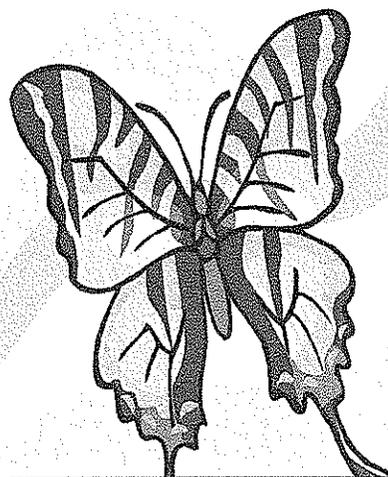


# Spring Seminar

*Pamela K.  
Boyer  
CG, CGL*

**NATIONALLY KNOWN  
SPEAKER**



## **SEMINAR FEATURES**

- **Book Vendor**
- **Genealogical Treasures**
- **White Elephant Book Sale**

*Hosted by*

## **Genealogical Forum of Oregon**

**APRIL 5, 2008**

**SITE: Beaverton Elks Lodge, Beaverton,**  
(address on reverse side.....)

- **Some Real Research Sites on the Internet**
- **Spreadsheet Tricks for Genealogists**
- **Did He Serve? Researching Military Service Records**
- **Our National Treasure: The Library of Congress**



**SPRING SEMINAR SIGN-UP FORM**

April 5, 2008

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone? or Email? \_\_\_\_\_

(CONTACT)

Address \_\_\_\_\_ (If a member) Mem.# \_\_\_\_\_

City, State &amp; Zip \_\_\_\_\_

{ } \$35.00 if received by Mar 27th

{ } \$40.00 if received after Mar 27th (no lunch)

{ } Lunch: \$12.00. Must be requested by Mar 27th TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Brown Baggers welcome too.

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: GENEALOGICAL FORUM OF OREGON****LUNCH**

Lunch is \$12 (gratuity included). Includes one hot buffet entree of Parmesan Chicken, Meatloaf, or Veggie Pasta plus a hot vegetable & rolls. Cold buffet includes a selection of salads. All coffee, tea, hot water, water included. Seating is in the Elks Dining Room for everyone. Brown Baggers, too!  
Snacks—see next box

**REGISTRATION AT SEMINAR: 8-9 A.M. APRIL 5, 2008 SATURDAY****First Lecture at 9 a.m.** ..... with a morning break, one-hour lunch, afternoon break, program ends about 3:30 p.m.**Snacks**—before seminar, at morning and afternoon breaks—come with your price of admission.

**OUR SPEAKER:** Pamela K. Boyer is the principal researcher, author, lecturer, and president of Memory Lane, Inc. She specializes in Washington D.C. area repositories and computer tools for genealogists. She writes articles on computer and Internet topics for genealogists. Check out her website: [www.momemorylane.com](http://www.momemorylane.com)

**TOPICS FOR THE SEMINAR**

**Some Real Research Sites on the Internet**—Included will be such searchable sources as Virginia land grants, Bureau of Land Management General Land Office records, vital records for several states, Scottish Origins General Register Office, British Origins records, and United States and foreign telephone directories.

**Spreadsheet Tricks for Genealogists**—Many practical uses of a spreadsheet for genealogical research and analysis are demonstrated in this lecture, with easy-to-follow steps.

**Did He Serve? Researching Military Service Records**—Don't overlook military records in your genealogical research. They can reveal vital statistics, ancestors' locales, health histories, and politics. Some files may even contain original birth, marriage, or death records.

**Our National Treasure: The Library of Congress**—We'll mine the online collection for its wealth of documents, maps, books, photographs, even sound recordings, and learn to successfully search the online catalogs.

**SITE of SEMINAR:**

Beaverton Elks Lodge  
3500 SW 104th Ave  
Beaverton, Oregon

**Directions:** Drive West on Hwy 26, take Beaverton Exit near Sylvan, puts you on SW Canyon, continue to SW 104th. Turn right. The road dead ends into their building, and very large parking lot. Enter the building at the Banquet room entrance in rear.

**MAILING ADDRESS:**

Spring Seminar  
GENEALOGICAL FORUM OF OREGON  
PO BOX 42567  
PORTLAND OR 97242-0567

More Info.....

PHONE: 503-963-1932

WEBSITE: <[www.gfo.org](http://www.gfo.org)>

LIBRARY HOURS—M,T,W,Th—9:30-5pm

Sat 9:30-3pm Sun 12-5pm

# The Forum Insider

Volume 19, Issue 7

April 1, 2008

## HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT OUR WEBSITE?

[www.gfo.org](http://www.gfo.org)

## HOW TO FIND US?

1505 SE Gideon  
We're one block north of Powell Blvd, near the intersection of Powell & 12th Ave (Milwaukie Ave)  
ph 503-963-1932

## CONTACTING US.....

Feedback, news, short success stories, corrections...? Send to:  
Lyleth Winther,  
Editor

EMAIL:  
[lylaw@pacifier.com](mailto:lylaw@pacifier.com)

PHONE: Leave a message at GFO desk  
503-963-1932

## What's Happening . . . .

### MAY 3rd—SATURDAY IS SET FOR THE GFO OPEN HOUSE

Set May 3rd aside for our OPEN HOUSE.  
Time: 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

#### JOIN US FOR:

- Tours of the Library & Rarebook Room
- Ask-the-Experts Advice (1 question per customer)
- Huge Surplus Book Sale
- Drawing for Free One-year Membership
- Demos of Research Techniques
- Try out Ancestry.com on Our Two Computers
- Refreshments

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!

#### More on Open House

#### ASK-THE-EXPERTS GUIDELINES

Has that brick wall got you stymied?  
Here's a chance to "Ask-the-Experts".

For free, you'll be able to meet for 15 minutes with one of the members from the Association of Professional Genealogists, explaining your problem.

They ask that you write down and bring one specific problem and sign-up for an appointment upon arrival at the Open House registration table.

#### NEW FORUM INSIDER EDITOR ANNOUNCED

This past week, Janis Bailey, writer of the volunteer interviews in the Forum Insider, has agreed to take on the newsletter.

President Don Holznagel and the Board welcome Jan in this new position.

Lyleth will be missed, but after 4 years, she wants to have more time for her own research. She will continue to be a backup for



\*\*\*  
Since  
1946  
\*\*\*

Jan when needed and through the transition.

#### NOMINATIONS

Nominations for GFO offices are being sought. In addition to nominating worthy other members, don't forget putting yourself forward! Members interested in serving the organization in this important work are encouraged to notify Michele Fricke, Sandy Sterling, or Don Holznagel. Still needed: President and secretary nominations.

email: Sandy at <[slts@comcast.net](mailto:slts@comcast.net)>  
Michele at <[michele\\_fricke@juno.com](mailto:michele_fricke@juno.com)>  
Don at <[dholznag@pacifier.com](mailto:dholznag@pacifier.com)>

#### MONTHLY PROGRAMS

April 12, 2008, 2 pm

Speaker: Steve Turner

"Wilsonville Library Resources"

May 10, 2008 2 pm

Speaker: TBA

"Clark County Gen. Soc. Library"

## Did You Know ?

### DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that Camas Washington was called "La Camas" in 1889. In a recent donation of an 1889 City Directory for Portland Oregon at our GFO library, we found among the advertisers, an ad for the "Mills at La Camas W.T." (Washington Territory). Since it said W.T., and that was the year of statehood, we have to assume the directory was printed earlier in the year of 1889. As we know, in the year of 1889 Washington Territory gained statehood, along with its neighbor, Idaho.

### NBC BUYS RIGHTS TO POPULAR TV SHOW!

I just got a news tidbit from New England Historical newsletter as of today: The "Guardian" in London reports that NBC has bought the American rights to the BBC popular TV show "Who Do You Think You Are." Lisa Kudrow will produce it.

I have read stories about the productions in

*Our Supporters*

EMMERT INTERNATIONAL

SHILO INNS AND RESORTS

TAZO TEA

FREE GEEK



the U.K., and it will create even more interest in genealogy here. The link is [www.guardian.co.uk](http://www.guardian.co.uk) (Jan Bailey)

### CORRECTION

(.....to New Members in Bulletin)

N132 Ellen Notbohm  
Shrum (OR)  
Twichell (AB,MA,MT,ND)  
Also—Wicke (OR, MT)  
Browning (MA).

### LIBRARY CLOSURE DATES FOR YEAR 2008

Spring & Fall Seminar Days—closed	Friday, July 4, 2008—Fourth of July
Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2008—New Year's Day	Monday, Sept. 1, 2008—Labor Day
Sunday, Mar 23, 2008—Easter	Thursday, Nov. 27, 2008—Thanksgiving
Monday, May 26, 2008—Memorial Day	Thursday, Dec. 25, 2008—Christmas



### FORUM ALL-NIGHTER Sat., May 17th, 6 pm-6 am

Snacks provided with Pizza party at midnight!

COME JOIN IN THE FUN! Cost: \$15

Questions? e-mail Julie at "rathernut@cs.com"

or check with Forum desk (503-963-1932)

*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 \$30 per year for individual memberships and \$45 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 Lyleth Winther, Editor; Loretta Welsh, Print Shop Manager; Dixie Read & Jim Morrow, Printers; Shirley Durkheimer, Collating; and Agnes Nuttbrock, Mailing Labels.

### Favorite Websites:

[www.gfo.org](http://www.gfo.org)  
[www.archives.gov/aad/](http://www.archives.gov/aad/)  
[www.usgenweb.com](http://www.usgenweb.com)  
[www.rootsweb.com](http://www.rootsweb.com)  
[www.cyndislist.com](http://www.cyndislist.com)  
[www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)  
[www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)  
[www.nara.gov](http://www.nara.gov)  
<http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/>  
[www.multcolib.org](http://www.multcolib.org)  
[www.ohs.org](http://www.ohs.org)  
[www.ccgswa.org](http://www.ccgswa.org)  
 (Clark Co Gen Soc)  
[www.sos.state.il.us/departments/archives/archives.html](http://www.sos.state.il.us/departments/archives/archives.html)  
[www.genealogy.az.gov/index.htm](http://www.genealogy.az.gov/index.htm)  
[www.funstuff.orgenealogists.com](http://www.funstuff.orgenealogists.com)  
[www.DAR.org](http://www.DAR.org)  
[www.theshiplist.com](http://www.theshiplist.com)  
<http://abish.byui.edu/specialCollections/westernStates/search.cfm>  
 (Western States Marriages to 1928)  
[www.kshs.org](http://www.kshs.org) (Kansas)

### SOUNDEX CODE

Example: w350..  
 1st letter of surname plus three numbers (zeroes if you run out of consonants)

- 1 b,p,f,v
- 2 c,s,k,g,j,q,x,z
- 3 d,t
- 4 l
- 5 m,n
- 6 r

**PORTLAND . . .**

**PUBLIC LIBRARY**

801 SW 10th Ave.  
Portland OR  
97205-2597  
Phone: 503-988-5234  
M-TH 9-9  
Fri-Sat 9-6  
Sun 1-5

**Website:**  
www.multcolib.org  
**Catalog on-line:**  
www.multcolib.org/cata-  
log.html

**OREGON HEALTH DIVISION  
VITAL RECORDS**

PO Box 14050  
Portland OR 97214-0050  
Verify current fees?  
503-731-4095

(a recording of fees)  
Birth or  
Death Certif:  
(\$20, additional \$15)  
Make checks payable to  
DHS/Vital Records.

Birth records  
after 1906,  
Death Certificate—from  
1903  
Marriage records since Jan  
1906—\$15  
Divorce records since  
1925—\$15

www.cdc.gov/nchs/howto/  
w2w/oregon.html  
(check out the Oregon State  
Archives for Death certifi-  
cates older than 50 years—  
see margin of page 8)

**WILLAMETTE  
NAT'L  
CEMETERY  
INDEX**

Veterans-OR/ID/WA  
www.interment.net/data/  
us/or/multnomah/  
willanat.index

*Around GFO . . . . .*

**GENEALOGICAL HELPER  
SPECIAL SUBSCRIPTION OFFER**

**Don't forget to take advantage** of this special subscription offer being extended by the Everton Publishers for a year's worth of Genealogical Helper magazines (6 issues—bi-monthly).

Leland Meitzler, the current editor, has brought the magazine back to its former glory when the Everton founding family was still producing the magazine.

If you don't know what the Helper magazine is about, check the GFO shelves, as well as your local library. Included are inspiring articles, newly found resources, new books that have been printed, and other genealogy societies' addresses. The offer will be valid through our spring seminar date on April 5th.

Make Checks out to "GFO" with the words "Gen. Helper" on the comment line. Send them in care of "Treasurer", Gen. Forum of Oregon, PO Box 42567, Portland OR 97242-0567.

*Interested members in volunteering for the GFO may write to Don Holznagel, dholznag@pacifier.com, or phone Jan Robinson at the GFO on Wednesday afternoons. e-mail her at desdemona@centurytel.net.*

**VOLUNTEER NEWS**

- Filled: Insider Editor**
- Filled: Membership Committee**
- Filled: Web Page Assistant**
- Filled: 5th Saturday Research Assistant position**
- Filled: Historian position**
- Still needed: Bulletin Editor**
- Still needed: Reading Room Assistants (also known as Library Volunteers),**  
Do you have an afternoon or morning you can spare each week or once a month?

**LIBRARY COLLECTION NEWS**

We want to expand our workforce! The Library work team is looking for some new volunteers.

There are several jobs, small and large, that can be done at any time that is convenient for you. Some are ongoing and some are specific projects that have a foreseeable end. Training is offered for all jobs.

Here are some of the current possibilities:

**Periodicals**

- Help evaluate our current periodical collection
- Enter new periodicals in catalog and process for shelving
- Search for new periodicals to add to our collection

**Donations**

- Enter new donations into donation log
- Send thank you letters to donors
- Help start new material processing

**New book purchases**

- Help search for new books to add to our collection

**Book reviews**

- Do one or more book reviews. We always have several books waiting to be reviewed. This job is easy and fun. Good written instructions are available. And, you get to see new material first!!

If any of these jobs sound interesting to you, please contact Library Director Sandi Whiteman [Wednesdays 9:30 - 5:00 and Thursdays 9:30 - 3:00], or Volunteer Coordinator Jan Robinson .

Next month: watch for news about an addition to our Oregon cemeteries information.

*Sandi Whiteman,  
Library Director*



**SALEM**

**OREGON STATE ARCHIVES**

800 Summer St. NE  
Salem, OR 97310  
ph. 503-373-0701  
www.arcweb.sos.state.or.us

Hours: M-F: 8-4:45  
(Closed noon hour)

*Death certificates: 50 yrs or older—25cents a copy (you make)—more \$'s if they make or mail to you—call for details)*

**OREGON STATE LIBRARY**

State Library Bldg.  
250 Winter St. NE  
Salem 97310-0640  
ph. 503-378-4243  
ext 221

Hours: M-F 10-5  
(Also: 2nd Saturday during the WVGS meeting—public invited, too.. use special entrance—SW corner)

**WILLAMETTE VLY GEN. SOC. SALEM**

—collection is at the Oregon State Library in Capitol Mall. They hold meetings, create a newsletter and quarterly.

**SALEM FHC**

(FamilyHist.Center)  
4550 Lone Oak RD SE  
503-378-0383 ext 7  
Sun 4-7pm  
Mon—closed  
T & TH—9-9  
Wed 6-9  
Fri-Closed  
Sat-9am - 1 pm

*People . . . . .*

*We as a society couldn't exist without our many volunteers. In this continuing series, we salute them!*

**BEHIND THE SCENES WITH OUR VOLUNTEERS**

by Janis Bailey

**PAT BURLING** joined the Genealogical Forum in 1983 immediately after taking a class taught by a Forum member for the Oregon State Extension Service in Corvallis. After one or two meetings, she began 25 years of volunteer service to the organization. The GFO has been fortunate to have this hard worker for all these years.

Pat served in the following capacities in more or less chronological order:

- Tuesday Receptionist (as it was called then) for eight years. Three of those years were as Head Receptionist, which involved training and organizing the schedule.
- Board member Secretary for 4 years; Third Vice President for 1 year; Second Vice President for 3 years; Director At Large for 2 years; for a total of 10 years.
- Chair for 1991 Family History Fair; Co-Chair with Lyleth Winther in 1993; Chair for exhibits in 2003.
- Exhibits Co-Chair for the National Genealogical Society's 1991 Conference, Portland, Oregon. She attended the NGS 1990 Conference in Washington, D.C. to promote the 1991 Conference in Portland by encouraging exhibitors to come to Portland and she helped man the GFO booth.
- Exhibits Co-Chair for the National Genealogical Society's 2001 Conference in the States, Portland, Oregon and attended the 2000 event in Providence, Rhode Island to promote the next year's Conference in Portland and again helped man the GFO exhibit.
- Education Committee, 1993 to the present (11 Years), Chair for one year.
- Taught classes, gave programs at meetings, History Fair, Mini-class, Genealogical Conference of Oregon Conference ( Pat's part was Probate). Class subjects included Beginning Genealogy, What's In A Name, Dates and Changes, Genealogical Correspondence and more.
- Insider Co-Editor for 5 years.
- GFO Seminar Registrar for several years.
- Committee membership including: By-Laws, Nominating, Reorganization, Mailing, 1910 Census, and Portland Chronological Death Index project for 3 years. (The project remains unfinished).
- Wrote articles for the INSIDER and the National Genealogical Society publications.
- Publicity for seminars, mini-classes and general membership meetings for several years.
- Worked with Dick Burling to plan the GFO moves to 5<sup>th</sup> Street and Gideon locations.
- Promoted GFO at a Portland DAR meeting.

The above list of volunteer efforts is inspiring and enlightening in that it highlights the many tasks which volunteers undertake to make the organization work.

When asked what she enjoyed most about the work, she replied that in the early years as a receptionist she found that in helping others with their

## People . . . .

research she also helped herself. She said that in those years she learned from fellow volunteer, Ellen Benedict, with whom she formed a lasting friendship.

In her other endeavors she formed friendships and enjoyed being on the ground floor of planning and evaluation to help the GFO reach its goals and objectives. She has special feelings for the Education Committee, which has as its mission presenting programs of the highest quality to help the members reach their educational goals. She also loved teaching the classes. Some of the specific features of her work with the Education Committee involved organization, enhancing professionalism in presentations and providing information and help to those doing research. As a trained and experienced teacher Pat has the skills to perform these tasks.

Pat became interested in genealogy as she listened to her grandmother share stories about her husband's family. Just who was Grandpa Jamison's father? It was the mystery of it all that enticed Pat to look further.

"We knew he was a Bell but not much more. He was said to be from the south, a Confederate officer and from a prominent family. Grandpa James Bell Jamison was adopted by William Jamison in Washington County, Oregon in 1902. His mother was Arrella McFall, who was always tight-lipped about the Bell husband. I was determined to find out about this man."

A second incident prompted her further interest in genealogy when her mother found papers in Pat's grandmother's house including a "Deed Of Gift" dated 1849 in Wayne County, Tennessee. Pat joined the nearest Genealogical Society, which was in Florence, Alabama. She found there a will abstract of one Sampson Colson Lanier,

which made mention of her Great Grandmother, Arrella McFall, the daughter of Daniel McFall and Susan Matilda Lanier. However, she is still looking for her great grandfather, the father of James Bell Jamison.

Pat was born in Portland, Oregon and raised in Washington County. She is a fifth generation Oregonian. Her Washington County ancestors all arrived there in 1852. She has one brother who is interested in family history but not in research.

Pat says she researches sideways, so she resists being pinned down to a few localities, but if she must, she would say she focuses on Oregon and the Southern United States, but there are always Ireland, Europe, Austria, Germany and Czechoslovakia.

The surnames she focuses on are **HALL** in Oregon, Missouri, Ohio; **PARRISH** in North Carolina, Indiana, Iowa, Oregon; **MCFALL** in North Carolina, Tennessee, Arkansas, Texas, Oregon; **LANIER** in Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee; **SEIDLER** in Oregon, Texas, Czech Republic; **JAMISON** in Scotland. She also researches the family of her first husband (the father of Pat's children); **BUTLER**, in Massachusetts, Oregon; **OLSEN** in Denmark, Wisconsin, and Oregon.

Her leisure activities these days are reading, writing, swimming, gardening and spending time with her nine grandchildren.

### GEN. SOCIETY MOVES

**NEW ADDRESS: Palm Beach County Gen. Society, P. O. Box 17617, West Palm Beach, FL 33416-7617, 561-616-3455**



### VANCOUVER WASHINGTON

#### CLARK CO. GEN. SOC. LIBRARY

717 GRAND BLVD  
360-750-5688

#### HOURS:

Tues-Wed-Thurs 10-4:30

Fri 10-3

2nd/3rd Sat 10-3

Call ahead to verify "open"

[www.ccs.wa.org](http://www.ccs.wa.org)

(I-5 to Vancouver, turn right on E. Mill Plain, go about 2-3 lights to Grand Blvd. Turn right (South) on left hand side in shopping strip mall)

#### VANCOUVER FAMILY HISTORY CENTER

18300 NE 18TH St.

Vancouver WA

(Take Hwy 14 East to 164th exit, go North to NE 18th, turn right for 20 blocks??? left hand side of road)

ph 360-944-5773

#### HOURS:

M-F 10-3

T-TH 10-3

and 7-9:30 pm

1st/3rd Sat 10-1 pm

#### FT VANCOUVER REGIONAL LIBRARY

1007 E. Mill Plain Bv

Vancouver WA

360-695-1561

(call for hours)

Newspapers on Microfilm, Washington State Collection of books and films, access to Ancestry .com on computers.

# Ancestors . . . . .

## “BRICK WALL” TOPPLES VIA A COUSIN’S CLUE AND THE 1865 KANSAS STATE CENSUS

By Janice Fenter

In January, my cousin, Mark, provided the clue I needed to locate a long searched for COOK family in Kansas. Mark’s brother had received a note, a long time ago, telling him he should look for the names Louis and Mary COOK as possible parents of his great grandmother Adaline. I had used an 1850-1880 Federal Census records looking for an Adaline living with or near a COOK family, but never found a match. Mark’s clue took me to the [Kansas State Census of 1865, available on Ancestry](#), and I believe I have solved the mystery.

Prior to Mark’s clue, I had used information found in the STEELE Family Bible, military and census records to try and locate Adaline’s parents. The Civil War Military Pension file of my great grandfather, William Henry STEELE, recorded that he married Adaline Cinderilla COOK, 6 November 1864 in Irving, Kansas. Irving is in Marshall County. The 1870 census, in Blue Rapids, Marshall County, Kansas, showed William, Adaline, and 3 of their children. This census listed Adaline as age 30 and that she was born in Pennsylvania. On subsequent census records, Adaline’s father was listed as born in Maryland and her mother in Pennsylvania. Also listed with William and Adaline, in 1870, was Willis COOK, age 27, born in Pennsylvania, and he worked on the farm. The page of births, in the STEELE Family Bible, recorded Adaline’s birthday as 3 November 1839. With all this information, I had searched the Federal Census records for Adaline and Willis together, or with their parents, but couldn’t find them.

Mark’s clue, and the 1865 Kansas State Census, took me to Blue Rapids, Marshall County, Kansas. Living at dwelling #104, I found a listing for L. A. COOK, age 58, born in Maryland. His wife was Mary COOK, age 43, born in Pennsylvania. The first of 7 children listed was a Willis W. COOK, age 22, born in Pennsylvania. I quickly checked the census for my great grandparents, William Henry and Adaline C. STEELE. They were listed just a few pages earlier. In addition to my great grandparents, right next door was my great, great grandmother, Polly Caroline THOMAS, and her son, Thomas W. STEELE, living with her second husband, Eben THOMAS. (The person doing the indexing for Ancestry had spelled the STEELE surname as STULE.)

Additional information makes me believe I have the correct family. William’s father was Andrew STEELE. William and Adaline named their first son Andrew Louis STEELE, and their first daughter Mary Caroline STEELE. I believe these children were probably named after both of their grandfathers. and grandmothers.

Now that I have the names of Adaline’s parents, I’ve been able to find her mother, Mary, with 3 of her sons, on the 1880 census. They were still in Blue Rapids, Mary was widowed, and their surname was spelled KOCH (a variant spelling for COOK).

Finding this COOK (KOCH) family makes me about 98% sure I have the correct family. I’m confident that finding additional documentation will prove I have a match. Without Mark’s clue, and the 1865 Kansas State Census, my brick wall would still be standing.

## TO BE OR NOT TO BE....A MEMBER OF GFO

Dear Barbara (not her name),

I’m sorry you didn’t find records at GFO to help you with your research in the past. When did you join? Did you not find helpful suggestions for resources in the Insider or The Bulletin publications that came with your membership?

I know I felt the same way years ago (1979) for a couple of years, and then I have been a "steady customer" since. As a volunteer on the desk, I become acquainted with books in different categories that might help my own research, while I’m helping a member or guest find some useful books.

Due to the privacy laws, there is a point where you have to gather the records yourselves during the period between you and, say, your grandparents. Using the Handybook (Everton’s--on hand at most libraries, including ours) or another resource, you can find the addresses for the County or State clerks, in order to get the copies of death certificates, marriages certificates, wills, etc. (The "proofs" you need to join certain organizations as well as back up your family story.) And then, our books and records on CD’s, published cemetery records (for example) in localities where you are focusing—start to kick in!

I remember the first day I used the library (1979)..I was a bit overwhelmed where to look first...thinking to myself that most of the collection would be on Oregon, and it was a waste of time for me to belong. Except for one gr-gr aunt, my immediately family was from Iowa and parts East. Wrong! About 20% is about Oregon, and the other 80%

# Ancestors . . .

contains books and Microfilm regarding the other 49 states and some foreign countries. And then, there are the family histories! The last quoted count from our volunteer librarian was that our library has over 40,000 books and media offerings. Plus the volunteers are now processing 35 boxes of books we received from the late Win Jacobs' estate.

On that first day, I found one book related to my grandfather's parents from Cape Girardeau County, Missouri--A Belated Census of Cape Girardeau County--which turned out to be a listing of people in the county's cemetery. Their courthouse had burned in the 1870s, so this was a very important book that a group abstracted. Under my family surname was my great grandma's name and death date. She died after her 8th child, when my grandfather was but 5 years old. And in that book listing, were her parents, as well as my great-grandfather's parents, and other family members.

With Ancestry.com as an added feature on two of our computers at the library, we can help the patrons track some of their family back. You should give our library another try. Come in on a Free Monday (the first Monday of the month) or on a 4th Saturday when I work, pay the \$5 guest fee. Most of my family research is in Iowa and back to the Eastern seaboard. Cathy Lauer on the 3rd Saturday (and the 2nd & 4th Saturday with me) is a good person to work with. We have other wonderful volunteers on the other days of the week as well.

On the 2nd Saturday is our Monthly Program (free, open to the

public,too) with a few minutes of business (ten minutes) and an interesting speaker. This year's theme for speakers is focusing on some of the local libraries and their genealogical resources.

Oh yes, one more thing. You can read the Genealogical Helper's (and other fine genealogical resource magazines) back issues which are shelved at GFO in the 0001.0 designation. Also, the Gresham Public library has a subscription as do some of the other area libraries. I scanned the 2007 issues a week ago while I was volunteering on the desk, so I could write up an article. We also have the back issues of Heritage Quest on the shelves which are chock full of articles, new resources, and if you are on computer, new on-line databases. Some of the stories in the Gen. Helper inspire me to write down a similar story in my family that maybe future generations might like to hear.

Hoping to see you in our library soon, Lyleth Winther, ED.

### NEW WEBSITES TO TRY

- Immigrant Ancestors Project (<http://immigrants.byu.edu>)
- Obituary databases for Columbus & Norfolk, Nebraska ([www.ci.norfolk.ne.us/library/genealogy.htm](http://www.ci.norfolk.ne.us/library/genealogy.htm))
- Homicides in Chicago news (1870-1930) (<http://homicide.northwestern.edu/database/>)

From NEHGS eNews  
Vol. 10, No.7, Feb 13, 2008

## DONATION LAND CLAIMS INDEX... NOW ON GFO WEBSITE !



See guidelines below"

Links to the right point to the first name on each of 24 index pages. Donation Land Claims were granted to settlers of the Oregon Territory who arrived prior to 1853 (see Wikipedia). The files contain considerable genealogical data. Originals of these are located in the National Archives in Washington DC. The GFO has copies on microfilm and we will copy the entire claim file for you. Use our index of claim holders to determine the office and claim number.

The cost is \$10 for the first ten pages and 50¢ for each additional page. You may request paper copies or a CD. If you'd like paper copies and a CD, please add \$1. To determine the cost for your file, please email [gforesearch@yahoo.com](mailto:gforesearch@yahoo.com) or phone the GFO at (503) 963-1932 (leave a message for Loretta). We need the index information and your phone or email.

Order a copy of a Donation Land Claim by sending your return address, index information, and the quoted price (see above) to:

Donation Land Claim Lookup  
Genealogical Forum of Oregon, Inc.  
PO Box 42567  
Portland, OR 97242-0567

### JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF OREGON

April 15, 2008 Program 7-9pm

"Somehow, We'll Survive: a story of growing up Jewish in WWII-era Japan"

Where: Ahavath Achim Synagogue, 3225 SW Barbur Blvd., Portland

**2007-2008 Annual Appeal for the Genealogical Forum of Oregon Inc.**

PO Box 42567 Portland OR 97242-0567

Celebrating 61 years! 1946-2007

Yes, I want to be a part of the future of the GFO! Here's my tax deductible donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Heritage Level \$1,000 and up      \_\_\_\_\_ Ancestral Level \$250 to \$499      \_\_\_\_\_ Pedigree Level \$500 to \$999  
\_\_\_\_\_ Sustaining Level \$100 to \$249      \_\_\_\_\_ Supporting Level \$50 to \$99      \_\_\_\_\_ Patron Level up to \$49

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip+4 digits: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check this box    if you do not want your name published.

**Annual Appeal Update**

**A big thank-you to the following donors (Jan. and Feb. 08)**

**We appreciate you very much!**

Sustaining Level \$100 - \$240

Janis Bailey  
Judy Fox  
Doris Merrick  
Barry Peterson

Patron Level up to \$49

Robert Crumpton  
John & Peggy Goodenberger  
Ken Wait

Supporting Level \$50 - \$99

Edward Cole  
Janice Handsaker  
Michelle Holley  
Teri & Terry Long  
Robert Petersen  
Ronald Subotnick

**VOLUNTEER NEWS**

***It isn't "all" on the Internet!***

Really it isn't "all" on the Internet! Yes, I know there are lots of wonderful resources out there electronically that we can use to help with our research, but some information really is still only in book form and as you know, the GFO library has scads of materials to aid you in your research. Not only that, but it is a good place to come and quietly research among like-minded individuals. The library offers the best of all possible worlds — Internet access via WiFi if you have your own laptop or you can use the GFO computers with access to Ancestry.com and the world wide web. Plus, there are tons of printed, filmed and other materials to aid you in your search. Do you need to carve out a few hours a month to make sure that you get into the library and tie up some loose end? Maybe you would just like to feel part of the genealogical community at the GFO? Of course, there are many other ways to help out the GFO, too.

We are looking for members to help with our computer network, extraction work, working in the library, or working with the library committee to ensure that our shelves are full of the materials you need to work on your family research. Of course, several of our GFO committees are also looking for some new ideas and new hands to help share the work. Our Education Committee is looking for some new members, as is our newly forming Editorial Board, and with Spring around the corner our cemetery group is ready to again go to the cemetery to record tombstones.

If you think you might be able to help the GFO meet the needs of our members please contact me on Wednesday afternoons in the library or via email at: [desdemona@centurytel.net](mailto:desdemona@centurytel.net). Or you can leave a message for me at the desk in the library or for our President, Don Holznagel.

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## The Forum Insider

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

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The Forum Insider

## GFO Calendar and Hours

### April 2008

- 1—Tues April Fool's Day
- 5—Sat SPRING SEMINAR AT  
BEAVERTON ELKS  
(LIBRARY CLOSED)
- 7—Mon FREE MONDAY  
Bring a friend?
- 8—Tues 5:30pm GFO Board Meeting
- 12—Sat 9:30am Illinois Interest Group  
—Sat 11:30am Writers' Forum Group  
—Sat 2pm MONTHLY PROGRAM  
Speaker: Steve Turner  
"Wilsonville Library Resources"
- 14—Mon 1pm DNA Interest Group
- 28—Thur 5:30pm DAR Evening Group

### May 2008

- 3—Saturday—GFO OPEN HOUSE  
All Day Event—tours, Ask-an-Expert  
service, Refreshments, Surplus Books  
(Library closed to researchers)

*GFO Library Hours:  
Holidays? Winter?  
Call ahead.....  
Check the website:  
"www.gfo.org"*

*Mon-Tues-Wed-Thurs  
9:30 to 5 pm  
Saturdays—9:30-3 pm  
Sun—12-5 pm*

*ph 503-963-1932  
1505 SE Gideon Street  
(1 blk N. of SE Powell)*

- 5—FREE MONDAY
- 10—Sat 9:30am Illinois Interest Group  
—Sat 11:45am Writers' Forum Group  
—Sat 2pm MONTHLY PROGRAM  
Speaker to be announced  
"Clarke County Gen. Society's  
Library"
- 12—Mon 1pm DNA Interest Group
- 13—Tues 5:30 GFO Board Meeting
- 17—Sat 9:30am TMG SUG Meeting  
—Sat 1pm Irish Group Meeting  
—Sat 6pm to 6am ALL NIGHTER  
RESEARCH PARTY
- 19—Mon 7pm Computer Interest Group
- 24—Sat 1pm British Group Meeting
- 26—Mon MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY  
(Library Closed)
- 26—Mon 7pm Round Table Discussion Grp
- 28—Wed 6:30pm TMG group
- 29—No DAR Meet'g in May/June/July