



THE Forum Insider

Newsletter of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon
Volume 32 • Number 3 • October 2020

Serendipity in John Day

Duane H. Funk

In the summer of 2011, I was on a camping and genealogy research trip in eastern Oregon. As part of that trip, I was visiting the grave sites of some of my mother's cousins. One of these was the David Gilmore Browning family who lived in Grant County early in the twentieth century and were buried in the Long Creek Cemetery a few miles outside of John Day, Oregon.

I spent the night in a campground on the Columbia River and then drove up Highway 395 to Long Creek, arriving in early afternoon. I found the cemetery just outside of town and was successful in finding the Browning family plot, aided by their very prominent monument.

My next stop was John Day for a fast-food lunch. While sitting there, I checked

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Above, author Duane Funk and his brother, Ralph, and on the right, their ancestor, David Gilmore Browning, whose photograph was discovered at the Grant County Historical Museum.

Photos courtesy of Duane Funk.



GFO Welcomes New Director at Large

The GFO Board is pleased to announce the appointment of Ana Tangum to fill a vacancy as Director at Large.

Ana has worn many hats as a volunteer at the GFO for the past two years. She has cataloged and labeled books, prepared periodicals for digitization, sent membership renewal reminders, contributed to and sent the E-News when the usual editors were unavailable, and helped set up and sell raffle tickets during a seminar.

ANA TANGUM DIRECTOR AT LARGE



As our youngest board member, she brings a youthful perspective and hopes to become a professional genealogist herself. She says, "I've greatly appreciated the diversity of opportunities that I've had to contribute to the GFO," and the flexibility of this position allows her to "address whatever needs doing."

We thank her for her can-do spirit. Our two Directors at Large function as liaisons for our members. Please contact them with any ideas you may have for us at directorsatlarge@gfo.org.

The Forum Insider

Newsletter of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon

gfo.org  info@gfo.org

2505 SE 11th Ave., Suite B18
Portland, OR 97202-1061
503-963-1932

Library Hours

Closed for COVID-19
Many services online.

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

Advice on Genealogy Research During the Pandemic

Laurel Smith,
GFO Library Committee Chair

For most of us doing genealogy right now—it *is* all online! Not to suggest all records are there, but it’s about being safe and accessing every bit we can from the safety of our homes.

It’s a perfect time for long-distance learning. But you must make a priority of it. Disengage from television. Answer emails once a day, and then don’t look at them again until the next day. Cook meals with “planned overs” to free up precious learning or research time.

This year, nearly all conferences, institutes, and seminars are being held virtually. While they may not be free, it beats paying the same amount in addition to transportation and lodging. Virtual has made high-cost education more affordable and more accessible.

Local societies around the world are offering virtual meetings, classes, and lectures. If your research is focused on a specific geographic area, see what genealogical and historical societies, and even libraries, are offering in that area. If events are free to members, it might be worth a membership to attend classes and tap into resources for the locality.

URLs

- FamilySearch Wiki
familysearch.org/wiki
- USGenWeb
usgenweb.org
- ConferenceKeeper
conferencekeeper.org
- FamilyTree Webinars
familytreewebinars.com

If you’re not sure what organizations exist, check FamilySearch Wiki and USGenWeb.

ConferenceKeeper has been one place I’ve checked regularly for both free and pay events.

But I have one caution: Don’t spend so much time learning that you don’t take the time to practice what you’ve learned. Remember the old saying, “Use it or lose it.”

And don’t forget to support your local organization wherever you live. Organizations that protect and preserve resources, provide access, education, and community need your protection and support. They have expenses—whether brick and mortar, maintaining a website, or providing online education—and without the support of users, many will cease to exist.

The **Forum Insider** [ISSN 1051-5666 (print), ISSN 2377-469X (online)] is the newsletter of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon Inc., 2505 SE 11th Ave., Suite B-18, Portland, OR 97202-1061. The Forum is a membership organization devoted to genealogical research, preservation, and education. The GFO publications promote the field of genealogy for the professional and the hobbyist. Dues are \$48 per year for individual memberships and \$74 for joint memberships. Membership includes digital subscriptions to **The Bulletin** (March, June, September, and December) and **The Forum Insider** (January, February, April, May, July, August, October, and November). Material from **The Forum Insider** may be reproduced provided credit is given to the publication, the author of the article, and the Genealogical Forum of Oregon. **The Forum Insider** staff includes Geri Auerbach and Keri Logan, Editors; and Loretta Welsh, Publisher. Many thanks to everyone including our proofreaders, April Ober, Jackie Olson, Vince Patton, and Laurel Smith.



SERENDIPITY IN JOHN DAY,
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

my GPS and found that I was on track to arrive at my next campground well before the check-in time established for state parks. In other words, I was ahead of schedule and had time to kill.

On the way into town, I had noticed a sign for the Grant County Historical

My decision to kill a little time in an obscure out-of-the-way museum had paid off, filling a gap in my family history.

Museum. Being a museum junkie, I thought that would be a good place to spend time. After lunch, I drove two miles up Highway 395 and found the museum in the nearby town of Canyon City.

Finding the museum was no problem, and parking was easy. Inside, as I was paying the entrance fee, the host handed me a sheet of paper with numbers and names, something I had not seen in other museums.

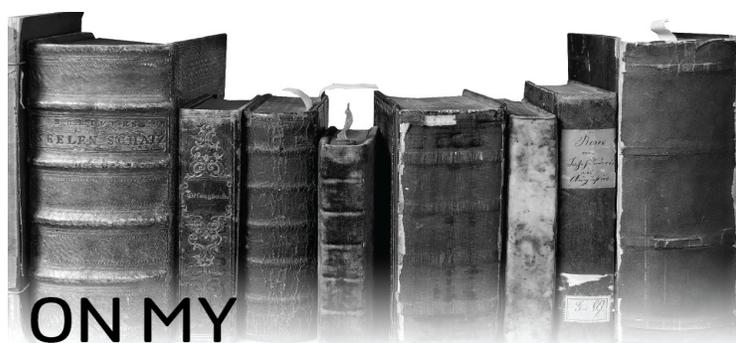
Puzzled I asked, “What is this?”

“That is the key to the pictures,” I was told.

I looked down at the list in my hand and spotted the name David Gilmore Browning, number 72.

Still not sure what this was all about, I walked into the main display room. Along the top of the wall was a row of family portraits, apparently donated by local families. Number 72 was my cousin David Gilmore Browning. As I had no pictures of him, or any other member of that branch of my family, I quickly put my camera to work.

My decision to kill a little time in an obscure out-of-the-way museum had paid off, filling a gap in my family history.



ON MY BOOKSHELF

This month’s column is written by Vicky Lambert. Vicky Lambert is a forensic and traditional genealogist and holds a Certificate in Genealogical Research from Boston University. She was a co-leader of ProGen 40 and has attended SLIG and GRIP. She started researching her family history twenty years ago, in defiance of her grandmother’s comment that their family “had always been here, and there was nothing to learn.” Her website is lambertresearch.com.

Standing prominently on my bookshelf is Tom Jones’ *Mastering Genealogical Proof*. Hacked by my own knife, rebound with a sturdy plastic cover, and fastened by a set of circular discs, the well-used volume was given the only upgrade possible: it opens flat for easier use.

MGP is my go-to reference book for many reasons, including citation work and presentation. On a deeper level, *MGP* provides a reality check as I stand back from my work to consider and reconsider what I think I know about a source, and about information or evidence I have found. In the excitement of research and discovery, it is easy to become biased in favor of one hypothesis. Chapter 5, “Analysis and Correlation,” provides strategies for testing sources and correlating evidence to reinforce sound reasoning and reset our biases.

Jones’ last chapter on “The Written Conclusion” provides straightforward guidance to write a proof with logic and conviction. After laying out evidence in paragraphs, tables, and charts, it can be oddly difficult to summarize how you have proved a hypothesis and to finish a work product cleanly. Dr. Jones demystifies the process, advocating for clear writing that “lets the evidence speak for itself.” For good measure, two of Dr. Jones’ articles, published in the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, are included for reference and learning.

I often ask myself, “What would Dr. Jones say about this?” and with *MGP* in my bookcase, I quickly have a pretty good idea.

We’d love to feature the genealogy book that you can’t live without. Please send us a brief description of the book(s) that have helped you. Send your book suggestions to insider@gfo.org.

We've added new benefits!

During the library shutdown, GFO members receive



DATABASE ACCESS

Home access to Ancestry, American Ancestors, HistoryGeo, and Fold3



LIBRARY LOOKUPS

Volunteers will provide records from library sources: databases, books, and more



DISCOUNTS

Discounts on used books and virtual events

Join Today!

gfo.org/membership

Fires Threaten Heritage Centers

As this edition of the *Insider* goes to press, Oregon is battling unprecedented wildfires and hazardous levels of smoke. We've heard from the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society in Medford with good news about the Alameda Fire.

"We're relieved to report that the library survived!" wrote Kim Thurman, Vice President of RVGS.

"The fire came very close, but some well-placed water managed to slow the spread and save us. A mobile home park just a quarter mile south of us, as well as the rest of Phoenix, did not fare as well."

Access was restricted for some time as the RVGS library sat in a restricted zone requiring escorts into their property.

We are still awaiting word on the fate of the North Santiam Historical Society in Mill City. That town suffered major damage from the Santiam Fire. You'll see in a separate article on page 10 that they had received a grant to digitize thousands of pages of local newspapers.

We are hoping for the best for them and all the heritage organizations around Oregon.

Involving children in genealogy

Laurel Smith

"I wish I could get my kids (or grandkids) interested in family history."

"How do we get younger generations involved in genealogy?"

These are sentiments I've heard often over the years. It's a theme in blog posts and genealogy magazine articles from time to time.

Daniel Horowitz of MyHeritage recently offered some excellent ideas in a live presentation done *just for GFO members*. His topics included

- » Communicating with language that sparks interest
- » Presenting from the younger person's perspective
- » Using the natural curiosity of children to engage them
- » Creating goals and interactions for specific age groups

Horowitz then shared a wealth of possible projects, including games and crafts. He shared ways

to involve kids in family reunions and discussed ways to teach about many of the tools we are familiar with, such as timelines, interviews, photo analysis, and exploration using family heirlooms. The presentation concluded with ideas for the child to share what they had discovered through means such as social media.

Right now, with COVID-19 keeping so many of us at home, it's a great time to put some of these ideas to use. Use your genealogy skills to engage children and grandchildren in ways that will help them with all their studies, from history and science, to language and math.

The presentation is now available on YouTube:

youtu.be/pdaxnnRVCEM.

Portland to Have its Own KehilaLinks Page

JewishGen.org has reserved a slot for Portland to create its own page in KehilaLinks, a free feature on JewishGen.org's website.

KehilaLinks pages are little on-line books for communities where Jewish people have lived. They can contain memorials, and cultural, genealogical, and historical records for future generations. Each community can post its history, photos, memoirs, and data. By inviting all the Jewish organizations in Portland to participate, the page will belong to all of us, this legacy can be left for the next generations.

The Portland page needs submissions about Jewish families in Oregon for the period from 1849 to

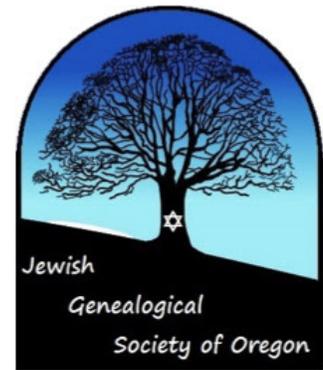
1950 on the following topics:

- » Businesses
- » Memoirs
- » Photos
- » Family Stories
- » Military
- » the Holocaust

Please get appropriate permissions from authors and families, and include the permissions with your submissions.

Linda Wolfe Kelley, Secretary of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Oregon, is the volunteer manager for Portland's KehilaLinks page. For submissions and questions, you can email her at

lkelly49@gmail.com.



Genealogical Forum of Oregon

VIRTUAL FALL SEMINAR



Lisa Louise Cooke

Host of the **Genealogy Gems Podcast**

NOV. 14 - 15

Register gfo.org/lisa BIG DISCOUNTS FOR GFO MEMBERS



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

<https://gfo.org/learn/special-interest-groups/>

AFRICAN AMERICAN GROUP

Third Saturdays
12–2 p.m.
Led by Janice Sellers
African_American@gfo.org

BRITISH GROUP

Fourth Saturdays in Jan, Mar,
May, and Sep
1–3 p.m.
Led by Duane Funk
UK@gfo.org

DNA – Beginners

Fourth Saturdays in Feb, May,
Aug, and Nov
9 a.m.–12 p.m.
Led by Emily Aulicino
DNA@gfo.org

DNA – Advanced

Fourth Saturdays in Jan, Apr, July,
and Oct
9 a.m.–12 p.m.
Led by Emily Aulicino
DNA@gfo.org

DNA Q & A – The Basics

First Wednesdays
1–3 p.m.
Led by Lisa McCullough
DNA_QA@gfo.org

FAMILY TREE MAKER

Monthly, usually second or third Sunday.
Be sure to check the GFO calendar.
1–3 p.m.
Led by Laurel Smith
FTM@gfo.org

FRENCH CANADA GROUP

Third Sundays
3:30–5 p.m.
Led by Carol LaBrie
FrCan@gfo.org

GENEALOGY PROBLEM SOLVERS

Third Saturdays
9:30–11:30 a.m.
Led by Katie Daly
GPS@gfo.org

GERMAN GROUP

First Saturdays
1–3 p.m.
Led by Mike Fernandez and Tia Cobb
German@gfo.org

GREAT LAKES REGION

Second Saturdays
(except Aug & Dec)
9:30–11:30 a.m.
Led by Fran Hart
GreatLakes@gfo.org

IRISH GROUP

Third Wednesdays in Feb, Apr, June,
Aug, and Oct
6–8 p.m.
Led by Karen Hubbard
Irish@gfo.org

ITALIAN GROUP

First Tuesdays
10 a.m.–12 p.m.
Led by Stephanie Silenti
Italian@gfo.org

LEARN & CHAT

First and third Wednesdays
10 a.m.–12 p.m.
Led by Sandy Alto and Jeanne Quan
LearnandChat@gfo.org

MEXICAN ANCESTRY

Second Fridays in Feb, Apr, June,
and Oct
11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
SEEKING LEADER
SW@gfo.org

THE Q REVIEW

Second Thursdays
6 p.m.–7 p.m.
Led by Alexa Waddle
qreview@gfo.org

VIRGINIA GROUP

First Saturdays, Sept–June
10 a.m.–12 p.m.
Led by Judi Scott and Carol Surrency
Virginia@gfo.org

WRITERS' FORUM

Second Saturdays, Sept–May
1–3 p.m.
Led by Peggy Baldwin
Writers@gfo.org

Upcoming GFO Meetings

VIRGINIA SIG

Saturday, October 3, 2020
10 a.m.–12 p.m.

For the October meeting, Duane Funk will address the Highland clearances. From 1750 to about 1860, the Highland clearances involved the evictions of a significant number of tenants in the Scottish Highlands and Islands. Landlords, driven by the desire to increase their income by replacing their clansmen with sheep, drove thousands out of their ancestral homes. Many starved, others wound up in the slums of Glasgow or the English midlands. Still others emigrated to North America, Australia, New Zealand, and elsewhere in the British Empire.

Learn about what caused the Clearances, who was involved, and how to research the resulting diaspora. Register in advance for this meeting: bit.ly/35fgUDW

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

GREAT LAKES SIG

Saturday, October 10, 2020
9:30–11:30 a.m.

This month, Daniel Frye will present “Proving lineage in early 19th century frontier Ohio,” covering a decade-long search for Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS) evidence to prove eligibility for membership in Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) in Washington County, Ohio.

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UPCOMING GFO MEETINGS,
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Q&A and sharing session will follow as usual.

Contact GreatLakes@gfo.org if interested.

FAMILY TREE MAKER

Sunday, October 18, 2020
1-3 p.m.

In October, the FTM Group will explore the Web Search Workspace. What's possible extends far beyond merely checking Ancestry and FamilySearch hints. We'll look at setting up favorite sites, importing pictures, and even importing facts from a variety of websites. Regular attendees will receive an email with the link to join this Zoom meeting. If you're not a regular, send a message to Laurel at ftm@gfo.org no later than Saturday, October 17, 2020.

August Meeting Tackled DNA Evidence

Alexa Waddle

In August, the Q Review discussion group read LaBrenda Garrett-Nelson's "Parents for Isaac Garrett of Laurens County, South Carolina: DNA Corroborates Oral Tradition" *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 108 (June 2020): 85-112.



DNA played a large role in our discussion, and we discussed ways to increase our DNA analysis skills. A recommendation from my ProGen study group was the "Research Like a Pro with DNA" study group offered by the folks at Family Locket: bit.ly/2Zwtf2V.

Another member of the group suggested the Genealogy Guys podcast interview with LaBrenda Garrett-Nelson: bit.ly/2Rkq9e3.

In addition, Legacy Family Tree Webinars has 25 webinars by Blaine Bettinger, including five in a series of "Foundations in DNA." (There's also one called "How Harry Potter can teach you about DNA.") They are behind a paywall: \$49.95 for a year's subscription gives you full access to their entire webinar library. Blaine's webinars are listed here: familytreewebinars.com/blaineбетtinger.

October's article will be "A Family for William Gray of New Madrid County, Territory of Missouri," by Melinda Daffin Henningfield, *NGSQ* 101 (Sep 2013), p. 207-228.

Happy Holidays

Do you have a friend or relative interested in genealogy?
Give a GFO membership and get two FREE months for yourself!

Order by December 10*
Get details at gfo.org/gift



If paying by check, send with gift form to GFO Membership, 2505 SE 11th Ave., Suite B18, Portland, OR 97202. Holiday gift memberships begin January 1, 2021.* Purchasers receive a two-month extension on their own membership. Questions? Contact membership@gfo.org.

*Please allow seven days for processing. Different start dates may be requested.

Mexican Ancestry SIG Seeks New Facilitator

The GFO would like to offer our profound thanks to Vincent Ramirez for creating and leading the GFO's Mexican Ancestry special interest group (SIG). Unfortunately, Vince has stepped away from this role.

We'd very much like to keep this group going. The strength of GFO's special interest groups is that they're led and driven by their members.

Do you have an interest in Mexican Ancestry and a willingness to facilitate meetings? Or perhaps focusing beyond Mexico to include other Latin origins would be more appealing? The group can make any such change it might wish. We can work with you on finding the best time and date.

We'd hate to see this group go away.

SIG leaders must be GFO members. Currently all SIGs meet online. We will provide training in Zoom meeting facilitation.

The next Mexican Ancestry SIG is scheduled for October 9, 2020. We'll need to hear from a new volunteer leader to enable that to happen.

Please contact president@gfo.org if you can help.

Volunteer Opportunities



- » Marketing
- » Fundraising

We're asking for help. The roles of chief fundraiser and marketer have defaulted to our president.

It would be marvelous to find assistance so he can focus on his many other duties.

Do you have a knack for social media? Do you have community contacts who might not know what the GFO offers?

Or perhaps you've helped fundraise in the past. This is an area where none of the Board has experience, so we'd welcome help.

Please contact Vince Patton at president@gfo.org if you can spare some time for the GFO.

OFFICIAL BUT WRONG!

EVALUATING THE RELIABILITY OF RECORDS

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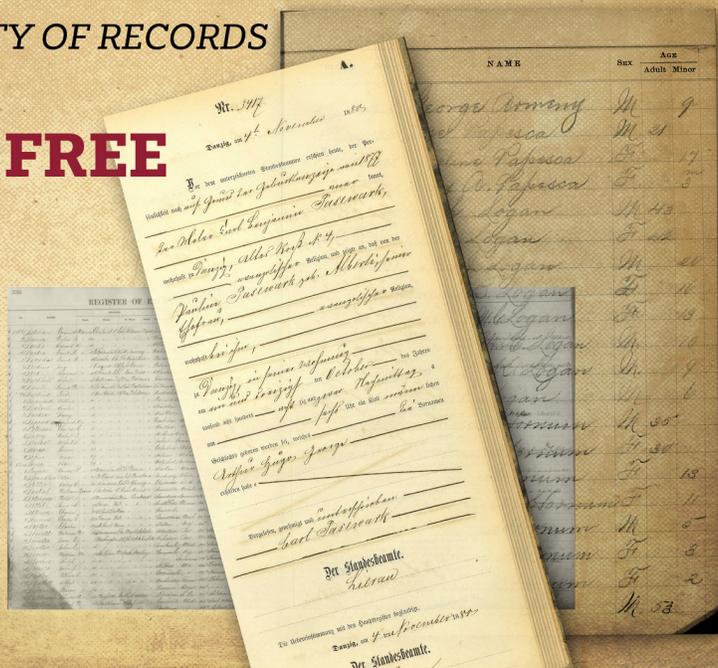
REGISTER AT GFO.ORG/GENTALK



LIVE, ONLINE
with
JAY FONKERT,
C.G.

GENEALOGICAL FORUM OF OREGON

GENTALK





Family Tree Webinars in October: A Focus on DNA

Four well-known genetic genealogists have DNA webinars this month. Family Tree Webinars are free on the day they are presented, but you must register beforehand. For the complete list, please check out bit.ly/39arr3w.

Advanced DNA Techniques: Deductive Chromosome Mapping

Tuesday, October 6, 2020 and Wednesday, October 7, 2020

Blaine Bettinger, Ph.D., J.D.

Chromosome mapping is typically achieved by mapping the segments of DNA we share with an identified match. In this lecture, learn how to map segments of DNA that you do not share with a match!



Using close relatives such as parents or siblings, we can figure out where pieces of DNA came from based on lack of sharing.

Register: bit.ly/2F7i75c

Wringing Every Drop out of Y DNA

Wednesday, October 7, 2020

Roberta Estes

Step by step, how to utilize Y DNA testing at Family Tree DNA to get the most out of your results. We'll look at little known methods to obtain information, even if your match doesn't have a tree. Wonder about the Big Y test? We'll talk about why that's important and how to benefit from those results. Lastly, we'll discuss projects and using Y DNA in conjunction with autosomal for a slam-dunk.



Register: bit.ly/3hYvgw4

Dealing with Endogamy

Wednesday, October 14, 2020
and Thursday, October 15, 2020

Paul Woodbury

General rules of DNA inheritance assume independent genealogical lines. However, cases of endogamy, pedigree collapse, and multiple levels of relation-

ship to any given genetic match merit additional considerations for analysis and interpretation. Explore strategies such as segment analysis, targeted testing, anchoring, and variable segment thresholds for overcoming the challenges of endogamy, pedigree collapse, or multiple relationships in your DNA test results.

Register: bit.ly/2QS5Og1



Using DNA Test Results to Confirm a Pedigree

Tuesday, October 20, 2020
and Wednesday, October 21, 2020

Angela Packer McGhie, CG

This webinar will demonstrate using DNA test results to confirm a documented ancestral line. We will walk step-by-step through the process using both traditional research and DNA evidence to meet standards.



Register: bit.ly/2F5IREA

GFO Members receive a

10%

DISCOUNT
on surplus books*



SHOP AT bit.ly/31up5Kw

*excluding GFO publications and the E-News surplus book of the week.

Historic Mill City Paper to be Digitized

Excerpted from the Willamette Valley Genealogical Society Newsletter—September 2020

The North Santiam Historical Society has been awarded an \$8,764.60 grant through the State Library of Oregon to digitize a large portion of one of Mill City’s historic newspapers, the *Mill City Enterprise*, a weekly newspaper published from 1944–1996. With the award, 13,484 pages of the Mill City Enterprise (dating from November 25, 1948 to December 25, 1975 will be digitized ... This grant is funded by the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) and Oregon Digital Newspaper Program (ODNP).

George Long, last owner and editor of the *Mill City Enterprise*, donated his collection of bound copies (January 1, 1953–December 28, 1989) to the North Santiam Historical Society for preservation. Until now, they have only been available to researchers who could come to the Museum.



French Canada Group Shifts Leadership

The GFO wishes to extend its deep gratitude to Bob LaMarche, who has been the leader of our French Canada Ancestry Group for several years. Bob and his husband are moving away from Oregon, so the meeting on Sept. 20 was his last.

Carol LaBrie has graciously agreed to step up to fill the gap for the time being. We’re so pleased to see the members of this group keep it alive without missing a beat.

All our special interest group meetings are free and open to anyone, members and non-members alike. Write FrCan@GFO.org to get a link to future online Zoom meetings.

Treasurer's Reports

TREASURER: ERIN RANDALL [TREASURER@GFO.ORG]

JULY 2020

INCOME	
Donations	\$ 1,995.11
Memberships	\$ 1,922.00
Seminars & Other Programs	\$ 920.00
Library & Research	\$ 185.00
Book Sales & Misc. Income	\$ 794.70
Interest & Dividends	\$ 280.76
Total	\$ 6097.57
EXPENSES	
Administration	\$ 2551.82
Education Programs	\$ -2513.00
Facilities & Equipment	\$ 4300.00
Library & Research	\$ 794.46
Total	\$ 5133.28
Net Income for the Month	\$ 964.29
Year-to-Date Net Income	\$ 964.29

AUGUST 2020

INCOME	
Donations	\$ 4,103.30
Memberships	\$ 3,027.00
Seminars & Other Programs	\$ 688.00
Library & Research	\$ 333.50
Book Sales & Misc. Income	\$ 943.60
Interest & Dividends	\$ 263.70
Total	\$ 9,359.10
EXPENSES	
Administration	\$ 1,382.99
Education Programs	\$ 1,378.26
Facilities & Equipment	\$ 6,000.45
Library & Research	\$ 103.86
Total	\$ 8,865.56
Net Income for the Month	\$ 493.54
Year-to-Date Net Income	\$ 1457.83



Executive Board of Directors

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Marti Dell

Secretary

Alexa Waddle

Treasurer

Erin Randall

Director at Large

Ana Tangum

Director at Large

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Keri Logan

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Webmaster

Anita Marks

Contact us at

info@gfo.org

GFO Star

September

Janice Sellers

The GFO Board enthusiastically named Janice Sellers as our GFO Star for September.

In three years as a GFO member, Janice has become one of our MVPs. Janice is a professional genealogist specializing in Black, Jewish, dual citizenship, forensic, and newspaper research. She has shared that expertise in GenTalks and teaching half-day workshops at the GFO. The biography on her website is even more impressive:



ancestraldiscoveries.com.

In the last year, she also took over as leader of the African American Ancestry Group, bringing in her expertise from researching her own family and others.

During the pandemic, she has really stepped up as a Look Up volunteer, finding records for fellow GFO members. Her access to a local Family History Center gives her access to records people cannot find at home.

Janice, thank you for everything you do for us. Your expertise is invaluable and your enthusiasm infectious.

Genealogy Groups Approve Merger

The following is a statement from NGS:

The boards of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) and the National Genealogical Society (NGS) are pleased to announce that the FGS membership has voted to approve the merger with NGS. The final tally of eligible voters expressed unanimous support for the merger.

“We are so excited about the bright future of the combined organization that is the new NGS. During the process of preparing for this merger, we have seen a unified commitment and huge enthusiasm from the leaders serving family history organizations,” said Faye Stallings, FGS President.

“We are thrilled and ready to welcome all of the FGS membership to the new



NGS,” said Ben Spratling, NGS President. “This merger is all about building a strong, vibrant community of family history organizations that assist people as they discover their ancestors, connect with their relatives, and learn their family stories. This is an exciting time to be part of the genealogy community.”

The GFO will remain an honorary lifetime member of the NGS after the merger, a thank you from long ago when we assisted in national conferences held in Portland.

The Forum Insider

Genealogical Forum of Oregon
2505 SE 11th Ave., Suite B-18
Portland, OR 97202-1061

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GFO OCTOBER 2020 ONLINE EVENTS

The library is *closed* until safe to reopen. All events are online.

Check the calendar for the URL to participate in online events: gfo.org/calendar

Saturday, October 3

10 a.m.–12 p.m. Virginia Group
1–3 p.m. German Ancestry

Tuesday, October 6

10 –11:30 a.m. Italian Ancestry

Wednesday, October 7

10 a.m.–12 p.m. Learn & Chat
1–3 p.m. DNA Q&A: The Basics

Thursday, October 8

6–7 p.m. The Q Review

Friday, October 9

11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Mexican Ancestry Group (Note:
This meeting is contingent on a new leader stepping
forward. Check calendar)

Saturday, October 10

9:30–11:30 a.m. Great Lakes Group
1:00–3:00 p.m. Writer's Forum

Tuesday, October 13

6:30–8:30 p.m. Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 14

11 a.m.–12 p.m. Library Committee Meeting

Saturday, October 17

9:30–11:30 a.m. Genealogy Problem Solvers
12–2 p.m. African American Ancestry Group
2–3 p.m. Gen Talk: Official, but Wrong

Sunday, October 18

1–3 p.m. Family Tree Maker
3:30–5 p.m. French Canada Ancestry

Wednesday, October 21

10 a.m.–12 p.m. Learn & Chat
6–8 p.m. Irish Group

Saturday, October 24

9 a.m.–12 p.m. DNA Advanced

