

WILLAMETTE VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume XLII, Number 8 Salem, Oregon

August 2020

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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. However under new requirements announced by Gov. Kate Brown July 13, 2020, Oregonians must wear masks outdoors if they are unable to maintain at least 6 feet of distance from others. Oregonians were already required to wear masks in indoor spaces open to the public, including stores, gyms and restaurants. Also indoor social gatherings are limited to groups of 10 people or fewer. The rules on indoor gatherings do not apply to businesses or worship services. Failure to comply with the new regulations could net a person up to 30 days in jail and a \$1,250 fine.

WVGS qualifies as an “indoor social gathering”. This means that our monthly meetings for August have been cancelled by the Executive Board. **There will not be a Board meeting on August 6th, 2020 nor a General meeting on August 8th, 2020.**

We had joined the New England Historic Genealogical Society as a research aid for volunteers at Salem Public Library. One of the benefits of membership is live participation in the NEHGS Webinars.

However, the Webinars are then posted for the public to view to YouTube. See page 3 of this newsletter for a link to a webinar on the using their site, americanancestors.org. If a member would like access to their site for research, please let us know at willvgs@yahoo.com for password information.

Also 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.

Beaver Briefs

The Summer Issue, Volume 52, No. 3, of Beaver Briefs will be mailed August 1, 2020. Members will also be able to access the quarterly on our webpage under “Member Page”. The version on our web page has color pictures. Members who have paid \$7.00 to cover postage for 4 issues for 2020 will receive copies by regular mail (sorry—no color).

Topics in this issue are below. Thanks to hard work by Editors Craig Smith and Dennis Hill :

- ***The Pioneer Christian Family by Tom Branigar***
- ***Joab Powell by Bill Leach***
- ***Genealogy Tool Box by Liz Tice***
- ***Historic Homes in the Willamette Valley by Craig Smith and Kaylyn Mabey***
- ***Statesman Continuation by Dennis Hill***



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.ccrils.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 July 11, 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 July 9th and the General Meeting scheduled for July 11th were cancelled. Members were notified in the July newsletter that the meetings had been cancelled.

1. Treasurer's report: Barbara Foster compiled a Treasurer's report for the month of June.
Income was \$30 for research and \$4.38 in interest for a total income for June of \$34.38. Expenses were for rent at Candalaria \$344.21, total for expenses for the month \$344.21. BALANCE on June 20, 2020 was \$33,292.33.
2. Membership Report from Sue Rempel: No changes, 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.
5. Corresponding Secretary Tony Hoff reported "We had 5 research requests in June, all sent to our society. There was a request for 2 obituaries, a burial location, birth & death information and location of heirs. There was one Marion/Polk County freebie request for a maiden name and other family info. Lou Nelson was kind enough to research this last one".
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. We are keeping our isolation as recommended so the society has conducted very little business. We are still putting out the monthly newsletter, Tony Hoff answers research requests, Barbara Foster is preparing monthly Treasurer's reports and Craig Smith and Dennis Hill are working on the next issue of Beaver Briefs. Other than that, we are not conducting any business.

Liz Tice, President

Founded in 1845, NEHGS is today one of the country's leading resources for family history research.

We had joined the New England Historic Genealogical Society as a research aid for volunteers at Salem Public Library. One of the benefits of membership is live participation in the NEHGS Webinars. However, the Webinars are then posted for the public to view to YouTube.

Below is a link to a webinar:

Get the Most from American Ancestors . . . from home!

Live broadcast: April 16, 2020

Presented by: Jean Maguire, Library Director

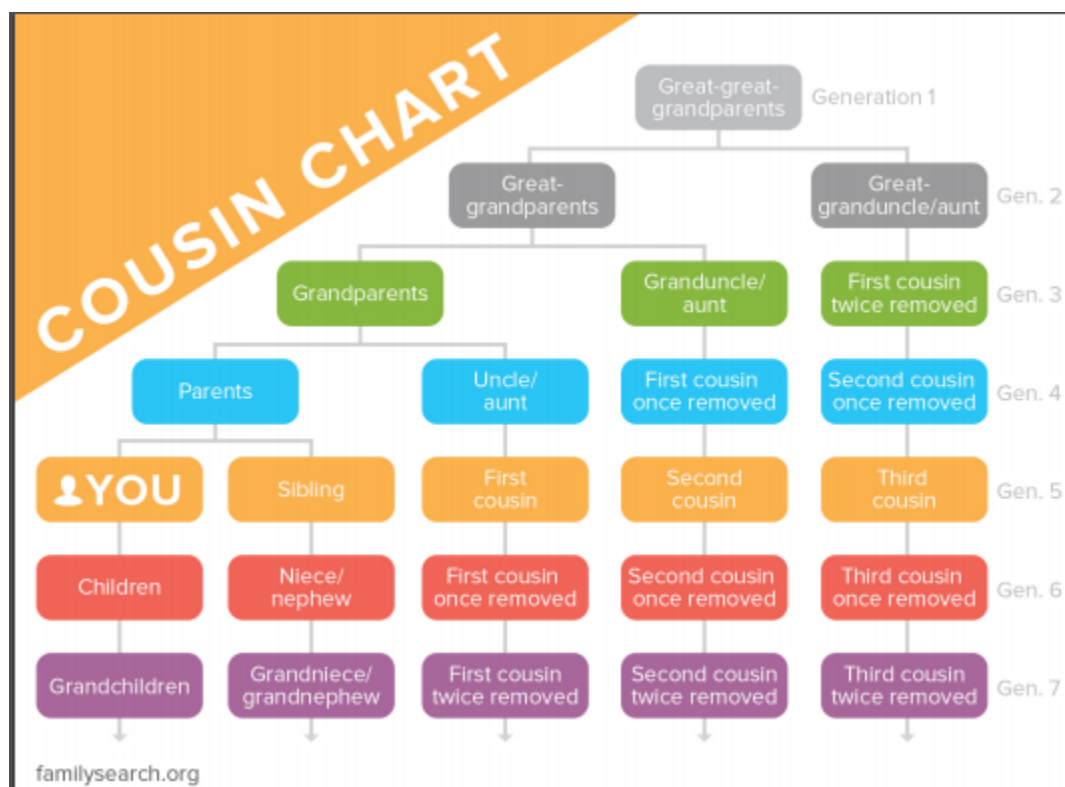
Level: All Running Time: 1:01:23

Description: Now is a great time to explore all that American Ancestors has to offer from home! In addition to our searchable databases, you can access the experts at NEHGS, attend online educational opportunities, browse digital library and archives collections, benefit from several services, and take your family history research to the next level.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YFk4ZLOOu8g&feature=youtu.be>



From FamilySearch.org



From FamilyTree Magazine

Automate your research with hints. Most of the big genealogy websites have automated “hints” or matches you can use to build your family tree. Make these matches work for you by brushing up on your knowledge of what makes a good or bad hint, and then see if you can have email notifications sent to you when a new hint pops up instead of manually logging in and checking.

From Ancestry.com

New Collections in June

- Colorado, County Death Records, 1986-2017
- Dresden, Germany, Crematorium Registers, 1911-1952
- New Mexico, Select County Marriage Records, 1905-1999
- Louisiana, Tombstone Inscriptions, 1812-1970
- Web: Indiana Deaths, Pre-1882
- Limbach-Oberfrohn, Germany, Residence Records, 1869-1932
- Wisconsin, Employment Records, 1903-1988

From Fold3

Fold3 Updates in June

- UK, WWI Pension Ledgers And Index Cards, 1914-1923
- War of 1812 Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files
- Civil War Stories.



Old German Script

6 Websites for Deciphering Old German Script By James M. Beidler FamilyTree Magazine

Before the 1940s, most records in German-speaking areas (as well as surname books, newspapers, journals and gazetteers) used a Gothic font called Fraktur. Handwritten documents were composed in cursive using a type of script known as blackletter. Notoriously difficult to read, the Fraktur form of blackletter has been giving German genealogy researchers fits for centuries.

Online German Script Translators and Resources

Old German handwriting in the Fraktur script can be hard enough to read, let alone translate. So to make a serious attempt at understanding German genealogy records, you'll have to crack the Fraktur code. How? Here are six German script translators that can help:

- Brigham Young University: The German Script Tutorial <https://script.byu.edu/>
- FamilySearch Wiki: Germany Handwriting Genealoger: German Genealogy—Language, Handwriting, and Script http://www.genealoger.com/german/ger_german_language.htm
- My Ancestors and Me: Helps for Translating That Old German Handwriting <http://nancysfamilyhistoryblog.blogspot.com/2011/06/helps-for-translating-that-old-german.html>
- Omniglot: German omniglot.com/writing/german.htm
- Suetterlin Schrift: German handwriting (For fun, you can see how your name looks written in Suetterlin!) <http://www.suetterlinschrift.de/Englisch/Sutterlin.htm>

A great supplement to your German script research is our free Germanic Alphabet Chart. Download the Germanic alphabet chart in PDF format.

<https://www.familytreemagazine.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/germanic-alphabet-chart.pdf>



Revolutionary War Ancestors

Revolutionary War Records

Military Records

Colonial men fought for independence at the local, state, and Continental levels. In the process, they may have created service, pension, bounty land, or other records. The National Archives' guide to the American Revolution provides a basic outline of these records.

Service records include rosters, muster rolls, payrolls, and more. British forces destroyed many of these during the War of 1812 when they burned Washington, DC, but surviving records were transcribed into compiled military service records for each soldier and sailor. Fold3 has digitized these as part of its Revolutionary War Collection, and FamilySearch has rosters for six states. A collection titled "Revolutionary War Rolls, 1775–1783," is online at **Ancestry, Fold3 and FamilySearch**. Even if service records at the federal level haven't survived, you might find surviving militia lists or payment records at the state level. Check state archives to see what resources are available.

Non-Military Sources

Unlike civil service, displays of loyalty and patriotic contributions were not uniformly or widely recorded, and so few large databases compile them. One national resource is the American State Papers. Click Browse American State Papers, then select Public Lands (eight volumes) or Claims (one volume). Search the index of each volume to see if your ancestor submitted a land or private property claim arising from the Revolutionary War. The American Genealogical-Biographical Index (AGBI), created by the **Godfrey Memorial Library** and searchable online, is another place to look for mention of your Revolutionary-era ancestors, including doctors and town officials. The index is a finding-aid to family histories and published records. Look for the original source of the entry in libraries or online.

Most non-military resources, however, were compiled at the town, county or state level. Search for the following records for 1775 to 1783 in the place your ancestor lived:

- supply tax records
- claims or appeals for payment
- oaths of allegiance or fidelity
- committees of safety, correspondence or inspection
- local government officials



Oregon Land Records

Images of Oregon Tract Books

Are you a descendant of an Oregon settler who wants to see the original documents? **It takes work!** If you know the book the Donation Land Claim was recorded in, you can find the document at the Oregon State Archives, which is currently closed to the public, or by searching un-indexed records at ***familysearch.org*** from home.

United States Bureau of Land Management Tract Books, 1800-c. 1955

3,907 tract books containing official records of the land status and transactions involving surveyed public lands arranged by state and then by township and range. These books indicate who obtained the land, and include a physical description of the tract and where the land is located. The type of transaction is also recorded such as cash entry, credit entry, homesteads, patents (deeds) granted by the Federal Government, and other conveyances of title such as Indian allotments, internal improvement grants (to states), military bounty land warrants, private land claims, railroad grants, school grants, and swamp grants. Additional items of information included in the tract books are as follows: number of acres, date of sale, purchase price, land office, entry number, final Certificate of Purchase number, and notes on relinquishments and conversions. Original documents are located at the Bureau of Land management in Springfield, Virginia.

You will have to browse through images but not through all 942,374 images. Click on "Browse through 942,374 images" and then select Oregon. And start searching.

<https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2074276>



Oregon Land Records

You can learn more about Oregon Land Records on the FamilySearch Wiki.

Oregon Land and Property

https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Oregon_Land_and_Property

County Records

After land was transferred to private ownership, subsequent transactions are recorded by the county auditor in the form of deeds and mortgages. These may be obtained from the appropriate recorder or clerk in each courthouse. The Family History Library is acquiring land records from the counties and digitizing them and they are found on FamilySearch Historical Records. Search the Wiki under the county for more information.

Many of the country records can be found on the internet by using a search engine and terms such as county name (e.g. Douglas), Land, Records. Information on Oregon Land records can also be found at the Oregon State Archives.

Online Records at FamilySearch

1857-1963 - Oregon, Yamhill County Records,

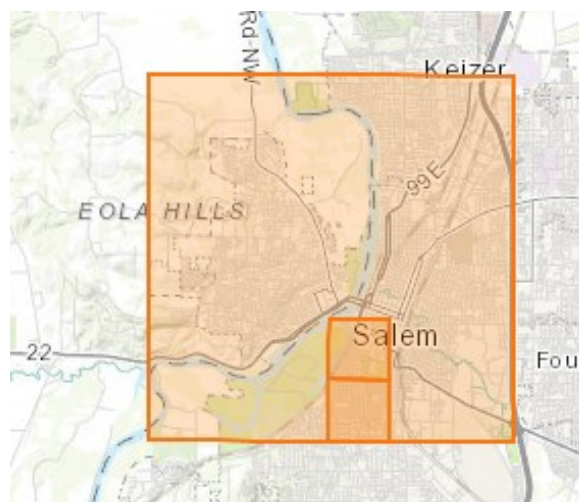
1857-1963 at FamilySearch — index and images

1862-1950 - Oregon, Baker County Records,

1862-1950 at FamilySearch — index

And don't forget the BLM Government Land Office Records at <https://gloreCORDS.blm.gov/> for your ancestor who received the land title from the federal government. It also includes a map of the land claim on a modern day map.

Below is the location of David Leslie's DLC in Salem (it can be enlarged showing the location on Commercial Street.





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.						



August 2020 Newsletter

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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