

THE FAMILY SNOOP

MERCED COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Vol. 32, No. 9

October 2014

October Meeting

Mountain Men



Trappers & Explorers

in the 1820s

Speaker: Scott Johnson



1:00 p.m. Saturday

October 18, 2014

Gracey Room, Merced County Library

President's Message for October

Dear Friends,

Thank God we got rain. It was so nice to be in the cool air and to see clouds and finally we saw sprinkles. It was like a blessing. :))



Our September meeting, with Michael Gleason was very interesting and for those who seek historical data to go with their family

histories it is an alluring source, especially if you are making a book out of your family experiences.

I was very gratified to see many new faces and guests attending. I encourage all of you to bring young people to our lectures. We can't wait till we're old to start doing this. Impress upon them the importance of getting those stories and remembrances, while we are young enough not to have forgotten them. Actually it would be a good idea to start family dinners and talk about the old days or gathering with the intention of getting to know the background of the older adults.

My people are scattered all over. It's not so easy to get together. I have a Facebook page but I hardly ever put anything on it. Maybe, I should start putting some family history on it (while keeping it viewable only to family). It sounds like a fun project.

I'm excited about the new column for the Snoop in response to our survey topic, "Your wants for the Snoop". Robyn Echols will be working individually with those who signed up at the last meeting to share a little "snapshot" of their families history. Hopefully, when you see this "snapshot" you will feel this is something you *can* do, too!

Our October meeting will feature Scott Johnson, who will talk on the Mountain Men of

the 1820's. Incidentally, I decided to review the 1820's, so I Googled it. It's so amazing what you can find! If you go there you can find one of several sites telling you about what happened at that time but I found the Census Map Data site on one. It gives you the ability to see the whole United States, county by county and breaks down the census by male/female and by 4 or 5 racial types. It was very enlightening.

Well, that's enough for now. Looking forward to seeing you all October 18th. Enjoy the weather.

In your service, Stephanie McLeod, Pres.

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At Our September Meeting

Last month we were privileged to hear a presentation by Michael Gleason titled **Documenting Your Past**.

Documenting Your Past provides a searchable database of envelopes, letters, postcards, documents, checks, receipts and other items pertaining to our ancestors daily lives from the early 1800's through 1930.

The database is searchable by first or last name, date, town, or state. Each item contains a brief description and scans of the information contained within. Should you so desire, the original items are all available for sale, or for a fee, copies can be provided. Once an item is sold, the information is maintained in the database to allow future researchers access to the information.

They also provide a watch list you may sign up for that will automatically notify you should a name you are searching for be added to our database.

This service may be found at the following Web site:

documentingyourpast.com.

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Genealogy Without Proof is Mythology!

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Upcoming Programs 2014-2015	
November 15	Share, Tell and Ask - presented by the program committee
December 20	Annual Christmas Party and election of officers
January 24	Beginner's Program, Part 1 - details to be announced
February 21	Beginner's Program, Part 2 - details to be announced
March 21	TBA

What is Elephind?

Elephind.com is a search engine that operates much like Google, Bing, Yahoo and other search engines. What makes Elephind different is that it searches only historical, digitized newspapers. Rather than having to visit the web site of each collection separately, you may search for free across many newspaper sites simultaneously.

Some current facts about Elephind:

- 2,677 newspaper titles indexed.
 - Two and a half million editions, from March 1803 to August 2013 included.
 - The Elephind search engine has indexed 141,628,238 items from 2,677 newspaper titles including sites like Chronicling America (the U.S.'s Library of Congress) and Trove (National Library of Australia), as well as smaller collections.
 - Many of the smaller newspaper sites are not well known and may be difficult to find with the usual search engines.
 - A list of available newspaper collections that have been indexed so far is available at <http://goo.gl/VRQN5I>.
- Elephind may be found at <http://www.elephind.com>.

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Now Online: Official Records of the Union & Confederate Navies

We read a lot about soldiers in the American Civil War, but not much is said about the sailors in the navies of each side. Yet, maritime battles played a significant role in this war. If you have ancestors that you believe may have served in one navy or the other, here is a new resource to research: Official Records of the Union and Confederate Navies.

Fold3.com has recently added this to their collection. This collection contains the two navies' official reports, orders, and correspondence from the Civil War. It is great source for first-hand information about the Northern and Southern navies.



Crew of the USS Monitor

Originally compiled by the Navy Department, the Official Records of the Navies you will find this information in two series:

- Series I, 27 individual volumes which documents all wartime operations of the two navies.
- Series II, 3 volumes and an index includes with statistical data of Union and Confederate ships, letters of marque and reprisal, Confederate departmental investigations, Navy and State department correspondence, proclamations and appointments of President Davis, and more.

You can subscribe to Fold3 at fold3.com or visit it free at your local family history center.

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A will is a dead giveaway.

New Books in the DCR Library as of September 2014 On the New Book rack

Note – Have a look at the Alabama Records volumes below. They have births, deaths, probate records, cemeteries and much more! And Genealogical Research in England and Wales – maps to die for!

Alabama records, volume 195 : Madison County / compiled by Kathleen Paul Jones and Pauline Jones Gandrud.
976.1 JON

Alabama records : volume 235, Madison County / compiled by Kathleen Paul Jones and Pauline Jones Gandrud.
976.1 JON

Alabama records : volume 204, Blount County / compiled by Kathleen Paul Jones and Pauline Jones Gandrud.
976.1 JON

Alabama records : Volume 201 : Madison County / compiled by Pauline Jones Gandrud.
976.1 JON

Alabama records : volume 245, Blount County / compiled by Pauline Jones Gandrud.
976.1 JON

Alabama records : volume 236, Marion County / compiled by Kathleen Paul Jones and Pauline Jones Gandrud.
976.1 JON

Amended index : Sonoma County homestead declarations. [Santa Rosa, Calif.] : Sonoma County Genealogical Society, [1985] [1985]
979.418 AME

Amended index Sonoma County homestead declarations. by Sonoma County Genealogical Society.
979.418 SON

Atlas of Cass County, Nebraska / [compiled by R.C. Booth Enterprises].
978.2272 ATL

Clark and Estill Counties : biographical sketches from Kentucky genealogy and biography, W.H. Perrin, 1887, volume #2.
976.95 CLA

Clinton County, Missouri federal census of 1850 and patrons of atlas of 1876 / compiled and published by Miss Nadine Hodges, Mrs. Howard W. Woodruff.
977.8155 HOD

Declaration of intention and naturalization, circuit court, Midland, MI, 1855-1907. Cover: naturalization records 1855-1907...
977.448 DEC

Early marriage, Shiawassee Co., Michigan, 1837-1862, by Hammell, George L.
977.426 HAM

A family's Mennonite history : the story of our Claassen, Epp, Harms, Koop, Neufeld, Plenert, Ratzlaff, Unruh, and Warkentin ancestry / Kenneth L. Ratzlaff.
921 RAT V.1

Genealogical research in England and Wales, by David E. Gardner and Frank Smith vols 1 & 2
942 GAR

Historical highlights of Polk County, Iowa, by Robert R. Denny and Le Roy G. Pratt.
977.758 DEN

The Illustrated road book of England & Wales : with gazetteer, itineraries, maps and town plans.
by Automobile Association (Great Britain)
942 ILL

Lancaster County, Pennsylvania cemetery surname index / compiled by Bob & Mary Closson.
974.815 CLO

Marriage bonds of Franklin County, Virginia 1786-1858, by Wingfield, Marshall, b. 1893.
975.568 WIN

Purity and its people : a history of Purity Presbyterian Church, Chester, South Carolina, 1787-1987 / by Dawson, Edward Hood
975.747 DAW

Revolutionary incidents and sketches of character, chiefly in the "Old North State" / by E.W. Caruthers ; typed and indexed by Ruth F. Thompson.

Spine: the Old North State
975.6 CAR

Tennessee census 1820, Franklin County : fourth census of the United States / [copied by] Cloie Presley.
976.863 TEN

Who's looking for whom in native American ancestry / Laurie Beth Duffy.

970.1 DUF

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STARTING on TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER 23 at 8:00PM

FINDING OUR ROOTS
WITH HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR.

Harvard Scholar, Henry Louis Gates, Jr. has been helping people identify relatives hidden for generations. Professor Gates employs a team of genealogists and the world's leading geneticists to uncover the origins of a diverse group of 30 guests.

You can watch the episodes on your local PBS channel.

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(The following is a continuation of a series of sites for searching WW1 records of those who served from the United Kingdom.)

WHERE TO FIND BRITISH ARMY SERVICE RECORDS

What you can find on Ancestry.com

British Army WWI Pension Records 1914-1920

This database contains service records of non-commissioned officers and other ranks who were discharged from the Army and claimed disability pensions for service in WWI. These were also men who did not re-enlist in the Army prior to World War II. The type of information contained in these records

includes: name of soldier, age, birthplace, occupation, marital status, and regiment number.

British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914-1920 (featured in last month's Snoop)

This database contains the Medal Rolls Index, or Medal Index Cards. The collection currently contains approximately 4.8 million people, which is nearly all of the total collection. The records can be searched by first and last name and Corps, Unit or Regiment. These cards were created by the Army Medal Office (AMO) of the United Kingdom in Droitwich near the close of World War I (WWI).



UK, Soldiers Died in the Great War, 1914-1919

This database contains information extracted from 81 volumes of soldiers that died in World War I. It includes over 703,000 individuals.

Information listed may include: name of soldier, birthplace, enlistment place, residence, number, decoration, rank, regiment, battalion, type of casualty, death date, death place, and theater of war served in.

Looking for records of the First World War By the National Archives:

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/looking-for-subject/firstworldwar.htm>

This is a brief guide to researching British government and military records of the First World War. First World War records are wide-ranging and are kept in a variety of archives. This guide will help you gain a general overview of the main sources of the information that exists, and where to find it.

What records can I see online?



*Sergeant J.P. Kenneally, Vc -
1 Battalion, Irish Guards*

Military service records (c.1914-c.1920)

Search service records of British Army soldiers on Ancestry (£). Search and download (£) a selection of service records for the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force from Discovery, our catalogue. For further information on records of individuals browse our research guides.

- **Cabinet papers (1915-1981)**

Search our Cabinet Papers website for documents concerning decisions and discussions before, during, and after the First World War.

Explore additional records of the Cabinet and its wartime sub-committees, through our catalogue, in CAB 38 and CAB 42.

- **British Army unit war diaries (1914-1922)**

Download a selection of British Army unit war diaries (WO 95) for the First World War. The rest of the series, not yet digitised, can be accessed at The National Archives at Kew (see below).

Unit war diaries do not generally contain biographical information.

What records can I find at The National Archives at Kew?

- **British Army unit war diaries (1914-1922)**

Search WO 95 in our catalogue for war diaries from the First World War. These diaries were daily accounts of operations.

WW1 Websites

Visit the Imperial War Museum website for information on how to access records in their document archive and on the various collections held by the museum relevant to the First World War.

<http://www.iwm.org.uk/>

Explore the Education exhibition on The Great War 1914 to 1918 for an interactive history of the conflict.

<http://www.greatwar.co.uk/>

Find out about the British Army in the First World War on The Long, Long Trail website.

<http://www.1914-1918.net/>

Search The Times Archive and the Guardian and Observer Digital Archive to view articles (£) about the First World War.

Find records of injured First World War servicemen online for the first time. Over 1.3 million records from daily and weekly First World War casualty lists have been released online by **TheGenealogist**. This vast collection of unique records covers all ranks to help you discover more about your injured ancestor's wartime service.

The new records include career soldiers, volunteer Pals battalions, war poets and even a future Prime Minister, Harold Macmillan. The collection covers both those who died of their wounds and those who recovered and returned to the front.

Details include:-
the name of the injured serviceman,
his regiment and rank,
the date he was registered as a 'casualty' and often his home town or place of enlistment.

<http://www.thegenealogist.co.uk>

(Above: A British soldier delivering pigeons)



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 com

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 October 2014 issue is September 23, 2014.**

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	Stephanie McLeod
1st Vice President	Lois Jimenez
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Publicity	Open
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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: August 2014

Income	249.19
Expenses	(0.00)
Checking Balance	\$4,617.09
Savings Account:	3,864.95
CD-9 months; matures on 10/8/14	5,837.83
CD-12 months; matures on 5/19/15	5,657.82
<u>Total in Checking and Savings:</u>	<u>\$19,997.66</u>

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