



ROOTS AND GOLD DUST Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 1354 Diamond Springs, CA 95619
Roots and Gold Dust Newsletter–October 2012

UPCOMING MEETING DATES & AGENDA

- October 16, 2012 *Donald “Brad” Schall*
Genealogical Information of locating family
during the Civil war
- November 20, 2012 *Group Participation*
Annual Fingerfood Potluck and Election of
Officers
- December 2012 *No Meeting*
Have a Very Merry Christmas
And a Happy New Year
Programs and speakers for next year are being
lined up as we speak.

NEXT MEETING

October 16, 2012

Brad Schall will be talking with us about **Genealogical Information of Locating Family During the Civil War**. Brad will be using one of our member’s ancestors as the example of how he does his research, so we get to see an actual “hands on” example

Brad’s Civil War interest has evolved as he has twenty-two relatives who fought for the Union in the Civil War. He has done much historical research on the Civil War. His Civil War interests and memberships are Past National Commander-In-Chief, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War; Memorial officer for General George Weight Camp #22 in Sacramento; Co-Chairman and founding board member of Friends of Civil War Alcatraz; and Active member of the Northern California Civil War roundtable Speakers Bureau.

LAST MEETING

September 18, 2012

What a great meeting! We had 28 people attending, which included 6 guests. Ruth Snyder did a great job greeting folks as they came in and our refreshments were provided by Carlyn White and Elaine Andrews. Our Thanks for a job VERY well done. We’d also like to thank those “unsung” heroes who come in early and stay late to make sure the room is always set up for the meetings and then put back in to order afterwards.

We started off with a short business meeting. We have a Nominating Committee now appointed who should be reporting back at the October meeting on their efforts to find people to serve on the Executive Board this next year.

We were very fortunate to have Kim Von Aspern-Parker talk with us on a subject we all need: Organizing Our Genealogy. Kim brought us a number of great examples on how to organize our “clutter” using files, binders or computers, or all the above. She had a great handout and we all picked up new ideas and little tricks of the trade. A special thanks to Kim for covering a needed topic so thoroughly.

YOUR 2012 ROOTS AND GOLD DUST EXECUTIVE BOARD:

- President:..... Carlyn White
Vice President:.....Alice Morrow
Secretary:.....Luana Zylla
Treasurer:.....Carol Sexton
Program Director:..... Vacant
Library Liaison:.....Judy Williams
Newsletter/WebsitePaul Hodel

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>

TREASURER'S REPORT – *for September 2012*

Checking Acct: Beginning Balance	\$ 1,234.74
Income	\$ 43.00
Expense	\$ 65.21
<i>Ending Balance*</i>	\$ 1,212.53
<i>*Includes the Book Can at \$358.53</i>	
Savings Account	\$ 10.05

UPCOMING EVENTS

Family History Day at the State Archives

October 13, 2012
Sacramento

This year's Family History Day will be on October 13th at the State Archives building. This annual seminar is always a big hit and you will want to check their blog site at <http://fhdnews.blogspot.com> to learn all the exciting updates to this year's seminar as they develop.

Family History Seminar

Saturday, November 3, 2012

Regional Family History Center, Sacramento

Don't miss the Family History Seminar at the Sacramento Family History Center on Saturday, November 3, 2012 from 8:30 AM to 3:45 PM. The Center is located at 2745 Eastern Avenue, Sacramento, California Seminar classes will include English Research, Scandinavian Research,

Eastern European Research, and German Research. Additional topics will cover the National Archives, Coroner's Records, City Directories and much more.

Go to their website at <http://www.familyhistorycenter.info/> for more information including a complete listing of classes and the registration form.

Syllabus Material for lectures will be available online two weeks before the conference. Registrants will receive an email notification with instructions to download the syllabus for their desired lectures. A paper syllabus may be pre-ordered during the online registration.

On-Site Registration will be available. Lunch and/or paper syllabus must be pre-ordered.

Roots Cellar Spring Seminar

Saturday, March 16, 2013

9:00 am to 3:45 pm - Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church, 11427 Fair Oaks Blvd., Fair Oaks, California

Root Cellar is excited to host Thomas MacEntee at its 22nd annual seminar. Thomas is a professional genealogist specializing in the use of technology and social media to improve genealogy research and as a way to connect with others in the family history community. When he's not busy writing blog posts, organizing the 2000+ members of GeneaBloggers (<http://www.geneabloggers.com>), teaching online genealogy webinars and more, Thomas MacEntee is busy in his role as "genealogy ninja." Stealth is not easy for a Lane Bryant-sized guy like Thomas but he manages to get the inside track on emerging technologies and vendors as they relate to the genealogy industry. After being laid off from a 25-year career in the tech industry in 2008, Thomas has been able to "repurpose" his skill set for the genealogy community and loves to see other genealogists succeed, whether it is with their own research or building their own careers in the field. *You can learn more about Thomas MacEntee at Web: <http://hidefgen.com/>*

In addition to Mr. MacEntee, there will be classes and conferences. To find all the latest information on this, always, exciting event, visit their website at: <http://www.rootcellar.org/>.

Sacramento German Genealogy Society

Spring Seminar

Saturday, May 4, 2013

Sacramento

This years Seminar will feature the ever popular Roger Minert who will be bringing along with him eight of his graduate students to assist him. Mr. Minert is always a very exciting, interesting and informative speaker and this years seminar will include not only talks by him, but also there will be an opportunity to have one-on-one sessions with his graduate students to get help with your German genealogy. To find all the latest information on this, always, exciting event, visit their website at: <http://www.sacgergensoc.org/>.

ONGOING EVENTS

Central Library Programs

The Sacramento Central Library has a great interest in genealogy and provides a number of resources and programs for genealogists. 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 offers genealogy classes every Wednesday afternoon and evening. Visit their website to see what's coming up. <http://www.familyhistorycenter.info/>

HUMOROUS GENEALOGICAL THOUGHTS

Heredity: Everyone believes in it until their children act like fools!

MARRIAGE RECORDS

During the colonial period, the law required a true and perfect parish register. After 1780, ministers were required to report all marriages to the county

court clerk whose duty it was to see that the returns were entered in a book kept for that purpose. In 1783 the law recognized that the scarcity of ministers in the western counties had produced a situation whereby not only dissenting ministers, but some magistrates and others had been induced to solemnize marriages. The amended act of 1784 removed the four ministers per denomination per county restriction for marriages and permitted any ordained minister to perform marriages. Also Quakers and Mennonites were permitted to marry under their own customs, but the clerk of the meeting was to make a return to the county clerk. The county record books which have survived are sometimes titled "Marriage Records" or "Marriage Registers," although they might contain only the entry of the marriage bond and not the actual return.

Handfast:

H/F after a person's name on birth and marriage records means "Handfast". Basically it is a sign of the confirmation of a type of "uncanonical, private or even probationary form of marriage". Handfasting was for announcing a union between a man and woman who wished to live together as husband and wife before receiving the blessing of the church.

The couple would stand before a group of their peers, hold their clasped hands above their heads and state their intentions. The agreement was good for a year and a day or until the preacher came to perform the rites of the church. If at the end of the specified time, each wished to go his own way, they could do so with no ties. No matter what happened, any child born of a Handfast would inherit.

Symbolic Crossroads Wedding:

A crossroads wedding was one in which the marriage was held at a crossroads after the sun had set with the bride wearing only her shift. This was done to show she had no debts to bring to the marriage.

DOES THIS DESCRIBE YOU?

*I used to have a life,
then I started doing genealogy*

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.

San Francisco Bay Area Genealogy Information

I was following a lead on a cemetery listing for the Colma Cemeteries where a lot of the people who died in the San Francisco area are buried and I came across the SFGenealogy web site. It's actually a portal to get to different things in the Bay area and some statewide data also. They are coordinating indexing projects and if you go to the map at the bottom of their home page and click on the area you are interested in, you can find information on what's available for that area.

You might want to give it a check out to see if you might have something in there that could help you, both for Bay Area questions and California questions. The web site is: <http://sfgenealogy.com/>

Los Angeles, California Area Cemetery Databases

Green Hills Memorial Park, Rancho Palos Verdes, California

<http://www.greenhillsmemorial.com>

Green Hills Memorial Park is located in Rancho Palos Verdes, a suburb of Los Angeles. Green Hills Memorial Park was founded in 1948. More than 75,000 individuals are buried there.

Click the Burial Search link in the upper left corner to begin. This will open a new page with search boxes. You may search the database by first name and last name. Data fields in the search results include name, date of birth, date of death, location, and coordinates.

Rose Hills Memorial Park and Mortuaries, Whittier, California

http://www.rosehills.com/dm20/en_US/main/rh/index.page

Rose Hills Memorial Park and Mortuaries, founded in 1914, is located in the city of Whittier, southeast of Los Angeles. Click the Service & Grave Finder link to begin your search. There are two search options. You will most likely want to select the Search for Obituaries and Grave Locations option. First, enter a full or partial name in the search box, then select either Grave and Interment Locations or Obituaries. The results for a burial location search include full name and date of death; click this information to access the detailed record. An obituary search will yield results for 2011 and 2012.

Pioneer Memorial Cemetery, Sylmar, California

<http://www.sfvhs.com/PC-main.htm>

Sylmar is located in the San Fernando Valley, which is part of the Los Angeles Metropolitan area. Established in 1874, Pioneer Memorial Cemetery is the second oldest cemetery in the Valley. The cemetery was closed to burials in 1959 and was designated as State Historical Landmark No. 753 on April 30, 1961. Scroll to the bottom of the page for a link to the burial list. Click the Pioneer Cemetery Roster link to an alphabetical listing of burials. The data fields include name, born, died, age, and notes. The notes field includes names of relatives, next of kin (NOK), information about the plot where the individual is buried, cause of death, removal information, military service, and book number.

Information courtesy of The Weekly Genealogist, Vol. 15, No. 36, Whole #599 September 5, 2012

Death Indexes

Spartanburg County, South Carolina

Spartanburg, located in northwestern South Carolina, is the county seat of Spartanburg County. The Spartanburg County Public Library has made a number of obituary and death indexes available on its website.

Each index is formatted alphabetically; many are grouped by year. They include the name of the deceased as it appeared in the obituary, age, place of death or residence, name of spouse, and date and page on which the obituary appeared. Obituaries for individuals with clear local connections only have been included in the index. Search by keyword, name, or place of death, or browse alphabetical lists. Copies of obituaries can be ordered from the library for a small fee.

The databases are:

Spartanburg Herald and Herald-Journal Death Index - 1920 - 1922 and 1930 – 2011. This database indexes obituaries and death notices found in the above named newspapers. Indexing for the period from 1923 - 1929 is in progress.

Spartanburg Herald / Herald Journal Death Index - 1902 – 1919. The primary source for this obituary and death notice index is the Spartanburg Herald, with additional information from the Spartanburg Journal or the Spartanburg Weekly Herald. There are gaps in this database.

Carolina Spartan / Spartanburg Herald Death Index - roughly 1849 – 1893. These indexes contain obituaries from the Carolina Spartan and Spartanburg Herald newspapers. There are gaps throughout and the following years are missing: 1852, 1865, and 1877-78. The date in the record is the publication date of the death notice.

Register of Deaths of Spartanburg, South Carolina. This alphabetical index was compiled from the Register of Deaths of Spartanburg, an early attempt by the city to record deaths. These records span October 1, 1895, through October 21, 1897, and August 3, 1903, through December 31, 1915. The index contains death records for residents of the city of Spartanburg only. Data fields include name of the deceased, sex, race, cause of death and date of death.

Miscellaneous Death Index. This death index is drawn from more than a half-dozen Spartanburg newspapers. It ranges from 1844 into the early 1900s; however, there are large time gaps in this database.

Visit the Library's database at: <http://www.infodepot.org/zkroom/krdeathinfo.asp#Index> .

FHC LIBRARY UPDATES

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

New Books in the Library

MN 9 - – “*Ken A Big*”, *the Story of Kanabec County* By Ziegler, Beck and Kanabec County (Minnesota) Historical Society. Donated by Diane Lockwood.

Volunteers Welcomed

The FHC could use some additional volunteers. No special experience is required, just a love of genealogy and a desire to help others. They will provide training and you can either work a weekly shift or rotate and work every other week. Drop by the FHC and find out how you can help out.

BRICK WALLS SHARED BY THOSE AT OUR AUGUST MEETING

Alas, some of our friends have run across the same problem we all experience on occasion, their ancestors are playing “Hide and Seek” with them. So far the score is Hiders 337, Seekers 2. We’re split these up and gave you half of them last month and the other half this month. If you can offer any suggestions, please e-mail Carlyn at carlyn668@comcast.net. She will forward the information to the “Seekers” and we’ll also publish your responses in an upcoming newsletter so everyone can learn from your tips.

Harvey Andrews

Harvey really needs our help. He doesn’t have a lot of hair left as it is and this lady is making him tear out what little he has left.

Information You Are Searching For:

Names of Parents

Birth date and location

Early years (prior to 1836)

Any other information I can get on her.

Name of person(s):

Elizabeth Ann Barnett, nee Elizabeth Ann Williams

Born: 1818 in Tennessee

Died: 1895 in Missouri

Dates: 1818 through 1895

Location where you are stumped: Tennessee

Nationality: Probably Cherokee.

Any information you have about the person that might help others help you chisel away at your brick wall.

I've been able to find information on her after her marriage to Levi Barnett, October 1835.

Sources you have used:

Internet, books, contacting relatives, local entities, etc. Worked with Grace Becker. Possible Grace's Tennessee Williams' family was the same. Both Williams family from Rutherford County, TN, likely Cherokee Nation members, left during final relocation order.

Rodi Lee

Rodi's Great Grandparents like to be elusive. She's been able to find out a little about their middle years, but can't find any details about their beginnings or ends. Is there anyone out there who can give Rodi a hand?

Information You Are Searching For:

Searching for their death dates,
Siblings if any
Their parents.

Name of person(s):

Charles Edward Lee born 1862

Hariett B. (Carter) Lee, his wife born 1862,

Dates: 1860 - 1980

Location where you are stumped: **Michigan**

Nationality: **According to the census their parents were from Ireland and Scotland**

Any information you have about the person that might help others help you chisel away at your brick wall.

Charles Edward Lee was a Baptist minister for a time in Alpena Michigan, and practiced in Detroit

as well as being in "real-estate". At one time I was told that Hariett was adopted?

I believe their daughter, Marion, died sometime in the 1970s in Smeltonville, Idaho. Their son Roland, my paternal grandfather, died in Washington State - I believe 1975.

They were living in Detroit Michigan on the 1930 census, with their daughter Marion and the house keeper Viola.

. I have been searching for their death dates, Detroit Michigan, or Saginaw Michigan.

Sources you have used:

Death index, Social Security, Cemetery lists
...have no relatives to ask!

BRICK WALL SUCCESS STORY

We've been discussing brick walls that some of our members are facing. Now for a success story:

Aaron Tassin

Aaron, being the true trooper that he is, didn't let a brick wall stand in his way forever. Here's how he finally broke through it this past winter.

"Several Ancestry trees had the wrong person as my grandmother's father. There were three in the same area, with the same year of birth. None of the Ancestry trees had any support in the form of references. I was able to crack this by *interviewing living relatives*. Two had the same information I already had, but one added the name of his second wife and the other a burial location. From that I was able to find a grave marker for the true person. With just online sources, I found months of confusion. I had three files, not knowing who the real person was. But, by keeping all the facts lined up, and some additional interview information, I cracked it. My data has been confirmed by a Social Security document recently received."

***We'll see you at the
October 16th meeting!***