



ROOTS AND GOLD DUST Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 1354 Diamond Springs, CA 95619

Roots and Gold Dust Newsletter – June 2009

Roots and Gold Dust meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month (except December) at the Family History Center in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints building at 3275 Cedar Ravine, Placerville at 1 p.m. Refreshments are provided.

For information or membership inquiries, please contact Carol Sexton at: ecskelsey@yahoo.com

Visit our website @
<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cargdgs/index.htm>.

2009 MEETING DATES & AGENDA

June 16, 2009	Collateral Research w/ Pam Dallas
July 21, 2009	Collateral Research Workshop
August 18, 2009	Civil War (<i>Pending</i>)
September 15, 2009	
October 13, 2009	
November 17, 2009	
December – NO Meeting	
January 19, 2010	

More details to follow as we put together the speakers schedule and make arrangements for the workshops.

YOUR BOARD MEMBERS:

President:	Carol Sexton
Vice President:	Harvey Andrews
Secretary:	Sandy Madiera
Treasurer:	Linda Galley
Library Liaison:	Judy Williams
Program Director:	Dale Castle
Newsletter/Web:	Paul Hodel

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, June 16 at 1:00pm

For our June meeting, Pam Dallas will be speaking with us on:

“What Your Siblings Will Tell You That Your Ancestors Won't - Collateral Research”

Collateral research is an essential tool for conducting good genealogy research, but it is especially necessary when looking for those elusive answers such as maiden names, and other brick wall problems. Discover the many ways collateral research can enhance your research by attending this meeting. As a follow-up to Pam's presentation, we will be having a workshop on Collateral Research at our July meeting.

RECAP OF THE MAY MEETING

Now this was REALLY a unique and interesting meeting.

Mary Ann Harper has volunteered to be our official greeter and she started in her new capacity at this meeting. If you haven't been to a meeting lately and you decide to attend, you will know who that blond lady is who runs up and pounces on you as you walk in the door.

We were happy to see Sandy Madiera back. She's been absent from the last couple of meetings. Something about a cast on her right leg, so she couldn't drive. We want to thank Mary Jo

O'Shaughnessy and Ruth O'Brien for filling in while she was gone.

As our President, Carol Sexton, was tied up with other obligations and couldn't be at the meeting until late, Lyn Mizzell, one of our past presidents, stepped up and presided over the meeting. After the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports, Mary Ann Harper asked if everyone could introduce themselves. We all took turns introducing and, telling a little about ourselves, our history in genealogy, some of our family history, etc. It was really a wonderful time getting to hear people's stories about their families and their love of genealogy and how it had brought them closer to their ancestors. It took a little while for everyone to have a turn, but it was well worth while.

We were fortunate to have Barbara Leak speak with us on Land Records at our April meeting. She covered the various types of land records, where to find them, how to interpret them, pitfalls to look out for, and offered a number of helpful tips to using land records to do your genealogical research. As a follow-up to this presentation, our May meeting was to be a workshop dealing with land records. And, believe it or not, we actually did spend time talking about land records. People talked about some of the sources they used and where they could get information as well as shared stories about land records. We were fortunate to have a special visitor at this meeting. Art Galley, a licensed surveyor and husband of our Treasurer, Linda Galley, was at the meeting. He shared some of his experiences in genealogy with us and made himself available to answer any questions we had. We need to invite him to come again sometime. I don't know about everyone else, but after I got home and started to think about the meeting, I thought of a couple more questions I would like to ask him sometime.

ROOTS AND GOLD DUST WEBSITE

Stop by, browse and let us know what you think. It's undergoing constant upgrade and we need your input.

www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cargdgs/index.htm .

GRAVELY SPEAKING

On a tombstone in a cemetery in England:

*Remember man, as you walk by,
As you are now, so once was I.
As I am now, so shall you be.
Remember this and follow me.*

To which someone replied by writing on the tombstone:

*"To follow you I'll not consent.
Until I know which way you went."*

BOOK FUND

No new book donations to report since last month. We still have two people who need to choose books. We should also be having a book drawing at the next meeting so you'll want to be there to try your luck!

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 22, 2009

**Nevada County Genealogical Society's
16th Annual Genealogy Seminar**

"Digging For Your Roots" will be Saturday, August 22, 2009 in Grass Valley. They are offering a wide variety of classes. Take a look at their website for more information, a schedule of classes and a registration form.

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cancgs/Seminar.PDF>

October 10, 2009

Family History Day, Sacramento

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 10. Family History Day is sponsored by the Genealogical & Historical Council of Sacramento Valley, California State Archives and Root Cellar Genealogical Society. This is an all day affair and admission is free. There will be a variety of genealogy classes, various clubs and organizations will have informative display tables in the main room, and it's a good opportunity to visit the Root

Cellar Library where they have some good research books, also the State Archives offers tours. There will be more information available soon. Our club should consider having a display table at this informative event

GENIE RESOURCES

In each of the monthly newsletters, we will be presenting available sources of genealogical information. These may be local research locations, websites, places to write or visit, etc. If you have a source that you would like to share, please contact the newsletter writer at pljhodel@hotmail.com or call 530-622-3299.

Research Outlines

At our last meeting, someone asked if the FHC still had the Research Outlines available. If you want the research outline for a specific state or country, you can visit the Family Search website and find them there along with a wealth of other research forms

For these and much more, visit Family Search at: <http://www.familysearch.org/> and click on the "Research Helps" tab at the top.

U.S. Government Land Patents

As we learned from Barbara Leak's talk and discussion at our last meeting, the land record of land transfers from the government to individuals was a Patent. The Bureau of Land Management has a website which provides live access to Federal land conveyance records for the Public Land States. Not only are records searchable, but with a number of them, you can view and print scans of the actual documents. They also have available scans of Field Notes and Federal Survey Plats. Not all of these are available yet as they are still in the process of scanning and uploading them.

This site also has a section which explains a lot about the various government land records, their description and use. Anyone who is looking at government land records can find a wealth of

information in this section. So if you want to view government land records and/or learn more about them, visit their site at:

<http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/>

Pennsylvania State Archives

In discussing land records, someone brought up the land records available through the State of Pennsylvania's Archives. If you're looking for information from Pennsylvania, the Archive's website is the place to go. These people have really been busy scanning in old documents. It's what some would call a genealogist's treasure chest. This can be accessed through the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission's website at: http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/phmc_home/1426 . and click on the "State Archives" tab. Have fun browsing.

MEET OUR MEMBERS

(In Their Own Words)

Judy Williams

I was born and for the most part raised in Southern California. I had 3 boys with my first husband. After we divorced I went to work for Los Angeles County where I met my present husband, Jack. We worked for Los Angeles County, Department of Health Services, for 20 years. Most of that time I worked in downtown Los Angeles at LAC-USC Medical Center (General Hospital) for the Director of Medical Records. In 1986 we retired and moved to Placerville. Between the two of us we have 6 children, 26 grandchildren, and 7 great grandchildren. Unfortunately, none of them live in Northern California.

We have always had a travel trailer or a fifth wheeler and have taken many trips in them over the years. However, in the last few years the trips have dwindled to "kid visit trips".

I first became interested in genealogy around 1968 when a co-worker introduced me to it. It was about that time that my mother inherited a hand-written book which her grandmother had done. However, I didn't pursue it until about 10 years after I retired.

Sorry to say, I haven't gotten any farther back than the original information I had. However, I have enjoyed tracing the migration and lives of my ancestors and have met distant cousins via the internet. There is so much more to genealogy than just names and dates.

I haven't done much research on my husbands' side because it had already been done. There are published books on his maternal side, Gooch, and his paternal side, Williams (his great-great grandfather was referred to as the "Father of Chattanooga"). As with most family histories there is still missing information I'd like to find someday.

I am researching **Brasfield, Bramlett, Comstock, Wilson, Ansted, O'Shields, Ware, Williams, Gooch** and **Cowart**.

Judy spends a lot of time working at the Family History Center and is our Library Liaison.

LOCAL HISTORY

Old St. Patrick's Catholic Cemetery

Many people are familiar with St. Patrick's Catholic Cemetery located on Green Street in Placerville, but how many of you know about the original St. Patrick's Cemetery? The original St. Patrick's Catholic Church Cemetery was your typical church cemetery located next to the church on Sacramento Street in Placerville between Pacific and Fisk Streets. The earliest known interment was that of Rosana Kennedy who was buried there November 27, 1851. This cemetery served the Catholic faithful until the mid 1950's when the church was expanded. To make room for the expansion, the new cemetery was established on Green Street, just off of Tunnel Street. Those interred in the old cemetery were not disturbed, but rather the cemetery was covered over by the new church site. One of the last people buried in this area was Monsignor Thomas J. Hayes (1881-1952) who served as Pastor at St. Patrick's Church from 1922 until his death in 1952. He is not interred in the cemetery itself but rather, under the church's altar. All total, there are 98 known burials at the old

cemetery, although there may be more from the Gold Rush days that were not recorded.



Even though the cemetery itself is no longer visible, the church has placed a special memorial at the southeast corner of the church building remembering those members buried there.

To reach St. Patrick's from downtown Placerville, take Highway 49 south towards Diamond Springs. As you start up the hill you will see St. Patrick's Church on your left. Just as you get past the church, turn left on Fisk Street, then make another left into their parking lot. The memorial is located just to the right of the church building.

GENIE TIP

Make a calendar with your ancestor's dates of birth on it. Then on the ancestor's birthday, review the information you have about that person. This might help you find something in your files that you had forgotten.

Genealogy Tip of the Day by Michael John Neill

GENIE BUMPER STICKER

Shake your family tree and watch the nuts fall!

Have a great month! We'll see you at the next meeting.