

THE FAMILY SNOOP

MERCED COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Vol. 33, No. 02

February 2015

February Meeting

Beginner's Class Part 2



How to
Organize
Your
Genealogy
Files

By
Anne Field

1:00 p.m. Saturday

February 21, 2015

Gracey Room, Merced County Library

WELCOME NEW OFFICERS FOR 2015!



From L to R, Greg Entriiken, Bernadette Castaneda, Stephanie McLeod, Michle Burroughs, Margie Barnhart and Sharon Darby. Not shown: Lois Jimenez

In December, elections were held and new officers elected. Due to the recent changes in the By-Laws, the slate of officers looks a little different than it has in the past. We want to extend our thanks and appreciation to those officers who served in the past year. Also, we want to welcome our new Merced County Genealogical Society board.

Our new officers were sworn in and start their terms of service with the January meeting.

- President - Greg Entriiken
- President-elect - Bernadette Castaneda
- Vice President - Lois Jimenez
- Secretary - Stephanie McLeod
- Treasurer - Sharon Darby
- Membership - Margie Barnhart
- Hospitality - Michle Burroughs

President's Message for January

Dear Friends and Fellow Members:

The installation of officers went smoothly. I knew I was going to be nervous, but I can't believe what a profound effect just sitting on the other side of the

table, looking the opposite direction, had on my ability to think and to speak. Thank you, Stephanie, for helping me get through it. I hope I get past this sooner than later. We had a lot of interest in Part 1 of the beginners' class. I think there were almost as many guests as there were members. I hope they all remember to come back for part 2 on February 21st.

Until then,
Greg Entriiken, President

Combined Board Meets



L to R- Lois Jimenez, Stephanie McLeod, Sharon Darby, Anne Field, Michle Burroughs, Margie Barnhart, Greg Entriiken, Rosalie Heppner, Shari Stetson. Not shown: Alma Stone [hiding behind computers], Robyn Echols [behind camera]

On January 12th, a combined board of old and new officers met in the Doris Cochrane Room. Some of the issues discussed include options for book sales of our books and memorial purchases for the DCR collection, the microfilm reader is fixed, asking for a suggested donation for requested look-ups, scheduling a meeting with the county librarian.

The next scheduled board meeting is April 13, 2015.

Upcoming Programs for 2015	
February 21	Beginner's Program, Part 2 - Anne Field will give a presentation on how to organize our genealogy information
March 21	"Germans from Russia Pre-WWII" by Pam Atherstone
April 18	"Finding Lost Cousins & Living Relatives" by Barbara Washburn
May 16	TBA
	Join us and invite others to join with us!

A History of William Granger, William Henry Granger, and Forrest Wood Granger

I'm **Susan Vogt Benes** and my mother was **Anna Josephine "Jo" Granger Vogt. Forrest Wood Granger** was my mother's father. After many months of research and many brick walls, this is what I finally have discovered about my grandfather's lineage. Going back several generations...



William Granger, Sr., my 2nd great grandfather, was born in Kilbarchan, Renfrewshire, Scotland in 1822. His parents are listed as John Granger (b: 1796) and Agnes Barr (b: 1799). In

1844 he married **Rebekah Wood** (b: 1824) in the same village. Her parents are John Wood and Ann Stevenson. **William and Rebekah** had two children in Kilbarchan, John (b: 1846) and Ann (b: 7 Dec. 1847). (See attached genealogy.)

It seems that almost everyone in the village of Kilbarchan, including all the Grangers, worked producing fabrics of wool, silk, and cotton. Product could then easily be shipped out of nearby Glasgow. Rebekah is listed as "hand loom weaver" in the 1841 census and William



Hand loom weaver in Kilbarchan



Original weaver's cottage in Kilbarchan

was listed as a "calico printer." Some of the other Grangers were pirm (spool) winders. When my

husband, Ed, and I visited Kilbarchan in 2013, we were told that any work related to weaving was done in the individual homes and continued that way until the Industrial Revolution.

In the 1851 census of Kilbarchan, there was no sign of **Rebekah's** husband, **William**. The only people listed as living in the house were Rebekah and her two children, John and Ann. So where was William?

I discovered that **William** had emigrated to America in 1849 on the ship, Cora Linn. The ship left from Glasgow and arrived in New York, New York. It's interesting to note that years later the same ship "ran aground" and "wrecked in 1861," near Oporto, never to sail again.

Why did William emigrate? Had the Industrial Revolution begun? Had the factories of the Industrial Revolution begun to replace the production of goods out of homes? Was the potato famine 1846-52 affecting the people of Kilbarchan even though the famine was more prevalent in Ireland and the agrarian Scottish highlands? Or could William have had his sights on the California gold rush?

Rebekah, with her two children, must have left Scotland and emigrated to America in order to reunite with **William** in about 1851 because she gave birth to their third child, Agnes (b:29 Jun 1852) in Wisconsin. The fourth child was **William Henry Granger, Jr.** (b: 25 Jul 1857).

William Henry, Jr. is our ancestor and my great grandfather! I'll refer to him as "Jr." so as not to be confused with his father, **William Granger**. The fifth child to be born was Mary (8 Aug 1859), and the last child was Ellenora (b: 19 Dec 1861). I'm sure there would have been more children had the Civil War not come along!

The family lived in the towns of Westfield and La Crosse, Wisconsin; however, by the time **William Henry, Jr.** was born, they had moved to Grand Rapids, Wood County, Wisconsin on the Wisconsin River. The town was later known as Wisconsin Rapids. William, Rebekah and children are there in the 1860 census where William lists himself as a farmer with \$300 worth of land.

I'm curious about the name, **Wood County**. The county was named after Joseph Wood, a state legislator at the time. There are a number of people with that surname in the county.

Rebekah Wood and William Granger, Sr. migrated to **Wood County**. I can't help but wonder if they didn't go there because of a Wood family connection. My grandfather also carries the name Wood, **Forrest Wood Granger**.

In November of 1861 **William, Sr.** and his oldest son, John, 16, enrolled in the Union Wisconsin Volunteer

Infantry and mustered in January, 1862. His son, John, a private in the Army, 42nd Regiment, Wisconsin Infantry, was assigned to post and garrison duty and it appears he did not serve in actual combat in the Civil War. William was 40 at the time and joined the 18th Regiment, Company G. William's rank was corporal and as a member of that regiment, he would have participated in the battles of Shiloh and Corinth. Later that year William was captured by the South and placed in the infamous Andersonville prison.

In October 1862 he was released in a prisoner exchange and died in a hospital in either Washington DC or in transit to the hospital. Both places are listed as place of death. It's possible that he died in transit and wasn't pronounced dead until he reached the hospital. According to documents **William, Sr.** died "about the twenty-third of October," 1862 of "intermittent fever" and "lung disease." A William Granger from the 18th Regiment, Wisconsin Infantry, with an October 21, 1862 death date is buried at the US Soldiers and Airmen's Home National Cemetery, Washington DC.

The only discrepancy is that this William Granger was listed as being with Company "I" instead of "G." However, when much of a regiment had been wounded or killed, men were reassigned to a different regiment. This may explain his being in a different company at the time of death. I'll leave it up to you to decide if this is our William, but I believe it's him. It's interesting to note that William came to America for a better life, and 12 years later he was in the middle of a Civil War, captured by the enemy, and consequently died.

I ultimately was able to verify and trace much of the Granger family line through **William Sr.**'s military pension records. After William's death, his wife, **Rebekah** applied for a widow's pension and received \$8 per month and \$2 per child as a Civil War widow as long as she didn't remarry. It was interesting to see that Rebekah signed her name with an "X" in these documents. This explains the different spellings for both her first and last name on various documents over the years.

Rebekah later was married to a John Athrop in 1865. Even after she remarried she continued to request support from the Civil War widow's pension. When Rebekah was 68 a letter was written on her behalf to the government saying that she "is of feeble health and unable to earn a livelihood. Neither her husband or herself have property or means whatever from which to gain a living except by their own labor." At this time Rebekah and her current husband lived in the towns of Warren and Almon, Winona County, Minnesota.

Rebekah died 24 December, 1897 and was buried in Warren County Township Cemetery.

The next time William and Rebekah's son and our ancestor, **William Henry Granger, Jr.** appears, he has gone from Wisconsin to Fort Worth, Texas. He is married to **Annie Elizabeth Bauer** in 1887. In the Fort Worth phone book **William Henry, Jr.** is listed as a railroad station "acct." and his wife, Annie, is listed as having a boarding house. They have 4 sons, Harris "Harry," William, John R. and **Forrest Wood** (b: 19 April 1892), my maternal grandfather.

William Henry, Jr. died 17 Dec. 1914 and is buried in the West Oakwood Cemetery, in Fort Worth, Texas.



*Back row: Annie Bauer Granger, Forrest Wood Granger, William Henry Granger, Jr.
Front row: Harris (Harry) and William Granger.*

Not pictured: John R. Granger

Time to Pay Your Dues

Our annual newcomer's meeting was a success, with 22 members and 20 guests in attendance. As of the January meeting, we have only 31 active and 85 inactive members for a potential of 116 members. Are you among those 85 inactive members who have not renewed their dues for the year? If so, please complete the membership form on the next page and send your dues in today.

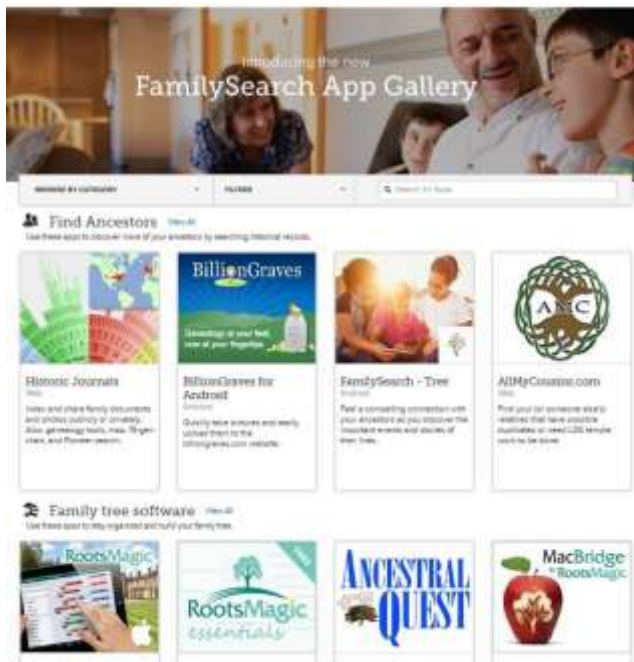
Welcome New Members

We wish to welcome two new members who joined at our January meeting.

1. Rose Macy (Bell) Bunce who is researching the following surnames: Petty and Stell, both in Arkansas between 1860-1940.
2. Brian L. McCabe.

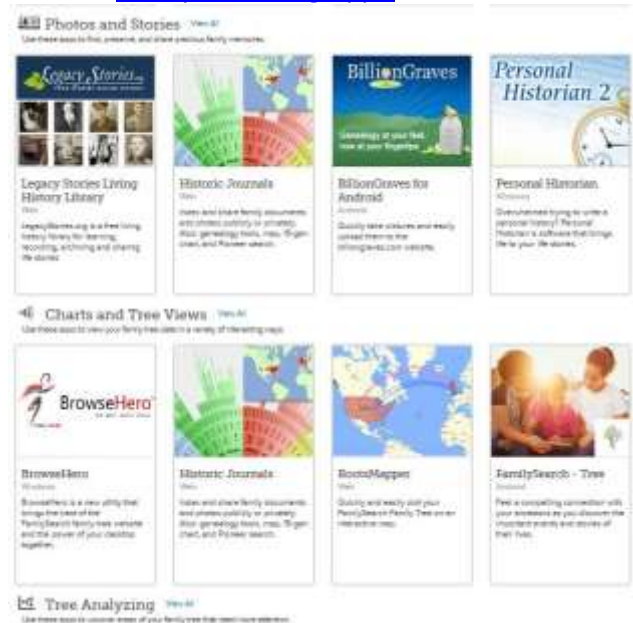
New! FamilySearch App Gallery

Want to do family history? There's an app for that.



FamilySearch.org announced in January that they have launched an online app gallery to help patrons more easily find partner applications or services to

enhance their family history efforts. There are more than 50 apps to choose from in order find those that meet your specific need, platform, operating system, and price. The FamilySearch App Gallery can be found at [FamilySearch.org/apps](https://www.familysearch.org/apps).



The FamilySearch App Gallery is available online and accessible from a variety of handheld devices. It allows you to browse through the selections and learn about applications developed by these FamilySearch partners. The gallery links patrons to partner sites where they can access and download the applications.

These apps in the FamilySearch App Gallery interact with and support FamilySearch Family Tree.

My thanks to Roberta Saling for sharing this family history funny:

Two women were talking at a high-society party.



"My ancestry goes all the way back to Alexander the Great," one said. "How far back has your line been traced?"

"I'm not sure," the second woman replied. "All our records were lost in the flood."

>> 2015 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 February 2015 issue is January 23, 2015.**

MCGS meetings are held at **1:00p.m.** on the 3rd Saturday of the month unless it that is a holiday weekend. 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	Greg Entriken
President-elect	Bernadette Castaneda
Vice President	Lois Jimenez
Treasurer	Sharon Darby
Secretary	Stephanie McLeod
Past President	--
Membership	Margie Barnhart
Hospitality	Michle Burroughs
Publicity	Open
Programs	Susan Benes, Michle Burroughs, Rosalie Heppner, Stephanie McLeod & Shari Stetson
Editor, <i>The Family Snoop</i>	Robyn Echols robynechols AT gmail DOT com

Family History Center

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
 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 & N Streets Merced
 Wednesday through Sunday - 1:00pm to 4:00pm.
 Free admission.

Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County

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.

Monthly Financial Report: Dec 2014

Income	0.19
Expenses	(0.00)
Checking Balance	<u>\$4,470.95</u>
Savings Account:	3,865.59
CD-9 months; matures on 10/8/14	5,840.76
CD-12 months; matures on 5/19/15	<u>5,661.60</u>
<u>Total in Checking and Savings:</u>	<u>\$19,838.90</u>

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