



# ROOTS AND GOLD DUST Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 1354 Diamond Springs, CA 95619

Roots and Gold Dust Newsletter – August 2009

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Roots and Gold Dust meetings are held at 1:00 p.m. on the third 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. Refreshments are provided.

For information or membership inquiries, please contact Carol Sexton at: [ecskelsey@yahoo.com](mailto:ecskelsey@yahoo.com).

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

## 2009 MEETING DATES & AGENDA

August 18 Presentation by the Sons of the American Revolution  
September 15 *{to be announced}*  
October 13 Officer nominations  
November 17 Election of officers  
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, August 18 at 1:00 pm

For our August meeting, we will be pleased to have a representative from the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) talk to us about their organization. The SAR is a very active organization and has recently formed a chapter in our area. This will be a great opportunity to learn about membership in this organization, some of the projects they work on and what they do to help the community.

## RECAP OF THE JULY MEETING

About 20 people attended the July meeting, including guests Eloise Miller and Mary Lee Gilland..

We did some follow up on our June topic, Collateral Research, also known as Cluster Research. There was some discussion on that as well as a number of other topics that came up including the variations in names, especially how some names changed when families came to the USA. We also had a discussion on relationships between people (*No, not that type of relationships! We were talking about relationships like are they a second cousin once removed or a fourth cousin twice removed.*) A number of the members swapped stories or tidbits about things they had discovered while doing their genealogy.

## THOUGHTS ON A CEMETERY

*"People don't die,  
They just become one with nature"*

### NEW AT THE LIBRARY:

No new books have been turned over to the library this month. There are still two of you who were drawn and still need to choose the book, CD, etc. of your choice.

### SAY WHAT?

These are copies of actual questions and requests received by the Family History Department at the LDS Library in Salt Lake City.

[*Sorry, I just couldn't let these pass without some comments. FHD Editor*]

- *Documentation: Family Bible in possession of Aunt Merle until the tornado hit Topeka, Kansas. Now only the Good Lord knows where it is.* [Good enough for us, but not the DAR.]
- *The wife of #22 could not be found. Somebody suggested that she might have been stillborn, what do you think?* [Probably not.]
- *I am mailing you my aunt and uncle and 3 of their children.* [Why not let them come in on their own?]
- *Enclosed please find my Grandmother. I have worked on her for 30 years without success. Now see what you can do!* [If you can't handle her, how do you expect us to?]
- *I have a hard time finding myself in London. If I were there I was very small and cannot be found.* [Try staying out of the pubs!]

### ROOTS AND GOLD DUST WEBSITE

Stop by, browse and let us know what you think. The website is undergoing constant upgrade and we need your input.

[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cargdgs/index.htm](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cargdgs/index.htm) .

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**August 3 – 17, 2009**  
**Family History Center Closed**

The Family History Center will be closed August 3 - 17. If you have ordered microfilm, be sure to review it before August 3rd (of course it wouldn't be a good idea to order any between now and Aug. 3rd.) If you haven't been using this valuable resource, stop by before the 3<sup>rd</sup> and see what all they have, that will give you a few days to prepare to go back after the 17<sup>th</sup> to do some research.

**August 22, 2009**  
**Nevada County Genealogical Society's**  
**16<sup>th</sup> Annual Genealogy Seminar**

"Digging For Your Roots" will be held on Saturday, August 22, 2009 in Grass Valley 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. The Family History Day will be held at the California State Archives located at 1020 "O" St. in Sacramento from 8:30 am until 4:00 pm. 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. You can get more information by visiting the Archives website at: <http://www.sos.ca.gov/archives/events/fhd.htm> or the Roots Cellar website at: <http://www.rootcellar.org/FHD2009Flyer.pdf> .

## BOOK FUND

A big Thank You to all of you who donate so generously to the Book Fund. It is a donation to the future of genealogy and a wonderful gift to others who are trying to find their ancestors. Reminder: two of you who were drawn a while back still need to pick out your books.

### WITH AGE COMES WISDOM

*This guy is 72 years old and loves to fish. He was sitting in his boat the other day when he heard a voice say, "Pick me up."*

*He looked around and couldn't see any one. He thought he was dreaming when he heard the voice say a gain, "Pick me up."*

*He looked in the water and there, floating on the top, was a frog. The man said, "Are you talking to me?"*

*The frog said, "Yes, I'm talking to you. Pick me up then, kiss me and I'll turn into the most beautiful woman you have ever seen. I'll make sure that all your friends are envious and jealous because I will be your bride!"*

*The man looked at the frog for a short time, reached over, picked it up carefully, and placed it in his front breast pocket.*

*Then the frog said, "What, are you nuts? Didn't you hear what I said? I said kiss me and I will be your beautiful bride."*

*He opened his pocket, looked at the frog and said, "Nah, at my age I'd rather have a talking frog."*

### 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](mailto:pljhodel@hotmail.com) or call 530-622-3299.

Contributed by Lin Mizell: Ontario, Canada's adoption records are now open at:

[www.ontario.ca/adoptioninfo](http://www.ontario.ca/adoptioninfo)

## State Library, Sacramento: New Hours

In order to comply with the Governor's Furlough Order, the State Library, at 900 "N" St in Sacramento, will be closed the first, second, and third Fridays of each month, until further notice. Hours are 9:30 am to 4:00 pm Monday through Friday. As announced in last months newsletter, the Sutro Library has also instituted the same Friday's off change.

### iroots.net Tools for Genealogists

At our last meeting there was a discussion on how to figure out what a person's true relationship was to a relative, were they a GGNiece or a first cousin twice removed? A relationship chart was handed out to those in attendance. This relationship chart/calculator as well as others is available at iroots.net tools menu. The following tools are currently available at iRoots.Net:

- Cousin Calcualtor - Determine the relationship between two people with a common ancestor. Web version and downloadable versions.
- Soundex Calcualtor - Quickly calculate the soundex code for a surname.
- Places - Show the county or get a map for any "populated place" in the U.S. (even many that don't exist any more).
- Cemetery Finder - Locate a cemetery anywhere (well almost) in the U.S.
- LookUp Library - Request "lookups" in other people's books.
- WebEdit - Web tool that allows files to be edited by a group of people.

Visit this tool menu at: <http://www.iroots.net/tools/>.

### TOMBSTONE HUMOR

*A lawyer's epitaph in England :*

*"Sir John Strange"  
"Here lies an honest lawyer,  
and that is Strange"*

## LOCAL HISTORY

### Uniontown Cemetery, Lotus



This cemetery was established in the 1850s and served the boom town of Marshall which was an early gold and silver mining town. An estimated two thousand miners were engaged in working the portion of the South Fork of the American River. The town's original name was Marshall and changed to Uniontown in 1855 and then to Lotus in 1861 when the post office was established in the town. Title to the cemetery was vested in the County in 1879. The gold and silver didn't last and the town suffered. Today only a few buildings remain to remind visitors of the mining days. A number of the old stones in the cemetery are in very remarkable condition given their age.

#### Getting There:

Take Lotus Road to the old town of Lotus. At the south end of town, turn west onto Bassi Rd. The first road to the right is an access road to a couple of houses as well as the access to the cemetery. There is a sign at the road denoting the cemetery. Take this road a couple of hundred yards to the cemetery.

#### GENIE BUMPER STICKERS

*"A pack rat is hard to live with,  
but makes a fine ancestor."*

*"My family coat of arms ties at the back..  
..is that normal?"*

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