



THE Forum Insider

Newsletter of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon

Volume 33 • Number 3 • October 2021

Autumn Brings Transition

The GFO says farewell to Vince Patton

Vince Patton, our President for the past three and a half years,



Vince Patton

stepped down in late August due to health reasons. Per the GFO's by-laws, our Vice President, Susie Chodorow, became acting President. At

a special Board meeting on August 31, 2021, the GFO Board of Directors voted to formalize Susie's role as President. Susie introduced herself to the membership on page seven of the *Insider's* August issue ([bit.ly/3Bq3iT5](#)). Susie's experience in the art and nonprofit worlds brings considerable knowledge to her new

role. We are fortunate to have her as our new President.

Vince guided our organization through the extreme challenges brought by the COVID pandemic. He worked countless hours to keep our organization relevant to our membership during this unprecedented time. While maneuvering through the current crisis, Vince also remained focused on the future, championing a permanent home for the GFO. He was instrumental in starting the GFO New Home Fund ([gfo.org/newhome!](#)) so that our organization will have a facility that best suits the needs of our members.

The GFO Board of Directors would like to thank Vince for his stewardship and tireless work during his presidency.

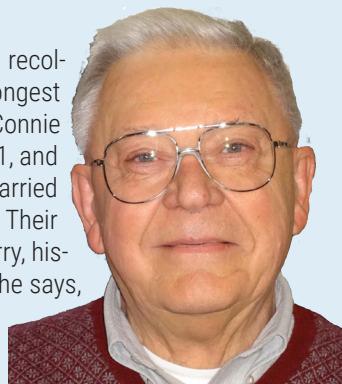
VOICES OF OUR PATRONS: 75 YEARS SHARING FAMILY HISTORY

Longtime member reminisces about GFO homes through the decades

Gerry Lenzen and Geri Auerbach

As part of our 75th Anniversary, we highlighted recollections of long-time GFO members. Two of our longest tenured Life Members are Gerry and Connie Lenzen. Gerry's parents moved to Portland in 1941, and Connie is a native Oregonian. Gerry and Connie married 1959. They have been doing genealogy ever since. Their personal interest is in Portland genealogy. For Gerry, history interests him as much as the genealogy. As he says, "I always put my people in their places." The fol-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



STAY CONNECTED TO THE GFO

Due to COVID-19 surge, we have closed the building again, but the library remains open digitally.

ORFORUM

The GFO'S online discussion forum is free and open to the public. Ask a question or share your latest research triumph.

Join at [groups.io/g/orforum](#)



GENTALKS

Most months the GFO offers free genealogy talks to the public. GenTalks feature locally and nationally known speakers.



Register at [gfo.org/gentalk](#)

MEMBERSPACE

The MemberSpace provides access to

- American Ancestors, Fold3, HeritageQuest, Ancestry Library edition
- GFO manuscript collections
- Digital images from the GFO collections
- Free Lookup service



Join at [gfo.org/membership](#)

PUBLICATIONS



Sign up for our free publications: *The Bulletin*, our quarterly journal, *The Forum Insider*, our newsletter, and the Thursday evening ENews.

[gfo.org/learn/our-publications](#)

gfo.org





The Forum Insider

Newsletter of the
Genealogical Forum of Oregon

gfo.org info@gfo.org

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Closed for COVID-19

Many services online.

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

Web page launched for open GFO volunteer positions

GFO is an all-volunteer organization—there are no paid staff. Volunteering at the GFO is easy! We always have volunteer opportunities for both on-site and remote/online work.

Volunteering at the GFO can be a way to socialize or a way to work independently. You can volunteer for the short-term or on an ongoing basis. Do you love library or website work? Would you like to lead a SIG (Special Interest Group) on the Family Tree Maker program, Mexican heritage, or maybe propose your own topic?

To see what opportunities are available, visit to our Volunteer web page and scroll down to the listings:
gfo.org/support-us/volunteer.html.



Image by Gordon Johnson, Pixabay

You can either fill out our online form or download and print a volunteer form to mail to us.

Come join us in keeping the GFO a vital genealogical resource.



Call for Proposals for NGS 2022 Family History Conference

The 2022 National Genealogical Society Family History Conference will be held in Sacramento in 2022. The call for proposals begins on December 2, 2020 and ends April 1, 2021. Possible conference tracks include African American research, Asian and Pacific Islander research, DNA, European and Middle East-

ern research, Hispanic and Latin American ancestry, Native American research, records and repositories, reference services, society management, technology, the 1950s, western states, writing, methodology, and many more.

For information, please go to their proposal website: bit.ly/3nI0iyb.

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 \$49 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 proofreader April Ober.



GFO Offers Members Access to New Database

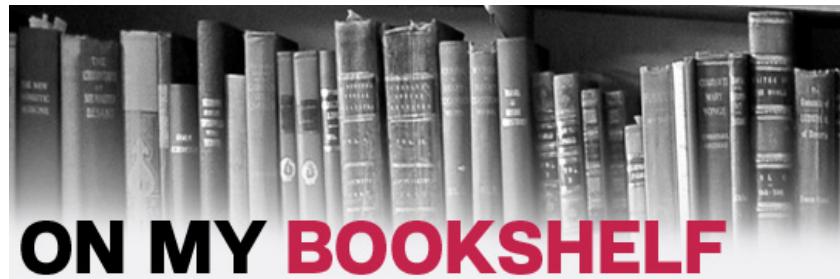
The GFO is pleased to offer its members access to another subscription database at home via our website's MemberSpace: HeritageQuest Online. HeritageQuest is a Proquest database powered by Ancestry. It holds more than four million historic records, some from the 1700s.

Some of the exciting HeritageQuest Online collections include

- 28,000 Family and local histories
- Obituaries from the 1800s
- City Directories
- Wills and probate records from all 50 states
- U.S. Indian Census Rolls
- U.S. Federal Census images from 1790-1940
- U.S. Freedman's Bank Record, 1861-1875
- Agricultural and Industrial Schedules

From home, members can log into the [MemberSpace](#) to find this excellent resource in the "Genealogy Databases" section.

Happy searching!



ON MY BOOKSHELF

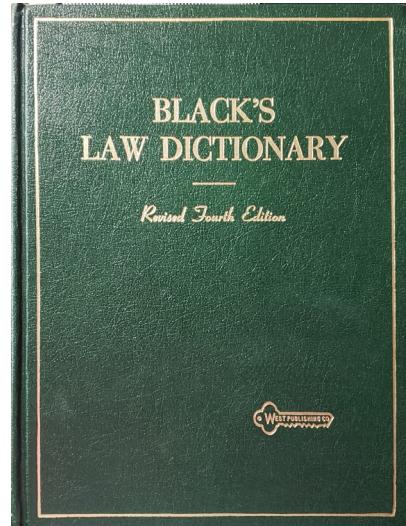
This month's column is written by Dawn Carlile. She is a professional genealogist, teacher, and lecturer in Eugene, Oregon where she was born and raised.

One of my favorite books is *Black's Law Dictionary*, revised fourth edition published in 1968. Originally written by Henry Campbell Black in 1891, the 11th edition was published in 2019. Henry Black died in 1927 so subsequent editions were updated by the publisher's editorial staff.

A genealogist will find it useful for looking up words found in court records, deeds, wills, and probate, as well as in newspapers. The fourth edition has the most archaic or ancient terms within its 1,882 pages. Beginning with the fifth edition (1979), the publisher removed some of the more archaic terms to make room for new terminology and reduced the font slightly, making it 1,552 pages.

I frequently refer to *Black's Law Dictionary* to help me decipher old handwriting. If I can make out the first few letters, I can skim through the pages looking for something with the corresponding number of letters that might fit the context. It isn't just legal terms. I find shipping and other transportation terminology, terms from French and Spanish law, and Latin terms.

You do not have to purchase the most recent volume, in fact, the older ones are better for our



Black's Law Dictionary, *fourth edition*, photo courtesy of Dawn Carlile

research. GFO has the fourth edition in the library. The 1910 edition is available online at [archive.org/details/BlacksLaw2dEd](#). Choose "PDF" in the righthand column to read online or download the file. You can also check Worldcat to see if a library near you has a copy you can read onsite or check out.

We'd love to feature the genealogy book(s) that you can't live without. Please send a description of the book(s) and how they have helped your research to insider@gfo.org.



MEMBER RECALLS GFO HOMES, FROM PAGE I

lowing is taken from an interview done by Geri Auerbach, the *Insider* co-editor, with Gerry on June 24, 2021. We discussed his memories of our various locations and the moves from one to another. The remarks have been edited for space.

Connie and I joined the Forum back in the 1970s. I first remember the library in a hotel (now the Governor building).

In 1974, we moved to the Neighbors of Woodcraft Hall on SW 14th Avenue and Morrison Street. The space in the building was an old bank vault. The bank vaults in those days were bigger than they are now. The books were in the vault, and the office was across the hall. I remember building some bookshelves in the vault with another member. When you checked in, there was a desk in the hall as you came off the elevator. Today that building is the Tiffany Center.

Initially we had no electronic equipment except for an electric typewriter and a hand-cranked microfilm reader. While we were in the Neighbors building, we got a computer that could read computer disks, because the Church of Jesus Christ Latter-Day Saints was starting to publish discs containing genealogical material. We also had an offset print press there.

Around that time, someone had discovered early marriage record books on a loading dock that were ready to go to the furnace. We own those records now. When the Tiffany contract expired and the rent went up, we had to move. Nedra Brill, a Life Member, helped the Forum find a new place. Eileen Chamberlin was also instrumental in our moves, as well as Ruth Bishop. She was a generous donor for many moves.

The new space was on SW Fifth Avenue and Lincoln Street. The building was on the back side of the telephone company. In reality, it was two buildings that had been remodeled on the outside to appear as one building. One was a slab building, and the other was an old wooden building. The office was in the wooden building, and the library was in the concrete building. Ruth donated the carpet, which was helpful with the noise level.

At the Fifth and Lincoln site, we got commercial steel shelving. When we were moving in, we had a near fatal accident. People assembling the shelves the night before the move had put the bolts in the wrong holes. When I was bringing in books, I heard a loud crash. I knew Eileen was way in the back behind the shelves. Luckily, she heard the shelves moving and got out of the way. Tragedy was averted.

This building also had a methadone treatment center on the same floor. A volunteer was sitting at the reception



The Neighbors of Woodcraft Hall building on SW 14th Avenue and Morrison Street served as a home for the GFO from 1974–1994.



This photograph of the library at SW Fifth Avenue and Lincoln Street was printed April 1994 in The Forum Insider, Vol 4, Nr 6, p. 1. The library remained in this location for five years.

desk when a gentleman leaving the treatment center asked about the GFO. While she was distracted showing him the facility, her purse was stolen. This is part of the reason that we always have two research assistants and that someone is always by the desk.

We were in the that building for only five years because they let us know that there would be a doubling of the rent. We left the 31st of the month that we received the notice. Nedra, myself, and the GFO president were part of a committee that was able to find space in what we named the “Warehouse Building.” This building was at 1505 SE Gideon, not far from our current location.

At the Warehouse Building, we had 6,000 square feet under contract. To get in you had to go up steps. We did

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



MEMBER RECALLS GFO HOMES, FROM PAGE 4

not have a legal handicap access. When we had a big meeting, we could sometimes get the landlord to open the next door over, which was a lumber warehouse with a ramp that came up to our level.

There was also a large empty space next to us that was frequently not rented. One year, the Forum planned to have their annual fundraiser, but at the last minute, the person responsible for obtaining the venue and speaker acknowledged that they had not made any arrangements. Hurriedly, we arranged to use the empty space across from the GFO, and Connie was able to get Cyndi Ingle to come down and give an all-day seminar. We packed 200 people into that room (illegally) as there was only one door. Later, I was able to get an extra 600 square feet in a different room added to our lease for no additional cost.

We received a donation for microphones and speakers to be installed in the new space, and it was a nice area where we had our SIG meetings. By that time, we had three computers and two or three microfilm readers (still the hand-cranked type that the GFO no longer uses.) We were at the Warehouse Building for 12 years.

When the city decided to build the TriMet Orange Line, the Warehouse Building was slated to be demolished. This



GFO file photo from 1999 of the library housed in the "Warehouse Building" at 1505 SE Gideon.

necessitated the move to our current location, the Ford Building. Don Holznagal, GFO president at the time, negotiated with TriMet to get them to pay for the move and the retrofitting of the Ford building. Don had discovered that a nonprofit public library cannot be evicted without a replacement facility available. This retrofitting included a new HVAC system for the library itself.

In addition, another member noted that Beaverton was a building a new library and negotiated to get the shelves we use now at a minimal cost. The GFO has been in the Ford Building since 2011.

OUT OF THE HOUSE & ON THE ROAD IN-PERSON RESEARCH

**October
30 & 31**

Featuring:
**Cari Taplin, C.G. and
Melissa Barker, "The Archive Lady"**

Register: gfo.org/roadtrip

VIRTUAL
Fall Seminar
Genealogical Forum of Oregon

Dreamstime_112446899_Konstantin Yuganov



Practicum-Based Genealogy Institute Founded

The Applied Genealogy Institute, a new virtual genealogical institute, where attendees “learn by doing” will begin Fall 2021.

The Applied Genealogy Institute was developed with input from emerging genealogical leaders regarding the type of education that is possible for busy but committed genealogists. By combining the best practices of many different educational opportunities, AppGen achieves a balance that provides affordable and accessible genealogy education for all.

The modest price and the virtual environment make intermediate to advanced practicum-based education topics available and accessible to everyone.

Three courses will be offered in October/November 2021:

1. "Irish Research," with instructor Mary Roddy, CG
 2. "Land Research," with instructor



Lisa S. Gorrell, CG

3. "Exploring Broad Context," with
instructor Jill Morelli, CG

AppGen is structured to capitalize on the best practices of the on-site institutes and virtual options. “Learn by Doing” practicums enhance student learning and provide practical skills.

Practicums are most effective with small numbers of students, so no

more than 15 students will be enrolled in a class, allowing for meaningful class discourse.

The registration system is based on a lottery system with an open registration window—no more “first come, first served.”

For more information, contact Jill Morelli, CG at jkmorelli@gmail.com, or visit the Applied Genealogy Institute website at appgen.institute.

Bottle Drop Give: Support Recycling and the GFO

Thank you for giving us your bottle and can deposits! We've had GFO members return their recyclables to Bottle Drop centers in Tigard, Wood Village, Gresham, Milwaukie, and Delta Park.

Best of all, you can cut all the lines at the Bottle Drop Centers when you drop off. You simply have to scan our labels at the Bottle Drop Door (pictured right).

There are two ways to take part:

- The GFO has blue bags to give you. All you do is fill them, attach a label, and take them to a drop location. No waiting in line.
- Or, sign up for your own Bottle Drop account. You can buy green bags at the customer counter at Bottle Drop Centers, and you'll be given tags for your account. Then, name the Genealogical Forum of Oregon as where you'd like your proceeds to go.

Either way, the environment and GFO benefits.

To get blue bags from us, you can make arrangements to pick them up. Alternatively, depending on where you live,

we may be able to arrange for someone to drop off bags or meet you at a convenient location.

Contact us at bottledrop@gfo.org for more information.

We're grateful for your support!



To return your bags, look for the secure Bottle Drop door on the back or side of the building. Scan our label to unlock the hatch. Tie your bag tightly and set it inside.

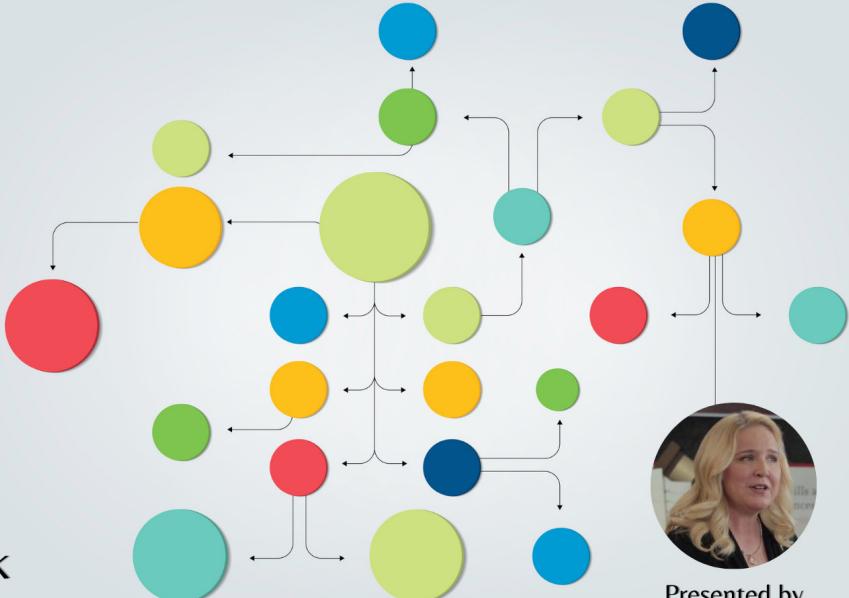
Using Cluster Research to Understand Your Ancestors

20
Nov.

2:30 pm
PST

Free Registration:
gfo.org/gentalk

Virtual GenTalk | Genealogical Forum of Oregon



Presented by
Anne Gillespie Mitchell



GFO Quarterly Journal Seeking Authors

The GFO's quarterly journal, *The Bulletin*, is requesting articles for upcoming issues. By writing for *The Bulletin*, you can preserve a family story, your research, or a serendipitous discovery. Or perhaps you discovered a new resource that cracked your brick wall, or you have an idea to share in a "how-to" article. *The Bulletin* welcomes your tales and features.

As one of writers, Cheri Emahiser shared, "I know submitting family stories to the GFO will result in my coming away with a carefully edited story. The editors help make my family story one that I am very proud to share. I enjoy working with the editors and find it thrilling to learn how they can better make my ancestors come to life again on the printed page."

Stephanie Miller, another writer, shared "Every one of us is the keeper of some family history, stories from Grandpa or old photographs. But what happens when we are gone? Recently, I scanned our old family Bible, added some identified photos, and submitted it to the GFO for future generations. It ended up being printed in the GFO *Bulletin*. I'm so glad I did. I don't want to be the person that could have and didn't."

Many myths keep potential writers from submitting their work. Here are the answers to the most common questions about writing for *The Bulletin*.

The Bulletin

Quarterly Magazine of the
Genealogical Forum of Oregon

GFO BULLETIN MYTHS

Q: You must be a GFO member to submit an article.

A: False! *The Bulletin* welcomes submissions from anyone.

Q: Article content must center on Oregon or the Pacific Northwest.

A: False! Articles may focus on any location worldwide.

Q: All submissions must contain footnotes.

A: False! While scholarly articles are welcome, *The Bulletin* has many purposes, including education, inspiration, entertainment, and sharing genealogical content—like Bible transcriptions.

Q: *The Bulletin* receives many submissions, so mine's not needed.

A: False! In fact, if more material isn't received soon, there may not be an issue in 2022.

Please send your submissions and questions to the editor at bulletin@gfo.org today.

Q Review discusses challenges faced by women

Alexa Waddle

In August, we discussed Elizabeth Bottorff Ahlemann's article, "Pains and Penalties of Nineteenth-Century Divorce: Was Elizabeth White of Tennessee and Kentucky Married to Mordecai Pillow?" NGSQ 108 (Mar 2020), p. 45-58. I think we all enjoyed realizing the extent to which court records offer such detailed accounts of a person's life. It was frustrating to see how Elizabeth White was treated by the men in her life. Even the lawyer thought that she deserved any abuse she received. In fact, he thought her husband would have been justified



in being even more cruel. I can't imagine how frustrating it would be to live under coverture.

Helpful resources that came up during the meeting included the following:

- Kentucky Historical Society's index for pre-1850 Kentucky divorces: bit.ly/3zli8Jx
- Bouvier's word-searchable law dictionary (6th edition): bit.ly/3lCc8ao
- Four-session course from *Atlas Obscura* on reading gravestones: bit.ly/3nXXf59

- And since we are always looking to hone our citation skills, here's a free webinar from Tom Jones, "Standards for Genealogical Documentation:"

bit.ly/3nK84ro

For the next meeting at 6 p.m. PT on October 14, 2021, we'll discuss Ann Raymond's article, "A Father for Walter Griffith of Tuscarawas County, Ohio," NGSQ 108 (Sep 2020), p. 165–182. This article incorporates DNA. For a little additional reading, check out her blog post on this article at bit.ly/3lzO3ku.

Hope to see you then!

Supporting GFO Members During COVID and Beyond

Have you used GFO Library Lookups yet? The Lookup service provides members with a way to access resources that are inside the library. A small team of GFO volunteers will look up specific records requests and send digital images when possible. Volunteers can check books, periodicals, microfilms, and any database in the library that isn't available in the MemberSpace.

Here are some examples of what GFO volunteers have provided to our members: One person requested information about a record for the *Centennial History of Arkansas* by Dallas T. Herndon in OPALS (GFO's online library catalog). Adele Pelletier, one of our lookup volunteers, reported that GFO had only an index to the three-volume set. The member was anxious to get to a library to access to book, but libraries were still closed. Adele came to the rescue by locating a digital copy of the book and providing links to the volumes in OPALS so the member could access the book immediately.

Our member, Gwen, was thrilled, "Omigosh, aren't you the miracle workers!! Thank you SO much. What a team!! I probably wouldn't have found that myself."

On another occasion, lookup volunteer Loretta Welsh fulfilled a challenging request—to find information about the children of Burchart and Margarethe Stanislaus in Polish church records. The FamilySearch images had access restrictions, requiring they be viewed in an Affiliate Library. Loretta used Google Translate to help her understand the records, and she reviewed more than 50 pages of baptisms between 1863 and 1880. She found seven!

GFO member Lou was pleased with Loretta's service: "Just wanted to say thank you so much for doing this! This is my first time using the lookup assistance and it's so very useful. It's a really wonderful resource!"

To request a Library Lookup, log into the MemberSpace (bit.ly/32acJb8), click the link for "Lookup Requests," and then fill out the available form.

To learn how to navigate the resources available in our MemberSpace, such as databases, manuscript and image collections, and member discounts, the GFO offers free classes called "Access to GFO Resources." The next one is scheduled Friday, October 15, at 10 a.m. PT. For more information and a link to register, visit bit.ly/3dfYJlv.

Treasurer's Report

TREASURER@GFO.ORG

JULY 2021

INCOME

Donations	\$	684.10
Memberships	\$	3,327.00
Seminars & Other Programs	\$	—
Library & Research	\$	608.77
Book Sales & Misc. Income	\$	348.38
Interest & Dividends	\$	299.05
Total	\$	5,267.30

EXPENSES

Administration	\$	834.01
Education programs	\$	—
Facilities & Equipment	\$	5,107.15
Library & Research	\$	688.60
Total	\$	6,629.76

Net Income for the Month \$ **-1,362.46**

Year-to-Date Net Income \$ **-1,362.46**



Get Help at PMUG Clinic

Every Tuesday Evening
6:00pm – 7:30 pm via Zoom

- Answers + Free Help for Your Macintosh, iPhone, iPad, iPod or Apple Watch
- For info on how to attend, contact us at:

info@pmug.org

A WEEKLY EVENT BY THE PORTLAND MACINTOSH USER GROUP



Check out the topics for upcoming SIG meetings

VIRGINIA GROUP

Saturday, October 2, 2021

10 a.m.–12 p.m. PT

Sharon Barnes will present “Sarah Boone Wilcoxson, My Fifth Great Grandmother.”

The Boone family migrated from Pennsylvania to Virginia to North Carolina. Finally most migrated into Kentucky under the leadership of Sarah's younger brother, Daniel Boone. We will explore their lives, a brief ancestry, immigration, and emigration. Along with Sarah, we will also follow many of Daniel's excursions into Kentucky.

Register at bit.ly/3zh20sb.

GREAT LAKES REGION

Saturday, October 9, 2021

9:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m. PT

The Great Lakes Interest Group focuses on the states and provinces that border the five Great Lakes. Although they have some things in common, there are also a lot of differences.

Elsie Deatherage will share what she learned from a weeklong institute class on the topic. She plans to include history, canals and shipping, military conflicts, and repositories that are unique to each state or province.

To request a link to attend, please email GreatLakes@gfo.org.

AFRICAN AMERICAN GROUP

Saturday, October 16, 2021

12–2 p.m. PT

This month Shamele Jordan, from [Genealogy Quick Start TV](#), will demonstrate how to create a presentation to share your research.

And stay tuned for the November 20 meeting when member Johnna Waldo will discuss creating a research plan.

To receive a link for either of these meetings, contact Janice Sellers at african_american@gfo.org.

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SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

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
10 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 Tim Janzen

DNA@gfo.org

DNA Q & A – The Basics

Third Wednesdays
1–3 p.m.
Led by Lisa McCullough

DNA_QA@gfo.org

FAMILY TREE MAKER

SEEKING LEADER
President@gfo.org

FRENCH CANADA GROUP

Third Sundays
3:30–5 p.m.
Led by Carol LaBrie
and Laura Mitchell

FrCan@gfo.org

GENEALOGY PROBLEM SOLVERS

Third Saturdays, most months
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

Fourth Sundays in Feb, May, Aug, and Nov
1 p.m.–3 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

SEEKING LEADER
President@gfo.org

THE Q REVIEW

Second Thursdays
6 p.m.–7 p.m.
Led by Alexa Waddle

greview@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

All meetings occur virtually in Pacific Time. Always check the calendar (gfo.org/calendar) as meetings are occasionally moved or cancelled.



Executive Board of Directors

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Vice President

Laurel Smith

Secretary

Alexa Waddle

Treasurer

Richard Crockett

Director at Large

Janice Sellers

Director at Large

Joyce Grant-Worley

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Kristin Parks

Insider Editors

Geri Auerbach

Keri Logan

Library

Laurel Smith

Membership

Jane McGarvin

Purchasing

Loretta Welsh

Webmaster

Ed Vandehey

Contact us at

info@gfo.org

GFO Stars

August

April Ober

The library reopening would have floundered without our August GFO star, April Ober. April volunteered for a seemingly

simple task: set appointments for patrons returning to the library. Quickly she streamlined our nascent processes, recognizing where problems were likely to develop and creating lines of communication between prospective patrons, research assistants, and other volunteers to overcome those challenges. She was quick to respond, getting patrons scheduled almost as soon as they send their



April Ober

appointment request. She also agreed to take on the role of Reopening Committee Chair. Her contributions are not lessened by the Board's decision to close the library again. We know she will be ready to get the ball rolling again when the time comes to reopen a second time.

Her efforts do not end there, though. April is also the unsung hero of *The Forum Insider*. She proofreads each issue, spotting overlooked but consequential errors. We cannot thank her enough for helping our publication shine. (The editors would like to note that any errors that do make their way to print are ours.)

Thank you, April, for all you do!

UPCOMING GFO SIG MEETINGS, FROM PAGE 10

FRENCH CANADA GROUP

Sunday October, 17, 2021

3:30–5:30 p.m. PT

This month will feature a presentation by David Vermette, the author of *A Distinct Alien Race*. This is a book about the emigration of French Canadians to the Northeastern United States. Attendees can send in questions prior to the discussion for the author to address. For a link to the meeting or to send in questions, email FrCan@gfo.org.

IRISH GROUP

Wednesday, October 20, 2021
6–8 p.m. PT

Join us for part two of three-part series, presented by Erinn Sears, that will help guide you in your journey to creating an effective research plan to track those elusive Irish ancestors.

Part Two (10/20/2021): Identifying the Mother of Mary Anne Hobart O'Leary.

Part Three (2/16/2022): Brick Wall Crowdsourcing.

Register for the meeting at bit.ly/3nNFzZT.

Overwhelmed and Frustrated?

Legacy Tree Genealogists has a team of professional genealogists available.
(including the GFO's own Kate Eakman)

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GFO OCTOBER 2021 ONLINE EVENTS

All events are online.

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

Saturday, October 2

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

Wednesday, October 6

10 a.m.–12 p.m. Learn & Chat

Saturday, October 9

9:30–11:30 a.m. Great Lakes Region Ancestry
1–3 p.m. Writers' Forum

Tuesday, October 12

6:30–8:30 p.m. Board Meeting

Thursday, October 14

6–7 p.m. The Q Review

Friday, October 15

10 a.m.–12 p.m. Access GFO Resources

Saturday, October 16

9:30–11:30 a.m. Genealogy Problem Solvers
12–2 p.m. African American Ancestry

2:30–3:30 p.m.

GenTalk: Caring for Your Documents
and Photos: Better Now than Never

Sunday, October 17

3:30–5:30 p.m. French Canada Ancestry

Wednesday, October 20

10 a.m.–12 p.m. Learn & Chat
1–3 p.m. DNA Q&A: The Basics
6–8 p.m. Irish Group

Saturday, October 23

9 a.m.–12 p.m. DNA Advanced

Saturday, October 30

9 a.m.–1 p.m. Fall Seminar: Out of the House and
On the Road: In-Person Genealogy

Sunday, October 31

11 a.m.–3 p.m. Fall Seminar: Out of the House and
On the Road: In-Person Genealogy