

THE FAMILY SNOOP

MERCED COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME 37, No. 5

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2019

September 2019 Meeting



Getting the Most From:

**FamilySearch.org
&
Family History
Centers**

**By Kathryn
Marshall**

1:00 p.m. Saturday

September 21, 2019

Gracey Room, Merced County Library

2100 "O" Street, Merced

MERCED COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

October 2019 Meeting



1850's Researching Family in Mariposa County

**By
Tom Phillips
Historian, &
Past President
of the
Mariposa Museum
& History Center**

1:00 p.m. Saturday

October 18, 2019

Gracey Room, Merced County Library

2100 "O" Street, Merced

Presidents Message



Dear Friends, an important issue is coming up in the months ahead. The question is, will our Genealogy Society continue to function in harmony and unity if no one will step up and be of service in the positions of President, Vice-President and Secretary. I realize that you are all mostly retirees and getting on in age but unless you participate in the running of this Society, it will fall by the wayside. As you may or may not know a person can only serve 2 consecutive years as President. And so, I cannot run again nor do I want to, as I, and my father, have health issues that I have to respond to at a moment's notice. It is important that you all take turns helping the Merced County Genealogy Society stay functioning without having to beg for help. I have served many times as President and Secretary over the years. Now it is time for you to step up and volunteer for one of these positions with a happy heart and a helping hand. You have 3 1/2 months to make a decision.

In your Service,
Stephanie McLeod, President.

October Speaker: Tom Phillips

Our speaker for October will be Tom Phillips, historian and past president of the Mariposa Museum & History Center. Mariposa is a unique county in many respects, which makes it an important genealogical source for those with California ancestry. It has been named "The Mother Of Counties." It was at one time the state's largest county, but was ceded over time to form all or part of 12 other counties. Its history includes that of John C. Freemont and the movable Rancho Las Mariposas Land Grant. Come join us in October to learn more about the Mariposa Museum & History Center

Meetings for 2019

| Date | Program |
|--------------|---|
| September 21 | Getting The Most From: FamilySearch.org & Family History Centers. Kathryn Marshall |
| October 19 | 1850's - Researching family in Mariposa County named "The Mother Of Counties": The state's largest county was ceded over time to form all or part of 12 other counties. - Mariposa Museum & History Center - John C. Freemont and the movable Rancho Las Mariposas Land Grant. By Tom Phillips: Historian, & Past President of the Mariposa Museum & History Center |
| November 16 | Ancestry.com: Navigate the Bells and Whistles and see how to get the most out of the new ThruLines, & Tags , plus DNA, Photos, Messaging, and More! Also the Cousin, Uncle, Aunt, & Grandparent Relationship Chart. By Darel Scoggin |
| December 21 | Annual Holiday Potluck |

Meeting Attendance & Members

July/August 2019

July: Members 15 + 2 Guests totaling 17

August: Members 0 + 0 Guests totaling 0

Total Members: 70 active

New members:

July Birthday Celebration Show & Tell



Nancy Tinsley shared a personal history written by her half-great uncle, Oscar Whitten, when he was 96 years old. It was originally shared with his great-grandson, Orrin Lay. She said it was sent to her by another family researcher. This history told about his family who

crossed the plains to Oregon. He died a few months after giving his history.

Barbara (Boyd) Lindenberg shared a picture of her paternal grandmother. She told us house while she



was Googling her paternal grandmother's name, a formal picture of her and her husband popped up. It appears to be a wedding photograph. However, the man is not Barbara's grandfather. Before that, she did not know that her paternal grandmother had been married before marrying her grandfather.

Gayle Lee shared about a cookbook put together by her grandmother Olin Gustava Pulley. It had contained pictures of all of her grandmother's sisters but none of her grandfather or her brother's. Grandpa had taken all of the boys and shave their heads so they wouldn't have been seen in the photo!



my grandmother got her name as Aunt Elena was not happy that the firstborn had her name as a middle name. My

cousin put the cookbook together with this photo on the cover.

My cousin wrote to all of the ancestors of the ladies in the photo asking for recipes from their mothers. There are family photos on each page of

that person's recipes. She will bring the cookbook another time.

From **Roberta Saling**: I have shared before that I have travel documents for my grandparents and great-grands who arrived in American in 1912. With those records I have been attempted to find the date of my grandparent's marriage in Russia.

The relationship of who I am looking for is my Maternal grandparents Wilhelmina (Balliet) and Frederick Berkerchert. After many searches on Ancestry, Family search, trips to Salt Lake City, through many records from Russian – translated to English - I could not find the date of their marriage anywhere.

My grandfather died in San Francisco 1945 and my grandmother remarried in 1946 to my Grandpa



Joe. Again, no record could be found on this marriage either. So, I guess I gave up...

I cannot stress enough... Look for it one more time!

One day I was checking Naturalization records one more time. There it was – Frederick's application and his photo too. And on the application along with many questions was "Date of Marriage" Answer: November 8, 1908. in Grosliebental Russia.

Thought about checking UP-DATED Marriage Records for San Francisco for 1945 to see if her second marriage might be on line. And there it was Wilhelmina Berkerchert to my step-grandfather in 1945. Puzzle solved – actually two puzzles. Now I have my grandparents marriage date, plus her second marriage date and have added two more pieces of information to my family records.

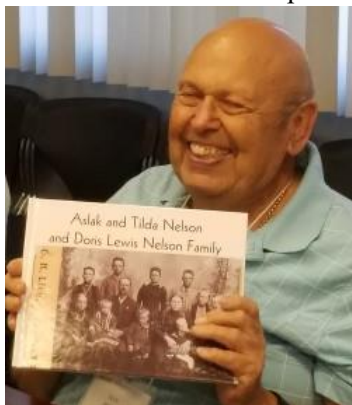
Stephanie (Muench) McLeod shared how her maiden surname traveled the pathway from Minnick to Muench. through research, she discovered the name goes back to the 1700s in America. Been through entering the name munch oh, she came up with the history of the name and how they originally were from Basel Switzerland. There, her early ancestors were clerics for the Pope. the name Munch means quote Monk. Close quotes. She also found out that these monks in Switzerland where the Muench men were known as warrior monks.

Darel Scoggin gave a short PowerPoint presentation about the Billups Bible Providence. He



shared how he received a message there was a Billups Bible. He checked out eBay's photos of the handwritten names, events, births, and dance, and confirmed it was Bill Billups senior's family tree. The Bible was very used, worn, and well-read. The first owner was Bill seniors paternal grandmother, Elisa M. (Marshall) Billups who started writing the dates of births, marriages, and deaths. The first entries were for her husband, James Lincoln Billups, and her birth date and their marriage date. Bill senior's birth date was recorded.

Darel was able to establish that the Bible was passed down through the family until it ended up in the possession of Randy Drager, who appears to have never married and died in 2010 at the age of 57. The Bible was purchased at an estate sale by Ebay seller Jenee, "celtikmoon." The Bible and accompanying photos and documentation are spotted on Ebay by Della. She researched the names on Ancestry and located Darel as a Billups relative. After establishing the Bible belonged to family, Darel bought it 24 Oct 2018. In January 2019, Darel presented this Bible to Bill, senior, and his son William C. "Bill" Billups to include in their family



treasures. Darel gave special thanks to Jenee, "Celtikmoon," for spotting the Bible and attempting to locate a family member for it. It was the fifth family Bible she had been able to reunite with its correct family.

Ken Hope shared some books of his family history.

Welcome to Asylum Projects

A historic asylum wiki anyone can edit



The Mission

The mission of this site is to archive both historical and current information on asylums across the United States and around the world.

The Statement

This site is dedicated to the history of asylums in all forms. The term of asylum is applied to not only what is commonly thought of: mental hospitals, but can also be applied to sanatoriums, state training schools, reform schools, almshouses, and orphanages. These institutions have and continue to play a major part in today's society.

Everyone throughout the United States and in many other countries has in one way or another felt the touch of these institutions. These places have both directly and indirectly affected people and their families. They have shaped lives and created many popular myths about them.

With all that in mind, this site was created to help in the historical research of any institutions that can be classified as an asylum. It was created for both serious researchers, those who are doing genealogical research, and people with an interest in asylums.

http://www.asylumprojects.org/index.php/Main_Page?fbclid=IwAR1rJPvIOQHWwg2wiRH4Iwp7ai0OAKnu30hW-d_r8cQeM805AzC_-hoRV8

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.

MCGS New Book List

August 2019

| | |
|--------------|--|
| 325.243 RIP | The German-Americans / La Vern J. Rippley |
| 622.342 JOH | Gold diggers atlas, 2d ed. / Robert Neil Johnson |
| 921 HOL | A history of the Holt family in Washington County, Arkansas / Ruth Holt Payne |
| 929 FRI | Unlocking the secrets in old photographs / by Karen Frisch-Ripley |
| 929.1 YAT | Researching Masonic records : a guide for genealogists / by John S. Yates |
| 942 MON | Monumental inscriptions in the Library of the Society of Genealogists / edited by Lydia Collins |
| 942 FRE | List of emigrants to America from Liverpool: 1697-1707, by Elizabeth French |
| 973 GUI | Guide to Swedish-American archival and manuscript sources in the United States / Swedish-American Historical Society |
| 973 SCH | War of 1812 genealogy / by George K. Schweitzer |
| 973 SCH | Civil War genealogy: a basic research guide for tracing your Civil War ancestors, with detailed sources and precise instructions for obtaining information from them / by George K. Schweitzer |
| 974.7 CAM | The border warfare of New York, during the revolution : or, The annals of Tryon County / by William W. Campbell |
| 974.7 DIX | Palatine roots : the 1710 German settlement in New York as experienced by Johann Peter Wagner / by Nancy Wagoner Dixon |
| 974.745 SIM | History of Schoharie county and border wars of New York : containing also a sketch of the causes which led to the American revolution ; and interesting memoranda of the Mohawk valley ; together with much other historical and miscellaneous matter, never before published ; illustrated with more than thirty engravings / by Jephtha R. Simms |
| 974.76 PEN | Mohawk Valley in the Revolution : Committee of Safety papers & genealogical compendium / Maryly B. Penrose |
| 974.8 HUL | Ancestral Charts:Articles of Confederation edition, 1777-1977 / by Rosaleen Hulshart |
| 975.2 GLA | The Glades star, vol. 4 (1969-1977) / Garrett County [MD] Historical Society [we now have volumes 1 through 6 |
| 975.401 WIL | Preston County, West Virginia, Methodist Church baptisms and marriages, 1852-1863 / Mary K. Williams |
| 975.401 WIL | Preston County, West Virginia, newspaper marriage and death notices, 1861, 1866-1868 / Mary K. Williams |
| 975.482 GOW | The Aurora documents: an accurate and complete translation and transcription of books I and II of the original records of Saint Paul's Lutheran Church, Aurora Preston County, West Virginia (founded March 24, 1787) / by Karl K. Gower |
| 975.5 WOR | A brief of wills and marriages in Montgomery and Fincastle Counties, Virginia, 1733-1831 / compiled by Anne Lowry Worrell |
| 975.5 WOR | Over the mountain men; their early court records in southwest Virginia / compiled by Anne Lowry Worrell |
| 976.8 WHI | The king's mountain men : the story of the battle, with sketches of the American soldiers who took part / by Katherine Keogh White |
| 976.8885 SHI | The Cades Cove story / A. Randolph Shields [Cades Cove, Tennessee] |
| 977.7 GRI | Schleswig in Iowa / Larry Grill |
| 977.8 BRO | Knights of the bush: and other confederates of Vernon County, Missouri / by Patrick Brophy |
| 978.2 SOD | Sod house memories, volumes I - II - III ; a compilation of sod house experiences, including a definitive history of the period in Nebraska, with maps, photographs, and index / Frances Jacobs Alberts, editor |
| 978.227 NOB | Historically eventful Nebraska City / by Glenn Noble |
| 979.463 MAY | A Brief historical sketch of the city of San Pablo, California / compiled by William H. Maynard |
| 979.463 VOV | Establishment of the Rancho El Pinole / by Edgar A. Vovsi |
| 979.497 HUD | They passed this way: biographical sketches; tales of historic Temecula Valley at the crossroads of California's southern immigrant trail / by Tom Hudson and Sam Hicks |

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 Nov/Dec 2019 issue by October 25th to robynechols AT gmail DOT com.**

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 | |
| Vice President | John Barnhart | |
| Secretary | Barbara Lindenberg | |
| Treasurer | Sharon Darby | |
| Membership | Margie Barnhart | |
| Hospitality | Howard & Judy Smith | |
| Past President | Wayne Wallace | |
| Programs | Shari Stetson, Michle Burroughs, Susan Brower, Darel Scoggin | |
| <i>The Family Snoop</i> Editor | Robyn Echols | |

Family History Center

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

1080 E Yosemite Ave Merced. 722-1307

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday:

10:00 am-4:00 pm

7:00 pm-9:00 pm

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

June / July / August 2019

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Income | 50.00 |
| Expenses | (464.45) |
| Checking Balance | \$5,150.15 |
| Savings Account: | 100.03 |
| CD-2-Yr, matures on 5/20/21 | 16,111.81 |
| Savings Balance | \$16,211.84 |

Total in Checking and Savings: \$21,361.99

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