



ROOTS AND GOLD DUST

Genealogical Society

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

UPCOMING MEETING DATES & AGENDA

May 17, 2011 Richard Wilson
Collecting Family Information and Making a Family Album

June 21, 2011 Getta Stedford
Researching in the New England States

July 19, 2011 Dr. Donald MacRea, PhD,
The Scottish Familial System

August 16, 2011 Paul Hodel
Finding Your Ancestors in the Cemetery

September 20, 2011 Guy Nixon
The How and Where to Finding Your Ancestors In the 'Civilized Tribes' of the Indian Territory

October 18, 2011 Harvey Andrews
Genealogy Research on the Internet

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

RECAP OF OUR LAST MEETING April 19th

We had a great time and a great turnout at the April meeting. There were thirty three in attendance, including thirteen guests. Doug Noble did a bang-up job of talking about the early days of the railroad in the Sacramento and El Dorado County areas. It was a very insightful presentation, full of history, intrigue, and a fresh look at the early history of our

area. The competition to be the first one to put a railroad over the Sierra's was really interesting as was the effect the railroad had on local industries. There were a number of railroad buffs in attendance and we were happy to hear their comments and remarks about the railway that still exists and their efforts to preserve it.

We want to thank Luana Zylla for being our greeter and Mary Ann Harper and Mary Jo O'Shaughnessy for the wonderful refreshments. Thank You Ladies!

NEXT MEETING May 17th at 1:00

This coming meeting promises to be a really interesting one. Our own Richard Wilson will be doing a presentation of the collection of family information and creating a Family Album. As many of you know, Richard created family albums for his wife's family (although we still don't know why he did hers first instead of his) which have gone out to her family en masse. Richard will be explaining the process for collecting, organizing, and arranging the information, then how to actually assemble an album. In preparing to create these albums, Richard did extensive study on the best papers, inks, and other materials necessary to insure an album that would be a true heirloom and last for many, many years. This promises to be something that any genealogist will be interested in. After all, is there really a one of us who hasn't dreamed of publishing our family's history for the future generations? Here's our opportunity to find out how to do it.

We'll be looking for you there.

**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>

SOMETHING TO PONDER

*A bus station is where a bus stops
A train station is where a train stops
On my desk, I have a work station.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Central Library Programs

Programs are ongoing at the Central Library, 828 I Street, Sacramento. For their class schedule, more information and to register, see www.saclibrary.org

**Regional Family History Center
Wednesday Classes**

The Regional Family History Center at 2745 Eastern Ave, Sacramento has genealogy classes every Wednesday afternoon and evening. Visit their website to see what's coming up. <http://www.familyhistorycenter.info/>

Family History Day 2011

Saturday, October 15, 8:30-4:00 – follow the blog at <http://fhdnews.blogspot.com>

RESEARCH RECOMMENDATIONS:

Outdated Terminology

by Michael J. Leclerc

Genealogists face a constant influx of records from a different era with outdated language and terminology. When faced with evidence that your ancestor's occupation dealt with dealbation, where would you turn next? Or if a diary states that your ancestress was fond of diet-drink, was she perpetually trying to lose weight?

The best place to find definitions of such terms is to locate a dictionary from the time and place where your ancestor lived, and read the definition. Remember that word definitions change over time, or by location (just ask a New Englander for Sweet Tea), so it is important to keep as close as possible to the time and place. The Internet Archive is a great place to find these dictionaries online. Libraries and archives will often have physical books as well. NEHGS has numerous dictionaries dating back to the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

For the record, dealbation concerns whitening, bleaching, or blanching. And diet-drink is a drink prescribed and prepared for medical purposes.

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GENEALOGY PROVES:

*The real problem with the gene pool is:
NO Lifeguards !!*

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.

The Easy Way To Add Maps To Your Family History Projects

Would you like to include U.S. maps in your family history projects, but can't find what you want? Would you like to add maps to a book you plan to publish but cannot find anything that isn't copyrighted? Do you need a simple, prepared map that you can print at home, at school, or in the office? A service provided by the U.S. Government will provide maps for you. Best of all, there are no copyrights on the maps. You can use them in commercial books as well as for personal purposes.

The National Atlas is a map-making platform sponsored by the Federal Government that lets you build your own maps. You can create maps that capture and depict patterns, conditions, and trends of American life. You can use the National Atlas templates to create maps that cover all of the United States or just your area of interest.

The National Atlas of the United States of America is a web site created by the United States Department of the Interior. The online atlas provides a map-like view of geospatial and geostatistical data collected for the United States. Unlike the big, bound map collections, the National Atlas includes electronic maps and services that are delivered online.

In the National Atlas Map Maker you can assemble, view, and print your own maps. In most cases, you can choose from hundreds of layers of geographic information to make maps. Each map layer can be

displayed individually or mixed with others as you tailor a map to your needs. Once you assemble the layers of choice, you can print the map or save it electronically.

For example, you can make a map showing America's streams and lakes. Then you can add new map layers showing additional geographic information, such as state boundaries, county boundaries, roads, railroads, and towns and cities.

Once you've zoomed in on an area you want to map, you can choose from the display elements available on the right of the program window to display water elements, roads, boundaries and other features. Finally, you can add your own information by first saving the map to your hard drive and then using any appropriate photo editing program to add text and new symbols.

The online National Atlas can be used for many purposes other than genealogy. The site is full of examples for agriculture, biology, climate, environmental, history, and more.

For more information, or to try it yourself, you can visit the National Atlas at <http://www.nationalatlas.gov/>

Reprinted from the Eastman Online Genealogy Newsletter of April 24, 2011.

YOUR NEWSLETTER EDITOR NEEDS YOUR HELP

We would like to do a special supplement to the newsletter this summer featuring stories about people and/or places in El Dorado County. This is anything from the past: recent or gold rush. Please write up anything you may know about and sent it to Paul Hodel for inclusion in this special supplement. It doesn't have to be long, even a paragraph will be a big help. I know there are a lot of us who didn't grow up here, but we've still heard stories or done some research in the local area. Let's share what we have with each other and anyone else who happens to peruse our newsletter. Thanks for your help.

GENIE TRUTHS

The only record you find for your Great Grandfather is that his property was sold at a sheriff's sale for insolvency

COUNTY HISTORY

Fairplay Cemetery



George D. Hicks, Earliest Marked Grave

This cemetery has been used by the community for over 150 years and remains open for burial of pre-needs. Ground Penetrating Radar done in 2001 found 397 possible burials, only 189 of these are marked.

RESEARCH RECOMMENDATIONS: Genealogical Writing: Citing Microfilm

by Michael J. Leclerc

Questions about citation format are quite common when I am speaking about writing your family history. One of the most popular is how to cite microfilm versions of records, especially Family History Library microfilm.

The first part of the citation should be the title of the original work. If you are citing a microfilm version of a published work, a complete bibliographic citation should be given (author, title, place of publication, publisher, year of publication). After that, you should cite the publisher of the microfilm. You may also choose to include the repository where you examined the film, and the call number of the film. This is especially important for micro-

In the 1850's Fairplay was a thriving mining town with several stores and hotels. Later it became a trading center for drift and hydraulic mining.

In the 1880's agriculture prevailed as it does today with vineyards and wineries around every corner. The cemetery is near Perry Creek near the south end of Perry Creek Road. There is a wonderful hand painted sign to lead you down a dirt road to the one acre cemetery.

The earliest marked grave at Fair Play Cemetery is that of George D. Hicks who died January 30, 1863. The earliest death notice of a person to die at or near Fair Play was that of Richard Thomas who died at Fair Play on April 27, 1855. He was a native of Missouri and 24 years old at the time of his death. [Sacramento Daily Union, 5/7/1855; 2-5.] Since the community began in the early 1850's, it would follow that there may have been earlier burials.

film materials that may not be widely available (for example, microfilm of a manuscript where the only microfilm copy is at the repository that holds the original).

If you are looking at original records, use the title given on the title page of the original. If there is no title page, you may need to use the title given to the record in the catalog. Many microfilms have multiple volumes on a single reel. You should always include the item number in the citation, to make it easier for the person following you to find the record on the film.

Sample Citations:

Roberts, Gary Boyd. "Genealogical Notebooks of Gary Boyd Roberts Used in Compiling the Mowbray Connections, 1965–1975" [New England Historic Genealogical Society, CS55.R63 1965, Roll 13].

Suffolk County, Massachusetts, Probate, 8:52–56 [FHL Film No. 584129, Item 1].

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DAFFY-NITIONS

Documentation: The hardest part of genealogy

FHC LIBRARY UPDATES

Great News Regarding Microfilms

All three microfilm readers have been refurbished. The printer has been connected to the Genie Scanner. You will be able to locate the document you want on the reader, transfer it to the Genie, adjust brightness/contrast etc. if you wish, and either save your document to a USB (flash drive) and/or print it. Try it out.!!

Family History Center Training Session

The Family History Center will have a training session on June 1 at 6:30 p.m. Bill Taylor will be giving a presentation on the books in the Placerville Family History Center. These training sessions are open to everyone, hope to see you there.

New books in the Library

- VA 185a: Genealogies of Virginia Families-Vol. II
- VA 185b: Genealogies of Virginia Families-Vol. III
- VA 185c: Genealogies of Virginia Families-Vol. IV
- VA 186: History of Pittsylvania County VA
- VA 187: Early History of the Eastern Shore of Virginia
- SCO 25: In Search of Scottish Ancestry
- SCO 26a: A Topographical Dictionary of Scotland Vol. 1
- SCO 26b: A Topographical Dictionary of Scotland Vol. 2
- NA 43: Tracking Down My Ancestors
- SWE 4: Swedish American Life in Chicago
- REF 131: Google Your Family Tree
- SC 24: History of Williamsburg, S.C.

A special Thank You to Judy Williams for keeping us constantly updated on the latest and greatest from the library.

We'll see you at the FHC on May 17th for our next meeting.



