



ROOTS AND GOLD DUST

Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 1354 Diamond Springs, CA 95619

Roots and Gold Dust Newsletter–May 2010

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.

Our newsletter is sent out around the first of each month, depending on how fast our editor is.

For information or membership inquiries, please contact Paul Hodel at pljhodel@hotmail.com or by phone at (530)622-3299.

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

2010 MEETING DATES & AGENDA

May 18, 2010	Meeting and Tour at the El Dorado County Museum
June 15, 2010	Carol Sexton will be talking about Snowshoe Thompson
July 20, 2010	<i>To Be Announced</i>
August 17, 2010	<i>To Be Announced</i>
September 21, 2010	<i>To Be Announced</i>
October 19, 2010	<i>To Be Announced</i>
November 16, 2010	Election of Officers, “Show and Tell”
December 2010,	No Meeting

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

RECAP OF OUR LAST MEETING

April 20, 2010

What a meeting! There were 26 folks attending. We had our “regulars”, we had people there that we haven’t seen in ages, we had visitors, we had former members that have come back and rejoined, and we even had some members that were snowed in and couldn’t make it. Barbara Zigelhofer was our greeter at this meeting, Thank You Barbara. And thanks to Barbara Doying and Mary Jo O’Shaughnessy for the yummy refreshments.

And, wow, was I ever wrong. When Carlyn told me our April meeting was going to be a speaker on Internet Security, I was thinking it was going to be really dry. Not!!! Not when you have Lynn Brown giving the presentation! We kept her going for over an hour and a half. Everyone had questions and we all learned a lot about the internet and how to protect ourselves and others while we are using the internet. I didn’t even know there was such a thing as Web 1.0 and I found out that a lot of the internet sites are now Web 2.0 and Web 3.0 isn’t all that far off. (Our website is an early Web 1.0. Sorry, but our webmaster isn’t that web savvy.) I’m sure that many of those attending went home and started checking to see what software they were using, which firewalls they had in place and what was switched on or off in their setups.

GENEALOGY HUMOR

My Ancestors must be in a witness protection program.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, Sat 18th at 1:00.pm

Pack you a brown bag lunch and join us at the El Dorado County Museum located next to the entrance to the Fairgrounds for our May meeting.

For those who want to get there a little early, we will be having a “Bring-your-own-brown-bag-lunch” in the Wine Garden next to the Museum starting at 12:00 Noon.

At 1:00 we will be having a tour of the Museum and the Research area. Mary Cory, the Museum’s Director and some of the docents are preparing a program that is sure to delight everyone attending. And knowing Mary, when she does something, it’s done right! Those of you who have never visited the museum will be amazed at what you’ve been missing and those of you who haven’t been there lately are in for new treats. There are a lot of local people from all walks of life and with all sorts of varied interests who volunteer at the Museum. (Some of these volunteers are members of Roots and Gold Dust). Therefore the Museum showcases a wide variety of historical interests on El Dorado County. The Research Room is such a wealth of knowledge for genealogists and historians alike. Every time you go there you will find something new, well, not “new”, but new to us.

TOMBSTONE EPITAPH

*Harry Edsel Smith of Albany , New York,
Born 1903--Died 1942.*

*Looked up the elevator shaft to see if the car was on
the way down.
It was.*

YOUR BOARD MEMBERS:

President:	Paul Hodel
Vice President:	Carol Sexton
Secretary:	Mary Ann Harper
Treasurer:	Linda Galley
Library Liaison:	Judy Williams
Program Director:	Carlyn White
Newsletter/Web:	Paul Hodel

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

If you’re reading this and you haven’t renewed your membership for 2010, then you’re even slower than my 4th Great Grandmother!! And if you know what a 4th Great Grandmother is, you’re a genealogist and you belong with the rest of us. You know they haven’t developed a 12 Step Recovery Program yet for genealogists, so if you’ve got the bug, you’re stuck with it. Come on, what are you waiting for. It’s a great deal. Cost to renew is only \$15 for individuals and \$22 for families. We want you here with us! Pleeeeaasee !!!!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Clarksville Day

Saturday, May 8, 2010, 10am – 3 pm
El Dorado Hills

The Clarksville Region Historical Society presents the annual celebration of the old town of Clarksville will take place on May 8th, from 10:00 am through 3:00 pm. You can view the remains of the old buildings, see a Mormon Battalion re-enactment, Pony Express remounts, Horse-drawn wagons and more. For more information contact Betty January at bjjan@sbcglobal.net or at (916) 933-3173.

150th Pony Express Anniversary

Monday, June 7
Placerville

The 150th Anniversary of the Pony Express will be celebrated on Monday, June 7. Included in the celebration will be the Hangtown Harmonica Championships, a chili and cornbread feed, and at 7:00 pm witness the historic Pony Express Re-ride. Festivities will center on the Courtyard at 550 Main Street in Placerville and will go from 4:30 pm to 8:00 pm.

**El Dorado County Historical Society
Annual Membership Potluck Picnic**

June 8 @ 5:30 p.m.
County Fairgrounds, Wine Garden

The El Dorado County Historical will hold its annual Potluck Picnic at the Wine Garden, next to the County Museum at the El Dorado County Fairgrounds on June 8th starting at 5:30 pm. The guest speaker will be author and member of the society, Craig MacDonald. Bring a dish to share. Please RSVP to Mary Cory at 530-621-5828 or mary.cory@edcgov.us by June 4th.

**Southern California Genealogical Society
Jamboree**

Friday thru Sunday, June 11 – 13
Los Angeles, CA

The Southern California Genealogical Society will be holding their 41st Annual Genealogy Jamboree on June 11 – 13, 2010 at the Los Angeles Marriott Burbank Airport Hotel. In addition to the many classes available, there will also be a number of special events, speakers, breakfasts, tours, etc. Visit their site at: www.scgsgenealogy.com.

Family History Day

Saturday, October 9, 2010
Sacramento

The annual Family History Day will be held on Saturday, October 9, 2010 from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm at the State Archives building, 1020 "O" St, in downtown Sacramento. Admission is free. Choose from over 20 classes – from beginning genealogy, to internet resources, to specialized research topics. You can also attend classes on preserving family papers. Tour the Archives and learn about the historical documents held there.

For more information, visit their website at <http://fhd2010.blogspot.com>

THOUGHT

*A truly Happy Person is one who can enjoy the
scenery on a detour.*

And, one who can enjoy browsing old cemeteries...

SUTRO LIBRARY BUS TRIP

On April 24th, three of our members, Mary Ann Dobson, Mary Ann Harper and Paul Hodel joined genealogists from four other genealogical societies on a bus trip to the Sutro Library in San Francisco. We carpooled down to Sacramento to meet the bus and then headed over to the Library. We were supplied with donuts and coffee or water. They even gave away door prizes and Mary Ann Harper was one of the winners. The bus got us there just before the library opened and we stayed until they chased us out and locked the doors. All of us had a great time on the trip and, of course, made new friends along the way. What was really nice was that someone else did the driving through the rush hour traffic.

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.

El Dorado County Museum

The County of El Dorado has a fantastic museum that is the envy of many gold rush era towns. Besides the "standard" mining equipment and displays of everyday life, the museum has a large collection of various methods of transportation, from wheel barrows to a fully restored Concord Coach. At one time there were hundreds of miles of narrow gauge railway in El Dorado County and the museum has a large collection of narrow gauge equipment. For the genealogist, the Museum's Research Collection is to die for. There are 1319 names in the "People File" Collection; however, this is only small part of the Museum's genealogical information. Some of the things available to the general public in the Research Collection: include:

- Genealogical information such as obituaries, notices of birth, deaths and marriages and family histories

- County records such as early census and assessment rolls, voting registration, early court and probate records
- Local histories, copies of diaries letters and journals, local business and mining ledgers and company records
- General history files, a reference library and some local newspaper
- The Museum's historical photograph collection of the people, buildings, businesses, and places are available for sale. The photographs can be purchased on a CD or in a printed format. Please contact us for prices and availability.
- Map Collection:
 - Unrecorded surveys
 - Historical county maps
 - Mining maps
 - Maps of county water and road systems
 Please contact the Museum to make an appointment to access the maps.

The Museum is located next to the El Dorado County Fair Grounds at:
 104 Placerville Drive
 Placerville, CA 95667
 Phone: (530) 621-5865
<http://www.edcgov.us/museum/>

Hours: Wednesday – Saturday 10 AM – 4 PM and Sunday 12 PM – 4 PM. Research Open House is every Tuesday 9 AM – 3 PM. Research other days by appointment. Closed all Mondays, New Years, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

LOCAL HISTORY

Clarksville (a.k.a. Mormon Tavern) Cemetery

Within El Dorado County, many early cemeteries were associated with the inns and taverns on the original old freight and/or passenger routes from Sacramento to the gold country. The Clarksville-Mormon Tavern Cemetery is no exception, being associated with Mormon Tavern near the town of Clarksville. Mormon Tavern was supposedly established on the Clarksville-White Rock emigrant trail in 1849 by a Mormon named Morgan then

taken over by another Mormon named Asahel Lathrop about 1850. The tavern continued for many years until the Joerger family took it over in the late 1800's and converted it into a private family home. In the late 1960's the old tavern was burned down to make room for Highway 50. Where the tavern used to be is a cut in the hillside for the highway. The Cemetery still exists on top of the hill next to the highway. Among those buried there are a number of the Kyburz family, children of Samuel and Rebecca Kyburz. Samuel was an associate of John Sutter and is credited with convincing Sutter to put his saw mill on the American river in the valley of Coloma. Also buried here are members of the Clark family for whom Clarksville was named and Joerger family members. A Dr. Torrey, who was at Mormon Tavern treating Cholera victims succumbed to that disease there on October 29, 1850 and was buried the same day in the cemetery.



How to Get There:

Take Hwy 50 to El Dorado Hills. Take the El Dorado Hills / Latrobe Rd exit and head south. Go to White Rock Rd and turn left. Take White Rock Rd east until it almost goes under the freeway. On the left is Joerger Cutoff Rd. Take this past the PG&E substation and on up the hill. The pavement will to a house. Just before the house take the dirt road to the right to the cemetery. This cemetery is located on private property, but people are welcome to visit it. Please show the respect due this privilege.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

In some organizations, the President has a message in the newsletter every month. I only put something in the newsletter when I get the promptings that something needs to be said, like now.

I have heard it said; "If you treat someone as they are, they will remain that person. If you treat someone as the person they can become, then they will become that person." The same is true with any organization. If nothing extra is expected of it, then it never grows. If the people within an organization see the potential in their organization and work to help that potential grow, then the organization will prosper and grow. This has been true with the Roots and Gold Dust Genealogy Society. Over the years it has had its ups and downs. The last couple of years, it has been coming out of a slump and thanks to the vision and enthusiasm of you, the members, it has been coming out of that slump with a vengeance. During the short time I've been with this Society, I've seen everyone doing their part to help the Society strengthen and grow. Like Master Gardeners, you've taken a weak and spindly vine and you've nurtured, fertilized, weeded, pruned, dug and tended it with love. That vine, your Society, is showing the effects of that nurturing and is growing into a large, fruitful plant. As with all vines, the continued application of tender care will make it grow even bigger and produce even more fruit. We've come a long ways and we're starting to see the fruits of our labors. The gardener is known by his or her garden. You can be proud of yours.

Thank you, each and every one of you.

WHAT'S IN A WORD

O.K., so what does that word you just ran across really mean? Consider the following :

Consort: Take the headstone that reads; "Eliza, Consort of James McGee". In spite of the stories I've heard from people trying to tell me that this was a nice way they used to say the couple was never married, the truth of the matter is that a "consort" is a "husband or wife; a spouse". So our Eliza was the wife of James McGee.

Relict: Some people would think that this is the same as the dictionary term meaning "an object having interest by reason of its age or its association with the past". Nope, that one is spelled "Relic". Our word "Relict" is actually an archaic word meaning a widow. As in the headstone that reads; "Jane, Relict of Abraham Smith"

Spinster: Most people consider a spinster to be an "Old Maid". a woman who is advanced in years and never been married. However, one of our members recently found a reference to a GGGGGrandmother who was listed as a spinster at the ripe old age of 17. The dictionary tells us that a spinster is "a woman still unmarried beyond the usual age of marrying." So, this lady's GGGGGrandmother, at 17, was still unmarried when other women her age had husbands and probably children, so she qualified to be referred to as a "spinster".

PACKING FOR A RESEARCH TRIP

While traveling to the Sutro Library on the recent bus trip, I got to thinking about what we should carry with us when we go someplace to do research. If you're just running over to the Family History Center, you don't have to be quite so prepared, but you still need to do some preparation. If you're going to Salt Lake City, or to some other part of the United States, or even overseas, you definitely have to do some heavy duty pre-planning. I did some research and here are some of the things that came up. What you take will depend upon your personal preferences, where you'll be going, how long you'll be gone, what type of research you'll be doing, etc.

1. **Laptop computer.** While not near the nerd that some of my children are, I've gotten used to using the computer on a regular basis and find it to be a handy tool. Not that I take my laptop with me everywhere, but I do like to have it at least available to me so I can look for family information, questions, possible resources to look for, etc. I also like it so I can download my camera to it. If you go to one of those old cemeteries where the majority of the people there are related, it doesn't take long to fill up a memory card.

2. **Cell phone.** I don't have one of those new, do everything cell phones, but I do find it nice to have with me in case I need to contact someone in an emergency. It is also nice if you've preloaded phone numbers so when you're half way across the nation and you have a question you need to ask Aunt Harriet, you can.

3. **GPS** I got a gps unit for my car a while back. I find it handy when I get into cities or other strange places. It will also let you store destinations so you can return to the same place if you want. If you're traveling, before you leave, preload any destinations you know you'll be going to. That way, you don't have to sit in that rental car trying to figure out where you're going.

4. **Wireless 3G modem.** Not something I'd recommend for everyone, unless you travel a lot. I frequently travel out of state and it's nice to have a modem, sometimes called an air card, so I can use my computer.

6. **Copies of my "to do" list, research notes, lists of questions to answer, and sources to check.** It's obvious why you would want these. You may have them on your computer, but a printed copy is handy.

7. **A jump drive** (also known as a thumb drive or flash-drive or any of a number of other names). In many libraries, you can copy images of microfilm or download material from the computers. The charges for downloading to a jump drive are always cheaper than making photocopies, and sometimes the charge is zero. I take one with me wherever I go.

8. **Pens, pencils, and notepaper.** Computers are nice, but nothing beats the old fashioned paper and pencil or pen. Always have a pencil with you as some places won't let you near their documents if you have a pen.

9. **Camera.** I've recently started using a camera to record documents, books, etc. in addition to my normal uses. One thing to remember with your camera, always carry extra batteries and a spare memory card.

10. **An extension cord** with a triple outlet on the end for plugging in multiple devices. Invariably, there is never an outlet where you set up your gadgets, so be prepared.

11. **Money,** preferably in quarters and one-dollar bills. Many libraries still use coin-operated photocopy machines, and having a roll of quarters can be a big help as well as a time saver. And it's always nice to be able to get a candy bar or bottle of water to keep you going.

12. **Something to carry every thing in,** be it a large purse, tote, backpack, or whatever.

13. **Suitable clothing.** I follow the rule of "always dress in layers." That way you can adjust your clothing to match where you are that minute. One item often not thought about, but handy when handling older documents is white gloves.

14. **Umbrella.** A compact umbrella is some peoples accessory of choice, be it for rain or sun.

15. **Lunch.** You might not get a lunch break, or you may become so engrossed in research tasks that you skip the lunch hour. You can pack whatever food you prefer, but keep in mind that refrigeration may be a problem.

I'm sure that many of you have other ideas that need to be added to this list. Send me what you think we should add and maybe we can put together a really good list to add to our website.

THE INEVITABLE LAWS OF GENEALOGY

The relative who had all the family photographs gave them to her daughter who had no interest in genealogy and no inclination to share.

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