

The Bulletin

Quarterly Magazine of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon

Volume 67, Number 1

September, 2017

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- •The James C. Russell– Sarah J. Guthrie Bible
- •Thomas W. Greene
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- •GFO's Genealogy Problem Solvers
- •Book Reviews
- ·And More!



SPECIAL NOTICE FROM THE EDITORS OF THE BULLETIN

August 15, 2017

This issue marks the end of the third year I have been **L** co-editor of the Bulletin and the end of the fourth year that Jay Fraser has been the Layout Editor. Laurel Smith has been heavily involved since the previous editors resigned in December 2013.

As with all undertakings of this sort, all three of us have had many highs and lows. The highs include the very positive feedback we've received and our belief that we have put out a quality publication with many fine articles. We have tried to make it informative, entertaining, and as visually pleasing as possible. We have a wonderful group of editors and proof readers behind the scenes. Unfortunately there have been some low points also. We have continually asked for more content. We have repeatedly begged for additional assistance with both organization and with layout.

Jay and I have jobs, and Laurel wears many other important hats at the GFO. In short we are tired. Jay and I do not have the energy to continue without more help. Laurel will not be continuing to assist with the organizational side of the Bulletin and it is something that I said at the beginning I would not do because I didn't have time to do it.

I do want to acknowledge that we have had people step up and offer assistance. This last time through, we ended up with a person to help with layout. But her time is also very limited and so she was unable to assist with this issue. Someone else came forward to help Laurel, but because they also are already carrying a heavy GFO workload, this was (and is) not a viable long-term solution.

In addition to assistance getting every issue out, we need more submissions. When we last asked, it did garner us a few additional articles, enough to continue through this issue. However, even though we have some columns and book reviews for the December issue, we have only one feature article-which is not enough. We have absolutely nothing for the issues after that.

Therefore, we have decided to put the Bulletin on hiatus for now. The December issue is always very difficult because personal year-end and holiday commitments. We may bring you a March issue, or perhaps one in June - if we receive enough material AND the help to do so. So if you would like to see the Bulletin return full strength, then I ask you again for your assistance.

Marti

The Bulletin: Quarterly Magazine of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon

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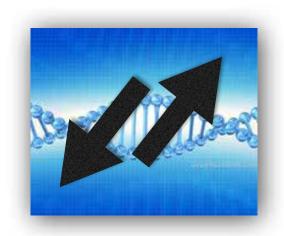
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Thank You

To all the people who helped put this issue together. This Periodical has been submitted to Allen County Public Library to be indexed in PERSI.

September, 2017 В

GFO GenTalk



SWITCHED AT BIRTH:

Unraveling a Century-Old Mystery with DNA

Alice Collins Plebuch

Free & Open to the Public

SATURDAY SEPT. 16 2 P.M.



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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 • 9:30 A.M. TO NOON • GFO LIBRARY

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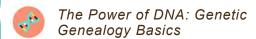


Fall Seminar with CeCe Moore

GENEALOGICAL FORUM OF OREGON

BREAKING DOWN BRICK WALLS WITH DNA

Saturday, Oct. 14
FULL-DAY SEMINAR





Breaking Through Genealogical Brick Walls with DNA

Breaking Down the Ultimate
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Sunday, Oct. 15
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Digging Deeper with Autosomal DNA

Saturday & Sunday

OCTOBER 14 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

OCTOBER 15

9:30 a.m. - noon

Two Sessions Attend One Or Both



CeCe Moore

is an independent professional genetic genealogist and media consultant. She has worked since 2013 for the PBS documentary series Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates, Jr., collaborates regularly with ABC's 20/20, and her research has been featured on PBS's Genealogy Roadshow for all three seasons. She is the founder of The DNA Detectives and the popular blog Your Genetic Genealogist.

As a leading proponent of genetic genealogy education, CeCe helped create and teach the groundbreaking first genetic genealogy courses at the premier genealogical institutes, including GRIPitt, SLIG, IGHR and FGI.

CeCe is considered an innovator in the use of autosomal DNA for genealogy, frequently consulted by DNA testing companies, genealogists, adoptees and the press. She has close working relationships with all of the major genetic genealogy testing companies, was invited to create and lead the Ancestry Ambassador program for 23andMe, and consults for The New York Genome Project. She also serves on the American Society of Human Genetics' Genetic Ancestry Inference Committee

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Location

Milwaukie Center 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Dr. Milwaukie, Oregon

Time

10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. • Saturday, Oct. 14 Break for lunch 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Seminar Features

Book sales from Heritage Quest & the GFO Raffle

Coffee, tea and snacks throughout the day Syllabus: electronic copy included

Lunch

Bring your own or order from GG's Deli. A lunch selection form will be sent with your confirmation. Sack lunch is \$10, and includes your choice of sandwich and side. Add \$1 for gluten-free bread.

Questions? Email seminar@gfo.org.

SUNDAY WORKSHOP DETAILS

Location

GFO Library 2505 SE 11th, Suite B-18 (Basement level) Portland, Oregon

Time

9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. • Sunday, Oct. 15

Sunday Workshop Limited to 50 –Register Early! –

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Letter from the Editor

awill have been experiencing lately here in Portland. And the whole state is gearing up for the solar eclipse (that will have occurred by the time you read this). I am sure many other states are gearing up also. Rare occurrences, like a total solar eclipse, can generate interest on a large scale. To genealogists, breaking down a brick wall or finding an elusive ancestor can sometimes feel like our own personal solar eclipse.

I'm sure our lead story this issue is about one such monumental occurrence. GFO member Judith Leppert shares the story of her mother, Lila Jean Boren. I truly enjoyed getting to know Lila through Judith's eyes. We also have a wonderful article, *Mary Fleming's Parents*, about how to examine evidence and write a genealogical proof statement. It is by Tom Rice CG, who was nice enough to allow us to reprint his article here. The story by Nanci Remington about Thomas Roby Brown is a good example of some additional places one can look for records, especially if the person you are researching was in the military.

Nanci Remington came through again with another great Tools column about labeling digital photos. Hopefully, like me, you will find this article a good sequel to her column last issue which focused on how photos can enhance a family story. We have a wonderful First Families of Multnomah County column about the Greene family by Judith Leppert, and the Manuscripts Committee shares the Russell-Guthrie family Bible with our readers.

Our Spotlight column this issue is about one of our Special Interest Groups (SIGs), the Genealogy Problem Solvers (GPS) group. The GPS team tackles a brick wall

issue every month and through that specific challenge, provides information and research suggestions that can give new tools and perspectives to use in family research, both to the individual whose problem is being considered and to others who attend the presentation.



As usual, we have a good batch of book reviews including three about Linn County, Oregon, by local writer Martha Jane Steinbacher. There is a review of Patricia Law Hatcher's newest book, *Using Land Records*, another covering the most recent installment in the *White Pennsylvania Runaways* series, and a review of the book *The Hand of Catherine* by GFO member George T. Brown. Unfortunately we also have an obituary about one of our former members, Donna Bland Juhnke.

I would like to wrap up this letter with two highlights. If you haven't seen it yet, our Fall Seminar is going to be presented by CeCe Moore, the professional genetic genealogist associated with *Finding your Roots* and *Genealogy Roadshow*. So if you have any interest in what genetic genealogy is all about, you should register today. The Sunday workshop is filling up fast! I also want to mention GFO's manuscripts committee. The team has scanned about a third of them, and many now have finding aids on our website. So they are far more accessible than they used to be, and you can now see what surnames are in the collection. These are a wonderful untapped resource that GFO is trying to make more accessible.

Respectfully, Marti Dell

A Memoir of Lila Jean Boren

12 Feb 1922 - 13 Dec 2009

Judith Leppert

ila Jean Boren was born to John Magnus Boren and Jennie Elizabeth Wheatley on February 21, 1922. She was a member of what came to be known as the "Greatest Generation." Her family was living in Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon, at her birth. The family moved and lived briefly in Concord, Clackamas County, Oregon. While in Concord, their house was along what is now the lovely bike and walking path near Oak Grove. They moved back to Portland when Lila was a youngster.

A middle child, little Lila loved riding on her daddy's back to play horsey in the parlor of their home in Portland. By the time her two younger sisters arrived, Lila's older siblings were getting married and leaving the family home. When Lila's mother became a semi-invalid, Lila took over many of the household chores and felt a little jealous of her younger sisters who now rode on their daddy's back. Lila enjoyed playing Indoor (a type of softball game), swimming at Montavilla pool, and dancing.

After Laurelhurst Elementary School she continued her education at Grant High School, taking art classes. Grant High School inspired pride in her. At the 6oth reunion of the graduating classes of 1939-1940, Lila's best friend, Lucille Burnworth Ferris, visited from San Diego. "We were never the 'in' people," explained Lucille when she came to Portland for the reunion. "In fact, neither Lila nor I understood how to use the combination locks



Lila Jean Boren, 1922, age 6 months

on our lockers." Lila loved art and glee club. They had a class called "Auditorium." Evidently, it was not a room but a speech and elocution class.

During her high school years, Lila's mother became so



Lila Jean Boren Leppert (All photos courtesy of the Author)

sick that she slept in Lila's room so that she could be helped to the bathroom at night. In the morning, Lila was never a bright little lark. After getting breakfast for her mom, dad, brother, and two little sisters, Lila ran from their home on Northeast Flanders to Grant High School in the 2200 block of Northeast 26th Avenue—a 1.51 mile dash. Her father, a strict old-school parent, always declared, "You get in trouble at school, and Gott in Himmel, you get in trouble when you get home!" She said she often ran to school crying and sniffling, trying not to be tardy.

Hers is called the "Greatest Generation" for a reason. Lila lived through the Great Depression and told tales of having few clothes or frivolous treats. She did get to ride a river boat down the Columbia from Portland to visit relatives in the Seaside-Gearhart (Oregon) area. She enjoyed her church, Laurelhurst Presbyterian. Yet, looking at the crushing events of the Depression, Lila felt a compelling need to learn skills to support herself and so asked her father if he would pay her way to business school. Somehow, she felt her father had the money for the schooling. She said he had owned the Broadway Deluxe Cab Company¹ and had inherited money from his mother when she died. A Swedish immigrant



Lila as a young woman

himself, John didn't feel girls needed an advanced education. So, without his support, Lila began a lifelong quest for learning—taking classes whenever she could afford them.

Lila's stories of her home life were always vague. She said her father, a younger child in his family, would not



4831 NE Flanders in Portland, Oregon

inherit land so he came to America with a friend who settled in Tacoma, Washington.

John Magnus Borin (John changed the spelling of his last name to Boren at some point) arrived in Portland in late 1902 and settled in a boarding house. His nearby neighbors included the Joseph Hollis family, who had taken in four nieces and nephews when their mother died in Iowa. One of the girls was Jennie Elizabeth Wheatley. John Boren and Jennie Wheatley fell in love and married in 1909.² I got very little information from Lila about her family other than statements about how loving and kind they were to their six children and John's niece, Emma, who had lost her mother, John's sister, in 1907.³

Lila said the family moved to 4831 Northeast Flanders (the present address in Portland) when she was a girl. John had bought the house without consulting his wife. Jennie took one look at the two flights of stairs up to the front porch and wept. She had contracted St. Vitus Dance⁴ as a young woman and suffered from diminished strength and breath. She knew she would become a

prisoner in her own home.

Lila met Robert N. Leppert at the Montavilla pool. He was the lifeguard and she was a fabulously beautiful woman. He went into the Army Air Corps in WWII and found himself stationed at Sheppard Field near Wichita Falls, Texas, in January 1942.⁵



Judith and Lila in 1945

"He wrote and

asked me to come there to marry him. I should have saved that letter. Years later, he tried to accuse me of chasing him across the continent to marry him. His memory got very selective." They were married in a Lutheran ceremony on March 15, 1942. He boasted once, "Nobody can say we had to get married. You didn't come along until 1945, daughter."

Did I tell you he was my father?

During that time Lila worked grueling hours as a waitress at LaMarr soda fountain to support herself. She rented a room and cooked a pot of beans on a hot plate from which she ate all week without benefit of refrigeration. Robert got her the job by taking her to the business



Ruth Leppert, Judith, Lila, and Robert

and saying to the boss, "Look at her. If you hire her, you'll get more business," referring to her beauty.

Of course, Robert had food, shelter, and clothing supplied on the base, along with a munificent salary of \$21 per month. Discussing advancement in the military and a possible pay raise, Robert wrote home to his mother, "However, for the next three months, I'm still on \$21 and \$18 of it goes for rent. Lila is supposed to eat on what's left." Eventually, he became a flight officer and flew B-21, B-24, and B-29 bombers all over America.

Luckily, he never served overseas. He continued his interest in music and photography while Lila worked cheap jobs in Wichita Falls, Texas; Salina, Kansas; Maxwell Field, Alabama; and Denver. Colorado.

She followed him about the country until she gave birth to their only child, Judith (me), in Portland, Oregon. Lila stayed with Ruth Leppert, Robert's mother, for that brief time. She told Robert when my arrival was expected, and he got leave to be there for the birth. He pretended not to see me, asleep in a drawer of the dresser set.

"What's that?" He thought it was funny. Lila was not amused.

When I was a few months old, Lila took me by train across the country to join him near his air base. She liked life in Denver, Colorado, with me. "Yes, it's colder there in the winter; but even if there is some rain or snow, it often sunshines. I could walk you in your pram almost every day." She told Robert about how little old ladies would lean over the pram to coo at me. I had gone bald shortly after birth. "Oh, look at that sweet, fat boy!" They would gush. Of course, my nickname became "Fatboy." It stuck and lasted for years.

After Robert's discharge from the military, they drove home in a coupe-style automobile. When they couldn't find a room outside of Casper, Wyoming, they slept most uncomfortably in the car, expressing jealousy that I seemed blissfully unaware as I slumbered, full length, in my basket in the back area of the car.

Soon after, I was living in a boarding house with Lila. We must have had our first divorce. I thought life was pretty good. I was the only child at the boarding house and everyone catered to me. Even the landlady and

her husband sometimes took me to the dog races at Multnomah County Stadium. What a spoiled youngster I became!

Lila took me to Fruit and Flower Nursery each weekday, and then she went on to work. That meant two bus trips each way for her. I must have been about three years old when, one day, they would not accept me because they thought I was sick. I can remember standing on the corner in the morning seeing the panic on her face.



Lila, Judith, and Bob in 1951



Bill Karnowsky with his plane

I think she was worried about losing her job. It was the first time I realized my mother was vulnerable.

Years later, I found some documents she had filed asking for light duty due to a recent illness. ¹⁰ I know she had a stillborn child, and my father had left her (or she him). Putting it all together, I believe she got divorced and realized only then she was pregnant. I got the measles, she was threatened with job loss, her mother had recently died, ¹¹ and her father was ill and dying. Perhaps she placed me in her father's home for lack of any other option. In his kitchen, I played the radio too loud to suit John Magnus Boren. He came in and slapped me across the face. Eventually, he went to live with his sister-in-law, Mabel Bowen, in Seaside, who cared for him until he died. ¹²

Another memory of the Boren house stemmed from a family gathering. Perhaps they visited in relation to the death of their mother, Jennie Boren, in 1948. I can remember only that I got bored sitting inside with all the adult conversation and stepped outside onto the vacant lot to the east of the house. Suddenly, everything moved! Startled, it took me a moment to identify that motion: the grass was alive with snakes. They raced all over the field and across my feet. I screamed. So petrified that I couldn't move, I continued to wail. Lila burst from the

house like a superhero, swept me into her arms and carried the terrified me to safety. Years later, looking back on that event, I know she was as frightened as I was. Still, nobody and nothing was going to harm her baby.

Then, Lila and I had our own apartment. One day, my father came to our place and babysat me. Reluctantly, I said goodbye to Lila while still asking to go with her. Daddy said, "No. Mommy's daddy died. It's his funeral today."¹³

When Robert graduated college in 1953,¹⁴ we thought great things would happen—a steady paycheck, a solid job, and regular meals. He never landed a full-time teaching position. But with Lila's inheritance from the sale of her parents' home and his GI Bill, they had managed to buy a house in 1951. He talked her into an old three-story monster of a place near 17th and Powell because he would build a business front on it and work from home. It never happened. So, for the rest of their married lives, they lived between a busy

street and railroad tracks with no community life. Now, the Orange MAX line runs over the property. She made every house payment except one, putting a roof over our heads all by herself. She did the housework, some of the cooking, nearly all of the child care, attic insulation, exterior painting, and all of the yard work.

During one of the two divorces, I know that Lila had a chat with Robert explaining that if he didn't spend more time with me, he would find he had a daughter with no interest in him. He began to spend quite a bit of time with me. He took me out for cheap Scotty Burgers and swimming at Jantzen Beach pool. I got so much attention from him that I cried when they decided to get back together again in 1954.

"Why are you crying about that?" Lila asked. "You should be happy."

"I'm upset because I'll never see him again when we're married."

During this time, Robert was earning the best money of his life as a journeyman lithography cameraman. Lila worked her way through several federal jobs to find herself earning as much as he did. Then, an *Oregonian* strike¹⁵, a home shop accident, and a darkroom fire at his employer's business¹⁶ threw a triple whammy at him. He lost the tips of two fingers and his career. Lila continued

to improve her earnings by taking college courses while he started over. I became diligent at school and earned a college scholarship.¹⁷ We stayed together. We survived. But we were never prosperous again.

Robert tried teaching for a time at the Banks School District, 35 miles west of Portland on the Sunset Highway. Coming home October 12, 1962, was exciting: Oregon had a cyclone. The Columbus Day Storm (as it came to be known) was unannounced because this was before satellite weather observations. Wind speeds in Portland reached 116 miles per hour before the anemometer broke; 11,000,000,000 board feet of timber fell in 12 hours. During the storm, it was a challenge for Robert to stay on the road and get home safely. We lost power at home for three days.

The storm affected Lila greatly. She worked for the Small Business Administration at the time. They gave disaster loans, and she worked seven days a week for nearly a year to help out. I used to walk down from Portland State College to visit her at the office just so I could see my mother! She was very pleased when my father's cousin, Bill Karnowsky, took them up in his plane from Florence, Oregon, to show them the damage to the forests. Until then, it had only been so much paperwork for her.

The first year after Robert's death in 1981, Lila retired

(already planned before his death), bought a new home because she did not feel safe in their old location, and threw herself into endless volunteer activities. ¹⁸ She had to get up and go somewhere each day. We began to go places together. I was working, so most of our "going" was out to dinner after the work day. I became Lila's best girlfriend.

By December 1999, Lila had slowed down considerably. Her primary care physician, Dr. Thomas Beaver, explained she had a heart murmur and would need a valve replaced. "We don't want to do the surgery prematurely since there is always a risk with any major surgery. We'll monitor the situation and take action when necessary, not before." Finally, he referred us to the cardiologist and an angiogram was scheduled.

Lila fooled them. She got very sick the night before the angiogram. She called 911 for herself and then called me. I could tell on the phone that she was moving around.

"What in the heck are you doing? You're sick, sit down!"

"I'm just changing my underwear. It wasn't very clean."

I got to the hospital to meet the cardiologist who greeted me, laughing. He promptly apologized, "Your mother was frightened, I think. At one point, she scrunched up her face and said, 'All right, doctor, you can go ahead now.' And I had to reply to her, 'That's all well and good, Mrs. Leppert, but we've already completed the procedure."

Lila then underwent an aortic valve replacement and double by-pass. Immediately after the surgery, I visited her for a moment or two when she was only semiconscious. She had a "waterfall machine" that recycled her own lost blood back into her body, two trees full of IV lines, oxygen, a jugular IV, and God knows what else hooked up to her. It was very intimidating to see all that technology attached to someone you love. An hour later I was allowed to see her for the second time; she looked up at me from the same precarious status and said sleepily, "Oh, Judy. Are we going out to dinner?" I laughed.

I noticed confusion reigned in Lila's kitchen when I took her home. There were some other little lapses in organization and memory. Before the heart surgery in 1999, I broached the topic with the cardiologist. I suggested her brain power might be enhanced by improved



Lila and Judith in Denali National Park

oxygen supply after the surgery. "I'm sorry. It usually doesn't work that way. In fact, the reverse is often true after one is on a heart-lung machine," explained Dr. Strauss at Kaiser Permanente.

A massive asthma attack three months after the heart surgery landed Lila in the hospital for a week. The pronouncement came from Dr. Beaver: "You can no longer live alone. You need someone who can call emergency, 24 hours a day." I was so relieved, I could have kissed him. I had wondered how to get her out of her house.

"She can live with me," I offered.

Dr. Beaver actually screamed in my face, "You work, don't you?"

Lila chose Vineyard Place retirement home and liked it a lot. The manager joked with her and teased. The entertainments, catered lunches, and bus trips to places such as the casino and Barton Park thrilled her. I loved the manager. He won my undying devotion after Lila called me at work on the last day of school for seniors. I was running a computer lab and the place was packed with kids trying to finish projects.

"I fell and hit my head. There's blood everywhere," she sobbed.

"Are you in your room? Pull the emergency cord for help," I suggested. She got sidetracked and said she had put a towel to her wound. For some reason, I asked where she had fallen.

"Did you hit the corner of a table?"

"No. I fell outside on that deck as I walked around the building with Eddie (her dog)."



Bob, Judith and Lila in 1948

"But you're talking to me on a telephone. Where are you now?"

"I'm in my room, using my phone."

"Well, then, you walked to your room. You're well enough to walk a bit more Look, Mom, if you really need me, I will come there. I can take time off work. However, I would have to shut down this computer lab and send all the students away. Also, I am 16 miles away from you. It's hard for me to judge the situation on the telephone. Why don't you walk next door to the office and let them assess the injury? If I am needed, they can call me and I will come. Otherwise, maybe they can deal with it."

"OK," she said.

After 15 minutes, I had heard nothing, so I called Vineyard Place.

"What happened to Lila Leppert?"

"Oh, the manager threw her in his car and took off with her."

"Where did he take her? Kaiser Hospital? A nearby clinic?"

"I don't know. He didn't say."

Great. What do I do now? I decided there was nothing to do. I could chase out there and be in the wrong place. I continued working. Students left earlier than expected, so I called my mother's number and got her. Vineyard's manager had taken her to Kaiser, stayed in the waiting room and then he had taken her home. Lila had a scalp wound that bled terribly but wasn't serious. Above and beyond the call of duty, that was our favorite manager.

Lila's fall, however, turned out to be very instructive. I just didn't process the lesson correctly. I got an "F." Six weeks after the fall, Lila complained of back pain. She asked me to take her to the doctor. We went to urgent care since we didn't have an appointment set up. They did several manipulative tests and said she had no broken bones. But the big shocker was when we took off her shirt: she was covered with healing scrapes and abrasions. I had no idea she had been so badly injured.

"Did you show these to the doctor when you first fell?"

"I can't remember."

Six weeks later, she complained again to me of back pain. I took her in again. They decided this time to give her x-rays. As they wheeled her out, a woman came

into the examining room and backed me into a corner. When did the original fall take place? Why didn't you get her properly treated? Are these new injuries? Why aren't you more sympathetic to her injuries?

Aha! I figured out where they were going with this one: elder abuse. I ignored their questions and gave them what they needed.

"Look. Lila and I do not live together. She fell at her retirement home and her manager brought her in the first time. I was at work 16 miles away."

When Lila and I got back to the car, I told her they were thinking of elder abuse. She burst out laughing.

"It might have been helpful if you had that reaction while we were in the hospital," I snapped. "On the other hand, what are they going to do? Take you away from me?" We had a good chuckle and went out to lunch. The current problem most likely was a soft tissue injury. I kept trying to explain to Lila that such injuries are painful for a long time. She would complain every now and then, anyway. Now, I realize, she could not remember from day to day that her pain was part of a slow healing process.

Other clues began to be strewn in our path.

Lila's church circle had members who lived near Clackamas Town Center. She'd leave the meeting, come down Sunnyside Road, see the sign saying "Portland" and turn in that direction.

"I drove for hours and hours trying to get home."

"Mom, that sign heads you toward the North. You live in the southern part of town." Again, I didn't quite get it. Lila always was directionally challenged.

After living at Vineyard for approximately two years, Lila had an embarrassing moment. She tried to write a check for the rent. It was then about \$1,235. She wrote one for \$12,035. They returned it to her and asked her to rewrite it. (Thank God!) She wrote one for \$12.35, which they also returned. She wrote a third one incorrectly and finally called me and asked me to write it. I came over to her place only to dodge the checkbook as it flew by my head.

"Here! You do it!" she screamed in frustration and shame. At that point, I put my name on her bank accounts and took over her financial affairs. Earlier, we had wills, advance directives, and durable power of attorney documents made. But I still didn't get it.

Oregon Public Broadcasting ran a special about caring for family members with Alzheimer disease. I remember only two things from the show. One, an RN with 25 years experience working with such clients remarked that you will never win an argument with an Alzheimer



Judith and Lila in 2002

patient. Two, an attorney explained that if you have any joint financial ventures with your Alzheimer relative, one auto accident can take away everything YOU own in a major lawsuit. I went to Lila and suggested she stop driving. You would have thought her closest relative died. Her entire lifestyle changed.

On December 2, 2007, Lila joined me in residence at *chez* Leppert. I thought we'd try this for at least a year. Lila was a rather pleasant person who recited nursery rhymes and burst into song at the drop of a hat. I wasn't concerned with her general personality, rather living with a full-time dependent is what intimidated me. I did everything for Lila for one month. She was so confused, she did not know where she was living. I had to lead her to her bedroom at night because she was afraid she'd get lost. It's a two bedroom, one bath home. There was no place to lose oneself.

When Maria Shriver gave an interview about the Alzheimer's disease her father suffered, she quoted their physician on the prognosis: "You see one case of Alzheimer's and you've seen one case of Alzheimer's." None of my friends understood that quotation when I told them. He meant that every case of Alzheimer's disease is different, since the condition attacks the brain and



Judith and Lila in 1945

manifests in different ways. I had hoped to get a road map of what to expect as one does with other diseases. It is uncharted territory.

Some humorous moments helped Lila and me through the days. Once, she looked at me, not realizing I was her daughter, and asked me who my father was.

"If you don't know, Mom, then nobody does." I laughed.

One evening, she admired the fishing decor of Mc-Grath's restaurant and began reciting:

Fishy, fishy in the brook Papa catch you with a hook Mama cook you in a pan Baby eat you like a man.

Lila Leppert forgot her entire adult married and working life at times. She liked to tell me that Robert took her to this or that restaurant that we found ourselves sitting in.

She said Robert bought the house at 1815 Southeast Reedway for her in 1982 and lived with her there for many years. He had died in 1981. She also said he went overseas and was killed in WWII. Or, he took her on several trips to Europe. None of these events were real except in Lila's head.

She wanted to see her father and her older sisters and brother. She said she had nobody to take care of her.

I asked her if I was chopped liver. Well, not really; it's just what I wanted to say, but Lila wouldn't get the joke, so it would have been cruel to play that game with her.

"Are you married to one of my sons?" Lila asked. I didn't reply at first because I couldn't figure out where this was going.

"You must be Ruth M. Leppert's daughter," she continued. Aha! I figured it out, it's why I have the last name of Leppert.

"No, Mub-O, I am your daughter. You have no sons."

"Your father was Robert Leppert?"

"You got it."

"This is your house, and it's okay if my false teeth are in the bathroom. Nobody will take them?" She got it right, but it was a question. She wasn't sure where she lived, though she had been here nine months, and she could not remember the routine we went through every night.

We had our visit with Dr. Beaver, Lila's primary care physician. I love the man! He was a real advocate for Lila. On the memory test this time, he said that Lila was now at the beginning part of middle-stage Alzheimer's. He said Lila should not indicate she wanted to be resuscitated on her POLST form. Resuscitation from her heart and asthma conditions would not be pretty. Then, he remarked that Lila could go on for several years like this.

"Oh"I said, my voice falling. I didn't mean that I would be sad to see Lila live. What I meant was that I feared she would run out of money before she ran out of life.

At Thanksgiving dinner, one of the guests was a woman named Judy. Lila argued, politely, that she was joking.

"You can't be Judy. I am Judy." That shocked everybody until I jumped in and explained things to her, telling her that she was Lila.

"Oh, yes," followed by confused laughter.

In 1998, Oregon instituted the mail-in ballot for all elections. I like that. I can keep my voter's booklet right next to me and not worry about holding up a line of other voters while I slowly make up my mind. When my mother moved in with me because she had Alzheimer's

disease, I inquired at the elections office if she should be removed from the voter's list.

"We can't do that," they explained to me. "Otherwise, anybody could remove another person from eligibility without their consent. What you need to do is have her write a letter saying she doesn't want to vote any longer. Date it, sign it, and bring it in here."

"If she were capable to writing such a letter, she would be capable of voting," I declared.

"Furthermore, it is quite a temptation to mark her ballot as well as my own with my personal preferences in the election. Did the people who designed this system think of that?"

"Mom," I blurted out one day in 2008, "This is a presidential election. No matter who you vote for, it would be historic and downright interesting. Would you like to vote just for President? You don't have to vote for everybody." We were at a restaurant, and I took out the paper napkin to describe the three candidates briefly. I am proud to say I gave equal attention to each one. She had absolutely no interest in anybody. A few days later, I tried again. This time, I brought the voter's pamphlet with their photos.

"That woman! That woman! I want that woman!" I was startled by the change in her attitude. Back at the Alzheimer's home where she now lived, I asked if they had had any unusual attention paid to the election.

"Interesting that you should ask," said Kenny. "We have a few people here who still vote, so we try to give quick explanations of the candidates. One woman got all excited when she heard a woman was a serious candidate. She made quite a to-do about it. Maybe

Lila remembers that."

Lila voted for Hillary Clinton in the primary.

In November, I tried again. Though she had been a bit prejudiced in her youth, she chose Barack Obama as though it was the most ordinary thing in the world. Then, she wouldn't stop voting. She even wanted to vote for every unopposed judge. I was eager to get out of the restaurant where we were voting, but she persisted until the last box on the ballot was darkened.

A few weeks later, we had a special election. I walked my ballot into the elections office and dropped it off. Then I stepped up to the desk and presented Lila's ballot, unopened. I handed them her death certificate, and they removed her from the voter's lists.

Lila lived at the Alzheimer's home for one year. October 2008 brought the stock market to its metaphorical knees. I watched somewhat nervously. We were doing fine. My house was paid for, I was newly retired with a decent pension, and Lila had three pensions that brought in about \$2,000 monthly. What's to worry about? Well, the costs of Thoreau House plus Lila's additional expenses ran about \$5,000 monthly. Checking her various bank accounts and investments led me to believe she had about a year left to live in the style to which we had become accustomed. In February 2009, I consulted an elder-care attorney. The stock market continued crashing from 2008 to early 2009.

"I need to get my mother set up for a graceful transition to Medicaid in the event she runs out of money. What do I need to do?" He was wonderful. He patiently explained that I had done almost everything wrong when Lila had lived with me in the past. What surprised me is the amounts of money he suggested Lila pay me for rent and salary. It was much more than I had taken previously. Merely because we set up a contract and had the both of us sign it, we would please Medicaid.

"You can earn all of her money being her caregiver. Then, if you choose to spend those earnings from your own accounts on her care, you may do so." Gee, I could use the money twice under that plan!

I heard a joke once. "Definition: Recession—when your neighbor loses his job. Depression—when you lose your job." I could probably include elder care in that definition. How did the economic crisis affect me? It robbed me of my retirement. I thought I'd be traveling



Judith, Bob, and Lila in 1950



Lila in 1948

and exploring new hobbies. Instead, I worked 16 hours daily and considered myself lucky.

We had a 4:00 P.M. appointment scheduled for December 7th (a day that shall live in infamy) with Dr. Beaver. Lila awoke to total crisis. Nine-one-one, fire truck, ambulance, emergency room. The weather was frigid. I didn't want them to take her out of the house without more clothes on. She hadn't even dressed. They assured me the ambulance was warm.

After a day at the hospital, the doctor had news for me and my two visiting friends: "She's sleeping peacefully for now; but when she wakes, I think it's time to take the breathing machine off." Oh, well. Here we were. I had to agree with Dr. Sitzma. The minute I said, "Yes," everything changed. Suddenly, I also became a patient. My guests became patients. The nurse, who had never been rude, suddenly warmed up.

"You haven't had anything to eat all day. We don't have a lot on the floor at the moment, but I could do some tea and toast. Would that be nice?" We allowed ourselves to be served.

When Lila awoke, the nurse and Dr. Sitzma removed the breathing machine. Dr. Sitzma asked if Lila would like a harpist to serenade her. Would Lila like a chaplain to visit? Oh, and here's a beautiful quilt our volunteers made for her.

I returned to the hospital to find the nurse had made up a bed for me on the commodious window seat. By Thursday, Lila wasn't conscious very often. Occasionally, she'd wake at about two in the morning and say something to me. Leslie Russell, my cousin, came to visit that

day. I didn't believe Lila was conscious, but I said to her, "Lila, your niece, Leslie is here. She's Eleanor's daughter and she's about to be given a national award on television. Say 'hello' to Leslie."

"Hello, Leslie." she said. I nearly fell over. Leslie stayed quite awhile and, at my insistence, talked of her American Kennel Club award as the sporting dog breeder of the year. I was tired of talking about death and dying. Thursday morning, a man phoned, identifying himself as the transportation coordinator and asked about moving Lila to private care.

Lila had to leave the hospital.

Lila arrived by ambulance at the foster care home before me because I stayed to fill her prescriptions. Once there, I saw Pee-Wee, a little doxie dog, go into Lila's room. He was short, of course, and kept trying to

jump on the bed. The caregiver looked at me nervously. I knew she was deciding whether to tell me something.

"PeeWee knows when somebody is near death. He will stay with her and won't leave until the end." Well, heck; how do you argue with that?

"As far as I'm concerned, PeeWee can get up on the bed and sit with Lila. She might think it's her little dog, Emily." I pulled a chair up to the bed and that's exactly what happened. I didn't count on him growling at me as I approached my mother, but I finally convinced PeeWee that I belonged there, too.

Sunday morning, December 13, was to be a big day. My corgi club slated their holiday brunch. Since I missed Thanksgiving, I thought I'd attend because it would be one of the few holiday activities in which I could participate. I got up, bathed and dressed, when the phone rang.

"Hello."

"Judith. You are not home alone? You sit down, please."

"That's all right. I know what you will say."

"Your momma, she died this morning. I don't want you to drive when you are stressed. You got someone to be with you?"

"I think I will go to a neighbor's house. I'll be OK. You say you don't need me just now? I tell you what. I will go to be with friends at a function today." My neighbors let me come to their home and cry on their shoulders. Later, at the hotel, I sang Christmas carols with friends.

After the event was over, I told my best friends that Lila had died. I got hugs and I left for the foster care

home. I picked up Lila's things and said goodbye to the caregiver and the dogs. Especially PeeWee.

At the time, I followed the attorney's advice: "Pay the bills, pay the taxes." Lila did not run out of money, she did not need Medicaid, and the stock market just kept plugging along, after robbing us of about \$40,000.

I looked at a flyer from the Alzheimer's Association and realized that Lila exhibited every one of the late-stage symptoms of that disease. Still, she managed to handle everything with grace and occasionally, humor. It was the perfect death. She and my father, Robert Leppert, are buried together at Willamette National Cemetery with the following inscription on their tomb-stone:

Together in Heaven.

Winter finally ended, spring brought the daffodils, and I heard Lila's voice celebrating the season:

I wandered lonely as a Cloud That floats on high o'er Vales and Hills, When all at once I saw a crowd A host of dancing Daffodils; Along the Lake, beneath the trees, Ten thousand dancing in the breeze.

And then my heart with pleasure fills, And dances with the Daffodils.²⁰

We drank in the beautiful gardens around Reed College on our rides home from Thoreau House every summer night. Now, as I drive there alone, I imagine I hear Lila joyously leaning into every curve of the pretty roadway. She loved each simple adventure.

"Whee!" she'd exclaim.

ENDNOTES

- The US Federal Census for 1930 shows John Boren's brother in law, Robert Wheatley, as the owner of the Broadway Cab Company.
- State of Oregon, Multnomah County Marriage certificate #12256, March 22, 1909.
- Brita Martinson died in Portland April 10, 1907, but State of Oregon Archives website lists no certificate number or further information. Accessed by Judith Leppert July 2, 2013.
- 4. St. Vitus' Dance was a streptococcal infection often happening as an after-effect of rheumatic fever, it causes jerks and ticks sometimes for a few weeks or months. "St. Vitus' Dance," en.wikipedia.org. June 18, 2013.
- Robert N. Leppert's personal letters to his mother and sister from Sheppard Field: January 30, 1942-1943, now in the Judith Leppert library.
- 6. William B. Sexson, County Clerk, Wichita County Courthouse, Wichita Falls, Texas verifies the wedding of March 15, 1942 in a letter on Veteran's Administration stationery. He did this on January 6, 1950 when the Leppert's tried to buy a home and had lost all of their wedding documentation with the moves and divorces.
- Judith Leppert's State Certificate of Live Birth, State of Oregon, #253. Judith Leppert's library.
- Robert's service record: Judith Leppert library holds draft notice, various postings, and separation of service as an enlisted man followed by commission as a flight officer October, 1943.
- 9. Ruth M. Leppert's residence in 1945, Portland, Oregon, 8634 S.E. 11th Ave. Zone 2, from an envelope addressed by Robert.
- 10. Work documents on Lila's request for light duty, filled in and signed by her. Judith Leppert library.
- "Divorces Granted," The Oregonian, shows October 14, 1946 as the date for the first divorce. Standard Certificate of Death State of Oregon #1154 states Jennie Elizabeth Boren died February 3, 1948.
- 12. Standard Certificate of Death State of Oregon Number 9366: John Magnus Boren, in Clatsop County, September 16, 1950.

- 13. John Magnus Boren, obituary in *The Oregonian*. Original clipping in Judith Leppert's Library, separated from its page and date by a family member.
- Degree certificate, program, and transcript from University of Portland, Bachelor of Arts, May 31, 1953; Judith Leppert library.
- 15. en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portland Oregonian, July 5, 2013. What was to become a long and heated strike against both *The Oregonian* and *The Oregon Journal* began in November 1959. In 1961, Newhouse bought *The Oregon Journal*, Portland's afternoon daily newspaper. Production and business operations of the two newspapers were consolidated in *The Oregonian*'s building, while their editorial staffs remained separate.[25] The National Labor Relations Board ruled the strike illegal in November 1963. [5] Strikers continued to picket until April 4, 1965,[24] at which point the two newspapers became open shops.
- 16. Ray Stone's business fire occurred in 1957, according to notes left by Robert N. Leppert.
- State of Oregon scholarship which I used at Portland State College in my home town because we couldn't afford dormitory and other extraneous expenses.
- 18. New home located at 1815 SE Reedway, Portland, Oregon, USA.
- 19. Leslie Russell, owner of Avon Farms in Oregon City, breeds Irish Setters and won the American Kennel Club "Sporting Dog Breeder of the Year" at an award I watched on national television in the spring of 2010.
- 20. William Wordsworth "I wandered lonely as a cloud," *Poems in Two Volumes: Moods of my Mind 7*: 1807.

Mary Fleming's Parents

Editors' note: This article is reprinted with permission from The Septs January 2015; volume 36, number 1, pages 24-28. It offers a case study applying the principles of the genealogical proof standard to a situation where direct evidence of parentage from an official death record must be analyzed in the context of other evidence for a reliable conclusion.

That follows is an example of what is referred to as a proof statement or argument. It illustrates the need to follow the principles of the genealogical proof standard, which lays out the following components as requirements to arriving at proof of a genealogical relationship:

- 1. Thorough ("reasonably exhaustive") searches in sources that might help answer a research question.
- 2. Informative ("complete, accurate") citations to the sources of every information item contributing to the research question's answers.
- 3. Analysis and comparison ("correlation") of the relevant sources and information to assess their usefulness as evidence of the research question's answer.
- 4. Resolution of any conflicts between evidence and the proposed answer to a research question.
- 5. A written statement, list, or narrative supporting the answer.¹

A FEW TERMS EXPLAINED

Direct vs. indirect evidence. Direct evidence is information that answers a research question directly in and by itself, such as when and where a person was born or who their father was. Indirect evidence needs to be combined with other evidence in order for the answer to be found.

Primary vs. secondary knowledge. The knowledge from a person who provides information may be primary if that knowledge is derived from first-hand experience. Secondary knowledge is what is gained from sources other than direct experience.

by Tom K. Rice, CGsm

Original vs. derivative vs. authored source. An original document is the first unaltered rendering of information onto some recording medium, such as paper or even film. A photocopy would be considered an original, whereas a death certificate created from the information entered into a death register would be a derivative. An authored work is a derivative copy drawn from several sources.

THE QUESTION

Who were the parents of Mary Fleming, who died in Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Minnesota, on 19 March 1921?

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THE EVIDENCE

- Mary Fleming's 1921 Certificate of Death provides the following information:²
 - » Mary was said to have been born 58 years previously in Syracuse, New York.
 - » Her husband was Michael J. Fleming.
 - » She had lived at 2310 East 25th Street in Minneapolis.
 - » Her father was John M. Redmond, who was born in Ireland.
 - » Her mother was Kate O'Dowd, also born in Ireland.
 - » Michael J. Fleming was the informant

Comments: This is an original document. It provides several direct answers to questions, such as who were her parents, her husband, her age, and her birthplace. Of these, only her address and the name of her husband were given by someone who had primary knowledge of these facts. Other pieces of information were secondary knowledge to this informant.

 Mary Fleming's obituary adds the information that she had also been survived by her daughter, Mildred Fleming.³

Comments: This answers the questions directly as to her age and her husband's and daughter's names. The source of this information is unknown so, therefore, the type of knowledge the informant had cannot be known.

- The 1920 U.S. census for Minneapolis shows Mary Fleming, age 56, born in New York, living as the wife of Michael J. Fleming with daughter, Mildred Fleming. Both of Mary's parents are shown as born in Ireland. This census also shows Michael as having been born in Iowa with both parents having been born in Ireland. The family resided at 2310 25th Street.⁴
- The 1910 U.S. census for Minneapolis shows Mary A. Fleming, age 38, born in New York, having been married only once, and that for 20 years. Also in the household were Michael J., 48, who was married once previously, Mildred M., 18, and Corrine R., 16 both daughters of Michael J. Fleming.⁵

- The 1905 Minnesota state census shows this family as Mich. J., age 46, born in Iowa, Mary A. age 33 born in New York, Mad. M. age 13 1/12 and Rose C. age 11 6/12. They were listed as living at 2312 25th St.⁶
- The 1900 U.S. census shows the family as Michael J. Fleming born 1860 in Iowa, Mary A. his wife as born in February of 1864 in New York; Mildred M., daughter, born April 1892 in Minnesota; and Corinne R., daughter, born November 1893 in Minnesota. They were living at 2310 25th Steet in Minneapolis.⁷
- The 1895 Minnesota state census records the family as M. J. Fleming, age 31, born in Iowa; Mary, age 31, born in New York, John, age 16, born in Minnesota; Mildred, age 4, born in Minnesota; and Corrine, age 2, also born in Minnesota.⁸

In the case of each of these censuses it is unknown as to who the informant was, and thus whether that person had primary or secondary knowledge as to the information given. These are original records, which gave direct information as to the names of the people in the family, the address of their dwelling, the place of birth of each person and of their parents, the ages of each and, in the case of the 1900 U.S. census, the birth month and year of each person, and the relationship of each person to the head of household.

• A deposition record of the Fourth Judicial District Court of Minnesota, County of Hennepin, dated 15 February 1890, made by Michael J. Fleming stating he was 32 years old and that he intended to marry a woman 27 years of age and that he was a widower and she was single.⁹

This is an original record. The informant, Michael Fleming, had primary knowledge as to his marital status but secondary knowledge as to the marital status of his intended wife and of their respective ages.

 A Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Minnesota marriage record for Michael J. Fleming and Mary Redmond indicating they married on 16 February 1890.

This record gives direct evidence that a Mary Redmond married a Michael J. Fleming on the date stated. The informant had primary knowledge of this event.

• A 31 May 1909 obituary for Edward Redmond of Cedar Rapids, Linn County, Iowa, states he was survived by City Solicitor, John M. Redmond, George Redmond of Cedar Rapids, Edward Redmond of Seattle, Clement Redmond of Los Angeles, Mrs. Katie Lowney of Missoula, Montana, and "Mrs. Morg" Fleming of Minneapolis, Minnesota.¹¹

This is an authored document. Because the person(s) who provided the information is unknown, the quality of the knowledge is likewise uncertain. This source does provide direct evidence as to the names of the children of Edward Redmond and their places of residence at the time of the obituary. Likewise it identifies John M. Redmond, one of the sons of Edward Redmond, deceased, as being the City Solicitor of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. It also states that Edward Redmond was born in Ireland, and lived in and married his wife in Syracuse, New York.

It should be noticed that in one instance a married daughter of Edward Redmond is referred to by her given name, i.e. "Kate," while in the other instance the name given for the daughter with the married surname of Fleming who is living in Minneapolis is given as "Morg" which may be interpreted as pointing to her husband having the name Morg or Morgan. There is at least one careless spelling error where Iowa is misspelled as Iona.

- 1870 U.S. census for Mount Vernon, Linn County, Iowa (see below) shows the family of Edward Redmond.12
- Baptismal records from the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Roman Catholic church

in Syracuse, New York showing the baptisms of the following children of Edward Redmond and Bridget Dowd: John born 6 April 1859, baptized 12 April 1859;¹³ Catherine born 9 September 1860, baptized 6 January 1861; 14 Mary born 2 January 1863, baptized 13 March 1863;15 and Edward baptized 22 October 1865.16

These are all original records that were most likely created at the time of the events by someone who had primary knowledge of the people, the place, and the dates involved. These records provide direct evidence as to the names of the children of Edward Redmond and Bridget Dowd of Syracuse, New York, and the dates of their births and baptisms.

 A Certificate of Marriage for Edward Redmond and Bridget Dowd who married on 16 May 1858 at St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church of Syracuse, New York.¹⁷

The exact nature of this record is uncertain. It appears to be an extraction of the names of couples and their dates of marriage at St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church in Syracuse, New York. It indicates that Edward Redmond and Bridget Dowd married there on 16 May 1858. This is a derivative document with information provided by an unknown source.

• A biographical piece on John M. Redmond of Cedar Rapids, Linn County, Iowa, stating that he was the son of Edward Redmond and Adelia Dowd and that he had been born in Syracuse, New York.¹⁸

This is an authored work. It provides direct evidence as to the names of the parents of John M.

> Redmond, his date and place of birth, his early residences, the date of his mother's death, his services as county attorney, and as mayor of Cedar Rapids. The name of his mother as given, Adelia, is a common Irish nick-

name for Bridget.

CONCLUSION

Mary A. Fleming was the daughter of Edward Redmond and Bridget Dowd.

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1870 US Census — This is an original record, which gives direct answers to the questions as to the names of the members of this household, their ages, where they were born, and where they were living at the time. Because the informant is unknown, whether the knowledge of these facts was primary or secondary cannot be determined.

ANALYSIS OF THE EVIDENCE AND PROOF ARGUMENT

• Mary's death record gives her parents' surnames as Redmond and Dowd.

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- Mary's marriage record gives her surname as Redmond.
- Mary's death record gives her place of birth as Syracuse, New York, with a calculated birth year of about 1863.
- Edward Redmond's 1909 obituary states that one of his survivors was "Mrs Morg Fleming of Minneapolis." A search of the 1910 U.S. census for Minneapolis failed to find a Morg or Morgan Fleming. Given that the other married daughter, Kate, is listed by her first name we might surmise that "Morg" was a misprint for "Mary."

This same obituary identified one of Edward Redmond's children as John M. Redmond of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and the other survivors as George, Edward, Clement, Kate, and Mrs. Morg Fleming.

This obituary further stated that Edward Redmond married in Syracuse, New York, and later moved to Mount Vernon, a small town in Linn County, Iowa, near Cedar Rapids.

• Based upon the 1870 U.S. census which showed the family of Edward Redmond and his wife Bridget in Mount Vernon, Iowa, we see that there were a John and a Mary as siblings, both born in New York as was their sister, Kate, and brother Eddy.

- A biographical piece for John M. Redmond states that he was born in Syracuse, New York, in 1859 to Edward Redmond and Adelia Dowd.
- Adelia is a common variant for Bridget amongst Irish.
- Church records from the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Syracuse, New York, shows the baptisms of John, Mary, Catherine, and Edward—all children of Edward Redmond and Bridget Dowd.

Thus:

The key to this problem is equating Mary A. Fleming to Mary Redmond the daughter of Edward and Bridget Dowd Redmond and the sister of John M. Redmond. If they are the same person, then the parents of Mary A. Fleming were Edward Redmond and Bridget aka Adelia Dowd. And the John M. Redmond named as her father on her death records was in fact her brother and the Kate Dowd named as her mother was in fact her sister.

We see that Mary Fleming was born in Syracuse, New York, about 1864. That John M. Redmond of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, was the son of Edward Redmond and Adelia Dowd and that he was born in Syracuse, New York, in 1859 to the same parents as Mary. We see that the family of Edward and Bridget Redmond as portrayed in the 1870 U.S. census had four children including a Mary and a John born in New York, and that the records of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Syracuse show four children of the same names and relative ages as being the children of Edward Redmond and Bridget Dowd.

Given that John M. Redmond was a man of some prominence, it is possible that at a time of some emotional stress, Mary's husband, Michael J. Fleming, the informant for her Certificate of Death, might have thought of his name rather than that of Mary's father, Edward, and that he may not have heard much regarding Mary's mother, Bridget aka Adelia. The minor variations as to age and thus calculated or stated birth years are well within the common sort of variations seen regularly for these types of records.

THE LESSONS TAUGHT/LEARNED

Following the precepts of the genealogical proof standard is essential in order to give assurance as to the relationships and events we present as fact. The pitfall of accepting Mary's death record at face value by itself, even though it was an official record that gave direct

evidence as to who her parents were, would have been a serious mistake. While it takes more work to perform a reasonably exhaustive search, the reward is well worth it. Not only was evidence gathered that led to the identification of the correct parents for Mary, much more was learned about her and her family. However, just

having these sources was not enough; the information they contained needed to be evaluated, analyzed, and correlated with the whole of body of evidence. Writing the results of this exercise was necessary for explaining to others why the death record was incorrect and what the true identities of Mary's parents were.

ENDNOTES

- Thomas W. Jones, Mastering Genealogical Proof, (Arlington, Virginia: National Genealogical Society, 2013) 3.
- 2. Minnesota Division of Vital Statistics, certificate of death no. 17327, Mary J. Fleming (1921); photocopy Minnesota Historical Society library, St. Paul, Minnesota.
- "Fleming-Mary;' Minneapolis Tribune (Morning), Minneapolis, Minnesota, 20 March 1921, page 13, column 1.
- 4. 1920 U.S. census, Hennepin County, Minnesota, population schedule, Minneapolis, Ward 12, enumeration district (ED) 214, sheet 16 B, dwelling 290, family 383, Michael J. Fleming; digital image *Ancestry. com* (http://www.ancestry.com: accessed 10 August 2013); NARA microfilm T625, roll 838.
- 1910 U.S. census, Hennepin County, Minnesota, population schedule, Minneapolis, Ward 12, p. 9951 (written), enumeration district (ED) 193, sheet 7 B, dwelling 290, family 383, Michael J. Fleming; digital image Ancestry.com (http://www.ancestry.com : accessed 10 August 2013); NARA microfilm T625, roll 838: FHL microfilm 1374718
- 1905 Minnesota state census, Hennepin County, population schedule, Minneapolis, Ward 12, Precinct 1, enumeration district 42, sheet 12, line 31, Michael J. Fleming household; digital image Ancestry.com (http://www.ancestry.com: accessed 11 October 2013); Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul; Minnesota State Population Census Schedules, 1865-1905; roll MNSC_128.
- 1900 U.S. census, Hennepin county, Minnesota, population schedule, Minneapolis, Ward 12, enumeration district (ED) 122, sheet 2-B, dwelling 30, family 38, Michael J. Fleming; digital image *Ancestry. com* (http://www.ancestry.com: accessed 11 October 2013); NARA microfilm T623, roll 770; FHL microfilm 1240770.
- 8. 1895 Minnesota state census, Hennepin County, population schedule, Minneapolis, Ward 12, Precinct 1, p. 17, line 10, M. J. Fleming household; digital image *Ancestry. com* (http://www.ancestry.com: accessed 11 October 2013); Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul; Minnesota State Population Census Schedules, 1865-1905; roll V290_69.
- State of Minnesota, Fourth Judicial District Court, Hennepin County, Marriage Record, Marriage Application Book 20, no. 169, Michael J. Fleming, 15 February 1890; digital image Family-Search.org (https://familysearch.org/pal:/ MM9.1.1/VKNP-NKF : accessed 26 September 2013).
- Hennepin County, Minnesota, Marriage License and Certificate, volume 46, no. 20-169, Michael J. Fleming and Mary Redmond; Minnesota Historical Society library microfilm SAM 447, reel 12.

- "Mr. Edward Redmond Died Suddenly Yesterday;' Cedar Rapids Evening Gazette (Cedar Rapids, Iowa), 31 May 1909, page and column unknown.
- 12. 1870 U.S. census, Linn County, Iowa, population schedule, Mount Vernon, page 155 (stamped), page 5, dwelling 36, family 36, Edward Redmond household; digital image Ancestry.com (http://www.ancestry.com: accessed 11 October 2013); NARA microfilm M593, roll 405: FHL microfilm 545904.
- 13. Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Syracuse, New York, baptisms 1843-1879, John Redmond, 17 April 1859; photocopy provided by the church.
- 14. Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Syracuse, New York, baptisms 1843-1879, Catherine Redmond, 6 January 1861; photocopy provided by the church.
- 15. Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Syracuse, New York, baptisms 1843-1879, Mary Redmond, 13 March 1863; photocopy provided by the church.
- 16. Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Syracuse, New York, baptisms 1843-1879, Edward Redmond, 22 October 1865; photocopy provided by the church.
- 17. St. John the Baptist Church, Syracuse, New York, Certificate of Marriage, Edward Redmond and Bridget Dowd, 16 May 1858, dated 11 January 2000.
- 18. [Anonymous], *The Biographical Record of Linn County Iowa*, (Chicago: S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1901), 462-463.

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Thomas Roby Brown

Nanci Remington

The GFO recently received a question about a World War I soldier from Beagle, Oregon, who died during the war. His name was Thomas Roby Brown, and the writer, Erlene Thomson, couldn't find an Oregon draft registration record for him on our website. She has his medals and photos of him and was wondering about a way to honor his memory. We are printing the response, as it could be of interest to other people who have family members who died in that war. This is especially relevant now, as our nation is honoring the 100th anniversary of our entry into WWI.



I checked on the GFO website to see what information we had about WWI veterans. I found two indexes. The first was a list of veterans from Oregon who were buried overseas. The list came from a website called *American Battle Monuments Commission* (www.abmc.gov). Thomas Roby Brown is included in this list under the name Thomas R. Brown (http://gfo.org/resources/links/world-war-i-soldiers-buried-overseas.html).

The other index contains the names of men who registered for the draft in Oregon. Thomas Roby Brown was not in that index. I did a broader search of the WWI draft registration records online and found he had registered in California, where he was



Listing for Thomas R. Brown at website American Battle Monuments Commission.



Photo of medals and photos of Thomas Roby Brown

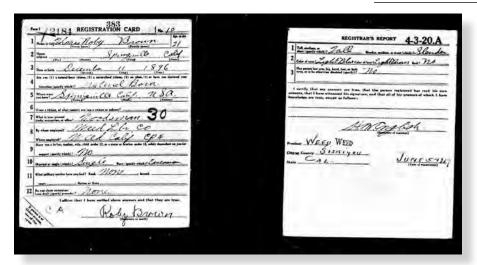
working as a woodsman (https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-91SG-9KF3?i=729&cc=1968530). It is possible that he enlisted in Oregon, but we don't have those records.

The GFO does not have a program that pays tribute to veterans. However, there are sites where you can create an online memorial. The first is FindaGrave (www.findagrave.com). This is an all-volunteer site where you can add photos and stories, as well as create links to other family members. Thomas Roby Brown has a

memorial (#56636148) but there is very little information about him. (https://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&G-Sln=brown&GSfn=thomas&GSiman=1&GS-cid=639059&GRid=56636148&).

Another site that has a memorial page is Fold3 (www.fold3.com). They call it the *US Honor Wall*. Again, you can add photos, stories, and more. Thomas Roby Brown has the beginning of a memorial at https://www.fold3.com/page/529843600 thomas r brown/.

One more is the *United States World War One Centennial Commission*. You can create a memorial in their *Family Ties* program (http://www.worldwaricentennial.org/



Draft registration for Thomas Roby Brown

<u>commemorate/family-ties.html</u>). This site also has links to resources for genealogy research.

Finally, because the family was from Jackson County, I suggested calling the City of Medford, which has a Veteran's Memorial Park. I couldn't find a list of names of the people included in the memorial but a phone call might lead to that information.



THE FAMILY

Thomas Roby Brown, or Roby as he was known in the family, was the son of Thomas H. Brown and Laura Ellen Duncan. Laura was a widow with two daughters living in California when she married Thomas, a veteran of the Confederate Army. Her first husband, John Eldorado Henderson, had died in the Mussel Slough tragedy near Hanford, California, on 11 May 1880. (See below for de-

tails.) Their daughter Deesee was just two years old, and daughter Ada was born in August of that year.

Laura and Thomas married in 1886. They lived in Tulare County, California, and together had five more children, including Roby, who was born on 11 December 1896 in Springville (formerly Daunt).

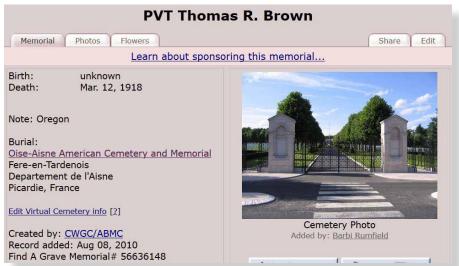
Laura's daughter Ada Henderson was 18 when she met Howard Rodgers. He was from a large ranching family in Jackson County, Oregon. The family story is that Howard had gone to California to find an educated Christian wife. After attending several socials and church gatherings, he

chose Ada and made her an offer she couldn't refuse. He promised to build her a large home of her own as well as one for her mother's family. Five years later, with the houses built and the homesteads established, they married in 1904 in Jacksonville, Oregon.

It is hard to document exactly when the Brown family moved to Oregon. The youngest son was born in California in 1898, and in 1900 the family was living in Jackson County, Oregon. The oldest daughter, Deesee, had married and remained in Tulare County. Ada was not with either family and has not been found in the 1900 census.

After Ada and Howard married in 1904, they went on to raise their children in Jackson County. The family believes that Roby and his siblings attended Antioch School in Beagle, Oregon. Thomas H. Brown died in 1908, and in 1910 his widow, Laura, was back in Tulare County with her youngest son. Roby was in the same county, but living with another family and listed as a servant/chore boy. He returned to Oregon at some point, as his obituary states that he "lived at Goshen [Lane County] for two years and attended Springfield High School during that time."

Roby was arrested in 1915 for grand larceny (stealing a steer) and sentenced to two years, though he may have received a suspended sentence. He was said to have been a handsome young man who was working to save money and headed for college. In 1917 he registered for the draft in Weed, Siskiyou County, California, where he was working for the Weed Lumber Company. Not long



Listing for PVT Thomas R. Brown at website FindaGrave

| JAIL REGISTER | | | | | JAIL REGISTER | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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Jail Register for Roby Brown (Number 606)

after that, he enlisted in the U.S. Army 20th Engineer Regiment. He received medals as both a marksman and an expert rifleman. He died of pneumonia on 12 March 1918, at the age of 22, and is buried in Oise-Aisne American Cemetery in France.





This one question led to some interesting stories about an early Oregon family.



BEAGLE, OREGON

Beagle was a farming community in Sam's Valley, outside of Medford in Jackson County. Named after the first postmaster, William Beagle, there were only 250 men, women, and children living in the area in 1900. By 1930 that number had grown to only 273. Years later, former residents noted that "Beagle was the type of community where neighbors opened their homes to neighbors for dances." However, in 1917 the school there was described as "one of the poorest in Jackson County; lighting was very bad, floor worn out . . . water from the pump not protected from

the hogs." A photo shows a few children outside of a building resembling a barn with windows.

In 1942, the people in the community were removed to make way for Camp White, an army training camp that also served as a German prisoner of war camp. The government purchased the land, giving the families little time to move. Buildings were razed or moved to become part of Army operations. Only the cemetery was left intact, though it was buried under eight feet of dirt. After the war a few families returned to the area, but the land was riddled with shell holes and unexploded ordnance. Beagle is no longer on the map. Antioch Cemetery, where many of the Rodgers and Brown family members were buried, appears to have been restored.

For more information about Beagle:

Kay Shelnutt's thesis, *Beagle, Oregon, An Unknown Casualty of War: Camp White and the Destruction of a Farming Community During the Second World War*, presented in January, 2007, is a fascinating record of the events leading up to the construction of Camp White and the effect this had on the community. It includes photos,



Ruins of Camp White near Beagle, OR. Image courtesy of the Bureau of Land Management Oregon and Washington, under the Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic license.

maps, and oral histories from the people who lived there. It can be found at http://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/xmlui/handle/1957/6184.

The Medford *Mail Tribune* interviewed former residents of Beagle during a reunion in 1998. The story is online at http://www.mailtribune.com/article/19980720/news/307209997.

The Rogue Digger, a publication of the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society, published an account of Beagle as part of its series Lost Towns of Jackson County, Oregon. It includes a list of burials in Antioch Cemetery. See Volume 40, Number 4 (Winter, 2005) and Volume 41, Number 1 (Spring, 2006), both available at the GFO Library.

For more about Camp White:

Southern Oregon Public Television (SOPTV) produced a documentary about Camp White—Southern Oregon Goes to War—that reports on the impact the camp had on the community and the people who lived there. It can be viewed at http://www.soptv.org/camp-white-story/#popup1.

The History of the 300th Combat Engineers, 1943 to 1945, offers first-hand accounts of training at Camp White. The site includes photos and audiotapes. It is a great example of what you may find on your own ancestors if you research the units in which they served. Visit it at http://www.300thcombatengineersinwwii.com/camp.html.



THE MUSSEL SLOUGH TRAGEDY IN NEWSPAPERS

The Mussel Slough tragedy was one of the deadliest gunfights to take place in the "old west." John Eldorado Henderson was one of seven men who died on 11 May 1880 as the result of a dispute between settlers, land owners, and the Southern Pacific Railroad. Many accounts have been written about the tragedy, including a popular novel, *The Octopus*, written in 1901 by Frank Norris, and more recently, *Gunfight at Mussel Slough: Evolution of a Western Myth*, written by Terry Beers in 2004.

But the most interesting way to follow the story may be to read period newspapers. This is an often-overlooked use for the several databases available to genealogists that include optical character recognition (OCR) technology, including *Chronicling America* and *Newspapers.com*.



Photo of Mussel Slough Tragedy marker 5.6 miles northwest of Hanford, California USA, by Keith Winkler on Wikipedia

In order to read about events that may have impacted your ancestors, search for the event, date, and location instead of your ancestor's name. Or simply browse a local newspaper. OCR readers often miss names because of printing issues. In this example, searching for "Mussel Slough" provided first-person accounts of the incident that were not returned when searching for John Henderson, even though he was mentioned in the stories.

A search for "Mussel Slough" on *Newspapers.com* returned stories from all over California, dating from two days after the event. Local sentiment was deeply divided over the land disputes that led to the gunfight, as relayed in the many editorials and letters that were printed. Ambivalence was also reflected in the details of the day given by the various witnesses, which cast the settlers as innocent or lawless, as instigators or defenders.

Chronicling America.com offered similar results, with additional newspapers that covered the incident and its aftermath from a more regional or national perspective.

Using "Mussel Slough" in the Keyword box at *Ancestry.com* led to even more information, including additional newspaper accounts, the fact that Mussel Slough was a census enumeration district in Tulare County, and member stories about the people involved along with photos of some of their descendants.

The James C. Russell– Sarah J. Guthrie Bible

Nanci Remington

ages from this Bible were recently discovered in a file folder inside a box of other Bible records at the GFO library. A note in the folder stated that the Bible had been found at the Church of the Epiphany in Lake Oswego, Oregon, in 1989. It was described as much disintegrated and quite moldy. At some point, the title and family record pages were removed from the Bible and placed in the file.

What made these pages stand out was the accompanying envelope with four small packets that contained locks of hair. Three were labeled. One said *Russell*, one *Johnie*, and the third *Infant Son*. There were also pressed leaves and flowers.

A quick look at the Bible entries told us that there was a child named John Knox who was born and died in 1880. His hair was light brown. There was also an infant son who had been born and died in 1888. We know that he had dark brown hair. Nothing in the Bible told us where these children lived. We decided to find out more.

THE RUSSELL-GUTHRIE FAMILY

The first entry in the Bible is for the marriage of James C. Russell to Sarah J. Guthrie on 9 May 1848. The Bible records 11 children born between 1850 and 1871.

Given this information, the family was found on the 1860 census living in Washington Township, Bradley County, Arkansas. We see that James was a farmer and that both he and his wife were born in South Carolina as were their first five children. Their sixth child was born in Arkansas, indicating that they had moved there between 1857 and 1859. In 1860, James purchased two parcels of land in Bradley County totaling 480 acres. James appears to have been prosperous, in that his real estate was valued at \$3,000 and his personal property at \$6,000. This information led to the 1860 slave schedule, which shows that he owned five slaves ranging in age from two to 25 years old.



Flowers and paper-wrapped locks of hair were found in the Russell–Guthrie Bible.

In 1870, the family was residing at the same location. All nine of the living children, ranging in age from 19 years old to 10 months old, were in the household. One son, George, had died just before his first birthday in June 1864. The Civil War period surely took a toll on the family's well-being. A local history states that though no major battles took place in the county, at least two battles happened nearby. It also states that "no crops were planted, and the fields (which had been laboriously cleared) became weed choked By the end of the war, the agriculture of Bradley County was in very poor condition."

The following years were ones of loss for this Russell family. Son John died in August of 1870 at the age of 19, and daughter Martha died in September at the age of 12. A year later, on 12 September 1871, son Walter was born. Unfortunately, his mother Sarah died the same day. Son William died in 1872 at the age of 19. James C. Russell died in 1875 at the age of 56 leaving several minor children without parents.

THE KNOX FAMILY

James Russell and Sarah Guthrie had two daughters. As noted above, Martha died at a relatively young age. The Bible tells us that the older daughter, Mary Ellen, married Samuel Neely Knox on 25 September 1873 in Bradley County when she was 19 years old. It continues by listing the first six children born to the marriage. They likely include the two children whose hair was found with the Bible pages—John Douglas Knox (Johnie) who was born 4 March 1880 and died 24 December 1880 and Infant Son who was born 22 August 1888 and died 3 December 1888. The other Knox children named in the Bible are L. J. (Janie Louise), James Samuel, Elisabeth Ellen, and W. R. (Walter Russell). There are no listings after 1888.

Because Mary Ellen's family is the one with descendants noted in the Bible, the Knox children were traced in an effort to find an Oregon connection. In 1880, the first census after the marriage, the Knox family was in Pennington Township, Bradley, Arkansas. Samuel was a farmer who had been born in North Carolina about 1851. In 1900 they were living in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, where Samuel was now a carpenter. In addition to their son James, there are two more sons not named in the Bible—Ed V. and Clarence P. The census notes that Mary Ellen has had eight children of which five are living. In 1910 they are still in Pine Bluff, and Samuel is a flagman with the railroad. Their household had grown to include daughter Janie, now a widow with a nine-yearold daughter, son James with his wife and daughter, and sons Edward and Clarence.

So far, Mary Ellen and Samuel have not been found after 1910. However, their children soon began moving to Oregon. According to her obituary, Janie moved to Portland in 1912, and by 1920 her sister Elisabeth and her brothers Clarence and Edward were also here. By 1930 their brother James had joined them.

Assuming the Bible came to Oregon with one of those children, it was probably passed down for a couple of generations before finding its way to the GFO. Our hope is to find a descendant here or in Arkansas so we can return the pages, enabling the family to find out more about their family history.

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THE

HOLY BIBLE:

CONTAINING THE

OLD AND NEW TESTAMENT

TRANSLATED OUT OF THE ORIGINAL TONGUES,

AND WITH THE FORMER TRANSLATIONS DILIGENTLY COMPARED AND REVISED

WITH

CANNE'S MARGINAL NOTES AND REFERENCES.
TOGETHER WITH

THE APOCRYPHA.

TO WHICH ARE ADDED

AN INDEX;

AND AN ALPHABETICAL TABLE OF ALL THE NAMES IN THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS

WITH THEIR SIGNIFICATIONS.

ALSO,

TABLES OF SCRIPTURE WEIGHTS, MEASURES, AND COINS.

HARTFORD

PUBLISHED BY A. C. GOODMAN & CO.

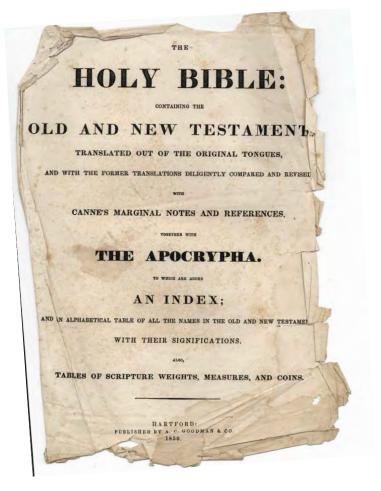
1850

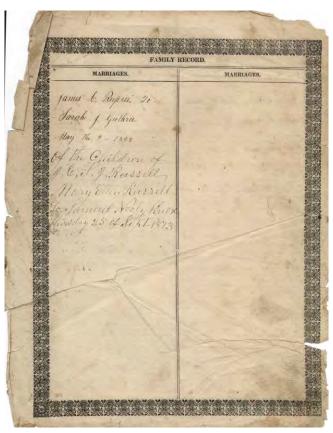
FAMILY RECORD

MARRIAGES

James C. Russell To – Sarah J. Guthrie May the 9 – 1848 Of the Children of J.C. S. J. Russell

Mary Ellen Russell To Samuel Neely Knox Thursday 25 of Sept – 1873





FAMILY RECORD

BIRTHS

James Chapel Russell Born August 20th 1818 Sarah Jane Russell Born January 1st 1827 Ages of the children of J C & Sarah J Russell's John Osburn Russell Born September 5th 1850 William James Russell Born August 6th 1852 Mary Ellen Russell Born April 14th 1854 Samuel Guthrie Russell Born December 25th 1855 Martha Iane Russell Born October 31st 1857 Robert Heath Russell Born December 30th 1859 George Amasa Russell Born June 7th 1862 Edward Decalb Russell Born September 9th 1864

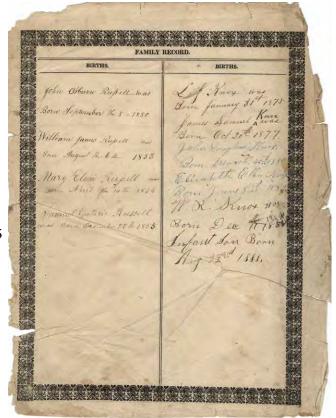
BIRTHS. BIRTHS. James Whape Endell Som August 20 th 1884 Som Sugust 20 th 1887 Agas of the Children of J. C. Soland & Russell Rom Office the 1885 Walter River 1867 Welliam James Russell Rom September 1882 Mary Collin Russell Rom Spit Wh. 1886 Almuel Guthria Russell Rom Secondor 35th 1886 Martha Jame Russell Rom Gotoler 318 1887 Robert Teath Russell Rom Jene To 1863 Robert Jeath Russell Rom Jene To 1863 George Amasa Russell Rom Jene To 1863 George Amasa Russell Rom Jene To 1863 George Amasa Russell Rom Jene To 1863 George Hassa Russell Rom Jene To 1863 George Hassa Russell Rom Jene To 1863 George Hassa Russell Rom Jene To 1863

BIRTHS

Michael Postel Russell Born January 19th 1867 Henry Bascomb Russell July 12th 1869 Walter King Russell September 12th 1871

BIRTHS

John Osburn Russell_ was Born September 5th 1850 William James Russell was Born August the 6th 1852 Mary Elen Russell was Born April 14th 1854 Samuel Guthrie Russell was Born December 25th 1855



BIRTHS

L. J. Knox was
Born January 31st 1875
James Samuel Knox was
Born Oct 20th 1877_
John Douglass Knox.
Born March 4th 1880
Elisabeth Ellen Knox
Born June 8th 1882.
W. R. Knox was
Born Dec 11th 1884
Infant Son Born
Aug. 22nd 1888.

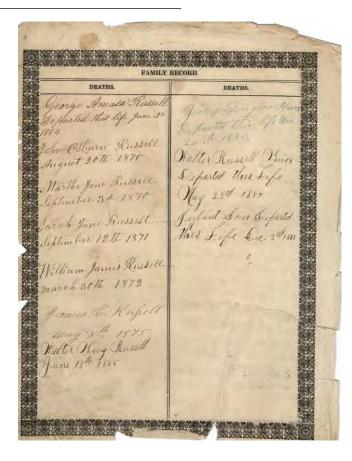
FAMILY RECORD

DEATHS

George Amasa Russell
Departed this life June 2d
1864

John Osburn Russell August 20th 1870 Martha Jane Russell September 3d 1870 Sarah Jane Russell September 12th 1871 William James Russell March 30th 1872 James C.. Russell May 5th 1875

Walter King Russell June 18th 1885



DEATHS

John Douglas Knox Departed this life Dec. 24th 1880.

Walter Russell Knox Departed this Life May 23rd 1887 Infant Son Departed This Life Dec 3rd 1888

First Families of Multnomah County

Thomas W. Greene

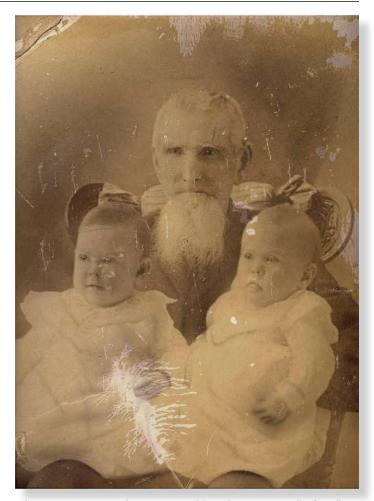
Judith Leppert

lenna Marie Fleskes proudly claims descent from Thomas Greene, an Early Settler of Multnomah County. The Genealogical Forum of Oregon's cut-off for Early Settler designation is September 11, 1883, the date the Continental Railroad was completed. Thomas Greene, as we shall see, had no difficulty meeting this requirement. However, because Glenna traces her First Family lineage through her mother and her maternal grandmother, both of whom were at one time known as Agnes, close attention must be given to names.

Glenna Marie Fleskes was born in Albany, Linn County, Oregon. Her parents were Peter Hubert Fleskes and Agnes Arlene Misner. Peter Hubert Fleskes was born in Butte, Boyd County, Nebraska, on May 4, 1902. The couple married in Oregon City, Clackamas County, Oregon. Evidence that Glenna is the daughter of Peter



Glenna Marie Fleskes, taken early 1945.



Thomas Greene with twin Granddaughters Agnes "Arlene" and Gertrude "Irene."

and Agnes is shown in the 1930 Census of the United States. The census shows the family lived in "Portland City" during that year and lists Hubert P. Fleskes as a salesman, aged 27; his wife, Arlene, as a 26-year-old clerk; and children Glenna, Patricia, and Winnifred.

Glenna gathered a great deal of family information from her mother's delayed birth registration, which can be found in the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon (No. 1864). Born Agnes Arlene Misner on June 22, 1903, in Albany, Oregon, she went by Arlene. On the occasion of her marriage on June 22, 1923, she officially changed her name to Arlene Misner Fleskes, reflecting the fact that she had gone by her middle name most of her life.

Birth records are such a joy to genealogists when they also clearly identify the parents. Arlene's father, William J. Misner, was born in Missouri on January 19, 1862. Her mother was born Mary Agnes Green and came into this world at Folsom, California, on March 14, 1869.

Among the documents Glenna submitted for proof of Early Settler in Multnomah County status are a pedigree chart, family group sheets, the 1930 U.S. Census, the

27



"Irene" and "Agnes" at Oaks Park, Portland, ca. late 1910s

1870 U.S. Census for "Portland, Ogn," and the obituary of the oldest child, Ellen Greene Sullivan. Throughout these documents, there are variant spellings of the name Green, with later records using "Greene" instead of the earlier "Green."

Thomas Greene, the father of Mary Agnes, was born on November 27, 1826, in County Longford, Ireland. He

met and married Mary Kathleen Whelan (also born in Ireland) presumably before 1859, possibly in Illinois. In addition to Mary Agnes, their children included Ellen M. Greene (Mrs. John Denis Sullivan), Michael J. Greene, Anna Theresa Greene (Mrs. Robert L. DeVaney), and Frank T. Greene.

As I was working on this article, the Greene family contacted me with Thomas Greene's mortuary notice from the December 21, 1907, *Morning Oregonian* and other interesting information:

Mr. Greene came to the United States when a child. After living in New Orleans for several years he went to Galena, Ill., where he conducted a mercantile business for a number of years. During the gold excitement in California, with thousands of others he caught the fever and went to the mines in the early '50s . . . when he came to Portland he entered into the employ of the Oregon & California Railroad when construction was begun on that line, and later was

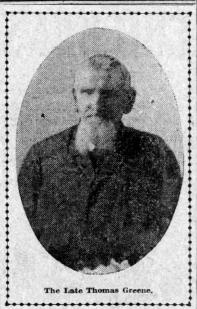
employed in the Southern Pacific carshops for several years. Then he bought a farm near Jefferson, where he lived for 25 years. Sixteen years ago he sold his farm and moved to Portland to make his home with his daughter [Nellie] at Montavilla.

The 1900 U.S. Census reports that Thomas arrived in the United States in 1842, when he was 16. The Greene family was living in Galena, Jo Daviess, Illinois, in 1859-1861 as this is where his first two children were reportedly born. Additionally, the family is found there in the 1860 U.S. Census, which lists Thomas, Mary, and Ellen (Nellie).

The 1870 census for Portland shows Thomas Green, age 45, listed as a laborer, born in Ireland, living with his wife, Mary. Her age is shown to be 24, how-

ever, with a child of 13 this age is unlikely. She is keeping house, no surprise, since her responsibilities included Ellen, the 13-year-old, born in Illinois; Michael, age 10, also born in Illinois; Theresa, age 5; and Agnes, age 1. The younger girls were born in California. Frank T. Green was born in Oregon three years after the 1870 census. As is often the case, the birth places of the children listed on

MORNING OREGONIAN
SATURDAY,
12 DECEMBER 21.1907.



THOS. GREENE'S FUNERAL

Services Today Will Be Followed by Interment at Salem.

The funeral of Thomas Greene, a pioneer who died Wednesday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. J. D. Sullivan, in Montavilla, will be held today at Salem, and the body buried by the side of that of Mrs. Greene, who died 21 years ago. Born in Longford County, Ireland, 81 years ago, Mr. Greene came to the United States when a child. After living in New Orleans for several years he went to Galena, Ill., where he conducted a mercantile business for a number of years. During the gold excitement in California, with thousands of others he caught the fever and went to the mines in the early 56s, where he engaged in mining until 1860, when he came to Portland. He entered the employ of the Oregon & California Railroad when construction was cegun on that line, and later was employed in the Southern Pacific carshops for several years. Then he bought a farm near Jefferson, where he lived for 25 years. Sixteen years ago he sold Lis farm and moved to Portland to make his home with his daughter at Montavilla.

He is survived by the following children: Frank T. Greene and Mrs. J. D.

dren: Frank T. Greene and Mrs. J. D. Sullivan, Portland; Michael J. Greene, Los Angeles, Cal.; Mrs. R. L. Devaney, Jefferson City, Or.; Mrs. W. M. Misner, of Albany. The body will be taken to Salem this morning for interment. Requiem mass will be celebrated at Mount Tabor at a time yet to be fixed. Mr. Greene was well known to old residents of the Willamette Valley.

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|----|-----|------|---------|------------|--------------|------|-----|---------|--|
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| 14 | | | Ellen " | 3 A | | | | dels. | |

1860 U.S. Census

censuses indicate the likely migration patterns of the parents and reveal another stay in California (1865-1869) for the Greene family.

Thomas Greene built the first Green(e)'s bridge at Jefferson, Oregon—actually the first two or three versions of it. The first one was almost complete when it was totally destroyed by fire. The early Green(e)'s bridges were located at the Scio-Jefferson edge of the Greene property. The present-day Green's Bridge is not in the same location.

Thomas Greene sold his Jefferson property about 1891 (per his obit). About 1917, that same property was purchased by Glenna's Fleskes great-grandparents, William Theodore Fleskes and Mary Hubertine Simons. A few years later, their son, "Bert" Fleskes would meet Thomas's granddaughter, Arlene Misner, who lived in Albany. Glenna noted in her submitted materials, "You can imagine my grandmother's shock when my grandfather brought her to his home in Jefferson to meet his parents."

An obituary for Thomas and Mary's daughter, Ellen Sullivan, reveals a bit about their life in Oregon. (Note: This quotation came from a newspaper, probably dated December 1933, but the family did not provide a citation.)

The family came to Oregon while she was still a child and settled in the Willamette valley near Gervais, where Mr. Greene acquired a large farm. For several years Ellen attended St. Mary's academy (located in Portland, Oregon) with the daughters of other well-known pioneers and eventually became a teacher in the Lee chapel which was later renamed Public School No. 2. In 1888 she was married to John Sullivan who died in 1913 leaving her with three children.

Some of the facts may have dimmed over the years, but records clearly indicate that the Greene family had strong Portland and Oregon connections. Thomas W. Greene and Mary Whelan did, indeed, settle in Multnomah County by 1870 and do qualify for the Early Settler category in the First Families of Multnomah County collection at the Genealogical Forum of Oregon.



Peter Hubert "Bert" Fleskes & Agnes "Arlene" Misner

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Tools for Genealogy

Labeling Digital Images

Nanci Remington

t used to be simple. You shot a roll of film and had it developed. You wrote the names of the people on the back of the photos, along with the date, location, and event. You put them into a shoe box or album, and later gave them to trusted family members to keep. Decades later, your relatives would know if their newborn grandchild took after you or your spouse. Or perhaps you neglected to label the pictures and your descendants are still puzzling about who's who in that group shot.

Today it is not quite that easy. In the June 2017 Bulletin, we talked about locating photos of ancestors. Unless you are that trusted family member, it is likely you now receive copies of photos in a digital format. Instead of paper, the copy you have is on your computer's hard drive. It may be that somebody e-mailed it to you, you downloaded it from the Internet, or you scanned it during a visit to see family. Genealogists go a step further and, in addition to photographs, often have a large collection of digital supporting documents they want to keep.

There are many systems designed to organize these images on your computer. You can create folders by location, surname, or time period. You make copies of the originals and edit to your heart's content using one

JM & Collian Wesding Picture March 16, 1912

overlooked is a way

of the many photo

programs available.

Whatever you do, be

sure to back up the

originals as well as

any edited versions

But one thing often

you create.

to label those images-especially to include the names of the people they show.



Original Scan of Lillian and JM in 1912

My challenge . . .

The online photo sharing site I had been using, Picasa Web Albums, was replaced by a new site, Google Photos. Though my photos and albums all moved to the new site, the captions I had given the images no longer appeared. In other words, the photo of my grandparents on their wedding day was still in their "Ancestors" album, but the caption that read "Lillian and JM in 1912" was not displayed.

When I searched for a remedy, I ran into the problem of vocabulary (see Glossary sidebar). What I called a caption, others would call a label, description, title, or even comment. Each meant something different in the help pages, but none seemed to help me. Finally, I found a site that cleared up my confusion: All About Digital Photos (http://www.rideau-info.com/photos/index. <u>html</u>) by Ken W. Watson. There he describes the basics of digital labeling and how that applies to the needs of genealogists.

Back of Original Scan

GLOSSARY

Labeling or Labelling. Either spelling is correct; the first is more common in the United States, the second in Britain.

Metadata. According to WhatIs.com (http://whatis.techtarget.com/), metadata is data that describes other data. *Meta* is a prefix that in most information technology usages means "an underlying definition or description." Author, date created, date modified, and file size are examples of very basic document metadata. Image files often include other data such as the camera used and camera settings as well as the location if geo-tracking was used.

According to The DigitalCitizen website (http://www.digitalcitizen.life/) "metadata can also be very helpful, especially when making searches in Windows and other operating systems. For example, if your collection of pictures has well maintained metadata, then it is very easy to search and find a certain picture you took, at a certain location on a very specific day, with a specific camera."

Tagging. A tag is a form of metadata that is a powerful tool when searching for specific photos. Most photo storage and editing platforms support tagging. Some even help you do it by searching for a face, landscape element, or other criteria. Just for fun I searched my Google Photos for "hats." The program found people

wearing everything from Halloween pirate hats to ball caps to baby bonnets to military hats.



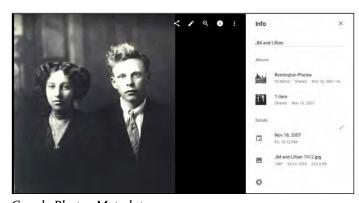
Adding a Tag in Windows

EXIF, IPTC, and XMP. I kept running into these terms when reading about metadata. Probably not important for the average user, but if you want to know what they are you can find a simple explanation at https://www.thoughtco.com/what-is-metadata-1701735.

What I learned . . .

The first thing I learned was the difference between digital and visible labeling. What I wanted was a way to have captions attached to my photos that gave the names of the people who were in them. I wanted that information easily seen by others—visible labeling. Many of the help columns focused on digital labeling, which embeds the information into the metadata of the images on the computer but is not always visible to others.

I learned that Picasa, the desktop program I use to edit my photos, adds the "captions" that I type into the metadata. Somehow this information was made clearly visible when I uploaded to their old web album site. However, it is not as obvious on Google Photos. Because it is in the metadata, it can still be seen by others if they open the information screen to see it. It also stays with the photos when they are downloaded. But because many of the people in my target audience are not very computer literate (Hi, Uncle Ed!), they would not likely look for an information icon.



Google Photos Metadata

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Next steps . . .

Digital Labeling. Now that I know about digital labeling, I am making it a priority to go through my ancestor photos to make sure names and other pertinent information are included in the metadata. I will also add tags (see Glossary for definition) that will make it easier to find photos. This information will stay with the photo if I send it to others, and it will be there if my descendants look through my "shoebox"—my hard drive. I will be sure to back up my files.



Metadata in Windows

You can see the metadata for the files on your computer by right clicking and selecting *Properties* in Windows or clicking *Get Info* on a Mac. Windows has a simple way to add metadata and tags to individual or multiple JPEG images (this may not work for other file types):

Open the folder with the images.

Go to the "View" tab and select the "Details pane" at the top left.

Select the photos you want to label and type in the caption—called a "Title" in Windows. You can also add tags, author, and comments.

Be sure to click "Save."

The Resource list contains links to articles that show how to do this step by step. Various photo editing and storage software will have different paths to follow. Picasa and Google Photos have a small information logo that you click.









Visible Labeling. As I add the metadata, I will also make copies of the original photos so that I can edit them. Many photo editing programs have a way to type text directly onto an image.

I will use the "Add Text" option in Picasa to write the captions directly onto the copies I want to post online. You can also buy software that will frame and add captions beneath the image, but that is more than I need. Hopefully this will make it easier for everyone to view and enjoy their ancestor photos.



Edited with Visible Label

Note: There are many advantages to Google Photos and other online sites that allow you to share your photos. These include tagging and facial recognition. However, not all photo sharing sites work the same way. Some do not let you see the metadata. Some may strip away parts of the metadata so it is not available when the photo is downloaded. If you are posting the images for others to access, you should try uploading and then downloading the image to see what information is retained.

Resources:

All About Digital Photos (http://www.rideau-info.com/photos/index.html) by Ken W. Watson. The best site I found that explained this concept; has a lot of information about photos that is clear and helpful for genealogists.

Organizing and Preserving Digital Photos: What You Need to Know (http://www.familytreemagazine.com/article/organizing-and-preserving-digital-photos)

What is a file's metadata and how to edit it in Windows (no special software needed) (http://www.digitalcitizen.life/what-file-s-metadata-and-how-edit-it) Links to using Windows Photo Gallery for tagging and other uses.

How to tag photos in Windows-(http://www.techadvisor.co.uk/how-to/photo-video/how-tag-photos-in-windows-3453085/)

Scan Your Entire Life (https://www.scanyourentirelife.com/) has lots of information about scanning and organizing images. Two relevant pages are:

The Best Way to Add a Description (Caption) to Your Scanned Photo (https://www.scanyourentirelife.com/best-way-add-description-caption-your-scanned-photos/)

How Can I View My Picasa's Photos Captions Using Any Windows PC? (https://www.scanyourentirelife.com/view-picasa-photo-captions-iptc-xmp-windows-pc/) – includes a video that is relevant to more than Picasa.



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Spotlight

GFO's Genealogy Problem Solvers Special Interest Group

Kathryn Daly

o you have unresolved genealogical problems? A brick wall or two? Of course, everyone does, whether a beginner or a seasoned professional. The Genealogical Forum of Oregon has a special interest group (SIG) dedicated to helping members as well as general researchers find their way back on the road to successful genealogical discovery!

GFO wants to provide its members with diverse opportunities for learning, so it encourages the formation of SIGs on any topic related to genealogy. SIG meetings are organized and run by members, hosted in the library, and promoted through GFO's communication outlets. GFO members are encouraged to form and participate in SIGs, and non-members may attend for free. Some of the SIGs at GFO include the DNA, German, Italian, Mexican Ancestry, and Virginia interest groups. A complete list is available on the GFO website at http://gfo.org/learn/special-interest-groups/.

THE GENEALOGY PROBLEM SOLVERS

Did you know that experienced genealogical and family history researchers tackle a real-life brick-wall challenge every month at the GFO Library? Previously known as Hunting and Gathering, the Genealogy Problem Solvers' (GPS) purpose is two-fold. First, GPS approaches a specific genealogical question from an individual GFO member. Second, the research techniques and the information they reveal are designed to provide every attendee with new tools and perspectives. Participating in GPS group discussions, scheduled on the third Saturday of every month at 9:30 a.m., can improve your own family history research skills, and that's exactly why GPS exists. Genealogy of the researchers, by the researchers, and for the researchers!

Here's how it works: GFO members submit a personal genealogical quandary to the GPS team by e-mailing GPS@gfo.org. Please note, having GPS address your brick-wall question is a GFO membership benefit; how-



ever, non-members will benefit from attending monthly discussions. GPS meetings, while having a presentation feature, are also designed to be a team learning experience. Connecting with our skilled genealogy researchers can provide just the encouragement needed when you become frustrated.

Submissions should include a <u>specific</u> brick wall question, accompanied by a timeline, copies of relevant documents, notes on the resources you've already exhausted, as well as your analytical notes. This allows the research team to focus on the problem without repeating the research you've already done. Not sure if you have a timeline for your research? Not to worry! Most genealogy software programs, if you're already using one of these or if you're thinking of trying one out, will create an automatic timeline and help organize your research as you go along! See the sidebar for more information about the types of information that make for a great brick-wall submission to our research team.

LET'S MEET THE TEAM!

Each member of the GPS team brings special areas of expertise, and they each tend to approach the problem from a different perspective. The meetings can be free-wheeling as the team discusses their findings and thoughts, and the conversation generates additional ideas to the experts. It is very helpful to listen in and learn!



Tom O'Brien has been researching his family since 1983. His personal genealogical pursuits have inspired him to visit Ireland, France, Belgium, Switzerland, and Germany. His U.S. focus has been in the states of Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, California, Washington, and Oregon. He has been fortunate to meet distant

cousins and walk in the villages of his ancestors.

Tom does not abandon his search easily. He spent 32 years trying to learn the birthplace of his mother's paternal grandfather. In February 2015, he was successful in learning that it was Valff, an Alsatian village of about 1,300 people. In May 2016, he and his wife spent a week there, meeting with the village historian, the village library director, the village genealogist, as well as several distant cousins. All were most gracious and very helpful to him.

In the past, Tom has been a research volunteer at the Family History Center in Milwaukie and the GFO. These volunteer positions enabled him to help others and, while doing so, to learn about researching in geographic areas beyond those related to his own family. Various GFO members and visitors have requested his help with their research efforts in Poland, the Netherlands, and Italy as well as a variety of U.S. states and Canadian provinces. Helping others has enabled Tom to learn of resources he would otherwise not have used or known about. He enjoys sharing with other genealogists what he has been able to learn, and he gets much joy and satisfaction from assisting others.



Duane Funk is a retired naval officer, and a native of Portland, Oregon. Duane has been researching genealogy for nearly 20 years. Besides extensive online work, he has made research trips to 17 states, Canada, and four countries in Europe. Now a resident of West Linn, he is active in various civic projects and leads a walking group for the West Linn

Adult Community Center.

Duane is a member of the GFO, the National Genealogical Society, the New England Historic Genealogical Society, and the Society of Genealogists. He has authored journal articles and spoken before groups throughout the Willamette Valley. Duane is the GFO's go-to guy when it comes to 18th and 19th century U.S. military records, and he has experience in Quaker records, British parish records, transportation modes, and German genealogy. He also facilitates the British SIG at

the GFO.



Harold E. Hinds, Jr., moved to Portland about three years ago and since then has been an active GFO volunteer, with about 20 years of experience volunteering for other genealogical organizations. Harold can be found at the GFO library on Monday afternoons.

Harold has done extensive historical research, including

work with archival records, for more than 50 years. His research has focused on upstate New York, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, the Pacific Northwest, Wisconsin, and French Canada. So it should be no surprise that his primary areas of genealogical expertise include on-site archival research in the states of New York, Vermont, Minnesota, Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Idaho, South Dakota, Alaska, Wisconsin, North Carolina, Georgia, Texas, Oregon, Washington, as well as in the Republic of Ireland, England, and French Canada. As part of his preparation for teaching an annual course at the University of Minnesota-Morris on family history and genealogy, Harold has completed advanced course work in land records, military records, National Archives records, New England, U.S. Mid-West, U.S. Mid-Atlantic, Canada, Scotland, England, Colonial U.S., Western U.S., Migration, and advanced problem solving.

Together these superstar researcher experts bring varied perspective and formidable knowledge to work through research challenges of all shapes and sizes. Their advice and guidance could help you break through your brick wall!

DO YOU HAVE A CHALLENGE FOR THE GPS TEAM?

If you do, please forward a request for assistance to <u>GPS@GFO.org.</u> Identify your specific problem, and be prepared to provide the information the GPS team will need to pursue your problem.

What sorts of challenging research has GPS already accomplished?

This year, the GPS team has tackled several interesting challenges, including an African American research

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inquiry for the very first time! The examples below are designed to give you an idea of what the GPS team and group attendees have been up to in just the last six months.

A BIRTH IN CANADA OR VERMONT?



A. M. Hemenway

In February, the GPS team approached the problem of whether a recent bride residing in 1860 Vermont was born in Canada or Vermont, and who her parents were. After a thorough search on Ancestry.com and FamilySearch, this brick wall was submitted to GPS.

The GPS team delved into church records, marriage records, and census records. They also decided to explore the unique as-

pects of Vermont genealogical research, including the importance of town records. New sources of information from *Branches and Twigs*, from the Leahy Library, and the definitive index compilations of the Vermont Historical Gazetteer by Abby Marie Hemenway, were shared. Not only helpful for the researcher who had originally submitted this question, this session provided indispensable advice for anyone researching the northeastern states and southeastern Canada!

AFRICAN AMERICAN RESEARCH

Some of the greatest challenges African Americans face when attempting to research their family history are the roadblocks caused by family separation and the lack of accurate records kept for slaves. Today, ex-



tensive genealogical records are becoming increasingly available, which makes it possible for African Americans to have greater success tracking their ancestors. The GPS team was able to find and share information with our brick-wall submitter about National Archives records of the field offices, marriage records, and records of the Freedmen's Branch of the Adjutant General on microfilm. They are being digitized and made available through online databases, such as FamilySearch.org. It

WHAT MAKES A GREAT SUBMISSION?

- A specific question: For example: "I cannot locate the 1888 marriage record for Agnes Morehead and Robert Gist."
- A timeline that includes family events; Some links to websites with information about timelines are provided below.² This can really put the problem presented into perspective for our team as they dive into researching your problem.
- Copies of relevant documents
- Sources for the facts in the timeline if you have them
- Any analytical comments you can add
- A list of the places you have searched for answers unsuccessfully.

It is most helpful if you include this detailed information, whether in a list, a chart, or in narrative form. For example: "I have searched Ancestry.com family trees with Agnes Morehead and did not find any record. I have a 1900 census [provide a copy] from Cincinnati, Ohio, which shows she had been married for 18 years to Robert Gist. The 1910 and 1920 census [provide copies] for Cincinnati shows them married 28 and 38 years, respectively. The Gist family Bible has no mention of their union. Agnes's mother and father, Mabel and Frank, were born and raised in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as shown in census record [list them here and provide a copy], were married at Saint Paul's Catholic Church [give details and provide copy] and are buried [list details]. Robert was born and lived in [list details]." Sometimes, records associated with the children or siblings of the individuals in question can provide valuable leads. The more information and documentation you are able to provide, the more time the GPS team can spend going down avenues you have not already traveled. Sources provided help avoid duplication of effort and are very much appreciated.

was a joy for our group to discover and look through these records.

In April, the GPS team addressed a roadblock related to African American ancestry. This session was particularly valuable to anyone interested in African American genealogy. The discussion offered advice on how to im-

prove research skills when looking for records in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana.

For this problem, the GPS team started with Louisiana parish records. Under Louisiana law, slaves were real property attached to parish land, and their sales had to be officially recorded by notaries in the city or parish. There was an interesting discussion of slave ownership deeds, military research, the recently available Freedmen's Bureau records, census records, cemetery records, and more.

During the 90-minute session, the GPS team also learned that the submitter's family lore told a tale of Native American heritage. The team provided her with new avenues to continue her attempts to prove or disprove this hidden part of her family history. The team hopes that a referral to a Kansas genealogy specialist and several public online databases will help shed more light on this particular GFO member's family mystery.

DID MY GRANDFATHER COME FROM SCOTLAND?

Another GFO member posed an interesting problem. He wanted to find proof that his grandfather was born in Scotland. He had thoroughly explored Ancestry.com, FamilySearch, and WikiTree, and had consulted the research of others who had his grandfather in their respective trees. The grandfather first appeared



in the 1910 U.S. census. All this netted a possible birthdate and location (Edinburgh), but the goal was to prove the fact and no proof had been found. After paying monies to various research sites and still not acquiring anything definitive, our researcher purchased and submitted DNA for testing Y-111 with Family Tree DNA. He also uploaded his GEDCOM¹ file. While the results still offered no solid leads to documentation proving a date of birth and country of origin, the test did indicate the member's grandfather was Scottish.

The GPS team also searched Ancestry.com, FamilySearch, Find My Past, and Scotland's People. Further digging led to a focus on Duluth, Minnesota, and a genealogist who specializes in this area was identified to provide possible assistance. This opened the door to more data sources at the University of Minnesota, the Duluth Public Library, Saint Andrew's Society of Dayton Ohio, Archives of the University of Dayton, and Miami Ohio University special collections and archives. Identification of relevant message boards, such as Genii. com and RootsWeb, added to the growing list of new channels of information to be explored.

Both the GPS brick wall submitter and the other attendees of the group meeting were pleased with the session and found it very reassuring to have the GPS team examine the problem and confirm what should be ignored, what was correct, and which directions to pursue.

WHY GPS FOR BOTH MEMBERS AND GENERAL RESEARCHERS?

If you're a GFO member and feel lost or blocked, e-mail <u>GPS@GFO.org</u> today to submit your question or problem and to ask to be the featured research conundrum at a future GPS meeting.

Even if you're not a GFO member, and even if you don't have a specific family history question you're ready to share with the group yet, remember that the GPS meetings are designed to help everyone learn how to do better research! Just like all GFO SIGs, attending the Genealogy Problem Solvers is free to the public as part of our organization's community outreach and educational efforts. Be sure to check the GFO calendar, as each month's meeting is based on the submissions we receive.

ENDNOTES

- GEDCOM (pronounced JED-com) is an acronym which stands for Genealogical Data Communication. A GEDCOM file "an open de facto specification for exchanging genealogical data between different genealogy software," according to a definition found on Wikipedia.
- FamilySearch: Using Timelines to Plot out Your Ancestor's Life https://familysearch.org/blog/en/?s=timelines

The Armchair Genealogist: Gathering Family Facts on a Timeline http://www.thearmchairgenealogist.com/2013/01/gathering-family-facts-on-timeline 28.html

The Armchair Genealogist: A Genealogy Timeline–More Than Just a Pretty Face

http://www.thearmchairgenealogist.com/2010/02/genealogy-timeline-more-than-just.html

Genealogy Decoded: Creating Timelines to Make Sense of Genealogy Records

http://genealogydecoded.com/2012/09/21/creating-time-lines-to-make-sense-of-genealogy-records/

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The Hand of Catherine: Columbia's Daughter, Catherine Roussil-Chalifoux-Comartin

Reviewed by Joan Galles

Author: George Thomas Brown

Publisher: Ye Galleon Press

Publication date: 1998 **Pages:** 88

Price: From \$14.41 + shipping

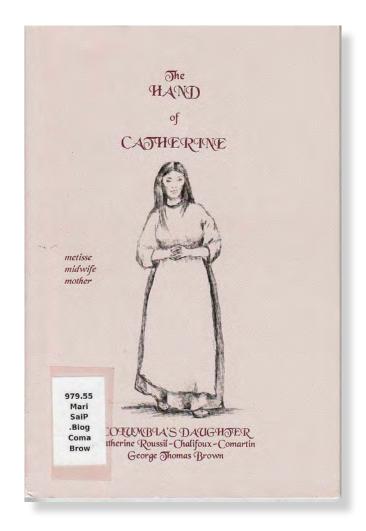
Order from: Amazon.com

The settlement of St. Paul, Oregon, is essentially French-Canadian in origin. Genealogists, historians, descendants of the original St. Paul families, and those interested in the Northwest fur trade will find this short book interesting, as may members of the Chinook and other Oregon tribes. "I believe your people need their stories told," wrote George Thomas Brown in a foreword to the book.

This book provides details about the family of Augustin (Charles-Auguste) Roussil and Madeline (the name given her by Augustin), a member of the Chinook Indian Tribe. Roussil was a blacksmith who traveled from New York to Astoria, Oregon, on the ill-fated *Tonquin* as part of the John Jacob Astor expedition in 1810-1811. Fort Astoria, at the mouth of the Columbia, was a very coveted spot as the lucrative fur trade began in the Northwest. The book opens in 1811 and follows the life of Augustin and Madeline's daughter, Catherine, until her death in 1860.

Catherine married Andre Chalifoux, a French-Canadian, and traveled from Oregon to Quebec and back with him. She gave birth and lost children on the long and arduous journey. Returning with the couple was Father François-Norbert Blanchet, who eventually became the first bishop and then archbishop of Oregon City, Oregon (the second oldest archdiocese in the United States).

In writing this book, the author faced the challenges of interpreting oral traditions and early written records using tribal language (often phonetic). His fluency in



French was beneficial as many of the early documents, especially those from the church, were in that language.

The Hand of Catherine is part of the George T. Brown collection recently donated to the GFO. "Mr. Brown is an expert in French-Canadian genealogical research and the spread of French Canadians into the Canadian and U.S. West, including Oregon." (*The Forum Insider*, February 1, 2017).

BOOK REVIEWERS NEEDED

The GFO has an agreement with a few genealogy book publishers. In exchange for providing us with free books, we agree to provide them with reviews of the material. Recently, the donated books have begun to pile up. Please help us get caught up (and stay caught up) on this project that benefits the GFO library. If you can help, please contact Joan Galles at bookreviews@gfo.org, or call her on Fridays at the GFO, 503-963-1932.

Locating Your Roots: Discover Your Ancestors Using Land Records

Reviewed by Mary Ellen Farr

Author: Patricia Law Hatcher

Publisher: Genealogical Publishing Co.

Publication date: 2016
Pages: 211

Price: \$37.95 + shipping **Order from:** genealogical.com

atricia Law Hatcher has provided a comprehensive catalog of resources for land records available online and on paper. The book is therefore useful to both beginning genealogists and researchers experienced in using land records. Hatcher does a good job of explaining relatively complicated issues affecting land, such as land patents, metes and bounds descriptions, and different types of liens. The book is most useful as a reference tool due to the level of detail and the lists she provides.

Hatcher is a fellow of the American Society of Genealogists, an honorary lifetime award limited to 50 members. She is also a fellow of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania. Her biography lists a number of books and articles on genealogy. She is very well qualified to write this book.

Hatcher is committed to the notion that land records are more than dry and dreary documents, in that they allow researchers to understand the people named in the documents. In this book, she demonstrates how this understanding can come from close analysis.

Hatcher begins with the premise, which may be more often true than it should be, that genealogical researchers tend to delay getting into land records. There are several reasons: they are confusing, they are often difficult to access, and they may be hard to read and understand. Nonetheless, Hatcher shows that these records contain valuable and fascinating insight into our ancestors.

Using Land Records is roughly divided into three parts. First, Hatcher addresses the "why" and "what" of land records—why genealogists should use these records and what these records can tell us. Second, Hatcher

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focuses on accessing these materials, explaining how to get documents from government, personal, and online resourc-

es. Third, Hatcher discusses how to understand and analyze these documents to obtain the most information possible.

All three sections are informative and interesting, often including colorful examples of information gleaned from these records. In addition, Hatcher provides a very useful glossary as well as a state-by-state guide to location and types of land records. It may be worth noting that in the discussion of land offices in Oregon, Hatcher provides only two resources: the Genealogical Forum of Oregon and a publication by GFO member Connie Lenzen.

Hatcher provides many examples of actual records which are illuminating. Specifically, she shows how transfers of property can reveal the names of ancestors who are not so easily discovered in census or other records; deeds and probate records may contain the names of wives, daughters, and sisters which may be hard or impossible to find otherwise.

The book includes many valuable materials, including discussions of the "legalese" found in land records as well as a detailed analysis of various types of land records. Hatcher explains how land records came into being in various parts of the country. She discusses these issues in a clear and engaging way, yet she does not oversimplify the issues surrounding these records.

Hatcher's grasp of land records suggests that these materials are immensely trustworthy. *Using Land Records* is a valuable resource for beginning to advanced genealogists who wish to understand how to access and understand land records.

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"Much given to Liquor, and chewing Tobacco"

White Pennsylvania Runaways, 1763 – 1768

Reviewed by Shannon Moon Leonetti

Author: Joseph Lee Boyle

Publisher: Genealogical Publishing Co.

Publication date: 2016 **Pages:** 490

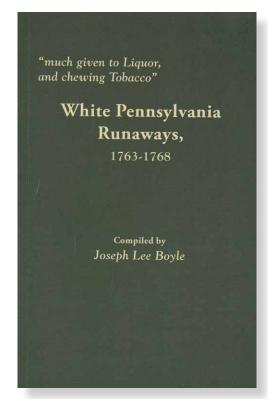
Price: \$45.00 + shipping **Order from:** genealogical.com

oseph Lee Boyle introduces his second volume of *White Pennsylvania Runaways* with another of his mindboggling statements, when he says that "Somewhere between one-half and two-thirds of all white immigrants to the colonies were convicts, indentured slaves, or redemptioners² who were sold in America to citizens who bid the highest."

This latest compilation of ads for runaways is a commanding follow-up to Volume One, where we got our first picture of the thousands of white Europeans who did not come to the colonies as free men and women. We are reminded that use of bound whites preceded that of black slaves in every colony, and that Philadelphia was the main entry point for both free and indentured Europeans in the eighteenth century.

The reader is also reminded that slavery was part of a European culture before the establishment of the American colonies. Everyone involved in the white slave trade made money: the contractor who arranged transportation, the ship owner, the captain, and, if there were convicts being transported, a sheriff in the home country. With high mortality rates on ships and new environments that took a heavy toll on the health of slaves, there was always a need for as many persons as could be obtained.

While slavery was illegal; masters concluded they were not breaking any laws because they purchased "labor not bodies." The labor they purchased was defined as all day, six days a week. There were jarring discrepan-



cies between what the servant believed to be the length and cost for his indenture and what the owner believed. While indentured, the servant might learn new skills, improve old ones, and make important contacts. Then, if they weren't freed, the servants ran away!

As in the earlier compilation, Boyle has provided a piece of social history that can't be found anywhere else. The ads were both demographic and social. Beyond age, sex, height, and place of origin, the descriptions included clothing, personal skills, and a list of physical imperfections. The inconsistency in the monetary rewards suggests a most complicated attitude of the masters and an even more amazing vignette of life in colonial America.

A typical ad for runaways reads like this one in *The Maryland Gazette* of February 1763, Charles Goldsmith, who had run away about ten days before from his owner, Edmund Milne of Philadelphia:

"TWENTY dollars reward for a certain Charles Goldsmith, a handsome young man of about 5'9" high, long light-colored hair, commonly plaited; about 28 years of age; is remarkable for playing the German Flute, which he took with him; had a cut across the ball of the left thumb, a little pock-marked, is a cabinet maker by trade; had on a new coat and jacket of superfine cloth, a pair of buckskin breeches, a pair of stone kneebuckles, a new beaver hat, a blue surtout coat with a velvet

collar, a black cravat, and rode away on a small bay mare."

Although only about one-tenth of the indentured were women, I found their personal sketches the most interesting of all. For example, the servant woman named Judith Bolton ran away from her mistress while they were in the New Market in Philadelphia. "She pretends to be a great fortune teller, drinks hard and has been many years in the army with the soldiers." She was worth 20 shillings to her mistress. A servant girl named Elizabeth Barnes, about 16 years of age, "had on, and

took with her, two short gowns, one a check, the other striped cotton, a black petticoat, brownish cloak and mens shoes." The young girl, "tender-eyed, pretty lusty, fresh colored and has brown hair" was worth fifteen shillings to her owner when returned.

From an era that predates cameras, the ads Boyle provides give readers clear, realistic portraits of the indentured. Whether your genealogical research requires you to search the eighteenth century colonies or you are just looking for a fascinating piece of American history, Joseph Lee Boyle's compilation of ads for white slaves is a great place to start.

ENDNOTES

- Editor's Note: A review of the first volume can be found in Of White Pennsylvania Runaways, Volume 66, Issue 2 of the Bulletin, dated December, 2016
- 2. Redemptioners were persons who promised to pay back their fare to the ship's captain when they arrived in America.

BOOK REVIEW

In the Beginning . . . and Yesterday's Memories

Reviewed by Joan Galles

Author: Martha Steinbacher **Publisher:** East Linn Museum

Publication dates: 1979, 2000 **Pages:** 79, 97

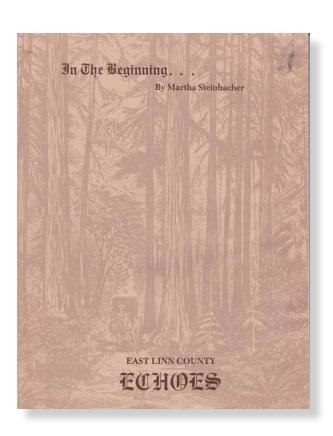
Price: Yesterday's Memories \$7.00

In the Beginning No longer in print

Available from: eastlinnmuseum.com

People with Oregon ancestors from the central Willamette Valley—specifically Linn County, Oregon, will find Martha Steinbacher's books informative and entertaining. Her depiction of the lives of pioneer families from the 19th century draws the reader into the book immediately.

The author was the volunteer curator and director for the East Linn Museum from the late 1970s until the



early 2000s. Page one of *In the Beginning* . . . provides a photo and a little background on the author, concluding that her ". . . intense interest in pioneer history and the desire to keep intact for future generations the History

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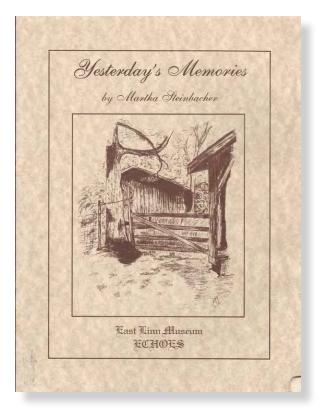
of East Linn County have resulted in the writing of these books."

These two books explain briefly, but often with wonderful detail, the lives of early pioneers in Oregon. (The author's third book, *Sweet Home in Linn County*, compiles photos from the museum and from families of Sweet Home, Oregon.) Her books are replete with the genealogy of many local families. Each chapter discusses either a family and their lives or an issue relevant to the settlers.

In the Beginning . . . opens with a chapter on the "Kalapooian Family of Indians." Chief Papea, who headed all nine tribes, and Chief San-de-am (for whom the Santiam River is named) are chronicled in both books. It documents from when the tribe had a population of 8,000 during the time Europeans started settling in the area to the last tribal member living in Linn County, Indian Lize, who died in 1922.

One interesting phenomenon was the development of tollgates on roads traversing the Cascade range. The first tollgate mentioned in *Yesterday's Memories* was built in 1868. On June 20, 1905, J. L. Nye was on duty at the gate when he heard "a terrible noise." Dwight B. Huss was driving his Oldsmobile, "Old Scout," across country in a race that ended at the Lewis and Clark Centennial and American Pacific Exposition in Portland, Oregon. Not knowing what it was, Nye charged Huss three cents for the auto's passage, the same as for a pig.

In the Beginning . . . and Yesterday's Memories are both topical and familial in their chapter organization. The first book establishes stories such as the transition from territory to state; various families including Ames and Moss and their continual intertwining; and the development of towns, post offices, roads, mills, etc. The second book provides more details about those stories and adds families such as the Robnetts or the Zebulon Thompsons, and then covers interesting topics such as



"Order Houses by Catalog," "Sweet Home Community Band History," and "Early Medicines and Cures for What Ailed You." There are many fascinating "cures," such as the one for baldness: ". . . rub the part morning and evening until it is red, and rub it afterwards with honey."

The books share the author's sources, which include previously written materials, interviews with living descendants of pioneers, and memorabilia such as the 1923 Sears Catalog.

On a personal note, I knew Martha Steinbacher. She was a prodigious and thorough researcher who loved her work with the Museum. As with many people, after a decade or two volunteering, consciously and unconsciously collecting data, it was almost incumbent upon Martha to share the many bits of information that came her way, and many who consult her books will be glad she did.

Sweet Home in Linn County: New Life, New Land

Reviewed by Joan Galles

Author: Martha Jane Steinbacher **Publisher:** Arcadia Publishing

Publication date: 2002 **Pages:** 128

Price: \$21.99 + shipping **Order from:** arcadiapublishing.com¹

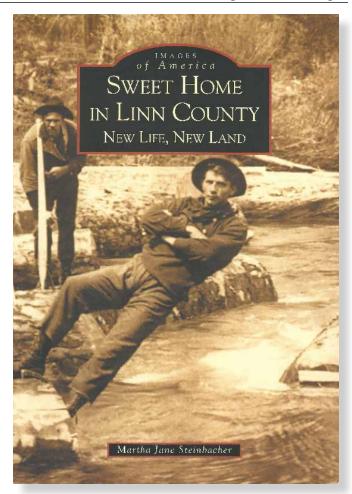
Sweet Home in Linn County is one of the many books in the Images of America series. The photographs within its covers are from the collection of East Linn Museum and were donated by families of the area's early settlers. On the front cover is a man standing seemingly almost parallel to the log under him. No explanations are given regarding this amazing feat; however, it piques one's desire to view the more than 200 historical images inside.

There are seven chapters, with pictures that catalog many of the places and people included in Steinbacher's other books, *In the Beginning* . . . and *Yesterday's Memories*. Chapter titles include:

- The First Settlers, Farming the Land
- Mining and Logging
- Travel—from Horses to Airplanes
- Learning and Worship
- · Who Were They?
- · From Hunting to Music
- · Places to Remember

ENDNOTES

 This book is also available for \$19.99 at the East Linn Museum in Sweet Home, Oregon.



Sweet Home began as a stage stop. It became a lumber boom town and one of Linn County's most important industrial centers. The surrounding communities of Cascadia, Crawfordsville, Fern Ridge, Foster, Holley, Liberty, and Pleasant Valley were settled about the same time as Sweet Home and were all eventually absorbed into Sweet Home. The photos in this book tell the story of the area's development through the mining and logging industries as well as through schools, hotels, churches, and community activities.

Anyone with ties to the Sweet Home area should enjoy a trip to the past through this collection of vintage photos.

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In Memoriam

Donna Bland Juhnke

November 7, 1938 – June 3, 2017

ver the years, Donna Juhnke's friendly, pleasant demeanor was a welcome sight when she dropped in to attend GFO Special Interest Groups and use library resources. She passed away peacefully on June 3, 2017, at the age of 78.

Born Donna Bland in Phenix City, Alabama, she was the daughter of Joseph Elcaney Bland and Runette C. Anthony. Before Donna was a year old, her family moved to the Oregon coast. From there they moved to Portland, which would remain her home. Donna attended Jefferson High School and Portland State College (now Portland State University). She married Marvin Juhnke on August 12, 1960. Donna worked many years for the Federal government, retiring in her early fifties, which

allowed her to spend more time on one of her favorite activities—genealogy!

Donna's husband Marv and her two children, Johanna and Peter, survive her. Her sister and brother-inlaw, Edwina and Bill,



her nephews, and the remainder of her extended family all miss her greatly. A service was held at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Portland.

CALL FOR ARTICLES

The Bulletin Editorial Group invites readers to submit articles to the *Bulletin*. We look for articles that are of interest to members of the GFO and those that encourage the sharing and research of family history. Possibilities include but are not limited to:

- memoirs and personal essays
- problem-solving articles
- research articles and source guides
- · articles on family history travel
- · how-to articles
- · using technology

We also welcome book reviews transcriptions or extractions from original sources and posts from your blog. You are encouraged to attach photographs or other graphics.

Send submissions to <u>bulletin@gfo.org</u>. You may request a current "Instructions and Guidelines" by contacting us in writing or at the email address above. The information is also available at http://gfo.org/bulletin/index.htm.

Deadlines for submission to the Bulletin

March issue: December 15

September issue: June 15 June issue: March 15

December issue: September 15





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GFO CALENDAR: SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER 2017

SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER

| | | | Virginia Group German Group | Sun Oct 1 Mon Oct 2 | | Library Work Party–Manuscripts Non-members | Wed Nov 1 | 10:00am | Open until 8 pm Learn & Chat | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------------|---------|--|---------------------------|---------|--|--|
| Mon Sep 4 | | 4 LIBRARY CLOSED | | Wed Oct 4 | | Open until 8 pm Learn & Chat DNA Q&A | Sat Nov 4 | 10:00am | DNA Q&A Virginia Group German Group | |
| | | 10:00am | Open until 8 pm Learn & Chat DNA Q&A | Sat Oct 7 | 10:00am | Virginia Group German Group | | | Library Work Party–Manuscripts Non-members | |
| 1 | Fri Sep 8 1 | 11:30am | Mexican Ancestry Group | Sun Oct 8 | 9:00am | Library work party-Maps | Wed Nov 8 | | Open until 8 pm | |
| | | | Workshop: Finding Your People Past and Present Writers' Forum | Tue Oct 10 Wed Oct 11 | 6:10pm | Photoshop Elements Group Board Meeting Open until 8 pm | Fri Nov 10 Sat Nov 11 | 9:30am | Mexican Ancestry Group Illinois Group Writers' Forum | |
| | | | Library work party Manc | | 11:30am | Mexican Ancestry Group Closed | Sun Nov 12 Tue Nov 14 | 9:00am | Library work party–Maps Photoshop Elements Group | |
| • | Tue Sep 12 | 6:10pm | Board Meeting | | | Fall Seminar–CeCe Moore | | | Board Meeting | |
| | Wed Sep 13 Sat Sep 16 | 9:30am | Open until 8 pm Genealogy Problem Solvers–A Monthly Support Group | Sun Oct 15 Wed Oct 18 | 1:00pm | Fall Workshop–CeCe Moore Family Tree Maker for Beginners Open until 8 pm | Wed Nov 15 | 10:00am | Open until 8 pm Learn & Chat DNA Q&A | |
| | | 12:00pm 2:00pm | Italian Interest Group GenTalk–Switched at Birth | | 10:00am | Learn & Chat DNA Q&A | Sat Nov 18 | | Genealogy Problem Solvers-A Monthly Support Group | |
| | Sun Sep 17 Wed Sep 20 1 | | Library work party Open until 8 pm Learn & Chat | | | Genealogy Problem Solvers-A Monthly Support Group Italian Interest Group | | 9:00am | GenTalk Library work party closing at 1 pm | |
| | | 1:00pm | DNA Q&A | Sun Oct 22 | 9:00am | Library work party | Thu Nov 23 LIBRARY CLOSED | | | |
| | | | • | Wed Oct 25 | | Open until 8 pm | Sun Nov 26 | 9:00am | Library work party | |
| | = | | Library work party | | | Advanced DNA | Wed Nov 29 | | Open until 8 pm | |
| 1 | Wed Sep 27 | | Open until 8 pm | Sun Oct 29 | 9:00am | Library Work Party | | | • | |