

COLUMBIA GORGE GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY

Tales & Trails

Embracing Wasco, Sherman, Hood River counties in Oregon - Klickitat and Skamania counties in Washington

October 2022 - January 2023

Volume 36 Number 4

Columbia Gorge Genealogical
Society
P.O. Box 1088
The Dalles, Oregon 97058
gorgenealogical@gmail.com

*"Searching back in time to discover,
preserve, and share our heritage."*



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*Annual dues is due
Jan. 1, 2023*



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Tales and Trails is published quarterly in January, April, July and October. Articles provide education and profiles of family genealogy and history in the Columbia Gorge area of Oregon and Washington. Submissions by the 20th of the previous month may be e-mailed to gorgenealogical@gmail.com
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NEWSLETTER & SOCIAL MEDIA/ BLOG

GEORGA FOSTER

RESEARCH

LORNA ELLIOT

SANDY BISSET

GEORGA FOSTER

PUBLICATIONS

FRED HENCHELL

WEBSITE

FRED & CYNTHIA HENCHELL

[HTTP://COMMUNITY.GORGE.NET/GENEALOGY/ABOUT.HTML](http://community.gorge.net/genealogy/about.html)

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

GEORGA FOSTER

Several times this past summer the subject of protecting the family history in either creating a written story or physically protecting it from natural disasters such as fire, flood and so on, has been come into conversation. It really is something to think seriously about if you want to pass on family stories and treasures to our next generations. I think we tend not to take on this daunting task because we have waited too long and we have not started soon enough to secure our family history treasures as we went along over the years of research to keep this in mind. Area historical museums are a great place to have a copy of you history as well. Locally, the library at the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center, The Hood River Museum, The Gorge Heritage Museum, The Presby House in Goldendale all have surname name files of hundreds of families containing stories, newspaper clippings, published news articles and genealogy information to be researched or viewed. Don't think your family has to be famous or have historical significance to be included in these files. Everyday families from their home counties are part of these historical archives for future generations to see. As a volunteer at the Discovery Center Library we have family researchers contact us frequently about ordinary people who lived in Wasco County asking for any information that would aid them in their research. Every family story is unique and every family is special. Consider writing and contributing to the historical files located in several gorge area repositories.

Georga

SOCIETY NEWS

On August 27, 2022 the Board of Directors met via Zoom to conduct the regular business meeting. It was voted to resume our regular annual dues for membership. The society had cancelled membership dues for the years 2021 and 2022 during Covid. Also it was agreed we continue virtual meetings through the fall and winter of 2023 due to bridge closure's and transportation difficulties for many members. Our membership consists of several from far away as Roosevelt and High Prairie, Washington also in the Portland area. Reaching our membership with quality presentations and programs is high priority for the society. The board also thanked Trisha Walker from the Columbia Gorge News for her newspaper article highlighting the 45 years of the society and giving a little glimpse as to what the society and genealogy is all about.

The Columbia Gorge Genealogical Society would like to thank everyone who has given donations and became a member for their support and interest in our society. Without you we could not continue to bring family history education to the gorge area. Thank YOU again!



Want more webinars and presentations?

FamilySearch has webinars and classes to guide you in every phase of your family history journey. There is also PDF handouts from past presentations. Click on over to the latest list of upcoming classes and instructional videos and live presentations at:

https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Family_History_Library_Classes_and_Webinars#Past_Webinars_.26_Handouts

Links and external resources -They are provided as a convenience and for informational purposes. They do not constitute an endorsement or approval of any product, service or opinion contained in the linked web site. Our reference to any specific commercial product, process, or service by trade name, trademark, service mark, manufacturer, or otherwise does not constitute or imply endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by us nor do we guarantee the accuracy, completeness, timeliness, or correct sequencing of information located at such addresses. CGGS does not profit monetarily in anyway to products, websites or suggested links published in this newsletter.

Timeless Tombstones ~ European Burial Customs Past and Present



Termoses Rock Graves, Turkey

Observing Queen Elizabeth II funeral and burial, it became very obvious that tradition and protocol has reigned in Europe for centuries. European funerals and burials are much more complex. To learn about Europe's traditions and Necrology practices , here is some sites and links to research and learn of death practices outside the United States.

Death Science - European Funerary Traditions Across Time and History

Roman's, Egyptians, middle ages and kings and queens, early Europe

<https://www.deathscience.org/post/european-funeral-traditions>

Comparative study on Christian and Pagen Burials - Gale University

This paper draws a chronological timeline of funeral traditions and constructions in two opposite poles of the European culture--Christian and pagan

https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/A338117875/AONE?u=oregon_oweb&sid=googleScholar&xid=6cc272ee

Native American Burial Traditions (Book)

A Good Goodbye: Funeral Planning for Those Who Don't Plan to Die by Gail Rubin, author of The Family Plot Blog <https://agoodgoodbye.com/religious-traditions/native-american-funeral-traditions/>

Funeral Guide - Native Customs

<https://www.funeralguide.co.uk/blog/death-around-world-native-american-beliefs>

Medieval Dark Ages Burial Practices

<https://www.medievalists.net/2021/01/burial-practices-early-medieval-europe/>

Funeral and Burial Rituals From Around The World

<https://www.everplans.com/articles/funeral-burial-rituals-from-around-the-world>

Famous Animal Cemeteries Around the World

<https://www.mentalfloss.com/article/501225/12-fascinating-pet-cemeteries-around-world>

The Smithsonian Magazine - Egyptian Customs of Pet Burial

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/ancient-egyptians-took-good-care-their-pets-180977172/>



Have a timeless tombstone you would like to share?
Send your photos and story to gorgegenealogical@gmail.com

Turn old laptops into Chromebooks -FREE ChromebookOS Flex

From Dick Eastman - July 18, 2022

Do you have an old Windows or Macintosh system that you have since replaced? For instance, how about that older computer that is now simply sitting in a closet gathering dust? Here's a suggestion: simply convert it to a Chromebook. I say "simply" because that is what it is: a very simple conversion. All you need is the old computer plus a flashdrive (that is only used during the conversion).

This works well especially if the older, no-longer-used computer is a laptop. However, the conversion also works well for desktop systems. You can then use the newly-converted system as a traveling laptop (assuming it is a laptop) or as a second system for use at home or at the vacation cottage or for a gift to a non-computer-literate senior citizen or to an adolescent or for most any reason you might want a second (or third or fourth or ???) computer. Best of all, it is FREE (if you already have an older, working computer).

Want to spend an hour or so breathing new life and useful productivity into an old and no-longer-used laptop or desktop? To learn more, go to <https://chromeenterprise.google/os/chromeosflex/>.



Native American Research at Access Genealogy

<https://accessgenealogy.com/native-american>

Access Genealogy website specialty is Native American genealogy and research.

Access Genealogy - "An extensive cross reference to our tribal pages on AccessGenealogy. What was initially a large exhaustive list of resources found at AccessGenealogy for each tribe in the United States is being converted into a cross reference for the tribal pages themselves. The list of resources for each tribe being now found on the tribal page. In this way, we can concentrate on providing more obscure tribal spellings while still directing you to the appropriate tribal page. On the tribal pages you will find a description of the tribe, villages which the tribe was known to reside, gens and clans, culture, religion, as well as references to other works found on our website. This is a large work in progress, and you'll see much movement of information in the coming months from these pages to their specific tribal page. Still use this as a cross reference when you get that tribal spelling you're unsure of".



Family History Daily

Have European Ancestors? Family History Daily offers a list of 30 FREE sites for research.

<https://familyhistorydaily.com/free-genealogy-resources/european-ancestry-free-genealogy-sites/>

Family History Daily also offers courses in Genealogy and family history research. Lessons are nonacademic and built for family history hobbyists who want to improve their online research skills in an informal manner. They are self-paced and self-directed so there are no time limits or required attendance times.

<https://www.learnfamilyhistory.com/>

5 overlooked resources for Eastern European genealogy by Lisa Alzo

Read Lisa's strategy for finding your Eastern European ancestors on Germanology Unlocked

<https://germanologyunlocked.com/5-overlooked-resources-for-eastern-european-genealogy-research/>

A Spotlight on the William G. Dick Research Library

The William G. Dick Library is located inside the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center in The Dalles, Oregon. Admission to the library does **not** require a Museum admission.

The library contains a large collection of genealogical, archeological and historical materials not only covering the gorge area but possesses copies of the **Journals of Lewis and Clark**, the **Hubert Bancroft Collection**, **Oregon Historical Society Quarterly**, **Captain A. Leppaluoto Inland Navigation Collection**, **Sally Donovan Landmarks Collection** and over 2 thousand volumes of culture, history and educational materials and collections of local historians including **Anita Drake's Genealogy Collection** and the **Jerry Tanquist Railroad** research collection. The library also has recorded oral history interviews of friends of Ernie Kuck by Marilyn Erickson and video collection including the Last Days of Celilo by Fritz Cramer and Jim Beer and many others. Vertical files contain many area topics and family surname entries and genealogical information. The library is open by appointment. Presently, Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:00 to 2:00. Please contact the museum desk to see if a volunteer is available. You may email the library for information or to set up an appointment at Library@gorgediscovery.org.



For the convenience of the researcher the library has wireless internet and a commuter kiosk. Copies of materials are available for a small fee. Research queries are welcome.



<https://www.gorgediscovery.org/william-dick-library/>

5000 Discovery Drive
The Dalles, Oregon 97058
1-541-296-8600 Ex. 219

Historically Speaking - Preservation

"Every community holds valuable pieces of the past. These historic elements are responsible for keeping a community's collective heritage part of its present. The process of historic preservation helps to ensure that these ties remain strong and that those resources remain intact for the enjoyment of future generations."

This quote is from an article published by the University of Delaware Complete Communities website. This description of **PRESERVATION** couldn't be more true not only to objects and places but our families and living history of past and present. Below is an article from Dick Eastman's newsletter on July 19, 2022 where he speaks of preservation.

"It seems that every two or three months, I publish sad news about important records and artifacts being lost forever. Sometimes fires damage or destroy library or archive buildings and all the contents: including records, books, family histories, cemetery records, plat maps, military uniforms, and more. In other articles, I have written about similar losses caused by floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, burst water pipes, leaky roofs, and even about buildings collapsing. Genealogists, historians, art lovers, and others often lose irreplaceable items.

With a little bit of planning, the worst of these tragedies could be averted or at least minimized. I would suggest that copies be made of everything that is valuable to today's genealogists and historians as well as to future generations. Items such as church records, school yearbooks, family histories, wartime scrapbooks, cemetery records, and plat maps should be scanned NOW and have multiple copies stored in different locations. No single future fire or flood or other disaster should ever be able to destroy the only copy of such treasures. I would not limit the digitization efforts to paper documents and photographs. I would suggest that museums also should be digitizing high-resolution pictures of paintings, sculptures, handicrafts, military uniforms, and much, much more.

Of course, looking at a digital image is never as satisfying as holding the original item in your hands. Digitizing is not a perfect solution for all purposes. Nonetheless, using a digital image is still much better than holding a few charred remnants of a valuable document or a priceless painting. Of course, once an item has been digitized, it is easily shared, at the organization's discretion. Such images can be shared with distant patrons who may never have the opportunity to visit in person. Access can be made free or kept behind a "pay wall," at the option of the organization. Many museums and libraries find they now serve many more patrons online than they could ever accommodate in person. Creating high-resolution digital images of art objects is also valuable when filing a claim with an insurance company. Digitizing documents is easy. Making true copies of statues, military uniforms, farm machinery, and other physical objects is more or less impossible. Even so, I would suggest that high-resolution, color pictures of these items should be digitized and stored off-site. That's an imperfect solution, of course, but is still better than looking at a mass of molten metal or burnt cloth and trying to imagine what it used to be.

I have read numerous articles about various art museums' efforts to digitize the great art treasures of the world. A digital copy will never approach the experience of standing in front of a painting or a sculpture created by one of the Old Masters, but a digital image is still a better substitute than a destroyed or stolen painting or statue. A digital image still provides at least some value to art students and aficionados worldwide.

I don't think anyone would ever recommend making a single copy of documents on microfilm or even on computer disks and then storing that single copy in the same building with the collection. By digitizing the images, multiple copies can be made and easily stored in many locations at minimal expense. If that is done, the odds of any one disaster having an impact on future research are minimized. Of course, those copies need to be updated every few years, copied to new storage media as the technology changes. Luckily, this is easy to do, too. Through occasional "data maintenance," scanned images of our treasures can be preserved for centuries.

Do you belong to a historical society, a genealogical society, a library, or some other organization that holds a unique and valuable collection? If so, what is that organization doing to ensure that their priceless possessions will be available for examination by future generations?"

Dick Eastman

<https://www.eogn.com.wildapricot.org/page-18080/12854005>



Coming March 2-4 2023

Genealogical Forum of Oregon



GFO GENTalk

Meyers Gazetteer
A Power Tool for German Research

Join us in learning to use the online Meyers Gazetteer to find information about places and their associated jurisdictions in the German Empire.

October 15
2:30 p.m. Pacific

Presented by Gina Palmer, AG®

Free Registration
gfo.org/gentalk

The poster features a grid of nine small images showing various German towns, castles, and landscapes.

GFO offers free monthly GenTalk webinars. The schedule can be found on their Gentalk webpage. These webinars are open to the public and are free. <https://gfo.org/learn/gen-talks.html>

Free websites and research tools you can't live without

Genealogy research is a time consuming and sometimes exhausting experience. Here are some tools to make the journey a little easier.

- **Sedja** - PDF suite that converts, merges, splits, compresses and organizes PDF files. More functions included. <https://www.sejda.com/>
- **LibreOffice** - Complete office suite that does everything Office does and its compatible with office documents. <https://www.libreoffice.org/>
- **Foxit** PDF reader -Like Adobe Reader <https://www.foxit.com/>
- **Linkpendium** - Linkpendium is a 10,000,000+ resource directory to everything on the Web about families worldwide and genealogically-relevant information about U.S. states and counties. We cover both free and subscription sites, with a strong emphasis upon free resources provided by libraries, other government agencies, genealogical and historical societies, and individuals. <http://www.linkpendium.com/>
- **Genuki**- provides a virtual reference library of genealogical information of particular relevance to the UK and Ireland. It is a non-commercial service, maintained by a charitable trust and a group of volunteers. <https://www.genuki.org.uk/>
- **Basten** Photo Restoration - Online photo repair in one click. https://app.baseten.co/apps/VqKbxPo/operator_views/a0z4aqN
- **The Commons** - Flickr - Public, restriction free photo collection in partnership with the Library of Congress. <https://www.flickr.com/commons>
- **The Italian Group** - not only for Italians, 16 million entries of vital records, naturalization and other genealogical record. <https://www.italiangen.org/databases/>

The Dalles Bridge Update

Since last summer crews have been working on replacing the bridge deck on U.S. 197 over the Columbia River, but unexpected delays have extended the project timeline. We need more weekend closures to complete this project, and they will resume on Thursday September 29. When they resume, weekend closures will be Thursday nights from 8 p.m. through Monday mornings at 6 a.m.,

Oregon Genealogy

Oregon Genealogy Network

Oregon Genealogy Network on Facebook now has over 600 members and growing. It is a vital resource for your genealogy questions and is a very informative source for researching. The network consists of amateur as well as researchers well versed in helping you answer your family history questions.

Many members are members of other genealogy and history groups around the state.

Join today!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/190997804291208/>

Oregon History and Genealogy

Oregon Historical Society
1200 SW Park Ave.
Portland, Oregon
503.222.1741

Genealogical Forum Of Oregon

Oregon's premier genealogy library!
Library, Book Store, classes and more!
Online classes and events
<https://gfo.org/who-we-are/calendar.html>

Oregon Genealogical Society

Oregon Genealogical Society, Inc.
955 Oak Alley
Eugene, Oregon 97401
<https://oregongs.org/>
(541) 345-0399

OrGenWeb

Or GenWeb is hosted by USGenWeb and is part of a volunteer group of researchers and genealogists from each state providing free online information to the genealogy community.
Started over 20 years ago, USGenWeb has grown into one of the largest free genealogy sites on the internet.
<http://www.orgenweb.org/index.html>

Washington Genealogy

Washington Genealogy Network

Washington Genealogy Network on Facebook now has over 550 members and growing. Like its sister state of Oregon, this site provides researchers a way to find information and answers to your research questions.

Many members are members of other genealogy and history groups around the state of Washington.

Join Today!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/222494824442130/>

Yakima Valley Genealogical Society
1901 S. 12th Avenue
Union Gap, Washington 98903-1256

Washington State Genealogical Society
1901 S. 12th Avenue
Union Gap, Washington 98903-1256

Local Historical Resources

Wasco County Historical Society
300 W. 13th St.
The Dalles, Oregon 97058
541-296-1867

Wasco County Original Courthouse
410 W. 2nd Place
The Dalles, Oregon 97058
541.296.4798

Wasco County Pioneer Association
vasallee@gmail.com
541.296.4043

Ft Dalles Historical Museum
500 W. 15th and Garrison St.
The Dalles, Oregon 97058
541.296.5457

Hood River Historical Society
300E Port Marina Drive
Hood River, Oregon 97031
info@hoodriverhistorymuseum.org
541.386.6772

Mid-Columbia Genealogical Resources

Family History Centers

The Dalles FHC
1815 E. 15th St.
The Dalles, Oregon 97058

Goldendale FHC
N. Columbus Ave & McLinley
P.O. Box 109
Goldendales, Wa. 98620

Stevenson FHC
650 NW Gropper Rd.
Stevenson, Wa. 98648

Hood River FHC
1825 May St.
Hood River, Oregon
97031
541.806.0372

Libraries

The Dalles Wasco County
722 Court St.
The Dalles, Or. 97058
541.296.2815

William G. Dick Library
5000 Discovery Drive
The Dalles, Or. 97058
541.296.8600 EX. 219

Hood River County Library
502 State St.
Hood River, Or. 97031
541.386.2535

Ft. Vancouver Regional Libraries

Goldendale
131 West Burgen St.
Goldendale, Wa. 98620
509.773.4487

White Salmon Valley
5 Town and Country Square
Whire Salmon, Wa. 98672
509.0493.1132

Stevenson
120 NW Vanciouver Ave.
Stevenson, Wa. 98648
509.427.5471



Historical Resources In The Gorge

Fort Dalles Museum
W. 15th & Garrison St.
The Dalles, Or. 97058
541.296.4547

Columbia Gorge Discovery Center
5000 Discovery Drive
The Dalles, Or. 97058
541.296.8600

Wasco County Historical Society
300 W. 13th St.
The Dalles, Or. 97058
541.296.1867

Museum of Hood River
300 E. Port Marina Dr.
Hood River, Or. 97031
541.386.6722

Gorge Heritage Museum
202 E. Humbolt
Bingen, Wa. 98605
509.493.3228

Dufur Historical Society
P.O. Box 462
Dufur, Or. 97021

Klickitat County Historical Society
127 W. Broadway
Goldendale, Wa. 98620
509.77.4303

Presby Museum
127 W. Broadway
Goldendale, Wa. 98620
509.773.4303

Sherman County Historical society
200 Dewey St.
Moro, Or. 97039
541.565.3232

Maryhill Museum
35 Maryhill Museum Drive,
Goldendale, Wa. 98620

Original Wasco County Courthouse
PO Box 839
410 West 2nd Place
The Dalles, Oregon 97058252
(541) 296-4798

Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center
990 SW Rock Creek Dr.
Stevenson, Wa. 988648

Calendar This!

Upcoming Programs

(Subject to change)

All programs and lectures are scheduled for ZOOM. Please check the blog for a complete schedule of events and more information.

<https://gorgegen.blogspot.com/>



October - Charles Metsker - Georga Foster

November- Family Stories - Linda Colton

December - Merry Christmas

Did you have a Metsker in the jockey box?

Charles Frederick Metsker
The Map Man

Join us for a virtual Zoom presentation about one of the Northwest's most eminent cartographers. Metsker maps are still used today due to their sacrifice commitment to preserving historical record.

October 15, 2022
11:00am

Columbia Gorge Genealogical Society



CGGS is a member!
Washington State
Genealogical Society



CGGS is a member!
Genealogical
Forum of Oregon

Columbia Gorge Genealogical Society

*Resources For Composing
Your Family Story*

Presented by Linda Colton

November 5, 2022
11:00 am

CASCADIA

GRAPHICS & PUBLISHING, LLC
Cynthia Henchell

OFFICE
950 high prairie road
lytle, washington 98635-9434

VOICE
509 637 5186
509 365 5283 (att)

FAX
1 866 806 8649

EMAIL
henchell@cascadiagraphics.com

WEB
www.cascadiagraphics.com

If you have a program or lecture you would like to present or know of someone that does, please contact us. We always welcome ideas!

==Clip ==

Please join us in our learning and our Fun!
Individual: \$15.00 - Family: \$20.00 per Year

Name Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Clip and mail to: CGGS, P.O. Box 1088, The Dalles, Or. 97058



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P. O. Box 1088
The Dalles, Or. 97058