



ROOTS AND GOLD DUST

Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 1354 Diamond Springs, CA 95619

Roots and Gold Dust Newsletter–October 2010

UPCOMING MEETING DATES & AGENDA

- Oct. 19: Shirley J. Riemer
Beginning German Genealogy
- Nov. 16: Election of Officers, “Show and Tell”,
Finger Food Pot Luck
- 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
- Mar. 15, 2011 Getta Stedford
Researching in the New England States

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

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, October 19th at 1:00.p.m

Beginning German Genealogy
Presented by Shirley J. Riemer

Shirley’s presentation aims to introduce and expand upon the cultural, historical and genealogical facts essential to conducting German Ancestral research. Emphasis is placed on problem solving relating to difficulties of language and methodology, as well as on use of the many resources available for studying German family history.

Shirley Riemer is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and has a Masters in English from

Carnegie-Mellon University. She taught high school English for ten years before working in communications for 22 years. She has made 40 trips to Germany and is the author of *The German Research Companion*, now in its third edition. She co-authored, with Dr. Roger P. Minert, the book, *Researching in Germany: A Handbook for Your Visit to the Homeland of Your Ancestors*. Since 1992, she had edited *Der Blumenbaum*, the quarterly journal of the Sacramento German Genealogical Society

Remember, at our November meeting, we will be having election of officers for 2011, Show and Tell, which everyone loved this last spring and a Finger Food Pot Luck. We won’t have the use of the kitchen, so bring some delectable snack to share.

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

Did you realize that 236 years ago, on September 26, 1774, John Chapman was born in the state of Massachusetts? John's life was memorable due to his having established apple orchards in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Pennsylvania and Ohio. Most people know John by his nickname, Johnny Appleseed. In honor of Johnny Appleseed's birthday, our refreshment committee, Luana Zylla and Mary Ann Harper, provided us with an apple themed refreshment table complete with apple pie, apple cake, apple juice and, of course, apples. Thank you ladies for the wonderful treats. If you would like the recipe for the cake you'll find it on page 5.

A Nominating Committee has been appointed to nominate potential Executive Board members for the 2011 year. The committee is comprised of Barbara Zigelhofer, Alice Morrow, and Sandy Madeira. To volunteer for a position or to nominate someone, please contact one of these three ladies.

We were once again fortunate to have Lynn Brown visit us. This time her topic was E-books and E-newspapers. There are a plethora of books available digitally and more are being scanned in every day. Books relating to genealogy are no exception and Lynn gave us the heads up on where to find the books, what systems were used and a look at the future of e-books. She also covered the old newspapers that are now being scanned in and made available. It was very well presented, current and very informative. A big thank you to Lynn for enlightening us once again.

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

Moses, Dorcas, and Caleb are household names, but you cannot remember what to call the dog.

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.

We will be carpooling down to the Light Rail Station. Mary Ann Harper is coordinating the car pools, please give her a call at (530) 677-2357.

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.

**THE SIZE OF YOUR BOOKS AND OF YOUR
E-READER IS DETERMINED BY SHEEP**

Here's a bit of historical trivia: the size of the books you read and even the size of your fancy new e-reader are determined by sheep in the Middle Ages.

First, the easy part: e-readers are replacements for books, and most manufacturers deliberately make their e-readers resemble books. Most of the e-reader manufacturers assume that customers want to continue the same "look and feel" so they create e-readers that are the same sizes as books.

Now for the more interesting part: how is the size of books determined? Carl Pyrdum provides the answers in his *Got Medieval* blog at <http://gotmedieval.blogspot.com/2010/08/why-are-books-so-big-google-penance.html>

You must remember that the earliest books were not printed on paper. In medieval days, they were printed on parchment. What is parchment? Sheep's skin. You remember when you graduated from college you got the ol' sheepskin? That's because the diploma was supposedly printed on parchment, although many colleges stopped that practice years ago.

Some of the early books were also printed on vellum, which is essentially the same thing except that it is made from calfskin.

In the good ol' days, the maximum size of a book was determined by the size of the sheep or the calf when slaughtered. Actually, that was quite large, typically bigger than any book you would want to hold while reading. The monks who created books before Gutenberg's invention of the printing press soon learned to fold the parchment and vellum into practical sizes:

- Fold a sheet of parchment once (two leaves/four pages per sheet) for a folio; if you fold sheets of paper once without a cover, you've got a tabloid.
- Fold twice for a quarto (8 pages/sheet), the size of a big dictionary or big laptop.
- Fold three times for an octavo (16 pages/sheet), a hardcover or Kindle DX.

- Fold four times for a duodecimo (24 pages/sheet), a trade paperback/iPad.
- Fold four times (in a slightly different way) for a 16mo, a mass-market paperback/e-reader.
- Fold five times for a 32mo, a notepad/old-school smart phone sized.
- Fold six times for a 64mo, or as Erasmus called it, a Codex Nano (rarely seen but could be called a vest pocket book).

The result is that books are as big as they are because medieval sheep were as big as they were. If you wish the pages were just a bit bigger, blame the medievals for not having bigger sheep.

Posted by Dick Eastman on September 03, 2010 on Eastman Online Genealogy Newsletter

FHC LIBRARY UPDATES

At the September meeting, Judy Williams announced the books that are on order for the library. Additionally, three lucky book can winners were drawn at the meeting. Can't wait to see what books or CDs they will choose

Work progresses on setting up the old Name Extraction room as a periodicals area for the library. Judy is looking for two more bookcases, so if you know of a couple of 32" wide ones, please give her a call at (520) 622-3038.

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.

RANDOM GENEALOGY THOUGHT

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

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.

Online Searchable Death Indexes and Records

Joe Beine maintains an online site that is simple in design but valuable to genealogists. The Online Searchable Death Indexes and Records web site is a directory of links to other web sites containing online death indexes, listed by state and county. Included are death records, death certificate indexes, death notices and registers, obituaries, probate indexes, and cemetery and burial records. You can also find information about searching the Social Security Death Index online.

The site also provides links to death records in several large cities, including: Chicago & Cook County Death Records, Cincinnati Death Records, Cleveland Death Records, Detroit Death Records, Los Angeles Death Records, New York City Death Records and St. Louis Death Records.

The Online Searchable Death Indexes and Records may be found at <http://www.deathindexes.com>

Posted by Dick Eastman on September 19, 2010 in the Eastman Online Genealogy Newsletter

Unique Family Trees

I found out about this website while reading the Eastman Online Genealogy Newsletter. This site lists a number of uniquely designed family trees. Of course, they do cost money. I share this site with you because I know there are a number of you who are very creative and I thought the examples shown would give you some ideas. The site is: <http://blogs.babble.com/family-style/2010/09/16/top-5-most-unique-family-trees/>

Click on any of the links in the article and you will be directed to other interesting trees as well.

New Online Database for Gaelic Place Names

The National Gazetteer of Gaelic Place Names is available in English and Gaelic. Currently it contains information on about 1000 Gaelic place names throughout Scotland. You can do a simple search by keyword, and advanced search (across several fields) or view all place names from A-Z.

In addition to the Gaelic names database the site also has some Gaelic maps, guidelines to Gaelic place names and orthography, a link list, and a blog.

You can find the new Online Database for Gaelic Place Names at <http://www.ainmean-aite.org/>

Posted by Dick Eastman on September 03, 2010 in the Eastman Online Genealogy Newsletter.

How Common Is Your Surname?

Ever wonder how common any of your surnames are in the United States? Now you can find out. The Census Bureau has a website available where you can look up any surname or first name listed in the 1990 census and it will tell you the popularity of that name. To visit this informative site, go to: <http://www.census.gov/genealogy/names/>

YOU'RE TAKING GENEALOGY TOO SERIOUSLY IF:

Ed McMahon, several TV cameras and an envelope from Publishers Clearing House arrive at your front door on Super Bowl Sunday, and the first thing you say is, "Are you related to the McMahons of Ohio?"

And then there's if:

You decided to take a two-week break from genealogy, and the U.S. Postal Service Office immediately laid off 1,500 employees.

PHILADELPHIA STYLE APPLE CAKE

6 C Apples, Peeled & Thinly Sliced
(about 3 Large)
1 ½ C + 5 Tbs. Sugar, Divided
4 Tsp Cinnamon
3 C Flour
1 Tbs. Baking Powder
½ Tsp. Salt
4 Eggs
½ C Light Brown Sugar
1 C Vegetable Oil
½ C Orange Juice
2 1/2 Tsp. Vanilla Extract

Preheat Oven to 350. Grease, sugar & flour 10-inch Bundt or tube pan

Combine Apple Slices with 5 Tbs. Sugar and Cinnamon, Set aside.

Combine Flour, Baking Powder and salt in bowl and set aside.

Beat eggs with remaining granulated sugar and brown sugar. Add Vegetable Oil, Orange Juice and Vanilla; Beat well. Gradually blend in flour mixture and mix well until well blended (about 1 Minute)

Pour one third of the batter into the pan. Top with half the Apples, draining off liquid. Pour in half the remaining batter and top with the remaining Apple Slices. Top with the remaining batter, making sure the apples are covered.

Bake 55 to 60 minutes until the top turns golden brown and a knife inserted near the center comes out clean. Let cool 10 minutes in pan. Turn out onto wire rack. Let cool completely

Serves 16

Thanks to Luana Zylla for this recip. This is the delicious cake she baked for our last meeting.

GENIE BUMPER SNICKER

CAUTION!...

You have now entered the Genealogy Zone

LOCAL HISTORY

AL TAHOE CEMETERY

“Community Keeps Memory of Al Tahoe Cemetery Alive

Many Al Tahoe residents may not even be aware of the old graveyard that has been in their neighborhood for more than a century.

Spanning a few lots near the corner of Alameda and Berkeley avenues, the cemetery originally occupied part of the Thomas Rowland estate, which covered much of the South Shore. Land for the community cemetery was donated by Rowland in the late 1800s.



Al Tahoe Cemetery

In 1908, the property surrounding the cemetery was sold to the Al Tahoe company by Almerin R. Sprague, Sophrenia Rowland and Fannie Barton. In the 1920s, Frank Globin came to the area and bought the Al Tahoe Hotel and surrounding land, which was named after the former landowner, Al Sprague. By 1946, Los Angeles businessman Aram Harootunian was selling subdivided lots in Al Tahoe for \$10 down, \$10 per month and no interest. The Al Tahoe street grid and lots were laid out without regard to the old cemetery, which occupied parts of eight different lots, and Alameda Avenue was paved over one entire corner of the cemetery. It has been reduced in size to about three lots

Years of vandalism, decay and natural weathering, as well as development and construction in the area, have destroyed or damaged many of the original cemetery markers, and many graves and their occupants have been lost to the passage of time.

In 1976, Donald C. Deede, a Boy Scout in Troop 494, was inspired by stories he had read in the Tribune and decided to clean up the old Al Tahoe cemetery for his Eagle Scout project.

With donations and assistance, he cleared out some overgrowth and trash around the graves, and repaired the wooden fence around the cemetery. As part of his project, Deede compiled historical information about the cemetery, including a list of some of the known pioneers buried there. Deede's report on the cemetery project now is in the possession of the Lake Tahoe Historical Society.

In recent years, students in South Tahoe Middle School's Club Live and other volunteers have helped to clean up the cemetery as part of the annual Make a Difference Day.

Today, people traveling down Alameda Avenue, between Fresno and Berkeley avenues, can see a sign for "The Old Historic Al Tahoe Cemetery" maintained by the Lake Tahoe Historical Society, listing some of the names of those buried there, and a few of the old grave markers still are visible through the fence."

From an article by Phillip L. Sublett, published in the Tahoe Tribune on April 24, 2008

THOUGHT TO PONDER

Any family tree produces some lemons, nuts and bad apples. ☺

Have a great month! We'll see you at the FHC on October 19th for the next meeting.

