

WILLAMETTE VALLEY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER

Volume XLVI Number 5 Salem, Oregon

May 2024

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: May 11, 2024, 10:30 am to 1 pm**
- **Place: Salem Public Library, 585 Liberty St. SE, Salem, Oregon**
Free parking in the Library Parkade
- **10:30 am –11:45 am General Membership Meeting in the Collaboration Room, Lower Level. A business meeting will be held to conduct society business.**

12 noon to 1 pm Program: Scanning Workshop

For our May Program the WVGS will be having a "Scan It" session.

Do you have photographs, documents or perhaps the family record pages of an old Bible you would like digitized? Perhaps some old letters, a diary, or a scrapbook?

We will have several work stations capable of scanning flat items as well as books. If you have several items we may show you how to use the equipment and let you proceed. We plan to have at least one of the work stations run by an experienced user, to scan a few items from any individual, in order to serve several people more quickly.

The CZUR scanners accommodate items up to 13x19 inches, books or loose sheets, color or black and white. Multi-page materials can be saved as a single PDF file. The flatbed handles black and white or color - positive or negative, various standard sizes. Don't forget to bring your USB thumb drives for saving your material!

WVGS programs are always open to the public – invite your friends.





WVGS Information

MEMBERSHIP REPORT By Suzan Rempel

Membership for 2024, as of April 19, 2024, was 1 society, 27 Life Members, 64 single memberships, and 7 family memberships (14 individuals) for a total of 106 members. Welcome all new members! And thank you to those who have paid dues for 2024.

Member Benefits

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.

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. Members who do not have an email and do not pay the \$10 fee for a hard copy of Beaver Briefs will not receive Beaver Briefs.

Meeting Dates for 2024

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

WVGS Officers for 2024

Elected Officers

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

Appointed Positions

Newsletter Editor: *Elizabeth Tice*
 Beaver Brief Editors: *Dennis Hill & Craig Smith*
 Librarians: *Deanne Smith*
 Volunteer Coordinator: *Alan Town*
 Publicity: **Chairperson Needed!!**
 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. 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 Thursday (library is open until 6 pm), 11 am to 5 pm Friday and Saturday. Salem Public Library is closed on Sundays and Mondays. Volunteers are there to help patrons, including members, for free with their genealogy questions. Volunteers have 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.



Oregon Connections

Do you want to know more about Oregon? The Oregon Blue Book is a great resource!

Oregon Blue Book | ALMANAC & FACT BOOK

- Oregon Blue Book
- State Agencies A-Z
- Explore Oregon
- State Government
- Local Government
- National, International and Tribal



- Cultural Resources
- Education Resources
- About the Oregon Blue Book
- 2025-2026 Oregon Blue Book Cover Photo Contest
- 2025-2026 Oregon Blue Book Student Essay Contest

Salem Public Library has a copy. You can order a copy through the website

<https://secure.sos.state.or.us/prs/shopBlueBook.do>

Or at a bookstore. Go to the website below to find a bookstore selling the Oregon Blue Book.

<https://sos.oregon.gov/blue-book/Pages/about-bookstores.aspx>

For Example: Want to know what historical societies there are in Oregon? Go to Regional Historical Societies for a list.

<https://sos.oregon.gov/blue-book/Pages/cultural/history-regional.aspx>

Or what Oregon's State Symbols are?

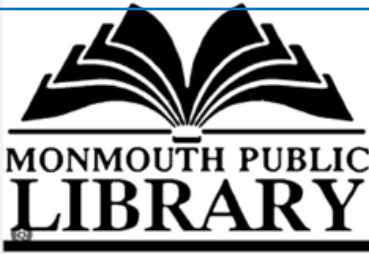




Monmouth Workshop



Newspapers



[Ancestry.com Library Edition Free Workshop](#) For our members in Monmouth or anyone interested in learning more about Ancestry.com

- ⇒ Saturday, May 18, 2024, 11 am to 12 noon. At Monmouth Public Library
- ⇒ By Willamette Valley Genealogical Society
- ⇒ Coming Soon to Monmouth Public Library: Genealogy Volunteers from Willamette Valley Genealogical Society
- ⇒ Monmouth Public Library will have Ancestry.com Library Edition available to Library Card Holders.

To help you get started, Liz Tice, from WVGS will conduct a workshop on using Ancestry.com. Lots of hints and examples

⇒ Agenda:

1. Basics of Ancestry.com Library Edition
 - A. Know the records- What are vital records? What kind of records are available that can help us?
 - B. How to access Ancestry.com at Monmouth Public Library Home Page- Do a global search first. What are wildcards?
 - C. Search Tab- you can search topics and also select a state or county to search. Examples, hints and spelling issues. How to browse for a person in a record.
 - D. Family Trees- Other peoples' trees are great helps, but are they "records"?
 - E. Ancestry.com- what does it cost to subscribe yourself? What are the differences?

How to Use

 **ancestry**
library edition

How do newspaper help genealogists?

WVGS subscribes to **newspapers.com** as an aide for volunteers. On Ancestry.com, the Library Edition available at Salem Public Library often does not give access to articles from newspapers. WVGS also subscribes to **Genealogy Bank**.

Both of these sites use Optical Character Recognition instead of translations.

"Newspapers are a valuable source in learning about your family's history. Within historical newspapers you can find local information such as obituaries, learn about major events your ancestors lived through, and gain context for their lives during the time period" (University of Washington Libraries).

For example:

The Oral Ellsworth Scott family can be searched on Ancestry and FamilySearch. They came to Salem between 1910 and 1920, in 1920 they were living at 1796 Mission St. here in Salem.

What did we learn from newspapers? Oral Scott bought land in 1921 which was reported in the Statesman Journal 14 August 1921.

Reported by Union Abstract Company

E. T. Foster et ux O. E. Scott et ux. lots 60 and 61, Grabenhorst Fruit farms, \$10.

Emma and C. M. Morgan to O. E. Scott, lot 5, block 10, Depot add. to Salem, \$375.

O. E. Scott et ux to E. T. Foster et ux, lot 5, block 10, Depot add to Salem, \$10 and other consideration.

And they raised chickens!

FOR SALE—60 White Leghorn pullets 90c each, or 75c in dozen lots. In good condition. Four miles south on Pacific highway. O. E. Scott. f294

A fire in 1925, reported in the newspapers confirmed a family story.

PRINGLE

O. E. Scott's home and garage burned Tuesday morning at 6 o'clock. It is reported that the fire was caused by the upsetting of a kerosene lamp. Very little of the contents of the house was saved, although the automobile was gotten out.



Railroad History



Railroad History

Article by member Doug Crook

BOOKLET: Big Five Railroad Records Roster

Do you have family members who worked for a railroad in the Pacific Northwest?
I recently came across an information source that could be useful.

"Big Five Railroad Record Roster" booklet (can be found on Ebay) was a free pocket size booklet for RR employees. From what I can tell, it was published from the early 1920s until at least the 1940s. It was free because it was filled with advertisements for things like affordable hotels, cleaners, loans, beer parlors, and prosthetics specialists. An earlier edition came out as the Big Four Railroad Record Roster, with apparently a different publisher. The Big 4 booklet has some overlap in the railroads listed, as well as additional RRs not listed in the Big 5.

The booklet is organized as follows (1939 version):

Railroad:

Northern Pacific
 Camas Prairie
 Great Northern
 Spokane, Coeur D'Alene & Palouse
 Union Pacific
 Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific (Milwaukee Road)
 Spokane International
 Spokane, Portland & Seattle

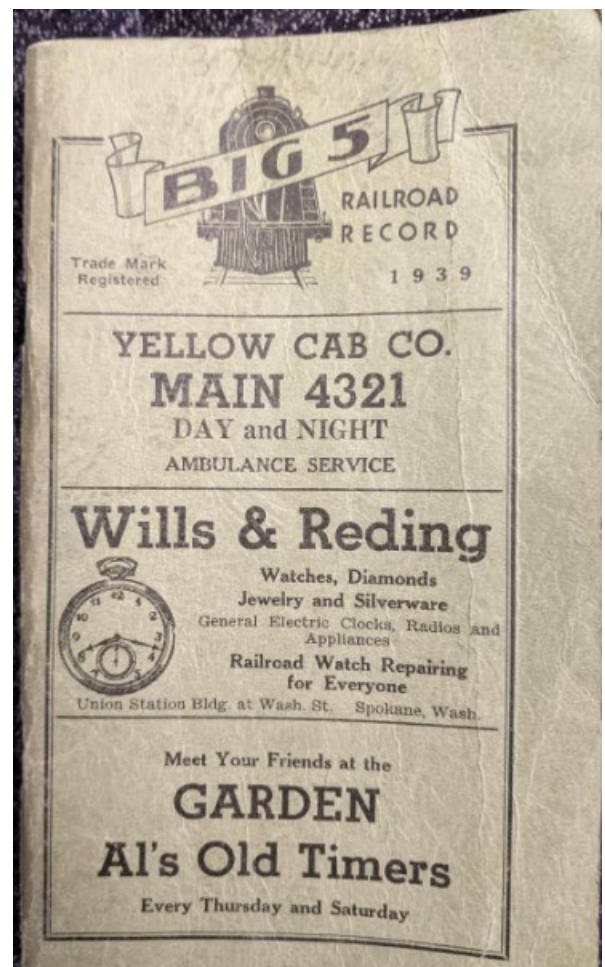
Please note that some railroads in Oregon are not included, such as Southern Pacific, Oregon Electric, and private timber railroads.

Division, branch, or area:

examples; east of Wenatchee; Spokane division, Marcus division, Wenatchee - Troy, Spokane - Wallace, etc.

Seniority lists:

engineers
 firemen
 conductors
 brakemen
 yardmen
 note: apparently no clerks, shop, or track workers



The back part of the has a section for recording an employee's work hours.

Personally, I learned that both of my grandfather's older brothers also worked for the Great Northern RR. I also discovered that a mystery relative did too. I only knew of this person as the son of my grandfather's oldest sister. So I only knew his name (different last name) & vitals, not that he worked as a locomotive fireman out of Spokane. Only by chance I found his name as I glanced around the page.

The timesheet portion of the booklet that was filled out tells me which locomotives & engineers my grandfather worked with, and the destination. So for a railroad buff this has been quite a find.

--Doug Crook



New WVGS Books



Find My Past

After looking at newsletters from years past, we realized that we used to list new books that were added to our collection. Since Salem Public Library has been cataloging 5 titles per month (per our contract) this past year, we have decided to start this up again.

Mt. Union Cemetery by Oregon State Society, DAR. [1994]. Call number: 929.50979534 Mt. Union

Mulkey Cemetery: Hawkins Heights, Off Hawkins Lane and Broadview, South of 18th Avenue, Eugene, Oregon by [Tami Dingle]. 2002. Call number: 929.50979531 Mulk

Marriages and deaths, St. Mary's County, Maryland, 1634-1900 by Margaret K. Fresco. 1989. Call number: 929.50975241 Fresc

Early church records of New Castle County, Delaware, v. 1 by F. Edward Wright. 1994. Call number: 929.37511 Wrigh v.1

Early Missourians and kin: a genealogical compilation of inter-related early Missouri settlers, their ancestors, descendants, and other kin, v. 1-2 by Roy Burgess. 2000. Call number: 929.3778 Burge

Remember: WVGS books cannot be checked out. They are available for use at Salem Public Library.



<https://thegenealogyreporter.com/find-my-past-for-genealogy/>

Find My Past is a paid European genealogy website dedicated to digitizing records from all over the world. Their emphasis is on records for England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, but they also have extensive record collections for the Caribbean, Canada, and the United States.

Find My Past record collections are extensive, but two of their most popular databases include access to the **British Newspaper Archives** and one of the largest databases of **U.S. Marriage Records**.

- The British Newspaper titles date back to the early 18th century through the year 2000.
- The U.S. Marriage collection dates back to the early 17th century! Find My Past also has hard to find church and parish records from the Caribbean like Jamaica and the Bahamas.

The highly anticipated release of the **1921 Census for England and Wales** is available on Find My Past. Subscribers can search the census index for free, but to see the census page image requires a one time payment per page. One census page costs about \$3.50 USD.



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) \$ _____
- Additional Donation..... \$ _____
- Total enclosed \$ _____**

Please Print Clearly

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



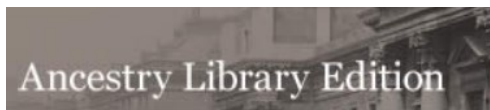
Note: Membership includes emailed color versions of our Beaver Briefs Quarterly, and acces to all previous Beaver Briefs (along with other materials) in our Members Only pages on the web. **B&W hard copies for your calendar year are available to members for an additional \$10.00 postage and handling. Non-members may receive this year's Beaver Briefs in B&W hard copy for \$20.00.**

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 the form in the newsletter or on the webpage and mail it to us at the address above with your check.

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.



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. Volunteers will help you. Volunteers have access to newspapers.com, Fold3 and GenealogyBank. Only volunteers have access to these paid sites.



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	10:30 am-4 pm	1 pm - 8 pm	9:00 am-12:00 noon	CLOSED	2nd and 4th Saturday: 9:00-12:00
Salem LDS Family History Center 4550 Lone Oak Rd SE Salem, OR 97302 / 503-378-0383 ext 7	8:30 AM - 3:00 PM	9:00 AM - 6:00 PM	9:00 AM - 6:00 PM	9:00 AM - 6:00 PM	9:00 AM - 6:00 PM	9:00 AM - 6:00 PM	9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Oregon State Archives 800 Summer St NE Salem, OR 97310 / 503-373-0701	The Archives is open by appointment. To order records, please submit an online request form or to schedule an in-person appointment at 503-373-0701 (option 1) or Reference.Archives@sos.oregon.gov . Appointments are available Monday – Friday, 8:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. (excluding holidays).						
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 –6 pm Tuesday-Thursday, 10 am—5 pm Friday & Saturday.						
Willamette Heritage Center Research Library 1313 Mill St SE Salem, OR 97301 / 503-585-7012	The Research Library and Archives is closed to drop-in researchers due to precautions over COVID-19. We are still open, but on a very limited basis and by appointment only. Please check out a description of our range of services during the pandemic here. To schedule an appointment, get help with a research or reference question or order an historical photograph please fill out the form (January 2024)						



May 2024 Newsletter

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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