



THE OREGON
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Contact: Oregon Historical Society - Rachel Randles, 503.306.5221, Rachel.Randles@OHS.org
APH/Veterans interview - Joan Hamilton, JHami828@aol.com

OHS Event Teaches Families to Preserve Stories

Association of Personal Historians will also conduct free interviews of war veterans

Portland, OR – September 2, 2011 – Children love to hear old family stories, and this Grandparents Day weekend, the Oregon Historical Society will host a forum on how to preserve those stories for future generations. “*Personal History & Genealogy: Celebrating Family*” will present a wide range of ideas for recording life stories and researching family history. It will be held at the downtown Oregon Historical Society (OHS) on Saturday, September 10, from 11 am to 3 pm.

The event combines the perspectives of three related organizations: OHS, the Association of Personal Historians (APH), and the Genealogy Forum of Oregon. With regular museum admission, now free for Multnomah County residents, visitors can browse books, audio, video and artwork recounting personal and family histories, hear educational lectures, tour the OHS Research Library and chat with expert personal historians and genealogists. For full event information visit www.personalhistorypdx.wordpress.com.

“Personal history and genealogy are two sides of the same coin,” explained APH Portland chapter co-coordinator Gloria Nussbaum. “Many people consider their family tree a treasured heirloom. Now we’re starting to realize our elders’ life stories are just as significant.”

Historical Society archivists will assist with family research and give free tours of the research library at 11:30 am and 12:30 pm.

As a special feature, veterans of any war or conflict will be invited to record their military experiences for inclusion in the Library of Congress Veterans History Project (www.loc.gov/vets). Professional personal historians will conduct private 30- to 45-minute interviews, free of charge. The resulting audio recordings will be donated to the Library of Congress and mailed to participating veterans.

Pre-registered veterans receive free OHS admission and a guaranteed interview time. Walk-ins will be accepted on a space-available basis. To pre-register or for more information, contact Joan E. Hamilton at JHami828@aol.com or call APH at (503) 560-1945.

About the Association of Personal Historians

The Association of Personal Historians is a not-for-profit international trade association. Founded in 1995, the association supports professional personal historians as they work with individuals, organizations, and communities to preserve their histories, memories, and life stories. Many local members are available for speaking and workshops. Learn more at www.personalhistorians.org.

About the Oregon Historical Society

The Oregon Historical Society has served since 1898 as Oregon's primary research collection and museum about Oregon history. OHS has an extensive collection of historical pieces, including over 85,000 artifacts and 3 million photographs and films. It safeguards and presents Oregon's history through a museum, research library, traveling exhibits, school programs and website content. Visit www.ohs.org for more information.

About the Genealogy Forum of Oregon

The Genealogy Forum of Oregon has one of the largest independent genealogy libraries on the West Coast. Besides its Oregon collection, it has regional, national, and worldwide resources. Research assistants can give tours, answer questions, and assist with research. For more information, call (503) 963-1932 or visit www.gfo.org.

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