

WILLAMETTE VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume XLV Number 11 Salem, Oregon

November 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: Saturday, November 11, 2023, 10:30 am to 1 pm

• Place: VFW Post 661, 630 Hood St NE, Salem

(parking in lot across the street)

• 10:30 am – 11:30 am General Membership Meeting.

A business meeting will be held to conduct society business.

• 12 noon – 1 pm Educational Program

Our program will be presented by Kerry Wymetalek, Quartermaster for VFW Post 630. He will have a display of Military Uniforms at VFW and discuss the collection of over 3,000 uniforms maintained by the VFW Hall in Salem.

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

Elections for Next Year

According to our Constitution "The slate of nominees shall be printed in a newsletter sent to the membership at least ten (10) days before the November meeting. The election of officers shall be held at the November meeting. Officers will be elected by a majority of members present at the meeting."

Slate of Nominees for 2024 Officers

President: **Doug Crosby**

1st Vice-President Programs: **Kerry Wymetalek**

2nd Vice-President Membership: **Sue Rempel**

Treasurer: **Barbara Foster**

Recording Secretary: **Liz Tice**

Corresponding Secretary:

Section 6 The **Corresponding Secretary** shall:

- Conduct genealogical research in response to specific inquiries submitted to the Society through mail, email, or the Society's website.
- Keep a record which includes the case number, name of the requestor, date the request is received, the nature of the request, whether research is successful, the fee amount imposed, the date the fee is received, and the date the document(s) are provided to the requestor.
- Prepare and submit a monthly report to the Society President outlining the research requests and results for the month.

WVGS FUNDRAISER 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 Information

MEMBERSHIP REPORT By Suzan Rempel

Membership as of October 13, 2023 was 3 societies, 23 Life Members, 232 single memberships, and 22 family memberships (44 individuals) for a total of 302 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 you are not getting it, please check your spam folder or contact us. If any member would prefer a hard copy, please let me know. The same is true for our exchange societies and complimentary newsletters.

We email the **Beaver Briefs** to all members with an email address. If you want a hard copy, the cost is 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**
 Hospitality: **Sharon Hoff**

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.

Membership for 2024

We have a new membership form in this newsletter and on our website soon. Yearly dues will be \$30 for a single membership and \$40 for a family. If you want to receive Beaver Briefs in print, the cost will still be an additional \$10.

Genealogy Help

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 when you are there in person.



November is Veterans Month

Veterans Day (originally known as Armistice Day) is a federal holiday in the United States observed annually on November 11, for honoring military veterans of the United States Armed Forces. Congressional Act approved May 13, 1938, made November 11 in each year a legal holiday: "a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as 'Armistice Day'".

For genealogists getting records of the veteran ancestors for World War I, originally known as the Great War, is difficult.

The National Archives said "As the largest repository of American World War I records, the National Archives invites you to browse the wealth of records and information documenting the U.S. experience in this conflict, including photographs, documents, audiovisual recordings, educational resources, articles, blog posts, lectures, and events."

WVGS subscribes to Fold3 for military records. Fold3 has 71 databases for WWI, including divisional histories. Contact a volunteer at Salem Public Library or through our email, willvgs@yahoo.com. A disastrous fire at the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) destroyed approximately 16-18 million Official Military Personnel Files (OMPF): Army Personnel discharged November 1, 1912 to January 1, 1960, 80% destroyed. However, state records still remain in most state archives.



US, American Roll of Honour WWI

The United States declared war on Germany on April 6, 1917, nearly three years after the First World War started.

WVGS has in our collection at Salem Public Library:

Heroes all! A compendium of the names and official citations of the soldiers and citizens of the United States and of her allies who were decorated by the American government for exceptional heroism and conspicuous service above and beyond the call of duty in the war with Germany, 1917-1919.

And others!

According to

THE STANDING RULES OF THE WILLAMETTE VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Last Revisions November 9, 2019

ARTICLE IV STANDING COMMITTEES #3

The Nominating Committee shall contact members to determine those who are willing to serve in the elective offices of the Society. They shall present their report at the October meeting each year, the slate of officers to include at least one nominee for each elective office.

Additional nominations may be made from the floor, in which case such nominees must be present and/or must have consented to the nomination. The slate of nominees shall be printed in a newsletter sent to the membership at least ten (10) days before the November meeting.

The election of officers shall be held at the November meeting. Officers will be elected by a majority of members present at the meeting.

This means you can still run for an office. Come to the November meeting or contact an officer. Voting will take place at the November meeting.

Ways to contact WVGS:

- ♦ If you live in the Salem area, come into Salem Public Library and talk to a volunteer or leave a message for an officer.
- ♦ By email at willvgs@yahoo.com
- ♦ On our website at www.wvgsor.org
- ♦ Come to the next meeting on November 11th at the VFW.



Grand Army of the Republic



Grand Army of the Republic

The Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) was a fraternal organization composed of veterans of the Union Army (United States Army), Union Navy (U.S. Navy), and the Marines who served in the American Civil War. It was founded in 1866 in Decatur, Illinois, and grew to include hundreds of "posts" (local community units) across the North and West. It was dissolved in 1956 at the death of its last member, Albert Woolson.

Posts in this state were organized into the GAR Department of Oregon. Upon the death of Commander-in-Chief Theodore A. Penland, the last GAR member in Oregon on September 13, 1950, the GAR Department of Oregon ceased to exist.

You can read more about the GAR in Oregon at <https://www.suvpnw.org/historical-gar-posts-in-oregon>.

The State Library of Oregon has a large collection of GAR books for Oregon. You can search their collection at https://ccrls.ent.sirsi.net/client/en_US/oslpublic/


FamilySearch Historical Records "FamilySearch Digital Library" Oregon, Grand Army of the Republic Membership Records -

This collection contains the Grand Army of the Republic membership records of Union Civil War veterans for the years 1870 to 1930. The Descriptive books are arranged by Post name and number. The Descriptive books may list name, age, state of birth, residence in Oregon, occupation, date-rank-company-regiment of service and final discharge, cause of discharge, when mustered into G.A.R., status, and date of death. The collection is located at the Oregon Historical Society in Portland and is part of manuscript 1378. Oregon G.A.R. posts include:

- Meade Post 2
- Lincoln-Garfield Post 3
- Sumner Post 12
- US Grant Post 17
- Hancock Post 21
- General Compson Post 22
- Shepardston, Post 25
- Gettysburg Post 33
- Reuben Wilson Post 38
- Arlington Post 40
- M.A. Ross Post 42
- F. B. Sprague Post 46
- Iuka Post 48
- Benjamin F Butler Post 57
- John Bucher Post 70
- Wm P Dickinson Post 78

For example: Roster of posts of the Department of Oregon, Grand Army of the Republic : and the department and staff officers for the year 1886 included deaths of members:

R. H. MILLER, COMMANDER

 S. M. HORTON, S. V. C.
B. S. BARNARD, J. V. C.
D. DREW, CHAP.
T. HOLISTER, SURGEON

Headquarters
General Compson Post No. 22
Department of Oregon G. A. R.
Kenton Station
ST. JOHNS, OREGON. 191

O. A. BENIS, O. D.
F. E. HUBBARD, G. M.
A. H. MASON, GUARD
G. B. FOWELL, SERGEANT MAJOR
JAMES DOWNING, G. M. S.

✓ T. J. Brown age 68, Co. F 34 Indiana Inf. Died Oct 1909
Buried at River View Cem.

✓ Michal Hogan (74), Co. H, 3rd New Jersey Died April 17/1909
Buried at River View G.A.R. Camp

✓ W. H. Miles (65) Co. A, 3rd Iowa Cav. Died May 25/1910
Interred May 29/1910

✓ T. H. Shaw (77) Co. C, 106 Ill Inf. Died August 7/1909
Buried at River View Cemetery

✓ D. Haman (71) Co. A 37 Ind Inf. Died in Calif
- mien Jan 27 1911

**Grand Army of the Republic****Grand Army of the Republic**

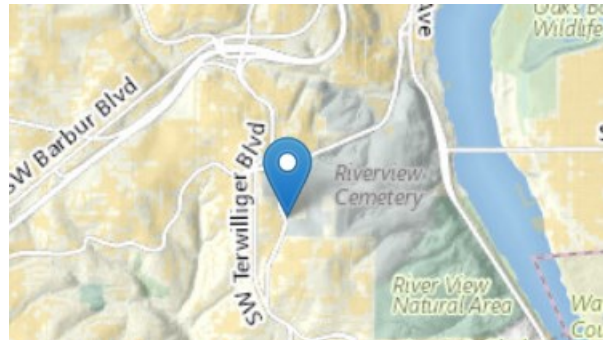
Did you know?

There is a Grand Army of the Republic Cemetery in Portland. "On a peaceful hillside in the woods of Southwest Portland, this 3-acre cemetery takes visitors back to the Victorian era. Graves are laid out in a formal, semi-circular pattern in a patchwork of open lawn and scattered trees."

The cemetery was acquired by Multnomah County in 1971.

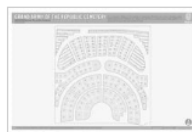
Address:

Grand Army of the Republic Cemetery
9004 SW Boones Ferry Rd, Portland



Metro Historic Cemeteries:

<https://www.oregonmetro.gov/historic-cemeteries/grand-army-republic-cemetery>

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Grand Army of the
Republic Cemetery
map

Jun 2023 | PDF



Burial records for
GAR Cemetery

Jan 2022 | EXCEL

The Genealogical Forum in Portland has:

Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) Membership Applications

Shiloh Post #77

Newberg, Yamhill County, Oregon

The original 118 applications indexed below are held by the Yamhill County Historical Society and were part of the Hopkins Family Donation. Nearly all the applicants had Newberg addresses.

Contact them at <https://gfo.org/who-we-are/contact-us/contact.html>



World War II Records



World War II Records



NATIONAL ARCHIVES

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

The National Archives says:
To Request Military Service Records:

Recent military service and medical records are not online. However, most veterans and their next of kin can obtain free copies of their DD Form 214 (Report of Separation) and the following military service records any of the ways listed below.

Looking for records?

Start Request Online

- [DD 214/ Separation Documents](#)
- [Official Military Personnel File \(OMPF\)](#)
- [Replacement Medals](#)
- [Medical and Health Records](#)

The Veterans Administration says to contact your local VA center to requests records.

Request your military service records (including DD214)

If you're the next of kin of a Veteran who has passed away

You can request a copy of the Veteran's military records in any of these ways:

- Mail or fax a Request Pertaining to Military Records (Standard Form SF 180) to the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC).
[Get Form SF 180 to download](#)
- Write a letter to the NPRC. Send it to:

1 Archives Drive
 St. Louis, Missouri 63138
- Visit the NPRC in person
- Contact your state or county Veterans agency
- Hire an independent researcher

⊖ What if I'm not the Veteran or next-of-kin? Can I still access files?

- It depends on the date the service member separated from the military. Military personnel records are open to the public 62 years after they leave the military. (To calculate this, take the current year and subtract 62.) Records of any veteran who separated from the military 62 (or more) years ago can be ordered by anyone for a copying fee (detailed below under "cost"). See Access to Military Records by the General Public for more details.
- But what if it's been less than 62 years? Records of individuals who left service less than 62 years ago are subject to access restrictions and only limited information or copies may be released to the general public within the provisions of the law. The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and the Privacy Act provide balance between the right of the public to obtain information from military service records and the right of the former military service member to protect his/her privacy. See Federal Records Center Program to access these records.

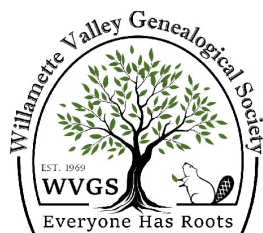
FamilySearch.org "World War II United States Military Records, 1941 to 1945"

Online Records

- [1939-1946 World War 2 Allies Collection](#) at Findmypast - index (\$)
- [1940-1947 U.S., World War II Draft Cards Young Men, 1940-1947](#) at Ancestry - index & images (\$)
- [1942 U.S., World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942](#) at Ancestry - index & images (\$)
- [1942-1945 Idaho, Jerome County Historical Society, Minidoka Japanese Relocation Center Mixed Vital Records, 1942-1945](#) at FamilySearch — index
- [1943-1945 U.S., WWII Army Deserters Pay Cards, 1943-1945](#) at Ancestry - index & images (\$)
- [1942-1946 United States, War Relocation Authority centers, final accountability rosters, 1942-1946](#) at FamilySearch — index and images

Ancestry.com

- U.S., World War II Army Enlistment Records, 1938-1946
- U.S., World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942



WVGS Membership Application - 2024 Calendar Year

- ☐ New Membership
or
☐ Renewal

- ☐ Individual(\$30/yr) \$ _____
☐ Family(\$40/yr) \$ _____
☐ Hard Copy Beaver Briefs..... (\$10) \$ _____

Individual Life Membership:

- ☐ Under age 70..... (\$250) \$ _____
☐ Age 70 and over(\$200) \$ _____

Please Print Clearly**Total enclosed \$ _____**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone # _____ Email Address _____

May WVGS include your contact information in our directory in the members only pages?

If so, please check items for which permission is given: ☐ Your Name ☐ Your Address ☐ Your Email

Signature _____

Send this form and your check or money order to:

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

For more Information:

Visit our web pages; www.wvgsor.org
Find us on Facebook; www.facebook.com/wvgsor
Scan the QR code at right
Send an email to willvgs@yahoo.com



**Note: We will have a 2024 membership form on our website soon, and you will be able to pay with PayPal.
But for now members will have to print this form and mail it to us at the address above with your check.**

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. You can do your own research.

Ancestry Library Edition



| 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/ | | | | | | |



November 2023 Newsletter

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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