THE BULLETIN

of the

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GENEALOGICAL FORUM OF OREGON

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Genealogical Forum of Oregon

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Larry Jensen

Author of
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Research

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- Genealogical Treasures
- Other Genealogical Societies
- GFO Surplus Book Sale

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1. Determining Places of Origin of Immigrant Ancestors
2. Use of Maps and Atlases in German Research
3. Understanding German Jurisdictions
4. Sources Used in Resolving German Research Problems

Letter from the Editor . . .

This *Bulletin* is the third issue in our year long journey through Oregon history, in honor of the Oregon Sesquicentennial on February 14. It is also the third issue of our journey as an editorial team, and we are learning so much: about Oregon, and genealogy, about writing and publishing, and about teamwork and collaboration and friendship. We welcome new team members Sue LeBlanc, Mickey Sieracki and Bonnie LaDoe. We all hope we have published *a Bulletin* that you will enjoy reading and one that will be useful to your genealogy research.

In this issue the focus is on the years 1909-1959. It was a time of great change for the state, and the country. We look at some of those changes in our first feature article, then at one very specific change; the World War II defense housing, built to accommodate the population surge in the Portland metro area during the war. There are two stories involving automobiles in this issue! Read about the Ford Model A that brought the Cole family to Portland, and then join Bonnie as she puts her genealogical sleuthing skills to use searching for her grandfather's Marmon. The third place story from the 2008 GFO writing contest *The Two Wars of Elijah McKendry* is also in this issue.

Learn about Abigail Duniway, who did so much to get voting rights for women in Oregon, about Scandinavian gillnetters on the Columbia, and about memory for your computer. There is a column about the importance of vital records, which came into widespread use during this time period, and one about the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research at Samford University. As Memorial Day approaches, the emphasis *of Written in Stone* is on preserving our historic cemeteries. The record extracts for this issue are Oregon military causalities and MIA's from WWII.

As always, we hope you will enjoy this third step of the journey as much as we are. We encourage your feedback-good, bad or indifferent. We do want to know what you think about the publication, and what you would like to see in the future. We also want to encourage you to contribute your own ideas or writing. You can contact Peggy Baldwin, our *Bulletin* Coordinator or any of the editorial team or column editors. We have some exciting ideas, we think, for the future; if you have any, please let us know.

Judi Scott
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Thank you

To all the people who helped put this issue together...

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FILLER ITEMS WANTED!

We're looking for short pieces – a sentence to a paragraph – to place in the little spaces left over when an article does not fill the page.

Send us items that are of genealogical or Oregon interest and we'll give you credit.

Contact Peggy Baldwin at peggybaldwin@family-passages.com.

Tell Your Family Stories in The Bulletin

We're sure most of you have written, or are planning to write, stories about your families. Why not consider entering the GFO Writing Contest an/or submitting your story for publication in *The Bulletin*. Anything from a small vignette to a more comprehensive family history is suitable; some of the selections we use in *The Bulletin* are part of a larger work. **Deadlines are on the 1st inside page.**

For submissions or ideas for the Story Teller column contact Judi Scott at RB5522@aol.com.

Information about the Writing Contest can be found on the GFO website at GFO.org, or you can contact Peggy Baldwin at peggybaldwin@family-passages.com. **Deadline for submissions to the 2009 Contest is Wednesday, April 1.**

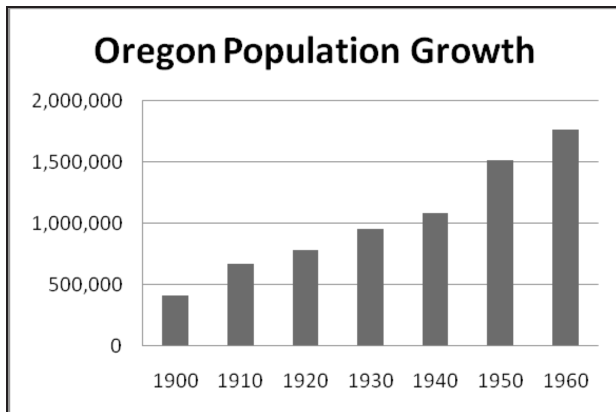
The Changing Face of Oregon

By Judith Scott

As Oregon emerged from young statehood and sped towards her centennial the world was seeing incredulous changes. The population of the state grew steadily each decade as we moved from men on horseback to women flying jets; from kerosene lights to electricity and telephones for everyone; to women voting and welding. We went from rainfall watering the crops to dams that fed huge irrigation systems sending millions of gallons of water spraying over immense fields. We saw "the war to end all wars," and then another one. We learned to ski.

Oregon saw the same wave of progressivism in the early decades of the 20th century as the rest of the country. It was a time of new ideologies, a time for crusades: labor unions, Woman Suffrage, socialism, prohibition. There were new legislative processes, and new legislation including land reform laws and labor laws.[1] The good roads campaign to "get Oregon out of the mud" led to the county's first gas tax to fund highways, and then to legislation to allow the Highway Commission to acquire land for scenic and roadside preserves.[2] Oregon beaches were made forever public by executive order of Governor Oswald West in 1913.[3]

New pioneers came pouring into the Northwest, hungry for the same things as their predecessors. There were ethnic groups, religious groups, and people bound by a common homeland or a common occupation. They came for opportunity: wealth, land, freedom and adventure.



"Nativity of the Population of the Regions, Divisions and States, 1850-1990," Table 13, Tech Paper 29, U.S. Census Bureau (http://www.census.gov/population/www/documentation/twps0029/tab13.html: accessed 1 January 2009).

New Faces

Who were these new citizens of the Northwest? Why did they come to Oregon? They were the Japanese who came to work on the railroads and stayed to grow apples and pears, the Basques and Mexicans who came to tend the growing herds of sheep. They were the Swedes and Danes and Norwegians who cut the trees and caught the fish and farmed the land to provide homes and food for the growing population; the "Okies" who left the dust bowl and were not wanted anywhere else, who stayed to work the farms and build the dams. They were the men and women from the farms who answered the call of their country in wartime. They were people of the world drawn to Oregon for a better life.

Throughout Oregon history diverse groups of people were welcomed when cheap labor was needed, and often mistreated when the need declined. Early in Oregon history, large groups of Chinese came to work on the railroad but were later rebuffed when that job was done. Chinese men came to Oregon following gold strikes and stayed to work placer mines, dig out a path for the railroad and man canneries from Astoria to The Dalles. Discrimination flourished and the Chinese Exclusion Act virtually ended Chinese immigration as it banned "skilled and unskilled laborers and Chinese employed in mining." Chinese who left the U.S. and wanted to return needed certification from the Chinese government declaring them eligible to emigrate, which was difficult to obtain. At the same time, Chinese people in this country were denied citizenship. Subsequent amendments to the law in 1884, 1892 and 1902 tightened the provisions of the law.[4] The population dwindled as many returned to China, and the remaining single men were not able to marry.

The exclusion of the Chinese emigrants led to a growing demand for laborers to build the expanding railroads and clear and cultivate more fields as irrigation came into use. Japanese emigrants from Hawaii and Japan came to Oregon to fill those jobs.

Japan's march towards industrialization had placed a heavy tax burden on the peasant farmers, and their sons looked toward America as the land of opportunity. There were no jobs and little available land in their homeland. Young unmarried men were drawn to the United States with the expectation of accumulating wealth and returning to Japan to marry and raise a family in comfort. Most were from agricultural families

in Japan where the average farm was about 2.5 acres.[5] The Japanese were first welcomed in the Pacific Coast states as cheap labor; but as their numbers grew and they started to purchase land there was a growing anti-Japanese sentiment.

In 1907 a "Gentlemen's Agreement" between Japan and the United States was made. President Theodore Roosevelt was concerned that the anti-Japanese movement would strain diplomatic relations between the two governments. Japan agreed to restrict emigration if San Francisco dropped their segregation policy against Japanese school children and California agreed to curtail any further anti-Japanese laws. Japan later agreed to issue passports only to workers who were returning to the U.S. and their immediate families.[6]

At first the Japanese population was primarily young single men. As the men approached middle age they began to settle and purchase land. Many returned to Japan to marry brides picked out by their families, who were usually much younger than the groom. The young women were enticed by stories of riches in America, the opportunity to travel to a new land, and the notion that they would not be under the scrutiny of their in-laws. (It was traditional for the bride to move in with the groom's family).[7] Other men married picture brides. Pictures of the prospective groom were sent to Japan where the families would choose a suitable bride. Her picture was sent to the groom; if he approved the marriage took place in Japan with a relative standing in for the groom.

As Japanese farms began to thrive anti-Japanese sentiment grew in Oregon. In 1917, Hood River Senator George Wilber introduced the first bill to prohibit immigrants from purchasing land. It did not pass; in 1919 the Anti-Alien Association was formed to try again to stop Japanese land ownership. By 1920 a state investigation of "the Japanese situation in Oregon" reported that "the Japanese question is more acute in Hood River than any other place in Oregon. [8] Eventually laws based on the Naturalization Act of 1790, which limits naturalized citizenship to "free white persons" were enacted to prohibit land ownership by excluding people who were not eligible for citizenship.[9]

In spite of overwhelming hardships, including the World War II removal and resettlement of Japanese and Japanese-Americans, the Japanese immigrants, like other groups persevered and continue to make lasting contributions to the state.

The Scandinavian population of the Northwest increased steadily during this time period. Approximately 125,000 Scandinavian emigrants came to the U.S. before the Civil War, but nearly two million more immigrated between the end of the war and WWI. About half were Swedish, one third Norwegian and one seventh were Danes. [10] They routinely settled first in rural areas of the Midwest and Great Plains but the availability of the transcontinental railroads and the appeal of the fishing, logging and agriculture of the Northwest led to growing numbers of Scandinavians migrating to the area from those states as well as from their native countries. One hundred and fifty thousand Scandinavians came to the area between 1890 and 1910.[11] We can thank Scandinavians for bringing skiing to the U.S., and then to the West during the gold rush where skis were used for transportation as well as for entertainment

The growth of sheep farming drew numerous Mexican and Basque sheepherders to take on the difficult and lonely job. Western Idaho, Northern Nevada and Eastern Oregon, known as the Nampa Triangle, were the main areas for colonies of Basques. The custom of favoring the eldest son, as well as limited opportunities in their homeland, encouraged Basque sheepherders to immigrate to the Northwest. In the late 1800s the first Basque settlers reached the Jordan Valley. It has been estimated that up to 90 percent of southeastern Oregon's sheepmen were Basque. [12]

As the sheep industry grew in Oregon many young unmarried Basques arrived with the dream of earning enough money to return home and buy their own land. Basque boarding houses and hotels sprang up in towns in sheep country and became havens for the sheepherders when they came to town after long periods in the mountains. The boarding houses served as homes and employment agencies, provided food and medical attention and gave the sheepherders social contact with people who spoke their language. Most had bars and pool tables and many recruited women employees from home, a practice that frequently led to marriages. Many Basque babies were born in the boarding houses when the women moved in to town from isolated ranches to give birth.[13]

The peak of Basque immigration was between 1900 and 1940. During that time many of the men gave up their dream of returning to their homeland. In 1922 the Immigration Quota Law brought a halt to further Basque immigrants, which consequently led to a shortage of sheepherders. As a result, "sheepherder laws" were passed so that new Basque herders could be recruited.[14]

Oregon as a whole, and especially Portland, experienced an ever growing diversity of its citizenry, which added to the colorful tapestry of its history. Jewish neighborhoods, Hispanic neighborhoods, Russians, Germans and Volga Germans, to name a few, added a

variety of cultural richness to our society. There was a Greek population in Portland that changed dramatically with the seasons. These young Greek men came to Oregon to make money to pay family debts and provide dowries for their sisters.[15] The 1910 population of Portland Greeks was 700 in the summer and 2,000 in the winter when the railroad and lumber camp jobs were slow. [16] The largest numbers of Greeks began to arrive at the turn of the century. In 1912 many of the Greek men returned to their country to fight in the Balkan Wars, but others stayed and joined the U. S. Army in World War I. One of the first Portland residents to be drafted in the First World War was John Praggasis, a Portland Greek business owner.[17] In most areas of the United States, Greek men returned to Greece to find wives; however, the Greek men in Oregon, rather than traveling to Greece, generally married Greek girls who came here to be married. Many of the girls were picture brides; others were the sisters of the men who were obligated to provide their dowry.[18]

The Immigration Act of 1924 limited the number of immigrants who could be admitted from a country to two percent of the people who were in the U.S. from that country in 1890. One provision was no alien ineligible to become a citizen would be permitted in the country as an immigrant. This act controlled immigration until 1952 and severely limited new immigrants, especially from non-European countries.[19]

New Landscapes

By the turn of the century forests in the Midwest were heavily logged, and the lumber industry looked toward the Northwest forests to feed the ever growing demand for timber. The timber industry in Oregon boomed with the expansion of the railroads. More and more railroad spurs were built in heavily timbered areas of the state. Baker City, Coos Bays and the Deschutes River near Bend saw the construction of huge sawmills that continued to operate for over 30 years.[20] By 1913 Weyerhaeuser and the Southern Pacific Railroad owned 22 percent of western Oregon timber. In 1929, as the Depression began, there were 608 lumber mills in the state. By 1938 Oregon surpassed Washington as the leading timber producer of the country.[21]

World War I was a blessing and a curse for Oregon. The demand for wartime goods and services brought a burst of energy to the economy but the end of the war set the stage for a decline. Orders at the shipyards and lumber mills dropped off, the housing market declined and banks were becoming unsteady. Fifty thousand people left the state at the end of the war.[22]

The crash of the stock market in 1929, and the depression that followed, landed a blow on the already lagging economy of Oregon. Some people did leave, but most just tightened their belts and hung on. New Deal programs under the Roosevelt Administration forever changed the landscape of the state. We can thank the thousands of men who were the CCC (Civilian Conservation Corp) for improvements to the National Forests that we enjoy today, including campgrounds, trails, bridges, roads and lookout towers. The Works Progress Administration (WPA) left us a lasting legacy of craftsmanship, art and literature; one notable example, Timberline Lodge. The Beer Act of 1933 led to the repeal of prohibition and Oregon breweries like Blitz-Weinhard, as well as Oregon hop growers, were back in business.[23] The creation of Bonneville Dam employed between 3,000 and 4,000, workers.[24] Laborers on the dam were paid $.50 per hour.[25] Associated jobs employed thousands more. New dams on the Columbia provided safe navigation for larger vessels, irrigation for farms and electric power for homes and businesses, and led to the creation of the aluminum industry in the Northwest.

President Franklin Roosevelt, who was instrumental in getting Bonneville Dam built, gave this address at the dedication on Sept. 28, 1937:

> Today I have a feeling of real satisfaction in witnessing the completion of another great national project, and of pleasure in the fact that in its inception, four years ago, I had some part. My interest in the whole of the valley of the great Columbia River goes back to 1920 when I first studied its mighty possibilities…This Bonneville Dam… is one of the major power and navigation projects undertaken since 1933. It is 170 feet high and 1,250 feet long…When fully completed, with parts of its power installation will cost $51,000,000, Its locks will enable shipping to use this great waterway much further inland than at present, and give an outlet to the enormously valuable agricultural and mineral products of Oregon and Washington and Idaho...As I look upon Bonneville Dam today, I cannot help the thought that instead of spending, as some nations do, half their national income in piling up armaments and more armaments for purposes of war, we in America are wiser in using our wealth on projects like this which will give us more wealth, better living and greater happiness for our children.[26]

The years of World War II again brought immense changes to the Oregon population and landscape. People poured into the Northwest urban areas from rural

areas in the state and from all over the country. Federally subsidized shipyards employed as many as 120,000 workers, and another 40,000 worked in related jobs.[27] The need for housing for the new work force led to public housing projects like Vanport, with its 35,000 residents.

Vanport, which was outside the city limits of Portland, had a large population of African-American workers, aproximately 5,000. As they had in the past, Portlanders responded to the new group of Blacks with hostility. The 1940 census enumerated 200 Blacks in the Portland area out of a population of 340,000. With the flood and destruction of Vanport, Portland's African American population doubled; more than 10,000 remained in the Portland metro area at the end of the war.[28]

An estimated 194,000 people moved into Oregon during World War II. The African-American population of Oregon grew from 2,500 to 25,000. The population of Portland and the surrounding areas (including Vancouver) increased 250,000. As more and more people were leaving the rural areas and moving to the cities, Oregon's western counties increased in population but four eastern counties, Baker, Gilliam, Sherman and Wallowa lost population.[29]

The status of the Native American population of Oregon did not enjoy the same progress as the state in general. The continuing process of assimilation sent many children to boarding schools and led to the adoption of large numbers of children into non Native-American homes. Congress did pass the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924, making all Native Americans United States citizens and finally allowing their children into public schools.[30] Lake Bonneville, formed by Bonneville Dam, swallowed the Cascade Rapids and eradicated more than 35 other Native fishing areas.[31] The U.S. government's "termination policy" led to over a million acres of tribal land that were no longer protected by the government and thousands of Native Americans were denied their tribal affiliation. [32] House Concurrent Resolution 10 led to the termination of all government-to-government relationships with every tribe west of the Cascades, which was especially harmful for the Klamath tribe of Oregon, one of the wealthiest Native American tribes at the time.[33] Of the 109 tribes terminated, 62 were native to Oregon.[34]

In the decade following World War II, Oregon's economy was good. The government projects during the Depression and the war years left the state with good infrastructure–dams for navigation and irrigation, shipyards and ports, highways, ski areas, wonderful parks and public beaches. Farms had electricity and machinery. There were thousands of acres of protected public lands set to be enjoyed by the people. The state was still rich in natural resources. Things were by no means perfect in Oregon but it was the beginning of a new era of change. The depression was a memory, the war was over, jobs were plentiful. Life was good.

(Endnotes)

1 For example, public participation in government by initiative and referendum.

2 "Oregon History: Mixed Blessings," *Oregon Blue Book* (http://bluebook.state.or.us/cultural/history/history24.htm : accessed 18 November 2008).

3 "Oregon History: The Oregon System," *Oregon Blue Book* (http://bluebook.state.or.us/cultural/history/history23.htm : accessed 18 November 2008).

4 "Chinese Exclusion Act," *Wikipedia* (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinese_Exclusion_Act_United_States : accessed 4 November 2008).

5 Linda Tamura, *The Hood River Issei: An Oral History of Japanese Settlers in Oregon's Hood River Valley* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1993); *Google Books* (http://books.google.com/books?id=Ju-xQV-gGIMC&pg=PR9&lpg=PP1&dq=books+hood+river+issei&ie=ISO-8859-1&output=html : accessed 27 November 2008).

6 John Mack Faragher and Robert V. Hine, *The American West: A New Interpretive History* (New Haven, Connecticut: Yale University Press, 2000), 392.

7 Linda Tamura *The Hood River Issei: An Oral History of Japanese Settlers in Oregon's Hood River ,* 21

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9 Columbia River Basin Ethnic History Archives, *Japanese Americans in the Columbia River Basin, ,First Arrivals and Their Labors*, (http://www.vancouver.wsu.edu/crbeha/ja/ja.htm : accessed 3 January 2009).

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12 The Oregon Encyclopedia: Basques, Oregon Encyclopedia Project (http://www.oregonencyclopedia.org/entry/view/basques/ :accessed 8 January, 2009)

13 Susan Hodge Armitage and Elizabeth Jameson, *Writing the Range: Race, Class, and Culture in the Women's West* (University of Oklahoma Press, 1997), 299-300; Google Books (http://books.google.com/books?id=WzBr2tJYgGoC&printsec=frontcover&dq=writing+the+range&ie=ISO-8859-1&output=html : accessed 5 January 2009).

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15 Thomas Doulis, *A Surge To The Sea The Greeks in Oregon:* A *Photographic History Of The Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Community and Southern Washington* (Portland, Oregon: J. Lockie, 1977), 7.

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16 Ibid., 11.

17 Ibid, 18.

18 Ibid, 29.

19 "Immigration Act of 1924," *Wikipedia* (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Immigration_Act_of_1924 : accessed 20 November 2008).

20 William G. Robbins, "Political and Economic Culture, 1870-1920: The Centerpiece of Oregon's Economy," *Oregon History Project*, Oregon Historical Society

21 (http://www.ohs.org/education/oregonhistory/narratives/subtopic.cfm?subtopic_ID=50 : accessed 20 November 2008).

22 "Forest Resource Trends and Threats in Oregon," *Oregon.gov* (http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/PRIVATE_FORESTS/docs/Legacy/III.pdf : accessed 3 January 2009).

23 "Oregon History : Mixed Blessing," *Oregon Blue Book*.

24 "Oregon History : The Great Depression," *Oregon Blue Book* (http:/bluebook.state.or.us/cultural/history/history25.htm : accessed 18 November 2008).

25 "Oregon History: The Great Depression," *Oregon Blue Book.* "Bonneville Dam," Travel Magazine Online (http://www.u-s-history.com/pages/h1792.html : accessed 6 January 2009).

26 "Franklin D. Roosevelt, Address At Bonneville Dam, September 28, 1937," *AuthenticHistory.com* (http://www.authentichistory.com/1930s/history/19370928_ FDR_Address_At_Bonneville_Dam.html : accessed 20 November 2008).

27 "Oregon in Depression and War: War Production," *Oregon History Project*, Oregon Historical Society (www.ohs.org/education/oregonhistory/narratives/subtopic.cfm?subtopic_ID=111n : accessed 20 November 2008).

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29 "Oregon in Depression and War: War Production," *Oregon History Project*.

30 "Indian Citizenship Act of 1924," *AbsoluteAstronomy.com* (http://www.absoluteastronomy.com/topics/Indian_Citizenship_Act_of_1924 : accessed 2 January 2009). "That all non citizen Indians born within the territorial limits of the United States be, and they are hereby, declared to be citizens of the United States: Provided That the granting of such citizenship shall not in any manner impair or otherwise affect the right of any Indian to tribal or other property."

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33 "Klamath Indian Reservation," *Oregon History Project,* Oregon Historical Society (http://www.ohs.org/education/oregonhistory/historical_records/dspDocument.cfm?doc_ID=102CE754-DAAC-594C-63428804F1EA49D2 : accessed 5 January 2009).

34 Oregon's Indian Tribes. *Oregon Blue Book (http://bluebook.state.or.us/national/tribal/tribal.htm)*

Significant Events in 20th Century Oregon

1909
- State's Central Fish Hatchery opens at Bonneville
- Oregon Caves National Monument created
- Pendleton Round-Up begins
- Portland to Seattle Railroad completed

1910
- Census enumerates 672,765 residents
- Employers' Liability Act approved
- John Burkhart is second man in Oregon to build and fly his own airplane
- First reference to "Beavers" as a team name

1911
- Oregon Department of Forestry created
- Columbia Gorge River Highway construction begins

1912
- **Women's suffrage approved**
- Prohibition of private convict labor approved
- Eight-hour day on public works approved
- November 30—Abigail Duniway signed the Oregon Suffrage Proclamation Act and became the first Oregon woman to register to vote.

1913
- Oregon Highway Commission established
- Presidential preference primary law approved
- Gov. Oswald West declares beaches open to the public
- South Jetty at mouth of Columbia River completed
- First traffic signal in Portland

1914
- Death penalty abolished
- Prohibition approved
- Eight-hour day approved for women
- The Portland Chapter of the NAACP founded the oldest continually chartered chapter west of the Mississippi.

1916
- Workmen complete Celilo Locks and Canal
- Congress passes Stock-Raising Homestead Act

1917
- U.S. Army Spruce Production Division begins logging
- North Jetty completed; forty-two feet at mean low water at the mouth of Columbia River
- Mobilization of Oregon Guard, March 25; war declared on April 6
- Portland's International Rose Test Garden established

Defense Housing Projects Built for the Shipyards on the Columbia River

By Susan LeBlanc

As the United States entered into World War II, demand for war materials required a massive effort to fill those needs. Portland, Oregon, located at the confluence of the Columbia and Willamette Rivers, was an ideal location for the manufacturing plants that were required to equip the military effort. In 1939, the recently completed Bonneville Dam supplied the essential electricity to power those plants. The migration of people who came to fill the demand for workers included about 194,000 people. Of these about 22,500 were African-Americans. Over 150,000 people worked in 85 shipyards in the area in 1945. The change in the demographic makeup of Portland due to this migration would be a defining legacy for many years to come.[1]

Henry Kaiser was the mastermind behind ship building on the Columbia River when the United States entered World War II. He built and operated three shipyards, one in Vancouver and two in Portland, which began operation in early 1942. By the end of 1942, they employed 76,000 people. The number of people a year later had grown to 97,000. To meet the needed housing for workers they built six housing projects which housed 45,000 people.[2] When city officials were slow to begin the needed housing, he purchased 648 acres outside of Portland to build a large project. He feared that workers would leave because there was a shortage of living quarters.[3]

Two of the Kaiser shipyards were located across the Columbia River from each other at Ryan Point in Vancouver, Washington, and the third was at Swan Island in Portland, Oregon. This was a well-protected inland port that had water and rail transportation for needed materials. It was a natural choice for the large projects.[4] These constituted the Oregon Shipbuilding Corporation (OSC), located in Portland's St. Johns neighborhood.[5 & 6] Over all, 125,000 people worked in the Kaiser shipyards during the war. These shipyards operated around the clock to produce ships for the military. During WWII, the Oregon shipyards constructed 322 Liberty ships for the national fleet, more than any other shipyard in the country.[7]

The Housing Authority of Portland (HAP) was created on Dec. 11, 1941, when the Great Depression left many people unemployed and homeless, and war had just been declared. The great influx of shipyard workers would be a strong test of the effectiveness of this government agency. Within two years, housing was built for 72,000 inhabitants and it barely met the need for the influx of the growing population.[8] The aim of HAP was to provide complete and affordable housing to meet the needs of those employed in wartime industries. After the war, the focus was on assisting low-income people with housing and home ownership.[9] Another vital component to the housing was to maintain social and political status of the workers, especially with racial segregation needs.[10] In 1944 over 6,000 African Americans lived at Vanport, which was three times the number who had lived in Portland in 1942. At that time, the city statutes limited African Americans to living in a small section of the city called Albina, which was not large enough to accommodate the growing African American population.[11] There was segregated housing in Vanport, Cottonwood and Dekum Court.[12] Additional housing for African Americans was made available at Guild's Lake, Linton, Fairview, and East Vanport, as well as several in the Vancouver area.[13]

Most of the defense housing was built on the North Portland Peninsula, located between the Columbia and the Willamette Rivers. These projects were built as small neighborhoods, often with a park, small streets and easy access to the shipyards. During the war they seemed to go no farther east than Martin Luther King Blvd. Vanport was the largest, followed by Guild's Lake, then St. Johns Woods, Columbia Villa, University Homes, Parkside Homes, and Hudson Homes. Smaller projects included Dekum Court, Mountain View Court, Fir Court, Cottonwood Court and Denver Court.

The following are the main defense housing projects of WWII:

University Homes: Construction of about 300 temporary units in June 1942 and occupation began September.[14] Located adjacent to University Park, it is bordered by Alaska St., Chautauqua Blvd., Willis St. and Woolsey St.

Columbia Villa: Construction of the 432 units began in May 1942 and occupation started in October.[15] Located adjacent to Columbia Park, it is bordered by Washburne Ave., Winchell St. and Dwight Ave. It was a low-density, suburban-style development with curvilinear streets, many trees, and open space on 82 acres.[16] The barracks-style of housing was used for over 60

years. About 10 years ago, a complete reconstruction was planned: it was torn down and a new community was built in 2006.[17]

Dekum Court: Construction of 85 permanent units, occupation began in October 1942.[18] Located on Dekum St. and Village Ave., between Rosa Parks Blvd. and Lombard St.

Guild's Lake Court: Construction of 2248 temporary houses and row houses began in October 1942.[19] It was the second largest wartime housing project in Portland, with over 10,000 people. This project built on a landfill between St. Helens Road and the Willamette River, located near Yeon Ave. Following the Vanport Flood this project became temporary housing for the displaced inhabitants. Much of the African American population moved here due to lack of housing, because of the segregation laws. Eventually it was torn down and the land was used for industrial development.[20]

Aerial photo of Vanport before the devastating flood of 1948. More photos available at www.portlandonline.com/auditor/index.cfm?c=27928 and click on "Images." Photo courtesy of the City of Portland.

Gatrell Group: Construction of 725 dwellings built on 52 scattered lots in July 1942, occupation began in October.[21]

Mountain View Court: Construction of 100 trailer homes, occupation began in October 1942.[22]

Hudson Homes: Construction of 188 units, occupation began in November 1942. Located on Hudson St., bordered by Northgate Park, Houten Ave. and Wall Ave.[23]

St. Johns Woods: Construction of 967 units, occupation began in December 1942.[24] Located west of Portland Road and between Columbia Blvd. and Smith Lake.

Jim Cole, a former resident, said, "St. Johns Woods housing was all single homes, not apartments like Vanport. They were built in clusters of four or six units, something resembling a cul-de-sac today. I think they were two bedroom, one bath units. I know the walls were thin and the insulation was poor, as they were cold in the winter. In St. Johns Woods we had a market and a large maintenance area where I remember they stored the coal we used for cooking and heat."25 Jim said, "As I can remember, the place we ate in on Sundays was very large. I think it was the dining hall for the workers during the week."[26]

Parkside Homes: Construction of 260 units, occupation began in December 1942.[27]

Fir Court: Construction of 72 units, occupation began in December 1942.28

Cottonwood Court:[29] An extension of Vanport City.

Denver Court:[30] An extension of Vanport City.

Linnton and Fairview[31]

East Vanport:[32] An extension of Vanport City.

Vanport City: Construction of 9,942 units, occupation began in December 1942.[33]

Vanport would be the largest public housing project in the country and would house 50,000 people. It was the second largest city in Oregon[34] and would become a model for integration of the African American community.[35] The announced completion was covered in the Portland *Oregonian* on Aug. 12, 1943, almost a year after the original plan for 6,022 units was started. At the grand opening that evening, the Kaiser Company and the Federal Public Housing Authority turned the administrative responsibility over to the Portland Housing

Authority.[36] Vanport was situated halfway between the two Kaiser shipyards in Portland and Vancouver and thus received its name recognizing both cities.[37] Vanport was unique, as it became an independent city with facilities to meet all the basic needs of its inhabitants. These included the administration buildings, an auditorium, a post office, a cafeteria, two grocery stores, a library, a theatre, and recreation buildings. To meet the needs of children there were six nurseries, an extensive childcare center, two playgrounds, two K-6 elementary schools and a 7-8 middle school. For emergencies, there was a police department, three fire stations and a Kaiser Hospital. The housing included various types of apartments. There was an athletic field and lakes on the grounds.[38]

Women entering the work force helped to fill the loss of millions of men who were enlisting in the military. When mothers were working, they needed quality childcare. Some found other mothers who could provide childcare, but in the larger housing projects, the childcare centers met those needs. In 1942, the number of working women in Oregon tripled. A study by the personnel manager's office of the Oregon Shipyards found that they employed 830 mothers of children from the age of one to six years.[39]

The construction of these projects required a massive effort by builders in the Portland area. They faced many difficulties: lack of skilled labor, war restrictions, shortage of materials and the difficult winter weather of 1942. The cooperation of the FPHA was key to expediting the rapid construction to meet the housing needs.[40] At first, the demand for housing was met by using existing housing and converting large homes and buildings into apartments. Then they turned to new construction, but had to economize due to the lack of building materials. The projects were built with greatly reduced building standards.[41] In 1942, the War Housing War Zoning code was adopted, allowing higher density development for workers for the war effort. [42]

The overall total of newly constructed units was more than 18,000; each could house a family of four, but may have housed combined groups of individuals or larger families. Columbia Villa and Dekum Court were the only two permanent developments that were to continue as low cost housing following the war.[43] Of the 16 housing projects administered by HAP, Vanport held more than the total of all the others. There was an expectation that following the war many of the workers would return to the places they had migrated from. The authorities planned to convert these housing sites to industrial uses following the war. They felt that the type of people attracted to public housing would be detrimental to the North Portland Peninsula neighborhoods after the war.[44] Some of the residents left the housing projects and integrated into the city, but many remained in what was the only housing they could find.

With the Vanport flood of 1948, there was an immediate need to house the over 18,500 Vanport residents who were left homeless. HAP was faced with an emergency situation second only to the housing crisis during World War II. A special advisory committee had the task of finding housing for the displaced residents, and asked for volunteers to take in the victims. Temporary housing was established using $4 million emergency federal funds for trailer housing. McLaughlin Heights in Vancouver, Washington, which had been the second largest housing project in the United States during WWII, opened "Trailer Terrace." Initially, it provided 100 streamlined trailers, and would soon have room for another 388. [45]

Gradually most of these temporary housing sites were torn down and/or relocated to other places in the city. The land was reallocated for industrial and other civic uses. Vanport was located where we now have the Portland International Raceway and Heron Lakes Golf Course.[46] Some of the building materials were used in construction throughout the city. The church my family attended in Gresham was built with Vanport materials. Hidden amongst the Portland area are landscapes of forgotten pasts and treasured memories that once were the housing projects of the defense workers.

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The Cole Family Migration to Portland, Oregon — World War II and Living in the Defense Housing

By Susan LeBlanc

In June of 1938, the economic recovery of the United States was moving forward, but many people had suffered irreversible damages from the great depression, and worked hard to regain their previous economic situations. As often occurs, this recovery might mean moving to other locations where work was more readily available. This was the beginning of a vast shift from farm life in the mid-west to manufacturing jobs in large cities. Many people migrated to Portland, Oregon to find work during and after the depression. With the need for increased workers in the shipyards in 1941, these people found the work they needed. For the family of Orville and Helen Cole, my grandparents, this meant a migration from South Sioux City, Nebraska to Portland, Oregon. [1]

The Cole family in Portland, Oregoni, in the early 1940s. From left, Orville, Yvonne, Jim and Helen.

Orville Cole had worked at a meat packing company, but when a strike occurred he lost his job. In turn they were forced to sell their home and live in a small trailer. This was quite a change for Orville, the 7th child of 11 children, who grew up on a farm in Walthill, Thurston County, Nebraska, and Helen Anderson Cole, the oldest, with her twin sister Hilda, of 10 children, who grew up on a farm in Brunswick, Antelope County, Nebraska. Helen's sister Hilda had previously moved to Oregon with her husband Roy Briggs. When Helen wrote to Hilda of their plight, her sister encouraged them to come to Oregon, as work was readily available. Thus in 1941, they sold the trailer, packed all of their possessions in their 1931 Model A car and made the 1,800 mile trip in several days, with their two young children, Jim age 10 and Yvonne age seven.[1]

Jim said, "My family left for Portland on around the last of August 1941. We had received a letter from my mother's sister stating that there was work in Oregon, which was good news as the depression had really stopped much of any employment in the Midwest. Within the letter was a picture of my cousin Roy Jr. sitting on a pony. You will never know the picture that photo painted in the mind of this 10-year-old. The "Wild West" horses, cowboys, everything we had seen in the weekly serials at the theater. I could not wait to get there! Much to my chagrin, my cousin lived on the corner of Grand Avenue (U.S. Highway 30 West) and Broadway Street (U. S. Highway 99 South), one of the busiest intersections in Portland. No horses, cowboys, or Indians, just lots of cars.

"During this 1,800 mile trip my Sister and I sang 'You Are My Sunshine' until I am sure we had our parents ready to throw us out of the car. We also entertained ourselves by counting bottles along side the highway, until I got carsick from watching the road go by. Our trip took us into the Rocky Mountains. For an Iowa boy who had never seen anything bigger than a bump in a cornfield, those mountains were something.

"We were in a 1931 Model A Ford and had all we owned on and in it. When we finally reached the top of the mountains the poor old car looked like a Stanley Steamer. My Dad was very upset with the people at the top as they would not give us any water for the car. They explained to Dad that they had to truck all of their water from the valley to the top of the mountain and therefore guarded it with their lives. They told Dad to turn the motor off at the top of the next hill and we would coast to the next water. We coasted for 17 miles.

"When we finally got to the Columbia River and the gorge, in the area of Hood River my Mother spotted some cars way up on the side of the Gorge wall and asked my Father what they were doing way up there. He informed her that that was the highway we were going to use to get to Portland, and her response after traveling some 1,700 miles was, 'Orville I want to go back home!'"[2]

For the first six weeks, they lived with the Briggs family in a large home, until they could afford to rent

their own place and they moved across the street. Orville found work in a cooperage in North Portland and often walked the three miles to work.[3]

Jim remembers clearly the day the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor; he said, "On the morning of December 7, 1941, Portland was having a silver thaw and I like many of the kids was out ice skating. An older lady came out of her house and yelled at me, 'To get home, the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor and they would be coming after us soon.' I skated home and told my Dad what she had said. He turned on the radio and the rest is history. It not only changed our lives but the entire history of the world."[4]

This life-altering event was only the beginning to many changes for this young family and those living in the Portland area.

Yvonne shared that, "After they bombed Pearl Harbor we had block wardens who checked to make sure we had the big black drapes pulled after dark, because they were afraid the Japanese were going to bomb Portland. They did send a submarine near our coast and bombed some place along the beach. The government was afraid they would get up the Columbia River and do damage.

"We moved to an apartment, then to a big old house (upstairs), because there weren't many places available. Then we moved to a defense house in an area called St. Johns Woods. The houses were all a like, constructed especially for all of us people who were moving into the area to work in the Shipyards. The houses were all the same, most of them ranch style with no garages, just a coal bin outside. They weren't much, but they were all new and my mom loved how clean and new they were. We heated with a big old coal stove in the living room. My father worked in the Oregon Shipyard on swing shift. The pay was good, but so many things were rationed we didn't spend a lot. Mom didn't go to work, but some of the women did."[5]

Jim mentioned that, "During the war, automobiles drove with their lights on but the only light showing was a small slit on the headlight lens that let through a very small amount of light, due to blackout regulations."[6]

In Helen's own words, "Orville was very homesick for Nebraska and wanted to go back. Then the war started and we moved to the military housing where there were many people from back home. He went to work in the shipyards. It was a nice new home and we enjoyed life there very much. We were able to save money and eventually bought the house in St. John's. Our family enjoyed living in the defense housing. There was a shared camaraderie with our neighbors in contributing to the war effort."

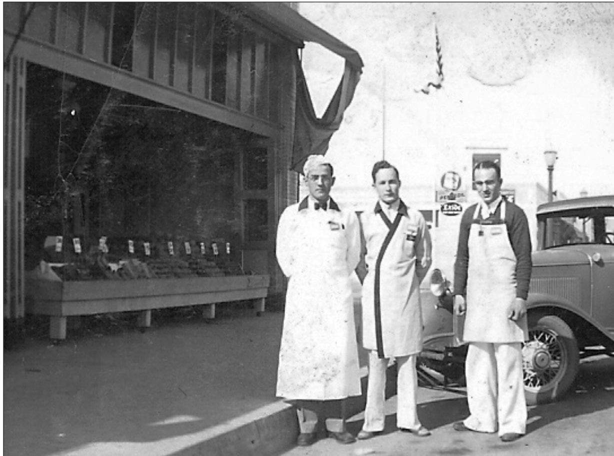
From left, Helen Anderson Cole, with her brother, Harold, and twin sister Hilda, in Nebraska.

Four of my brothers and my sister Dorothy were in the service during the war. Harold was a captain in the Army. Norman was in the Navy. Lewis was in the Air Force. Kenny was in the Army and he was the only one wounded. He was wounded in Sicily and was in the hospital for six months. He was wounded again in Normandy.'[7] (Of the 10 siblings, 5 would migrate to the Portland area.)

Living in the defense housing was a new experience for most of the residents. Yvonne said, "There weren't any additional buildings in St Johns Woods because the housing was temporary for the war workers. We went to a school about a mile south of the Woods, in a residential neighborhood, called George School. We did not fit in well with the children at this school, so we changed to the Catholic school, about a block from that one, called Assumption.

"The whole area of St. Johns Woods was kind of like a big park and we kids had lots of fun playing with kids from all over the States. There was no childcare in those days, but some stay at home moms I suppose babysat for the working mothers. I think that was the start of the working mother idea. Like I said there weren't any extra things like hospitals or meeting places that I knew of. Those things were just incorporated in the towns nearby. This housing development was about two miles from Vanport, which was down by where the Expo Center area is now. Kind of behind it where Heron Lakes golf course is located."[8]

Jim shared that, "St. Johns Woods housing was all single homes, not apartments like Vanport. They were built in clusters of four or six units, something resembling a cul-de-sac today. I think they were two bedroom, one bath units. I know the walls were thin and



Orville Cole, right, at the Meat Plant in Nebraska.

the insulation was poor, as they were cold in the winter. Pretty much looked like a giant cookie cutter just punched them out and placed them on the ground. The saying was 'if a man came home drunk his chances of finding his own home were poor to none'."

In St. Johns Woods we had a market and a large maintenance area where I remember they stored the coal we used for cooking and heat. They delivered the coal as it was needed and I found it very exciting to see that big truck pull up to our outdoor coal bin, raise the bed and out came the coal. They had an administration building, where I remember my friend Larry Duncan and I twice weekly picked up the St. Johns Woods biweekly small news bulletin and delivered them house-to-house. Seems like we delivered about five hundred papers each time. We were paid $3.00 each for this chore. Our theatre was the St. Johns movie house. We lived in St. Johns Woods from 1942 through 1945, and then moved to Burlington Street in St. Johns.[9]

As I can remember, the place we ate in on Sundays was very large. I think it was the dining hall for the workers during the week. It was buffet style and there was lots of food. Great fried chicken and lots of mashed potatoes. They also had many desserts; one I remember was soft ice cream which was a special delight as most things with sugar in them were in short supply.

Our mom did watch over children that were asked to pick berries, beans and even hops. She would see that we all got on the bus at six in the morning and to the fields. Watch over us during the day, and get us all home safe about four in the afternoon. The farmer paid her for her time. We kids were paid for the amount of goods we were able to pick. Many times our family would go out on the weekends and all pick to earn extra money. It also helped the war effort at that time. We played during the summer, swam at Pier Park pool, fished in the Columbia Slough, and did a lot of climbing in the west hills at the end of the St. Johns Bridge.

We had a large radio and that was the entertainment for the nights. The favorite shows like *The Shadow* or the *Lone Ranger, Jack Benny, Bob Hope*, or *I Love a Mystery.* They were great shows and made you use your imagination to put a mental picture to the dialogue you were hearing. I also had a crystal set that I enjoyed. I could get music from Hawaii and radio shows from Denver, Colorado and Chicago, Illinois. They also worked your imagination, wondering what those places looked like and how those people lived.[10]

Yvonne shared that, "There were lots of foods that we couldn't get during the war. I do remember Mom and I walking up to Fessenden Street about a mile south of the project we lived in to a little restaurant and we would have hamburgers and hot chocolate in the evening. We had to have ration stamps for some things like meat, gas, margarine, oils, sugar, flour, cheese, just lots of things that we take for granted now and if the stamps got used up before the end of the month, we just had to do without. We ate the rabbits and chickens that Dad raised. I know Mom fed us horsemeat, which is very healthy if you can get by the thought of eating a pet. They also rationed clothes, shoes, all kinds of food, gas, and probably lots of other things I can't remember."[11]

Jim said, "Items that were rationed were sugar, butter, meats of all kinds, gasoline, rubber, most steel, nylon, oil. These items required stamps to get them. I know we also had tokens that were used like small change along with the stamps that were like paper money."

Some of the stamps and tokens are in the family collection of memorabilia.[12]

Jim shared, "St. Johns Woods was a small version of Vanport. It probably contained 500 to 750 housing units. I sold papers (*The Oregonian*) at the Oregon Shipyards in 1945. On the day the war ended, I made more money than I had ever seen. Each person took a paper and handed me what ever was in their hand and did not wait for change. That was a big day in my life, war was over and I had a pocket full of money."[13]

The Vanport Flood was the climax to people living in the defense housing. Jim remembered, "The Memorial Day flood that hit Vanport very hard. The Northeastern area of Oregon had lots of snow during the winter of 1948 and then we had a Chinook (warm rains) come through that lasted for about a week. All that snow melted and came down the Columbia River.

"I worked with many high school boys on the dikes at what is now Portland International Airport. We sand-

bagged the dikes, but in the end, all was lost as 15 feet of water finally flooded the airport. At the same time the train dike that runs along Northwest Portland road, next to Smith Lake broke through and Vanport had 15 feet of water throughout the area. Thankfully, it was a holiday and most people were out of the area. It happened in the mid-afternoon.

"A friend of mine and I took his Dad's boat out on to Smith Lake to see what we could and it did not take long for the current to pull us right through the break in the dike and smack dab in the middle of Vanport. Needless to say, the Sheriff's office was not too pleased with our actions and neither was my friend's Dad when he came to retrieve his boat!"[14]

Yvonne remembered, "The houses at Vanport and the houses in University Homes where Jim lived after the war were two story apartment-style houses; whereas where we lived were single-family houses. Also where we lived was spread out and kind of a park-like setting, where as Vanport was down in a low lying place that flooded out in 1948 when we had the big flood of the Columbia river.

"I remember we had been to the beach for Memorial Day and when we came home, they were trying to get people out of Vanport because the place was disintegrating into a flooded mess. If I remember right, Jim and Dad went down to help out. University Homes was up off of Columbia Boulevard on a hillside area on the south side of the road. It was a huge place as they all were I guess. These projects, as they were called were built very rapidly and were for all the people who came here to work in the shipyards. They were never meant to be permanent homes."[15]

For the Cole family, living in the defense housing project helped them to feel at home in the unsettled life of living in Portland, Oregon during World War II. They made new friends that would remain a part of their lives for years to come. Life in St. Johns following the war, in their home on Burlington Street was good. As more of Helen's family moved to the area, they would often have them over for visits. Orville passed away in 1956 and Helen continued to live in this home until her death in 2005.

I was born in St. Johns long after these events and spent much of my life there, but I knew very little of its history. Even though I know the area very well, I had no idea what really occurred there during World War II and its impact on our family, prior to conducting these interviews. When we explore the history of the places and times of our ancestors we often learn much more than we anticipate. Whether it is good or bad, the history of our ancestors plays a dramatic part in each of our lives. Preserving this history is a vital part of the research we do as family historians.

(Endnotes)

1 Interview with Helen Anderson Cole Haynes, 26 May 2000, by Susan LeBlanc. Helen passed away December 6, 2005.

2 Email from Jim Cole, 2 January 2009, email to Susan LeBlanc.

3 Interview with Helen Anderson Cole Haynes, 26 May 2000.

4 Email from Jim Cole, January 2, 2009.

5 Email from Yvonne Cole Olsen Barker, 23 December 2008, to Susan LeBlanc.

6 Email from Jim Cole, 23 December 2008, to Susan LeBlanc.

7 Interview with Helen Anderson Cole Haynes, 26 May 2000.

8 Email from Yvonne Cole Olsen Barker, 24 December 2008, to Susan LeBlanc.

9 Email from Jim Cole, 24 December 2008, to Susan LeBlanc.

10 Email from Jim Cole, 26 December 2008, to Susan LeBlanc.

11 Email from Yvonne Cole Olsen Barker 24 December 2008. Email from Yvonne Cole Olsen Barker 23 December 2008.

12 Email from Jim Cole, 24 December 2008.

13 Email from Jim Cole, 23 December 2008.

14 Email from Jim Cole, 23 December 2008.

15 Email from Yvonne Cole Olsen Barker,19 December 2008, to Susan LeBlanc.

Significant Events in 20th Century Oregon

1918
- Emergency Fleet Corporation contracts for ships
- Oregonians enlist to serve in World War I
- Armistice signed, November 11
- First nine holes of Eastmoreland Municipal Golf Course open for play
- Influenza pandemic kills hundreds

1919
- First gasoline tax in US authorized to fund highways

1920
- *The Story of Opal, Journal of an Understanding Heart*, by Opal Whiteley, bestselling "diary "of 7-year-old Opal who claimed to be French royalty
- Death penalty reinstated
- Oregon League of Women Voters founded
- Census enumerates 783,389 residents

1921
- Ku Klux Klan organizes chapters

GFO 2008 Writing Contest ~ 3rd Place Award

The Two Wars of Elijah McKendry

By Ruth McKendry

Part One: The War Against the "Rebbles"

On July 29, 1861, my great-grandfather Elijah enlisted in Company A of the 36th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. [1]

Elijah, born October 31, 1844, was the ninth child in a family of 10.[2]

In 1860, quite a few of them were still at home: parents Elijah Sr. and Margaret Jane; brothers Albert and William; and sisters Catherine, Adeline and Mary, and Mary's two children.[3]

The minimum age for enlistment was 18, unless you had a parent's permission, and I believe he lied, because the muster roll says he is 18. Legend has it that some under-age boys, reluctant to take a false oath, would put a piece of paper with the number 18 written on it in one shoe before swearing that they were "over 18."[4]

I can find no record of his reason for enlisting. I don't think he meant to run away from his family—he was fond of them. He wrote this letter to them December 30, 1862, from the Division Hospital in Chattanooga:

> Dear Father and Mother
>
> I received your kind and affectionate letter yesterday and was very glad to hear from you and the rest of the family although a portion of the letter brings sad news. I am in hopes the next letter will bring news of Albert's recovery or at least out of danger. I suppose from what I have heard that should he get well he will always be a cripple. [Ed. note: Albert lived, married, and had children.]
>
> I feel thankful that he is where he can be taken care of. There are so many dies in the hospital for want of good nursing. Men can't tend to a sick or wounded man like a mother wife or sister. They are always ready to gratify the slightest wish of the sufferer when it is within their power. And it adds a great deal to there chance of getting well.
>
> My health has improved very much lately. I have had the diarrhea since the battle of Chattanooga. I have been acting as nurse at the Division Hospital since the battle of Mission Ridge and the change of diet has done me more good than all the medicines I ever took. I am in strong hopes of being all right in a few days.
>
> I will close this letter by requesting you to write as soon as possible for I will be anxious to hear from Albert and William.
>
> Elijah
>
> P.S. I see John Kindle nearly every day. He is as fat as any of your Methodist preachers.

Elijah seems to have been a cheerful and optimistic soul. In spite of having been through some horrific battles, he says nothing of those experiences in his letter home. Family lore says he loved to sing Irish songs he had learned from his mother and grandmother, and enjoyed his children and grandchildren.

Perhaps Elijah was motivated by patriotism. His father had probably told him tales of his grandfather Archibald and great-grandfather John serving in the Revolution.

An account published in 1887 says the Ohio militia, mocked as the "cornstalk militia," was inactive at the time, "[b]ut the military spirit, though dormant, was not dead, and the year 1861 found the fires of patriotism blazing brightly."[5]

Many Ohioans were eager to serve. After the fall of Ft. Sumter, when Lincoln asked Ohio for thirteen regiments, Ohio's governor wired Washington that "without seriously repressing the ardor of the people, I can hardly stop short of twenty."[6]

Quite possibly he was influenced by the $100 bounty he received for enlisting for three years. That would have sounded like a fortune to a shoemaker's child.

Most likely, I think, he was just eager to join with his friends and see the world beyond Ohio.

Many people on both sides were confident that the war would be over quickly. As James McPherson wrote, many thought that "one or two battles and the cowardly Yankees or slovenly rebels would give up."[7]

Whatever the reason, he went to war.

Later Elijah said he had "fought at Chicamauga, Mission Ridge, Antietam, South Mountain, Second Bull Run, Cloyd Mountain, and Lewisburg, Virginia, and in many minor engagements and skirmishes, and after that was in the Navy."[8]

I was impressed. I knew very little about the Civil War, but I recognized some of those names.

Then a distant cousin I found on the Internet sent me Elijah's service record. I read through it with increasing bewilderment. "Desertion?" Didn't they shoot

people for that? I needed to know more. I sent for his pension file—178 pages—and by reading his letters and applications and medical history I was able to figure out what he had done, and to make a guess at why he did it.

The key was in a battle he had neglected to mention: the second Battle of Kernstown, July 24, 1864. A local history sums it up as follows:

> At Kernstown…the division encountered the enemy and lost one hundred and fifty men. Then, for the first and only time in its history, the Thirty-sixth turned its back to the enemy, and, with the rest of the division, retreated in disorder. It had retreated before, but always in good order.[9]

Stories are often more compelling when told by an actual participant. First, we will hear from John Jones, in an interview in the May 17, 1888 issue of the *Ironton* [Ohio] *Register:* [10]

> JOHN A. JONES was going to Cincinnati on his way to take his place, on the U.S. Grand Jury, and stopped at the REGISTER office to get a paper to read on his way down. The REGISTER was coming out of the press, at the time, and we handed him one, and he took a seat to give its smiling pages a glance before he took his departure.
>
> "I see you are yet running the 'Narrow Escapes;'" said he; "a good thing and I am interested in them."
>
> "Well, I believe, we haven't had one from you yet," said the REGISTER man, at the same time grasping his pencil to begin. "You were in the army, I remember."
>
> "Yes," said John- "four years, and saw a good deal of service, but nothing personally romantic."
>
> "In no tight places then?"
>
> "Yes indeed;" he said- "in several. I was in the toe of the horse shoe at Chickamauga, and was in Turchin's bloody charge; I was at Antietam, and crossed the bridge in that historic attack on the res.; I was in Second Bull Run, and at South Mountain; and at Lynchburg."
>
> "Well, you are the very man I want," said the reporter- "pick out a close call and begin."
>
> "But to come down to the really tightest place I was in during the war, I would leave all those familiar battlefields and tell of a fight we had at Kernstown, in the Shenandoah Valley, in the Summer of 1864. Several of the boys have told you incidents of that fight, and so it seems by general consent to have been a very hot place."
>
> "Sure it was," said the reporter- "our troops had been driving the rebs down the valley, but when they got as far as Kernstown, they met Early's whole army and he put a stop to our fun, and sent our little force hurrying, scurrying back into Maryland."
>
> "Yes; the appearance of Early's army rather surprised us;" said Mr. Jones- "we had formed in line of battle and were advancing, expecting to drive the rebs as usual. I remember it all well as if it were yesterday. Our regiment, the 36th Ohio, was clear on the left, and our company on the left of the regiment, and only two men on the left of me, and they got left and I didn't, but I had a very close call, and that was what I was going to tell you about. I never saw a hotter place in any of the noted battles. Well, we advanced that morning, the 24th of July, in fine style. Our flank was protected with a little squadron of cavalry, but we didn't anticipate that it would have much to do. The ground there is rolling, and after passing across a little knoll and over a stone fence, we advanced through a clear field. We could see the rebels in the skirts of the woods in front of us and felt sure there would be a right smart brush, but did not suppose it would be as smart as it turned out. Just as the rebs opened out on us, we discovered that the line extended far to our left, and kind of curved around us. Thus we became subject to a cross fire of the enemy. The cavalry was the first to discover the hornet's nest, and they came back in awful confusion, and then the rebs poured it into us. It was a fearful hot place. The two men that were on my left were wounded-Elisha Cotton, who died afterwards, and Phillip Wagoner. You probably remember Wagoner. He got over his wound and was afterward tried in this county for killing his Uncle Adam Wagoner, just at this side of the Gallia county line, about 10 years ago, and was sent to the penitentiary. Just by my side John Jeffries, who was shot at Mission Ridge, was wounded. A little romance hangs to his name, too. He got well and long after the war was sent to the penitentiary for shooting at Colonel Montgomery, of Gallia county, and after he was liberated, was killed by Montgomery, who was acquitted because he did it in self-defense. But this is all aside."
>
> "Singular though, that the two men on your left should be wounded, get well, come home, and be sent to the penitentiary. We hope that is not your 'narrow escape, John," said the reporter.
>
> Oh, no" said he laughing, "I had no trouble

keeping out of the O.P., but I don't see how I missed getting shot under that cross fire... Men tumbled all around me. Eighteen of our forty men were killed or wounded there in ten minutes. Of course, we retreated; obliquely to get from the cross fire, and when we got back a short distance, we attempted to make a stand to protect some artillery. And there, while engaged in firing I was disabled for a while by a spent ball striking me just above the wrist, and paralyzing my arm for some minutes. But beyond a black spot and a brief numbness, I suffered no inconvenience. We were driven from there and got as far back as Bunkers Springs that night, and the next day, took to our heels and got into Maryland; but we left many a thousand men behind killed or captured."

"I do not believe in all the war there were so many close calls as in the days from the 20th to the 24th of July, 1864, in the Shenandoah valley, and I don't wonder so many of the boys pick out some experience there and then as the most impressive of their lives. Mine, while not romantic, is to me more vivid than anything I encountered in Tennessee or Virginia."

I looked up John A. Jones and found he was a private in Company I of the 136th. The men he mentions were listed too, except for the colorful John Jeffries. (I found three other Jeffries, but not John.)

Now, here is Elijah's story, from a letter in his pension file. I have added punctuation and paragraphs for ease of reading, but the spelling and grammar are his.

Letter to Commissioner of Pension
Washington DC

From Archer Neb Sept 20 1907

Dear Sir
In ansing the last question in blank I think the man that paid us the money for enlisting ther I think name was Prat but wold not be certain. He came to us when he found out we wer not going to enlist and told us he wold give us three hundred and fifty dollars apiece if we wold be accredited to his township; I don't remember the name of it but think it was at or close to New Richmond Ohio, I think I can find out if necessary. I had the address a few years ago of the man that enlisted with me.

Now comrade Warner I am going to tell you that the man that filed that charge against me was on the retreat and three or for hundred yards in the rear when me and four other boys were on the line of battle and firing on old Earley's men that had flanked us on the 24 day of July 1864 at Winchester, Va.

Co A 36 Ohio was on the extreme left of the army that day and us boys was on the left of the company and if you know anything of that battle you know Earley went around both flanks and threw the army into a panic and us boys were facing to the lef when the army brok and we did not know it until they had got three or four hundred yards to the right and rear. Ther was no order give to retreat. Earley run his batteries up on the left and fired lengthways of the line so we could not run that way and we had to run along his line of flanker until we got to the Martins Burg road and when struck the road it was swarming with our men so we got in with them and crossed the river that night at Williamsport Md but us boys got scattred as soon as we struck the mob and did not get to gather again.

Some staid at Williamsport and some went on. I staid there all night and started on in the morning and kept on going until I came to Ohio. There I camped a few days and enlisted in the U. S. Navy.

Now I want to tell you why I left; then I will be done.

I was sick with that old camp d all through the Chickamaga and Chattanuga campaign and could have been in the Hospittle all the time if I had been so inclined. I was sick for months with the chills and fever in the navy. You have my Hosspittal record; it is not very I guess well in.

When my officer wanted me to vetran [re-enlist], I told them when I enlisted again I was going in the cavrelry. This was in December 64 after the Battle missan Ridge. So they kep at me all winter to reenlist. Finely they just [illegible, looks like rip] a job on me. They told me that the Regt would be mounted as soon as we got back from furlough. They wanted to know if General Crook sai that, wold I enlist and said yess if Crook sai so it wold be so. Well they let on to go and come back, and they said he said that the Regt would surely be mounted when we returned from furlough.

There was six other boys that wold not enlist unless I wold. This is what they were working me for. I found out afterwards they never went to see Crook at all. Now you know the balance.

I told them I wold serve my time that I enlisted in the infantry for and that I wold quit walking and

I kept my promise.

The noncommissioned officers is the ones that work me.

Now the most of what I written I can prove and the balance I can swear to.

44 years ago today I was with [illegible, Paf?] Thomas whiping the Rebble army evry marke in the roade until somebody blundered. Was you there.

Yours truly, Elija McKendry Co A 36 Ohio
2nd bigad 3 division 14 ac

I think it may be significant that in his letter Elijah used the phrase "somebody blundered." He was probably familiar, as were most schoolchildren of that day, with Tennyson's popular poem, written in 1854, "The Charge of the Light Brigade." It describes a battle of the Crimean War, in which nearly 600 men were lost through the incompetence of the commanders:

Forward, the Light Brigade!
Was there a man dismay'd?
Not tho' the soldier knew
Someone had blunder'd…

Historians and contemporary accounts agree that "somebody blundered" at Second Kernstown. Casualties were heavy: 1200 Union versus 200 Confederate. General George Crook was relieved of command, and General Philip Sheridan took over.

Should we take Elijah's word that he quit because he was lied to by the noncommissioned officers who were anxious to have him and his friends re-enlist? It certainly seems plausible that the officers behaved as he said—recruiting at this point in the war was a challenge for both sides. Carnage and disease had taken a heavy toll. By 1863, Peace Democrats, led by Ohioan Clement Vallandigham, were agitating, and even plotting, for an end to the war.[11]

Elijah gave a more detailed account of the officers' treachery in a letter of September 10, 1915:

The reason for this lie was that seven members of the Company would not re enlist unless I did, it was the Sargent that was working this, they knew if they could hold the Company together that they would be Promoted which they were, why I banked so much on General Crook's word he was our first Colnel and I acted as Orderly for him several times during my enlistment, and I took these Officers word as to what they claimed he had said.

The federal government did not believe that the stop-loss tactics of the Confederacy, which required its veterans to re-enlist, were legal. The Union offered inducements instead: a special chevron to be worn on the sleeve, a thirty-day furlough, and a $400 federal bounty plus state and local bounties. If three-quarters of the men re-enlisted, the regiment was allowed to retain its identity. This created peer pressure.[12] Despite their heavy losses, many of the men of the Thirty-Sixth stayed the course and re-enlisted in March of 1864.[13]

Perhaps the feeling that he had been betrayed, in addition to the perceived incompetence of the leadership, pushed him over the edge and made him decide to try the Navy, still fighting for the Union, but not with people he despised as cheats. He served until the end of the war under an alias, Enoch McHenry.

After the war, Elijah returned home and married Margaret Jane Davis in August of 1867. He stayed in Ohio until after his mother died.[14]

In the spring of 1871 he moved with his wife and two sons to Merrick County, Nebraska. They were the first to homestead in Midland Township. They were there until 1874, and endured many hardships, including the death of their third child. (They had ten, and seven were living in 1898.) When grasshoppers finally ruined the property, Elijah went to Rock Springs, Wyoming, to find work to support the family, which remained in Nebraska. He sold the homestead and bought a timber claim, and in 1899 they moved to Archer, Nebraska, where they lived until 1916, when their daughter Winifred took them to live with her, first in Colorado and later in California.[15]

Part Two: The War against the Government

It was in 1889, at the age of 45, that Elijah first applied for a veteran's pension. Here is one of his letters to the Commissioner of Pensions:

Letter to Mr. J.B. Raum, Commissioner of Pensions, Washington, DC
From Central City, NE, Dec. 23rd, 1889

Dear Sir
In answer to yours of October 26 I would say that I have had but two places of residence since the war: Crooked Tree Noble Co. Ohio and Central City Neb. I get my mail now at Archer, Merrick Co. I left Crooked Tree March 1871 and came here, have been here ever since. My occupation there was Shoemaking and since that time farming. I contracted the Diseases in Aug, 1863 at University

> Heights Tenn. On the march from Merfreesboro to University Heights we run out of rations and had to live on fresh pork and mutton without salt for some time. I always thought that was what brought it on. I had it all through Chickamaugh and Chattanooga Campaigns and if you remember Gen. Chattanooga was a hard place on a well stomach, much less a sick one. I didn't go to the doctor until we had been in Chattanooga some time. I think it was the last of Oct. or first of Nov. 1863 that I reported to the Dr. and he was out of humor with me for not reporting sooner. It had run so long that my legs would cramp so I could hardly walk but I had a dread of hospitals and tried to keep out of them. My stomach and bowels have troubled me ever since. I was sick when I got home from the army. I was treated by Dr. Wm. Boyd, deceased, of Crooked Tree Noble Co. Ohio; and by Dr. Martin of Central City, also deceased; also by J B Whittaker and E A Benton of Central City Neb. I have been disabled at least one half up to the spring of 1887 and since that time I have not been able to do any work. I have tried a good many kinds of patent medicine that have been reccommended to me.
>
> Very Respectfully, Elijah McKendry

His dread of hospitals was reasonable enough. You may remember he mentioned in his letter home that he served as a nurse in one. Men often concealed illness or wounds to avoid the hospital. One Ohioan, ordered to a hospital, wrote, "I insisted on takeing the field…thinking that I had better die by rebel bullets than Union Quackery."[16]

Sickness took more lives than combat in the regiment. Over the course of the war, four officers and 136 enlisted men were killed and mortally wounded, and 163 enlisted men died of diseases. [17]

Diarrhea was no laughing matter. Often brought on by dysentery and typhoid, it killed nearly forty-five thousand Union soldiers. Nearly 500,000 cases a year were reported in the Union army. [18]

Nearly half of the twenty-nine Union generals came down sick during the Corinth campaign, including General Henry Halleck, with diarrhea, which they called "the Evacuation of Corinth."19

Calomel, which Union doctors prescribed for diarrhea, worsened the condition.20 For 23 years, from 1889 until his death in 1922, Elijah petitioned repeatedly for a pension. It is clear that he was a sick man. The file contains many affidavits from his neighbors attesting to his disability, and reports of his doctors confirming it. The regimental surgeon remembered he had been sick, and no one questioned that the ailments were service-related.

His application was at first rejected because the Navy had paid him a federal bounty in excess of what he would have received if he had remained in the Army until his reenlistment term was complete. In November of 1912 the Auditor for the War Department determined that Elijah had been paid only $100 original bounty and $60 veteran bounty, and no further payment of bounty had been found. At this point the government argued that he had received bounties from the state and local governments, and was thus still ineligible.

At last, in August of 1915, after years of argument involving several law firms, Elijah was pensioned, "under the general law," at $6 a month. He applied for an increase, based on his deteriorating health.

In September, he was ordered to report for a physical. The printed government form told the doctors, "Evidences of the results of vicious habits should be sought in every case and reported on."

Further, the bureaucrats asked,

> "Is the epigastrium distended and tender on palpation? Is the abdomen tymphanitic and hypersensitive on firm pressure.? Outline area of hepatic and splenic dullness, and describe condition of stomach, liver and spleen. Are the digestive functions materially impaired? Is there marked emaciation, debility, or anemia present? Report all evidences of disease of rectum and heart….Describe condition of lungs and kidneys."

The doctors found that Elijah had an enlarged heart and mitral regurgitation, in addition to his other problems, and said he was disabled for performing manual labor, and was entitled to a pension of $24 a month.

Dissatisfied, the government responded:

> "Please state the severity of the inflammation of the rectum, the number size and condition of the pile tumors, and the extent to which the rectum prolapses. Are the piles inflamed, bleeding, unusually sensitive or ulcerated? Did the rectum prolapse while the claimant was undergoing examination? If so, what was the size of the prolapsed mass and was it easily replaced? Is a pad needed? Has the applicant an enlarged prostate, and does it have any material influence on his rectal disease?"

The doctors answered dutifully:

"Rectum badly inflamed, five external piles as large as peas found four internal as large as beans found some of them ulcerated none bleeding, rectum did not prolapse at this examination but indicated that it had, prostate enlarged but has but little influence on rectal trouble. A pad for prolapsis has never been needed. Rectum very sensitive."

In January of 1916, the government raised the pension to $12. In a rare burst of generosity, they made it retroactive to October 6, 1915. In June of 1920, a congressman intervened, and, as if by magic, Elijah was awarded $50 a month. He died on June 1, 1922.

He may have believed that his wife would receive a pension after his death, but she never did. The government again brought forth the argument that Elijah had received those bounties, and thus his widow was ineligible for a pension.

Again, a congressman intervened in the case, going so far as to have a Special Act enacted for her on December 23, 1924. She was awarded a pension of $30 a month, but she had died February 24, 1924. Thus, said the pension department, there was no "pensionable period," so her daughter Winifred was not entitled to any reimbursement for the expenses of her mother's last illness and burial.

When Elijah's two youngest sons, Charles and Leon, registered for the draft in World War I, both claimed exemptions. Charles had a wife and children, and Leon said he was supporting his parents. They may have suspected that the government would not support their families if they were hurt or killed.

As I struggled through the file, I was reminded of a poem, "Tommy," by Rudyard Kipling, about the plight of British veterans:

You talk o' better food for us, an' schools, an' fires, an' all:
We'll wait for extry rations if you treat us rational.
Don't mess about the cook-room slops, but prove it to our face
The Widow's Uniform is not the soldier-man's disgrace.
For it's Tommy this, an' Tommy that, an' "Chuck him out, the brute!"
But it's "Saviour of 'is country" when the guns begin to shoot;
An' it's Tommy this, an' Tommy that, an' anything you please;
An' Tommy ain't a bloomin' fool—you bet that Tommy sees!

Now, when I read of recruiting scandals and the shabby treatment of our war veterans, I am saddened, but not surprised. I wish we could do better.

(Endnotes)

1 Pension application file of Elijah McKendry/Enoch McHenry. Certificate 493688.

2 *Compendium of History, Reminiscence and Biography of Nebraska.* Chicago: Alden Publishing Company, 1912, p.212.

3 Image Source: Year: 1860; Census Place: Beverly, Washington, Ohio; Roll M653—1049; Page 301; Image 128.

4 Scott Nelson and Carol Sheriff, *A People at War, Civilians and Soldiers in America's Civil War.* New York: Oxford University Press, 2007, p. 75.

5 Ancestry.com. Noble County, Ohio History and Biography [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, Inc., 2004. Original data: *History of Noble County, Ohio with Portraits and Biographical Sketches of Some of Its Pioneers and Prominent Men.* Chicago, IL, USA: L. H. Watkins, 1887, p. 214.

6 James McPherson, *Battle Cry of Freedom—The Civil War Era.* New York: Oxford University Press, 1988, p. 275

7 McPherson, *Battle Cry*, p. 333

8 Merrick County Historical Society, Central City, Nebraska, *History of Merrick County Nebraska,* 1981. Library of Congress No.81-82507, p. 297.

9 *History of Noble County*, p. 229

10 <http://www.lawrencecountyohio.com/civilwar/narrowescapes/NE79.html> Downloaded by author March 23, 2008

11 McPherson, *Battle Cry*, p. 593

12 McPherson, Battle Cry, p. 720

13 *History of Noble County,* p. 229

14 *Compendium,* p. 212.

15 *History of Merrick County*, p. 297

16 T*he American Heritage Picture History of the Civil War.* New York: American Heritage Publishing Co., Inc. 1960, p. 371

17 <http://www.civilwararchive.com/Unreghst/unohinf3.htm#36thinf> Downloaded by author March 23, 2008.

18 Nelson and Sheriff, *A People at War*, p.110

19 McPherson, Battle Cry, p. 488

20 Nelson and Sheriff, *A People at War*, p.122

Significant Events in 20th Century Oregon

1922

- First state park accepted by Oregon Highway Commission and named for Sarah Helmick
- Compulsory School Act approved
- Japanese American Citizens' League founded

1923

- Alien Land Law approved
- Prohibition of sectarian garb in schools approved
- Alien Business Restriction Law approved

For the Record . . .

1909-1959: Vital Records for Genealogists

By Connie Lenzen

The theme of this issue of the *Bulletin* is the era between 1909 and 1959. That fits nicely into the column for this issue. It was around 1909 that most states started collecting vital records. The year 1959 is 50 years ago, and many states use 50 years as their period for closing records to the public.

Vital records are the most important group of records for the genealogist. They are the civil records that provide proof of birth, marriage, divorce, or death. They usually link an individual to his or her parents. They are original sources and are usually created close in time to an event by people who are in a position to know the facts firsthand.

In the United States, responsibility for recording vital events was left to the states, and the development of vital records registration varied from state to state. As with most of the sources we use to prove kinship, vital records were not created for genealogists. They are designed to provide a legal record of birth, marriage, and death and to collect health information. Each state has a vital records office to manage the process, and they have rules about who can request a copy of the records. Due to privacy concerns, most states require that you be closely related to order a copy of a record.

Types of records

The four types of vital records that are kept by state vital records office are birth, marriage, divorce, and death.

Birth certificates usually include the following information: name of the child, date and place of birth, name of the father, maiden name of the mother, ages and places of birth for both parents, place of residence, and names of the informant and attending physician.

Delayed birth certificates were issued for persons who were born before registration was required. People filed for delayed birth certificates to enable them to qualify for Social Security or other retirement benefits. In addition to the certificate, there may be supporting documentation such as, a baptismal certificate, an affidavit by a family member, a marriage record, or a family Bible record.

Marriage certificates contain the names of bride and groom, their age and birthplace; their residence; the names of their parents, the date and place of marriage; the signatures of the parties and the officiator. The county office that issued the license and certificate usually has documents with more information.

A divorce certificate may contain the following information: the names of the two parties, their addresses, dates and places of birth, date and place of marriage, number of children, and date, place, and legal grounds for the divorce decree. As with marriage records, the divorce file in the county record office often contains more information.

Death certificates include the name of the deceased, date and place of death, birth date and place (if known by the informant), marital status and name of spouse, names of parents (if known by the informant), Social Security number, whether a veteran, name of undertaker and physician, and place of internment. Depending upon the state, you may find the cause of death, whether tobacco was a contributing factor, and the deceased person's level of education.

The conscientious genealogist obtains vital records for all of the ancestors who lived during vital registration. The best time to get the records is right now. This can be expensive, but the price is probably not going down.

While most states allow people to obtain records for parents, grandparents, and other people in the direct line, most states do not allow people to obtain records of cousins and aunts and uncles until a certain number of years have elapsed. In Oregon, there is a 100-year access restriction on birth records, 50-year access restriction to death certificates, and a 25-year access restriction on marriage and divorce records. The National Center for Health Statistics in Hyattsville, Maryland, maintains a website, http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/howto/w2w/w2welcom.htm, with links to state vital records offices. The state websites include information about access restrictions.

Indexes

To obtain a vital record, you must know the name that is on the document, the place where the event occurred, and the date when it occurred. If you don't have

this information, you need to locate an index. Indexes have been created at the state level and the county level. Some are published, some are microfilmed, and some are on electronic databases.

The only national index is the Social Security Death Benefits Index (SSDI). It includes names of people who received Social Security benefits and who died. While almost everyone today has a Social Security number, it hasn't been that way forever. The Social Security Act was passed in 1936, and there were a number of occupations that were exempt. The SSDI, as we know it, didn't begin until the 1960s. A nice explanation of the SSDI is "A Unique Finding Aid: Social Security Death Index," online at http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~rwguide/lesson10.htm. The SSDI is found on many websites including FamilySearch.org, http://www.familysearch.org, and Rootsweb.com, http://www.rootsweb.com.

A number of websites have vital records indexes, but it is sometimes hard to find them. Joe Beine's, "Online Searchable Death Indexes for the USA," located at http://home.att.net/~wee-monster/deathrecords.html, and "Online Birth & Marriage records Indexes for the USA," located at http://home.att.net/~wee-monster/vitalrecords.html, provides "one-stop shopping" for many vital records indexes.

Some local libraries have published and/or microfilm copies of vital records indexes in their collections. Many county pages on the US GenWeb, http://www.usgenweb.com, have names and addresses of the local libraries.

As an example of this, here is an e-mail from the reference librarian at the Laurel, Mississippi, public library:

> January 2, 2003
> RE: Wilby family
>
> I found the death certificate numbers on both Alfred and Ethel. Unfortunately, there is no month listed except for Albert. He died in March 1943. Ethel died in 1940. His death certificate number is 19507, and hers is 12665.
>
> If you order the death certificates from Jackson, they will only charge you a fee of 40 cents per certificate plus a total of 2.00 shipping/handling. The address is MS. Dept. of Archives and History, P. O. Box 571 Jackson, MS 39205. There is no certain form to send, just the names and death certificate numbers on a piece of paper.

Most county courthouses have indexes to marriages. In several states, vital record indexes are found in town offices. Bentley's County Courthouse Book (a copy of the book is at the Genealogical Forum Library) lists addresses of county courthouses. Many of the county web pages on US Genweb, http://www.usgenweb.org, include courthouse addresses and weblinks.

Vital record indexes for a number of towns and counties have been microfilmed and are in the Family History Library Catalog, online at http://www.familysearch.org/eng/Library/FHLC/frameset_fhlc.asp. To search the catalog, click on the "place search" option. Type in the name of the state or county or town where your ancestors were living. From the list of topics, choose "Vital Records."

Obtaining Vital Records

When you know the date and place of the vital event, or when you find that a vital record office will do a five-year or ten-year search through their index, it is time to send in an order form.

State Vital Records Offices

The National Center for Health Statistics maintains a website with links to vital records offices in each state. Most of the state sites have downloadable order forms. You can print them, fill them out, and mail them off with the required fee and identification. If you want a certificate sooner, the state vital records offices have instructions for ordering by telephone, fax, or on the web.

Some vital records offices include indexes and/or the certificates on their websites. For example, the Arizona Department of Health Services has an index to deaths from 1844 to 1957 (deaths that occurred at least 50 years ago) and births from 1855 to 1932 (births that occurred at least 75 years ago). In most cases, they have links to the certificate. To find other websites like this, browse Joe Beine's websites.

Local Offices

In some states, copies of birth and death records can be obtained from local offices as well as from the state vital records office. Some state vital records offices do not collect marriage records, but you can obtain marriage records at the local level in all states. Information about these individual cases is included on the National Center for Health Statistics' website.

State Archives

Some state archives make vital record information available to the public. The Oregon State Archives is a leader in doing this. Their Oregon Historical Records

Index, http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us, includes indexes to many birth, marriage, and death records, and the Archives' staff will make copies of the records for a nominal fee. The Oregon State Archives has custody of Oregon death certificates that are older than 50 years, and they will make copies of these. They take email requests <reference.archives@state.or.us> or postal mail requests (800 Summer Street, N.E., Salem, OR 97310). For information about other vital records kept by the Oregon State Archives, check out their Vital Records research aid, online at http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/vital.html.

FamilySearch Labs

FamilySearch Labs, online at http://labs.familysearch.org is placing scanned images of vital records on their website. As of the end of 2008, they had Arizona Death Certificates; ca. 1870-1915; Georgia Deaths, 1919-1927; Texas Deaths, 1890-1976; Cook County, Illinois, marriages 1871-1920; Ohio Deaths, 1908-1953; Utah Deaths, 1904-1956; Michigan Marriages, 1868-1925; Philadelphia City Death Certificates, 1803-1915; Ohio Deaths, 1908-1953; Washington Death Certificates, 1970-1960 (no images); West Virginia Deaths, 1853-1970 (no images); and West Virginia Marriages, 1853-1970 (no images).

A Confession

I've mentally reviewed the vital records that I have in my collection, and I don't have my father's death record. I supplied the information that the funeral director placed on the certificate, but I don't have a copy of the document. I'm going to order it.

Comments and suggestions should to sent to the Column Editor, Connie Lenzen: ConnieLenzen@comcast.net

Significant Events in 20th Century Oregon

1924
- Compulsory School Act held unconstitutional
- Congress extends citizenship to American Indians
- Clarke-McNary Act aids federal-state forest fire protection
- Immigration Act of 1924 limits immigration based on 1890 census

1925
- State parks and waysides authorized
- League of Oregon Cities founded

1926
- Exclusion of African-Americans clause removed from Constitution
- Fish wheels abolished
- Astor Column completed

1927
- Portland has more cars per capita than Chicago or New York

1929
- State Park Commission created
- Stock market crash

1930
- Vale Irrigation Project begins water delivery
- Census enumerates 953,786 residents
- Oregon's first woman judge, Mary Jane Spurlin, appointed to Multnomah County District Court
- The Portland Art Museum Building, designed by Pietro Belluschi, opens to the public

1933
- Tillamook Burn destroys 240,000 acres of forest
- Civilian Conservation Corps and Works Projects Administration start projects
- Beer Act of 1933 leads to repeal of Prohibition

1934
- First grazing district under Taylor Grazing Act forms at Bonanza

1935
- Congress authorizes Bonneville Dam
- Fire destroys State Capitol
- Fish traps illegal in Oregon

1936
- Bandon Fire destroys town and kills eleven residents
- Workmen complete five major bridges on Highway 101
- First woman, Nan Wood Honeyman, elected from Oregon to US House of Representatives

1937
- President Roosevelt dedicates Timberline Lodge
- Gas chamber built for capital punishments
- Oregon Shakespeare Festival forms in Ashland
- Sept 28, President Roosevelt dedicates Bonneville Dam
- Congress creates Bonneville Power Administration
- Bankhead-Jones Act authorizes buy out of homesteaders

1938
- Bonneville Dam completed
- Oregon surpasses Washington as leading timber producer in the country

1939
- Tillamook Burn destroys 190,000 acres of forest
- State capitol completed in Salem

Oregon Snapshots . . .

Fighting for Liberty

By Alene Reaugh

The November 2008 Presidential Election was an historic event of great proportions. In 2012, Oregonians will celebrate one hundred years since another important political election made history; women were granted the right to vote in Oregon.

Abigail Scott Duniway was at the helm of the woman suffrage movement in Oregon and several other Western States.[1] She campaigned for women so they could have equality in property rights and legal matters that affected their lives.

Abigail Scott Duniway

Abigail was the third child born to John Tucker Scott and Ann Roelofson Scott, on Oct. 22, 1834. Abigail's mother cried, she said, when Abigail was born a girl because she knew her daughter would endure a difficult life as a woman.Her mother, a hard working farm wife, gave birth to her 12th child, another unwanted girl, just as she turned 40 years old. Her father got what was known as the Oregon Fever. He "felt an irresistible migratory impulse," like his father and grandfather before him.[2] Even though his wife Ann quietly opposed this move due to her failing health, she had no say in the decision. In 1852 John Scott uprooted his family and set out on the Oregon Trail to the new frontier. It was the land of the future and he wanted to be a part of it. To him it was an adventure. He wanted it not only for himself, but also for his family.

Abigail, known as Jenny to her family, was just 17 when they left Illinois and headed to Oregon. The other children were Mary Francis, the oldest; Catherine, age 15; Harvey, age 14; Harriett Louise, age 11; Sarah Mariah, age 5; and Willie who was just 3 yrs old. Everyone had their daily responsibilities on the trip with the girls responsible for helping with the cooking and cleaning. Except for Abigail. She was assigned the task of writing the daily journal. She had less than one year of formal education, but her parents recognized that she had talent. Her mother told her that she had the ability to express herself, and her father told her she had a way of putting down ideas that were different from the rest of them.

After arriving in Oregon, Abigail met and married Benjamin Duniway, a handsome man, and followed her mother's example and became a hard working pioneer farm wife. They had a daughter followed by four sons. Then due to an unfortunate accident, her husband became disabled which put her in the position of helping to support the family. This was the beginning of what would be a meaningful and productive life for Abigail.

Harvey, Abigail's younger brother by three years, was the only surviving boy of the family and was expected to be a confident and aggressive man. His early experiences included fighting in the Yakima War against the Indians, logging, building cabins and clearing farm sites. He then went on to obtain a college education, study law, and finally became an editor of *The Oregonian n*ewspaper. As an editor he was tough, combative and uncompromising. He associated with the social elite; wealthy businessmen and financiers, men such as William Ladd, Henry Corbett, Simon Reed and Henry Pittock. Harvey became wealthy and influential in his role as editor of *The Oregonian*.

Harvey's situation was a stark contrast to Abigail's life working to support her family. There had always been a sibling rivalry between them fueled by several factors. She was older than Harvey and felt superior to him because of it. On the other hand, she was a woman and had none of the advantages given to men by law and society. It often frustrated her to realize that she had to work twice as hard to get what Harvey was able to get easily.

In order to support her family she began teaching, but women teachers were paid half of what men were paid, and it was not adequate. In order to improve the family's financial situation, she opened a millinery shop in Albany where she saw women in all walks of life and situations. She knew first hand from her own situation how unjustly women were treated under the law. The women she met had no financial independence, many were not educated, and in the event their husbands left

them, they could not support themselves and their children. Abigail spoke often to Ben about these women and their problems, and he convinced her that things would not improve for women until they had the right to vote for better laws.

With Ben's blessing, Abigail moved the family to Portland and started her own newspaper. The *New Northwest* was a weekly paper dedicated to equal rights, reform and woman suffrage. When the first issue was printed, Harvey stopped by to congratulate his sister and to tell her that he had mentioned the new paper in *The Oregonian* that day. He told her he thought it was a good paper.

Then he went on to criticize her for an article about three women who wrote a manifesto protesting the promotion of woman suffrage. Mrs. Henry W. Corbett, the wife of an Oregon Senator was one of those women. Abigail wrote "…does she, as a working woman for whom eight hour laws are never made, toil for half wages at double work over the wash-tub or in the kitchen, with no hope of promotion…" She went on to say "Go home from the Capital, from the society of gay woman and worldly men; cease trying to outshine each other at receptions and soirees; grind corn at the mill; cook and wash and mend for your children but do keep out of public life…"[3]

Harvey told her that Senator Corbett would soon be a major owner of *The Oregonian* and that as an editor he could not support her cause. Her response was that she did not want his support because she did not want people to think she was like him. One last piece of advice he imparted was that she should be discreet. After all, she was running an ad for Mr. Corbett's business on page one.

Despite the two acting as children in this exchange, Harvey and Abigail maintained a good relationship and he did give her some support financially and editorially in her cause for woman suffrage. His support was evident specifically in 1883 when Washington Territory was considering the question of giving women the right to vote.

Then something happened and Harvey changed his opinion when the amendment came before the Oregon voters in 1884. The amendment lost by a substantial margin. Harvey expressed his opinion that this was a sign that woman suffrage was a dying cause and only a minority of the women wanted the right to vote. He felt that conservative women would stay home while the radical women would vote for restrictive laws and that they would be too sentimental on issues that would cause excessive legislation. It was evident that he was concerned that women would vote for prohibition.

Harvey consistently opposed suffrage from that point forward. Abigail tried to maintain a harmonious relationship with her brother, but they continued to fight like children. Then just before the 1900 election, there was a major falling out between them and he lashed out at her. He was not a well person and it was apparent in his dealings with her. Harvey later apologized and said that he had been wrong to oppose suffrage and would not continue to do so. Abigail did not hold out a lot of hope that he would keep his word, as she knew from experience he could easily forget promises made to her.

Just two weeks before the crucial vote was to take place, Harvey and his staff lobbied an all out attack on the suffrage amendment. Abigail, having anticipated this possibility, worked feverishly to counter this attack and she called it "the busiest and most important week" of her life. [4]

The amendment failed by a small margin, but it was a brutal defeat of 30 years hard work. Her brother, however, took much pleasure in his victory, his power over his sister and her cause. She went to confront him and told him that she was ashamed of him and his paper and that she would work even harder to accomplish her goal.

Harvey vowed to fight her even harder the next time. However, further action on his part was no longer necessary, as the defeat in 1900 was so great that the momentum of it carried into subsequent elections. He remained neutral after that but he said, "*The Oregonian* has not changed its mind, but is tired of the contention."[5]

In spite of her humiliation and her feelings for her brother after this confrontation, she seemed more inspired. She sent a personal telegram to the Associated Press,

> "Defeated but not beaten! Yes 26,265; No 28,402. Leaders are jubilant over the large vote. Going right ahead! Will win next time!"[6]

On the surface she maintained civility toward her brother for the sake of the cause, but underneath she held feelings of hatred towards him. She wrote to her son, Clyde Duniway, that Harvey was "…the great editor who whipped his sister at the public whipping post…"[7] and the strained relationship spread throughout both families.

Clyde Duniway was a historian who earned his degrees at Cornell and Harvard. He saved many of his mother's letters about suffrage, politics and the dealings with her brother. Clyde later recalled that family reunions were destroyed as his mother and uncle went

at it hammer and tongs at his grandfather's home in Forest Grove. Harvey's son, Leslie M. Scott, even attempted to take up the fight after his father's death.

It was not just the family that was affected by this rivalry between this brother and sister but the fight for suffrageas a whole both in Oregon and nationally.

In a letter addressed to Abigail from Kate M. Gordon, corresponding secretary of the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA), Kate writes: "You will understand thoroughly, that the National will have to be very careful what role they play, financially, or otherwise in Oregon, after the dreadful attacks that appeared in the Oregon papers."[8]

But such attacks did not deter the citizens of Portland from honoring Abigail. Oct. 6, 1905, was declared Abigail Scott Duniway Day at the Lewis & Clark Exposition. And, she was the only woman they honored. It was not elaborate and there was no formal program, but it afforded an opportunity for the people of Oregon to meet in person one of the most prominent and important women in the Northwest.[9]

In August 1906, Harvey Scott wrote:

> *The Oregonian* has not supported woman suffrage, but has opposed it…But it will say that it has been an interested witness of the effort for it during the whole period of the agitation in Oregon, these forty years. It was begun by Mrs. Duniway, and has been carried on by her unceasingly; and whatever progress it has made is due to her more than all the other agencies together… The progress it has made is an extraordinary tribute to one woman's energy." [10]

"Ties of blood asserted themselves in this last stage of a longtime love-hate relationship with sister Abigail, and his warmer impulses finally prevailed."[11]

The Amendment failed again in 1906, in 1908 and then again three months after Harvey died in 1910. In 1912, with *The Oregonian* actively supporting the amendment, the women finally won by 4,000 votes. Men and women worked together for many years to make woman suffrage a reality. When it was done, the men of Oregon were commended on their decision to allow women this great honor and responsibility.

Abigail Scott Duniway was a true Oregon pioneer, both as an early settler and as a woman fighting for liberty and enfranchisement of women. After 40 years fighting for woman suffrage, she was the first woman in Oregon to register and cast her vote.

(Endnotes)

1 The correct name of the movement (organization) was National American Woman Suffrage.

2 Helen Krebs Smith, *The Presumptuous Dreamer,* Volume 1 (1834-1871) (Lake Oswego, Oregon: Smith, Smith and Smith Publishing, 1974), 207

3 Smith, T*he Presumptuous Dreamer,* Volume 1 (1834-1871), 152-153.

4 Lee Nash, "Abigail versus Harvey: Sibling Rivalry in the Oregon Campaign for Woman Suffrage" *Oregon Historical Quarterly* 98 no 2 (Summer 1997), 140.

5 Nash, "Abigail versus Harvey: Sibling Rivalry in the Oregon Campaign for Woman Suffrage," 152-153.

6 Nash, "Abigail versus Harvey: Sibling Rivalry in the Oregon Campaign for Woman Suffrage," 141.

7 Ibid.

8 Eva Emery Dye Papers, Mss1089, Oregon Historical Society Research Library, Box 4/9.

9 *Lewis and Clark Journal,* "Only Woman Honored By The Exposition," *Oregon Historical Society Scrapbook* 6.

10 Nash, "Abigail versus Harvey: Sibling Rivalry in the Oregon Campaign for Woman Suffrage," 160-161.

11 Nash, "Abigail versus Harvey: Sibling Rivalry in the Oregon Campaign for Woman Suffrage," 161.

Duniway Photo Credit: On mount: E.W. Moore, Portland Oregon, successor to Abell & Son. May Wright Sewall Collection. Signed: Yours for Liberty, Abigail Scott Duniway. Published in: American women : a Library of Congress guide for the study of women's history and culture in the United States / edited by Sheridan Harvey ... [et al.]. Washington : Library of Congress, 2001, p. 56.

Comments and suggestions should to sent to the Column Editor, Alene Reaugh: softwalk2@yahoo.com.

Significant Events in 20th Century Oregon

1940

- Census enumerates 1,089,684 residents

1941

- Japan bombs Pearl Harbor; war declared; Oregonians enlist to serve in World War II
- Housing Authority of Portland established
- Cole family moves to Portland from Nebraska

1942

- Jan 1, 1942, Oregon State College, 1941 Pacific Coast Conference football champions, defeat Duke 20-16 in the Rose Bowl game; because of the war, they play in Durham, N.C., instead of in California
- Executive Order 9066 authorizes removal of Japanese-Americans to internment camps
- Japanese submarine shells Fort Stevens
- Japanese airplane firebombs Siskiyou National Forest
- US Army builds Camp Adair and Camp Abbott
- US Navy builds Tillamook and Tongue Point Naval Air Stations
- Three Kaiser Shipyards in operation in Portland area, employing 76,000 people; Vanport founded to house wartime workers

Written in Stone . . .

Preserving Historic Cemeteries

By Carol Surrency

Memorial Day is heralded by some as the beginning of summer, a three-day holiday at the end of May that provides an opportunity for a trip to the beach or a barbecue. Originally called Decoration Day, Memorial Day was established in 1868 to honor the Civil War dead, and has come to represent a remembrance of all those who came before us.[1] Early in the last century, the day was celebrated by family gatherings at cemeteries to clean grave sites and to leave a memorial of flowers. Family picnics or potlucks were held in the cemetery. Today, many still use the day as an opportunity to care for the last resting place of family and friends.

To genealogists, cemeteries hold a special appeal. This is a place where you cannot only learn facts about your ancestors' lives, you can walk where they walked and see sights they looked on. It's a special connection that you experience at few other locations. The danger is that not everyone values a historic cemetery in the same way. Families are mobile, often living miles from their ancestral homes and there is great focus on the future with little regard for the past. As a result, we often come across cemeteries that are abandoned or neglected, and society, in the name of progress, covets the land for other purposes.

Many of you already have a favorite cemetery. You may belong to a cemetery association or historical society that gives you an opportunity to support the preservation of a particular burial ground, or you may come across a neglected site and decide to make it your project. Many individuals or groups spend time on or before Memorial Day cleaning and doing cemetery maintenance. Because well-meaning people can, unintentionally, do a great deal of damage, it is important to do research before starting. One basic principle stands above all others when providing care and maintenance in an old cemetery: do no harm.

If you are faced with a cemetery overgrown with blackberry vines and brush, the first step is to create a survey. Cut as little as possible at this point. Sketch a map with the location of each marker and marker fragment or depression in the ground that might indicate the location of a grave. Include the location of trees, shrubbery, flowers, roads, pathways, gates, fences and curbing. Remember, historic or traditional plants and heritage trees are part of this outdoor museum, and in many areas, cemeteries are one of the few places to find rare native wildflowers and grasses. Note birds and wildlife in the area; your cemetery may provide essential habitat. When you begin to remove unwanted weeds and brush, watch for small metal grave markers, footstones, or toppled stones hidden by overgrowth. Never discard gravestone fragments or unreadable markers. Record each on your map and leave it where you found it, unless you have specialized training and are part of a "friends" group doing restoration. Photograph the cemetery before you start and at each step. Mark the camera locations on your map. When the brush has been cleaned away, photograph each marker and, if possible, record their location with a GPS unit. You may want to invest in a software program such as CemEditor which provides you with fields to record: the information on each stone, the condition of the stone and a photograph.[2] If your research becomes more comprehensive, CemEditor allows you to include obituaries, photographs of individuals buried in the cemetery and family stories.

A beautiful 130-year-old gravestone shows typical waterstain damage.

Once you have completed the survey and removed those blackberry vines, you may want to turn your attention to the headstones and gravesites themselves, or perhaps your cemetery is well maintained and your time and attention on Memorial Day is directed to your family gravesites. Regardless of the level of involvement, it is very important for all of us to become informed regarding the proper care of old gravemarkers. The Association for Gravestone Studies recommends

these general principles:

(1) don't apply any foreign matter such as epoxies, cleaners and sealers to the stones. There are not yet any time-proven materials one can safely apply for mending, preventing deterioration or even cleaning gravestones.

(2) Don't use any procedure which cannot be undone, such as using metal bolts and braces, sinking stones into cement or setting them into granite. "Permanence" often means only that a harmful or inadequate procedure cannot be replaced by a new and better one. (3) Don't do anything abrasive to the stones. Even careless brushing or rubbing the surface can damage some stones.[3]

Many people are under the impression that because a tombstone is usually made of a hard material, it is safe to be aggressive when attempting to clean it. Often there is a desire for gravestones, especially marble markers, to look as white as they did when new. Unfortunately, all stone is porous, marble more so than granite, and, consequently, is a fairly fragile and soft material. It is very important for anyone planning a cleaning project to become familiar with the different types of stone used for gravemarkers.

Before starting to clean, always check the condition of the marker. If the surface flakes, is sugared (produces lots of grit) or cracked, do not clean. Be careful as you work around old gravestones, they are heavy and may topple if you lean on them. Even if they are upright markers, they may not be anchored in the ground.

The most basic and safe cleaning method is with water and a soft bristle brush. Using a spray bottle is preferable to a bucket since dipping the brush back in the bucket may spread organic material from one part of the stone to another. If you do use a bucket, change the water frequently and rinse the brush in clean water, also frequently. Both the stone and the brush should be wet at all times as you work. "Gently brush the stone with a very light pressure… in a circular motion to dislodge soil/biological growth from the stone."[4] Other tools that may be used with care are toothbrushes, Q-tips and wooden implements such as orange sticks to carefully clean inscriptions.

Some consider lichens and moss a natural part of your outdoor museum, but since biological growth may cause deterioration of the stone, cleaning is sometimes needed. Algae, lichen and fungi, which may be colored black, gray, green, yellow, red, orange, brown or blue can "trap moisture on the stone surface, secrete acids that can dissolve limestone, marble, sandstone, concrete, and mortar, and insert "roots" into the pores of the stone causing damage."[5] Ivy, ferns and moss may also be hazardous for the same reasons. In the winter, black algae is the most commonly seen organic material on stones, especially marble, west of the Cascades. In Eastern Oregon, you see spots of bright orange and yellow dotting the white marble surface.

Techniques for removal are: first, remove loose debris or plant life. Next, try brushing or scraping off before washing, as some plants can be easily dislodged; but always use scrapers that are softer than the stone, such as Popsicle sticks, bamboo skewers or wooden spatulas. Most of these plants will come off more easily after you wet them. Do not try to pull a whole mass of plant life from the stone at one time—some of the root systems may be deeply embedded. Carefully clip or pull away each section.

As we begin to think about Memorial Day clean-up and summer research trips to cemeteries, remember these important things:

Do not use:

• Pressure washers on tombstones — ever
• Metal or wire brushes
• Bleach or any household cleaner
• Acids or acid based solutions
• Weed Whackers around the base of the monument.
• Clip around markers and curbs with hand shears
• Abrasives, especially sandblasting

Do:

• Go prepared with cleaning supplies, comfortable shoes, hat, and water for you and the stone
• Be careful about removing vegetation. Be sure you can identify native plant species and historic plantings
• Use your judgment — when in doubt, don't
• Take time to enjoy your surroundings and feel that sense of connection with your ancestors
• But always remember the primary principle in caring for a cemetery: do no harm.

(Endnotes)

1 "The History of Memorial Day," History.com (www.history.com/content/memorial : accessed 11 January 2009).

2 CemEditor. OVS-Genealogy (www.ovs-genealogy.com : accessed 12 January 2009). A software program for recording cemeteries.

3 Jessie Lie Faber, Recommendations for the Care of Gravestones (The Association for Gravestone Studies, Greenfield, MA, 1986), 1.

4 "Cleaning Gravemarkers," Chicora Foundation, Inc. (www.Chicora.org : accessed 2009).

5 "Cleaning Gravemarkers," Cicora Foundation, Inc.

Comments and suggestions should to sent to the Column Editor, Carol Surrency: lcsurr@aol.com.

Relics . . .

Willow Grove: Columbia River Gillnetting in the early 20th century

By Harvey Steele

Cruising at high speed, the silvery chum salmon could see nothing in the black night waters of the Columbia River. Gliding swiftly but cautiously underwater, he hit a net in his journey upstream. He could feel it begin to give so the instinct was to force his way through. The missile-like fish slid through the trammel opening effortlessly, but immediately entered an enclosing pocket as the small-meshed backwall closed around him. Fins and gills were immobilized as he thrashed in panic, only to be left dangling helpless in the gill net.[1]

Charles Berg never added a cabin on his fishing boat, because he was afraid the boat might catch on fire.

The time could be any evening of any year on the Columbia during the first half of the 20th century. Above the net, barely aware of the turmoil below, the fisherman, Charles Berg was just making a living for his large family in Willow Grove. Berg arrived on the Columbia in 1894, just in time for the greatest historic flood of the river. On June 7 of that year the flood waters crested at 34.4 feet above sea level, exceeding by many feet the next highest levels, in 1876 and 1948. To make it worse, one observer had noted that commercial fishing on the lower Columbia had reduced the salmon population to decreasing levels every year after 1882.[2] He commented:

> There is no reason to doubt...that the number of salmon now reaching the head waters of streams in the Columbia Basin is insignificant in comparison with the numbers of some years ago annually visited and spawned in these waters...We must look to the great commercial fisheries (in) the lower river for an explanation of this decrease, which portends inevitable disaster to these fisheries if the conditions which have brought it about are permitted to continue.[3]

Columbia River Gillnetting

Gillnetting had a long history on the Columbia River. Native American fishermen had used the system for centuries. Fishing with canoes, using nettle or cedar fiber, they created nets held up by wooden floats at the top and stone sinkers or anchors to hold it in place. By the time Europeans arrived, in the nineteenth century, fishing boats were oar-powered and sometimes fitted with sails. Native Americans then used dip nets.

After 1900, gasoline engines were used on many of the boats, giving them more range.

Berg's boat was the traditional 26 feet in length and was gas-powered by 1915. It was a "double ender" caravel-shape fitted with a centerboard for stability. The craft was not enclosed and the interior was painted blue. A tall man in a trademark Stetson, Berg often fished alone, but sometimes with a partner, either Çarl Norgaard or Charlie Holm, both distant relatives from Finland.

The gill net itself was a devilish invention for snaring the swift and wary salmon. The European version had a wide trammel opening section into which the fish would often blunder, especially at night when the river was black. The net backwall was a nightmare of smaller mesh pockets which usually ambushed the fish. In the

salmon's struggle to back out, the gills would catch on the netting and no escape was possible, hence the name "gill" net.[4]

If the actual fishing was a relatively simple waiting game, the construction of the net was not. Gill nets are basically a series of panels of various mesh sizes with a weighted "foot rope" at the bottom and a "headline" to which the floats are attached. They could be assembled to any size mesh to maximize the salmon intake and minimize the accidental capture of smaller, less commercially important fish.

Carol Steele, step-granddaughter of Çharles Berg, has some of the tools he used to construct and repair his gill net. The collection includes a wooden mesh needle (18 cm. long) for weaving the net on a wooden trestle (a loom very much like a modern sawhorse) and a square wooden mesh stick (8 cm. long). Berg would also have had hooks for the attachment of the netting frames and scissors for making cuts at the appropriate panels. Creating or repairing the net required a very intricate series of knots (using the wooden needle and constantly measuring with the mesh stick), and each panel would typically be up to 70 meters long and 1.50 meters wide.

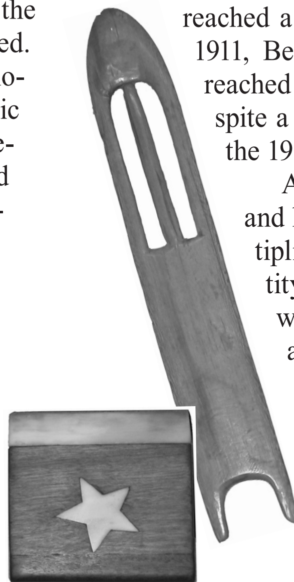
Completed, the net would be placed in a "drift," a specific section of river bottom from which the snags or other obstructions had been removed. Drifts were named according to geographic location, a historic event, or sometimes the ethnic background of individual fishermen. In the period before about 1930, drift rights were a kind of heritage, a traditional agreement that varied. In some areas, drift rights passed on to the eldest son. In some Scandinavian drift zones the widow inherited the rights and could sell them. Finnish drift rights were more communal, with the rights reverting back to the drift itself and often including some form of indemnification for the widow.[5]

An area near Willow Grove contained the family drift for Charles Berg and his brother Gabriel for most of the first quarter of the century. By the 1920-1930 period, several families of men born in Finland were living in the Stella District of Cowlitz County.

Charles Berg, Joe Carlson, Ålbinus Herman, Edward Sax, Emil Carlson, John Gabrielson, Joseph Nelson, William Dahl, Charles Matson, and Victor Hill were Finn-Swedes living and working near Willow Grove. Berg was the Secretary-Treasurer of the local Fisherman's Association, with responsibility for hiring divers to locate logs or snags on the bottom, so they could be hauled out of the river and "clean the drift."[6] Many of the fishermen on the Columbia River were born in Finland, and, typically, did not get along well with other Scandinavian fishermen — Swedes, Danes, and Norwegians. One large cluster of Finnish drifts was in the Astoria area near the mouth of the river, but the area in the vicinity of Mayger, Oregon, extending across the river, was known as a Finnish (or Finn-Swede) drift zone. Norwegians in that area were very aggressive about protecting their drifts.

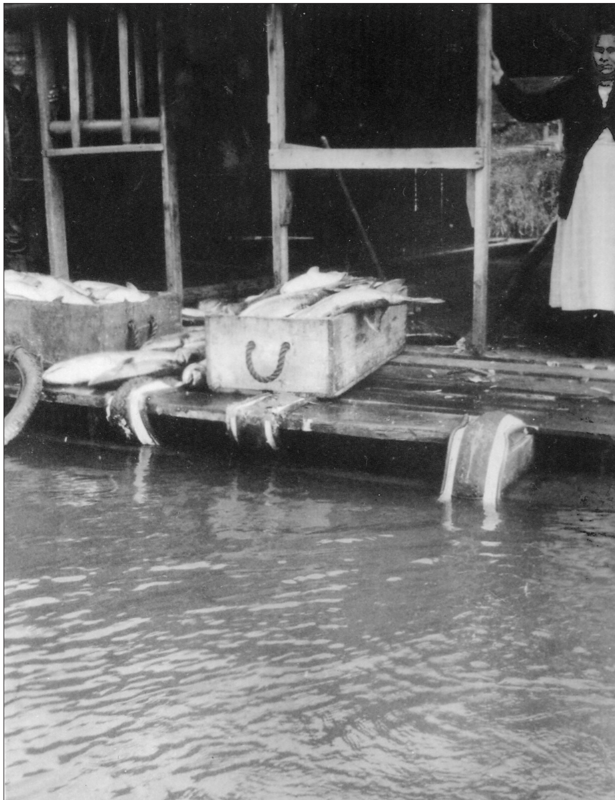
The gillnetters would stay with their nets, occasionally lifting them to dump the trapped fish into the boat and sometimes make net repairs. Salmon could bring prices of 25 to 30 cents each, depending on size and condition, but smaller fish (called "dogs") were often in the nets despite the mesh sizes, and were commercially worthless, never worth more than a few pennies. Occasionally, sturgeon was trapped and a big one could bring 65 cents, but many canneries would not buy them.[7]

Gillnetters like Charles Berg were responsible for about 56 percent of the salmon taken for sale to the commercial fisheries. Despite the dire predictions, fishing reached a one-year peak of 49.5 million pounds in 1911, Berg's 15th on the river. The total weight reached only 27.5 million pounds in 1912 and, despite a few better years, never again approached the 1911 levels.[8]



Wooden mesh stick with bone inlays, left, and wood mesh stick were used for weaving, repairing and mesausuring the size of the gill net pockets and joined areas. The tools, carved by Charles Berg in about 1925, are now owned by his step-great-granddaughter Carol Steele, of Gresham, Oregon.

At about this time, troll fishing, using hook and line, increased on the lower river and multiplied both the number of boats and the quantity of fish taken. Many gillnetters like Berg were forced to work on Sundays with hooks and lines, since gillnetting was prohibited on that day. The troll industry was almost completely unregulated, and the addition of gasoline engines for boats after 1900 limited the gillnetters, with their fixed drifts. Gasoline-powered boats could range farther than the traditional drifts and occasionally went as far as the estuary. By 1915, there were approximately 500 trollers using hook and line on the lower Columbia and the number of gillnet boats had increased to 2856. With these changes in the fishing industry, Berg was forced to lay down a fish trap near his drift to supplement his catch, a practice that was



A night's catch at the fish trap. Probably represents more than one fisherman's catch.

both unpopular and dangerous to gasoline-powered boats. Family tradition relates that Berg enjoyed success with his traps, unless an occasional seal would get caught, ruining the catch. Traps became illegal in 1934, after Berg's death.[9] As the Great Depression approached, the price of salmon began to dip lower. At the same time, the cumulative effect of salmon habitat destruction began to take its toll for all the types of fishermen. In 1934, the year Charles Berg died, canned Columbia River sockeye salmon was only 25 cents a pound and sirloin steak was selling at 31 cents a pound. Although gillnetting continued on a smaller scale, canneries began to rely more on troll fishing and other methods to fill the needs of the burgeoning salmon market.[10]

Arthur Berg working a fishtrap in the Columbia River, 1926.

Charles Berg and his family[11]

Berg was born in Narpes, Finland, July 18, 1866. He was christened Carl John Berg, son of Carl and Marie Berg. He died March 13, 1934, of "possible cardiac failure" after several years of heart trouble. He was survived by his widow, Lena Berg of Longview, Washington. The death certificate stated he had lived in the Willow Grove area of Cowlitz County for 38 years.

Charles, the name Berg used in the U.S., came to the country via Liverpool in 1887, landing at Boston. After arrival he went to Colorado and then to Tombstone, Arizona, where he was cutting timbers for use in the mines, although he could not tolerate working underground so was never a miner. His fear of being enclosed extended to his later life on the river, causing him to use an unenclosed boat.

After Berg came to the Columbia in 1894, he worked for a Sauvie Island fisherman and, in 1896, moved to the area of Willow Grove, Washington. His houseboat was located north of Longview, near Fisher Island upstream and the town of Stella (at the mouth of Germany Creek) downstream. The thin peninsula is directly opposite Mayger, Oregon, an area where family burials are located in a nearby cemetery. Coal Creek Slough separates Willow Grove from the Washington mainland, not easily accessible by land.

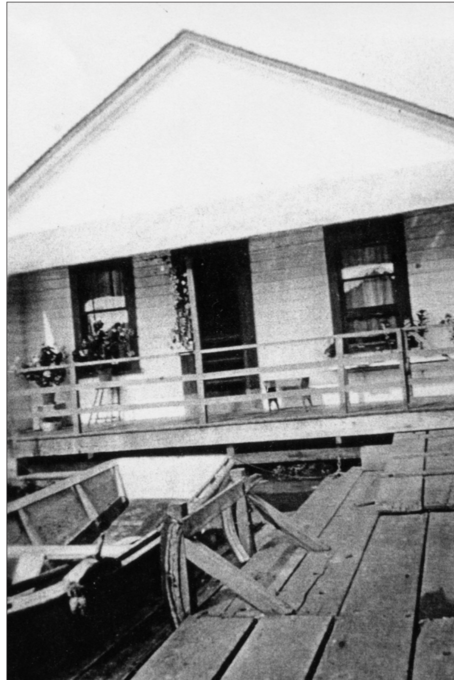
Stella is located at Columbia River Mile 56.5, on the site of a Donation Land Claim by John Guisendorfer

in 1857. Guisendorfer opened a store there in 1880 and named the town for his daughter. The earliest settlers were German immigrants.

By the turn of the century, two national logging firms, the Hammond Land Company and the Wisconsin Lumber Company, dominated the local economy, employing over 1000 before 1907. In that year, the town burned down and, although partially rebuilt, the logging boom had ended.

After Berg arrived in Willow Grove, he married Gertrude Howard, a neighbor, in 1899.

Gabriel Berg, a younger brother, had arrived in 1891 and married Lena (short for Carolina) in 1903. Although Charles and Gertrude had no children and later divorced, Gabriel and Lena had four: Mildred (1903), Ǻrthur (1905, Eva (1907), and Helga (1908). Gabriel died of accidental drowning in 1909 and Charles Berg began to assist his brother's widow and family. Charles and Lena were married and had three children: Stella (1911), Ella (1913), and Sarah (1915).



The Berg family's houseboat home.

The family lived in a small houseboat on the river. The children were educated at a small one-room schoolhouse in Willow Grove. The children continued to speak the Finn-Swede dialect their elders had learned in Narpes, a town located in the province of Western Finland in the Ostrobothnia region. Although Narpes is located in Finland, nearly everyone there speaks Swedish, in most cases a very archaic dialect. The Berg children also learned English and the five surviving girls all married. Arthur remained single and worked as a fisherman on the Columbia and in Alaska in later years.

Gillnetting was never easy. The bitter cold winds on the river chilled fishermen to the bone, and the high winds and waves frequently capsized boats. Fishing was best by night and often practiced in a fog that would blind the salmon but also the fishermen. Boats sometimes collided; and when fishermen were tumbled into the icy Columbia they were not easily recovered. The river navigation channels were surprisingly narrow and, as the Army Corps of Engineers dredged them regularly, there was the new danger of being run over by the giant ocean steamships. By 1955, when the last of the Bergs sold the houseboat and moved to Longview, gillnetting was disappearing from the Columbia River, along with the well defined drift rights and most canneries. Overfishing and dams reduced the salmon habitats to precarious levels that are still being debated today.

(Endnotes)

1 Columbia River Gill Netter Crafty and Daring in Battle with Tricky Silver Salmon," *Longview Daily News* (Longview, Washington), 18 November 1932, 1.

2 Information in this paragraph and throughout the article is based on interviews in 1999 and 2002 with Helga Berg Anderson, step-daughter of Charles Berg, and in 2008 with Sarah Berg Brazier, daughter of Charles Berg, and in 1999-2008 with Carol Anderson Steele, step-grand-daughter of Charles Berg

3 Joseph Craig and Robert Hacker, *The History and Development of the Fisheries of the Columbia River.* (Washington DC: U.S. Govt Printing Office, 1940), 35

4 L.Libert and A.Maucorps, *Mending of Fish Nets,* (Surrey:Unwin Brothers Ltd. 1973), 3-7.

5 Irene Martin, *Legacy and Testament: The Story of Columbia River Gillnetters*.(Pullman:: WSU Press, 1994)

6 1920 U.S. Census, Cowlitz County, Washington, population schedule, National Archives microfilm T523, roll 1077.1920 1930. U.S. Census, Cowlitz County, Washington, population schedule, National Archives microfilm T626, roll 2487.

7 Martin, Legacy and Testament, 239. Ken Elverum, *Gill Net Fishing on the Columbia River, (*.Salem: Legislative Council, 1962), 134-141:

8 Courtland Smith, Salmon Fishers of the Columbia, (Corvallis: Oregon State University Press, 1979), 21-22

9 Smith, *Salmon Fishers of the Columbia*, 126-130.

10 Craig and Hacker, The History and Development of the Fisheries of the Columbia River, 47.

11 Information in this and the following paragraphs is based on personal interviews with Sarah Berg Brazier in 2008 and with Carol Anderson Steele in 1999-2008.

Comments and suggestions should be sent to the Column Editor, Harvey Steele: harveysteele@verizon.net.

Story Teller . . .

The Great Marmon Hunt

By Bonnie LaDoe

"I wonder if it's still down there?" Mom asked one day in 1976 at our home in Portland. The "down there" she referred to was Grays River, Washington, a small village across the Columbia River from Astoria, Oregon. And the "it" was a 1911 Marmon, her father's first car. I sincerely doubted the old car parked in that yellowed photo in the family album could possibly still be in the same area where my grandfather left it. However, even the possibility was a tantalizing thought. So, began the "great Marmon hunt."

The original Marmon owned by my grandfather.

A call to an antique car club in Portland supplied the first lead. Yes, one of the members said, it was still in the Lower Columbia area the last he knew. After several trips to the area over the next couple of years and asking several people, we were no closer to finding it, although a lot of folks certainly did remember it.

Finally, in 1979, my son and I, with a lead from folks at the local museum, found it at the home of Helen Badger in Grays River. She was the widow of Art Badger, who had purchased the car from my grandfather, William Upton, in 1939 for $75! Art had stored it in his barn and the only improvement was a set of tires he purchased for $100 (which Helen said almost led to their divorce). Although it was not restored, it was in very good condition. Mom was so pleased that her grandson got to see it and he was excited too. What 16-year-old wouldn't be thrilled to see his great grandfather's first car? We were told the car was worth about $20,000. We took lots of photos and that, I thought, was the end of the story.

The restored Marmon, in Maine in 2004.

It's now 2007. Mom has passed on and my son is a grown man. A friend has persuaded me to attend the Writer's Forum at the GFO, and as I begin to think about family stories, I remember the old Marmon. And now, I am the one wondering about its fate since we saw it 28 years ago. I had heard it sold to a collector, but no one seemed to know whom.

So I again solicited the assistance of the antique car world, but this time, I had the Internet to help in the search. A couple of the old car clubs I contacted

put my search in their newsletters. In a matter of weeks, I had a reply.

I was told that "after a year of gentle persuasion", a Dr. Deshaye in Olympia had purchased the Marmon from Helen Badger in the 1980's for $15,000. I was able to contact the doctor's son, John, who gave me wonderful stories of how his dad and other folks had restored it, along with many photos of it after restoration. I also learned it was a rather rare 1911 Touring Car that won the HCCA National Tour in 1984/85 on the same tires that Art Badger had purchased in 1940! With the doctor now deceased, John could only remember that his dad sold it to a Brad Austin in Seattle in the early 1990's, but had no contact information.

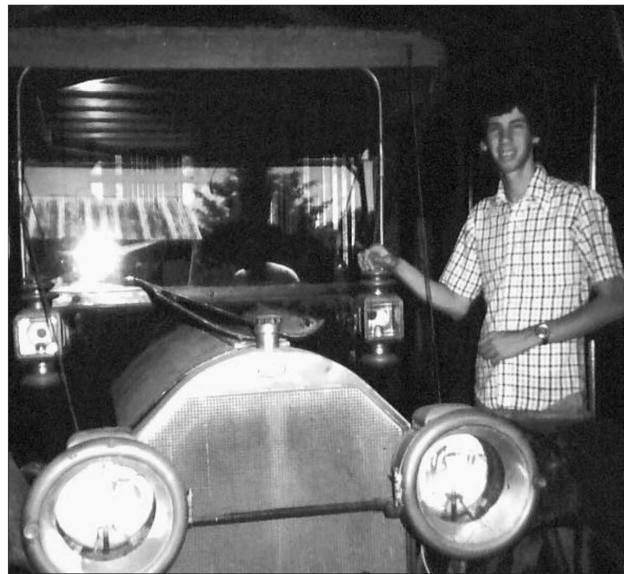
Thanks to the Internet white pages, I was able to find Brad still in Seattle. He had purchased the car for about $60,000 and took it to many shows on the West Coast.

I shared my old photo of the car with him, and he was able to identify the license plate as a 1919 Washington State plate. Later, a local resident of the Grays River area told me a story about that plate. One day after Art Badger had purchased those new tires in 1940, he had a run in with a state trooper. The trooper said, "You need new plates."

"No I don't," Art said. "These came with the car and they're perfectly fin."

The trooper just grinned and said, "Have a nice day."

In the late 1990's, Brad sold the car to Lester Noyes of Falmouth, Maine. By then it was valued at about $80,000. Brad had Lester's contact information and



Jeff LaDoe with the Marmon.in 1979.

many photos, which he was kind enough to share with me. One photo shows the car with the original spare tire.

My last contact was when Lester Noyes called me from Maine. He was pleased to hear from the granddaughter of one of the car's original owners and was pleasantly surprised to receive a copy of the old photo from my family album. And he also shared current photos.

I understand the old Marmon is very valuable now (did I hear 6 figures?), so I'm sure it will be around for a good long time. I'm just hoping I won't lose it again; I'm getting too old for these "great Marmon hunts"!

Significant Events in 20th Century Oregon

1945
- Six Oregonians die in explosion of Japanese incendiary balloon
- Tillamook Burn destroys 180,000 acres of forest
- Alien Land Law passes to supplement to 1923 act

1946
- Portland State University (PSU) founded
- Ken Kesey moves to Springfield, Oregon with his family
- Rural School Law encourages consolidation of districts

1947
- Plane crash kills Governor Snell, Secretary of State Farrell, and others

1948
- Flood destroys Vanport in hours
- Vollum and Murdock found Tektronix

1949
- State Department of Forestry begins replanting Tillamook Burn
- Fair Labor Practices Commission established
- Dorothy McCullough Lee first woman elected Mayor of Portland
- Fair Labor Practices Commission established

1950
- Census enumerates 1,521,341 Oreon residents

1952
- Portland School district hires first African American high school teacher

1954
- Congress terminates Western Oregon tribes

1956
- Congress terminates Klamath tribe
- U of O student Jim Bailey is the first person to run a sub-four- minute mile on U.S. soil

1959
- Oregon voters ratify the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States

Tech Tips . . .

What is 'memory'?

By Rex Bosse

Besides being an elusive concept that we older folks misplace, memory also applies to several concepts in computers. Computers use memory to store information, from short term to permanent. Computer related memory is what this column will discuss, with a few references to memory in related technologies. I will base the discussion on computers using Windows Operating systems, as they have more variability than Apple computers.

Many of you who have used computers for years will remember when memory was just RAM, ROM and magnetic media like hard drives. Computers aren't that simple any more; really, they weren't that simple back in the old days either. For this column, I'm going to start with memory internal to the computer, and proceed to memory that is usually external. There will be some overlap.

There are lots of kinds of internal memory. Here is a list of what I will talk about in the following paragraphs.

• There is a set of start up instructions called the BIOS stored on a memory chip.

• There is a "scratch pad" memory called RAM.

• There is a hard drive with spinning discs containing basic computer instructions and programs, pictures, music, video, genealogy and thousands of other data types.

• The video card or video chip set makes the screen work, and has its own "scratch pad" memory chips.

There's more yet, but the computer sellers don't talk about them, so neither will I.

A computer needs primary instructions that tell it how to start. The start up procedure, called *boot* or *booting,* is a complicated dance between the processor, the BIOS, and other chips. The BIOS is a memory chip (chips are integrated circuits) that stores part of the instructions in a format called ROM, *Read Only Memory*. It comes with the computer and we can't control it, so it doesn't deserve more discussion here. If you want a detailed description of how a computer starts, see http://duartes.org/gustavo/blog/post/how-computers-boot-up.

The next memory that our computer accesses during start-up is usually the hard drive. A hard drive has a motor that rotates thin discs of glass or aluminum with tiny trails of iron ferrite glued on the surface. Each trail is a 'track,' and tiny movable electromagnets sense the magnetic pole of each particle in the track. This "reads" the information by sensing magnetic polarity, and translates that to electrical pulses which are sent to the processor, the brain that runs the computer. This brain is small, by brain standards, and only does a few things at a time, so it stores extra information from the hard drive in a temporary workplace called RAM, Random Access Memory, and when that gets full, it uses Virtual Memory, described below.

RAM comes in many different flavors because it has evolved over the years, and each generation is different. The simple way to view RAM is that you must have the correct RAM for your particular computer, and the more you can squeeze into the computer, the faster the computer works and the fewer times it "hangs up" or goes dormant while you are using it. Here is a list of some of the internal RAM types used in computers, from an on-line article in Wikipedia: [1]

SRAM (Static RAM)
DRAM (Dynamic RAM)
FPM (Fast Page Mode DRAM)
EDO RAM (Extended Data Out DRAM)
BEDO RAM (Burst Extended Data Out DRAM)
SDRAM (Synchronous DRAM)
DDR SDRAM (Double Data Rate SDRAM)
DDR2 SDRAM
DDR3 SDRAM
XDR DRAM
RIMM, SIMM, DIMM (RAM-packages)
SO-DIMM and MicroDIMM
(Laptop RAM-packages)

The variations listed above were all used in differing generations of computers. There are sub categories of many of these, relating to their speed and configuration, which are computer specific.

If you have a computer that doesn't perform as well as you like, increasing RAM, if possible, may improve it. RAM is made from microchips soldered onto a plug-in printed circuit board installed inside the computer. There are usually 2, 3 or 4 slots available to plug RAM modules into. If you have empty slots, you may be able to add more RAM, using the appropriate type speci-

fied for your computer. If all the slots are full, sometimes you can remove a lower capacity RAM board and replace it with a higher capacity one, but beware; in some computers you must replace the RAM boards in matched pairs. Get technical help if this isn't something you already know how to do.

Virtual memory means that the processor—the "brain"—needs more work space than is available in RAM. When that happens, the microprocessor appropriates some empty space on the hard drive as temporary storage. Unaware users are sometimes tempted to change the size of Virtual Memory when they go digging around in the system. Don't change it! The computer knows best.

Let's discuss how the size of memory devices is defined. The basic unit we commonly refer to is a byte. A byte is 8 bits of information in binary form. Binary is a mathematical code that the machine works with, and it takes at least 1 byte (8 bits) of binary code to indicate a letter or number. Of course, it's more complicated than that, but we don't really need to muddy the water for this discussion. We just want to get a sense of what memory sizes are, and how much we might use.

I retrieved these tidbits from a web page called SearchStorage.com. A typical word in text requires 10 bytes of storage, a typewritten page is about a thousand bytes, and a short novel would be around a million bytes. Geeks love abbreviations and acronyms, so they adopted the letters K, M, G and T to tack onto the front of "bytes" to indicate increasing sizes of memory. 1,000 bytes became 1Kb, meaning one kilobyte. The actual size of the memory chunk is really 1,024 bytes, but it still gets referred to as 1 Kb. M bytes is megabytes, Mb or MB, or 1,000,000 bytes. I bet you know that Gigabytes is next, 1,000,000,000 bytes, and then T is used for terabytes, 1,000,000,000,000 bytes. That seems huge, but the SearchStorage web site says an academic research library would contain about two terabytes of information.[2]

A few years ago, a terabyte was an awesome amount of memory that caused computer lovers to speak in excited terms, but today you can buy a one terabyte hard drive for less than a laptop computer. The ability and the need of the newest computers to use increasing amounts of memory is a chief reason that older computers become obsolescent. My first desktop computer had 64 KB of RAM, in 1982. The one I'm using now has 1 GB of RAM. The new high end computers can accommodate up to 16 GB of RAM, but usually ship with 4 GB or less of RAM.

Once a computer is booted, it needs instructions for starting and running programs. Nearly all the time, we store those instructions on the hard drive. Those programs usually need to access information files - pictures, documents, music, data files, power points or spreadsheets that you want to work with. If those aren't already on your hard drive, here's where external memory may appear. Let's look at types of external memory.

The floppy disc is a 3.5-inch square, temperamental little device the thickness of cardboard, that doesn't hold much information by current standards, and isn't reliable, especially if it is old, dusty or bent or has passed near a magnet. It's obsolete. If you have data stored on floppies, make sure the data is backed up on a more reliable storage device. Most new computers no longer include a floppy disc drive.

Another obsolete technology is the ZIP drive. This is a variation of the floppy drive, with all the limitations (albeit a higher capacity), and is slightly less reliable.

CDs and DVDs are probably the most common portable external storage devices we use today. They're cheap, we can buy a device to make one on our own computer, they're usable for 2-3 years, and they're easy to store. There are many formats used to store information on a CD or DVD, but they all accomplish a similar task, data storage. Even a movie is just stored data in a different format. Although there are rewritable CDs, the most common type is "burned" once and not changed, thus it is Read Only Memory, and is called a CD ROM. Because it uses tiny spots that are reflective or non-reflective to a laser, it is called optical storage. The newest optical storage technology is called Blu-ray. It stores more information on a disc, but is chiefly used for movies at this time.

The one external memory device genealogists seem to have adopted very quickly is the Thumb Drive, or Flash Drive, or Keychain Drive.[3] These little pieces of technology are increasing in memory capabilities while prices decrease, and they're rugged. If you want the geek description, they use a USB interface and non-volatile flash memory to store data. What we really want to know is:

- they may have up to a 10-year lifespan before data corruption,
- we can erase and reuse them many, many times,
- they really are key chain sized,
- they hold lots of digital pictures and/or data and/or music,
- they don't break easily.

Sizes range up to 64 GB of storage, the better value ones are the 8 to 32 GB units.

While we are talking about "flash memory," let's mention the memory cards in digital cameras. Those

use a similar type of memory as thumb drives, often available in similar sizes, but without the internal USB interface to talk to the computer. Many computers will talk to these devices with special purpose "slots," or you can buy an add-on device to communicate with them. The often overlooked point is that these are portable storage devices that we can use to move data as well as pictures from one computer to another.

Other tools that use flash memory are PDAs, cell phones, digital recorders and portable music players (such as IPODs). Some of the very small notebook computers rely on flash memory for internal storage and do not contain a hard drive. Digital video cameras may use flash, optical and/or magnetic memory.

There is another external storage device, the external hard drive that is just a normal hard drive in a metal box with power connections and a cable that connects to the computer. You can buy the box and connector and add your choice of hard drive, but be gentle with them. They don't like magnetic fields (speakers, TVs) and dropping them will shorten their life. These are great for backups of your work, with the caveat that if you have a virus on any memory device on your computer, it may get copied to any other memory device, including your backup drive. Always use a virus scan program, and ALWAYS maintain multiple back ups of your work.

The granddaddy of external storage backup devices is "tape storage" which uses high quality magnetic tape to store data. If you are using tape storage, you already know quite a bit about computers. If you aren't using it, then consider an external hard drive for back up storage instead of tape.

We'll look at many ways to back up your work in another article, but here's a preview: a 16 GB thumb drive will hold a genealogy database and a lot of exhibits and family photos.

Kathy Cardoza wrote to clarify a couple of my statements from my article in the last issue. With her permission I have copied her clear and friendly corrections, and present them to you here.

> I enjoyed your informative article on buying computers and think it probably was very helpful to non-tech folks, as you intended. However, as a Mac user who also uses Windows daily on my Macs, I take exception to two sentences from your recent article in the Bulletin. Those were:
>
> Yes, Mac's have Windows built in.
> No, it isn't easy to switch back and forth."
>
> First of all, Macs do NOT have Windows built in. You can choose to run windows on your Mac by either running Apple's free Bootcamp program (which makes your Mac a dual booting machine, forcing you to reboot when you want to run the other operating system) or you can purchase one of a few programs such as Parallels (which is what I use), install a version of Windows, and you can easily switch back and forth between the two operating systems ...with no rebooting of the computer. You can switch between Windows or Mac programs with a simple click of your mouse and even copy and paste files between the two. It couldn't be any easier to switch!
>
> Anyway, I just wanted to express another point of view from an old Mac user.) You are doing great work! Thanks.
>
> Kathy Cardoza

Thanks, Kathy, and thanks to everyone who comments on these articles.

(Endnotes)

1 1 Random-access memory, Wikipedia (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RAM) Accessed 9 Jan. 2009

2 "How Many Bytes for Anything), SearchStorage.com Definitions, (http://searchstorage.techtarget.com/sDefinition/0,,sid5_gci944596,00.html) Accessed 9 Jan. 2009

3 USB flash drive, Wikipedia, (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USB_flash_drive) Accessed 9 Jan. 2009

Comments and suggestions should to sent to the Column Editor, Rex Bosse: rexarino@gmail.com

Out & About . . .

Off to Birmingham!

By Peggy Baldwin

That first year, 2004, I was off to the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR) at Samford University in Birmingham, purported to be one of the best genealogy learning experiences available. I had noticed that many of the "makers and shakers" in the field were teaching that year—Helen Leary, Tom Jones, Barbara Vines Little, Elizabeth Shown Mills, Paul Milner, John Philip Colletta, and Christine Rose, among others. IGHR was offering ten classes and choosing one was not easy. I finally would decide to take the Writing and Publishing class, with Helen Leary, a fortuitous choice, since I later responded to a GFO board query for a volunteer to start the GFO. If this class turned out to be the learning experience that I hoped for, I would be returning to take some of those other classes.

Birmingham, Alabama is probably not the first place you would expect to find a week-long genealogy workshop that attracts people from all over the country. Especially during the moist, warm month of June, when my glasses steam up like I've put my face over a just-finished dishwasher load. It's an unlikely place and unlikely time, but if the education was as good as I'd heard, the place or time wouldn't matter.

The model for IGHR classes is a five-day course, with a coordinator, and other teachers invited in to give lectures in their own area of specialty. Many of the invited teachers were taking a break from the course they were coordinating to teach in our class, while another teacher took over their course. It runs a little like a three ring circus, but quite smoothly. In my Writing and Publishing class, Helen Leary did most of the lecturing, but we had several lectures from Elizabeth Shown Mills, John Colletta, Christine Rose, and others. The names of our teachers reflected the names of the authors on my bookshelf at home; household names to any serious genealogist.

We learned about genealogical writing and publishing from many aspects: proper numbering systems, using genealogy programs, publishing on the web, publishing newsletters, and of course, writing and editing. We were required to bring a piece of writing with us, that we could work with in class. Elizabeth Shown Mills talked to us about writing and editing in general, and more specifically as it applied to our pieces. As homework, we worked with our pieces, applying what we had learned. And then, we had the privilege of leaving our writing with Elizabeth, who would edit them further and return them to us by mail.

We had opportunities to attend lectures in the evening; not an easy thing to do with the homework load in my class. It turned out that Writing and Publishing was considered to be one of the core courses for people who were interested in genealogy as a profession. We had more than enough homework to occupy our evenings. I was able to attend at least one or two lectures, by extending my homework hours, and cheating myself out of a little sleep. The lectures were as enlightening as my course.

The education I got that year at Samford was outstanding, and that alone would be a reason for coming back again and again. But, beyond that, the people I met, and conversations we had, added to the best genealogy learning experience I had ever had. People who attend IGHR breath, eat, and live genealogy. Most people stay on campus and everyone eats in the cafeteria, so you have many chances to interact with each other. That first year I began friendships with fellow genealogists from North Carolina, Vermont, Maine, Georgia, and Nevada; people I would look for at IGHR in the years to come.

IGHR offers 10 courses each year, from intermediate to advanced, covering land, military, genealogical techniques, writing and publishing, southern research, Virginia research, English research, advanced library research and government documents, and many other topics. Some courses repeat every year and others every few years, so there is plenty of variety from one year to the next.

The Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research began 46 years ago, in September 1962. From the beginning "premier instructors" have been associated with the institute. IGHR's mission is to teach researchers "to establish a true record of events for history, as compared to that recorded from hearsay and tradition." The IGHR web site goes on to say that, "The Institute has sought to instruct genealogical researchers in the art of detailed historical research beyond knowing who their ancestors were to the deeper understanding of the times and places in which their families lived."

The Institute has grown from a two day event with five faculty and forty students to a five day event with 30 faculty and 200 students. When IGHR first moved to a five-day format in 1965, there were two classes—primary genealogy and advanced genealogy. Two years and you were done. With the following offering in 2009, you can see that there is now the potential to come back year after year:

1. Techniques and Technology

Coordinator: Pamela Boyer Sayre

This course is designed for the new or experienced researcher who seeks a review of fundamentals. Lectures, visuals, hands-on activities, and sessions in a courthouse, library and computer lab introduce the primary records and procedures essential for sound research of American home, local area, county, state, and federal sources.

2. Intermediate Genealogy and Historical Studies

Coordinator: Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck

This course is designed for students who have mastered basic record-keeping skills, can properly complete a pedigree, and have conducted extensive research in courthouses and genealogical and historical libraries. This course explores naturalization and immigration research, and court, military, pension and church records.

3. Research in the South, Part 2

Coordinator: Carolyn Earle Billingsley

This course is designed for the intermediate to advanced researcher. A solid understanding of genealogy basics is required to make use of the materials and concepts presented. Students must have experience in using census, county records, land records and general secondary records. Concepts addressed include migration, settlement patterns, religion, land, geography, politics and economics, kinship groups, and Native Americans.

4. Advanced Methodology and Evidence Analysis

Coordinator: Elizabeth Shown Mills

This course concentrates on problem-solving techniques and advanced correlation of evidence for various types of records.

Prerequisites (your choice): completion of IGHR Course 2, Intermediate Genealogy and Historical Studies; completion of the 16-lesson NGS home-study course, American Genealogy (“graded” option, only); completion of the PLCGS program (Professional Learning Certificate in Genealogical Studies) from the National Institute for Genealogical Studies, University of Toronto; certification by BCG; or accreditation from ICAPGen.

5. Writing and Publishing for Genealogists

Coordinators: Thomas W. Jones

This course covers publishing on the Internet, writing articles for publication, organizing book materials, commercial publishing and other pertinent information for genealogical writing and publishing.

6. Professional Genealogy

Coordinator: Elissa Scalise Powell

The aspiring or practicing professional genealogist will benefit from practical knowledge of three components that make for a successful career: management and growth of the business, client communications, and professional opportunities.

7. Virginia: Her Records and Her Laws

Coordinator: Barbara Vines Little

This is one of two courses which will look at Virginia records and the law as it applies to those records. Students who are intermediate to advanced will gain the most from this in-depth exploration of specific Virginia record groups.

8. Understanding Land Records

Coordinator: Christine Rose

This course will include local land records, pre-federal land, federal land, bounty land (Colonial, Revolutionary, and later), Private Land Claims, and land platting.

9. Researching Ancestors in France, Quebec and the French Caribbean

Coordinator: Earl Charvet

This course will focus primarily on tracing ancestors in France, Quebec, and the French Caribbean, and genealogical resources from those countries. (It will not concentrate on records created by immigrants of French descent in the U.S.)

10. Tracing Your English Ancestors

Coordinator: Paul Milner

The course is designed to provide an in-depth look at the fundamental sources for English research, then to move beyond them to explore the lesser used sources to both locate and put ancestors into historical context. Participants will have the opportunity to raise and examine their own English research problems.

There’s nothing like devoting an entire week to genealogy, when you are away from home and there is nothing else to claim your attention! The education and the people connections at Samford are all you think about while you’re there. For more information about IGHR visit their web site: http://www.samford.edu/schools/ighr/.

Since 2004, I’ve attended Samford every year until 2008. At some point, I may eventually decide I have learned everything they teach there, but I am far from that now. Samford is a genealogical highlight every year I have the opportunity to attend.

Comments and suggestions should be sent to the Column Editor, Peggy Baldwin: peggy.baldwin@family-passages.com.

Extracts . . .

Partial List of Military Casualties and MIA's from the State of Oregon during World War II

by Eileen Chamberlin

This index is taken from the Partial List of Military Casualties and MIA's from the State of Oregon during World War II published by GFO in 1993, collected by Spencer Leonard, compiled by Frances Hooper Hillesland. It was a collection of 3x5 cards with additional newspaper clippings about the veterans, photos that Spencer Leonard collected, and photocopies of original grave registration cards. This book is for sale at the GFO and also in the library collection (call number 979.5 M2h).

Surname	First Name	Rank/Unit	State	Page No.
Adair	Lyle	USN	OR	1
Adair	Robert	USN	OR	1
Adair	William B	GM 2/c	OR	190
Adams	Herald	(NG)	OR	271
Age	Frank D	Sgt	OR	227v
Akers	James O	T/Sgt	OR	254
Albino	Albert A	2nd Lt	WA	8
Allen	Richard H	1st Lt	OR	177
Allen	Thomas W	Pfc	OR	248
Ammons	Charles M	Sgt	WA	226
Amondson	Leslie O	2nd Lt	WA	8
Anderline	Florence C	WAC	OR	270
Anderson	Donald L	Sgt	OR	170
Anderson	Leonard F	2nd Lt	WA	8
Anderson	William	(NG)	OR	58
Andreassen	John P	Pfc	OR	150
Angell	Austin	Capt	OR	4
Angell	Norman R	1st Lt	OR	210
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Arnold	Henry H	Gen	UNK	49
Arnold	Henry H	Gen	PA	49
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Askay	Lester	Sgt	OR	6
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Barber	Richard Leroy	Lt	OH	171
Barger	John B	Cadet	AZ	171
Barnard	Vernon B	Pfc	OR	41
Barnes	Lloyd C	S/Sgt	OR	248
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Bartley	Martin E	2nd Lt	WA	169
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Bates	James Parker	Maj	OR	15
Battreall	Leo Harvey	S 1/c	OR	50
Bauserman	Owen R	SC 2/c	OR	267
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Baxter	William	USN	OR	16, 17
Bay	Carlton H	S 2/c	MI	170
Bays	Leslie Duane	(NG)	OR	242
Beach	Jack P	Pvt	OR	150
Beach	William	S/Sgt	NM	234
Beagle	Russell	Lt	UNK	7
Beamer	James	Lt	UNK	268
Bennett	A C	Rear Adm	UNK	245
Bennett	Ernest J	2nd Lt	OR	10, 158
Bennett	Walter T	Cox	KY	203
Bergman	Julius John	(NG)	OR	242
Berry	Norman	A C	OR	21
Billings	Virgil R	Pvt	OR	127, 266
Blackley	Wm W (Jr)	2nd Lt	OR	62, 180
Blakely	Morris B	GM 3/c	OR	23
Blalock	George Thomas	CAR	UNK	263
Blunck	Lawrence A	Sgt	OR	196
Boehmer	Clifton H	Pvt	OR	226
Boelter	Harold	Sgt	OR	270
Bostrom	Clarence	1st Lt	WA	226
Boykin	Clayton M	M/Sgt	OR	267
Boyle	Joseph B	2nd Lt	NJ	234
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Bradford	Dan L	Pfc	WA	117
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Brant	Melvin L	T/Sgt	OR	62
Braxling	Emil E	Sgt	OR	177
Bray	Jack L	S 1/c	OR	61
Breniser	Norman A	S/Sgt	OR	146, 186
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Brooks	Courtlandt	Capt	UNK	182
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Brown	Robert M	2nd Lt	WA	236
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Brush	Roderick McLeod	Ens	FL	24
Brust	W R	Com	UNK	170
Buchheit	Edward L	S/Sgt	OR	210
Budd	Edward	(NG)	OR	274
Burgess	John E	(NG)	OR	269
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Burke	Robert W	T/5	WA	274
Burr	William K	AC	WA	188
Burts	John A (Jr)	Cpl	OR	182
Burtz	Henry LeRoy	AMM 3/c	SC	24
Butler	Jack H	Lt	WA	116
Butrim	George	S/Sgt	OR	274
Calkins	William E	Pvt	OR	22, 226
Cameron	Neil	Sgt	OR	33
Campbell	Walter	(NG)	OR	35
Cannady	Herbert L	Sgt	OR	220
Carder	Orval B	2nd Lt	OR	18
Carlson	Donald E	Sgt	OR	155
Carlson	Donald H	S/Sgt	OR	64, 243, 274
Carpilloz	Lyle E	Pfc	OR	227
Cartmell	Walter A	CMM	WA	13
Cartmill	Dan E	GM 2/c	OR	39
Cartmill	Fred	MM 3/c	OR	39
Cartmill	Reece D	T/Sgt	OR	85, 266
Castile	Richard Allen	USA	OR	40
Chamberlin	Alvin L	Ens	WA	24
Chapman	Robert	RM 1/c	OR	220
Chase	Glen	T/Sgt	OR	274
Chennault	Claire L	Maj Gen	TX	94
Chilcote	Thomas F	AO 2/c	OR	267
Childers	Gordon L	2nd Lt	OR	45, 274
Christy	Paul E	2nd Lt	OR	176
Chyles	Ralph A	Pvt	OR	41
Clark	Mark	Gen'l	NY	131, 133
Clark	Robert C	Pfc	WA	177
Clemens	Porter D	S/Sgt	OR	62, 180
Coffin	Howard	S/Sgt	OR	136, 274
Cole	Roy K	Sgt	WA	196, 274
Coleman	Gerald Edgar	S 2/c	OR	220
Combest	Wayne V	Cpl	OR	22, 226
Comerford	Dallas	Pvt	OR	71
Compton	Harold W	Sgt	WA	182
Conroy	James Michael	Mer Mar	OR	47
Conroy	John Francis	BM	OR	47
Conroy	Richard W	S 1/c	OR	47
Conway	Donald A	Pfc	OR	117
Conway	Leonard B	2nd Lt	WA	187
Cook	Eldon F	Sgt	OR	155
Cook	James C	Cpl	OR	47
Cook	Marvin R	Cpl	OR	47
Corbett	Scott S (Jr)	Capt	OR	150
Cosper	Duane	Capt	OR	50
Cosper	Wallace	Lt	OR	58
Costello	Kinkead F	S/Sgt	OR	250
Cotton	George	USN	OR	50
Cotton	Paul W	USN	OR	50
Crawford	Melvin L	T/5	WA	196
Creswell	Donald F	Pfc	OR	210
Crosby	Robert Joseph	F 1/c	WA	214
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Crunican	Marcus	N Res	OR	53
Crunican	William J	S 2/c	OR	53
Cuddeback	Aaron E	1st Lt	OR	146
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Dalameter	Clifford J	Sgt	OR	232
Dalgliesh	Roy E	Sgt	OR	71
Darrow	Denton	(NG)	ID	24
Daugherty	Vernon E	T/5	OR	184
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David	Howard	S 1/c	OR	56
David	Keith	MM 1/c	OR	56
David	Verlin	EM 2/c	OR	56
Davison	P R	Col	UNK	7
Dawson	Robert M	1st Lt	OR	58
Day	Joseph Eugene	CTM	OR	150
DeBauw	A F	CMM	OR	57
Defrees	Norman F	2nd Lt	OR	184
Delsman	Richard J	2nd Lt	OR	243
Denby	John A	Pfc	OR	176
Desinger	William	(NG)	OR	58
Devleig	Robert J	1st Lt	OR	26
DeVoe	Lewis E	S/Sgt	OR	227
Dikeman	Neal A	Sgt	OR	65, 155
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Doak	William E	T/Sgt	OR	18
Dorman	George	USAA	OR	61
Dorman	Robert	(NG)	OR	61
Dorwart	Robert J	1st Lt	WA	274
Doughty	Orville L	2nd Lt	OR	180
Downey	Joseph W	Capt	OR	78, 196
Duchein	Wesley L	Maj	UNK	59
Dudley	Ernest H	Cpl	OR	22
Dunn	John Edward	Lt	OR	274
Dunnigan	Chris J	1st/Sgt	WA	117
Durrett	John M	S/Sgt	OR	37, 274
Dyer	Frederick	(NG)	UNK	236
East	Charles T	2nd Lt	WA	8
Eastburn	Harley A or R	Sgt	OR	71, 239
Eaton	Leonard W	2nd Lt	OR	243
Edwards	Hjalmar	Pfc	OR	168
Edwardson	Wallace L	RM 3/c	OR	77
Elliott	Harold W	Sgt	OR	248
Elliott	James M	S/Sgt	OR	190
Ely	Hobart	Lt	OR	68
Ely	Raymond L	Sgt	OR	178
Ely	William A	S 2/c	OR	68
Entwisle	Ennis M	(NG)	OR	158
Epling	George W	Pfc	OR	65
Estes	Lloyd S	T/Sgt	OR	62
Etzel	Clifford W	Pvt	OR	248
Evans	(NG)	Lt Com	OR	70
Evans	Bertha	Lt	OR	70
Evans	Herbert S	1st Lt	OR	239
Fargier	Boyd	Pvt	OR	5
Farmer	Roy E	Pfc	OR	149
Ferguson	Scotty	RM 3/c	OR	73
Finsley	Fred H	Pvt	OR	170
Fish	Ted	(NG)	OR	224
Fish	William L	Pfc	OR	227
Fisher	Dale D	Col	UNK	33, 149, 254
Fitch	Roger F	Pfc	OR	41
Fitzgerald	Leo J	SC 1/c	OR	77
Fleming	Luther V	Pfc	WA	8
Floyd	Lloyd	Capt	OR	274
Flynn	J E	Lt	OR	224
Foltz	Charles	Sgt	OR	77
Foltz	Ivan	USN	OR	77
Foltz	Roy	USN	OR	77
Forbis	F Truman	2nd Lt	OR	62, 196
Forland	W E	ARM 1/c	UNK	25
Forland	W E	ARM	WA	25

Surname	First Name	Rank/Unit	State	Page No.
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Fournier	Jack A	S/Sgt	WA	187
Fray	Orville D	Pfc	OR	248
Frazier	George Wesley	S 2/c	OR	103
Frederick	David James	F 2/c	OR	274
Freel	Amos	Mer Mar	OR	79
Frick	Rudolph F	Pfc	WA	8
Fry	W J	Maj	UNK	31
Furber	Donald W	1st Lt	OR	150
Furber	Merlyn	Pvt	OR	82
Furby	John T	1st Lt	OR	22
Gaines	Royal C	Sgt	OR	270
Gallaher	Winston C	Cpl	OR	96, 226
Gehring	Frederick R	1st Lt	OR	155
George	John D	Capt	OR	155
Gerking	Samuel F	S/Sgt	OR	45, 274
Gerlach	Fred W	Pvt	OR	176
Gilbert	Carroll B	Pfc	OR	149
Gilbert	Charles R	GM 3/c	OR	190
Gill	Richard W	Lt	OR	187
Gillespie	Edmon E	S/Sgt	OR	266
Gimpl	Ed	USN	OR	270
Gimpl	Henry F	Pfc	OR	270
Gimpl	Joe	Pvt	OR	270
Goodall	Edward M	S/Sgt	WA	8
Goodrich	D I	Pvt	OR	41
Gordon	Howard Stanley	ARM 1/c	NE	24
Gould	Alvin A	2nd Lt	OR	222
Gradner	Bruce A	Lt	AZ	234
Gradwohl	Jacob	Sgt	OR	274
Graham	Sidney W	T/Sgt	WA	72
Grant	John Ellis	S 1/c	OR	190
Gredvig	Winfield H	2nd Lt	OR	127
Green	Albert L	Sgt	OR	117
Greene	Everett Allen	USN	WA	104
Grenfell	Wilfred L	1st Lt	OR	12
Grenfell	William	USN	OR	88
Gross	Howard W	Sgt	OR	180
Gross	Leonard E	Cpl	OR	196
Grubb	Ernest O	FO	WA	200
Gruber	Clinton	2nd Lt	OR	226, 258
Gust	Chester J	Pfc	OR	227
Guymon	J Maurice	S/Sgt	ID	110
Hagan	Virgil A	2nd Lt	OR	167
Hall	Frank R	Sgt	OR	270
Hambrick	William C	RM 3/c	GA	250
Hamilton	R L	Capt	OR	92, 93
Hamock	Virgie L	Pvt	ID	226
Hancock	John	Pvt	WA	117
Hanna	Arthur M	S/Sgt	OR	95
Hansard	James F	Sgt	OR	258
Hansell	H S	Brig Gen	UNK	234
Hansen	Archie E	Pfc	OR	177
Hardy	Floyd L	2nd Lt	OR	177
Harju	Earl H	Pvt	WA	149
Harkins	Reynold Evans	USN	OR	215
Harmes	John Clarence	USN	OR	168
Harr	John B	2nd Lt	OR	102, 240
Harris	Cone R	Pvt	OR	270
Harris	George H	Lt	OR	270
Harris	Lola L	WAC	OR	270
Harris	Woodrow W	Pvt	OR	270
Harrowell	Gloyd	Lt (j g)	MO	170
Hasselman	George	Com	UNK	24
Hatley	Edward C	Sgt	OR	86
Hawkine	Leon R	FO	UNK	221
Hawkins	Harry	AMM	OR	100
Hawkins	Tommy	AC	OR	100
Heath	Ross E	Sgt	OR	270
Heimbigner	Leo D	Cpl	OR	117
Helmer	Loren	AC	OR	102
Helming	Loyd	AMM 1/c	IA	24
Helms	Rodney R	2nd Lt	OR	240
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Henderson	Albert V	Cpl	OR	103
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Henderson	Milton A	2nd Lt	OR	270
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Hibler	Dan Abraham	CM	OR	258
Hibler	James Arthur	PR 3/c	OR	258
Hicks	Donald J	Ens	CA	204
Hiegel	Donald	Pvt	OR	30
Hill	Calvin L	Sgt	WA	196
Hill	Edward L	Capt	WA	226
Hill	J F	(AAC)	NY	234
Hobbs	Everett L	S/Sgt	OR	113
Hockert	Reino E	2nd Lt	OR	45, 274
Holdridge	Lloyd C	Sgt	OR	270
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Holiday	Lester	Capt	OR	63
Holloway	Seward S	T/Sgt	WA	62
Hoover	William	2nd LT	CA	92
Hopper	Erwin	USN	OR	108
Hopper	T H	USN	OR	108
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Hudson	Roger W	Lt	OR	111
Hulburt	James W	WO	WA	226
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Hull	T T	ARM	WA	25
Hunter	George F	Pvt	NY	69
Hunter	George F	Pvt	OR	69
Hurlburt	Harrison J	2nd Lt	OR	222
Hutchens	Wayne O	2nd Lt	OR	113
Hyde	James	RM 3/c	OR	268
Hynes	Wildric Freeman	Lt	OR	150
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Johns	Alfred E	2nd Lt	OR	232
Johnson	Erick E	Pvt	WA	8
Johnson	John G	Pfc	OR	41

Surname	First Name	Rank/Unit	State	Page No.
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Johnson	Leslie	FO	OR	113
Johnson	Loren J	T/Sgt	OR	110
Johnson	Robert T	Sgt	OR	127, 266
Jones	Stanley P	Cpl	OR	22
Jordan	William D	Maj	UNK	159
Kaady	Romeo	USA	OR	124
Karbonski	John	(NG)	OR	124, 158
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Karlinger	William	USN	OR	125
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Karrer	Roy N	Pvt	OR	22, 226
Kaspari	Robert V	Pfc	OR	22
Kelty	Paul	2/c USNA	OR	126
Kenney	George C	Lt Gen	UNK	115, 267
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Kidd	I C	Rear Adm	UNK	269
Kidder	Wallace E	Pfc	OR	266
King	James K	Cpl	OR	270
King	Robert L	Pvt	ID	226
Kirk	Mark E	Pvt	OR	22
Kirkpatrick	R C	Lt	UNK	204
Klaman	William A	Sgt	ID	72
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Knight	Sam P (Jr)	1st Lt	OR	153
Kononen	Glen M	Sgt	OR	152
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Kurtzhal	Merle J	Pvt	OR	71
Laird	William C	Ens	IL	170
Lamb	Robert Verne	S 1/c	OR	220, 274
Lange	W W	Capt	UNK	89
LaRue	James L	T/Sgt	WA	110
Lasselle	Herbert W	Capt	OR	137
Lasselle	Percy A	Maj	OR	137
Lawton	Clifford Joseph	F 1/c	OR	184
Lee	Arthur C	Ens	NC	170
Lee	Hazel Ying	Lt	OR	139
Leedy	Ralph	Lt (j g)	OR	140
Legrand	Charles D	Pfc	OR	161
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Comments and suggestions should to sent to the Column Editor, Eileen Chamberlin: eileenjc@comcast.net

Book Review . . .

Lauren Kessler, *A Stubborn Twig* Corvallis, Oregon: Oregon State University Press, 2008, 320 pages.)

Audience: Genealogists and historians with an interest in Japanese immigration and assimilation in the United States around the time of World War II.

Purpose: This book addresses the experience of immigration to the United States and the racial hostility encountered by Japanese immigrants. As a secondary purpose, it is the history of a Japanese family and their experiences over three generations in Hood River, Oregon.

Author's qualifications: The author, Lauren Kessler, has written 11 books and writes for several magazines. She is director of the graduate program in literary nonfiction at the University of Oregon in Eugene. Stubborn Twig, first published in 1993, won the 1994 Oregon Book Award. This book is the 2009 Oregon Reads Book for the Oregon Library Association and the author is actively promoting this reading program.

Content: Masuo Yasui came to the United States in 1903. He arrived by ship on the Oregon Coast and worked his way across the state, finally settling in Hood River, Oregon. There he and his "picture bride wife", Shildzuyo, settle and have nine children. Masuo's father and two brothers also come to the United States, but his father and older brother return to Japan. Masuo and his remaining brother Renichi are owners of a profitable store and own several orchards. Two of Masuo's children die young in Hood River. When World War II breaks out the family is suddenly thrust into a heated racial situation. Masuo is arrested and taken away. One son is arrested for challenging the curfew for the Japanese. His court case lingers for years and is well known in Oregon Japanese history. Two of the children are in Colorado and two in college in Oregon go to Colorado and avoid being interred. The other two children, Shildzuyo, Renichi and his wife are taken away by train to the internment camps. The stories of the jails and the internment camps are compelling. The final chapters of the book share how the family reintegrated into the American culture. It was a difficult transition and was even felt by the third generation. who were either born during the internment or after the family had resettled. Only one son returns to Hood River to live and raise his family. This story offers viewpoints from both the Japanese (Nikkei) people and the Caucasian (Hakujin) people.

Writing style: Informal, but it can be challenging to keep perspective as the story progresses.

Organization: The book is divided into three sections: Issei, the first generation; Nisei, the second generation; Sansei, the third generation. Also included is an interview from one of the sons, and references to many additional interviews. There are reading group questions, which are very thought provoking. The main drawback to the book is that there are no footnotes or endnotes. At the end of the book, the author provides general sources and information about each chapter. There are no direct references to where quotes or materials are from. A bibliography may be organized from the Sources section and would aid in further research. The inclusion of family ancestral and descendency charts would have been a nice addition.

Accuracy: The Yasui family experience is well documented, and portrays the difficulties of a Japanese immigrant family to the United States. The sources are varied and yet are standard genealogical sources for the material. Accessing the sources will be challenging and some may only be in the possession of the author.

Conclusion: Stubborn Twig is a phenomenal book and well worth reading. It is a great example of how a writer portrays a family and incorporates historical information in the process. Every genealogist who plans to write a family history will benefit from reading this history.

—SL

Comments and suggestions should to sent to the Column Editor: Janis Bowlby, jmbowlbyl@yahoo.com

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The *Bulletin* staff is looking for people to write book reviews. Our goal is to get 6 to 10 people, who are willing to write one book review each quarter. We have established a new book review format that guides book reviewers through the process. The GFO Library gets many books donated by authors and publishers, with the agreement that we will review the donated books, so you will be helping the GFO in a meaningful way. We want this to be fun and light work, by getting lots of people involved. If you want more information or want to volunteer contact Janis Bowlby, book review editor, at jmbowlby1@yahoo.com.

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