

WILLAMETTE VALLEY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER

Volume XLIV Number 2 Salem, Oregon

February 2023

President: Doug Crosby
Newsletter Editor: Elizabeth Tice- WVGS email: willvgs@yahoo.com
WVGS Web Site <http://www.wvgsor.org> Facebook: www.facebook.com/wvgsor

Willamette Valley Genealogical Society Meeting Day!

- Time: February 11, 2023, 10:30 am to 1 pm
- Place: Salem Public Library, 585 Liberty St. SE, Salem, Oregon
Collaboration Room, Lower Level. Free parking in the Library Parkade.
- 10:30 am – 11:30 am General Membership Meeting.
A business meeting will be held to conduct society business.
- ♦ 12 noon – 1 pm Program: Using Ancestry.com DNA Matches by Juli Kennedy

“Using Ancestry.com DNA Matches to Find Unknown Ancestors”

If you’ve hit a brick wall and don’t know what to do next, DNA can help you find more clues about unknown ancestors to further your research. Recently, WVGS member Juli Kennedy took an in-depth class on genealogical DNA and, at the February member meeting; she will share her own case study illustrating what she learned from the class.

WVGS programs are always open to the public.

There will be a Board meeting on Thursday February 9, 2023 at 11:30 at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall, 630 Hood St NE, Salem, Oregon. Members are welcome.

Membership for 2023

All members of WVGS as of December 31, 2021 had their membership extended to December 31, 2023. For 2023, new members can join at no cost!! Let your fellow genealogists know. Our online form for new members is at www.wvgsor.org Membership.

This does not include the additional \$10.00 fee for a hard copy of Beaver Briefs. If you wish to receive Beaver Briefs through the US mail, you will still need to fill out the form on page 7 and send a check or money order to WVGS.

Come visit our volunteers at the Genealogy Desk at Salem Public Library. We have volunteers from 11 am to 5 pm Tuesday to Saturday and 1 pm to 4 pm Sunday. Volunteers are there to help patrons for free with their genealogy questions. This includes members! Access to Ancestry.com, newspapers.com and other sites.

Reminder: Ancestry.com Library Edition is free at Salem Public Library, but only when you are there in person. No remote access.



WVGS Information

MEMBERSHIP REPORT By Suzan Rempel

Membership as of January 21, 2023 was 3 societies, 24 Life Members, 191 single memberships, and 20 family memberships (40 individuals) for a total of 258 members. We now have an online membership form. Welcome all new members!

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. 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 \$10.00 for postage. **Beaver Briefs** can be accessed by members on our website under Member Page with a password. If you need your password, contact us at willvgs@yahoo.com

Meeting Dates for 2023

January 21	July 8
February 11	August 12
March 11	September 9
April 8	October 14
May 13	November 11
June 10	December 9

WVGS Officers for 2023

Elected Officers

President: **Doug Crosby**
 1st Vice-President (Program): **Kerry Wymetalek**
 2nd Vice-President (Membership): **Suzan Rempel**
 Recording Secretary: **Liz Tice**
 Corresponding Secretary: **Julianne Kennedy**
 Treasurer: **Barbara Foster**

Appointed Positions

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

Document Research: Searches for Oregon documents can be done. If successful, the fee is \$10.00 per document or 3 for \$20.00 for nonmembers and \$5.00 per document or 3 for \$10.00 for WVGS members. If these require a trip to the Oregon State Archives, Marion County Clerk's Office or other sites, the fee is \$10.00 per document for members and non-members (3 for \$10/\$20 does not apply). The \$5 and \$10 charges include postage for 5 pages or less. If over 5 pages there will be a charge for postage and handling.

General Research

We will conduct searches using resources such as Ancestry.com, censuses, city directories, Oregon Donation Land Claims, newspapers, and other sources. General research is not restricted to research in Oregon only! The minimum fee for research is \$10, if successful. This includes a copy of one document. Research is \$10 per hour, \$5 for each additional 1/2 hour and the cost of additional documents. The \$5 and \$10 charges include postage for 5 pages or less. If over 5 pages there will be a charge for postage and handling. There is also a charge of 10 cents per page for every copy over 10 pages.

- We exchange publications other societies. The publications from other societies are forwarded to members and sent to Dennis Hill, who posts them on the Member Page.
- The Member Page requires a password. If you don't know yours, please contact us at willvgs@yahoo.com.
- And newsletters and Beaver Briefs are posted there also.

WVGS FUNDRAISERS Help support our Genealogical Society when you shop!!

Earn a donation for WVGS from Fred Meyer every time you shop and they scan your Rewards card. Go online and link your Rewards card to Willamette Valley Genealogical Society in your Fred Meyer Rewards account. The donation does not affect the rewards that you earn.





WVGS News

From Your President's Desk: Crosby's Comments, February 2023

The new year has begun. We held our first Board and General Society meetings of the year Jan 19 and 21, delayed because of room availability issues at the library. The program portion of the general meeting featured several members sharing their successes (or frustrations) in their genealogical quests. Thanks for sharing!

We are attempting to streamline - and shorten – the business portion of the general meetings to allow more member interaction and potentially a longer program. This may require some revision of the Bylaws, so a committee has been formed to meet over the next several weeks. I'm pleased to note that the committee includes both long term society members and a "just joined" new member. The varied perspectives should be beneficial!

Another committee was also formed to evaluate the Society's finances. Three years of "No Dues" membership has impacted our income, and the badly needed appraisal of our book collection was a major one-time expense. Other expenses continue to increase – as our own household budgets know all too well. Our insurance premium went up, reflecting our more realistic coverage. A bright note is that our Candalaria landlord has agreed to renew our office lease without a rent increase.

I invite input on these, or any other Society issues, from more of our members. Board meetings are open to members, along with the general business meetings. Local members are encouraged to attend. Please get involved and help us improve. Those of you who are unable to attend meetings – send us your suggestions!

Thanks in advance, *Doug Crosby*

Genealogy Classes Start in April

Willamette Valley Genealogical Society will have a series of genealogy classes on a variety of genealogy topics. You sign up for each one separately-some or all of them. Each one will have a presentation and hand-out on the topic. You may bring your own laptop/tablet. \$10 for each class.

The Genealogy Classes at the Center 50+ are in partnership with the Willamette Valley Genealogical Society. Six separate classes will be held– sign up for all or some.

Instructor: Liz Tice, WVGS and Tony Hoff, WVGS

When: Mondays, April 24, 2023, to June 5, 2023 (no class on May 29th)

Time: Each class is 10 am to 1 pm.

Cost: \$10 per class

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

Contact: Senior Center 503-588-6303

Register online at <https://egov.cityofsalem.net/enter50Plus/>

Each class will have a presentation and hand out. Then WVGS volunteers will help you search for records on the topic of the class. Mondays at Center 50+

Class 1: April 24, 2023, 10 am– 1pm How to Get Started on Genealogy

Family information, forms, get organized,, genealogy trees, sourcing.

Class 2: May1, 2023, 10 am-1pm Ancestry.com and FamilySearch

These are two of the "big" genealogy sites. We'll go over the features of each and best ways to search.

Class 3: May 8, 2023, 10 am–1 pm Vital Records

Vital records pertain to birth, marriage, and death records. Where to find them, what might be on them and how to get missing records will be talked about.

Class 4: May 15, 2023, 10 am-1 pm Military Records & Land Records

You can find personal information and where your ancestors lived. We'll cover types of records and where to find them .

Class 5: May 22, 2023, 10 am –1pm Immigration & Ethnic Sources

We're an immigrant nation. We'll look into how we can find records of our ancestors arriving and becoming citizens and before.

Class 6: June 5, 2023, 10 am-1pm Googling and Free Sites

An important part of searching for genealogy records is "googling". There also are many free genealogy sites.



WVGS Information



Genealogy DNA Stories

Our quarterly publication Beaver Briefs will be sent out on February 1st.
Thanks to the hard work of Editors Craig Smith and Dennis Hill
Beaver Briefs, Volume 54, Number 4, Winter 2023

Table of Contents

SPECIAL ARTICLES:

Serendipity (The occurrence of events by chance in a happy or beneficial way) or How I Met My Dad
By Lou Hicks Nelson

Scary Salem: The Hanging Grounds By Craig A. Smith

CONTINUING SERIES:

Genealogy Tool Box

The Willamette Valley Genealogical Society: Its Resources, Services and Benefits
By the Editors of WVGS Beaver Briefs

WVGS Surname File: Part 3 – I through P By Liz Tice

Excerpts from the Oregon Statesman Part 10 – The Conclusion Compiled by Frances Eddy

REGULAR FEATURES:

Letter from the Editor By Dennis Hill

Surname Index

Case Study: Solving a 90-Year-Old Mystery with a DNA Match

By Nancy Hendrickson

When my mother was 90-years-old, a family mystery that had plagued her for years was finally solved: Who was her father?

The DNA Match

Finally, as mom neared her 90th birthday, my sister took the AncestryDNA test. Within months, a DNA match popped up. The match was listed as a first or second cousin, with “extremely high confidence.” This meant that my sister and the match had to share a grandparent or a great-grandparent. As we knew all of the other grandparents and great-grandparents on both sides of the family, we knew this match had to be for mom’s real father.

DNA Mystery Solved! My 2XGG Changed His Name

“My grandfather didn’t really know where his dad came from,” Shane says. “His dad, who we knew as Frank John Willard, claimed he was from Fort Wayne, Indiana and was born in 1878. But I’ve had really good genealogists tell me that such a person didn’t exist. One genealogist told me he was a storyteller and another told me he was probably running from the law.”

Read the story at <https://www.yourdnaguide.com/ydgblog/dna-mystery-solved-find-ancestor>



DNA



DNA

Our February program will be about using DNA to help you with your genealogical mysteries. Read up on tests. From the New York Times Wirecutter at

<https://www.nytimes.com/wirecutter/reviews/best-dna-test/>

"Anyone who wants to learn more about their ethnic roots or discover connections to past and contemporary relatives may be curious about at-home DNA kits. The appeal is obvious: By simply spitting into a tube or swabbing the inside of your cheek, you can unlock genetic mysteries that may stretch back generations. But such DNA testing services also come with inherent privacy concerns, and they're bound by few legal guidelines regulating the use of your data. The ramifications of sharing your DNA with for-profit companies are continuously evolving, and opting into a recreational DNA test today will likely lead to future consequences that no one has anticipated."

Everything we recommend

Our pick



AncestryDNA

A DNA test kit that's great for tracing your roots and finding relatives

Runner-up



23andMe

A more polished interface, with results for maternal and paternal heritage

Upgrade pick



FamilyTreeDNA

A data trove for genealogists with a bigger budget

This DNA test is fine for tracing your general

GEDmatch

GEDmatch is a free DNA comparison and analysis website for people who have tested their autosomal DNA using a direct-to-consumer genetic testing company, such as 23andMe, or have a custom file from other sources. Testers download their DNA data file from the testing company, and then upload it to GEDmatch. GEDmatch processes the file, adds it to a genealogical database, and provides applications for matching and further analysis.

Because GEDmatch aggregates files from all testing companies, your potential for matches is greater. Curtis Rogers founded GEDmatch in 2010 with his co-founder John Olson and a small group of volunteers. Verogen purchased GEDmatch in 2019, continuing the founders' vision for a consumer genealogy site with a commitment to infrastructure, privacy, and security.

About GEDmatch

Genealogy research reimagined and expanded

GEDmatch is a website for genetic genealogy research. Anyone can upload their DNA file, analyze results, and compare DNA shared with others.

JOIN FOR FREE

<https://www.gedmatch.com/about/>



Online classes



Online classes

- Whether you're a beginner or an intermediate-level genealogist, you have room to hone your skills to make your research better, more accurate, and more thorough, so you can discover more about your ancestors.
- Our in-person classes give you an opportunity to ask questions pertaining to your search.
- Can't come on Mondays to the Senior Center? How about an online class?

Family History Daily offers many options, but they are not free. See <https://www.learnfamilyhistory.com/>

Online Courses to Help You Discover Your Ancestors

Whether you're brand new to family history, or have been researching for decades, we have the courses you need to discover more about your ancestors. Register for immediate access and learn with hands-on lessons, activities, quizzes and worksheets.

Ancestry.com Crash Course

\$89

Single Course

Genealogy Organization Course

\$159

Single Course

Master Family History Course

\$229

Single Course

FamilySearch.org offers free courses!

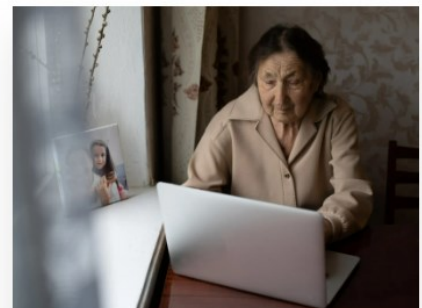
Getting Started Classes



Research Process -
Introduction



U.S. Census Research,
Techniques and Strategies



I Didn't Know You Could
Search Like That



Willamette Valley Genealogical Society Membership Application

Revised September 2022, valid through December 31, 2023

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> Facebook: www.facebook.com/wvgsor

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: _____

\$ Free Membership for 2023. Membership includes the WVGS monthly newsletter and electronic copies of 4 issues of the quarterly bulletin *Beaver Briefs*.

\$ _____ Additional cost for postage for 4 issues of hard copies of *Beaver Briefs* in the mail is \$10, available for members only.

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

\$ _____ One-time payment for Life Membership ☐ Under age 70 (\$250) ☐ Age 70 or Over (\$200). See website for information on Life Membership or pick up a form from an officer.

\$ _____ Other (please identify) _____

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

SIGNATURE of New Member _____ Date _____

Members from 2022 do not need to fill out a form. Your membership will be rolled over to 2023.

SIGNATURE _____ Date _____

Come into Salem Public Library or contact us at willvgs@yahoo.com for help with your research. WVGS subscribes to various websites and publications.
Ancestry Library Edition is free at Salem Public Library.

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AND BIOGRAPHICAL
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fold3
by **ancestry**

Newspapers
by **ancestry**

Ancestry Library Edition

GENEALOGYBANK

NAME-ADDRESS-PHONE	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
Salem East LDS Family History Center 862 45th Ave NE Salem, OR 97301 / 503-371-0453	CLOSED	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	CLOSED	CLOSED	9 am-4 pm	1 pm-8 pm	By appt.	By appt	By appt.
Oregon State Archives 800 Summer St NE Salem, OR 97310 / 503-373-0701	Hours: 8 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4:45 p.m., Monday–Friday except state holidays. The Reference Room is open by appointment. http://sos.oregon.gov/archives/						
Salem Public Library 585 Liberty St SE, Salem, OR 97301 (503) 588-6315	Salem Public Library's Main Library, 585 Liberty ST SE, Salem, Oregon. Hours: 10 am -7 pm Tuesday-Thursday, 10 am—5 pm Friday & Saturday, and 1 pm—5 pm Sunday.						
Willamette Heritage Center Research Library 1313 Mill St SE Salem, OR 97301 / 503-585-7012	The Research Library and Archives by appointment only. Due to social distancing guidelines and reduced staff, the WHC Research Library is open on a limited basis by appointment only. Appointments will be considered only in cases where we can't provide services remotely. https://www.willametteheritage.org/research/						



February 2023 Newsletter

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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