

# Fall Seminar

**Ann  
Carter  
Fleming**

NATIONALLY KNOWN SPEAKER



## SEMINAR FEATURES

- \* Book Vendor
- \* Genealogical Treasures
- \* Other Genealogical Societies
- \* GFO Surplus Book Sale

*Hosted by*

## **Genealogical Forum of Oregon**

SEPT. 27, 2008

SITE: Milwaukie Elks Lodge  
Milwaukie, Oregon

- \* What is the Serial Set?
- \* When Your Ancestor Speaks, Are You Listening?
- \* Research by Time Period
- \* Squeezing the Records Until They Talk



**FLEMING FALL SEMINAR SIGN-UP FORM**

**September 27, 2008**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Phone? or Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBERS**

{ } \$38 if received **by Sept. 18th** { } \$45.00 if received **after Sept. 18th (no lunch)** NON-MEMBERS: ( ) \$43 **before Sept 18th** ( ) \$50 **after Sept 18th (no lunch)**

{ } Lunch: \$12.00. Must be requested by Sept. **18th** TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **MAKE**

**CHECKS PAYABLE TO GENEALOGICAL FORUM OF OREGON**

**LUNCH**

The buffet luncheon for \$12 will include two hot buffet items and three cold buffet items, plus potatoes, vegetable, rolls, & beverage. All coffee, tea, hot water included. Lunch in the Elks Dining Room with payment for lunch. Space available for brown baggers, too.

**REGISTRATION AT SEMINAR: 8-9 A.M.** **September 27, 2008 SATURDAY**

First Class starts at 9:15 a.m with a morning break, one-hour lunch, afternoon break, program ends about 3:30 p.m.

Snacks & drinks at morning and afternoon break come with your price of admission.

**TOPICS FOR THE SEMINAR**

**Ann Carter Fleming** is an author, lecturer, researcher, volunteer, BCG trustee, co-editor of the NGS series, "Research in the States," co-coordinator of Course 5 at the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research, former president of NGS and St. Louis Genealogical Society, co-author of Research in Missouri, author of *The Organized Family Historian*, and NGS Fellow.

**What is the Serial Set:** This lecture is a good basic introduction to government documents with an emphasis on the U.S. Serial Set. Because this is a difficult and detailed subject, an extensive handout consisting of 12 pages provides many details and charts so the attendee can minimize his note taking.

**When Your Ancestor Speaks, Are You Listening?:** Time and time again, your ancestors try to talk to us via their stories, photographs, memorabilia, and documents. Are we listening?

**Research by Time Period:** Which records will help your genealogical research? The answer revolves around the time period in which you are working. By dividing your research into four time periods, you will learn about the most important and ge-nealogically rich records in each area.

**Squeezing the Records Until They Talk:** Genealogical records tell us many things. As you review a document, consider why it was made, who the informant was, and what information was pertinent to the record. It is important to identify and separate the facts and clues in each document.

**SITE OF THE SEMINAR**

**Milwaukie Elks Lodge**  
13121 SE McLaughlin Blvd  
Milwaukie, Oregon

**Driving Directions:** On McLoughin Blvd. (Oregon 99E), 1/2 mile south of the town of Milwaukie. Lo-cated between SE Park Avenue (traffic light to the north) and the Bomber (airplane to the south). On the west side of the street. Look for the Milwaukie Elks Lodge sign near the boulevard.

**MAILING ADDRESS:**

**Fall Seminar '08**  
**Genealogical Forum of Oregon**  
PO BOX 42567  
PORTLAND OR 97242-0567

More Info  
PHONE: 503-963-1932  
WEBSITE: <[www.gfo.org](http://www.gfo.org)>

**LIBRARY HOURS M,T,W,Th—9:30am-5pm**

**Sat 9:30am-3pm Sun Noon-5pm**

# The Forum Insider

VOLUME 19, Issue 9

July 1, 2008

## NEWSLETTER OF

THE GENEALOGICAL  
FORUM OF OREGON

[www.gfo.org](http://www.gfo.org)

1505 SE Gideon  
Near the Intersection of SE  
Powell and SE 12th Ave  
(Milwaukie Ave).  
503 963-1932

### Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 42567  
Portland, OR 97242-0567

### Monthly Membership Meetings:

Second Saturday of each  
month at 2:00 p.m. with a  
speaker.

### Library Hours

Mon-Tues-Wed-Thurs  
9:30 to 5 pm  
Saturdays—9:30-3 pm  
Sun—12-5 pm  
Closed Fridays

### SUBMISSIONS TO THE INSIDER

Feedback, Corrections, News,  
Short Success Stories,  
Announcements to  
Janis Bailey, editor at

[jbailey172@comcast.net](mailto:jbailey172@comcast.net)

Or leave messages at GFO  
desk 503 963-0567

Submissions by the 7th of the  
Month for Inclusion in the  
Following Month's Issue.



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1946

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## INSIDE THIS ISSU

President's Message.....	page 4
Multnomah Co. Library Tour.....	page 5
Connie's Corner.....	page 6
Notable Ancestors.....	page 7
Interest Group News.....	page 8
Personal Reflection on "Top 50 Websites.....	page 9
Special Speaker on August 2nd.....	page 9
Forum "All-Nighter".....	page 9
Volunteers Needed.....	Page 10
An Independence Day Story.....	page 11
Biennial Conference of GCO.....	page 11

THE GFO  
MEMBERSHIP FEES OF \$30 A YEAR ARE  
100% TAX DEDUCTIBLE  
IN KEEPING WITH OUR 501 c (3) NON-PROFIT EDUCATION  
STATUS

President's message, July 2008

This is the month of changeover in both our fiscal year and our calendar of activities. We've had a successful and busy year, including the following highlights: revision of our By-laws, renewal of our lease, and transitions in leadership strategies in membership and publications resulting in spreading the work load in both areas. We completed a popular monthly meeting series on major Portland area resource centers and a related tour of the Multnomah County Central Library, a major upgrade of computers, software and Internet resources, and completion of the latest in the CD series on marriage data. The year also included the continued addition of resource links in the Web site, and a possibly related increase in research requests.

As was shown at the June volunteer recognition event, all of this success required the efforts of a large volunteer group of 108 individuals of whom 25 have served in leadership roles and 30 are involved in 3 or more activities. This shows what a vibrant group of volunteers we have, and I thank them. I give special thanks to that most active group of volunteers who make up the Board of Directors. They have been a cooperative collegial group whose strength of opinion is equaled by their ability to work together for the common good.

A logical analysis would say that there will be natural attrition for many reasons in that large group, requiring a continual infusion of new volunteers, probably at least 10%. We also have unattended tasks which require an equal number. Thus, we can easily use 20 new volunteers this year for a variety of tasks, many of which take only a few hours a month.

Many tasks are general and easily learned, such as participation on the education committee or the membership committee. A few could benefit from special expertise or experience including publicity and marketing, technology (database update and conversion), and Endowment Committee

(finance and investment). Later in the year, we will need to find members for board positions to continue to make turnover in that body a gradual process so we have a mixture of experience with an infusion of new points of view each year.

As you experience a restful summer and look forward to a new year, please consider stepping forward to volunteer in any way you can, and recommending yourself or others who you think have some of the special expertise we need. I look forward to working with you in this all-volunteer organization.

Don Holznagel, President

*Our Supporters*

EMMERT INTERNATIONAL

SHILO INNS AND RESORTS

TAZO TEA

FREE GEEK

**LIBRARY CLOSURE DATES FOR YEAR 2008**

Friday, July 4, 2008—Fourth of July  
Spring & Fall Seminar Days—closed  
Monday, Sept. 1, 2008—Labor Day  
Thursday, Nov. 27, 2008—Thanksgiving  
Thursday, Dec. 25, 2008—Christmas  
Thursday, January 1, 2009—New Year's Day

**STRENGTHENING TIES THAT BIND FAMILIES  
TOGETHER FOREVER**

The 40th Annual Conference on Family History and Genealogy is scheduled for July 29-August 1, 2008 in the BYU Conference Center, Provo, Utah. This conference will feature more than 120 classes for beginning, Intermediate and advanced researchers including Beginning Family History, Using Computers for Research, International Research and Family History Center Support, and more. To see the complete schedule or to register go to: <http://familyhistoryconference.byu.edu> or call: 901-422-8925

*The Forum Insider* (ISSN 1051-5666) is the newsletter of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon Inc., PO Box 42567, Portland OR 97242-0567. The Forum is a membership organization devoted to genealogical research, preservation, and education. The GFO publications promote the field of genealogy for the professional and the hobbyist. Dues are \$30 per year for individual memberships and \$45 for joint memberships. Membership includes subscriptions to *The Bulletin* (March, June, September, and December) and *The Forum Insider* (January, February, April, May, July, August, October & November). Material from *The Forum Insider* may be reproduced provided credit is given to the publication, the author of the article, and the Genealogical Forum of Oregon. *The Forum Insider* staff includes Janis Bailey, Editor; Loretta Welsh, Print Shop Manager; Dixie Read & Jim Morrow, Printers; Shirley Durkheimer, Collating; and Agnes Nuttbrock, Mailing Labels .

# Around GFO . . . . .

Multnomah County Library Tour  
April 25, 2008  
E. Ann Wendlandt

**MARRIAGE RECORDS,  
OBITS  
LOOKUPS**

**Check the GFO  
records index online**

Request a photocopy  
of the original record  
from:

**Multnomah County  
Marriage Records**

Years currently available  
online:  
1855 - 1904

**NW Oregon Obit Index,  
of area clippings  
collected by**

**the late Lottie Gurley**  
is now online! Find your  
ancestor  
and request a photocopy  
of the obit

**FEES**— for a lookup  
request for each record  
is \$5. Mail your exact  
request,  
with your return address,  
to:

Genealogical Forum of  
Oregon  
(Mult. Co. Marriage  
Record Lookup or obit?)  
PO Box 42567  
Portland OR 97242-0567

The Multnomah County Central Library was the destination for some two dozen Genealogical Forum members on the last Friday in April. And, what an opportunity it was! The history of that building, located at 801 SW 10th, and designed by architect Albert H. Doyle and opened in 1913 is a treat in itself, but, to get to view and know the "inner sanctums" is, of course, a special delight.

Also well known, is the story of how, in the mid-nineties, it was closed down for rebuilding and repairing of its "sagging, bulging" walls. Temporarily the library was moved to "TransCentral" and housed for a couple of years in the vacant State Office Building at 4th and Salmon.

Also, pretty well known, is that it is the oldest library established west of the Mississippi, and that it has a large and an avid reader population!

The very origins of the library date back to 1864 when the first efforts were begun by one Leland Wakefield to raise monies and to form a library association! Now, my little efforts to study Portland history tell me that maybe the library's history even predates the 1864 date— perhaps back to the 1850's when Mayor Hugh O'Bryant, Portland's first mayor may have begun an attempt to get a library started. The history of Multnomah County library is long and complex!

Well, less known are the spaces and collections in the building, and that is what we went to see. Janet Irwin, Humanities Librarian, was our special guide. Soon the group was divided into three groups of eight, and each group had a knowledgeable leader.

First stop on the tour were the sections that held items of genealogical interest. Next on the tour were the two lower basement rooms that held "overflow" such as extra copies of periodical holdings and local high school and college yearbooks (supplementing what the Forum holds) and immense files of illustrated materials on any and every subject. Wow,! what a hidden resource!

Next on the tour were excursions to the "penthouse" (fifth floor level) where library offices and small meeting rooms are located (and have a wonderful view of the

surrounding downtown) Another new (and a treasure of a room) was the writer's room - lovely, paneled with desks and shelves for four local "authors" to use to research and to coin new paragraphs!

Last stop on this delightful (too fast) tour was the Rare Book Room up on the third floor via a narrow and architecturally lovely stairwell. The John Wilson Room, which is currently overseen by librarian, Jim Carwin, and which holds not only the original library of John Wilson, who donated his personal collection of 8,000 books in 1900, which today includes a wonderful collection of books on roses, and a large collection of books of ornithology such as the four, fabulous Audubon volumes and many, many other rare first editions of writers of local prominence. We were treated to the examination of early editions of atlases such as that of Marion County. The room is a vast treasure trove, and is in very good hands.

Thus ended our "tour". It was a great day for each and everyone of us. When there is another Forum sponsored trip to the Central Library of Multnomah County, do be sure to sign on!!!

Help Financially

# Connie's Corner . . . . .

I Want to Find My Indian Ancestor  
By Connie Lenzen

Visitors to the Genealogical Forum of Oregon Library often ask how they can trace their Indian ancestry. Native American genealogy is one of the most challenging subjects in the genealogy world. Contact and subsequent marriages between Indians and non-native Americans generally took place somewhere on the frontier. Anyone who has done research in territorial or early statehood time periods know that there are few records.

There are resources at the GFO Library that will help. These include books, microfilm, and Internet resources.

There are a number of "How-to" books on the library shelves, and several are for Indian research. Cecilia Svinth Carpenter's *How to Research American Indian Blood Lines* was written in the 1980s, but it still is a good resource.

Cyndi Howells has a Native American section on her *CyndisList* that can be accessed from the GFO computers. The section includes general resource sites, history and culture, repositories, mail lists, maps, wars, records, tribal resources, and more. The Genealogical Council of Oregon is holding a one-day seminar on July 19<sup>th</sup> in Eugene, and Cyndi is the featured speaker. Six other lecturers will supplement the day. None of the classes is on Indian research, but all of them will provide instruction in research techniques and repositories.

Census research is important for Native American research. The 1900 and 1910 censuses included a special Indian Schedule that asked numerous questions. These schedules are found at the end of the census microfilms. The GFO microfilm collection includes a number of these Schedules for Oregon and Washington. Special Indian censuses were taken annually from 1885 to 1940. Most have been microfilmed and are

available through the LDS Family History Centers. They are also available on Ancestry.com, a subscription website that is on the GFO library computers.

When it comes time to research the tribe, the GFO bookshelves are a goldmine for the genealogist. Most of the books in the Native American Section are from the collection of JoAlice Wright, a GFO member who bequeathed her book collection to the library. Go to the GFO website, [www.gfo.org](http://www.gfo.org), and click on the "Library Catalog" link. Scroll down to "970, North America, including Native Americans and Loyalists." Another way to access the list of Native American materials is via the "Native American Research Guide" that is found by clicking on the "Research Guide" link on the GFO website.

**FROM THE BOOK:**

**The Last Lecture**

by

Randy Pausch: Hyperion

"Brick Walls are there for a reason. They are not there to keep us out. The brick walls are there to give us a chance to show how badly we want something. The brick walls are there to stop people who don't want it badly enough."

**ONLINE REFERENCE WEBSITES**  
from NEHGS Newsletter, May 26, 2008

Definitions.net is an extensive online dictionary. Synonyms.net is an online thesaurus of synonyms. copy and paste a citation in either MLA, Chicago, or APA format.

Michael J. Leclerc

**MEMBERS' Favorite Websites:**

- [www.gfo.org](http://www.gfo.org)
- [www.archives.gov/aad/](http://www.archives.gov/aad/)
- [www.usgenweb.com](http://www.usgenweb.com)
- [www.rootsweb.com](http://www.rootsweb.com)
- [www.cyndislist.com](http://www.cyndislist.com)
- [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)
- [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)
- [www.nara.gov](http://www.nara.gov)
- <http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/>
- [www.multcolib.org](http://www.multcolib.org)
- [www.ohs.org](http://www.ohs.org)
- [www.ccg-wa.org](http://www.ccg-wa.org)  
(Clark Co Gen Soc)
- {[www.sos.state.il.us/departments/archives/archives.html](http://www.sos.state.il.us/departments/archives/archives.html)}
- [www.genealogy.az.gov/index.htm](http://www.genealogy.az.gov/index.htm)
- [www.DAR.org](http://www.DAR.org)
- [www.theshipslist.com](http://www.theshipslist.com)
- [<http://abish.byui.edu/specialCollections/westernStates/search.cfm>]  
(Western States Marriages to 1928)
- [www.kshs.org](http://www.kshs.org) (Kansas)
- [www.ellisland.org](http://www.ellisland.org)
- HeritageQuestOnline (through [multcolib.org](http://www.multcolib.org))
- [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com)
- [www.footnote.com](http://www.footnote.com) \$ (free for 1st week)
- [www.genuki.org.uk](http://www.genuki.org.uk)
- [www.genealogy.com](http://www.genealogy.com) \$
- [www.GenealogyToday.com](http://www.GenealogyToday.com)
- [www.interment.net](http://www.interment.net) cemetery  
Inscriptions
- [www.ObitCentral.com](http://www.ObitCentral.com)
- Www.

*NOTABLE ANCESTORS*

**Rev. Robert Hickman – St. Paul, Minnesota**  
**By Julie Hickman Blair Haggerty**

My mother, Evelyn Grace Hickman Blair spent many hours in the kitchen telling my siblings and me beautiful anecdotes as she prepared delicious meals. Some of the stories were from the Bible, others were poems by great writers such as Robert Louis Stevenson and Langston Hughes and then there were sagas from our heritage. She told us of our great-great grandfather Robert Hickman, who in 1863 led seventy-two slaves to freedom from Boone County, Missouri to St. Paul, Minnesota.

Robert Hickman was born into slavery in Boone County, Missouri on New Year's Day in 1831. His owner taught him to read and write even though it was against the law to teach slaves to read. Hickman was a powerful man of both physical and mental strength who was a railroad splitter and local preacher for slaves, in addition to other tasks. When Robert Hickman engineered his quest for freedom, he took others from a neighboring plantation that included his wife Arminta, their two children, and sixty-nine of his followers. The escape plan for the group of ten women, twenty-six children and thirty-seven men included building of a raft, which they used to float down the Missouri River. Unsure of where they were going, the group referred to themselves as "pilgrims". When they reached the Mississippi River they were spotted by a steamboat crew, who towed them to Fort Snelling. Rev. Hickman continued to preach to his followers, was formally ordained and founded Pilgrim Baptist Church on November 15, 1866 in St. Paul, Minnesota where he served until his passing in 1886. The church has remained in existence since that time.

**INTRODUCTION TO FIRST & SECOND YEAR MEMBERS**

*Julie Haggerty* is a writer and education consultant. As a consultant she has trained staff in the areas of reading and writing.

Currently, she is an author for Seedling Publications and will have six emergent readers published in July 2008. For more than thirty years, she served as a public school teacher, reading specialist and principal. Playing her violin, skiing, reading, quilting and walking are among her many hobbies. A native of San Diego, she lives in Portland with her husband. They have three grown children.

**Captain Charles George Conradi, "Father of Nome"**  
**By Joanne Nehler:**

My great grandfather, Captain Charles George Conradi is known as the "Father of Nome." Following the Yukon Gold Rush, gold was discovered on the beach in Alaska in 1899. Captain Conradi was the first of the Alaskan steamship masters to drop anchor at the unchartered Nome, September 10, 1901. A tent city had sprung up near the Nome River but Captain Conradi thought that the beach in the vicinity of near by Snake River was best, less surf. The "tents" were moved and the landing site dubbed "Nome City." In the future, Captain Conradi's decision proved sound. It is the docking spot to this day.

*Joanne Nehler*

I have been a GFO member for three years now, thanks to Jan Robinson. She gave me a free pass to visit the GFO. At that time my goal was to find a Conradi relative to pass on documents and memorabilia of Captain Conradi. I now have found the two Conradi's who are also grandchildren of the Captain. We are corresponding. In addition I am researching my Steveley, Carney, Gunn, Guthrie, and Henry (Heinrich) family lines.

**Notable Ancestors**

Do you have a notable ancestor, perhaps not famous or infamous but worthy of note you would like to write about?

If so send from 150 –250 words about this person to the editor at: [jbailey172@comcast.net](mailto:jbailey172@comcast.net) or drop off a note at GFO's front desk for THE INSIDER. Please include how you can be reached.

***NEWS YOU CAN USE***

**GENETIC ANTI-BIAS BILL BECOMES LAW**  
THE OREGONIAN MAY 22, 2008.

President Bush on Wednesday signed legislation to protect people from losing their jobs or health insurance when genetic testing reveals they are susceptible to costly diseases.

Broadly embraced in Congress, the anti--discrimination measure aims to ensure that advances in DNA testing won't be used against people.

The law forbids employers and insurance companies from denying employment, promotions or health coverage to people when genetic tests show they have a predisposition to cancer, hearth disease or other ailments..

## Interest Group News

### THE BRITISH GROUP

The last meeting of the year for the British Group was held on Saturday, May 31st. Duane Funk shared his reflections of his recent trip to London for visiting different archives and halls of records. The group brought snacks of their ancestors to share, as well as a portion of the time was devoted to success stories and brick wall discussions.

We're hoping to plan a day during the summer to visit the McLoughlin House in Oregon City followed by lunch nearby at the new Highland Stillhouse Pub which features British selections. They advertise that their fish and chips are unforgettable. Lyleth was there for their breakfast time, and Gwen Has been there for their daily fare. Yes, they serve bangers. Did you ever hear of Scotch eggs?

During the year, we meet every other odd month on the 4th Saturday in the Higgins Room at the GFO library from 1-3pm (except July & Nov). We are fortunate to have speakers from our own group who have visited the "old country", checked out the resources and are willing to share their knowledge.

Contact person: Lyleth Winther, 503-658-8018 or [lylaw@pacifier.com](mailto:lylaw@pacifier.com)

### THE ILLINOIS GROUP

Illinois Interest Group, reports; "We have no regular meetings in the summer months of July and August. But instead we are offering the following:

**Saturday July 12th**, in the GFO Library, 9:30 - 11:30 an Illinois Research Round-Up.

Come and together we will research and help each other in finding information on our Ancestors. Please let Doreen Clayton know if you are able to attend. Email Doreen at [john.clayton@comcast.net](mailto:john.clayton@comcast.net)

**August NO MEETING**, Enjoy your travels and research experiences.

See you on **Sept 13th**, for Illinois Discoveries in the DAR

### THE IRISH GROUP

The Irish Interest Group will meet on Saturday, July 19th from 1 pm to 3 pm in the Higgins Room at the Forum. This will be a "work session". What is your brick wall in trying to get to Ireland, or perhaps you have already "jumped the pond" and have different problem? Come prepared with the information that you do have on your ancestor. A timeline of the person's life is one way to share this information. Also have a list of what records/resources you have searched, both successful and unsuccessful. Remember to have info on any other family members. Sometimes we have to go sideways in order to go back in our family lines. Working in small groups, we will try to help each other to brainstorm what to do next. We will also look at what resources we have right there at the Forum.

Peg Kenaga

### GFO WRITERS' FORUM

#### Writing Contest Winners

The theme of this year's GFO Writing Contest was "Saga of a Solider;" stories about any military or war time experiences. At the June 14<sup>th</sup> GFO Monthly meeting the following GFO Writing Contest awards were presented:

1<sup>st</sup> place, Mickey Bennett Sieracki, "Standing for Her"

2<sup>nd</sup> place, Alene Lorraine Burnett Reaugh, "They Called Me Sarge"

3<sup>rd</sup> place, Ruth McKendry, "The Two Wars of Elijah McKendry"

#### Honorable Mentions:

Roxana L. Tea, "John Glasgow: A Soldier, Once, and Young"

Patricia McCallig Bates, "A Daughter's Tale about a Surgeon in WWII"

Bonnie Little LaDoe, "Little Memories of the 'Big War'"

Harvey Steele, "John Foreman's War"

Nancy Betcher, "Samuel Luce, Soldier"

Marian Thompson, "She was Never to Know Her Father"

For those of you were at the June monthly meeting, you had the chance to hear Mickey Sieracki's winning story and to congratulate all the writers who entered the contest – for their hard work, for writing some of their important research down on paper for coming generations to enjoy. Look for the winning stories in upcoming GFO Bulletins!

Consider entering the Writing Contest next year. The theme is "Relics." Entries should be weaved around objects your ancestors created or used that have come down in the family.

Peggy Baldwin

Help GFO Financially



*RESEARCH RECOMMENDATIONS*

**PERSONAL REFLECTIONS ON "THE 50 TOP WEBSITES"**

**GFO BULLETIN, June 2008**

By Gerald Lenzen

I use most of the standard genealogy websites. My use of the Internet is focused on my own then current family research. This changes often when I feel the need to back off from the current attempt to get over a brick wall. I have been working on my William Brown ancestry pretty steadily over the past ten years. This interest waxes and wanes. At the moment, I'm trying to get my files back in their file cabinets. They are piled feet high all over the place. When I get the Brown stuff all back in the drawers, I'll take them out one by one and develop the family story. I may have already found his ancestry, but have not organized my stuff enough to realize it.

Connie and I subscribe to several different commercial sites. We have Ancestry, WorldVitalRecords, NEHGS for New England, and NYGBS for New York and nearby areas. We also subscribe to Eastman's Newsletter. I have a lingering interest in DNA analysis and am an ISOGG member, so I'm on Emily Aulicino's mail lists. I'd like to get more involved in this, but have too many irons in the fire at the moment.

I routinely use the two society websites listed above as well as RootsWeb looking for people, and USGenWeb looking for places. I have PA and MD Archives in my favorite list and several other states and counties I go to very often. Of course, I use CyndisList when preparing to move to another locality to start research. That site helps me find things not readily available on the other sites. I go back to FamilySearch whenever I need to verify the documentation for material I may have copied while in Salt Lake City or other on-site localities, and for which I had not properly transcribed the source.

When working in Connecticut records, I use an on-line index to the Barbour books. When doing land research west of the Ohio, I use the BLM website for warrant and patent records from the US Government.

When I want to find a researcher in a specific locality, and Connie doesn't know one there, I go to the APG (Association of Professional Genealogists) website to locate someone. For example, I recently contacted Evie Bresette, CGSM in Kansas City, Missouri to see if she could find a Hall Family bible that was in the possession of a cousin of my grandmother in 1976. The lady had sent us copies of the family pages and we wanted to get a copy of the bible publication pages. We learned that the cousin died before we could get the info. She had no children and was married to a Jewish man. Then my grandmother died, so I didn't follow up at that time. Now, I am. So far, Evie has obtained the obituary and discovered where the cousin is buried - in a Jewish Cemetery. The woman had no probate files, so disposition of the bible is unknown. Other information supplied the sister of the cousin living in the Willamette Valley as recently as 1994. I will have Evie continue on the search for some time.

I have hired researchers in many different places to do on-site work for me. I'd like to do it myself, but I have too many brick walls. I won't live long enough to take care of all of them, even

with other folks working for me.

I go to HeritageQuestOnline through the Multnomah County Library when I think there may be a better image for a census record I need in order to make a projection image. However, the Ancestry images are improving all the time.

Notice that I use a couple of genealogy websites not mentioned in the "50 Top Websites" list. I was surprised to see they ranked USGenWeb as number 49. That is one site that gets me to where I want to go very quickly.

*Visiting Speaker Aug. 2*

**Your Genealogy Is Complete. Now What?  
Mining Basic Genealogical Sources To Expand It Into  
A Family History: A Case Study**

Dr. Harold E. Hinds, Jr. GFO member and Professor at the University of Minnesota, - Morris, will be speaking at the GFO Library on Aug. 2 at 4:30. He plans to retire to the Portland area in a few years, and this is a good opportunity for members to become acquainted with him.

Dr. Morris teaches a wide variety of history courses, including one on genealogy and personal family history. He has lectured extensively at all levels, from local to international, and has delivered several key-note addresses; has published 2 monographs, 1 genealogical guide, 21 edited collections of scholarly essays, 8 volumes of transcribed records, and published more than 40 articles in genealogical and professional history journals; and is a member of numerous local, regional, and national history and genealogy organizations. He serves as Associate Editor of Minnesota Genealogist, as Program Chair of the West Central (MN) Family History Association, as columnist for the NGS News Magazine. His current research focuses on genealogical and historical methods of conducting personal family history, New York Adirondacks, Kentucky Appalachia, New England, and the Pacific North West.

The GFO All-Nighter for August has also been rescheduled from August 16th to August 2nd following the presentation. Members are encouraged but not required to attend both for a great evening. The lecture is free, and the All-Nighter's cost is \$15.

*Mark your calendars!*

**FORUM ALL-NIGHTER**

**Sat., Aug 2nd — 6 PM to 6 AM Cost: \$15  
Snacks provided with Pizza party at midnight!**

**COME JOIN IN THE FUN!**

**Questions? e-mail Julie at "rathernut@cs.com"  
or check with Forum desk**

**(503-963-1932)**

# VOLUNTEERS

**Library Collection News:** We are looking for new volunteers. There are several jobs, small and large, that can be done at any time it is convenient for you. Some are ongoing and some are specific projects with a foreseeable end. Training is offered for all jobs.

Here are some possibilities:

**Periodicals**

- Help evaluate our current periodical collection.
- Enter new periodicals in catalog and process for shelving.
- Search for new periodicals to add to our collections.

**Donations:**

- Enter new donations into donation log.
- Send thank you letters to donors.
- Help start new material processing.

**New Book Purchases**

- Help search for new books to add to our collection.

**Book Reviews**

- Do one or more book reviews. We always have one or more books waiting to be reviewed.. This job is easy and fun.. Good written instructions are available. And you get to see new material first!

If any of these jobs sound interesting to you, please contact Sandi Whiteman (Wednesdays 9:30-5:00 and Thursdays 9:30-3:00) or Volunteer Coordinator Jan Robinson at GFO 503-963-1932.

***VOLUNTEERS ALSO NEEDED FOR:***

**Education Committee:** Help plan events or help in developing themes for the monthly meetings.

**Cemetery Extraction Group:** Read tombstones and record inscriptions in local cemeteries during spring, summer and early fall.

**Fill online requests:** GFO needs a couple of people with technical ability to scan requested items from Oregon Donation Land Claims or other holdings for people living outside our area.

**Reading Room Research Assistants:**

**Publicity:** To spread the word about GFO, its resources and programs

Contact Jan Robinson at [desdemona@centurytel.net](mailto:desdemona@centurytel.net) or Wednesday afternoons at the GFO Library.

**DONATION LAND  
CLAIMS INDEX....  
NOW ON GFO  
WEBSITE !**

See guidelines below"

Links to the right point to the first name on each of 24 index pages. Donation Land Claims were granted to settlers of the Oregon Territory who arrived prior to 1853 (see Wikipedia). The files contain considerable genealogical data. Originals of these are located in the National Archives in Washington DC. The GFO has copies on microfilm and we will copy the entire claim file for you. Use our index of claim holders to determine the office and claim number.

The cost is \$10 for the first ten pages and 50¢ for each additional page. You may request paper copies or a CD. If you'd like paper copies and a CD, please add \$1. To determine the cost for your file, please email [gforesearch@yahoo.com](mailto:gforesearch@yahoo.com) or phone the GFO at (503) 963-1932 (leave a message for Loretta). We need the index information and your phone or email.

Order a copy of a Donation Land Claim by sending your return address, index information, and the quoted price (see above) to:

Donation Land Claim Lookup  
Genealogical Forum of Oregon, Inc.  
PO Box 42567  
Portland, OR 97242-0567

Board

**BEGINNERS CLASSES CONTINUE\_\_\_\_\_**

**INTRODUCTION TO GENEALOGY CLASSES\_\_\_\_\_**  
**OR JUMPSTART YOUR GENEALOGY!**  
**NEXT CLASS IS AUGUST 27, 2008**

Classes are 10 a.m.—Noon , the 4th Saturday of every other month except December. People do not have to be members of the Genealogical Forum to attend.

Following the class is a complimentary tour and use of the Library. There is a \$15 fee and preference is given to those who pre-register

Send your checks to GFO, or call ahead to the GFO desk , register and pay the day of the class.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

### AN INDEPENDENCE DAY STORY

Janis Bailey

When I was digging through a suitcase of papers from my Mother's family, I came across a clipping from the Boston Herald, Sunday, June 28, 1925. The Headline Read, "How Isaiah Thomas Pulled Big "Scoop" of the Revolution: Colonial Printer First to Proclaim Declaration of Independence to People of New England."

Isaiah Thomas was a well-known printer and patriot in Boston, who had been publishing a weekly paper entitled "The Massachusetts Spy" or "The American Oracle of Liberty" for six years when he hauled his press and type to Worcester, Massachusetts April 14, 1775 only three days before the Battle Of Lexington, which might have seen his equipment destroyed.

The account of Isaiah Thomas's exploit is in documents in the library of the American Antiquarian Society of Worcester and includes an eye-witness's report.

John Hancock, president of the Continental Congress dispatched messengers to carry copies of the Declaration of Independence to the thirteen colonies, the first to General George Washington, commander of the Continental Army in New York. After receiving orders from General Washington to take a copy to General Artemas Ward in Boston, the messenger, on his way to Boston, rode his horse into Worcester on Sunday, July 14th and stopped in the King's Arms Tavern for refreshment. Thomas, who was Postmaster at the time, saw the mounted messenger and closed up the post office and asked him about his mission. The messenger told him that the Continental Congress had adopted The Declaration of Independence and showed Thomas a copy.

Thomas then persuaded the messenger to let him read the document to the people while the rider ate his meal. Thomas announced in the town churches that Sunday morning that he would read an important announcement at the Old South Church of Worcester.

It is said that he read the document impressively, and an eye-witness account of the events that followed went like this:

"The King's Arms were taken from the court house and burned to ashes. The sign was removed from the King's Arms Tavern...and there was a celebration with punch.

"We were all so happy we didn't know what we did but we gave full vent to patriotic feelings until a late hour. A little surprised in the morning to find that about a dozen of us had enlisted in the army, a recruiting officer being then in town."

Four days later the document was read in Boston.. The city took the day off and thirteen toasts in honor of the thirteen original colonies were offered all 'round

In this way Isaiah Thomas in Worcester scooped the biggest news of the century for New Englanders four days. before it was read from the steps of the Sate House in Boston.

**The Genealogical Council of Oregon (GCO) will hold its Oregon State-wide Biennial Genealogy Online & Onsite Conference on Saturday, July 19th, 2008, at Eugene, Oregon.**

As a special discount, people who register before June 10th will be eligible for a drawing to receive a one-year subscription to Footnote.com.

Cyndi Howells, noted for her web site, her 30+years of experience in genealogical work and as author of numerous books on the subject, is the keynote speaker and will make three presentations during this one-day conference.

Topics by other speakers include: Researching Military Records; Finding Death Data on the Net; Consider the Source: Cite Your Sources; Going There, Walking their Ground-Doing On-site Research; What if You Can't Afford to Do Onsite Research?; Accessing Library Collections without Leaving Home; and Using Online Resources to Find the Death Date and Obit of Mercer Girl Annie, A Case Study.

Conference registration also includes an optional 20-minute consultation with one of the following specialists:

An archivist from the Pacific-Alaska branch of the National Archives:

A member of the Association of Professional Genealogists - Oregon Chapter (brick wall problems); Daughters of the American Revolution (lineage society questions).

New England ancestry,

FamilySearchIndexing (learn how you or your society may participate).

Registrations that are postmarked by June 30 are \$45 (GCO members) and \$50 (non-members of GCO), luncheon buffet \$15, GCO membership \$10, Extra syllabus (one included with registration \$10. Registrations made after June 30 are \$5 more. Send Registration Check made out to GCO to: GCO Conference, 1349 Parkway Dr NW, Salem, OR 97304

A copy of the registration form with full details about all sessions and fees is available at <<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~orgco2/conf2008/index.html>><http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~orgco2/conf2008/index.html>

or contact the Conference Chair: Connie Lenzen

<[clenzen@dialeregon.net](mailto:clenzen@dialeregon.net)>



## *The Forum Insider*

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### THE FORUM INSIDER

## *GFO Calendar and Hours*

### *JULY 2008*

4th ...Fourth OF July Holiday  
Library Closed  
7th... Monday: Free Monday  
(Bring a Friend)  
8th...Tuesday: GFO Board Meeting  
5:30 p.m.  
14th...Monday 1:00p.m. DNA  
Meeting  
19th... Saturday: 9:30 a.m. TMG  
Meeting (Ostrom)  
1:00 p.m. Irish Group  
Also: Oregon State-wide Biennial  
Genealogical Conference, Lane  
Community College  
21st...Monday: 7:00p.m. Computer  
Group  
23rd...Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. TMG  
(Kidd)  
28th...Monday: 7:00p.m. Round  
Table Discussion Group

### *AUGUST 2008*

2nd...Saturday: 4:30 p.m. Special  
Lecture by Harold E. Hinds, Jr. PhD  
ALSO All-Nighter 6p.m.-6a.m.  
4th...Monday: Free Monday  
(Bring A Friend)  
11th... Monday: 1 p.m. DNA Meeting  
12th...Tuesday:: 5:30 p.m. GFO  
Board Meeting  
18th...Monday: 7 p.m. Computer  
Group  
27th...Saturday: 10 a.m. Intro to  
Genealogy: Beginning Genealogy  
Class—\$15.00  
15th...Monday: 7 p.m. Round Table  
Discussion Group  
27th...Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. TMG  
(Kidd)

### *SEPTEMBER 2008*

1st...Monday: Labor Day:  
Library Closed  
8th...Monday: 1-3 p.m. DNA  
Interest Group.  
9th...Tuesday: 5:30p.m.  
GFO Board Meeting  
13th...Saturday: 9:30:  
Illinois Group  
11:45: Writers Forum  
2:00 p.m. Monthly  
Program  
15th... 7:00p.m. Computer  
Group  
20th...Saturday: 9:30 a.m.  
TMG-SUG  
1:00 p.m. Irish Interest  
24th Wednesday...6:30 p.m.  
TMG