



ROOTS AND GOLD DUST

Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 1354 Diamond Springs, CA 95619

Roots and Gold Dust Newsletter–September 2010

UPCOMING MEETING DATES & AGENDA

- Sept 21: Lynn Brown
Digital Books & Newspapers on-line
- Oct. 19: Shirley J. Riemer
Beginning German Genealogy
- Nov. 16: Election of Officers, “Show and Tell”
- December 2010: **No Meeting**
- Jan. 18, 2011: Judy Williams
How to research in the LDS library.
- Feb. 15, 2011 Renee Tully
The Holocaust, Living Through It

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

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, September 21st at 1:00pm

Digital Books & Newspapers On-Line.

Presented by Lynn Brown

Our speaker will be Lynn Brown This presentation will include Familysearch Historical books, Google Books, researching the Library of Congress, Online Scholar, plus other resources online. Review of various search techniques are covered. Presentation includes researching for other Ebooks available, searching newspaper articles, use of various Ebook readers and the ebook file formats for downloading.

Lynn Brown has been a Family Historian for over 35 years and offers an extensive background in computers and genealogy research. She enjoys helping others with their research projects and is currently a volunteer with the Sacramento Regional Family History Center. She retired from teaching genealogy at Folsom Cordova and the San Juan School Districts to begin new adventures. She has her own genealogical counseling business “Family-Quest.com”, and lectures throughout the community about the continuing changing world of computerized genealogy research.

THE ROOTS AND GOLD DUST GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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. Visitors are always welcome.

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>

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

RECAP OF OUR LAST MEETING

August 17th, 2010

WOW!!! What a great time we had at our August meeting. Well, it wasn't so much a meeting as an Open House. The house happened to be the home of Grace and Doug Becker. Grace is a long time genealogist and one of the founding members of Roots and Gold Dust. After carpooling to the Becker's home, we all gathered to hear Grace talk about some of the things she's discovered about her family over the years of researching. Grace is one of those very meticulous genealogists who verifies all her sources and documents everything she does. When Grace mentions that she's descended from a Chicago gangster, or that she is a McCoy (of the Hatfield and McCoy feud), or that she is a relation of Frank and Jesse James, she has the proof. When Grace talks about being descended from English royalty, she has the proof, including her correspondence with her distant cousin, the Queen of England.

Grace elaborated on her ancestors and on the steps and process she had to go through to find out these things. After enthraling us for quite a while with her family history and her research stories, she opened up her library for us to peruse her many, many family albums. As people were oohing and aahing, there were others who were picking Grace's brain on how to research, document and present family history. Grace treated us to refreshments, including a two-minutes-on-the-lips, two-months-on-the-hips cake, after which we held a short question and answer period before things broke up and everyone headed home happy and enthused.

It should be noted that Grace, though possessed of an interesting ancestry, has lead her own life. She had a long and illustrious career as a police woman and worked many years for the California State Police where, among other assignments, she provided security for Ronald Reagan during his tenure as Governor of California.

We want to really thank Grace and Doug for opening their home to us and providing all of us with a most memorable experience. Everyone attending really enjoyed themselves.

Special Note

Grace wants all of you to know that she is only a phone call away if you would like any help with your research. She loves working with others, especially those who are just starting out. She can be contacted at (530) 622-1665.

EL DORADO COUNTY LIBRARY DISPLAY

During the month of August, Roots and Gold Dust had a genealogy display set up in the foyer of the El Dorado County Library in Placerville.



Bonnie and Judy discussing completed displays.

We utilized the three display cases in the foyer of the library. In the large case on the wall we had a display promoting Family History Day. In one of the flat cases we had a display showing a person's life from his parent's marriage to his death. The display showed various milestones in his life and the various items that documentation each of these milestones.

The other flat case has a display of all the various resources, including Roots and Gold Dust, available in El Dorado County for genealogical research.



Judy and Bonnie putting up the displays.

A big Thank You to Judy Williams who arranged for, organized and helped create these displays and to Bonnie Holbrook, Carlyn White and Paul Hodel for all the work they put into preparing the displays.

YOU KNOW YOU'RE ADDICTED TO GENEALOGY IF....

You have traced every one of your ancestral lines back to the Cro-Magnons, have it documented and still don't want to quit.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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. Some of the classes and their presenters are:

Ethnic/Geographic Research:

Researching Canadians From Afar - Lisa Lee
Really Cool Ways To Find Black Ancestors Online - Lisa Lee
Five Civilized Tribes: Southeastern Tribes Relocated to OK - Taffy Coutts
Getting Started In German Genealogy - Shirley Riemer
Research in England - Joyce Buckland

Computer/Technical:

Google - Searching In Depth - Ron Young
10 Free Non-Microsoft Programs - Ron Young
Understanding & Organizing PC Files & Folders - Linda Todd
Internet Research - Jerry Unruh

Record Sources:

Census Records-The Backbone of American Genealogy - Glenda Lloyd
Civil War Research - Melinda Kashuba
Using Military Maps in Genealogical Research - Melinda Kashuba
Why Vital Records Are Vital! - Glenda Lloyd

Using Research Facilities:

Genealogical Resources at the California State Archives. - Linda Johnson
Wonderful World of Archives: A Primer - Jessica Herrick
Genealogy Resources in the California History Room. of the California State Library - Karen Paige
Researching Your Family History at CSH - Pat Johnson
Tour of the Preservation Lab (2tours) - Juan Ramos & Kevin Turner

Research Strategies:

Beginning Genealogy I - Donna Young
Beginning Genealogy II - Donna Young
Researching In Burned Counties - Pamela Dallas
Cussin' Cousins: Open Forum - Linda Johnson
Evaluating Evidence - Pamela Dallas

Science of Names/Heraldry:

Science of Names - Donald MacRae, Ph.D
Coats of Arms: Heraldry for Genealogists - Sebastian Nelson

Go to <http://fhd2010.blogspot.com> to read the "bio" of the speakers, information on the classes and exhibitors. More information on the host site, parking and food will be posted soon. Taking the light rail is encouraged, it will eliminate parking problems downtown. We hope to set up carpooling to the light rail.

Did you know El Dorado County Historical Society is featured on the FHD Blog? See them at the website listed above.

Sacramento Regional Family History Center Seminar

November 6, 2010

This is a very popular seminar every year. It will be held from 8:30 am to 4:00 p.m. Watch their website at <http://www.familyhistorycenter.info/> for updates.

FHC LIBRARY UPDATES

Three new books have been donated by the local chapter of Daughters of Utah Pioneers.

The ST Genie Digital Microfilm Scanner has been installed. It is now possible to scan microfilm images to the dedicated computer next to the scanner in a number of file formats, TIFF, JPEG, PNG, or PDF. The scanner will accept 16mm or 35mm roll microfilms but it will not handle microfiche. The images can then be transferred to your flash drive, or written to CD-ROM or DVD-ROM disks, sent to a printer or e-mailed. Give it a try the next time you want to record information from a microfilm.

The Family History Center needs volunteers to help staff the library. This is a good opportunity to learn research techniques and you have time to do your own research in addition to assisting others, shifts are only 3 hours. If you are interested in this rewarding experience, contact Brian Bennett the Director of the Library.

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.

Chronicling America

The Library of Congress has established a website that allows you to search and read many of the old newspapers in its holding. While not as extensive as, oh say, Newspaper Archives it does have a number of newspapers not otherwise readily available, they will be adding more newspapers as time goes by, and it's FREE. As mentioned, it is searchable and it highlights the search results on each page. You can also browse through the papers if you want. To see a list of the newspapers current-available, go to:

<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/newspapers/> .

Thanks to Mary Ann Jones for sharing this source with us.

AmericanAncestors.Org

In its August 18th newsletter, the New England Historic Genealogical Society announced the launch of its new website AmericanAncestors.Org. The announcement reads:

“NEHGS Launches New AmericanAncestors.org Website”

We are pleased to announce the launch of www.AmericanAncestors.org, the new home of NEHGS' growing online regional and national genealogical resources. This new site provides access to some of the most important research tools and resources available.

The site features a new image viewer, faster navigation and search results time, and more unique content. The expanded scope allows greater opportunity for NEHGS to bring unique content to its members and the public while establishing new

and beneficial collaborations with likeminded non-profit organizations and important commercial

entities. It brings together our well-established New England and New York content, along with new resources that are national in scope.”

Visit their new website at:

www.AmericanAncestors.org .

GENIE BUMPER SNICKER

I looked into my family tree and found out I was a sap.

GENEALOGY'S OFTEN-MISSPELLED WORDS

Print this article out and save it someplace. I have no idea why, but many of the words used in researching your family tree are difficult to spell. I constantly see spelling errors in messages posted on various genealogy web sites. When someone misspells a word, it feels like they are shouting, "I don't know what I'm doing!"

Here are a few words to memorize:

Genealogy - No, it is not spelled “geneology” nor is it spelled in the manner I often see: “geneaology.” That last word looks to me as if someone thought, "Just throw all the letters in there and hope that something sticks." For some reason, many newspaper reporters and their editors do not know how to spell this word.

Cemetery - The letter “a” does not appear anywhere in the word “cemetery”. You can remember the spelling by an old saying: “We go to the cemetery with E’s.” (ease)

Ancestor - This simple word is often spelled “ancester,” “ansester,” or “ansestor.”

Ancestry - This word is often misspelled “ancestory.” I often see errors when someone is referring to the ancestry.com online web site.

History - More than once I have seen someone refer to their "family histroy" or "family histry."

Descent - Perhaps not as common, but I have seen this spelled as "decent," which sounds almost the same.

Progenitor - I can never remember how to spell this word. I simply try to avoid it when I am writing!

The late Dick Pence was quite a storyteller, and once told of an online genealogy article he wrote in which he poked fun at common spelling errors by genealogists. He deliberately misspelled ten different words in the article, including all of the words I listed above. In the text of the article, he never mentioned that the article was a tongue-in-cheek attempt at humor.

Dick soon received an email message from an irate lady who apparently didn't realize it was a deliberate attempt at humor. She scolded him for his spelling errors, writing, “Mr. Pence, you should be ashamed of yourself. I am an English teacher and I want to tell you that I found *seven* spelling errors in your article!”

From the Eastman Online Genealogy Newsletter, posted by Dick Eastman on August 17, 2010. |

Some of the input from readers of this article included:

“You forgot one of the most frequent spelling errors that I have found (not to mention made!). Descendant - it often appears as descendent, descentent and many others.”

“Another one I see often misspelled is internment for interment! The dead are buried, not imprisoned!”

“Immigration vs. Emigration”

Note: An immigrant is one who comes to a country which he or she is not a native of for the purpose of permanent residence. An emigrant is one who leaves their native country to live elsewhere.

A THOUGHT ON THE PREVIOUS ARTICLE

One of the reader comments was: “Will Rogers once said he could not respect a man that could not spell a word more than one way.”

After years of research, I have come to the conclusion that Will Rogers would have had a lot of respect for some of our ancestors. They had a lot more than two ways to spell their names.

LOCAL HISTORY

Skinner Ranch Cemetery



Skinner Ranch Cemetery Before the Most Recent Repairs to the Fencing.

History:

James Skinner, his wife, Jessie (Nee Bernard), and their good friend David Reid came to the United States from Scotland in the 1840's. Skinner ranch was started by the Skinner's who came to California during the gold rush era. The ranch surrounded the area that is now the intersection of Cameron Park Drive and Green Valley Road in Cameron Park. There, the Skinner's developed a thriving vineyard and winery. The family had its own "Skinner Burying Ground" on a knoll just west of their ranch house. At least six people are known to be buried there with 3 other "possibles". These include James and Jessie Skinner, some of their children and David Reid. This cemetery has fared badly over the years through the effects of neglect, developers and vandalism.

Fortunately, the family, who all lives out of town, has hired a caretaker to clean up and maintain the

area and have repaired the picket fence that surrounds what is left of the cemetery.



Only the Headstones of James and Jesse Skinner and David Reid Remain at the Cemetery.

How to Get There:

Take Hwy 50 to Cameron Park. Exit at Cameron Park Drive off-ramp. Go north on Cameron Park Drive to Green Valley Road. On the southwest corner of Cameron Park Drive and Green Valley Road is a small shopping center. Turn left onto Green Valley Road, and drive to the end of this small shopping center. Turn left and park in behind the businesses. There is no designated access road to the cemetery since construction has taken place in this area, so you will have to walk from here. The cemetery is located just west of the shopping center on top of the knoll. Look for the white picket fence which can be seen from the road.

Have a great month! We'll see you at the FHC on September 21st for the next meeting.

