



WILLAMETTE VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume XLII, Number 10

Salem, Oregon

October 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

September 1, 2020: Governor Kate Brown extended her declaration of a state of emergency regarding COVID-19 for an additional 60 days, until November 3, 2020.

<https://govstatus.egov.com/or-covid-19>

“For all of Oregon, regardless of what phase a county is in, face coverings are required for ages 5 and up in indoor public spaces and outdoors anywhere physical distancing isn’t possible, including while exercising. All indoor social get-togethers are capped at 10 people.”

WVGS qualifies as an “indoor social gathering”. This means that our monthly general meeting for October has been cancelled by the Executive Board. **There will not be a General meeting on October 10th, 2020.**

Membership for 2021

However, the WVGS Executive Board did meet on September 10th and 17th, recognizing that it has been a difficult year for small groups like ours. Oregon’s governor issued Executive Orders beginning March 13, 2020 that prohibited us from meeting. Members have not been able to attend meetings or programs for most of 2020.

- ♦ Your WVGS Executive Board has decided that **all members who were members of WVGS on April 1, 2020 will have their membership extended to December 31, 2021.**
- ♦ So it is not necessary for current members to fill out a membership form for 2021, nor to send in any money for dues for 2021!
- ♦ This does not include the additional \$7.00 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 cash to WVGS.
- ♦ Benefits of membership:
 - Monthly newsletter, Quarterly bulletin Beaver Briefs, Monthly Program, Free help and research assistance, Getting together with other genealogists, Website with access to databases and all issues of Beaver Briefs, society information, other society publications, contact with other members with similar interests, Information about other societies, genealogy classes, Society subscriptions to Fold3, newspapers.com, genealogybank.com, americanancestors.org, Books and collections at Salem Public Library and family histories and periodicals at Candalaria.



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

Salem Public Library now offers contactless Curbside Service, by appointment only, to Salem Public Library cardholders. While our book drops remain closed, patrons with Curbside Service appointments can also return items.

STEP 1: To begin this process, you can visit your library account to place holds on items you wish to check out:

On the CCRLS website

With the CCRLS mobile app

Contact staff by email at library@cityofsalem.net

Contact staff by phone at 503-588-6315 (leave a message; we will call you back during regular business hours)

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/. 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 September 12, 2020**

Oregon Governor Kate Brown's proclamations prohibited large gatherings due to coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak in Oregon. Therefore, the General Meeting scheduled for September 10th was cancelled. Members were notified in the September newsletter that the meeting had been cancelled.

1. Treasurer's report: Barbara Foster compiled a Treasurer's report for August.
Income for Operations was \$50 donation, \$34.55 Fred Meyer Rewards, \$10 for research and \$2.80 in interest. We also sold publications for \$105, for a total income for July of \$202.35. Expenses were for rent at Candalaria \$344.21, Newsletter copies \$50, postage for mailing Beaver Briefs \$35.40, total for expenses for the month \$479.61. BALANCE on July 31, 2020 was \$32,813.60.
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. Meeting 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 3 research requests in August, all to our society. There were requests for 2 obituaries and a request for pedigree charts and family group records on 50 ancestors & DNA results.
6. Craig Smith is working on the Fall issue of Beaver Briefs, Vol. 52, #4 which is due out on November 1st. The Summer Issue was sent out on August 1, 2020.
7. Dennis Hill has kept our website updated.
8. The WVGS Executive Board met on September 10th and 17th at the VFW Hall (thank you Kerry Wymetalek) to conduct society business: The Board
 - a. approved a change in the Research Policy to charge 10 cents a page for copies of requests over 10 pages. (See page 6 of this newsletter for the complete policy).
 - b. decided on a procedure for holding elections for officers for 2021 (see below on this page).
 - c. approved extending membership for current members to December 31, 2021. (see page 1).
 - d. discussed ways to keep membership up and to provide services when we can not meet.
 - e. decided to contact all members for input by phone or email (see page 4).

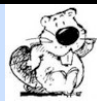
Liz Tice, President

**Elections of Officers for 2021**

- Nominations for officers for 2021 are our current 2020 officers: **Liz Tice President, Doug Crosby 1st VP (Program), Sue Rempel 2nd VP (Membership), Barbara Foster Treasurer, Sally Broadwater Recording Secretary, Tony Hoff Corresponding Secretary.** Thank you to the officers for volunteering their time again.
- We welcome any nominations or volunteers for officers for 2021. If you would like to nominate yourself or anyone else, please contact the Society at willvgs@yahoo.com by October 10, 2020. If no other nominations are received, we will not have a vote as nominees are running unopposed. Election will be read into the record as "Unanimous". If we receive other nominations, we will have an election by mail. Ballots will be mailed out the week of October 19, 2020, to be returned by November 14, 2020.



WVGS



Organize Your Genealogy

Free Research Help

It will be sometime before Willamette Valley Genealogical Society will be able to offer our services at Salem Public Library with volunteers helping patrons, in person, research their family history.

- ◆ Therefore, **Willamette Valley Genealogical Society is offering either one hour of free research or one newspaper article/obituary per household.**
- ◆ This is for residents of Marion and Polk Counties. The results would only be sent by email.
- ◆ **Contact us at willvgs@yahoo.com.**
- ◆ If more than one hour of research or more than one news article/obituary is desired, then the research fee policy would apply. See page 6 of this newsletter or go to the 'Research' page at www.wvgsor.org for more information on our research policy.

Member Input

WVGS officers have been contacting each member. We are checking on members to see how they are doing. We are also looking for input into how we can better serve our members.

- ◆ What aspect or service of WVGS is of most value to you?
- ◆ What might WVGS do to provide more benefit to you?
- ◆ Have you visited our website? If so, what did you use?
- ◆ Would you participate in a virtual program?
- ◆ Would you watch a webinar on your computer?
- ◆ What topics are you interested in?
- ◆ You can send responses to the Board at willvgs@yahoo.com

WVGS Board Meeting

The WVGS Board will meet on October 8, 2020 from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm at the VFW Marion Post at 630 Hood St NE in Salem. We have room to keep our social distance and wear masks. Thank you to Kerry Wymetalek for allowing us to meet there.

We have all been trapped at home for months now. If you are a typical amateur genealogists, you might still be putting off that job of organizing your files.

FamilyTree Magazine offers **"23 Secrets to Organize Your Genealogy Free eBook"**

You can download this book from

<https://www.familytreemagazine.com/freebie/family-tree-tips-23-secrets-organize-genealogy/>



- ◆ Guide #1: 8 Space-Saving Strategies for Your Genealogy
- ◆ Guide #2: 9 Habits of Highly Organized Genealogists
- ◆ Guide #3: Top Two Filing Systems at a Glance
- ◆ Guide #4: 6 Expert Ideas to Organize Your Genealogy Workspace
- ◆ Guide #5: Research Calendar Form
- ◆ Guide #6: Biographical Outline Form





Census Tips

Tips for Finding Censuses From *FamilyTree Magazine*

Census records can provide so much information on our ancestors—they are a decade-by-decade snapshot of households across the nation. Here in the US, we're fortunate to have the world's oldest continuous census.

So what happens when you've traced your ancestors to outside of the US? Census records in other countries can still yield valuable information if you know how to search them. If you're ready to dive into international census records, here are some tips for them and US censuses:

- Try wild cards. On Ancestry, Findmypast and FamilySearch, a question mark (?) takes the place of any single character; an asterisk (*) stands in for any number of characters, including none.
- Be careful with "exact" check boxes. While checking "exact" on Ancestry, for example, can be tempting for data you're certain of, this can eliminate whole categories from your results. Entries lacking first names or using only initials, for instance, will be skipped if you search for an "exact" first name.
- Use unusual names. Investigating common surnames like Smith can be a challenge, so try to identify a relative with an unusual first name and search for that person rather than your ancestor, who will likely be on the same page or in an adjacent record.
- When stumped, try working "side-ways," searching for your ancestor's siblings, aunts, uncles, cousins, and even neighbors.
- Exhaust all variations on a name. Leave no oddball spelling variation or possible typo in your ancestors' names un-searched.
- Don't forget to search for women by their married names as well as maiden names; in some countries, however, women kept their maiden names.
- Search without a name. Sometimes the only way to find an ancestor "hiding" in a census is to search without a name, to get around name changes and transcription errors. It's best for searching a single database, like one enumeration, to limit the flood of hits. Fill in as much as you know—birth year, birth place, residence—but leave the name fields blank.



Census Tips

Others say:

• **Mind the Name**

What is in a name? Well if it's on a census it can be misspelled, not written out completely, or the surname can be partially written as a middle name (for example, when the surname starts with Van or Mac). Simply put, there's a lot of room for error when we are talking about the U.S. census. Add to these issues the problem of transcription errors or incorrect indexing, and it is probably a wonder that we are able to find our ancestors at all!

So how do you best approach problems with names? Keep a names list. On that list, write out all the variations and creative misspellings for your ancestor's surname. This is important because you never know how a name may have been written by the census enumerator. In addition, think about your ancestor's first name, and jot down all those possible variations. Don't forget that your ancestor might be listed by initials, so write those down as well.

• **Search beyond the Population Schedule**

As family historians, we spend the majority of our census research time using population schedules. There's a good reason for this: they document the greatest number of people. But they aren't the only census schedule – so don't stop there.

Other schedules exist including the Indian, mortality, agriculture, slave, and manufacturing. Even state and territorial censuses should be checked (but please note that not every state conducted a state or territorial census). Not sure what census schedules exist for a particular year? Learn more about this on the FamilySearch Family History Research Wiki's page United States Census.

• **Try the Old-Fashioned Way**

It wasn't too terribly long ago that family historians spent their time going to a Family History Center or library, grabbing the appropriate microfilm, and advancing the microfilm frame by frame as they read each name hoping to find their family. Today, you may decide to use a variation of this method using your favorite subscription or free website. Go to the census database you are interested in and search page-by-page, using the browse feature, to find the city you are interested in – and then browse through each frame carefully studying the names.



WVGS Research Policy



WVGS Research Policy

We are pleased to help you with your research. We will provide free assistance to researchers who come into the Genealogy Area of Salem Public Library in person (currently closed due to COVID-19 pandemic). For other requests, you can contact the Society by email, through our website or by mail. Please include all information needed to conduct our research.

E-mail: willvgs@yahoo.com

Website: www.wvgsor.org

Mailing Address: Willamette Valley Genealogical Society

Attn: Corresponding Secretary

P.O. Box 2083

Salem, OR 97308-2083

Document Research

Searches for the following 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. **There is also a charge of 10 cents per page for every copy over 10 pages.**

Obituaries from the *Salem Capital Journal*, *Oregon Statesman*, *Statesman Journal*, *Portland Oregonian* and other U. S. newspapers, as available.

Published biographical and historical volumes.

Marriage and birth records as available.

Oregon naturalization, probate, and military records as available.

Copy of Oregon Death Certificate (1903-1969).

Copy of delayed Oregon birth certificates as available.

Copy of Oregon birth certificates mid-1903-1919 as available.

General Research

We will conduct searches using resources such as Ancestry.com, censuses, city directories, Oregon Donation Land Claims, newspapers, and other sources such as those listed above and below. **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.**

Oregon Death Index, 1898-2008.

Oregon Marriage Index 1906-2008

Oregon Divorce Index, 1925-1939, 1946-2008

Family Histories and our Surname File

Marion County, Oregon Resources

Probate Records, Vols. 1-4, Abstracts of First 2,500 Probates of Marion County.

Marriage Records, Vols. I-IX, 1849-1900.

Marion County Censuses from 1895 and 1905, including City of Salem.

Cemetery records for many Oregon cities and counties.

Other available records, as appropriate.

A search of all volumes of WVGS's quarterly, *Beaver Briefs*.

Catholic Church Records of the Pacific Northwest, 1838-1911

Please contact us before sending a payment. We do not charge unless we can satisfy your request. However, we will not send research documents until we have received payment. Willamette Valley Genealogical Society, Inc. cannot guarantee results. Our researchers will be very thorough in their in-depth research, but neither they, nor the WVGS can be held liable for any errors which may be made.



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:

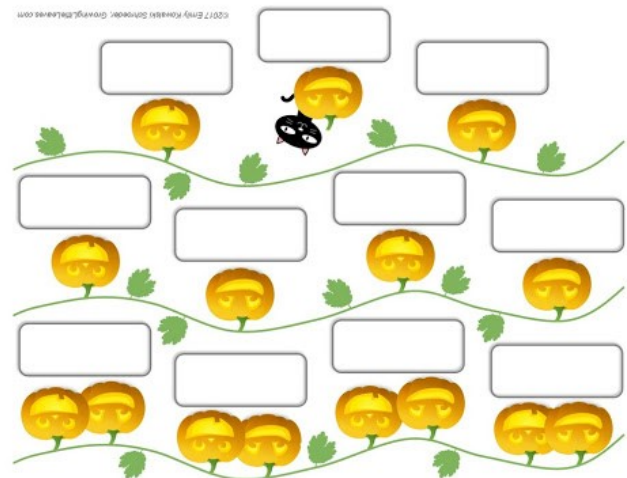
I can offer help with:

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.						



October 2020 Newsletter

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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