

THE FAMILY SNOOP

MERCED COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME 37, No. 1

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2019

January 2019 Meeting



Annual Genealogy Beginners Training - Jennifer McDonald

1:00 p.m. Saturday

January 26, 2019

Gracey Room

Merced County Library

MERCED COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

February 2019 Meeting

Comparing the Genealogy Giants:

**Ancestry, FamilySearch,
Findmypast & My Heritage.
DVD by Sunny Morton –**

Shari Stetson

1:00 p.m. Saturday

February 23, 2019

Gracey Room

Merced County Library

**Our Website is Back!
and
It Has a New Address**

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

We are exploring other web hosting possibilities. If you have a suggestion, please contact the Board.

Live Web Links

Just a reminder that web links in our newsletter and attachments can be clicked on to go to the website, if you receive the email version.

Presidents Message

Happy New Year to all, 2019!



We have a whole new year ahead of us. Let's see what we can do to encourage more people to research their ancestral heritage, attend our meetings and use the hospitality of our genealogy

library. I would like to encourage younger generations to begin asking questions now before it's too late to get answers from their grandparents. One way is to give talks at schools and other groups. Another way is to give out a business card with our information on it to everyone we meet. We are currently working on making up these cards to give to our members to distribute.

I would like to give a big "Thank You!" to all the members who have continued to work so hard on the Obituary Project, the Programs Committee, the Hospitality Committee and the members of the Board, to make last year a success and keep us running month to month. As you might know, we had a hard time finding a person to be Secretary each month but this year will be better with a committed Secretary and a bi-monthly publishing of the Snoop Newsletter.

The MCGS Board meets before the meeting at 11:00 am in the Doris Cochran Room in the basement this January 26, 2019. Members can attend

to make suggestions or ask questions.

Remember, January is our Beginners Training meeting with Jennifer McDonald, Past President of the Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County.

In your service,
Stephanie McLeod, President

Meetings for 2019

Date	Program
January 26	Annual Genealogy Beginners Training - Jennifer McDonald
February 23	Comparing the Genealogy Giants: Ancestry, FamilySearch, Findmypast & MyHeritage. DVD by Sunny Morton - Shari Stetson
March 16	Irish Research - Lewis M. Ruddick
April 20	History of Alta California: CA has a valuable history before statehood. Land Grants from the Mexican Government shaped Alta California. Also look at the important Mission records and populations of Alta CA up to 1850. - Susan Skilton: Associate Genealogist, Ancestry Pro-Genealogists
May 18	TBD
June 15	TBD
July 20	Birthday Meeting
August 17	NO MEETING
September 21	TBD
October 19	TBD
November 16	TBD
December 21	Annual Holiday Potluck

Meeting Attendance

November: 24 Members + 6 Guests for a total of 30.

December: 21 Members + 1 Guest for a total of 22.

Total Active Members: 78

What's Coming from FamilySearch in 2019

(The following was taken from a FamilySearch Press Release dated 7 Jan 2019)

In addition to over 300 million additional historical records and images for family history discoveries, the popular, free genealogy website, [FamilySearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org), announced its 2019 plans to enhance its record search and Family Tree search capabilities and introduce new interactive discovery experiences. These include the following:

1. Online Interactive Discovery Experiences

Formerly available only at life-sized, interactive kiosks in select FamilySearch venues, the following three [discovery experiences](#) will also be available online on [FamilySearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org) in 2019.

All about Me

Discover the origin and meaning of your name or what events happened in the year you were born. The *All about Me* experience will allow you to discover these fun things about yourself and also about your ancestors.

Picture My Heritage

This simple and fun experience lets you insert yourself digitally into traditional clothing related to your heritage. On *Picture My Heritage*, you can save your custom photos or share them with friends and family.

Record My Story

Priceless stories and memories from you or family members can be recorded on *Record My Story* and added—by text or audio—to [FamilySearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org) or downloaded to another source.

2. Family Tree and Friends, Associates, and Neighbor (FAN) Relationships

The free FamilySearch [Family Tree](#) will give users the ability to record other relationships to an ancestor beyond immediate family members, when applicable, such as friends, associates, and neighbors (FAN). This function will aid research by allowing users to record information about other people living in an ancestor's household as noted in a historical record, such as boarders or staff. FamilySearch will continue to develop site experiences that enable families to connect with their ancestral homelands near and far.

3. Updated Find Capability

The FamilySearch Family Tree search capacity will be significantly updated to provide

faster and better results. Another innovation will allow search engines such as Google to present names and limited facts from the Family Tree to online search queries without the searcher being signed into [FamilySearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org), allowing millions of people searching for their ancestors online to discover the vast, free services FamilySearch offers them.

4. Memories

Millions of people use [FamilySearch Memories](#) to record, preserve, and share their family photos, historical documents, and stories. In 2019, users will be able to record audio remembrances related to a photo they have uploaded. Memories will also give users the capability to organize items in an album according to their interests or needs.

And, if you plan to be in London, England on October 24–26, 2019, you may wish to attend the RootsTech family history conference to be held at the ExCel London Convention Center.



November Meeting: Family Tree DNA presentation

By Kathryn Borges

Katherine Borges have an informative talk to help us learn more about using DNA testing to help overcome some of the brick walls in our genealogy research. For those not familiar with DNA testing and all its benefits, she recommends the book, *Genetics Demystified*, by Edward Willett.

There are four different types of DNA. It is important to not procrastinate testing for DNA since some tests will be required by family members at the end of their lives.

- Y - chromosome DNA
 - Mitochondrial DNA
 - Autosomal DNA
 - SNP (snip) single nucleotide polymorphism
- 23 and Me were the first to do autosomal DNA.

Siblings will get different results. All companies usually update their databases at least once a year. 23andMe which bought out Sorenson is the best company for Native American ancestors.

If you or a family member has previously tested your autosomal DNA at 23andMe, Ancestry DNA, or MyHeritage, you can transfer your results to Family Tree DNA by uploading your raw data file.

After transferring your file, your autosomal data is uploaded to your database, one of the world's largest genetic genealogy databases.

When you transfer, for free, you will receive a list of your autosomal matches from our database and have access to our Family Finder - Matrix. The Matrix feature allows you to select and compare the autosomal DNA relationship between up to 10 of your matches at one time.

Important: Each account is for one individual. If you have an existing Family Tree DNA kit and are attempting to upload data for a different individual you must create a new account for the transfer.

After transferring you can unlock all family finder features, which include the chromosome browser, myOrigins, and ancientOrigins for \$19.

Kathryn displayed the several charts that showed how you can compare DNA results between family members. She also discussed what the different DNA tests reveal, and how each can be beneficial to a particular circumstance or type of information a researcher wants to know.



Places to go to learn more:

- Roberta Estes Blog: <https://dna-explained.com/>
- International Society of Genetic Genealogy (ISOGG): <https://isogg.org/>
- The ISOGG Wiki: <https://isogg.org/#ISOGGWiki>
- DNA Painter by Johnny Pearl (\$45 per year): <https://dnapainter.com/>
- Watch Blaine's DNA Painter tutorial

- Join the Facebook DNA Painter group
- Learn about the new DNA Painter tool, WATO- What Are the Odds by Andrew Millard on the Facebook group

If you are interested in testing your DNA with Katherine Borges, you may email her. [dnakath AT gmail DOT com](mailto:dnakath@gmail.com).

Annual Christmas Pot Luck & Election of Officers



Our December meeting featured our election of officers, which was accomplished by common consent. We have several familiar faces and one new one among the 2019 officers, as follows:

President – Stephanie McLeod
Vice President - John Barnhart
Secretary – Barbara Lindenberg
Treasurer – Sharon Darby
Membership – Margie Barnhart
Hospitality – Howard & Judy Smith
Past President – Wayne Wallace

Some items of business discussed: Darel Scoggins is taking charge of the programs committee. Howard Smith is in charge of getting business cards made up for the association members to pass out to the public. Afterwards, we all enjoyed a pot luck luncheon.



>> 2019 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 2019 issue by Feb 25th to drechols45 at comcast.net.**

Dues are payable in January for 2019

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!!
PLEASE VOLUNTEER!**

Merced County Genealogical Society

PO Box 3061

Merced, CA. 95344-1061

President	Stephanie McLeod	383-1009
Vice President	John Barnhart	384-3744
Secretary	Barbara Lindenberg	358-8062
Treasurer	Sharon Darby	723-5374
Membership	Margie Barnhart	384-3744
Hospitality	Howard & Judy Smith	384-3595
Past President	Wayne Wallace	489-2795
Programs	Shari Stetson, Michle Burroughs, Susan Brower, Darel Scoggin	
<i>The Family Snoop</i> Editor	Robyn Echols	358-2461

Family History Center

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

1080 E Yosemite Ave Merced. 722-1307

Tuesday & Wednesday: 10:00 am-4:00 pm
7:00 pm-9:00 pm

Thursday: 10:00 am-1:00 pm (Until further notice)

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

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

Friday – Saturday: 10:00 am-5:00 pm

Sunday - CLOSED

Merced County Courthouse Museum

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

21st and N Streets

P. O. Box 3557

Merced, CA 95344

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.

Monthly Financial Report

October / November 2018

Income	226.55
Expenses	(317.07)
Checking Balance	\$5,888.62
Savings Account:	3,873.56
CD-9 months; matures on 6/19/18	5,898.75
CD-12 months; matures on 5/18/18	5,741.12
Savings Balance	\$15,513.43

Total in Checking and Savings: \$21,402.05

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