



THE Forum Insider

Newsletter of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon
Volume 33 • Number 5 • January 2022

New Year Message from the Acting President

The GFO saw many changes in 2021, and through it all, GFO is going strong. Every day, work is done to fulfill GFO's mission of providing resources, education, and community.

The Board of Directors works cooperatively for the good of the organization. Committee chairs and the volunteers who partner with them continue to sustain GFO with a staggering number of volunteer hours. Dedicated special interest group leaders offer excellent virtual gatherings for GFO members and nonmembers

alike—keeping us all connected.

In November, GFO's first interactive indexing event took place on GivingTuesday. Not only were two marriage books indexed, the Data Extraction Committee, under the leadership of Loretta Welsh, gained twenty new members!

In December, we proudly announced that in 2021, more than 500,000 pages of genealogical content was added to GFO's MemberSpace, and we're well on our way to one million.

What does 2022 look like for the GFO?

Finances

GFO is in good financial health—but we need your help to maintain that status. GFO's Annual Appeal was launched in November. So far, we have raised \$18,705.86. If we don't reach our goal of \$30,000, GFO has reserves we can use to cover the shortfall. Of course, it's better if we don't need to pull funds from our reserves.

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SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

A Year of Celebrating our Special Interest Groups

One of the wonderful services that GFO provides to the community are our Special Interest Groups (SIGs), and this year, *The Forum Insider* will feature one or two of those groups each issue.

SIGs are free groups open to members and nonmembers alike. They meet virtually to discuss different areas of genealogical interest. At this time, there are 16 active Special Interest Groups. Some groups meet monthly, and others meet at less frequent intervals.

SIG meetings are listed on the online [GFO calendar](#). The calendar lists the meeting date and time, usually a description of that month's meeting, and a link or email address to register for the meeting. This month, we highlight the DNA and French Canada Ancestry groups.

DNA SIG

The DNA Special Interest Group is designed to assist researchers in understanding how DNA can augment their genealogy. There are two levels that alternate throughout the year: Beginners Group focuses on those who need a basic understanding or a review and is managed by Emily Aulicino. The goal is to get everyone to the advanced level. The Advanced Group is run by Tim Janzen and goes beyond the basics. However, we realize that some people are in the middle or are interested in a topic offered by either group. Therefore, anyone is welcome at either class, regardless of level.

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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

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 Gerri Auerbach and
Keri Logan, editors, at insider@gfo.org.



MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING PRESIDENT, CONTINUED FROM PAGE I

We hope, if you haven't done so already, you will make a commitment to support GFO through this once-a-year fundraiser that helps us pay our bills through 2022.

New (Permanent) Home

The campaign will continue in spring 2022. Please watch GFO's Weekly E-News for announcements of regular meetings of the New Home Committee. We hope everyone who is interested in seeing GFO in a new, permanent home will join the committee. We'll meet via Zoom.

Leadership

In April, GFO will hold its annual elections. This year, positions are open for president, secretary, one director at large, and one endowment committee member. Volunteers must be found to fill these vital roles. As of this writing, no one has announced their candidacy.

GFO's education chair, Kristin Wingo, will be stepping down as soon as March, so we have canceled the Spring Seminar. A new chair for this position is needed. It would be enormously beneficial to find someone who can train with Kristin now.

Another vacancy is in the Great Lakes Special Interest Group. Fran Hart has done a fantastic job, but she needs to step down. A new leader/moderator/facilitator is needed.

Anyone interested should reply to president@gfo.org.

New Faces

Please welcome Lynn Nakvasil who has stepped into the role of grants chair and Ann Howell who has accepted the role of Facebook editor. We are incredibly grateful to them and look forward to working with them both.

Mission Fulfillment in 2022

Resources

Books will be purchased for the library, which we hope will open again soon. Content will continue to be added to the website with the goal of achieving a million digitized pages, and records will continue to be indexed so you can find more about your ancestors.

Education

There is a terrific lineup of speakers for our upcoming Open House, March 26–April 2, 2022. Registration for the sessions will open soon. Most of the special interest groups are going strong, but future seminars and GenTalks are in jeopardy without an education chair.

Community

GFO is committed to continue holding Zoom events to keep you connected with others, even when we return to meeting in person.

Wishing everyone the best in 2022.

—Laurel Smith

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SPOTLIGHT ON SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS, FROM PAGE 1

In a typical meeting, there are presentations on a topic, which are often suggested by the past attendees. Descriptions and handouts for upcoming meetings can be found on the [GFO calendar](#). These can help you determine if a particular class is of interest to you. At times, guest speakers are featured. And there is always time for questions and discussion.

The leaders of the DNA SIG are offering a DNA Day April 1st during the GFO Open House. There will be three presentations, including a presentation discussing the differences among the DNA testing companies.

For more information on the DNA SIGs, visit their GFO [web page](#).

— FRENCH CANADA —
ANCESTRY SIG

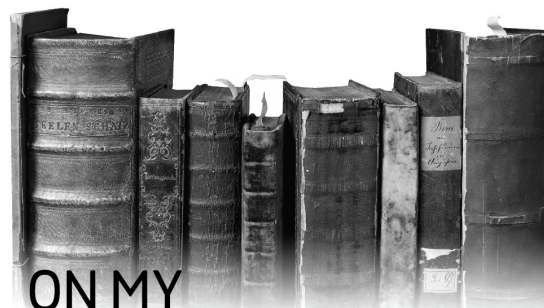
The purpose of the French Canada SIG is to share resources for doing our genealogical research, the history and culture of our ancestors who settled in French Canada including Acadia, to share connections among us and linkages in our common heritage, to break through walls in our individual and collective research, to entertain outside speakers to share all of the above, and above all, to have fun and share the joy of our shared identity.

In a typical meeting, we have 15–20 in attendance, and the format changes depending on the topic. We have meeting topics chosen in advance and always have an open sharing session in combination with the topic at hand. We also always make time for discussing new research tools or resources.

One very special aspect of our group is the fact that all or nearly all of us are related to one degree or another, sometimes many times over and usually as distant (or sometimes not-so-distant) cousins. Finding these family connections is probably unique to this SIG as the original settlers intermarried among a small core group of early settlers in the 17th century. We enjoy these relationships, as well as learning in a tangible way what brought our ancestors to North America, how they lived, struggled, and overcame hardship, and how we can remember and honor them.

At the GFO Open House, Carol LaBrie and Kristy Musali will share what they have learned about the indigenous peoples that were in the area of Quebec early in the 17th century and 18th century.

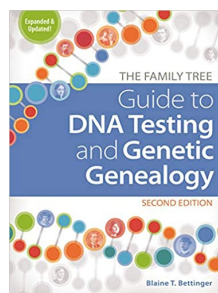
For suggested resources and more information on the French Canada group, please visit their GFO [web page](#).



ON MY
BOOKSHELF

This month's suggestions come from Lisa McCullough. Lisa is a member of the GFO, where she helps with our DNA SIGs and leads the DNA Q&A group. She is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists.

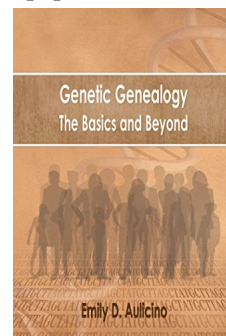
My favorite DNA book for beginners is Blaine Bettinger's *The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy*.



I particularly like the color illustrations. There is a copy of the first edition, published in 2016, in the GFO library. There is now a second edition, which was published in 2019. The second edition is available in paperback, Kindle, and

Audible formats at Amazon.

Emily Aulicino, who is a GFO member and helps lead our DNA SIGs, also has a beginner DNA book *Genetic Genealogy: The Basics and Beyond*. This book is available in paperback and Kindle formats at Amazon.



ONLINE SHOPPING?

USE AMAZONSMILE TO DONATE TO GFO



Register at smile.amazon.com

Choose Genealogical Forum of Oregon as your charity.



GivingTuesday Virtual Event Fun and Fruitful

The idea for GivingTuesday began in 2012 in New York to promote community and philanthropy, and this year's GFO virtual event accomplished both. In the past, the GFO held in-house GivingTuesday parties, completing projects in the library. However, in 2020 the event was canceled due to the pandemic. Acting President Laurel Smith did not want a repeat in 2021. She dreamed of a virtual GivingTuesday. Using her vision, a dedicated team of volunteers organized a marriage-themed event to index marriage records from Multnomah County. The records are available at the GFO, but without an index, they were not easy to use.

Virtual GivingTuesday was a delightful success. There were inevitable technical challenges, but all volunteers—those running the event and those who came to index—handled the challenges with humor and patience. As a result, seventy-five participants indexed 935 pages! But more than that, it was a lovely day connecting with our community. There was laughter and stories, collaboration and camaraderie. We thank all the people who joined us.

More statistics from GivingTuesday:

- 284 hours donated
- 2 books completed
- 1,870 marriages indexed



GFO volunteers are hands on! Volunteers spent numerous hours scanning images for GivingTuesday.

Two different volunteers indexed each set of pages, and now Data Extraction Committee Chair Loretta Welsh is comparing the Excel files to ensure accuracy in the indexes. Look for the completed indexes on our site in the beginning of 2022.

If you missed the event, don't worry! The work continues. Many marriage books remain, and you can help from home. If you'd like to continue indexing, please send a message to Loretta at loretta.welsh@gfo.org.

Some attendees suggested there be a weekly or monthly special interest group organized to continue the project via Zoom, and we love that idea! To make it happen, a volunteer leader or leaders must come forward. Please contact Laurel Smith at laurel.smith@gfo.org if interested.

Gerri Auerbach Is the New Vice President

When Laurel Smith became the acting President of the GFO in October, the position of Vice President became vacant. Gerri Auerbach, co-editor of the *Insider*, was asked to serve as Vice President until June 30, 2023, the remainder of Laurel Smith's term. Gerri was voted in by the Board of Directors at their monthly meeting on November 9, 2021. She has been a member of the GFO for four years and a member of the Board of Directors for one and a half years. As her first project as vice president, she is helping to organize the GFO's Open House, which will be held this year from March 26 to April 2, 2022.



Gerri and her husband, Harry, have been Portland residents since 1979 and raised their four sons here. After a career as a Registered Nurse, Gerri became a professional genealogist in 2016, with a special interest in the Western United States and Canada. She is active in her local chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists, and she serves as the GFO representative to the National Genealogical Society.

Gerri can be reached at gerri.auerbach@gfo.org.

SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 2022 2:30 P.M.

**GFO
online
MEMBERSHIP
MEETING**

STAY TUNED FOR THE
GENTALK TO FOLLOW:
**HERE COMES THE
1950 CENSUS!**

Oregon Historical Society's Research Library Is Now Open to Researchers by Appointment

The Oregon Historical Society reopened its research library in October after an extensive two-year renovation. OHS research library has the "largest collection of Oregon-related archival and published materials, documenting the people, places, and events that have shaped the history of Oregon and the Pacific Northwest. These materials include books, manuscripts, oral histories and sound recordings, films and moving images, and photographs..."

The OHS research library is a vital resource for Oregon genealogists and its closure was a notable absence these



past two years. The new space is designed to be a welcoming, flexible environment that serves the needs of the many different types of library users.

The research library is open by appointment only and capacity is limited to 25% due to the continuing pandemic.

To make an appointment, contact libreference@ohs.org or leave a voicemail at (503) 306-5240.

For a more detailed description of the completed renovation, please see the [OHS Research Library News Release](#).

Volunteers Needed to Fill GFO Board Positions

The GFO prides itself on being entirely run by volunteers. The Board is extremely important because directors also lead various departments. This year, we have three positions up for election: President, Secretary, and Director at Large.

The GFO needs you!

These are vital roles to fill. Active and engaged members keep GFO thriving.

Board members must be GFO members in good standing and agree to serve a two-year term beginning July 1, 2022. Responsibilities include attending at least nine of our 12 monthly board meetings each year and submitting monthly reports. Currently, board meetings are virtual.

The President’s duties include acting as chief officer of the GFO and chairing Board meetings. Recommended skills include leadership, planning, team management, and regularly responding to email.

The Secretary is responsible for taking meeting minutes and collecting monthly reports. We welcome an organized volunteer with the ability to respond regularly to email.

The open Director at Large position has, traditionally, served as the SIG liaison. The person in this position would attend each of the SIG meetings at least once and assist the SIG leaders with GFO processes. The Director at



Image by [GeminiPixabay.com](https://www.GeminiPixabay.com)

Large needs the ability to respond to emails and a willingness to help out.

No prior nonprofit board experience is necessary. Please contact president@gfo.org if you would like to know more about these positions.

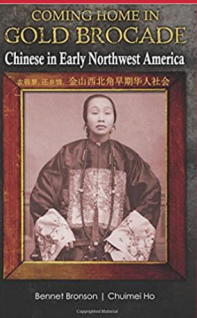

If you would like to attend a Board meeting to experience how the Board conducts the business of the GFO, please send an email to our secretary, Alexa Waddle (alexa.waddle@gfo.org) to receive a Zoom link to that month’s meeting. The meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Merchants’ Wives, Prostitutes, and Identities in Between: Early Chinese Women in Portland

Jan 15 at 2:30 PT

Presented by Dr. Chuimei Ho and
Dr. Bennet Bronson, authors of
*Coming Home in Gold Brocade:
Chinese in Early Northwest America*

REGISTER
gfo.org/gentalk

The Sunday Oregonian, 14 Oct 1900, p. 30

FREE VIRTUAL GENTALK from the GENEALOGICAL FORUM OF OREGON

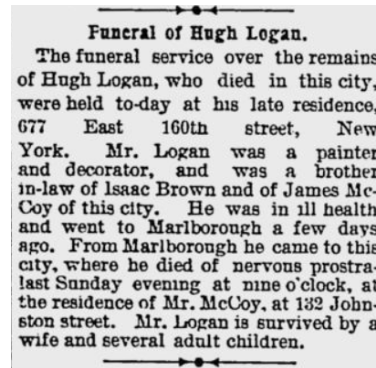
Family Relationships Revealed With Google News Archive

Keri Logan

Many genealogists know that Google has digitized thousands of newspapers as far back as the eighteenth century, which can be browsed at news.google.com/newspapers. Each issue can be accessed individually but not searched. This is fine for searching a specific date, but not ideal for searching over years. Furthermore, the interface is cumbersome.

The Bend Genealogical Society published some exciting news in their December 2021 newsletter. The News Archive can be searched using Google Books. Following their instructions, I located a funeral notice for my ancestor, naming a relative I had not known about and confirming a long-held theory.

My ancestor, Hugh Logan, lived and was buried in New York City, but he died in Newburgh, New York, some 70 miles away. My working theory was that he had relations in Newburgh, but my documentation into this family line is sparse and the name is common. I did, however, have Hugh's last known address before death: 677 East 160th Street, New York. Imagine my excitement at netting an article with the known address but unknown relations! My unsubstantiated theories had included the McCoys, but I had no inkling of Isaac Brown. This small article will be key to my continuing research plan.



"Funeral of Hugh Logan," Newburgh Daily News, 4 Aug 1897, p. 2, col. 2.

How to Search the News Archive Through Google Books

1. Start at books.google.com. The search box uses the same search tools as regular Google search. This means you should be able to use the same search operators, bearing in mind possible limits of OCR (optical character recognition). For example, quotation marks will search for the words inside the quotation marks together. An asterisk will

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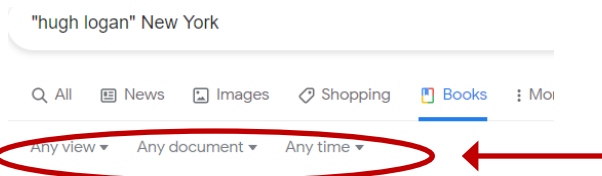
WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR RESEARCH AFTER YOU'RE GONE?
PATRICIA BURROWS

Feb 19 @ 2:30 PT
FREE REGISTRATION:
gfo.org/gentalk

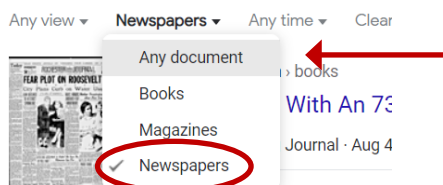
GOOGLE NEWS ARCHIVE, FROM PAGE 7

allow for other words between your search parameters. I tested this by searching “Third Battery * Field Artillery”, and articles that mentioned both “Third Battery Field Artillery” and “Third Battery of the Field Artillery” were located.

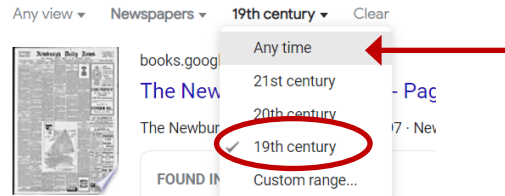
2. Once you have your search returns, you can limit your search to newspapers by using the drop-down menu below the search bar.



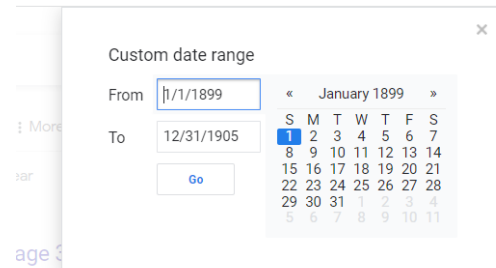
Change “Any Document” to “Newspapers.”



I cast a wide net for Hugh, but since I knew he died in 1897, I limited my search to the 19th century by using the dropdown menu to change “Any time” to “19th century.”



It is also possible to choose a range rather than limiting to 100 years. Choosing “Custom range...” will result in a pop-up box where specific dates can be entered.



Happy Searching!



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



The Portland Macintosh Users Group First Ever **MEMBERSHIP SALE!**

Individual Member:
~~\$42~~ Only \$12.

Add Family Member:
~~\$10~~ Only \$5.

- Same benefits – Lower Price!
- Get user group discounts on products
- Share PMUG with friends & family
- Sale prices available for **limited time**

To join or renew, go to:
pmug.org/join-pmug

Historical Context Informs Family Identification

For the December meeting, the Q Review discussed Ruth Randall’s article, “Discovering Kin for Washington Graham of Arkansas and Missouri” NGSQ 109 (Sep 2021), p. 165–174.

The group appreciated the amount of historical context provided, especially regarding the service of the U.S. Colored Troops. The Acts of Congress and General Orders from the Adjutant General’s office were fascinating to read!

Participants questioned the reliability of some sources—specifically, in the third part of footnote 26, a former enslaver’s account of the marriage practices of the enslaved is cited. Can a narrative from this perspective possibly be



accurate? Some wondered if that source really added anything to the information from the other sources used.

The study group felt the author’s conclusion was strongly supported by logical reasoning from strong evidence. In addition, the conclusion was strengthened by a bulleted list of facts that demonstrated the correlations between different pieces of indirect evidence.

For our next meeting at 6 p.m. PT on Thursday, January 13, 2022, we will discuss Rachal Mills Lennon’s article, “[Southern Strategies: Merging Identities by Mapping Activities and Linking Participants—Solomon Harper of South Carolina’s Lowcountry](#),” NGSQ 107 (Sep 2019), p. 165–183.

Treasurer's Report

TREASURER@GFO.ORG

October 2021 Income	
Donations	\$468.90
Memberships	\$2,960.00
Seminars & Other Programs	\$1,385.00
Library & Research	\$212.50
Book Sales & Misc. Income	\$1,065.05
Interest & Dividends	\$307.79
Total	\$6,399.24

November 2021 Income	
Donations	\$4,085.27
Memberships	\$3,246.00
Seminars & Other Programs	\$720.00
Library & Research	\$103.50
Book Sales & Misc. Income	\$396.85
Interest & Dividends	\$305.22
Total	\$8,856.84

October 2021 Expense	
Administration	\$1,050.55
Publications	\$72.70
Seminar fees	\$76.00
Facilities & Equipment	\$5,256.98
Library & Research	\$725.00
Total	\$7,181.23

November 2021 Expense	
Administration	-\$714.80
Publications	\$116.59
Speaker fees	\$1,325.00
Facilities & Equipment	\$4,988.06
Library & Research	\$0.00
Total	\$5,714.85

Net Income for the month	-\$781.99
Year-to-Date Net Income	-\$8,617.57

Net Income for the month	\$3,141.99
Year-to-Date Net Income	-\$4,693.59

Donor Restricted Donation:	\$10,272.00
Unrealized gains	\$12,410.30
Endowment Donation	\$0.00
Total adjustments	\$22,682.30

Donor Restricted Donations	\$8,963.83
Unrealized gains	\$471.19
Endowment Donation	\$500.00
Total adjustments	\$9,935.02

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

gfo.org/learn/special-interest-groups

SIG meetings occur virtually in Pacific Time. They are open to the public. Check the calendar (gfo.org/calendar) for meeting dates and registration links. When registration links are not on the calendar, contact the SIG leader or email gfoevents@gfo.org.

AFRICAN AMERICAN GROUP

Led by Janice Sellers
African_American@gfo.org

BRITISH GROUP

Led by Duane Funk
UK@gfo.org

DNA – Beginners

Led by Emily Alicino
DNA@gfo.org

DNA – Advanced

Led by Tim Janzen
DNA@gfo.org

DNA Q & A – The Basics

Led by Lisa McCullough
DNA_QA@gfo.org

FAMILY TREE MAKER

Led by Agnes Zueger and Joyce Grant-Worley
FTM@gfo.org

FRENCH CANADA GROUP

Led by Carol LaBrie and Laura Mitchell
FrCan@gfo.org

GENEALOGY PROBLEM SOLVERS

Led by Katie Daly
GPS@gfo.org

GERMAN GROUP

Led by Mike Fernandez and Tia Cobb
German@gfo.org

GREAT LAKES REGION

Led by Fran Hart
GreatLakes@gfo.org

IRISH GROUP

Led by Karen Hubbard
Irish@gfo.org

ITALIAN GROUP

Led by Stephanie Silenti
Italian@gfo.org

LEARN & CHAT

Led by Sandy Alto and Jeanne Quan
LearnandChat@gfo.org

THE Q REVIEW

Led by Alexa Waddle
qreview@gfo.org

VIRGINIA GROUP

Led by Judi Scott and Carol Surrency
Virginia@gfo.org

WRITERS' FORUM

Led by Peggy Baldwin
Writers@gfo.org

Special Topics for January SIG Meetings

GREAT LAKES REGION

Saturday, January 8, 2022

9:30–11:30 a.m. PT

Fran Hart will present “Some History & Genealogy of Author Max Braithwaite,” which includes research on her aunt’s father, Max Braithwaite, Canadian author of Depression-era novels and nonfiction work relevant to genealogists. Some of Braithwaite’s (and his wife’s) Ontario family genealogy going back to Ireland and Cornwall will also be discussed.

Please email GreatLakes@gfo.org to request a link to attend.

FAMILY TREE MAKER SIG

Sunday, January 16, 2022

1:00–3:00 p.m. PT

FTM’s media tab will be covered. A poll during the meeting will ask about the basics of each person’s media file, e.g. number of media items, number of unlinked files. Bring any tips you can share with the group on dealing with your photos and stories.

Please email FTM@gfo.org to request a link to attend.

GFO Membership Donations, Fees are Tax Deductible

The GFO membership fees and donations are 100% tax deductible in keeping with our 501(c)(3) nonprofit status (Federal Tax ID #93-6026215). Check with your employer to see if they match donations to double your gift!

Bend Gen Society to Host Gena Philibert-Ortega

Genealogist and author Gena Philibert-Ortega will present “Wives, Widows, Spinsters and Mistresses: Documenting Women’s Relationships” at a free, virtual meeting sponsored by the Bend Genealogical Society. Learn how examining women’s relationships will connect you to documentation of their lives. The meeting will be Tuesday, January 18, 2022, at 10 a.m. [Register](#) in advance for this meeting.



Executive Board of Directors

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Laurel Smith

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Geri Auerbach

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Alexa Waddle

Treasurer

Richard Crockett

Director at Large

Janice Sellers

Director at Large

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Keri Logan

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Membership

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Ed Vandehey

Contact us at

info@gfo.org

GFO Stars

November

Fritz Juengling



Fritz Juengling wears many hats! He is an accredited genealogist through ICAPGen as well as a commissioner on its Board. He is also a German, Dutch, and Scandinavian Research Specialist at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. GFO hosted him as the featured speaker at our 2019 Fall Seminar. We are lucky to have him as a friend and supporter of the GFO.

Recently, Fritz helped to fill the upcoming GFO 2022 Open House with nine presenters! He volunteered to do a presentation for the German SIG, then proceeded to locate eight other volunteer speakers to present a variety of interesting topics. A huge thank you to Fritz for all his help!

December

Pat Henderson



Pat Henderson was one of the four original volunteers scanning the marriage books for GivingTuesday. She came into the library six days a week during November to scan the books. She also trained volunteers and helped others learn the ins and outs of our book scanner. Books 40–55 were ready for GivingTuesday, and she did a great percentage of them. A big thank you for her efforts!

Ancestry Ends Home Access to Database

Since early in the pandemic, Ancestry has extended its Library Edition database to home users through our MemberSpace portal. This access was granted not only to the GFO but libraries across the nation. The company has announced that home access for all libraries will be discontinued after December 31, 2021.



The Forum Insider

Genealogical Forum of Oregon
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GFO JANUARY 2022 ONLINE EVENTS

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

Saturday, January 1

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

Tuesday, January 4

1–3 p.m. Access to GFO Resources

Wednesday, January 5

10 a.m.–12 p.m. Learn & Chat

Saturday, January 8

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

Tuesday, January 11

6:30–8:30 p.m. Board Meeting

Thursday, January 13

6–7 p.m. The Q Review

Saturday, January 15

9:30–11:30 Genealogy Problem Solvers
12–2 p.m. African American Ancestry
2:30–3:30 p.m. Gen Talk: Merchants' Wives,
Prostitutes, and Identities in Between:
Early Chinese Women in Portland

Sunday, January 16

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

Wednesday, January 19

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

Saturday, January 22

9 a.m.–12 p.m. DNA Advanced
1–3 p.m. British Group

Friday, January 28

10 a.m.–12 p.m. Access to GFO Resources