



# ROOTS AND GOLD DUST Genealogical Society

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

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## UUPCOMING MEETING DATES & AGENDA

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*

November 15, 2011 Everybody  
*Past and Present Treats*  
*Our Annual Show & Tell, Election of Officers and  
Finger Food Feast*

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

## RECAP OF OUR LAST MEETING May 17th

Member Richard Wilson gave a great presentation on how his genealogical and research methods and some of the tricks that have been of help to him. He shared some of the things he used to put his family history into an album, including various software programs, printers, scanners, and computers.

It was really an informative presentation and there were a number of people still asking him questions after the meeting was over. Thanks Richard for doing such a great job, we really appreciated it.

We want to thank Bonnie Holbrook, Dixie Castle and Maria Pizzicara for the refreshments and Valerie Petritsch for being our greeter this month. They all did a great job.

We also want to thank those of you who get there early to help set up and those who stay a few minutes late to help clean up and put things away. Your help is always welcomed and appreciated.

## 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](mailto: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)

**NEXT MEETING**  
**June 21st at 1:00**

This meeting promises to be an interesting and informative one. The topic will be “Researching in the New England States” with Getta Stedeford. She has done extensive research in the area.

Getta was born and raised in western Pennsylvania and graduated from college in Ohio. She has lived all over the United States and has seen much of this country. She has learned much about the various areas including New England, the mid-west, the south and west and will share what makes each area unique.

Getta’s Grandmothers left bags and boxes full of paper scraps for her. You can imagine what she found when she opened these treasure chests fifty years later. She wishes she could wiggle her nose be able to hear past relatives - grand and great-grand parents verbally record their memories for the future with sharing of games, food, holiday traditions, gardening tips, what new things came into existence during their lifetime and all those little tidbits that historians dealing with the big picture usually miss. Genealogy has only increased her 'kid in the candy store" condition. She has discovered that her life has led her to many areas where her ancestors have been before her.

As many of you have family who lived in the New England states, this will be one meeting you’ll want to miss. We’ll be looking to see you there.

**SOMETHING TO PONDER**

*Don't take yourself so seriously.  
No one else does.*

**EXECUTIVE BOARD:**

President:.....Paul Hodel  
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**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](http://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/>

**Nevada County Genealogical Society’s**  
**18<sup>th</sup> Annual Genealogy Seminar**  
Saturday, August 27, 2011

Two sessions will be offered for beginners, consecutively covering topics such as where to start, charts and forms, references, maps, census records, vital records, etc. For those who don’t need the basics, there will be several classes dedicated to Computer and Internet research. Several new presentations are being offered including: “*Eastern European Research*”, “*Searching for Your Irish Ancestors*”, “*Work those Census*”, “*Message Boards & Mailing Lists*”. “*Digging It – Parts I & II*”, and in honor of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Civil War “*Grand Army of the Republic (GAR)*”. Each participant will have the opportunity to attend five sessions of his or her choice. Registration fee includes a syllabus of information provided by all instructors.

The seminars will be held at the Peace Lutheran Church at 828 West Main Street, Grass Valley, CA. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. and lunch will be available. Cost is \$17.50 for members, \$20.00 for non-members. For more information, contact Joan Bega at 530-346-8909 or [bega@dishmail.net](mailto:bega@dishmail.net) .

**Family History Day 2011**

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

## 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](mailto:pljhodel@hotmail.com) or call 530-622-3299.

### United States Navy Cruise Books

United States Navy cruise books have long been created to commemorate a vessel's deployment. The Navy has provided about 3,500 of these cruise books to Ancestry.com. Vessels deployed from 1918 through 2009 are represented by a staggering 4,857,924 searchable records now available in the collection. The books are not official Navy publications, but rather are keepsakes created by Navy volunteers and included are more than half a million images.

Access to the cruise books requires a paid Ancestry.com subscription but if you aren't a member, go to the Family History Center and you can use Ancestry for free there.

### FamilySearch Adds 1930 Mexican Census Plus Many Other Records

The following announcement was written by FamilySearch:

May 23, 2011

*25 Million New Records and Images for 19 U.S.  
States and 16 Countries*

The FamilySearch volunteers did it! With the completion of the state of Veracruz, they indexed the entire 1930 Mexico Census—almost 13 million records. Add the census to the millions of Mexico church records FamilySearch also has online for free, and FamilySearch patrons now have a phenomenal, fundamental asset for their Mexico ancestral research. There were 59 collections updated in this release, comprising 25 million new images and records for 19 U.S. states and 16 countries. You can search all of these updated collections now for free at [FamilySearch.org](http://FamilySearch.org).

If you are enjoying the steady stream of free records added weekly, please consider “giving back” as a FamilySearch volunteer. You can start and stop volunteering at any time and you can “work from home”. Learn more at [indexing.familysearch.org](http://indexing.familysearch.org).

## WISDOM FROM A GRANDPA

*It's hard to understand how a cemetery can  
raise its burial rates,  
And then blames it on the cost of living !*

## NEW ENGLANDERS WHO HEADED WEST

From *The Weekly Genealogist*, Vol. 14, No. 20, Whole #531 (the New England Historical and Genealogical Society's newsletter)

They had a survey of readers asking about their interest in the states of the Pacific and the West. Not surprisingly, California had the highest rate, with 87% of respondents having interest there. And just think, we're here in the heart of where all those people were headed!

Full results are:	California	87%
	Washington	50%
	Oregon	44%
	Alaska	8%
	Hawaii	7%

## YOUR NEWSLETTER EDITOR NEEDS YOUR HELP

*I still haven't heard back from any of you, and I can't do it by myself:*

We would like to do a special supplement to the newsletter this summer featuring stories about people and/or places in El Dorado County. It can be anything from the recent past or gold rush. Please write up anything you may know about and send 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. As you can see from the survey above, a lot of folks came to California. Let's share what we have with each other and anyone else who happens to peruse our newsletter. Thanks for your help. Paul

## FHC LIBRARY UPDATES

It was announced at the recent training session held for the Family History Center volunteers that the FHC would no longer charge for copies, research guides or other forms. The only charges in the future will be for microfilms and microfiche. The FHC will be going to the new on-line ordering system for films and fiche in September and at that time, there will no longer be any cash exchanged at the FHC.

We are very fortunate to have a local FHC and to have their great support of our genealogy efforts. Let's show our appreciation for this by utilizing the Family History Center whenever we can.

### **New books in the Library**

- IMM 58: The Trail of the Huguenots
- IMM 59a:Huguenots Emigration to America – Vol I
- IMM 59b:Huguenots Emigration to America – Vol II
- IMM 60: Handy Tips to Migratory Patterns and Immigration to the United States
- GER 33: The Mecklenburg Genealogical Handbook
- GER 34: The German Researcher
- GER 35: Descriptive Catalog of German Research Materials
- NY 46: Handy Tips to Your Genealogical Research in New York
- ENG 64: The Roll of Battle Abbey
- REF 132: Latin for Local History
- SS 8: A Key to Southern Pedigrees
- UT 38: Route from Liverpool to Great Salt Lake Valley
- POR 4: Azores – Nine Islands, One History

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

## TIPS ON ABSTRACTING A RECORD

It is easy for us to photocopy or capture digitally every record or entry we find for an ancestor. There are many advantages for doing so, especially if an original source is not clear or the handwriting is difficult to read. But what if you are looking at a lot of records for a particular surname? You may be exploring, say, a church record for a particular place and want to identify all of the extended family members of your ancestor or people of the same last name living in that locality. It may not be practical to photocopy or digitize every single page, since the sheer number of records will become cumbersome.

I would suggest as an alternative that researchers make a careful abstraction of the pertinent records, especially when you are researching and gleaning a large number of references for a given surname and want to piece the extended family together at a later date. Abstractions will never take the place of very important records, but they will help expedite and manage large genealogical projects.

Here are a few tips. First, be sure to make a careful record of the source being examined. If it is an LDS film, make note of the film number; if a library book, make note of the author, title, publisher, date, and call number. Then, once you are into the record itself, make a note of the original source being referenced, if listed. If you are looking at a church record on an LDS microfilm, make note of the original title page of the register, the type of record it contains (for example, baptisms), and the inclusive dates. Then as you go through the record and make extract the entries for the surname of interest, note the original page numbers.

Other details you decide to abstract will depend on the type of record being consulted. If a church record, you will want to note the date and all pertinent associated names, including witnesses of marriages or names of godparents. If a deed record, make note of the buyer, seller, spouses, witnesses, and make a careful record of the legal description of the land and the names of people with adjoining land, if listed. If a will record, make note of testator, spouse, all persons and their bequests, the name of the executor, all witnesses, and the writing date and probate date.



Your goal is to be able to go back to the source to find the original reference, if necessary, as well as have enough abstracted material to use the record as evidence as you later write a family history and footnote the source. Keeping careful abstracts is a good research habit and is an essential part of a large genealogical project, where you can't copy everything.

From the Allan County Public Library Blog. Posted by: [ACPL Genealogy Center](http://genealogycenter.org), Monday, March 21, 2011, by John. [http://genealogycenter.org/Community/Blog/11-03-21/Tips\\_on\\_Abstracting\\_a\\_Record.aspx](http://genealogycenter.org/Community/Blog/11-03-21/Tips_on_Abstracting_a_Record.aspx)

### GENIE TRUTHS

*The one document that would supply the missing link in your dead-end line has been lost due to fire, flood or war.*

### COUNTY HISTORY

#### Bryant Cemetery



*Entrance to Bryant Cemetery*

Bryant Cemetery is located off of South Shingle Road near Latrobe and is a little over one acre in size. The cemetery was probably founded in 1848, but unfortunately, there are no markers from this period. The earliest marked headstone reads 1855. Before Highway 50 was built this was part of the main road from Sacramento to Placerville. There were several road houses in this area for people to

stop and rest. The historical Bryant House and Brandon Station were nearby. The ranching community that grew up around these road houses has used the Bryant Cemetery for the final resting place of their families.

The cemetery is no longer active and has been open for pre-needs only since 1994. It contains approximately 208 marked graves (full and cremated) and another 299 unknown graves which were located with Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR).



*Northeast Corner of Bryant Cemetery*

#### Directions for Getting There:

Head west on Hwy 50 to Shingle Springs and take the Ponderosa Rd. off-ramp. Head south on South Shingle Road for approximately 7 miles. The cemetery is located at Heffren Drive on the southwest corner. Turn right and the cemetery entrance will be about a block in on your left.

### CHURCH BLOOPERS

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

*For those of you who have children  
and don't know it,  
we have a nursery downstairs.*

*We'll see you at the FHC on June 21<sup>st</sup> for  
our next meeting.*



