

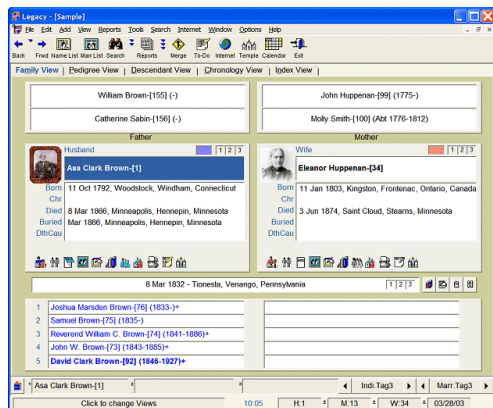
# THE FAMILY SNOOP

MERCED COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Vol. 31, No. 2

February 2013

## February Meeting



## Climbing Your Family Tree

### Beginners program, Part 2

Just getting started?

Come join us at our annual program for beginners, part 2, where we will introduce you to genealogy software and help you get started on your family history journey.

12:00 Noon Saturday

23 February 2013

Gracey Room, Merced County Library

***NOTE! OUR MEETING IS ONE WEEK LATER THAN USUAL!***

**MCQS Website: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~camcqs>**

### Upcoming Programs 2013

Upcoming Programs 2013		
March 16	One-Step Webpages: A Hodgepodge of Lesser-Known Gems	Stephen Morse
April 20	Italian Research	Richard Rands
May 18	Portuguese Research	Rosemary Capodicci

## Message from the President:

## Our New County Librarian

Dear Friends,

I would like to say, Welcome!, to our new members who joined at the last meeting for beginners. And, if you haven't visited the Doris Cochran Room in the library, you are missing a veritable treasure trove of genealogy literature, books, magazines and collections for your research. Located on the basement floor and open Wednesdays and Saturdays, it houses a plethora of resources on almost every genealogy subject. We have 3 computers, two copiers, a microfilm reader and microfilm files for the British Isles, Europe, Canada, Mexico and the U.S. There are bound census collections, atlases, and information on various subjects for every state, for Cherokee Indian research, and interesting books on countries all over the world. Someone from the Merced County Genealogy Society is usually there to help answer questions or instruct you in using the machines. I invite you to come and spend some time roaming the shelves so that you can become familiar with our collection. You never know what will tickle your fancy or help you out of a tough spot until you see what we've got!

So if you're ready to delve into the hands-on material, bring plenty of change for copying information as it's 20 cents per copy. Come by and chit-chat anytime we're open. We look forward to seeing you there.



Stephanie McLeod, Pres.



Diane Satchwell is our new county librarian, coming to Merced from West Linn, Oregon, where she was the library director for the past two years.

I shared with her that our group is supportive of the library and happy to have her as our new county librarian. I invited her to come to one of our meetings when she has time. She is excited to be here in Merced and looking forward to meeting people in the community and working with everyone. Say hello to her when you see her.

*Anne Field*

## Mark your Calendars!

March 2

**Evaluating Vital Records: Getting the Most Out of Birth, Marriage and Death Records** - Cafi Cohen.

**Adoption-- Finding the Truth despite Adoptions, Name Changes, Divorces and Family Secrets: A Case Study** – Cheryl Storton.

San Luis Obispo County Genealogical Society, <http://www.slocgs.org/>  
<http://www.slocgs.org/#mar2013>



Its time to pay your Annual Dues!

It's that time of year again. Pay now before you forget.

A form is in this newsletter so you know how much and where to send it.

### A note from your editor

Some of you know already that my former husband died in January, on his birthday. Some of you also might remember that Gene came and spoke to our society on DNA and Genealogy. Gene had cancer but the end came suddenly (for us) and took us a bit by surprise. Gene and our daughter, Lucie, had been working on the Field family genealogy for the past ten years or so and had amassed a huge amount of information, put up an outstanding web page, and had many contacts, cousins who had found their web page and shared information and photos with them. Lucky for Gene that Lucie is an avid genealogist and that she will keep up the webpage, the database and the contacts. But let this be a reminder that none of us will be here forever and we need to have a plan in place so that all our research and hard work does not get sent to the dumpster. Do you have another family member who is interested in having your research? Is your research in fairly good order so that you could pass it on, or is it just piles of notes and jottings and copies of items or photographs that are not labelled? If you don't have a family member who is interested, is there a genealogical or historical society that might want the research you have done and is it in a organized binder or on a disk that can be given to such an organization? Some of your information might need to go to one location while another family line might be better sent to another location. It is something to think about and something that we should put off.

### Our January Program



Two January attendees looking at the free forms in the DCR



Shari Stetson talking about Ancestry and census records

Our annual Beginner Program for budding genealogists was well attended. Forty-three people showed up on January 26<sup>th</sup>, nineteen guests, twenty-four members; three people started memberships. Not bad!

After the annual installation of officers, performed by Roberta Saling, Shari Stetson introduced the group to genealogy basics such as pedigree charts, family groups sheets and how to get started – with yourself, of course. Attendees were handed packets of materials that included these forms as well as a list of great genealogy websites for beginners and longtime researchers – see next page.

She then moved on to Ancestry.com and one of the best ways to get started, by using census records. Census records are a goldmine for genealogists and with the 1940 census now out and indexed, researchers can look for their parents and grandparents and maybe even themselves. Searching the census records back through the early 1900s and back to the 1850 census will find much information to help lead researchers on to other kinds of records.

Of course, census records are just one of the many tools that can be used to find out information about your family. Next month we will cover other beginner topics, including genealogy software to record all your information.

## Beginner Web sites

[www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)

The genealogy website of the Family History Library: digitized records, the library catalog of books, microfilms, and more

[www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) \$ \*\*

Probably the best known genealogy website. Subscription based.

[www.archives.com/](http://www.archives.com/)

Over 2.5 billion vital and historical records, now under the Ancestry umbrella

[www.fold3.com/](http://www.fold3.com/) \*\*

A subscription site with a focus on military records

[www.genealogybank.com](http://www.genealogybank.com) \$

A subscription site for searching historical newspapers

[www.heritagequestonline.com](http://www.heritagequestonline.com) \$ \*\*

Census, family and local histories, PERSI (the periodical index), Revolutionary War pension and bounty applications, Freedmen's Bank records and US Serial Set

[www.worldvitalrecords.com](http://www.worldvitalrecords.com) \$ \*\*

Birth, marriage, death, military, U.S. census U.K. census, some yearbook entries, old newspapers,

[www.genweb.org](http://www.genweb.org)

The U.S. GenWeb Project, with Websites for each state and county run by volunteers. Some have more information than others, but most have databases that are useful, maps of the state and of the counties, and links to other useful sites. There is also a UK GenWeb Site: [www.ukgenweb.com](http://www.ukgenweb.com)

[www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com)

An excellent site for finding your ancestors buried in cemeteries, mostly in the U.S. Gravestone information is put on the site by volunteers and some have more information and photos than others.

[www.glorerecords.blm.gov](http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov)

Federal land records for public-land states, land patents, survey plats and field notes

[www.proquest.historicmapworks.com](http://www.proquest.historicmapworks.com) \*\*

Historic Map Works Library Edition - Over 470,000 historic and antique maps, core of collection cadastral (property and land ownership) maps of the U.S.

[www.genealogytoday.com](http://www.genealogytoday.com) \*\*

Paper Trail, provides access to 19<sup>th</sup>-century westward American migration documents

[www.google.com](http://www.google.com)

Google books, maps, earth and translate. News Archive – but stopped adding old newspapers

[www.worldcat.org](http://www.worldcat.org)

Links 1.5 billion books and other items in 10,000 repositories, will locate nearest library holding your search item

[www.stevemorse.org/](http://www.stevemorse.org/)

1-step webpages by Stephen P. Morse, a website loaded with powerful search engines for finding your ancestors

[www.arkivdigital.net](http://www.arkivdigital.net) \*\*

Private provider of Swedish Church Records and other historical records

[www.freebmd.org.uk/](http://www.freebmd.org.uk/)

Free BMD, the Civil Registration index of births, marriages and deaths for England and Wales, a volunteer site, free to search

[www.freecen.org.uk/](http://www.freecen.org.uk/)

FreeCen, an online searchable database of the 19th century UK census returns. A sister site to FreeBMD

[www.freereg.org.uk/](http://www.freereg.org.uk/)

FreeReg, the other sister site of FreeBMD, with free internet searches of baptism, marriage, and burial records, transcribed from parish and non-conformist registers of the U.K.

[www.genuki.org.uk/](http://www.genuki.org.uk/)

UK and Ireland Genealogy

[www.findmypast.com](http://www.findmypast.com) \*\*

A subscription based website with lots of databases, census records, etc.

[www.findmypast.ie/](http://www.findmypast.ie/)

Find My Past – Ireland. Also other sites for Australia and New Zealand and the UK. This site also has links to their other websites: 1911census.co.uk & The British Newspaper Archive

[www.cyndislist.com/categories/](http://www.cyndislist.com/categories/)

Cyndi's List, The Go-To website for genealogy. This website links you to 310,000 websites by all kinds of categories

<http://usa.ipums.org/usa/voliii/tEnumForm.shtml>  
Census enumeration forms 1850-2000, with questions asked by the census taker, plus sample forms, with all the fine print at the top of the columns, 1860-

[www.byub.org/ancestors/](http://www.byub.org/ancestors/)  
Ancestors, the companion web site to the PBS family history and genealogy television series. Under tools, check out the free charts and also the resource directory with links to state and national resources

[www.castlegarden.org](http://www.castlegarden.org)  
A database of information on 11 million immigrants to the U.S. from 1820 through 1892, the year Ellis Island opened

[www.ellisland.org](http://www.ellisland.org)  
Look for your ancestors who came into this country at the Ellis Island immigration center at the Port of New York

[www.censusrecords.com/](http://www.censusrecords.com/)  
You can pay for what you find or subscribe; 1940 is free to search

[http:// www.newspaperarchive.com](http://www.newspaperarchive.com) \*\*  
Access Newspaper Archive - Largest online historical newspaper articles, U.S. and world, obituaries, birth announcements, sports, comics and more

<http://find.galegroup.com/bncn> \*\*  
19<sup>th</sup> Century British Library Newspapers, database of 48 national and regional British newspapers from 1800 – 1900

[www.americanancestors.org/home.html](http://www.americanancestors.org/home.html)

American Ancestors, the website of the New England Historic Genealogical Society

<http://ma-vitalrecords.org/>  
Massachusetts Vital Records Project, a huge database of birth, marriage and death records in the Massachusetts Town Records

[www.archives.ncdcr.gov/](http://www.archives.ncdcr.gov/)  
North Carolina State Archives, a sample of one of many states with archive sites full of useful information for genealogists

<http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/>  
National Gravesite Locator, from the Dept. of Veterans Affairs. Look for burial locations of veterans

[www.abmc.gov](http://www.abmc.gov)  
American Battle monuments Commission, a database of armed services personnel buried in American burial grounds in other countries

[www.nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm](http://www.nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm)  
Civil War: Soldiers and Sailors Database, with info about the men who served in the Union and Confederate armies during the Civil War as well as the battles, regiments, cemeteries, prisoners and more.

<http://alexanderstreet.com> \*\*  
American Civil War – Research data on 4 million soldiers and thousands of battles, letters and diaries, over 1,400 images, photos, posters

[www.mercedgenealogy.com/](http://www.mercedgenealogy.com/)  
The Merced County genealogy page by one of our own, Alma Stone

\*\* These websites are currently available free at the local Family History, 1080 E. Yosemite Avenue, Merced, open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10:00-4:00 and Tuesday evening 7:00-9:00

## New Members

**Jeffrey Denno**, of Merced. Researching the names Denno, Denault, Denyau in New York and Quebec, and Brillergeon in Quebec, 1600s – 1800.

**Hortensia Davila Rodriguez**, of Merced.

**Gary Walker**, of Atwater, researching Walker in CA, Kansas, Wisconsin and NY; Westfall in Kansas & Indiana; Mahannah in Kansas, Pennsylvania, Oklahoma & California; and Laughridge in Kansas and Oklahoma

## From the CSGA Blog



FamilySearch has just released a new project to create a digital version of the California Death Index which is currently available only in microfiche (or scanned microfiche) form. This is one of those projects every California researcher has been waiting for! If you would like to help out, or just learn more about the project check out the project description on the [FamilySearch Indexing Website](#).

# 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 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.**





***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 mcgsmail@annefield.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 2013 issue is February 25, 2013.**

**MCGS meetings** are held at noon, on the 3d Saturday of the month. The library closes at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday. There is no meeting in August.

The Doris Cochran Research Room is open 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Wednesdays and 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. on Saturdays, **BUT WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO HELP KEEP IT OPEN!! Please Volunteer!**

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

#### **Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County**

[www.cagenweb.com/lr/stanislaus/gssc.html](http://www.cagenweb.com/lr/stanislaus/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.

President	Stephanie McLeod
1st Vice President	Lois Jimenez
2nd Vice President	Rosalie Heppner
Treasurer	Sharon Darby
Secretary	Robyn Echols
Past President	Shari Stetson
Membership	Open
Hospitality	Michle Burroughs
Publicity	Open
Programs	Michle Burroughs, Rosalie Heppner, Stephanie McLeod & Shari Stetson
Editor, <i>The Family Snoop</i>	Anne Field 357-8672 mcgsmail AT annefield DOT net

#### **Family History Center**

[www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)

1080 E Yosemite Ave Merced. 722-1307  
Tuesday, Wednesday, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm,  
Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Tuesday evening, 7:00 pm to 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](http://www.co.merced.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=77)

2100 O Street Merced 209-285-7642

Fax: 209-726-7912

Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 9:30am to 5:00pm

Tuesday and Thursday - 10:30am to 6:00pm.

Saturday - 9:30am to 3:00pm.

#### **Merced County Courthouse Museum**

[www.mercedmuseum.org](http://www.mercedmuseum.org)

21st & N Streets Merced

Wednesday through Sunday - 1:00pm to 4:00pm.

Free admission.

#### **Merced County Genealogical Society**

**P.O. Box 3061**

**Merced, CA. 95344**

#### **Monthly Financial Report Dec 2012**

Income:	.62
Expenses:	(17.23)
Checking Total	<u>\$2,843.27</u>
Savings Account	3,861.77
CD-9 months; matures on 07/20/12	5,823.29
CD-12 months; matures on 5/19/12	<u>5,638.98</u>
<b><u>Total in Checking and Savings:</u></b>	<b><u>\$18,167.31</u></b>