

THE FAMILY SNOOP

MERCED COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME 35, No. 1

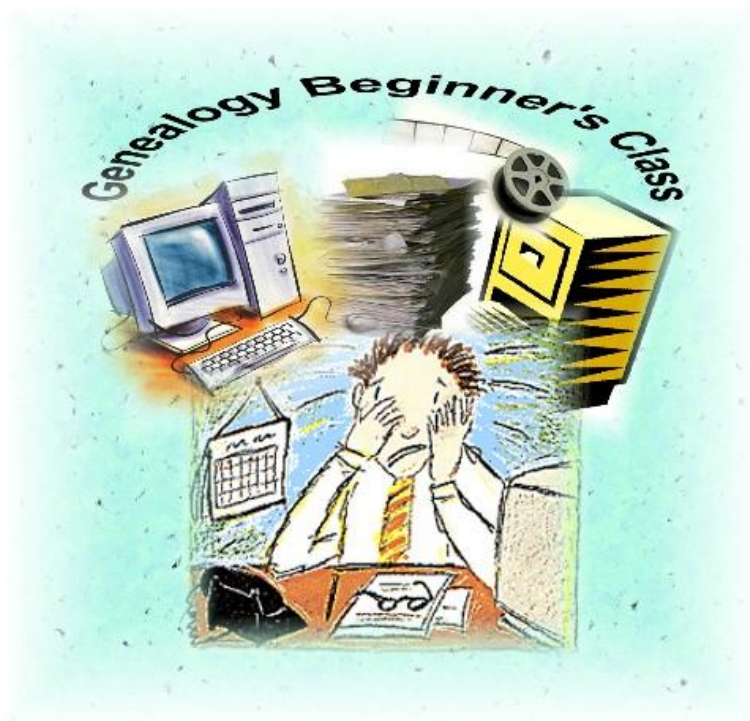
JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2017

January 2017 Meeting

Annual Beginners Training

Tips and training
On how to start
your family history

By our own
Programs
Committee



1:00 p.m. Saturday

January 21, 2017

Gracey Room, Merced County Library

We Have New Officers

In December we held our annual Christmas party and buffet luncheon.



We also elected a new slate of officers. They will be installed in January. Our new Merced County Genealogical Society officers are as follows:



President:	Wayne Wallace
President-elect: (vacant)	
Vice President:	Lois Jimenez
Treasurer:	Sharon Darby
Secretary:	Stephanie McLeod
Past President:	Greg Enriken
Membership:	Margie Barnhart
Hospitality:	Howard & Judy Smith



Publicity (appointed):	(open)
Programs:	Shari Stetson
(Appointed)	Michle Burroughs



Our new officers will be installed at the January meeting.



Robyn Echols will continue as the editor of *The Family Snoop*. The newsletter will be printed bi-monthly instead of ten times per year.

The Fun Genealogy Discoveries We Have Made Recently

For November, our members shared some of their latest finds and interesting nuggets of research techniques they have gained. Some will be discussed in greater detail either later in this issue or in another issue. Here is a brief summary of most of those who shared with us at the November meeting:

Shari Stetson spoke about estrays. An stray is an animal, such as cattle, which has escaped from its owner. While doing newspaper research, she came across an advertisement placed on December 7, 1847 regarding some strays her ancestor, William R. Dillon, her 3rd great-grandfather, was trying to return to their rightful owners. She found it on Genealogy Bank, a source she has searched before.

Shari's message to us all is, even if you have checked a repository, regularly revisit the site to see if they have added any new collections. You might find a tidbit on an ancestor that was not available a year or two before.



Wayne with WWI portrait of his father. The image behind him on the screen is the stray newspaper advertisement shared by Shari.

While visiting his home town, **Wayne**

Wallace found some World War 1 (Great War) portraits of his father. There was also a panoramic photo taken of his father's high school classmates feasting on watermelon. His relative had half of the photo. He had the other half. He now has copies of both, framed separately, but which put together show the full picture.

Another member (sorry, I didn't catch the name) also shared a story of an ancestor who died in a duel over a woman. His widow married one year and one day after his death. The reason: his will stipulated that for her to inherit she wasn't to marry for at least a year.

Sydna Wallace shared an 1840's letter. Her mother's uncle possessed six copies of it and gave her a copy.

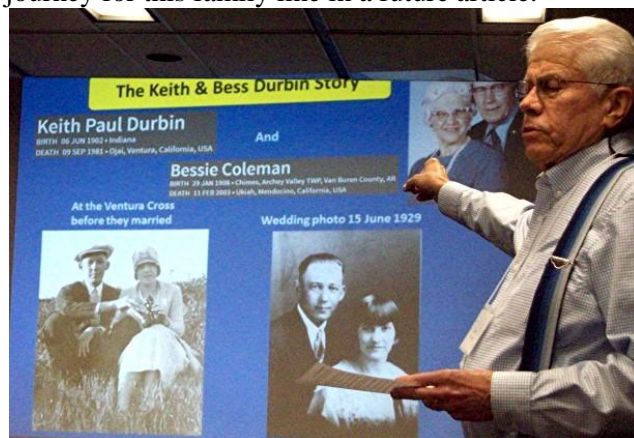
Anne Field shared a success she has had with her family history website. She encourages people to write to her if they have information or if she can help. She has a third great-grandfather who has been in both Manitoba, Canada and California. She has been looking for this connection for years. Someone who had the missing link connected with Anne through her website and provided the missing link.

Anne also shared her latest family history book she has made for her family. She also shared a book of maps for Jefferson County, Illinois which has been helpful in her family research.



Rosalie Heppner shared more of her quest to verify the ancestry of her father who was born in 1911 and adopted at birth. In July she shared her success with DNA which allowed her verify that she had indeed identified the family line from which he was descended. While researching back east, she was given a photograph of her biological great-grandfather.

We will do a feature article on her research journey for this family line in a future article.



Darel Scoggin shared a PowerPoint of his research success on one of his family lines, the Keith & Bess Durbin story, complete with some great family photographs. We will feature more details in a future newsletter article.

Stephanie McLeod shared some information on her Minnick line. The Muench family, with the "ch" having a "k" sound, were clerics to the pope in the 800's. The spelling of the family name was changed to Minnick when they came to America because that was how it sounded. She found information about this family on Wikipedia. We will feature more about this family in a separate article.

My apologies to any of you I missed or any errors reporting these stories you shared. Contact me, and we will feature corrected versions in the future.



Meeting Attendance

November Membership: Attendance Final Count: 18 Members + 2 Guests for a total of 20.

December Membership: Attendance Final Count: 18 Members + 2 Guests for a total of 20.

Number of new members: None

Total Members: 86 active

A few Genealogy Tools and Hints

by Darel Scoggin

19 Nov 2016

As my parents came from large family, I am always looking for the best way to share their family histories & photos with them. Mom was the 21st out of 22 children. Pop was the 7th out of 11 children. 52 First cousins on just mom's side.

So here are a few inexpensive or free software programs that I use to share our ancestors' information:

1. **Screen Snipping Tool:** Being able to screen capture anything on the computer screen is such a big asset.

I have a snipping tool that came with computer.



My wife has MWSnap, and Chrome has "Lightshot", a screenshot tool. **Caution on free stuff from computer WebPages as they sometimes come with malware: know your source.**

2. **Photo software:** The Free Picasa has been updated to Google Photos. We all need photo software!

3. **PowerPoint:** Show & Tell Family Trees to Family: **Microsoft Office comes with this program, just outstanding!**

4. **YouTube:** To find out how to do anything: www.YouTube.com and ask anything! **Free.**

5. **Conversion of audio and visual tapes to digital:** www.Southtree.com

TAPES

FILM

PHOTOS

AUDIO

There is a **COST**, but sign up for their emails and they send 30-40% discounts quite often. Would like to hear if other MCGS members have a source for this conversion also? Costco does side photo conversion to DVDs for 29 cents each, in batches.

6. **Working with digital audio:**

www.Audacity.com a totally **FREE** open sourced with great help. YouTube help also.

7. **Special graphics:** www.images.Google.com
Thousands of **FREE** images real or cartoons. Use your snipping tool.

8. **Goggle Earth:** <https://www.google.com/earth>
Free.

Sharing your Genealogy Work with others:

Share your work with the various Genealogy Programs like Ancestry.com & the free FamilySearch.org. **But - - But -**

If the family members are not into doing the all the work, but would like to look over your shoulder:

To Share: Use the PowerPoint as program to add all inputs, like photos, scans, text, and family trees.

Install it on a DVD: DVDs have 4.7 Gigabytes, but as technology is advancing and devices are getting smaller, computers, laptops and others are eliminating DVD drives. If you are using a DVD, purchase one of the label makers like Memorex, then you can fancy up a nice DVD label with photos, backgrounds and inserting text boxes. 100 DVDs



cost under \$30.00 at Amazon Prime.

Install it on a thumb drive/memory stick: The

smallest/ cheapest 8 Gigabyte size I found on Amazon

Prime was under \$30.00 for a 10 pack. The difficulty is putting a label on it. Here are 2 scans of the finished DVD and thumb drive.

Bess Durbin Interview	2hr, 24 min audio interview with Geri.
Coleman Arkansas trip 103116	See where Bess was born in Arkansas
Keith & Bess Durbin Story 110316	Start Here: Keith & Bess Durbin Family Trees
Quick Start Guide Keith & Bess Durbin Story	Quick start 1 pg in WORD.
Quick Start Guide Keith & Bess Durbin Story	Quick start 1 pg in PDF.
Sarah Elizabeth Maxwell 111716	Bess's mother's story 20 pgs in WORD.
Sarah Elizabeth Maxwell 111716	Bess's mother's story 20 pgs in PDF.

DVD cover photo background: scanned from the internet, The Serra Cross is uphill from the San Buenaventura Mission, Ventura CA. **The thumb drive**

cardboard tag: Tag left side is scanned from computer drive D or the drive for the thumb drive, and WORD definition added. Both memory devices have: Audio, 2 each PowerPoint Presentations, 2 ea. WORD & the same in PDF for non WORD users.

If doing research in Arkansas and surrounding States: <http://www.agsgenealogy.org/>

AGS Ezine is a free monthly Arkansas Genealogical Society News Letter. 16-20 pages/mo. filled with great info!



Arkansas Genealogical Society - Since 1962

Upcoming Programs for 2017	
January 21	Annual Beginners Class
February 25	Open
March 18	Jim Baker: Finding the Most Challenging Ancestors with DNA Tests
April 15	Kathy Burrow: Rootsweb 101



The Obituaries Project

Just an update on this project which we started this past year. First of all many thanks to all those who have been working on this: Shari Stetson, Michle Burroughs, Dianna Curtiss, Steve Stround, Stephanie McLeod, Sharon Darby, Gloria Hennessey, Lois Jimenez, & Eleanor Carlos. Thanks most of all to Ila Chastain for clipping and saving many years worth of obituaries from the Merced Sun-Star and putting many of them into databases. If I have forgotten anybody, please let me know.

Obituaries are such a great source of information in genealogy research and something that we help to provide for those not living here who might need that kind of information. The chart below shows a little of what our online database will look like some day. The format will be different once we clean up some of the problems. Dates will be uniform as well as fonts, but for now, so we know which database the info is coming from, they will look a little messy.

I still could use help on the data we have collected from the Merced College Library database. If you would like to help out with that, it is mostly copying and pasting and you can work at your own pace at home. Let me know if you would be willing to help. Many hands make faster work.

Anne Field

Database entries below include, name, date of birth, if known, date of death and date obituary appeared in the Merced Sun-Star, and the page it was on.

Day, Adeline Belva	4-17-1907		2-20-98	FEB 21, 1998	B3
Day, Adeline Belva	4-17-1907		2-20-98	FEB 21, 1998	B3
Dayton, Albert Nicholas	?????		May 12, 1998	MAY 15, 1998	A3
De La Guerra, Alex	July 10, 1906		May 1, 2000	May 4, 2000	A5
De Romero, Apolonia	April 18, 1940		February 21, 1999	February 23, 1999	B8
Dean, Eva Mae	6-20-39		2-19-98	FEB 21, 1998	B3
Degough, Arthur Jack	June 7, 1914		October 6, 1999	October 7, 1999	A2
Degrendele, Leroy Joseph	7-2-27		5-26-98	MAY 29, 1998	C8
Del Bucchia, Ana C	January 1, 1910		March 23, 2003	March 26, 2003	B2
Delatorre, Rodrigo	10-7-71		4-3-98	APR 6, 1998	A3
Delerio, Albert Louis "Bud"	May 5, 1924		January 29, 2000	February 1, 2000	A5
Delgadillo, Aurelio	9-25-26		1-15-98	JAN 17, 1998	B3
Delgado, Antonio	June 13, 1936		May 27, 2000	June 1, 2000	A2
Delgado, Julia	May 30, 1916		May 3, 1998	MAY 6, 1998	A3



Genealogy is a GRAVE disease.

>> 2017 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
so they may be included in an upcoming *The Family Snoop* Newsletter.

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

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

The Family Snoop is published on the first day of each month except Aug and Dec. It is sent in .pdf to members who receive it by email. Back copies can be emailed to members as attachments. Send items, articles, stories, etc., to robynechols AT gmail DOT net. You can choose to receive the Family Snoop via email in a pdf format – get it sooner and in color. Contact Sharon Darby, our treasurer. **Deadline for the March/April 2017 issue is February 25th.** There is no meeting in August.

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

The Doris Cochran Research Room is open 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays,
BUT WE NEED SUBSTITUTE VOLUNTEERS TO HELP KEEP IT OPEN!! Please Volunteer!

Merced County Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 3061
Merced, CA. 95344

President	Wayne Wallace
President-elect	--
Vice President	Lois Jimenez
Treasurer	Sharon Darby
Secretary	Stephanie McLeod
Past President	Greg Entriaken
Membership	Margie Barnhart
Hospitality	Howard & Judy Smith
Publicity	Open
Programs	Shari Stetson, Michle Burroughs,
Editor, <i>The Family Snoop</i>	Robyn Echols robynechols AT gmail DOT com

<https://familysearch.org>
 1080 E Yosemite Ave Merced. 722-1307
 Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 10:00 am-4:00 pm,
 Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday evening 7:00 pm-9:00 pm

Free access on their computers to Ancestry 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
www.co.merced.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=77
 2100 O Street Merced 209-285-7642
 Fax: 209-726-7912
 Monday through Thursday – 10am to 6:00pm
 Friday & Saturday - 10:00am to 5:00pm

Merced County Courthouse Museum
www.mercedmuseum.org
 21st and N Streets
 P. O. Box 3557
 Merced, CA 95344
 Wednesday through Sunday - 1:00pm to 4:00pm.
 Free admission.

Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County
www.cagenweb.com/lr/stanilaus/gssc.html
 Click on their newsletter to read online or download.
 Information about bus trips and programs offered throughout the year that may interest you.

Monthly Financial Report: October/November
 2016

Income	142.14
Expenses	(405.66)
Checking Balance	\$4,314.29
Savings Account:	3,869.25
CD-9 months; matures on 12/26/16	5,867.58
CD-12 months; matures on 5/18/17	5,692.32
Total in Checking and Savings:	\$19,743.44

Family History Center

MC GS Website: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~camcgs>