



ROOTS AND GOLD DUST Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 1354 Diamond Springs, CA 95619
Roots and Gold Dust Newsletter–January 2011

UPCOMING MEETING DATES & AGENDA

- Jan. 18, 2011: Judy Williams
*How to research in the Family History
Center 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.

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

UPCOMING MEETING

January 18th at 1:00 p.m.

The January meeting will include the installation of the new executive board who will be serving for 2011. We want to thank our 2010 board for doing a great job. I know if it wasn't for the ladies on the board, we wouldn't have had much of an organization or the great programs that we've had this past year. When you see them at the January meeting, be sure to give them your thanks.

Your 2010 Board Members Have Been:

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

Our incoming board is almost identical to the past year's board. The major changes are:

Linda Galley, who has done a wonderful job as Treasurer for the past three years is taking a well deserved break and leaving the board. Thank You Linda for a job well done. (*I wonder if she realizes that this will free her up to be volunteered for something else?*) ☺

Alice Morrow will be joining the board as our new Vice President. Alice has a lot of background in genealogy, is super gung-ho and will be a great asset to the Society. She will be replacing Carol Sexton who will be taking over as Treasurer. Carol has mega experience having served in Roots and

Gold Dust as President and as Vice President in addition to the umpteen positions she has held in other organizations.

We will be retaining Paul Hodel as President, Mary Ann Harper as Secretary, Judy Williams as our Library Liaison and Carlyn White as Program Director. This gives us a strong board and with the wonderful talent we have in the general membership of the Society, the 2011 year should be one fantastic year.

We will start our year of with a special presentation by our own Judy Williams. She will give a talk on Resources at the Family History Center. Judy has been researching her family history since the mid 1990's and joined Roots & Gold Dust in 1998; she has served as Secretary and Program Director and for the last 5 years she has been the Library Liaison.

Working in the library, she realized there are resources there that are not being utilized. She would like to acquaint our members with these valuable resources with an overview of what the library has to offer.

FHC LIBRARY UPDATES

The Family History Center has been closed for the Christmas Holidays and reopens on January 4, 2011. Breaks over, time to go back in and do some research. Hope you find lots of new information on your families this year.

In addition to the books listed in the December newsletter, the following books were shelved before the library closed for Christmas break:

- Maryland Marriages 1634-1777
 - Maryland Gazette 1727-1761
 - A Reminiscent History of the Ozark Region (MO)
 - They Paved the Way-History of New Hampshire Women
 - Marriage Bonds of Tyron and Lincoln Co. (NC)
- Also two Surname Biographies (donors unknown)
- Newby Family History
 - Some Information About Arasmiths-Arramiths-Arasmiths

The Family History Center is looking for 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.

YOUR INCOMING 2011 EXECUTIVE BOARD:

President:.....Paul Hodel
Vice President:.....Alice Morrow
Secretary:.....Mary Ann Harper
Treasurer:.....Carol Sexton
Library Liaison:.....Judy Williams
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MURPHY'S LAWS OF GENEALOGY

Your great-grandfather's newspaper obituary states that he died leaving no issue of record.

John, son of Thomas, the immigrant whom your relatives claim as the family progenitor, died on board ship at age 10.

MEMORABLE TOMBSTONE

Someone in Winslow, Maine
didn't like Mr. Wood ☺ :

*In Memory of Beza Wood
Departed this life
Nov. 2, 1837*

*Here lies one Wood, Enclosed in wood
One Wood,
Within another.
The outer wood,
Is very good:
We cannot praise,
The other.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Central Library Programs

Upcoming January programs at the Central Library, 828 I Street, Sacramento.

Programs are from 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

January 9 – *Millions of Members*: Finding your Ancestor in Fraternal Organization Records, with Melinda Kashuba

January 23 – Research with Wills and Probate Records, with Glenda Gardner Lloyd

January 30 – *One-Step Website*: A Potpourri of Genealogical Search Tools, Stephen Morse

For more information see www.saclibrary.org

Sutro Library Trip

March 9, 2011

Our friends in the Genealogy Association of Sacramento will again be sponsoring a bus trip to the Sutro Library in San Francisco. For those of you who may not be familiar with the Sutro Library, it is a genealogy library located on the UC San Francisco campus and it has a wealth of resource materials. Those of us who participated in this trip last year had a great time. We carpoled down to Sacramento, got on a bus, sat back and ate donuts and chit-chatted with other genealogists until the bus dropped us off at the front door of the library just as it was opening. We spent the whole day doing research and when it was time for the library to close, the bus was waiting for us at the front door to bring us home. It was a great opportunity to both do research and to meet other genealogists and compare notes. For more information you can contact Melanie Howard, Genealogical Association of Sacramento,

melnesia@comcast.net, 916-383-1221.

Tracing Your Family Tree, How to Begin

Saturday, March 19, 2011

This free seminar, sponsored by the Placer County Genealogical Society will be held on Saturday, March 19, 2011 at the Auburn Placer County Library, 350 Nevada Street, Auburn, CA. This has been a great program in the past, especially for those who are just starting out or have been away

from genealogy for a while. You'll enjoy yourself at this one. Reservations are required – so please contact seminar@pcgs.pcgenes.com.

In Search of Our German Ancestors

Saturday, April 16, 2011

Sacramento

The Sacramento German Genealogy Society will be holding an all day seminar from 9:00 a.m. until 4:15 p.m. on Saturday, April 16, 2011 at 3349 J Street, Sacramento. The presenter will be Dr. Roger P. Minert, a professor at Brigham Young University and the author of more than 70 books and articles on German genealogy and research. It promises to be an interesting and informative day, so mark your calendar.

THE BENEFITS OF THINKING ABOUT OUR ANCESTORS

From the The British Psychological Society, Research Digest Blog comes an article on how thinking about our ancestors can even better than you already are:

“Psychologists have shown previously that thinking about our own mortality - 'where we're going' - prompts us to shore up our cultural world view and engage in self-esteem boosting activities. Little researched until now, by contrast, are the psychological effects of thinking about where we came from - our ancestors.

Anecdotally, there's reason to believe that such thoughts are beneficial. Why else the public fascination with genealogy and programmes like the BBC's Who Do You Think You Are? Now Peter Fischer and his colleagues at the Universities of Graz, Berlin and Munich have shown that thinking about our ancestors boosts our performance on intelligence tests - what they've dubbed 'the ancestor effect'.

'Normally, our ancestors managed to overcome a multitude of personal and society problems, such as severe illnesses, wars, loss of loved ones or severe economic declines,' the researchers said. 'So, when

we think about them, we are reminded that humans who are genetically similar to us can successfully overcome a multitude of problems and adversities.'

An initial study involved 80 undergrads spending five minutes thinking about either their fifteenth century ancestors, their great-grandparents or a recent shopping trip. Afterwards, those students in the two ancestor conditions were more confident about their likely performance in future exams, an effect that seemed to be mediated by their feeling more in control of their lives.

Three further studies showed that thinking or writing about their recent or distant ancestors led students to actually perform better on a range of intelligence tests, including verbal and spatial tasks (in one test, students who thought about their distant ancestors scored an average of 14 out of 16, compared with an average of 10 out of 16 among controls). The ancestor benefit was mediated partly by students attempting more answers - what the researchers called having a 'promotion orientation'.

These benefits weren't displayed by students in control conditions that involved writing about themselves or about close friends. Moreover, the ancestor effect exerted its benefit even when students were asked to think about negative aspects of their ancestors.

'We showed that an easy reminder about our ancestors can significantly increase intellectual performance,' the researchers said. 'Hence, whenever people are in a situation where intellectual performance is extraordinarily important, for example in exams or job interviews, they have an easy technique to increase their success.'

Fischer and his colleagues emphasised their research is at an exploratory phase. Future work is needed to find out what other benefits thinking of ancestors might have, and also to uncover other possible mediating factors, which they speculated might have to do with 'processes of social identity, family cohesion, self-regulation or norm activation elicited by increased ancestor salience.'"

Fischer, P., Sauer, A., Vogrincic, C., and Weisweiler, S. (2010). The ancestor effect: Thinking about our genetic origin enhances intellectual performance. *European Journal of Social Psychology*

You can visit their blog at: <http://bps-research-digest.blogspot.com/2010/12/benefits-of-thinking-about-your.html> .

CHURCH BLOOPERS

A reprint from an actual announcement in a real Church Bulletin (complete with blooper!)

"At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?'

Come early and listen to our choir practice."

"Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation..."

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.

Census Forms, Instructions to Enumerators

Ever wonder how the enumerators of the federal census were instructed to fill in all the blanks in the census forms? Well, it's your lucky day. There is a website that has the Instructions to Enumerators listed for each of the 1850 through 1950 federal census. This is some good information and helps you work out those questions that sometimes arise when reading old census images. This site will also provide you with other information on the individual census. To access these instructions go to: <http://usa.ipums.org/usa/voliii/tEnumInstr.shtml> and select the year you are interested in.

Google's New E-Book Store Sells and Gives Away Genealogy Books

With all the recent discussion about e-books and e-book readers, add one more major player in this marketplace: Google. The technology giant is unveiling its long-expected "Google e-Books" platform, an e-book store that contains 3 million volumes, most of which are free public domain works.

But hundreds of thousands of Google's e-books will be paid titles from major and minor publishers. Those will include many bestsellers and, Google says, the vast majority of books already commercially available in electronic form. The books can be read online on any Windows or Macintosh computer -- through a new Google reading interface also launching today. They'll also work on a number of tablet and e-reader devices, including Apple's iPad and iPhone, Android-based smartphones and tablets, and e-ink devices from Sony and Barnes & Noble.

You can read more at <http://goo.gl/85COh>

You can find a list of hundreds of genealogy-related books, many of them free of charge, if you start at <http://goo.gl/85COh> and enter "genealogy" in the search box at the top of the page. If you only want to see the free books, just click "free only" line just below the words "Search Results".

Thanks to Dick Eastman for bringing this to our attention in the Eastman Online Genealogy Newsletter of December 6, 2010.

New Canadian Databases

Library and Archives Canada has announced the launch of a new online database, *Canadian Families*.

Through this online database, researchers can access references to baptisms, marriages and burials inscribed in church records that are held at Library and Archives Canada. This database will be expanding slowly over the next few years as more references are added, so you'll want to check back

from time to time. The database is available at: <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/families/index-e.html>

Also just launched by Library and Archives Canada is a new online database, "*Upper Canada Land Board (1765–1804)*."

Through this online database, researchers can access more than 16,000 references to documents of the Upper Canada Land Board between 1765 and 1804. The Land Boards were created in 1789 to oversee land matters and facilitate settlement in the districts of Hesse, Luneburg, Mecklenburg and Nassau. This territory is now part of the province of Ontario.

The database can be accessed at the following address:

<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/uclan/board/index-e.html>.

In fact, there are a number of databases available through the Library and Archives Canada's website at:

<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/genealogy/index-e.html> you might want to visit it if you are doing any Canadian research.

Preserve Old Photographs and Documents

Catherine Shteynberg, the social media and marketing coordinator with the Smithsonian Institution Archives, has written an excellent article about preserving items often acquired by genealogists, including photographs, old marriage certificates, old 35mm family film, and more. This interesting article can be found at <http://goo.gl/oDSsp>

MURPHY'S LAW OF GENEALOGY

None of the pictures in your recently deceased grandmother's photo album have names written on them.

LOCAL HISTORY

St. Michael's Cemetery



St. Michael's Cemetery

St. Michael Cemetery, also known as Starbuck's, is a half-acre parcel that sits in a subdivision in Cameron Park. There are 29 plots shown by Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR). The last burial in the cemetery was in 1960 and the cemetery is now closed to further burials.

The cemetery was originally affiliated with the Catholic Church, located nearby. The Church established the St. Michel's Cemetery sometime prior to 1889, which is the date of the earliest headstone in the cemetery.

This cemetery was a "forgotten" cemetery and housing developers encroached upon it by building at least three houses over the west side of the cemetery and by the phone company who built a building on the corner of the cemetery resembling a church. After legal action, the developer put a metal fence around the cemetery and what is left of it is now fairly protected.

A lawsuit between the Church and the County prompted the responsibility transfer to the County in 1998. The Catholic Church owns the cemetery land, but the County takes care of maintenance and protection.

Green Valley Road was the first road from Sutter's Fort to Coloma. The people who settled this area were the original inn keepers for the miners traveling up and down the mountains to the gold fields. Many of the areas prominent landowners are buried here

How to Get There:

Take Hwy 50 to Cameron Park. Exit at the Cameron Park Drive off-ramp. Go north on Cameron Park Drive to Green Valley Road. Go left about a block until you come to Hastings Drive. Turn right and travel another block to Tourmaline Way. St. Michael's Cemetery is on the northwest corner of Hastings and Tourmaline.

AMAZING HOME REMEDY

#1.

*You only need two tools in life –
WD-40 and duct tape.*

*If it doesn't move and should,
use the WD-40.*

*If it shouldn't move and does,
use the duct tape.*

#2

*If you can't fix it with a hammer,
you've got an electrical problem.*

Have a very Happy New Year!

*We'll see you at the FHC on January 18th for
the next meeting.*

