

Forum Insider

Newsletter of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon Volume 34 • Number 6 • February 2023

2023 Virtual Open House Expands to 9 Days

This year's Virtual Open House begins Saturday, March 11 and runs through Sunday, March 19. We have 29 scheduled lectures.

Several of our Special Interest Groups (SIGs) will have presentations showcasing their areas of interest. In addition, we have speakers from across the United States offering content on research techniques, valuable databases and how to use them, using archives, and DNA. We also have a full day of German genealogy and a full day of Slavic genealogy this year. Our library chair, Laurel Smith, will kick off this adventure on Saturday, March 11th at 9:30 a.m. (Pacific Time) with an introduction to all the resources available at the GFO.

Please review the 2023 Virtual Open House flyer on **page six** for presentations you may be interested in (and please feel free to download our flyer and share it widely).

You can register for a presentation by going to the **GFO Virtual Open House website**.

GFO Needs You!

The GFO prides itself on being run entirely by volunteers. That makes its Board extremely important because several of the directors also lead various committees. This year, we have three key positions to fill on our Board: Vice-President, Treasurer, and Director at Large. Board members must be GFO members in good standing and agree to serve a two-year term beginning July 1, 2023. No prior nonprofit experience needed.

Responsibilities include attending at least nine of our 12 monthly board meetings each year and submitting monthly reports. The GFO's virtual board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month. Please contact GFO Secretary Alexa Waddle at **secretary@gfo.org** if you would like to know more about these positions. Active and engaged members are what keep GFO thriving.

Oregon Counties and Their Records

Our featured series on records in Oregon counties continues this month with Clackamas and Washington counties. See **page 3**.



"Boatloads of Salmon," fishing commercial salmon in Oswego Creek. Left to right: Rollie Worthington or perhaps Charles Austin, Isaac "Ike" Austin, Ed Erickson, Otto Larson, and Willie Austin. Courtesy of Lake Oswego Public Library, Historic Photographs Collection. Learn about more resources starting on page 3.

February 2023

Genealogical Forum of Oregon

2505 SE 11th Ave., Suite B18 Portland, OR 97202-1061

Mission

To inspire and empower every person to *discover* and *engage* with their family history.

Contact Us 503-963-1932 info@gfo.org

Visitor Information



Library Hours Sundays 1–5 p.m. Mask required Monday & Tuesday 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m. Mask required Thursday & Friday 1–5 p.m. Mask optional

Executive Board of Directors

President	Treasurer
Geoff Smith	Richard Crockett
Vice President	Director at Large
Geri Auerbach	Janice Sellers
Secretary	Director at Large
Alexa Waddle	Joyce Grant-Worley

Committee Chairs on the Board

Insider Editors Geri Auerbach, Keri Logan Library Laurel Smith Membership Jane McGarvin New Home Geoff Smith Online Meeting Coordinator Tina Lawson Purchasing Loretta Welsh Webmaster Ed Vandehey

Submissions to The Forum Insider Please send short stories, news, announcements, comments, and corrections to Geri Auerbach and Keri Logan, Editors, at insider@gfo.org.



In This Issue

Follow us



The Forum Insider [ISSN 1051-5666 (print), ISSN 2377-469X (online)] is the newsletter of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon Inc., 2505 SE 11th Ave., Suite B-18, Portland, OR 97202-1061. Dues are \$50 per year for individual memberships and \$75 for joint memberships. Membership includes digital subscriptions to *The Bulletin* (March, June, September, and December) and *The Forum Insider* (January, February, April, May, July, August, October, and 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 Geri Auerbach and Keri Logan, Editors. Many thanks to our proofreaders April Ober, Tanya Goffman, and Harry Auerbach.



The Genealogical Records of Clackamas County

Geri Auerbach

Clackamas County was one of the original four districts of Oregon. It was created by the Provisional Legislature on 5 July 1843. The current Clackamas County has an area of 1,890 square miles. Clackamas County was named for the Clackamas Indians, a Chinookan tribe, who lived along the Clackamas River.¹ Clackamas County is the third most populous county in Oregon with a recorded population of 421,401 on the 2020 U.S. Census.²

Comprehensive Resources

- **1** FamilySearch Research Wiki for Clackamas County records
- 2 NGS Research in the States Series: Oregon, 3rd edition by Connie Lenzen–available at National Genealogical Society

Genealogical Societies

3 Clackamas County Family History Society– Founded in 1988, the society has a library located inside the Museum of the Oregon

Territory. A pamphlet with their unique holdings can be accessed **here**.

Libraries

LINCC: Libraries in Clackamas County: Genealogy Databases—Thirteen libraries in Clackamas County use the online system called LINCC. Ancestry and HeritageQuest Library Editions are available in the libraries. Fold3 and HeritageHub library editions have home access with a library card from one of the LINCC libraries.

Also available online with open access is the **Northwest Heritage Index**. The index has over 17,000 obituaries (mostly Clackamas County residents) and selected books and materials in the Wilsonville Public Library Heritage Collection. The focus of the Northwest Heritage Collection is Oregon, but the entries are not limited to Oregon.

Archival/Government-held Records:

5 Clackamas County Records Inventory–List and links of the variety of records relating to Clackamas County including adoption, vital, property, court, naturalization, and probate records.

6 Oregon City Sanborn Maps—The collection has online Sanborn maps from 1884 to 1950.

Museums

7 Museum of the Oregon Territory and

Clackamas County Family History Society—The museum has over 10,000 digitized photos and houses the Wilmer Gardner Research Library, the library of Clackamas County Family History Society (often referred to as the Family History Research Library).

8 Milwaukie Museum—The Milwaukie Museum houses the Clair Kuppenbender Research Library. The collection has thousands of photographs and hundreds of files on local families and area history. The library is open to all.

9 Molalla Area Historical Society and Molalla Museum Complex—Founded in 1968, the society has an archive with material concerning Molalla settlers and their descendants. They also have digital (1913-1950s) and physical (1953-2009) copies of *The Molalla Pioneer* newspaper. Call ahead for an appointment to use the archives: 503-765-6432.

10 Oswego Heritage House and Museum, Oswego Heritage Council—The Barrett Family Archive Research Center has 22,000 items

concerning Lake Oswego history including early families of Lake Oswego. Thousands of historical photos have been digitized and are available through the Lake Oswego Public Library: Lake Oswego Historic Photographs.

11 Sandy Historical Society and Museum– Founded in 1926, the museum has family histories of early Sandy residents.

The Genealogical Records of Washington County begin on page 4.

^{1.} Lewis A. McArthur, Oregon Geographic Names (Portland: Oregon Historical Society Press, 1992), p. 180.

^{2. &}quot;State Profile," Oregon: 2020 Census, United States Census Bureau (https://bit.ly/3IBwvS1 : accessed 7 January 2023).



The Genealogical Records of Washington County

Geri Auerbach

Washington County was originally the Tuality District (also recorded as Twality District). The district was created by the Provisional Legislature on 5 July 1843. Tuality was one of the original four counties of Oregon.¹ Clatsop County was separated from Tuality County in 1844 and the remaining Tuality County was renamed Washington County on 3 September 1849 by the Territorial Legislature. The county was named for President Washington.² Washington County is the second most populous county in Oregon with a recorded population of 600,372 on the 2020 U.S. Census.³



A woman in Forest Grove, Oregon, circa 1890–1910. This photograph is part of the Nettie Shipley Haines photograph album, Washington County Heritage Online.

Comprehensive Resources

- **1** FamilySearch Research Wiki for Washington County records
- 2 NGS Research in the States Series: Oregon, 3rd edition by Connie Lenzen–available at National Genealogical Society

2 Washington County Heritage Online—A

 collaborative project site that "brings together historic images and documents from public and private institutions across Washington County,

Oregon." The site includes links to several Washington County Library collections, Banks Historical Society, Friends of Historic Forest Grove, and the Garden Home History Project.

Genealogical Societies

4 The Genealogical Society of Washington County, Oregon—The GSWCO was formed in 1992. The website has a list of online databases available, including a Surname Research List, vital, court, and military records.

Libraries

Washington County Cooperative Library

Services—The WCCLS has 16 locations with in-library access to Ancestry Library edition, Heritage-Quest, Lexis Nexis, NY Times (1851-1922 and 1981 to present), and the Oregon Newspapers Index (*The Oregonian, Eugene Register Guard*, and *Daily Emerald*).

6 Washington County Law Library—Free access to statutes, case law, historic Oregon legislative documents. Also, free access on public

computers to LexisNexis, HeinOnline, Westlaw, and a dedicated Oregon eCourt Case Information terminal. The **website** has an online catalog.

Archival/Government-held Records

Washington County Records Inventory—List and links of the variety of records relating to Washington County including vital, property, court, naturalization, pension and relief records, as well as prisoner records and probate records. Location of records is provided.

8 Pacific University Archives—The archives include several collections of interest to genealogists including the records of the Forest Grove Indian School, deaths at Chemawa Indian School, historic photographs of Washington County, the papers of Gov. Vic Atiyeh, and more.

Museums

9 Five Oaks Museum—Five Oaks Museum (which is currently closed to visitors) is the successor organization of the Washington County Historical Society. Their original collections began in the 1890s. The name was changed in 2020 to Five Oaks Museum to acknowledge and pursue a more comprehensive view of the area's history. The Five Oaks site near the museum was a gathering place for native peoples for over five centuries. The museum collection includes oral histories, historical images, Sanborn Fire Maps, and online articles. Although the museum is closed, they will perform research requests.

"Washington County History," County Records Guide, Oregon Secretary of State-State Archives (https://bit.ly/3GwQOxt : accessed 7 Jan 2022).
Lewis A. McArthur, Oregon Geographic Names (Portland: Oregon Historical Society Press, 1992), p. 887.

^{3 &}quot;State Profile," Oregon: 2020 Census, United States Census Bureau (https://bit.ly/3lBwvS1 : accessed 7 Jan 2022).

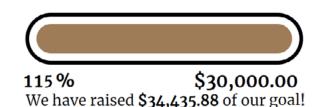


Geoff Smith, President

GFO's Annual Appeal for 2022 was very successful. In fact, donations exceeded the goal by a remarkable 15%!

A big thank you goes out to all who donated this time around. We are especially grateful for the extra generosity of our donors to help keep GFO strong.

Every year, we rely on the Annual Appeal to raise about a third of the annual budget. The money raised by the annual appeal makes the difference between just keeping the lights on versus continuing to improve the library's holdings, bringing in new classes, providing resources for SIGs, and upgrading some of our aging technology.



The surplus helps ensure that we will be able to carry out our plans and is an opportune provision against unexpected expenses and price increases. Again, thank you, donors!

GFO Inclement Weather Policy



WINTER IS HERE

In case of inclement weather, the GFO Library follows the Portland Public Schools guidelines for closure or delayed opening. If it is a day when school is not scheduled, check the GFO website (gfo.org), and call the GFO at (503) 963-1932 to speak with a Research Assistant to make sure that the library is open and staying open.







GFO Virtual Open House

MARCH 11-19, 2023

Saturday, March 11

Introducing the GFO 9:30 a.m.–11 a.m. PT | Laurel Smith

The Hidden Treasures: Utilizing Newspapers in Genealogical Research 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. PT | Eric Vaughn

Leave No Stone Unturned: Finding Elusive Ancestors in *FamilySearch* 1:30 p.m.–3 p.m. PT | Debbie Gurtler, AG®

Sunday, March 12

United States Laws and How They Relate to Immigration 9:30 a.m.–11 a.m. PT | Emily Bakly

Three Free Websites for Scandinavian Research 1:30 p.m.–3 p.m. PT | Savannah Larson

British Special Interest Group 3:30 p.m.–5 p.m. PT | Duane Funk

Monday, March 13: Slavic Day

Germans from Russia: Tools, Tips, and Tricks 10:30 a.m.–12 p.m. PT | Hailey Wentz

Czech Cadastral Maps 1:30 p.m.–3 p.m. PT | Mckenna Cooper, MSc, AG®

Polish Geneteka: Online Indexes and Images 3:30 p.m.–5 p.m. PT | Katerina Schmidt

Tuesday, March 14

Great Lakes Special Interest Group 9:30 a.m.–11 a.m. PT | Kim Thurman

Logs, Sources, and Documents: Oh My! 11:30 p.m.-1 p.m. PT | Heidi Gailey

Maximizing Your Research Time 1:30 p.m.–3 p.m. PT | Julie A. Anderson, MA, AG®

Genealogical Resources at the Oregon State Archives

3:30 p.m.-5 p.m. | Kim Gorman, Archivist

Wednesday, March 15

Learn & Chat Special Interest Group 10 a.m.–12 p.m. | Sandy Alto

Getting Started with AncestryDNA 1 p.m.–3 p.m. PT | Lisa McCullough

Compare DNA Companies 3:30 p.m.–5 p.m. PT | Tim Janzen

Thursday, March 16: German Day

Websites to Access German Documents 9:30 a.m.–11 a.m. PT | Fritz Juengling Ph.D., AG®

Understanding German Documents for Family History 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m. PT | Annette Adams

The ABCs of the Old German Script 1:30 p.m.–3 p.m. PT | Charlotte Noelle Champenois, AG®

German Gazetteers and Parish Register Inventories

3:30 p.m.–5 p.m. PT | Baerbel Johnson

Friday, March 17

The British Columbia Genealogical Society, Canada – Resources for Family Historians 9:30 a.m.–11 a.m. PT | Eunice Robinson

What's in a Name? Immigrant Name Changes

11:30 a.m.–1 p.m. PT | Alyssa Gamble

National Archives: What Can You Find in NARA at Seattle? 1:30 p.m.–3 p.m. PT | Crystal Shurley & Brita Merkel

Discover the City of Portland Archives 3:30 p.m.–5 p.m. PT | Madeline Moya

Saturday, March 18

Genealogy Problem Solvers Special Interest Group

9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. PT | Brick Wall Team

Online Resources for Black American Genealogy Research 12 p.m.–2 p.m. PT | Janice Sellers

GenTalk: Introduction to the Family History Guide

2:30 p.m.–4 p.m. PT | Bob Taylor

Sunday, March 19

Writing Your Own Family History 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m. PT | David Bruey

Family Tree Maker Application Overview and New Updates 1:30 p.m.–3 p.m. PT | FTM Special Interest Group

Beyond Your Typical Records 3:30 p.m.–5 p.m. PT | Angela Cloward

FREE REGISTRATION AT GFO.ORG/OPENHOUSE



GFO Resources for Researching Black Ancestors

GFO has numerous resources for researching Black ancestors. Professional genealogist **Janice Sellers** and University of Minnesota Distinguished Research Professor of History, Emeritus **Harold Hinds, Jr.** have created a 23-page categorized bibliography of sources available at GFO (To download, visit the **African American SIG** page and scroll to the bottom).

Janice Sellers also leads the fabulous African American Special Interest Group. Monthly meetings occur online and are free for the public to attend (register **here**). Sellers invites speakers on myriad topics, and many of the resources from those presentations are found on the **African American SIG** page. In addition, she sends out monthly emails containing many events happening online across the nation.

Also, a few recent articles in *The Forum Insider* highlighting resources for researching Black ancestors include:

• "Follow the Footnote," April 2022 p. 1, 3.



- "Families Searched for Lost Loved Ones," August 2022, p. 6.
- "Research Guide Highlights Forgotten Patriots," August 2020, p. 1.

Nominations Requested for GFO Hall of Fame

The Genealogical Forum of Oregon has established the Hall of Fame Award as a way to honor members who have performed outstanding service and shown exceptional leaderships skills on behalf of the Forum. The award is limited to one person per year, except in the case where a pair of members has worked together.

A nomination may be made by any Forum member, and the recipient will be selected from the panel of nominations by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. The recipient must have a well-documented history of service, leadership, and accomplishment in more than one facet of the Forum over a significant period of time.

Procedure

Any member may nominate another member for the award in writing. A nomination must be submitted to the Forum **President** and should include the following:

1. Name and member number (if known).

2. List of services, activities, positions, and accomplishments.

3. A narrative describing the nature of their work in terms of its importance to the success of the Forum.

4. A short biography.

All areas of service will be examined and may

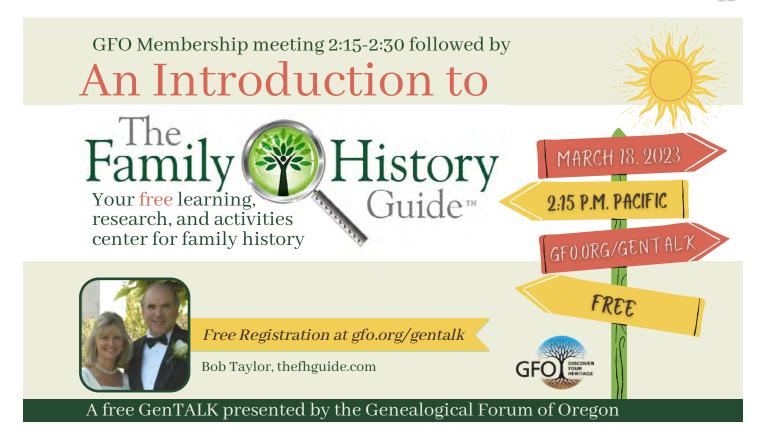
include, but are not limited to, serving as an officer or Board member, chairing a major committee, special interest group, research committee, or data development committee, serving as a research assistant, or performing other responsibilities.

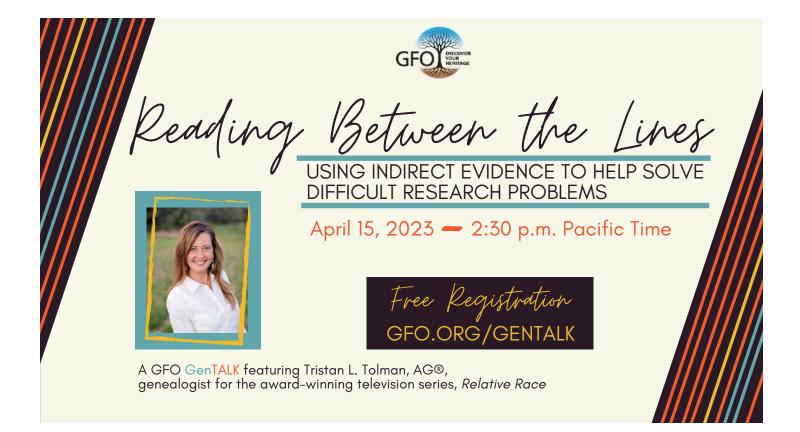
Other important activities to present might include publishing their own books, teaching, giving presentations, and developing publications or electronic GFO products, such as online databases or CDs. The Board will review the information on all nominees and may consider nominations carried forward from a previous year.

The Board will select the one which, in their judgment, is the most deserving. The Board may decline to select a recipient if the available nominations are found to be inadequate or if no nominations are received. Information submitted for nominees who are not selected for the award will be retained by the Secretary for possible use in future years by the Board.

An honorary life membership is given to the recipient. An official biography will be prepared from the data submitted and will be presented to the recipient for verification prior to the publication of the award.

To see the Hall of Fame recipients from previous years, visit the **Hall of Fame** web page. Please submit nominations to the GFO President by March 31, 2023, by email (**president@gfo.org**) or in person.







by FamilySearch

2-4 March 2023

Two Ways to Experience RootsTech 2023

RootsTech 2023, the FamilySearch family history conference—billed as the largest such conference in the world—is back in person in Salt Lake City this year. If you can't make it to Salt Lake City, however, there will be a full virtual component, as has been seen in the last few years. Both the live and virtual conferences take place from March 2 to March 4, 2023.

Passes to attend the live conference cost \$98. The live event will feature more than 180 live classes, research help at the FamilySearch library, and live demonstrations in the Expo Hall. Some of the live speakers will be Lisa Louise Cooke of *Genealogy Gems* podcast, Dr. Wanda Wyporska, Chief Executive of the Society of Genealogists, David Allen Lambert, Chief Genealogist at New England Historic Genealogical Society, Jonny Perl, creator and founder of DNA Painter, and many, many more. **Register** to attend RootsTech in person.

The virtual conference is free but requires **registration**. More than 200 on-demand classes will be added to the online RootsTech, some main stage events will be live streamed, a virtual expo hall will be available, and you can sign up for research consultations. On-demand classes will remain available for three years, and previous online sessions and heritage celebrations are available to view now.



Online Events for February

Wednesday, February 1

Learn and Chat 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

SIGN UP >

Saturday, February 4

Virginia Group 10 a.m.-12 p.m.



In February, Rusty Heckaman, Research Room Supervisor, Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, will present "Kentucky Court Records: A Case Study for Genealogical Research."

German Group 1-3 p.m. SIGN UP 🗲

Monday, February 6

RootsMagic SIG 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

SIGN UP >

Wednesday, February 8

Great Lakes Interest Group 1:30-3 p.m. SIGN UP 💙

Thursday, February 9

The Q Review 6-7 p.m.



This month, we will discuss Darcie Hind Posz's article, "Lost Sons: DNA Confirms the Parents of Robert Bradford Murray of Andrew and Worth Counties, Missouri," NGSQ 110 (Dec 2022), p. 245-263. There is no link to this article. Please contact **qreview@gfo.org** if you need help locating a copy.

Saturday, February 11

Access GFO Resources 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

SIGN UP	5

Sunday, February 12

The Writers' Room 2:30-4 p.m.



For the February meeting, Sue LeBlanc, AG®, will discuss her journey from initial research to the publication of one line of her family history.

Tuesday, February 14

Board Meeting 6:30-8:30 p.m. Please contact the Geoff Smith, president, at **president@gfo.org** at least 24 hours in advance for a link to the meeting.



Wednesday, February 15

Learn & Chat 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

DNA Q&A: The Basics 1-3 p.m.

Irish Group 6-7:30 p.m.

SIGN UP

roup

SIGN UP >

Saturday, February 18

Genealogy Problem Solvers SIGN UP 9:30-11:30 a.m.

African American Ancestry 12-2 p.m.

GENTALK: America's Westward Expansion: 25 Events in 50 Minutes

2:30-3:30 p.m.

This presentation examines 25 U.S.

Congressional acts and other major events that comprised westward migration between 1787 to 1890. Particular attention is paid to America's laws regarding territorial boundaries, stances on slavery, and wars against Mexico and Native Americans.

Sunday, February 26

Italian Ancestry 1-2:30 p.m. Contact **italian@gfo.org** for a meeting link.





January The Donation Land Claims Team— Susan Melson, Barbara Schrag, and Sharon Barnes

Susan, Barb, and Sharon have been instrumental in getting the **Oregon Donation Land Claims** from microfilm to **MemberSpace** and the **GFO Library Catalog**. Susan scans about 25 claims each week. Barb studies the scans to correct and improve the index, and she turns each image into a PDF. Sharon enters each one into the library catalog. There are almost 1,300 claims available to view, with many more coming soon. Thank you to the team for their hard work and dedication.



Susan Nelson



Barbara Schrag



Sharon Barnes

GFO Special Interest Groups

SIG meetings occur virtually in Pacific Time. They are open to the public. Learn more about our SIGs at our **SIG page**.

AFRICAN AMERICAN GROUP Led by Janice Sellers african_american@gfo.org

BRITISH GROUP Led by Duane Funk uk@gfo.org

DNA – Advanced Led by Tim Janzen dna@gfo.org

DNA Q & A – The Basics Led by Lisa McCullough dna_qa@gfo.org

FAMILY TREE MAKER Led by Agnes Zueger and Joyce Grant-Worley ftm@gfo.org **GENEALOGY PROBLEM SOLVERS** Led by Katie Daly gps@gfo.org

GERMAN GROUP Led by Tia Cobb german@gfo.org

GREAT LAKES Led by Kim Thurman greatlakes@gfo.org

IRISH GROUP Led by Karen Hubbard, Peg Kenaga, and Erinn Sears irish@gfo.org

ITALIAN GROUP Led by Stephanie Silenti italian@gfo.org LEARN & CHAT Led by Sandy Alto learnandchat@gfo.org

THE Q REVIEW Led by Alexa Waddle qreview@gfo.org

ROOTSMAGIC Led by Barry Wolff rootsmagic@gfo.org

VIRGINIA GROUP Led by Judi Scott and Carol Surrency virginia@gfo.org

WRITERS' ROOM Led by Geri Auerbach writers@gfo.org





RVGS Special Interest Groups

Registration for Rogue Valley Genealogical Society Interest Groups

0 0	/
Feb 8, 2023	10:30 a.m.–12 p.m. PT
Feb 9, 2023	6–7:30 p.m. PT
Feb 10, 2023	1:30–3 p.m. PT
Feb 13, 2023	2–3:30 p.m. PT
Feb 14, 2023	11 a.m.–12 p.m. PT
Feb 14, 2023	1:30–3 p.m. PT
Feb 15, 2023	1:30–3 p.m. PT

Genetic Genealogy Interest Group Genealogy Newbies Interest Group Irish Interest Group Colonial America Interest Group German Interest Group Family TreeMaker Interest Group Roundtable: Let's Talk Genealogy



Treasurer's Report

Contact: treasurer@gfo.org

DECEMBER 2022 INCOME

Contributions*	\$ 31,932.64	
Memberships	\$ 2,794.00	
Education	\$ 0.00	
Library & Research	\$ 226.90	
Book Sales & Misc. Income	\$ 900.66	
Interest & Dividends	\$ 744.48	
Total	\$ 36,598.68	

DECEMBER 2022 EXPENSE

Administration	\$ 3,584.00
Publications	\$ 29.99
Education	\$ 875.00
Facilities & Equipment	\$ 5,207.86
Library & Research	\$ 650.63
Total	\$ 10,347.48
	\$ 26,251.20
	\$ 19,986.90
	\$,
	\$ –17,910.52
	\$ 50.00
	\$ -15,232.62

*Includes Annual Appeal

Unrealized gains Endowment Donation Total adjustments

Net Income for the month Year-to-Date Net Income

Donor-restricted Donations