



The Forum Insider

Newsletter of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon

Volume 26, Number 8

May 2015

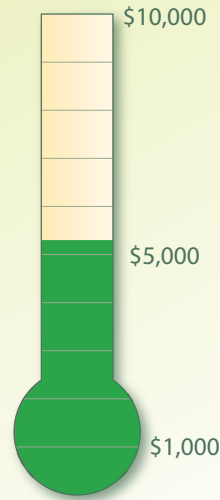
Life-Member Social

At the end of the Open House week in March, the GFO held a special event for Life Members. We want to acknowledge the contributions of Life Members who help to maintain significant programs and activities. Their investment, through the Endowment Fund, has provided several thousand dollars each year for operations and maintenance.

The big attraction was the story behind the GFO's supporting role in researching the *Who Do You Think You Are?* episode on actor Kelsey Grammer. A big thank you goes to the GFO board for planning this event.



Guests enjoying the program, book sale, and socializing. (Jane McGarvin)



Great News!

Film Scanner Drive

Elizabeth Stepp

With deepest thanks, we want to announce a generous contribution to the scanner drive from Elizabeth “Ann” and James Wendlandt. Their donation for \$5,000 has pushed the total past the half-way mark. With such an auspicious start – including \$300-plus from many donors,

the goal isn't far away. Won't you help? Every dollar is important.

The GFO Library has a rich diversity of seldom-used microfiche records. Volunteers are now working on cataloging these resources, some for the first time, into the OPALS catalog. A new scanner with easy save and print features could be one key to more patrons tapping into this unique source of information.

Last month began a one-year fund drive to replace the Library's long-serving microfilm scanner with an updated model that can provide our patrons with the full use of current technology.

You can donate to this new, dedicated fund:

- ❖ By mail: Please write “Scanner Drive” on the envelope and inside, with your contribution;
- ❖ By PayPal: Send your donation to payments@gfo.org, and please add the note: Scanner Drive;
- ❖ By giving at the library: Those donating at the library should give their cash or check to a receptionist if a receipt or recognition is desired. If neither is desired, cash donations may be dropped in the familiar donation jar.



Genealogical Forum of Oregon

www.gfo.org

2505 SE 11th Ave., Suite B18
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(Corner of 11th & Division)
503-963-1932

info@gfo.org

Free Monthly Program

Third Saturday of each month at
2 pm with an interesting speaker.

Library Hours

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday
9:30 am to 5 pm
Wednesday
9:30 to 8 pm
Friday and Saturday
9:30 am to 3 pm
Sunday
12 noon to 5 pm

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Submissions to the *Insider*: Send comments, corrections, news, short success stories, and announcements to Jackie Olson, editor, at insider@gfo.org or leave messages at the GFO desk, 503-963-1932. Provide submissions by the 7th of the month for inclusion in the following month's issue. Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon.

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. 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 \$41 per year for individual memberships and \$61 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, 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 Jackie Olson, Editor, Loretta Welsh, Publisher, and Jim Morrow, Assistant to the Publisher. Many thanks to everyone including our proofreaders, Susan LeBlanc, Laurel Smith, and Ellie Dir.

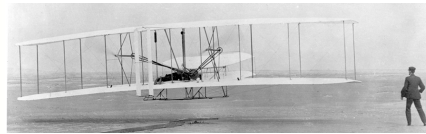
Monthly Program

The monthly program is held at the GFO Library and is free and open to the public.

http://www.gfo.org/month_meet.htm

May ~ To Be Announced

Saturday, May 16, 2015
2 pm – 4 pm



Air Mileage Calculators

How far is that flight? A couple of air mileage calculators:

http://www.webflyer.com/travel/mileage_calculator/

<http://www.airmilescalculator.com/>

Now for the Great Circle calculation: This is the straight-line path around the globe between two points. It's not going to be the same as the air mileage which is based on airport location and flight patterns, but has the advantage of using any two points.

<http://williams.best.vwh.net/gccalc.htm> or <http://www.movable-type.co.uk/scripts/latlong.html>

To find latitude and longitude to plug into the site: <http://fpc.org/latlong.html>

The Spokane, Portland & Seattle Railway Streamliner departing Portland's Union Station, 1970. Author: Drew Jacksich, accessed at Wikimedia Commons.

Train Quiet Zone

Beginning in March the Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Transit Project established a quiet zone through the SE Portland track crossings. TriMet urges residents to exercise caution when using the cross walks:

Always expect a train – even if you don't hear a horn. Obey all signs and signals, and never cross while gates are lowering or while bells and lights are on.

Safety improvements – including new traffic signals at 12th & Clinton – allow the track crossings at SE 8th, 11th, and 12th avenues to be designated a quiet zone for both freight and light rail trains beginning March

In the quiet zone, train operators are not required to blow their horns as they approach a crossing (although they are allowed to use their horns at their discretion).





New Membership and Marketing Chairs

Two members have stepped up to fill important positions in the GFO.

Jane McGarvin, whose most recent contribution is steering the emergency planning effort, is taking on the role of membership chair. The outgoing chair, Marj Enneking, will continue as advisor in the transition.

Marcia Hicks is the new marketing coordinator, a position previously held by Karla Nutt. This position works to promote the GFO activities and resources in the public eye.

Our thanks go to the past and present volunteers for these positions. Their efforts keep the GFO vibrant and running smoothly.

Treasurer's Report, March 2015

March income totaled \$10,474.66:

Annual Appeal donations	\$710.00
Reading room donation jar	\$206.98
(a start to the scanner project)	
Endowment Fund donations	\$106.00
General fund donations	\$948.00
Vanguard investment	\$218.16
dividends and capital gains	
Membership fees	\$5,136.00
Italian seminar registrations	\$160.00
Spring seminar income	\$627.00
Reading room	\$147.42
Research	\$156.75
Publications	\$220.00
AbeBooks sales	\$217.00
Open House surplus	\$1,052.60
book sales	
Other surplus book sales	\$568.75

Expenses were \$8,805.95 resulting in a net income of \$1,668.71 for the month. The rent reflects two month's payment due to a more rapid than normal posting of the monthly transfer. For the year to date there is a net income of \$8,530.05.

The checking account balance on March 31 was \$39,648.00.

Richard Crockett

Membership Dues Changes July 1, 2015

The basic cost for membership will increase on July 1 of this year.

Last year the board made the decision to increase dues by \$1 per member, per year to help keep pace with the annual increases in our lease. Also, the cost of printing, processing, and mailing the publications is now almost \$24 per member per year. The increase in dues for those who want printed publications will help to close the gap between revenue and expense for this specific service.

For members who receive their *Bulletin/Forum Insider* issues by email, the annual cost will increase by \$1 for an individual and \$2 for a joint membership.

Members who choose the printed publications option (publications sent by postal mail), the annual dues increase will be \$7 for individuals and \$8 for joint respectively. A similar increase for this option in 2016 is likely.

Current renewal prices are in effect until July 1, 2015. If you currently receive the printed and mailed versions and would like to switch to email, you can send your request to membership@gfo.org.

There are some nice advantages to getting the emailed version: You will be able to see all the images in full color, you can enlarge the pages or images to see them better, any links to resources and mailing addresses are "live" which saves having to type in long web addresses, and if you want to save them, they don't take up any shelf space in your home. You can also choose to print the entire publication yourself or just sections of it.

Also, please remember that GFO membership fees are 100% tax deductible in keeping with our 501(c)(3) nonprofit status. Make a matching donation to the Oregon Cultural Trust and you may be eligible for an Oregon tax credit in keeping with our 501(c)(3) nonprofit education status. Make a matching donation to the Oregon Cultural Trust and you may be eligible for an Oregon tax credit. <http://www.culturaltrust.org>.

Updated dues chart is on page 4.

**GFO Star
Marty Krauter**



“Marty Krauter has served for many years as member of the GFO Endowment Committee which oversees our investment funds. “The purpose of the Endowment Fund is, and always has been, the maintenance of trust funds acquired by the Forum in perpetuity, designed to retain and augment the principal and to use the income for Forum purposes and operations.” The Endowment Committee occasionally recommends transfer of funds over a certain amount in the investment funds to the Genealogical Forum’s General Fund for the continued operation of the GFO. Thank you, Marty, for your long-term participation on the Endowment Committee!”



Dues as of July 1, 2015

Type*	E-mail	E-mail	USPS	USPS
Length (months)	12	25	12	25
Individual	\$42	\$84	\$54	\$108
Joint	\$63	\$126	\$75	\$150
Life Individual	\$750	\$750	\$750	\$750
Life Joint	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000

* *Bulletin* (4 issues) and *Forum Insider* (8 issues) e-mailed or mailed USPS

Library Collections and Book Sales

The Oregon State Library divested itself of its genealogical collection in January to other libraries and genealogy groups. The GFO was well represented with eager book grabbers who hauled back some dozens of boxes of books.

As a result, 778 items were added in February and March. A remarkable 3,730 item records were modified in the same two months. As of March 31 the GFO library held 26,311 print and 11,089 non-print items for a total of 37,420 cataloged items.

Total gross book sales for March 2015 were \$1,523. During the Open House, 147 books were sold for a total of \$1,230, That’s about 10% of the current sales inventory. Five books sold on AbeBooks for \$244 gross and three books sold onsite for \$49.

Our thanks to all of the wonderful RAs who did most of the sales during the Open House!

Steve Turner and Barb Schrag

Volunteer Opportunities

These two volunteer jobs are particularly pressing. If you have an interest in either, contact the person listed in the article.

∞ Print shop

An additional person for backup in the print shop to help print brochures, letters, the *Bulletin*, the *Forum Insider*, etc., when Loretta Welsh and Jim Morrow are not available. Contact Loretta at publisher@gfo.org.

∞ Book cataloging - many volunteers

Enter newly donated and already classified books into the new catalog. We will train you. The perk is being first to see the interesting books coming into the library. You can set your own hours; as little or as much time as you are able to give. Use either the computer in the work room, or we can set up your laptop so you can work anywhere in the library. Contact Sarah Holmes (cataloging@gfo.org).



Is it a covered wagon or a Conestoga wagon?

The covered wagon holds an iconic status in American history from the westward migrations. It has a longer history in general transport of goods from the seventeenth century at least. The wagon was the truck of its day, used for hauling materials, freight, military supplies, and people, and was drawn by horse, mule, or ox teams – but not all were covered.

A covered wagon had a roof of canvas held up by wooden hoops. One particular style, the “Conestoga”, has distinctive features that make it identifiable in image and story.

The bed of the Conestoga wagon has a curved profile, dipping down in the center. This design helped prevent the shifting of contents in transport; on a flat bed the boxes could slide around. The second feature is the hoops which fan out to shelter the front and rear openings. While generic covered wagons have some fanning, that of the Conestoga is noticeably wider. Because they were mainly used

for hauling freight or household furnishings, they were larger and taller than everyday wagons, had higher wheels for fording streams, and could hold up to six tons. For people moving west, as along the Oregon Trail, the smaller, generic flat-bed covered wagon was the preferred vehicle. If you ever hear the term “Prairie schooner,” it can refer to either type of wagon; they resembled a ship under sail.

The Conestoga was a common vehicle in the eighteenth- and nineteenth-century migrations along the Great Wagon Road, which ran from Philadelphia to North Carolina and eventually to Georgia, and through the Appalachian mountains to the east. Its name is considered to derive from the Conestoga River area near Lancaster, Pennsylvania, along that road. More about the Conestoga wagon:

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/things/4280/conestoga_wagon/478210

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~pacahs/wagon.htm>

Prairie schooner: <http://www.britannica.com/EB-checked/topic/473853/prairie-schooner>



Images—clockwise from top left:
Conestoga wagon at the National Museum of American History (Smithsonian Institution), Washington D.C.
Author: Kevin Burkett.

Covered wagon (replica) at the High Desert Museum, Bend, Oregon. Author: B.D.'s world.

Conestoga Wagon (1883) by Newbold Hough Trotter (1827-1898). Painting in the State Museum of Pennsylvania. Photograph Ad Meskens

All accessed at Wikimedia Commons.



Genealogy Interest Groups, Workshops, and Conferences

NEW

Photoshop Elements Special Interest Group

2nd Wednesday of each month, 1:30–2:30 p.m.

Sarah Holmes

The meetings exploring the Photoshop Elements software, have morphed into a new special interest group.

Learn the basics of Photoshop Elements software to preserve, repair and present family history. In subsequent meetings on the second Wednesday of each month, we will begin to learn how to scan and organize photographs so they can be presented in your family history documentation, or displayed in your family décor.



Genealogy Book Special Interest Group ~ May Meeting

May 9, 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.,

Bonnie Randolph

We will discuss the Cavaliers of Virginia (pages 207–418), of David Hackett Fischer’s classic book, “Albion’s Seed: Four British Folkways in America.” What about those Cavaliers and their social system that influences us today? How does that compare with the culture of the Puritans of New England, discussed in part one of “Albion’s Seed?” We will be discussing the second part of the book which focuses on the Cavaliers of Virginia. We read part one about the Puritians a couple of months ago and plan to compare the two groups.

Copies of “Albion’s Seed” can be checked out from the GFO or Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington County libraries.



Family Tree Maker Group May meeting is cancelled

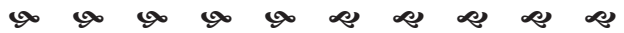
The format for future meetings will change from a presentation on a specific topic to troubleshooting problems brought by those in attendance. Bring your problems and try to stump Laurel and other attendees.

Genealogy Workshop ~ “Connecting to the Mother Country: British Family History” ~ Oregon Historical Society

May 2, 10:00 a.m.

Hannah Z. Allan, Genealogist, OHS

This lecture will help you connect your English immigrant ancestors to their homeland. We will start in the New World and follow the steps and records needed to launch you back to merry old England. We’ll then dive into the world of British sources where you can learn more about the lives and the families brave ancestors left behind. \$20, \$15 for OHS members



Seattle Genealogical Society 2015 Spring Seminar ~ “Who’s Your Daddy? Researching Your Family History in the Mid-South States”

May 9, 2015, Seattle, WA

With speaker C. Lynn Andersen, Accredited Genealogist (ICAPGen) in Mid-South states (Kentucky, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia)

- An Overview of Internet Resources for the Mid-South States
- Internet Resources for Mid-South States Will and Probate Records
- Finding and Using Land Records Online to Solve Mid-South States Research Problems
- A Look at Colonial Land Records from the Mid-South States

<http://www.seattlegenealogicalsociety.org/content/seminars>



Oral History Workshop ~ Oregon Historical Society

May 9, 10:00 a.m.

Jim Strassmaier & Michael O’Rourke, former OHS Oral Historians

If you have ever considered doing an oral history of a family member, friend, or members of your organization or company, this workshop will give you basic information on how to get started. Included will be interviewing techniques, effective procedures, and standards for recording, documen-



tation, and preservation of your work. Workshop instructors are seasoned professionals who have worked for over two decades as oral historians. \$20, \$15 for OHS members

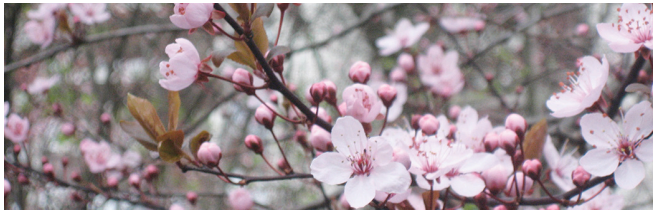
This workshop is presented in association with the Oregon Labor Oral History Program of the Pacific NW Labor History Association & the Labor Education and Research Center (LERC), University of Oregon.



National Genealogical Society ~ 2015 Family History Conference: Crossroads of America

May 13-16, St. Charles, Missouri

Download the free NGS Conference App: <http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/>, Brochure at: <http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/NGA-2015-StL-Brochure-2014-03-08.pdf>



Preservation Workshop ~ Navigating Visual Collections: Access and Preservation of Moving Image and Photographic Materials

June 6, 10:00 a.m., Oregon Historical Society
Matthew Cowan, OHS Archivist for Photography & Moving Images

Films, videos, photographs and certain digital materials are often the most cherished of our private collections but many questions arise from identification and access to best methods for long term care. This workshop will cover basic questions of identification, storage and legacy issues as well as what it means to “digitize”. In addition we will speak broadly about the history of film and photography – with examples of both from the collections of the Oregon Historical Society. \$20, \$15 for OHS members



The Quebec Family History Society ~ Roots 2015 ~ An International Conference on Family History in Quebec

June 19-21, 2015, McGill University, Montreal, Quebec
Full details available at <http://www.qfhs.ca>

Special Interest Groups

<http://gfo.org/intgrp/index.htm>

British

4th Saturdays of Sep, Jan, Mar, May;
1-3 pm — Duane Funk
duanefunk@comcast.net

DNA

4th Saturdays of Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct;
10 am-12 pm — Emily Aulicino
aulicino@hevanet.com

Family Tree Maker

3rd Sundays except Dec; 1-3 pm
—Laurel Smith
bearpair@comcast.net

Genealogy Books

2nd Saturdays monthly;
11:45 am-12:45 pm
— Bonnie Randolph
bbrandolph@clear.net

German

1st Saturdays monthly; Sep-Jun;
1-3 pm — Nanci Remington
nancicr@comcast.net

Illinois and Its Neighbors

2nd Saturdays of Jan-May, Sep-Nov;
9:30-11:30 am
— Kristy Gravlin
hannah@teleport.com
Harlene Patterson
harlene5@yahoo.com

Irish

3rd Saturdays of Jan, Mar, May, Jul,
Sep, Nov; 12-2 pm
— Suzanne Lemon
slemon46@yahoo.com

Italian

Saturday May 30, Jul 25, Nov 28;
12-2 pm — Keith Pyeatt
k_pyeatt@yahoo.com

Photoshop Elements

2nd Wednesdays monthly;
1:30-2:30 pm
— Sarah Holmes
slh@sarahlholmes.com

Virginia

1st Saturdays monthly, Sep-Jun;
10 am-12 pm
— Judi Scott
judiscot@gmail.com
Carol Surrency
lcsurr@gmail.com

Writers' Forum

2nd Saturdays monthly, Sep-May;
1-3 pm — Peggy Baldwin
peggy@familypassages.com
Carol Surrency
lcsurr@gmail.com

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May 2015

GFO Calendar

Library Work Parties ~ every month, all welcome

Sundays 9 a.m.–12 p.m. Map project on 2nd Sunday, other projects on remaining Sundays

Listings and times may change; please check the online calendar for details and updates. <http://gfo.org/calendar.htm>

May

Sat 5/2	10 a.m.–12 p.m.	Virginia Group
Sun 5/3	1–3 p.m.	Create a Blog
Mon 5/4		Free to Non-Members
Wed 5/6	11 a.m.–1 p.m.	Learn and Chat
	1:30–3 p.m.	DNA Q & A
Sat 5/9	9:30–11:30 a.m.	Illinois Group
	11:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m.	Genealogy Book Club
	1–3 p.m.	Writers' Forum
Tues 5/12	6–8 p.m.	Board meeting
Wed 5/13	11 a.m.–1 p.m.	Learn and Chat
	1:30–2:30 p.m.	Photoshop Elements Group
Thu 5/14	10 a.m.–2 p.m.	Clatsop Co. Gen. Society
Sat 5/16	12–2 p.m.	Irish Group
	2–4 p.m.	Monthly Program ~ TBA
Sun 5/17	1–3 p.m.	Family Tree Maker Group
Wed 5/20	11 a.m.–1 p.m.	Learn and Chat
	1:30–3 p.m.	DNA Q & A
Sat 5/23	9–12 p.m.	DNA Group
	1–3 p.m.	British Group
Mon 5/25	Memorial Day holiday—Library closed	
Wed 5/27	9 a.m.–12:30 p.m.	Learn and Chat

June

Free to Non-Members

Mon 6/1		Learn and Chat
Wed 6/3	11 a.m.–1 p.m.	DNA Q&A
	1:30–3:00 a.m.	Virginia Group
Sat 6/6	10 a.m.–12 p.m.	German Group
	1–3 p.m.	Create a Blog Support Group
Sun 6/7	1:00–3 p.m.	Board meeting
Tues 6/9	6–8 p.m.	Learn and Chat
Wed 6/10	11 a.m.–1 p.m.	Photoshop Elements Group
	1:30–2:30 p.m.	Illinois Group
Sat 6/13	9:30–11:30 a.m.	Learn and Chat
Wed 6/17	11 a.m.–1 p.m.	Hunting and Gathering
Sat 6/20	9:30–11 a.m.	Monthly Program ~ “Ask the Experts” Panel
	2–4 p.m.	Family Tree Maker Group
Sun 6/21	1–3 p.m.	Learn and Chat
Wed 6/24	11 a.m.–1 p.m.	