first burial was in 1928, but there are burials as early as 1912 in the cemetery. The survey was done only on the Old Section. Sue also included a list of former pastors of the church as well as a plat map for the Old Section. One interesting fact is that since the priests at St. Mary's pastored Fairview, established as the State Institution for the Feeble-Minded, some children who died at Fairview were also buried in St. Mary's Cemetery.

In updating the data base, we have used the internet to complete information on families, dates, and cemeteries. There are additional Oregon Death Certificate numbers, but the Oregon State Archives was closed due to the COVID-19 outbreak, so the death certificates themselves were not checked (June 2020). Hopefully, we can do that later. Also Find a Grave memorial numbers were added. In one case a death date was read wrong by Find a Grave (1988 instead of 1938) and one person, Isabel Barnes, was added to our database that was left off in 2013.

The original information with a list of pastors and a plat map can be found by WVGS members by searching "Beaver Briefs" posted on our website. Others can contact us through our email, [willvgs@yahoo.com](mailto:willvgs@yahoo.com).



### *Chemawa Cemetery Project*

#### **Chemawa Death and Burials Database**

In 1990 Willamette Valley Genealogical Society began a project on Chemawa Cemetery. Members read the cemetery, collected death certificates and newspaper obituaries, searched microfilm records in Seattle at the National Archives, and looked at funeral home records. Results were published in our quarterly publication, Beaver Briefs in 1993 and 1994.

Chemawa Cemetery was part of the Chemawa Indian School, established in 1880 in Forest Grove, Oregon and then moved to Salem, Oregon in 1885. Over more than a century in existence, the cemetery has had numerous attempts to clear it of brush and poison oak. In 1960 the area was leveled. Cement bars were affixed with copper plates at each grave listed on a master plat plan created in 1940, with students at the school completing the project.

In 1990 there were over 200 graves with about 193 identified. Find A Grave now lists 214. Not all are students' graves (the 1918 Flu pandemic took a toll). Many young Indian children with tuberculosis were sent to the school. Also, employees and their family members were buried there.

Marsha Small used ground penetrating radar (2016) on the cemetery grounds and reported that "her surveys indicate there are possibly hundreds of unmarked burial sites at Chemawa". This is not surprising. The cemetery is neglected and over-run once again with poison oak. The grave markers that remain have many errors.

In 2019, WVGS members Doug Crosby, Nancy Henderson, Ann Hill, Anne May and Liz Tice began work on updating the information that WVGS published in 1993/94. The Chemawa Indian School was unwilling to help or look for records, saying it is under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. In the internet age, we have been able to find more obituaries, death certificates and use other sources such as Ancestry.com for censuses to include new information.

We are posting the database for Chemawa Deaths to our website for use by anyone interested in the Chemawa Cemetery.

[www.wvgsor.org](http://www.wvgsor.org)

Contact WVGS at [willvgs@yahoo.com](mailto:willvgs@yahoo.com) for more information or copies of the original publication

Thanks to Doug Crosby, Barbara Foster, Nancy Henderson, Ann Hill, Anne May, Deanne Smith and Kerry Wymetalek for volunteering for this project!





## Willamette Valley Genealogical Society Membership Application

Revised December 2019, previous versions obsolete

### 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.

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

May WVGS include the following in our Members Only membership roster? (please check each box if OK).

☐ YOUR ADDRESS ☐ YOUR TELEPHONE NUMBER ☐ YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Annual Dues for the calendar year are \$25 for an individual member or \$30 for a family membership. Membership includes the WVGS monthly newsletter and electronic copies of 4 issues of the quarterly bulletin *Beaver Briefs*.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Additional cost for *members only* for postage for 4 issues of hard copies of *Beaver Briefs* in the mail is \$7.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ A one-time payment for Life Membership is \$250 if under age 70 or \$200 if age 70 or over.  
See website for information on Life Membership or pick up a form from an officer.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Hard copies (4 issues) of *Beaver Briefs* only, received by mail, is \$20 for non-members only.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Other (please identify) \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL ENCLOSED Please make check payable to WVGS.

This information will be used to connect members through our website. Contact will be made through a third party. Your contact information will not be posted on the Members Page of our website.

I am looking for help or need help with:

I can offer help with:

My 5 main surnames are:

Languages (other than English) that I can read are:

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	1 pm— 8 pm	CLOSED	CLOSED	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	10 am- 1 pm
Oregon State Archives 800 Summer St NE Salem, OR 97310 / 503-373-0701	The Reference Room at the Oregon State Archives is closed to the public to limit the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). Reference requests may still be submitted using the online form.						
Salem Public Library 1400 Broadway NE Salem, OR 97301 / 503-588-6052	Both of Salem Public Library's current physical branches, Salem Public Library at Broadway and the West Salem Branch Library, will be closed to the public until further notice, in accordance with the Governor's policies designed to slow the spread of COVID-19.						
Willamette Heritage Center Research Library 1313 Mill St SE Salem, OR 97301 / 503-585-7012	Museum closed until further notice.						



July 2020 Newsletter

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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