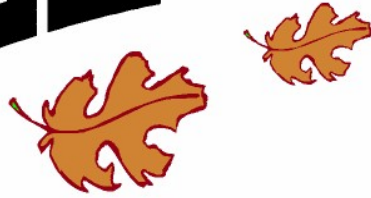


FALL SEMINAR



**We Welcome . .
Paula
Stuart-Warren, CG**



Seminar Features

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

Saturday

At the

Oct. 23, 2010

Milwaukie Elks Lodge

Hosts: GENEALOGICAL FORUM OF OREGON

Portland, Oregon

www.gfo.org

PAULA'S TOPICS

- *Research Rewards in County Courthouses and Town Hall Records*
- *Tho' They Were Poor, They May Have Been Rich in Records*
- *Lord Preserve Us! Church Records for Family History Research*
- *Midwestern & Plains State Level Census Records*



STUART-WARREN FALL SEMINAR SIGN-UP FORM OCT 23, 2010

Name _____ Member # _____

Email if you want confirmation/Phone: _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

MEMBERS: { } \$40 if received *by* 10/18/10 { } \$45 if received *after* 10/18/10

NON-MEMBERS: { } \$45 *by* 10/18/10 { } \$50 *after* 10/18/10

LUNCH: { } \$11.00 IF RECEIVED *by* 10/18/10 TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO GFO, PO BOX 42567, PORTLAND OR 97242-0567

LUNCH
Buffet lunch in the Elks Dining Room with payment for lunch.
The buffet luncheon for \$11 includes pot roast, baby red potatoes and various cold selections. Coffee, hot tea and water included.
No lunch available for purchase after October 18, 2010.

REGISTRATION AT SEMINAR: 8-9 A.M. October 23, 2010 SATURDAY

First Class starts at 9:15 a.m...with a morning break, one-hour lunch, afternoon break, program ends about 4:00 p.m. Snacks & drinks at morning and afternoon breaks come with your price of admission.

FEE AT THE DOOR \$50 MEMBER, \$55 NON-MEMBER

TOPICS FOR THE SEMINAR

PAULA STUART-WARREN, CG. Since the early 1980's, Paula has worked full-time in the area of genealogical and historical research, lecturing, consulting, and writing. She has been a Board-Certified Genealogist since 1988, passing the periodical renewal assessments by the National Board for Certification of Genealogists. She is a firm believer in education and strives to keep up-to-date by participating in national and local conferences. We welcome Paula's expertise, experience, and her dedication to the world of genealogy.

Research Rewards in County Courthouses and Town Hall Records Courthouses and town halls all across the U. S. are treasure troves of records for family history research. Yes, they include birth, death, marriage, and probate records, but go far beyond these. Learn about these basics and also tax, divorce, naturalization, criminal and civil court records, and others.

Tho' They Were Poor, They May Have Been Rich in Records So many researchers put up artificial brick walls because their ancestors weren't land owners, were perennial renters staying one step ahead of the bill collector, or didn't leave behind a ten page will listing all the children. Many researchers figure that the trail runs cold, but that is far from the truth.

Lord Preserve Us! Church Records for Family History Research Not all of our ancestors belonged to an organized religion. For those who did, the records which have survived until today can often be helpful to genealogists. Names, dates, relationships, places of new and former residences, burial location, and other details may be learned.

Midwestern & Plains State Level Census Records Many Midwestern and Plains states have superb state census records. Learn about the indexes, the many personal details these censuses include, locating the censuses, and alternate sources. The personal details vary but may include names of children, maiden names, military service, religious denomination, mother of how many children, occupation, value of real estate, and other helpful details.

SITE of SEMINAR:

Milwaukie Elks Lodge

13121 SE McLoughlin Blvd, Milwaukie, Oregon

Driving Directions: On McLoughlin Blvd.

(Oregon Hwy 99E),

1/2 mile south of the town of Milwaukie. Located between SE Park Avenue (traffic light to the north) and the Bomber (airplane to the south). On the west side of the street. Look for the Milwaukie Elks Lodge sign near the boulevard.

MAILING ADDRESS:

FALL SEMINAR

PO BOX 42567

PORTLAND OR 97242-0567

More Info.....

503-963-1932 — <www.gfo.org>

LIBRARY HOURS

M,T,W,Th—9:30 a.m.-5p.m.

Sat 9:30 a.m. -3p.m. Sun Noon-5p.m.

The Forum Insider

VOLUME 22

ISSUE 3

OCTOBER 1, 2010

**NEWSLETTER
of
THE GENEALOGICAL
FORUM OF OREGON**
www.gfo.org

1505 SE Gideon St
Near the Intersection of SE
Powell and SE 12th Ave
(Milwaukie Ave.)
503-963-1932

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 42567
Portland, OR 97242-0567

**Monthly Membership
Meetings:**

Second Saturday of each
month at 2:00 p.m. with a
speaker.

Library Hours

Mon-Tues-Wed-Thurs:
9:30 to 5 p.m.
Saturdays: 9:30-3 p.m.
Sun: 12-5 p.m.
Closed Fridays

**SUBMISSIONS to the
INSIDER**

Feedback, corrections, news,
short success stories,
announcements to
Janis Bailey, editor, at
jbailey172@comcast.net
Or leave messages at GFO
desk 503-963-1932
Submissions by the 7th of the
month for inclusion in the
following month's issue

Opinions expressed in this
Newsletter are not necessarily
those of the Genealogical Forum
of Oregon.



WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE

| | |
|---|-------|
| PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE | 4 |
| COMPUTER INTEREST GROUP | 4 |
| MOVING AHEAD, | 5 |
| VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE | 5 |
| THE GREAT MYSTERY | 5 |
| GFO'S AUGUST OPEN HOUSE | 6 |
| "CONNIE'S CORNER " RETIRED | 7 |
| GFO'S 2011 WRITING CONTEST | 7 |
| NEW LIBRARY BOOKS | 8-9 |
| NELLIE'S AUTOGRAPH ALBUM | 10-11 |
| DNA GROUP OCTOBER MEETING CANCELED | 11 |
| ALL-NIGHTER | 11 |
| CALENDAR OF EVENTS | 12 |

**THE GFO MEMBERSHIP FEES OF \$40 A YEAR
ARE 100% TAX DEDUCTIBLE
IN KEEPING WITH OUR 501 c (3) NON-PROFIT EDUCATION
STATUS**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Genealogy Enthusiasts,

Surely, fall time is here. Cooler days and nights, leaves changing colors, and the smell of fresh Northwest apples at my nearby produce stand stir the senses and confirm our autumn season.

Summertime was a busy time at GFO. On August 7th, we held a successful and interesting Open House and Surplus Book Sale at our headquarters, complete with a guest speaker on the building of the Old Columbia Highway and Crown Point in the early days. We also hosted GFO's Harvey Steele who put on an Appraisal Faire of family heirlooms that was so interesting. He provides so much history and information as to the makeup of each item. On August 30 and 31st, for the second year, we sent two teams of volunteers down to Salem to host the genealogy booth at the Oregon State Fair. Perks of hosting the booth include free admission to the fair with time for two folks at-a-time from the booth making a run for food or to see some of the exhibits. The quilts and cake decorating competition was outstanding as was the "Meet the Oregon Authors" area. Our sister group, Oregon Genealogy Society of Eugene, hosted several more days at the booth. Many folks stopped to check us out and were either new to family research or had stories to tell us about their brick wall problems and their successes.

In September, interest groups and GFO committees started up again, plus we had the first of the Monthly Programs with Connie Lenzen speaking on the topic "How to Research with Google".

On October 9th, Larry Sullivan, our very capable and knowledgeable webmaster, will speak on "Using the GFO

Website". Believe me, there's more on there for non-native born Oregonians than just Oregon/Washington related items. However, those offerings are quite popular with our out-of-staters, and generate a lot of "Look-up Requests".

Come November 13th, a panel of speakers from the 10th Mountain Division of WW2 will join us and tell a little about their part in WW2. This group of skiers in Italy in WW2 was made famous by some of the war related movies over the past years.

Have you signed up for the Fall Seminar being held at the Milwaukie Elks Lodge on October 23rd? Speaker Paula Stuart-Warren comes highly recommended. See the enclosed flyer.

Join us for our programs, interest groups, board meetings, and of course—research. We look forward to seeing you.

Lyleth Winther, President Contact Lyleth with suggestion. (Llaw1@frontier.com)



State Fair, 2010

Pictured above: back row Anne Wendlandt & Lyleth Winther. Front Row; Betty Gibson and Gwen Newborg
Not pictured; Volunteers for second day Lyleth, Diane O'Dell and Carol Young.

COMPUTER INTEREST GROUP

Marty Krauter has announced his resignation from leading the Computer Interest Group. After 14 years time, he needs to step back. We salute his years of dedication to this group, in introducing new genealogy software, or better use of the computer online for research.

Until a new leader has been confirmed, please check the Insider Extra on the website, or watch for an announcement on the ORFORUM Mailing list. Lyleth Winther, President

The Forum Insider (ISSN 1051-5666) is the newsletter of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon Inc., PO Box 42567, Portland OR 97242-0567. 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 \$40 per year for individual memberships and \$55 for joint memberships. Membership includes subscriptions to *The Bulletin* (March, June, September, and December) and *The Forum Insider* (January, February, April, May, July, August, October & 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 Janis Bailey, Editor; Loretta Welsh, Publisher; Jim Morrow and Bruce Conrad Assistants to Loretta; Shirley Durkheimer, Assembling; Bob & Marianne Schug, Mailing Labels; Ray Ashmun, Post Office delivery. Many thanks to everyone including our proofreader, Bob LaDu

MOVING AHEAD**By Don Holznagel**

Well, fellow members, the time to begin searching for our new GFO home is here. Based on the TriMet plans noted in the August *Insider*, we expect to be able to do serious negotiations for space after January. So beginning this month, members are encouraged to assist in identifying suitable Portland area properties available for lease. The general criteria listed below are our first-level screen, and the relocation committee will investigate any properties that appear from external investigation to meet these criteria substantially:

- Located in central Portland, with preference for east side of the Willamette River
- Floor space in the range of 4500-5500 sq. ft., ground level, concrete floor
- ADA compliance characteristics: wide entry doors, convenient ramps
- Building appears secure or can be made secure (locking doors and windows)
- Neighborhood ambiance is friendly, especially after dark and weekends
- Ambient noise is at a low level, i.e. traffic, truck loading, construction, heavy industry, etc.
- Public transport access, at least bus, within two blocks
- Auto access: near major highway intersections, and/or major arterial streets
- Parking: on-street, off-street (8 slots now), handicapped-marked (3 slots now), overflow options



To report a property, please provide its address, leasing agent or other contact information, any notes you have about your observation, and your name and contact information so a committee member can follow up with you if needed. Send the information to Don Holznagel using one of these methods:

E-mail dholznag@pacifier.com
 Drop information at GFO Library front desk
 Send by US Mail to GFO

We expect to narrow the candidate properties to a few for consideration by the GFO Board in January or later. We plan to move to a new place on or before July 1, 2011, remaining in the current location until after the Annual Meeting in June so that Special Interest Groups and committees can plan to complete their year's activities in known space.

Good Hunting!! - - Don

VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Thanks to all of our wonderful volunteer Research Assistants, we have managed to maintain our status as a premium research library, where you can get help locating those elusive ancestors. We like to have at least 2 persons working in each time slot, and because our volunteers occasionally like to take vacations or have other obligations that take them away, we are always looking for new people to fill some of the vacancies. Do you have a few hours per week or per month to help? You would always be paired with an experienced RA and you learn the job as you help the patrons. If interested, contact Cathy at catlauer@comcast.net, or leave a message at the reception desk, 503-963-1932.

Our most recent volunteers are: Teri Danielson, Nathan Haines, Mary Kerchal, Sharon Morehart, Nanci Remington, Dean Wilson, and Cherill Vencil.

THE GREAT MYSTERY

Can anyone help Bettina Chew solve the mystery of the "strange reappearance" of her official "Life Member" badge. The badge reappeared at the Reception Desk after having been missing for two years. Who found it? Where was it found?

If you know anything about this wayward Lifetime Membership badge, please call or email Bettina Chew Bettina@frys.com or 504 245-5749 or Ann Wendlandt, eawjrw@aol.com or call 593 641-3962

GFO'S AUGUST OPEN HOUSE

Included a Morning Lecture by Clarence Mershon about building the Old Columbia Highway and in the afternoon an Appraisal Faire With Harvey Steele.

Some items brought to the Faire for appraisal



Lovely European porcelain dish (right)



Country Rocker



(above) Brass snuff box carried into the Battle of Waterloo 1815



Harvey Steele describes a chair brought to the U.S. from Japan by a returning WW II Veteran. It is called a Dragon Chair, an example of "Sailor Art done as a souvenir

Participants were fascinated by Harvey's ability to identify year and country of origin of submitted pieces.



Connie's Corner . . . Retired

SAD TO SAY

After years of writing "Connie's Corner", Connie has decided to give up the monthly responsibility of writing her column for the *Insider*. She will continue her many other contributions to the GFO and other organizations.

We have been honored to have her share her extensive knowledge with our newsletter readers and wish her good fortune with her many endeavors, now and in the future.

If there are readers of *The Insider* who are interested in writing a regular column, or an occasional one, please submit your ideas to the editor,
jbailey172@comcast.net

"Movin' On" with the GFO 2011 Writing Contest

After a one year hiatus, the GFO Writing Contest is back! Mark your calendars for the submission date February 1, 2011. You've got months, but now isn't too early to start. You probably have loose research ends to tie up before sitting down to write. Let this contest be a motivator to get one of your important stories on paper.

The theme this year is "Movin' On." All of our ancestors have moved – across the ocean, across the country, from the city to the country, from the country to the city, away from family, closer to family. Their move may have been very dramatic – a 2000 trek on the Oregon Trail – or less dramatic. Why did they move? What was happening where they lived that made them need to get away? What was so much better about the place they moved to that they would go through the discomfort of uprooting themselves? Or, maybe it was just for the adventure of it! This theme is rich in social context. Your family member participates in history and the shifting of a culture.

Include particulars about your ancestors, building your story's characters, so we can see them as we read. Build the environment; make us feel like we are there. Build a plot with suspense that includes the adversity propelling your ancestors to leave their homes, the difficulties of adjusting to the new life, and the resolution at the end. Remember to be factual throughout, indicating surmises when you make them.

Whether you enter the writing contest or not, plan on attending the GFO Monthly meeting on April 9th. The entire GFO Monthly meeting will revolve around publishing your family history. We'll have a speaker, and provide information about different formats for publishing your family history work, on the continuum of pictures to writing and any combination of both. And, of course, we'll present writing contest awards.

If you have any questions, email Peggy Baldwin at peggy.baldwin@family-passages.com. Also check out our web page -- <http://www.gfo.org/writingcontest/index.htm> for some articles about how to write for the contest and to see past winning stories.

Please carefully read the contest requirements below, so you don't have any last minute surprises!

Contest Requirements:

Piece must be written to the theme: "Movin' On" – a factual story about ancestors who moved from one place to another.

Length — 750 to 5000 words

Documentation in the form of endnotes or footnotes is **required**.

Story must be submitted in electronic form—Word or RTF file, submitted as an email attachment or burned to a CD or floppy disk

Submitted between January 1 and February 1, 2010.

Plan ahead and make a concerted effort to attend the award presentation at the GFO Monthly meeting on Saturday, April 9, 2011

NEW LIBRARY BOOKS

Lee, Bill and LaVonne. *Ott in Indiana*. Published by the author; La Feria, Texas, 2006. 929.2 O89

—*Copy of Julia Osborn Potter's Memoirs, Dated April 28, 1936*. Published by the author: No place, 1936. 929.2 P867

Ralls, Joseph Mack. *Study of the Family and Descendants of Joseph Punttenney and Sarah Hollingsworth of Colonial Maryland: Volume 1*. Medley Publishing: Albuquerque, New Mexico, 2002. 929.2 P984

—*Study of the Family and Descendants of Joseph Punttenney and Sarah Hollingsworth of Colonial Maryland: Volume 2*. Medley Publishing: Albuquerque, New Mexico, 2002. 929.2 P984

—*Study of the Family and Descendants of Joseph Punttenney and Sarah Hollingsworth of Colonial Maryland: Volume 3*. Medley Publishing: Albuquerque, New Mexico, 2002. 929.2 P984

Ralls, Joseph Mack. *Study of the Family and Descendants of Joseph Punttenney and Sarah Hollingsworth of Colonial Maryland: Volume 4*. Medley Publishing: Albuquerque, New Mexico, 2002. 929.2 P984

Mosher, Merrill Hill. *John Rice, Sr. of Louisa County, Virginia and Caswell County, North Carolina*. Published by the author: Coos Bay, Oregon, 1984. 929.2 R495

Voiles, Karl. *Life and Times of Thomas Clarke Saunders (1835-1909)*. No publisher: No place, No date. 929.2 S257

Reno, Floyd Harold and Martha Lynn Hooper Reno. *History of the Thomas N. Turner Farm, Meigs County, Tennessee*. Gateway Press: Baltimore, Maryland. 2007. 929.2 T953

Allison, Theodora Ann Grindle. *Life of Amos Safford Warner*. PBC Press: Bend, Oregon, 2007. 929.2 W279

Wheeler, Daniel B. *Wheeler, Bland, Parker, Allen Family Tree*. Published by the author: Portland, Oregon, 2009. 929.2 W562

Lee, Bill and LaVonne. *Zumwalt in Washington*. Published by the author: Smithfield, Utah, 1990. 929.2 Z95

—*Zumwalt in Oregon*. Published by the author: Smithfield, Utah, 1989. 929.2 Z95

—*Zumwalt in Parts of Missouri and Illinois, Volume I*. Published by the author: La Feria, Texas, 2007. 929.2 Z95

—*Zumwalt in Parts of Missouri and Illinois, Volume II*. Published by the author: La Feria, Texas, 2007. 929.2 Z95

—*Zumwalt in the Desert Southwest*. Published by the author: La Feria, Texas, 2004. 929.2 Z95

—*Zumwalt In Parts Of California and Texas*. Published by the author: La Feria, Texas, 2008. 929.2 Z95

—*Big Road Atlas of Britain 2010*. Automobile Association: Basingstoke, Hampshire, England, 2010. 941 A000 History

Cargill, David C. et al. *Argyllshire Monumental Inscriptons volume 1: Appin and Lismore*. Scottish Genealogical Association: Edinburgh, Scotland, 2002. 941.1 A694 Cemeteries

—*Buildings of Architectural and Historic Interest in Clackmannan district*. Clackmannan District Council: Clackmannan, Scotland, No date. 941.1 C583

Gordon, T. Crouther. *Tower of Clackmannan: Ancient Seat of The Bruces*. Clackmannan District. Libraries: Clackmannan, Scotland, 1982. 941.1 C583 History

Leyburn, James G. *Scotch - Irish: A Social History*. University of North Carolina Press: Chapel Hill, North Carolina, 1962. 941.5 A000

Schwennicke, Detlev. *Europaische Stammtafeln, Band 23: Rund um die Ostsee 2*. Vittorio Klostermann: Frankfurt am Main, Germany, 2006. 943 A000 Biography

—*Europaische Stammtafeln, Band 24: Rund um die Ostsee 3*. Vittorio Klostermann: Frankfurt am Main, Germany, 2007. 943 A000 Biography

—*Europaische Stammtafeln, Band 25: Rund um die Ostsee 4*. Vittorio Klostermann: Frankfurt am Main, Germany, 2007. 943 A000 Biography

NEW LIBRARY BOOKS

- Blackbourn, David. *Long Nineteenth Century: A History of Germany, 1780-1919*. Oxford University Press: New York, 1998. 943 A000 History
- Voss, Theodore. *Familien der Kirchengemeinde Sieglesum (ca. 1700-1907)*. Upstalsboom-Gesellschaft: Aurich, Germany, 2009. 943 H247 Biography
- Dorfbuch Taarstedt*. No Publisher: No place, No date. 943 S342 History
- Everton, George B. Sr. *Handybook for Genealogists: United States of America, 10th edition*. Everton Publishers: Logan, Utah, 2002. 973 A000 How-To
- Dollarhide, William. *Genealogical Resources of the Civil War Era: Online and Published Military or Civilian Name Lists, 1861-1869, and Post-War Veterans Lists*. Family Roots Publishing: Bountiful, Utah, 2009. 973 A000 Military
- Phillips, David. *Maps of the Civil War: The Roads They Took*. MetroBooks: New York, 1998. 973 A000 Military
- Williamson, James J. *Collector's Library of the Civil War: Mosby's Rangers: A Record of the Operations of the Forty-Third Battalion Virginia Cavalry*. Time-Life Books: No place, 1981. 973 A000 Military
- Beatty, John. *Collector's Library of the Civil War: The Citizen Soldier; or, Memoirs of a Volunteer*. Time-Life Books: No place, 1983. 973 A000 Military
- Jones, J. B. *Collector's Library of the Civil War: A Rebel Clerk's Diary at the Confederate States Capital, vol. 2*. Time-Life Books: No Place, 1983. 973 A000 Military
- Slavin, Dorothy Ferguson. *Memories of Ogunquit, Maine*. Published by the author: Ogunquit, Maine, No date. 974.1 Y62 History
- Proceedings at the Centennial Celebration of the Town of Campton, New Hampshire, September 12, 1867*. A. G. Jones: Concord, 1868. 974.2 G737 History
- Congregational Church of Bridport, Vermont 1790-1965*. 175th Anniversary Committee: Bridport, Vermont, 1976. 974.3 A224 History
- Wallingford 1761 - 1976, Volume 2*. Bicentennial Committee: No place, 1976. 973.4 R979 History
- Proctor, The Way It Was*. Proctor Historical Society: Proctor, Vermont, 1975. 973.4 R979 History
- Archer, Cathaline Alford and Mitchell J. Mulholland. *Bicentennial History of Becket, Berkshire County, Massachusetts*. Becket Historical Society: Becket, Massachusetts, 1992. 974.4 B5132 History
- Child, Hamilton. *Index of Persons for: Gazetteer of Berkshire County, Massachusetts 1725-1885 (Part First)*. Berkshire Family History Association: Pittsfield, Massachusetts, 1976. 974.4 B5132 Maps & Gazetteers
- City Cemeteries, Malden, Massachusetts: Historical Sketch of Cemeteries and, Rules and Regulations*. Forest Dale Cemetery: Malden, Massachusetts, 1976. 974.4 M627 Cemeteries
- Cemeteries in South Kingstown*. Pettaquamscutt Historical Society: Kingstown, Rhode Island, 1978. 974.5 W317 Cemeteries
- Tomlinson, R. G. *Witchcraft Trials of Connecticut*. Hartford, Connecticut, 1978. 974.6 A000 History
- Beckwith, Elinor C. *Town of Stanford in History*. Town of Stanford: Stanford, New York, 1973. 974.7 D975 History
- Town of Darien 1832 - 1982*. Sesquicentennial Book Committee: Darien, New York, 1982. 974.7 G327 History
- Lord, Jane S. *Lansingburgh, New York 1771 - 1971*. Lansingburgh Historical Society: Lansingburgh, New York, 1972. 974.7 R421 History
- Myers, Albert Cook. *Immigration of the Irish Quakers into Pennsylvania 1682-1750*. Genealogical Publishing: Baltimore, Maryland, 1969. 974.8 A000 Ethnic
- Freilich, Kay Haviland. *NGS Research in the States Series: Pennsylvania*. National Genealogical Society: Arlington, Virginia, 2007. 974.8 A000 How-To

NELLIE'S AUTOGRAPH ALBUM

How Autograph Albums Can Help You in Your Family Research

By Molly Kernan

My Great-Grandmother Burns died in 1958. Although I was only seven years old at the time, I feel a great connection to Nellie because she has given me so much to help me in tracing my family's history.

Nellie kept the treasures of her life in an old trunk, and when she died, my father discovered that the trunk had been stolen by those entrusted with her care.

Ten or twelve years later, one of Dad's customers, who knew that my father had been born in Michigan in about 1923, approached him with an old photograph and said, "Does this picture mean anything to you?"

"Where in heavens did you get that?" Dad asked. "That's me when I was a baby!"

Dad's customer said that his kids had been playing in an abandoned garage across the street from his house, and in that garage, there was an old trunk that was full of old photographs and other stuff. That night, Mom and Dad recovered Nellie's trunk.

According to my parents, everything of monetary value was gone; however, everything that would be of value to a future family historian was still there, and I now have it all in my possession!

Grandma Burns must have had an inkling that I, her first great-grandchild, would one day appreciate and want to know more about her and her family history. She labeled most of her old photographs with names, dates, and places. (Had she not done so, the trunk would have been lost forever.) She also put together a family-tree document, which gave me the names of her parents, her siblings, and the names of both her maternal and paternal grandparents as well as their dates and places of birth and death. She saved the obituaries and locks of hair of those she loved the most, and on a beautiful old quilt, she attached a note -- "This was made by my Grandma in 1860."

One of the recovered items -- Nellie's autograph album -- seemed less spectacular to me when I first started doing family history research sixteen years ago. Since then, I have learned that autograph albums often hold clues that bibles, obituaries, old photographs, and other "paper" may not hold.

Back in the late nineteenth century -- and even later, the autograph album was quite the fad amongst young ladies, young men, and school children. These little books were passed to friends, schoolmates, family members, teachers, and other respected elders, who wrote notes of affection, poems, and wishes for a happy life.

When my great-grandmother's autograph album was handed down to me, I was quite charmed; however, I did not think it had a lot of family history value.

Still charmed, I found other people's autograph albums at antique malls and shows. If the price was right -- \$10 or less -- I purchased them.

In time, I discovered that every autograph album is unique. Not just a collection of names and poems, they reveal clues about the person who owned it and those who penned their names.

For example, in Rebecca Firestone's autograph album, about 60% of the entries refer to her as "Sister" or "Friend" Rebecca, and there were numerous references to heaven and "the great reward". From this, I gather that Miss Firestone was a devout Christian with a circle of like-minded friends.

By contrast, there were very few religious references in Barbara Galbreath's autograph album. Most of her signers identified themselves as friends, and many of those friends were young men.

Nellie's autograph album also tells a story. Most of her signers were family members -- her father, aunts, uncles, siblings, and cousins. This suggests to me that Nellie was probably a bit of an introvert, who didn't feel comfortable asking people outside the family to sign. Also interesting, those who signed Nellie's album wrote short and impersonal notes, which suggest that they may also have been somewhat introverted. For example, her father wrote,

"My Daughter Nellie, to write a few lines in this book, I take my pen in hand.

My name at the bottom look. This is all I can stand."

He then signed his autograph in a very formal way -- "N. J. Withington".

Another signer wrote, "Writing in autograph albums, I do detest, but seeing it's you, I will do my best, John Burns." Nellie and John were married four months later.

Nellie's autograph album reveals more about the personalities of Nellie and those who signed her album. There are fifty-one entries in Nellie's album. On only one of those autographs, the signer did not reveal his or her identity. Forty-one of the entries are dated, and thirty-two of the entries show in which towns or communities the autographs were signed.

(continued on next page)

(*Nellie's Autograph Album* continued)

Having dates and places noted has helped me to track where Nellie and her family lived and traveled over a ten-year period as well as other ancestors in our family tree.

For example, Nellie's aunt, Kate Janette Sweeney, lived in Monroe County, Michigan in 1880. Since most of the 1890 census was destroyed by fire, the next mention of Kate and her family comes in the 1900 census, when they were living in South Dakota. Kate signed Nellie's album in August 1883, and she noted that she signed in Monroe, Michigan. From this record, I can surmise that Kate and her family left Monroe County, Michigan sometime between 1883 and 1900.

In another example, I was having difficulty finding information about George Dunlap, Nellie's great-uncle [and my fourth-great uncle]. I had found two George Dunlaps living in Monroe County, Michigan at the same time, but which one was our ancestor? Nellie's album cleared up the mystery. Although he did not date his entry, when George W. Dunlap wrote, "In kindest remembrance, your affectionate uncle, George W. Dunlap", he also wrote Dundee, Michigan underneath his name. This was enough to help me identify my George in census and other records.

Salutations such as George Dunlap's "your affectionate uncle" were also common in many old autograph albums. Many signers identified their relationship to the albums' owners. In an autograph album owned by Ida Brunton, Mary Gorsuch, Mary Moore, and Luella Brunton identified themselves as "your cousin". In Johnnie Irion's album, Farah A. McCutchen identified herself as "your aunt". If you don't know the married name of a sister, cousin, or aunt, these salutations can open up new possibilities.

If one of your ancestors kept an autograph album, and you haven't had a chance to study it yet, consider doing so.

To analyze the album, first, set up a table using MS Word, MS Excel, or some other database that allows you to sort by column.

In my table, I have six columns with the following headers: position in album, date signed, place where signed, the poem or sentiment, name of the person who signed, and the relationship to the album's owner, if known.

As you enter data, be sure to use the same data-entry patterns, and think about how things will sort. For dates, use 1892-12-19 instead of 19 Dec. 1892 or 12-19-1892, which will sort by whatever comes first in sorting order. For names, use the surname/first name pattern such as "Smith, John".

Once your data is loaded, you can use the sorting function to look for migrational patterns, surname, relationships, and other patterns.

Finally, look at the poems and sentiments, genders of those signing, and the dates and relationships. No doubt, patterns will emerge that tell you more about the owner of the autograph album and his or her relationship to those who signed.

DNA GROUP OCTOBER MEETING CANCELED

The DNA Interest Group was scheduled to meet Tuesday, October 12th, but the group's coordinator, Emily Aulicino will be in London attending the "Who Do You Think You Are" conference. At this time no new date has been announced.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR
THE NEXT GFO ALL-NIGHTER**

Saturday , November 20, 2010

6 p.m. to 6 a.m. Cost \$15

COME JOIN THE FUN!

Snacks provided

Pizza at Midnight:

Questions?

Email Julie at rathenut@cs.com

or check with GFO

503-963-1932



The Forum Insider

Genealogical Forum of Oregon Inc.
1505 SE Gideon Street
PO Box 42567
Portland, OR 97242-0567

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit
 Organization
 US POSTAGE
 PAID
 Portland Oregon
 Permit No. 745

Place label here



Don't Forget the *Insider Extra Blog*
 available using the link on
www.gfo.org

CALANDAR OF EVENTS

| OCTOBER 2010 | |
|--------------|--|
| 3rd | Sunday: 1 p.m. -4:30p.m. Heritage Scrapbooking |
| 4th | FREE MONDAY |
| 9th | Saturday: 9:30 a.m. Illinois Group 11:45a.m. Writers' Forum 2:00 p.m. Monthly Program Larry Sullivan Using the GFO Website" |
| 12th | Tuesday: 6 p.m. Board Meeting |
| 16th | Saturday 9:30 a.m. TMG 1:00 p.m. Irish Group |
| 23rd | Saturday: All Day Fall Seminar at Milwaukie Elks LIBRARY CLOSED |

| NOVEMBER 2010 | |
|---------------|---|
| 1st | FREE MONDAY |
| 7th | Sunday: 1p.m.-4:30p.m. Heritage Scrapbooking |
| 9th | Tuesday: 6:00 p.m. Board Meeting |
| 13th | Saturday: 9:30 a.m. Illinois 11:45 p.m. Writers' Forum 2:00 p.m. Monthly Program A Panel with WW II 's 10th Mt. Divsion members Harvey Wieprecht, Ed Flabetich, Raichard Updegraff & Dick Burling |
| 20th | Saturday: 9:30 a.m. TMG 1:00 p.m. Irish Group |
| 20th | Saturday 6:00 p.m. -6:00 am Sunday All-Nighter |
| 27th | Saturday: 1:00 p.m. British Group |



| DECEMBER 2010 | |
|---------------|--|
| 5th | Sunday: 1:00 p.m. -4:30 p.m. Heritage Scrapbooking |
| 6th | FREE MONDAY |
| 11th | Saturday: 11:45 a.m. Writers' Forum |
| 14th | Tuesday: 6:00 p.m. Board Meeting |
| 20th | Monday: 7:00 p.m. Computer Group |
| 24th | Friday: Christmas Eve & |
| 25th | Saturday : Christmas Day Library Closed |