NEWSLETTER VOLUME 44, NO. 9

Benton County Genealogical Society

NOVEMBER 2026

Remembering Benton County's WWII Soldiers



Last May, my sister and I hiked around Marys Peak. I had heard there was a military plaque somewhere up there and wanted to see if I could find it. Turns out, that was not a difficult task. It was just a few yards from our car, between the day use parking lot and an information kiosk.

I tried to hunt online for more information about the plaque, but didn't have much luck. I finally contacted the Corvallis chapter (Post 11) of the American Legion.

The plaque was dedicated on Sunday, August 10, 1947, during the Shriners Trek. (We did a story about the Shriners Treks back in January 2026. If you have not seen it, you can find it on the BCGS website, Newsletters page.)

According to the next day's Corvallis Gazette-Times, the Rev. Daniel Stevens urged that "we dedicate ourselves anew to freedom, democracy, brotherhood, and world peace" and that "the memory of the men who died should be an inspiration to better living."

Planes circled overhead and dropped flowers over the plaque. As the flag was lowered to half mast, someone played "Taps" in honor of the 119 Benton County soldiers who died in World War II.

According to the US Department of Veterans Affairs, only a little over 30,000 out of the 16.4 million men and women who served in World War II are still living. That is less than 0.2%.

It is likely we all have at least one veteran in our family tree. If any of yours are still living, don't wait for Veterans Day to thank them for their service. ~ LJC

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October Program Recap



"History is far more than dates on a page. It lives in surviving wagon ruts, abandoned towns, overgrown trails, quiet river crossings, and forgotten landscapes across our state."

Roen Hogg presented a fascinating overview of his efforts to tell "Forgotten Oregon Stories," with a particular focus on the human side of local history. He explained his creative process, which combines traditional archival research with modern technology like drones for aerial perspective. He also uses artificial intelligence (AI) to assist with audio polish and transcription. Hogg emphasized that while AI can greatly accelerate media production, human discernment and primary records remain vital to guarantee historical accuracy.

Hogg further connected his work to genealogy, highlighting specific historical figures from Benton County, such as Joseph Avery, Louis Southworth, and Anna Hughart. Ultimately, the presentation stressed the importance of preserving personal narratives so that future generations will continue to remember.

Hogg created a YouTube channel, Forgotten Oregon Stories, to share how on-location exploration and deep archival research come together to resurrect the past. His recent projects have included a series of episodes centered around the Oregon Trail.

https://www.youtube.com/@ForgottenOregonStories

Roen Hogg has lived in Corvallis for 33 years. Following a career at Hewlett-Packard and eight years on the Corvallis City Council, he now devotes his time to researching and sharing Oregon's history. He is an FAA Part 107 certified drone pilot.

If you missed his presentation, or would like to refresh your memory, his slides are available on the BCGS website:

https://www.bcgs-oregon.org/monthly-programs

Benton County Post Offices

In addition to providing a social hub for rural communities, post offices were a key factor in getting a settlement on an official map. Many early post offices were located inside an existing general store or in people's homes.



George Davidson's great grandmother, Virginia Davidson, operated the post office out of her home in Peak, Oregon, for 18 years. See photo at right.

Some post offices changed locations many times within the same town. Philomath's post office has been located in general stores and a drug store, as well as various other buildings. In 1912, the first concrete building erected in Philomath at 1321 Main Street became the home of the post office until 1954.

The Box post office in Lobster Valley started out as the Lobster post office in the home of George W. Peek. Peek's home was in Benton County, but the Box location was first established in Lincoln County. It may have moved back and forth across the county lines; you see, Box wasn't a building. It was literally a box the local residents used to send and receive mail. When a neighbor travelled to Alsea, they carried the contents of the box to be sent out, and returned with incoming mail to be placed in the box for neighbors to retrieve. The postal department did not approve of any of the proposed names for the box, so they just called it Box.

The introduction of Rural Free Delivery (RFD) in 1902, paired with parcel post around 1913, transformed the way rural communities received mail, catalogs, packages, etc., leading to the eventual consolidation of several smaller post offices. Corvallis got it's first route in 1903 and the more rural parts of the county were gradually incorporated over several years. The Benton County Historical Society published an interesting two-part story about some of the small towns that have since disappeared from modern maps. The loss of a community post office may have been a contributing factor for some of them.

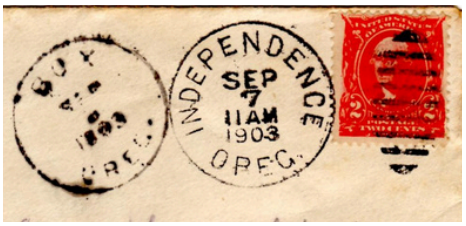
`https://bentoncountymuseums.org/vanished-towns-of-benton-county-oregon/`

The BCGS library includes a booklet titled, Oregon Post Offices, 2nd Edition, December 1946 (with some subsequent handwritten additions and corrections). Most of the data was compiled from "Oregon Geographic Names" (Lewis A. McArthur) and "Oregon Historical Quarterly." It includes a listing of all historical post offices in Oregon. I extracted entries that related to Benton County, and added in as much missing information as I could. (*Caveat Lector*. Let the reader beware. Data was carefully checked but errors are possible given inconsistencies in data sources.)

In 1853, Benton County had three post offices: Jennyopolis, Marysville, and Starr's Point.
In 1861, there were five: Corvallis, Kings Valley, Liberty, Starr's Point, and Tampico.
Since then, many have come and gone. Today, we have five active post offices:
Alsea, Blodgett, Corvallis, Monroe, and **Philomath.**



Did any of your ancestors work in a post office? Linda Olsen's aunt and uncle did. Check out their story (resurrected from the BCGS archives) on page 9.



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Benton County Post Offices, continued

Below is a map of historic Benton County post offices. This segment of a larger map is reproduced here with permission from the Oregon Historical Society. The entire map of Oregon historical post offices can be found on the DVD that accompanies "Oregon Geographic Names", 7th Edition, by McArthur & McArthur, c2003. (Available for checkout at the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library.)

For additional context, this map depicts a span of about 40 miles wide. (Note: this map is best viewed on a computer monitor. Print versions may be faint.)



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Benton County Post Offices, continued

NAME	NOTATIONS	FIRST ESTABLISHED	DISCONTINUED (or name change)
ADAIR VILLAGE		Sep 1, 1947	Aug 31, 1951
ALPINE		Apr 22, 1912	Jun 3, 1966
ALSEA	Thomas Russell (PM)	Jul 14, 1871	
AVERY'S	J.C. Avery (PM) Changed to MARYSVILLE 9 Sep 1850, then to CORVALLIS 18 Feb 1854	Jan 8, 1850	Sep 9, 1850
BELLFOUNTAIN	Est'd as DUSTY	Jul 31, 1902	Jan 17, 1905
BLODGETT	Est'd as EMRICK; James A. Wood (1st PM)	May 3, 1888	
BOX *	Mary J. Grier (PM) * Originally Lincoln Co., on the Lincoln/Benton line in Lobster Valley; changed to Benton Co. 17 Aug 1901.	Jan 28, 1897	Jul 21, 1907
BROWN	Clara Huggins (PM)	Jul 5, 1902	Mar 10, 1903
BRUCE	Lucinda Norwood (PM)	Jul 9, 1900	May 4, 1905
CAMP ADAIR	A.P.O. via CORVALLIS	Jun 1, 1942	May 23, 1945
CAMPUS	Contract station via CORVALLIS	Dec 16, 1935	
COLLINS *	Est'd as DRIFT CREEK. Eight name changes, some back and forth, over 45 years. (WALDPORT, LUTGENS, STANFORD, NICE.) * Originally part of Benton Co., later became Lincoln Co.	Jan 31, 1876	May 17, 1890
CORVALLIS	Est'd as AVERY'S; changed to MARYSVILLE, then to CORVALLIS	Feb 18, 1854	
DEVITT	William M Clark (PM)	5 Mar 1919	27 Nov 1933
DRIFT CREEK *	Matthew Brand (PM). Eight name changes, some back and forth, over 45 years. (COLLINS, WALDPORT, LUTGENS, STANFORD, NICE.)* Originally part of Benton Co., later became Lincoln Co.	6 Aug 1884	31 Jan 1876
DUSTY	Helen Elgin (PM); changed to BELLFOUNTAIN	6 Dec 1895	31 Jul 1902
ELAM	Gladys Elam (PM); Est'd as HARRIS but Postal Service denied name to avoid confusion with Harrisburg.	20 Apr 1918	27 Dec 1928
EMRICK	James A. Wood (PM); changed to BLODGETT	8 Apr 1888	8 May 1888
ENTERPRISE **	J. Brooks (PM)** No source given for this information; unable to verify.	23 Aug 1878	29 Aug 1879

* Note: Lincoln County was formed from parts of Benton and Polk Counties on 20 Feb 1893.

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Benton County Post Offices, continued

NAME	NOTATIONS	FIRST ESTABLISHED	DISCONTINUED (or name change)
FERN	Edward Davis (PM)	11 Oct 1899	5 Sep 1903
FISHER *	M. Johanson (PM).* Originally part of Benton Co., later became Lincoln Co.	19 Mar 1892	24 Sep 1942
FORKS of MARYS RIVER	John Lloyd (PM)	9 Apr 1850	9 Jan 1852
GLENBROOK	Ella Atkins (PM)	4 May 1898	17 Jan 1905
GRANGER	Levi Joy (PM)	25 Feb 1888	30 Sep 1903
HARRIS	George Palmer (PM); later changed to ELAM	25 Mar 1893	19 May 1898
HIPP	Efrann Anderson (PM)(Near Blodgett)	18 Apr 1922	15 Jan 1930
HOFFMAN	Nettie Hoffman (PM)	5 Aug 1897	23 Nov 1898
HOSKINS	Jonathan N. Hoffman (PM)	2 Mar 1891	31 Dec 1958
INAVALE	John Mitchell (PM)	2 Jul 1896	4 May 1905
JENNYOPOLIS	Richard Irwin (PM)	24 Mar 1852	18 Apr 1857
KINGS VALLEY	Roland Chambers (PM)	13 Apr 1855	13 Sep 1974
LIBERTY	James Gingles (PM)(Located just south of Wells/Wellsdale)	23 Apr 1856	30 May 1867
LOBSTER	George W. Peek (PM); moved to BOX in 1897	22 Mar 1883	20 Jul 1896
LUTGENS *	Albert Lutgens (PM). Est'd as DRIFT CREEK. Eight name changes, some back and forth, over 45 years. (WALDPORT, LUTGENS, STANFORD, NICE.)* Originally part of Benton Co., later became Lincoln Co.	17 May 1890 & 21 Jun 1897	29 Jul 1893 & 24 Apr 1917
MARYSVILLE	Est'd as AVERY'S; changed to MARYSVILLE, then to CORVALLIS	9 Sep 1850	18 Feb 1854
MONROE	Est'd as STARR'S POINT	2 Feb 1874	
NEWPORT *	Sam Case (PM)* Originally part of Benton Co., later became Lincoln Co.	2 Jul 1868	
NEWTON *	E. A. Abbey (PM); changed to ELK CITY* Originally part of Benton Co., later became Lincoln Co.	12 Jul 1868	23 Nov 1888
NICE *	Nora L. Strake (PM)Est'd as DRIFT CREEK. Eight name changes, some back and forth, over 45 years. (WALDPORT, LUTGENS, STANFORD, NICE.)* Originally part of Benton Co., later became Lincoln Co.	24 Apr 1917	15 Nov 1919
OCEAN VIEW *	George M. Starr (PM). Changed to Yachats.* Originally part of Benton Co., later became Lincoln Co.	5 Nov 1887	13 Oct 1916

* Note: Lincoln County was formed from parts of Benton and Polk Counties on 20 Feb 1893.

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Benton County Post Offices, continued

NAME	NOTATIONS	FIRST ESTABLISHED	DISCONTINUED (or name change)
ONA *	* Originally part of Benton Co., later became Lincoln Co.	17 Apr 1890	31 Aug 1920
ONEATTA *	* Originally part of Benton Co., later became Lincoln Co.	11 May 1876	30 Sep 1879
PALMER	Lottie Palmer (PM). Post office was short-lived; order probably rescinded.	18 Apr 1891	21 Jun 1891
PEAK	Virginia Davidson (PM)	11 Oct 1899	15 Oct 1917
PHILOMATH	John S. Shipley (PM)	14 Jul 1868	
PIONEER CITY *	George Kellogg (PM). Post office was short-lived; order probably rescinded. * Originally part of Benton Co., later became Lincoln Co.	2 Juul 1868	10 Aug 1868
RICKARD	Robert S. Brown (PM)	28 Apr 1879	5 Oct 1880
SOAP CREEK	David D. Davis (PM); changed to TAMPICO.	4 Nov 1854	3 Dec 1854
STANFORD *	W.C. Shepard (PM). Est'd as DRIFT CREEK. Eight name changes, some back and forth, over 45 years. (WALDPORT, LUTGENS, STANFORD, NICE.)* Originally part of Benton Co., later became Lincoln Co.	29 Jul 1893	21 Jul 1897
STARR'S POINT	Samuel F. Starr (PM); changed to MONROE	22 Apr 1852	2 Feb 1874
STATESMAN **	I.E. Gleason (PM)** No source given for this information; unable to verify.	18 Feb 1884	4 Sep 1884
SUMMIT		14 Jul 1868	Jan 1961
TAMPICO	William S. Crouch (PM); formerly SOAP CREEK	3 Dec 1854	3 Nov 1860
TIDEWATER *	Thomas Russell (PM)* Originally part of Benton Co., later became Lincoln Co.	9 Apr 1878	
WELLS	James Gingles (PM); also known as WELLSDALE.	24 Feb 1880	10 Feb 1936
WESLEY	Wesley Keeton (PM); located on Benton/Lincoln county line	17 Sep 1900	14 Oct 1903
WREN	Jasper Newton (PM)	12 Jul 1887	1968

* Note: Lincoln County was formed from parts of Benton and Polk Counties on 20 Feb 1893.

Additional online sources consulted:
Oregon Geographic Names, compiled by Lewis A. McArthur.
https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Oregon_Geographic_Names_(1952)

Local History in the Special Collections and Archives Research Center: Benton County
https://guides.library.oregonstate.edu/localhistory/benton

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Benton County Post Offices, continued













Images courtesy
Benton County Historical Society
2013-096.0001.01-48



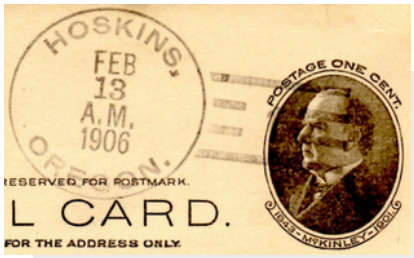




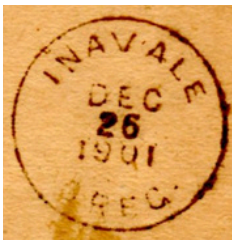




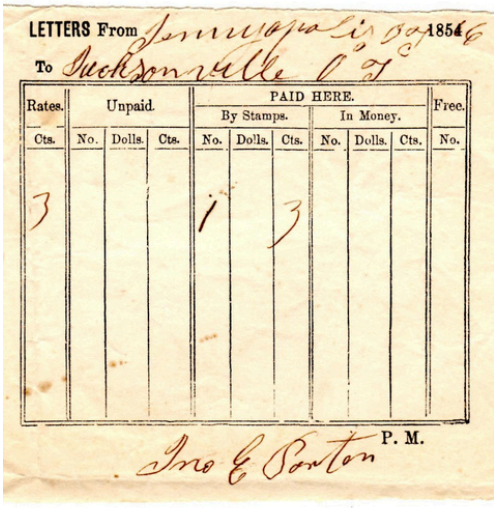












Philomath Postmasters, by Linda Green Olsen



George & Mabel Cummings

If you received your mail through the Philomath Post Office in the early 1920s through 1945, you probably knew George and Mabel (Green) Cummings.

My Aunt Mabel began her career as a clerk in the Philomath Post Office in 1919 at the age of 22. Uncle George was the postmaster from 1930 to 1935 when President Herbert Hoover, a Republican, was in office. Then Aunt Mabel became the assistant postmaster and eventually postmaster from 1935 to 1945 under President Franklin D. Roosevelt, a Democrat. Back then, the postmasters' political party had to match the political party of the current president in office.

The post office work was very exacting. Patrons expected their mail to be delivered on time and mistakes were not looked upon kindly.

Mail was delivered to the post office at a regular time each day. Outgoing, bagged mail had to be ready or it would have to wait for the next delivery and pick up time.

Mail was carried by passenger train west and east. First, it traveled east to Corvallis around two o'clock, then it came back and traveled west to the coast. All the mail was hand canceled and transported by passenger stages and freight trucks three times a day each way.

Besides organizing the incoming and outgoing mail, the post office clerks sold a variety of postage stamps, and ration stamps during World War II. Aunt Mabel remembered selling thousands of dollars worth of money orders and bonds during WWII. Children bought savings stamps. With four or five savings stamps, they could buy a bond. Other stamps Mabel sold for $1 were Game Bird stamps that were actually licenses that looked like a postage stamp. Another memorable event she recalled was the time President Roosevelt gave everyone the day off to celebrate the end of the war.

Most of the people who came into the post office were friendly and polite and a pleasure to serve. Some people, however, were suspicious if there had ever been an error made in delivery of their mail. Handling the money and accounting for it accurately was a huge responsibility and Mabel prided herself on never losing a penny while in charge of the post office. The only time there was a mishap was the time she walked into the middle of a bank hold-up in Philomath with $50 of postal funds in a sack ready for deposit. This was January 4, 1933. The postal funds were stolen along with the money from the bank. The robbers were later caught and brought to justice. The whole story of the bank robbery can be read in the newspaper link below.


Weather: Cloudy

Eugene Register-Guard

LANE COUNTY'S HOME NEWSPAPER

Home Edition

EUGENE, OREGON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1933.

PHILOMATH BANK ROBBED OF $1500

https://oregonnews.uoregon.edu/lccn/sn85042472/1933-01-04/ed-1/seq-1/


Bloodhounds Put on Trail of Bank Bandits


PHILOMATH BANK ROBBERS IN JAIL

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Philomath Post Office, continued

Mabel resigned from the post office in 1945 due to recurring arthritic knee problems. During retirement, she kept busy with church activities and numerous hobbies. She always enjoyed collectibles and loved antiques and family memorabilia. She wrote brief anecdotes about events in her life and little snippets of what life was like as she grew up. She left a priceless legacy of family history and stories for which I will be forever grateful. ~ Linda Olsen

(Reprinted from BCGS Newsletter, June 2015)



"Last Day at Philomath P. O." Mabel Cummings, Retired, 1945

If any of you have an ancestor who worked as a postmaster, you may be able to find their service dates in digitized records. Unfortunately, this seems to be one collection that is not fully captured in FamilySearch. Ancestry has a collection titled, "U.S., Appointment of U.S. Postmasters, 1832-1971". If you do not have a subscription to Ancestry, you may be able to access the collection through the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library's account.

Linda was able to access some Philomath records while visiting the old Philomath Post Office at 1321 Main Street.

Benton (County) Oregon (State)

Philomath (Post Office)

Established

Discontinued

POSTMASTER	NOMINATED	CONFIRMED	RECESS OR ACTING	COMMISSION SIGNED AND MAILED	ASSUMED CHARGE	CAUSE AND DATE OF VACANCY	REMARKS
George W. Cummings		June 17, 1930				Com. Ex.	4th cl.
Mrs. Mabel Cummings	Jan. 28, 1935	July 11, 1935	appt'd Pro July 17, 1935	Aug. 7, 1935	Sept. 1, 1935	Com. Ex	
Mrs. Mabel M. Cummings	Jan. 10, 1940	Jan. 16, 1940	appt'd Pro. Jan. 20, 1940	Mar. 11, 1940	Apr. 1, 1940	Res. Vol.	
Mrs. Ruth P. Rickard					Oct. 1, 1945	Res.	
Mrs. Esther Mc. Nelly					Aug. 22, 1946		
Mrs. Esther Gellatly	name changed by marriage from Esther McNelly						5/14/47
Merle R. Brown	Jan. 30, 1948	June 15, 1948	appt'g Pres. June 16, 1948	June 16, 1948	Sept. 14, 1948	Rem.	
Elmer H. Taylor			Act PM. June 15, 1951		May 15, 1951		
Myrl A. Haygood			Act PM. Feb 19, 1952		Jan. 31, 1952		
Myrl A. Haygood	July 14, 1954	July 31, 1954	appt'd Pres. Aug. 2, 1954	Aug. 2, 1954	Sept. 30, 1954		

Oregon Place Names

The introduction section of "Oregon Geographic Names," 7th Edition, by McArthur & McArthur includes some interesting background information about the origins of geographic names in Oregon. The authors suggest these origins can be divided into six historical periods:

- **Aboriginal Indian Life:** Features original or adapted Native American names (e.g., Willamette, Tualatin, Alsea).
- **Exploration:** Marked by Spanish and English coastal names from maritime expeditions (Cape Blanco, Heceta Head) and English and French names from overland fur traders (Malheur, The Dalles).
- **Pioneer Period:** Defined by sentimental eastern U.S. city names (Portland), local settler names (Kiger Island, Kings Valley), and national political figures (Benton County).
- **Indian Wars and Mining Eras:** Characterized by military figures (Adair, Hoskins) and colorful, picturesque gold-rush terminology (Quartzville).
- **Homestead Era (1875–1925):** Filled with local family names and terms tied to farming, grazing, and land laws (Granger, Schoolhouse Creek).
- **Modern Period:** Consists of manufactured names, real estate marketing (Timberhill), and current efforts to replace outdated or disrespectful titles with appropriate historic or Native American names (Dunawi).

About 56% of all place names in Oregon fall into the "Biographic" category (based on the name of an individual or group). In some cases, the name may be "associated" with an individual who happened to live there (such as a postmaster), while in other cases the name was given to "commemorate" an individual.

Names that describe a physical characteristic (such as Triangle Lake) make up about 14% of Oregon place names.

The book includes headings for 6,252 Oregon place names, with an additional 2,679 names imbedded in the descriptions. Native American names account for 403 (6%) of the geographic headings. These names stem from various indigenous languages and jargons, broken down as follows:

- **Authentic Tribal Names:** Fewer than 100 are white approximations of names originally used by local tribes for specific geographic features.
    - **Chinook Jargon:** Many names were adopted by early settlers due to their pleasing sounds or appropriate meanings.
- **Imported or Arbitrary Names:** The remaining names originate from across North America, chosen by settlers either arbitrarily or because they sounded similar to local Native American names.

Family Memorabilia: More Mysteries in Grandma's Trunk

Last spring, I shared that I had inherited my maternal grandmother's trunk, complete with all its contents, including a framed photo of two-year old me. At our meeting in September, I shared some odd metal pieces about 3.5 inches long that I'd found in the trunk, and how I used Google Lens on my iPhone to identify what they were. (Live duck decoy tags, representing a practice that was outlawed in 1935. I still don't know why my grandmother kept them. To my knowledge, they were not duck hunters. It is possible she thought they might be useful for a different purpose.)



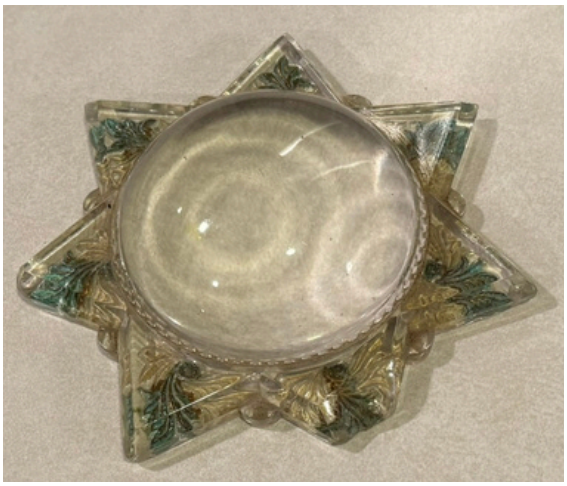
I don't know what I would do without the ability to search images. I had no idea how to describe the metal tags, so an image search was invaluable. And even then, I had to be sure it was matching up correctly. Some early search results were similar in appearance but did not match exactly.



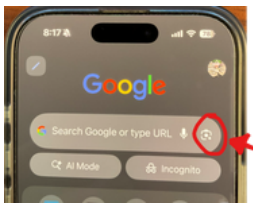
Another item in Grandma's trunk, a small piece of pottery, seemed mysterious at first. This one was ultimately easier to identify, though, due to some discernible text imprinted on the side: Battersea Round, E, Morgan England. It is a gold mining assay crucible, used to melt small ore samples in a furnace in order to test and measure precious metals, such as silver or gold. The Morgan Crucible Company was founded in 1856 in London, England. This crucible was most likely made in the late 1800's. It is in very good condition.

Finding this object in grandma's trunk made sense to me. My grandmother was born in 1887 in Cornucopia, Oregon, and her father had owned part interest in a gold mine there. The mine was never profitable but the trunk also included paperwork showing the taxes my great-grandfather had to pay on it.

I definitely needed help from Google Lens for this one as there were no maker's marks anywhere. This heavy glass piece is a goofus glass magnifier, also called a Victorian Mourning Star magnifier or mourning glass. These were typically produced around 1890-1920. One of its 7 star-points is damaged, so its value is more sentimental than antique.



The "mourning" connection refers to certain Victorian mourning traditions of displaying a small photograph or memento of a departed loved one under the magnifier dome in the center.



Have any of you identified any unusual objects using Google Lens on your smart phone or tablet? ~ LJC

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

If any of you are interested in starting or continuing a journey to discover your Alaska Native or Tribal Nations ancestry, the National Genealogical Society has collected a list of online resources to explore.

https://upfront.ngsgenealogy.org/2026/11/native-american-heritage-month.html

ROOTSTECH 2027

Registration for RootsTech 2027 is open. The event will be held March 4-6, 2027. About half of the nearly 300 currently planned sessions are available online. Online attendance is FREE but you must register in order to join the sessions. For those who want to attend in person, a 3-day pass purchased in advance is $99.

You can find more information about how to register for online or in-person at the link below:

https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/

In addition to a variety of topics centered outside the United States, as well as sessions related to data collection techniques and preservation, categories include such areas as Adoption, Artificial Intelligence, Census, DNA, Immigration, and Maps. There are at least 40 topic areas to help you determine which sessions may be right for you.

You can also view recordings of past sessions in the RootsTech video library:

https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/library/

2027 FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE: LAKESIDES & LEGACIES

The 49th annual conference sponsored by the National Genealogical Society will be held May 19-22, 2027, in Madison, Wisconsin. The 4-day conference will take place at the Monona Terrace Community and Conference Center, originally designed by Frank Lloyd Wright.

Registration opens in December. Meanwhile, you can check out their website for more details.

https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/

IRISH BIRTH RECORDS

Accredited Genealogists Ireland has published "Birth Registration in Ireland," a free resource sheet explaining the information recorded in Irish civil birth registrations and some of the quirks researchers may encounter, such as inaccurate birth dates and the use of variant names or names in Irish. This is the second guide in the organization's series on Irish civil registration.

https://accreditedgenealogists.ie/resources/

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NEW SWEDISH NEWSPAPER DATABASE

For genealogists with Swedish-American ancestry, there is a a new Swedish American Newspapers database with 348 newspapers and more than 1.3 million fully digitized, searchable pages. Find people, places, organizations, events, and details of community life. Check out the database at

https://swedishamericannews.mnhs.org/?a=p&p=home

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGS)

There are several SIGs available that are free to join, many of which are available via Zoom (or as hybrid online/in-person). The **Rogue Valley Genealogical Society** lists the following groups that are open to everyone. Note: first time attendees must register with the group in order to join their meetings.

https://rvgslibrary.org/Page.asp?NavID=244

Colonial America Interest Group meets 1:30 - 3:00 pm on the second Thursday of even-numbered months. Purpose: to discuss genealogy research in the original 13 colonies. Join facilitator Jeanne Hoadley and bring your stories and research experiences.

Family Tree Maker User Group meets 2:30 - 4:00 pm on the second Tuesday each month. Purpose: to discuss the "Family Tree Maker" program and share ideas with each other.

Genetic Genealogy Interest Group meets 10:30 am - Noon on the second Wednesday each month. Purpose: for everyone interested in genetic genealogy.

German Interest Group meets 11:00 am - Noon on the fourth Tuesday each month. Purpose: an emphasis on tools and tips for finding and researching German ancestors and also for Germans trying to find relatives who emigrated. Occasionally, the first part of the meeting may include a speaker. This will be followed with an unstructured time for questions and mutual support. Jon Wolfe, the facilitator for this group, is an American who lives in Germany.

Great Lakes Interest Group meets 1:30 - 3:00 pm on the second Wednesday of even-numbered months. Purpose: to discuss the original Northwest Territory: its diverse ethnic and political history, geography and migration routes, and research resources in the area.

Let's Talk Genealogy meets 1:30 - 3:00 pm on the third Wednesday of each month. Purpose: a roundtable discussion that begins with a focus topic and see where the conversation goes from there. Share your successes (and not-so-successes), stumbling blocks, and where your genealogical research has taken you. Need help with a brick wall? Not sure if you have a brick wall? Join us with a cup of coffee or glass of wine and "Let's Talk Genealogy".

The **Genealogical Forum of Oregon** (GFO) also offers some SIGs that are open to non-members. Check out their list here:

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

We need you!

Both the VP and Secretary positions are still open. Please consider ways you can be involved. Ask an officer if you have any questions about the appointed positions.

Officers

Dana Sanchez, President

<vacant>, Vice President

Lois Courtney, Treasurer

<vacant>, Secretary

*** REMINDERS ***

The "Family Recipes from our Ancestors" cookbook is available to download from our website. We are asking a $5 donation to the society for the cookbook.

Not yet a member?
See our website for how to join.



Appointed Positions

Membership: **Candy Koetz**
Programs: *** OPEN ***
Librarian: **Liza Wilson**
Audit: *** OPEN ***
Refreshments: **Pegge Gee**
Host: **Kathryn Moss**
Research: **Liza Wilson**
Book Sales: *** OPEN ***
Website: **George Davidson**
Facebook: **Payton James-Amberg**
Publicity: *** OPEN ***
Newsletter: **Laurie Corliss**

Thank you for supporting the Benton County Genealogical Society

BCGSOR@GMAIL.COM

BCGS-OREGON.ORG

Benton County Genealogical Society
PO Box 35
Philomath, OR 97370

Meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month, Sept-June
10:30-Noon

Second floor of the
Benton County Historical Museum
1101 Main St
Philomath, OR 97370

(Elevator available)

Benton County Genealogical Society

CAMP ADAIR

- Brief history of Camp Adair
- U.S. Navy Hospital
- Air Force Station
- Founding of Adair Village



Presented by
Adair Living History

Matt Helget

David Dickson

Dennis Emerson

ADAIR LIVING HISTORY
Preserving Our Past For The Future

Saturday Dec 12th **11:00 am - Noon** **FREE**

On the second floor at the Philomath Museum, 1101 Main St.

A wheelchair ramp is located at the northeast corner of the building.
Please do not bring food or drinks into the museum.