

THE FAMILY SNOOP

MERCED COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME 39, No. 2

MARCH/APRIL 2021

March 2021 Meeting



“Medical Genealogy”

By
Glenda
Lloyd

1:00 p.m. Saturday

March 20, 2021

Online Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 655 620 3145 - Password: 2100

Merced County Genealogical Society

April 2021 Meeting



**Avoiding
Sneaky Pete:
Protecting
Your
Genealogical
Privacy**

**By
Claire
Stevens**

1:00 p.m. Saturday

April 17, 2021

Online Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 655 620 3145 - Password: 2100

Zoom Meeting for March 20, 2021 Merced County Genealogical Society

Time: 1:00 PM Pacific Time

(Please note: the link for Zoom is hyperlinked. You may click on it, find where to join a meeting, and enter the Meeting ID and Passcode below.)

Or,

To join Zoom Meeting, watch your email for the meeting reminder which will contain the link.

You might also find it by setting up a Zoom account (free accounts are available at <http://www.zoom.us>). On the day and time of the meeting, click on your Zoom **desktop icon**. When the window pops up, click on **Join a Meeting**. In the next window, enter the **meeting ID**, shown below, and click **Join**. Enter the **meeting password** as shown below.

Meeting ID: 655 620 3145

Password: 2100

One tap mobile
+16699006833,,6556203145#

Dial by phone for audio only:
+1 669 900 6833, then enter 655 620 3145#, then enter # again (We shared a short Zoom tutorial in our May-June 2020 newsletter.)

Meeting Attendance & Members

January by Zoom: Members 12 + 2 Guests totaling 14

February by Zoom: Members 14 + 2 Guests totaling 16

Total Members: 26 active, 51 inactive

New members: NONE

Speaking of members, it is that time of year again to pay your annual dues. Please look for the Membership Application on a later page in the newsletter.

Upcoming Meetings

Date	Speaker and Topic
3/20/2021	"Medical Genealogy" - Glenda Lloyd
4/17/2021	"Avoiding Sneaky Pete: Protecting Your Genealogy Privacy" by Claire Stevens
5/15/2021	"The Geography of American Genealogy" by Glen Holstein
	Please share the zoom link and
	invite friends and neighbors

Beginner's Lesson in January

By Pamela Brigham

Pamela Brigham is a member of the Silicon Valley Computer Genealogy Group, and has been using technology to advance her research into her family's past. She believes in using technology as a tool to help her break through brick walls and to document her genealogy. Pamela has been in the technology industry for many years and has applied that knowledge effectively to document her family's past. She enjoys teaching classes in genealogy, and received a Certificate in Genealogy from Boston University.



The following are notes and tips from Pamela Brigham's January presentation for beginning genealogists:

WHERE TO START

Start with you and what you know

- Start a tree on a pedigree chart or database program with you as the starting point
- Work backwards in time
- Add what you know about you, your parents, your grandparents and other family members. Remember siblings.

FAMILY STORIES

- Interview immediate family
- Document what they know
- Research to confirm what they told you (memories can get shaky on details over time)

Create a tree – choose a method that works for you.

- Document each generation

Beginning mistakes:

- Collecting ancestors - are all of them yours?

Adding branches/people without verification

- Same names
 - How many John Smiths are there?
 - Getting confused with name variations.

Example: Beth, Betsy, Liz, Liza are all nicknames for Elizabeth

- Check your dates
 - Did a mother die before her child was born?
 - How old was she when she got pregnant?

DOCUMENT EVERYTHING

- Cite your sources
 - How did you find this?
 - Can someone else find this?
- Images of documents
 - Use for reference later
 - Use for storytelling
- Collecting ancestors
 - Research your ancestors, not someone else's
 - Be careful about accepting others research online

TIPS AND TRICKS

- Examine documents carefully
 - Are there other relatives on that page?
 - Did they travel with a relative?
 - Did they travel with the same people?
 - Check your ancestors' friends, associates and neighbors. Warning: Sometimes associated records are far enough removed that they do not provide adequate documentation for your ancestor. You need to decide what is valid.
- Documents of your sources – photos of the item and where it's located
 - You will come back to it later
 - Helps when reviewing where you're at with research
- Occasionally take a break from researching one ancestor/line and review someone else – especially when you are getting frustrated
- Try searching on keywords rather than a name

- Put your ancestors in historical/geographical context

MANY SOURCES – MANY ONLINE, MANY NOT

- U.S. Federal Census Records
- Birth, Marriage, Death Records
- Newspapers
- City Directories
- Maps
- Tax Records
- Probate Records
- Military Records
- Immigration Records
- Occupational Records

--- Start with FamilySearch – they do have partnerships to paid sites

--- When you need to search a paid site, consider getting a subscription for a month. Or, sign up for a trial period, gather your records ahead of time, search for them, then cancel before trial period ends.

Issues to watch for:

- Problem with web links – years later, they might no longer work.
- When looking for a specific records, if don't have, keep going back. It might turn up later.



GENEALOGY SOFTWARE

- Use what works better for you.
 - Online trees –
 - Join more than one research company, they will send emails with “hints.”
 - Consider public vs. private issues
 - Personal Software
 - Use personal database program to have personal “clean” copy of what is accurate on our family tree.
- All online family trees have issues with inaccuracy. Know where your information is back-upped.

--- When choosing a database program, consider whether or not it has mobility – can you put a mobile app on cellphone if that is all can bring into a repository. (Legacy was recently purchased by My Heritage)

RESOURCES

- FamilySearch Wiki –
https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Main_Page
- FamilySearch classes in Learning Center (over 2,000 & free) –
https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Classes_in_the_Learning_Center
- Legacy Webinars –
<https://familytreewebinars.com/>
- Free Webinars –
- Southern California Genealogical Society –
<http://www.scgsgenealogy.com/>
- California Genealogy Society –
<https://californiaancestors.org>

MORE RESOURCES

Online:

- Ancestry – <https://ancestry.com>
- FamilySearch (free) – <https://familysearch.com>
- FindMyPast – <https://findmypast.com>
- MyHeritage – <https://myheritage.com>
- Newspapers
- <https://Newspapers.com>
- <https://Newspaperarchive.com>
- <https://Genealogybank.com>
- <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>
- Cyndi's List – <https://www.cyndislist.com/us/>



In Search of Maidens

By Kathryn Marshall

For our February presentation, “In Quest of Maidens,” we enjoyed a presentation by Kathryn Marshall on the topic of researching female lines. Kathryn Marshall served for fourteen years as a family history center director in Lodi. She is now serving with FamilySearch in the Research Wiki department making maps showing changes in boundaries.

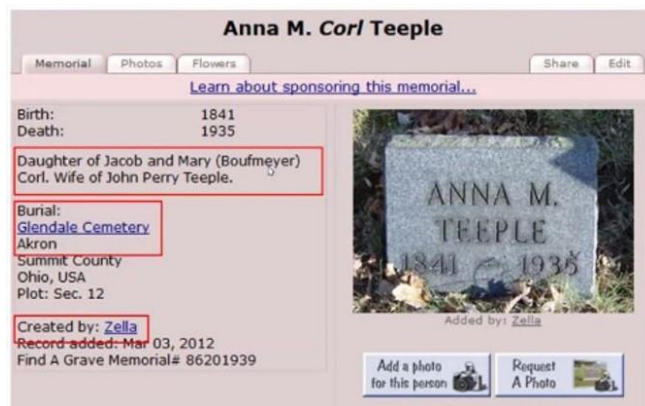


The following are from notes taken of her presentation:

- Culturally, mothers' names get obliterated by husband's name. She becomes Mrs. So-and-so.
- The situation is further aggravated by additional names changes due to remarriages.
- There are cultural differences on use of maiden names on legal documents. For example, in Mexico, women still used maiden names on local documents.
- Women had very few legal rights in the past; therefore, there were limited legal records that included their names.

HOW TO FIND RECORDS OF WOMEN

- Start by visiting the Research Wiki - Always go to “Records selection table” – It will tell by locality and time period which records have maiden names.
- Always look at original records (or digital copies of original records) instead of relying only on transcriptions. Sometimes, records are transcribed incorrectly.
- Search strategy: work backwards – use the relatives of a woman AND SEARCHES FOR HER RELATIVES to find a woman's name.



Records that often have maiden names of women:

- Death certs
- Marriage records of children
- Birth certificates
- Census
- Military records
- Immigration and naturalization records
- Newspapers – don't limit searches to the woman's names – look for her siblings, too.
- When people moved, particularly in the 1800s, if they were long-time residents- may times editors of newspapers where they moved to would be in touch with hometown where came from.

(The rest of my notes from this presentation will be included in the next newsletter.)

>> 2021 Membership Dues Are Now Payable <<

Merced County Genealogical Society

Membership Form

Print page, fill in your information and mail to:

Merced County Genealogical Society
PO Box 3061
Merced, CA 95344-1061

Name _____ Maiden Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Area Code & Phone _____

E-mail _____

The Family Snoop Newsletter delivered by [check one]: Mail _____ Email _____

___ Annual Individual Dues: \$20.00

___ Annual Student Dues: \$10.00

___ Annual Joint* Dues: \$30.00

___ Lifetime Individual Dues: \$200.00

___ Lifetime Joint* Dues: \$300.00

Note! Joint* members must reside at the same address.

Make check or money order payable to Merced County Genealogical Society.

Please print the surnames, locations, time periods, etc. you are researching.
We may include this information in an upcoming *The Family Snoop* Newsletter.

Surnames	Location	Times Period
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

MCGS Website: <http://sites.rootsweb.com/~camcgs/>

The Family Snoop is published bi-monthly. It is sent in .pdf format and in color to members who choose to receive it by email. Those who choose USPS Mail delivery will receive black and white copies several days later than email recipients. Back copies can be requested from Treasurer Sharon Darby and will be emailed in .pdf format. **Send items, articles, stories, etc., for the Mar/Apr 2021 issue by February 24 to robynechols ATgmail DOT com.**

(No July/August edition-check email or our website for July Zoom meeting details.)

Dues are payable in January for 2020

Dues are \$20 per year for an Individual or \$30 for a family living at the same address.

Merced County Library

Doris Cochran Research Room

Wednesday & Saturday: 1:00 pm-4:00 pm

We need volunteers to help keep it open!!

(When we open again)

PLEASE VOLUNTEER!

Merced County Genealogical Society

PO Box 3061

Merced, CA. 95344-1061

Officers 2020

President	Howard Smith	769-9304
Vice President	John Barnhart	384-3744
Secretary	Barbara Lindenberg	358-8062
Treasurer	Sharon Darby	631-7082
Membership	Margie Barnhart	384-3744
Hospitality	VACANT	
Past President	Stephanie McLeod	383-1009
Programs	Shari Stetson Michle Burroughs Susan Brower	
<i>The Family Snoop</i> Editor	Robyn Echols	769-6929

MCGS Website:

<http://sites.rootsweb.com/~camcgs/>

Family History Center

(Due to Covid-19 concerns, the Family History Center is temporarily closed.)

<https://www.familysearch.org/>

1080 E Yosemite Ave Merced. 722-1307

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday:

10:00 am-4:00 pm

7:00 pm-9:00 pm

Free access on their computers to Ancestry.com and other programs. Take along your flash drive to save and download. Volunteers are there to help you and microfilms can now be ordered online.

Merced County Library

<http://www.co.merced.ca.us/77/Library>

2100 O Street Merced 209-285-7642

Fax: 209-726-7912

(Currently closed, use online services and pick-up services starting 6/15/20)

Monday ~ Thursday: 10:00 am-6:00 pm

Friday – Saturday: 10:00 am-5:00 pm

Sunday - CLOSED

Merced County Courthouse Museum (closed)

<http://www.mercedmuseum.org/>

21st and N Streets

P. O. Box 3557

Merced, CA 95344

(currently closed)

Wednesday ~ Sunday: 1:00 pm-4:00 pm

Free admission

Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County

<http://www.cagenweb.com/stanislaus/>

Click on their newsletter to read online or download. Information about bus trips and programs offered throughout the year that may interest you.

Multi-Monthly Financial Report

Jan/Feb 2021

Income	70.00
Expenses	(221.70)
Checking Balance	\$4,532.80
Savings Account:	100.10
CD-2-Yr; matures on 5/20/21	16,717.62
Savings Balance	\$16,817.72
Total in Checking and Savings:	\$21,350.52