



ROOTS AND GOLD DUST Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 1354 Diamond Springs, CA 95619
Roots and Gold Dust Newsletter–February 2013

UPCOMING MEETING DATES & AGENDA

- February 19, 2013 *Paul Hodel*
Using Findagrave.com
- March 19, 2013 *Glenda Lloyd*
Obituaries – “The Dead Said”
- April 16, 2013 *Linda Lucky*
Family Search and Family Tree
- May 21, 2013
El Dorado County Historical Museum Tour
*Programs and speakers for the rest of next year are
being lined up as we speak.*

RECAP OF THE JANUARY MEETING

Not very many showed up for the January meeting, but those that did were very enthusiastic and helpful. Thanks to Sandy Beals who did a great job as Greeter and to Alice Morrow, Milt Mulligan and Carlyn White who provided the refreshments. Carol Sexton couldn't be there when the meeting began because of conflicting meetings, so Mary Ann Harper filled in for her as Treasurer and did a fantastic job of getting memberships renewed by a number of folks for the 2013 year. It was great to see how many people want to make sure they are active members for this year.

Carlyn White, our outgoing President, opened the meeting and after the normal business took a few minutes to report on her new job with the Society. She is this year's representative to the Genealogical and Historical Council of Sacramento Valley, replacing Paul Hodel. She had just attended her first meeting the previous Saturday and reported

on what she had learned. She then took the opportunity to thank the outgoing Board and all those who had helped out over the past year. After thanking everyone, she introduced this year's Executive Board of: Paul Hodel, President, Milton Mulligan, Vice-President, Luana Zylla, Secretary, and Carol Sexton, Treasurer. After which, she did the “passing of the gavel” installation ceremony to make the new Board official.

Newly installed President, Paul Hodel, then took over the meeting and offered his thanks to all for the work they have done this past year and even farther back to get this Society where it is now. He then talked about the Society's Purpose and Objective and how we're doing in the various areas covered by them, how we could improve in the future and some of our alternatives. Please see the “Letter from the President” on page 5 where he discusses these things in greater detail.

Three people volunteered to be on the Program Committee which will be taking the place of the Program Director position we have been using. This will spread out the load and make the job more manageable. We could still use two or three more on this Committee. The three who are now on the committee are Mary Ann Harper, Mary Lee Gilliland and Sandy Beals.

We are re-establishing the Genealogical Records and Research Committee which was quite active in the early days of the Society. This is a great opportunity for those of you who enjoy research. Aaron Tassin has already volunteered and we need three or four more people to help out.

In spite of the small turn-out, the meeting was very successful and we got a lot accomplished. Thanks to all who were able to attend.

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>

NEXT MEETING February 19, 2013

Our own Paul Hodel will be speaking about Findagrave.com at our February meeting. This is an exciting, free, all-volunteer website with over 93 million graves recorded in it. Through the collaboration of thousands of contributors, memorials can become extensive pictures of people's lives. It is valuable to both those looking for their ancestors and those who want to share information with others. This site allows you to not only search for people, but you can also create new memorials for your loved ones or people you have been researching. Paul will walk us through the site, actually working live on the computer to search for existing memorials of graves and cemeteries. He will go over logging-in, how to create, modify, and correct memorials, how to link memorials to create family trees, add photos, and other operations.

Paul has been a member of Roots and Gold Dust Genealogical Society since 2008. He has been working on genealogy for over 30 years. Through his work on his family history he became interested in cemeteries. He started using Findagrave.com so as to memorialize some of his family members. He enjoyed it so much he has continued to photograph and document cemeteries across the country, having

taken photos in over 200 cemeteries in 17 states. He has been a member of Findagrave.com for over eight years and the "County Keeper" for El Dorado County for over five years. If you've heard Paul speak about cemeteries before, you know you will be in for a treat at the February meeting.

GENEALOGY:

Where you confuse the dead and irritate the living.

TREASURER'S REPORT – *for February 2013*

Checking Acct: Beginning Balance	\$ 1,230.88
Income	\$ 203.00
Expense	\$ 00.00
Ending Balance*	\$ 1,433.88
<i>*Includes the Book Can at \$294.42</i>	
Savings Account	\$ 10.05

TIME TO RENEW YOU MEMBERSHIP IS NOW

A number of you are already ahead of this reminder, so you can sit back and gloat to yourselves about already renewing for this year. The rest of you will want to renew your membership in Roots and Gold Dust Genealogy Society while it's still such a bargain at \$15 per person or \$22 per family. Renew by paying at the February meeting or mail in your renewal. Bring cash or check because our Treasurer doesn't accept plastic.

YOUR 2013 ROOTS AND GOLD DUST

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

President:.....	Paul Hodel
Vice President:.....	Milton Mulligan
Secretary:.....	Luana Zylla
Treasurer:.....	Carol Sexton
Program Chairperson.....	Vacant
Library Liaison:.....	Judy Williams
Newsletter/Website	Paul Hodel

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sutro Bus Trip

Wednesday, February 13, 2013

Our friends at the Genealogy Association of Sacramento are once again sponsoring a bus trip to the Sutro Library in San Francisco. This is a great opportunity to see the new, and much larger, building that the library has moved to. This is a great opportunity to work on your family history as the Sutro Library is one of the premier genealogy libraries in the United States. Not only that, but you can sit back and let someone else do the driving which is always nice when traveling to the San Francisco area. The cost is \$40 for the bus trip. We will car-pool to Sacramento, get on the bus there and spend the trip comparing notes with other genealogists as we enjoy a snack of donuts. We're dropped off practically on the steps of the library and after spending an exciting day there, we can get back on the bus and let someone else drive us through the traffic. It's a great adventure and opportunity. To make your reservation, contact Melanie Howard at melnesia@comcast.net or at (916) 383-1221.

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 much 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 year's Seminar will feature the ever popular Roger Minert who will be bringing along eight of his graduate students to assist him. Mr. Minert is always a very exciting, interesting and informative speaker and this year's 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/>.

Beginner's Workshop

Placer County Genealogy Society

June 15, 2013, 9:00 am – 3:30 pm

Auburn

The Placer County Genealogy Society will be having their annual seminar; "Tracing Your Family Tree: How To Begin". This is always a very popular presentation both for beginners and for those who want to sharpen up some on the basics. It will be held at the Auburn Library, 350 Nevada St, Auburn on Saturday, June 15, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. till 3:30 p.m. This is a free seminar.

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/>

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

We would like to thank Aaron Tassin for the large collection of books he donated to the Library at the Placerville Family History Center. He acquired the books from a friend whose wife had been an avid genealogist from 1978 – 1998 when she died. "Jackie", Jacqueline June McClenahan (Nicholson), had an extensive collection of books and microfilms. There are over 400 books and journals. The most common locations she was researching were; Georgia, Illinois, Missouri, Pennsylvania, So. Carolina, Tennessee and West Virginia. There are also a lot of good reference books on the Cherokees as well as the Revolutionary, Civil, 1812 and Indian Wars.

To accommodate the new books we have purchased another bookcase and have moved the surname and family books to the small room across the hall from the Family History Library. The list below is of the books that have been shelved, there are many more to come.

Surname Biographies

- **Hough and Huff Families of the United States, 1620-1820: the East*, by Granville W. Hough
- **Jesse and Frank James: The Family History*, by Phillip W. Steele
- **Some of the Spaniol Families in the United States and Germany* by Eugene Spaniol
- **The Minnesota-Oregon Spaniols* (exerts from the above)
- **The Van Cleef Family*, by Wilson V. Ledley

- **Vann Generations with Cherokee Origins*, by John Joseph Vann & James Clement Vann I
- **We Veitches, Veatches, Veaches, Veeches*, An Historical Treasury of the Descendants of James Veitch, the Sheriffe, Vol. I, II and III, by Wanda Veatch Clark
- **The Life and Times of Sheriffe James Veitch of Calvert County*, by Lou Rose
- **James Clifford Veatch: Scholar, Solicitor, Statesman & Soldier*, by William A. Veitch
- **Memorials of the Whittlesey Family*, by The Whittlesey Association

Military Civil War

- MIL CW 26a: The Battle of Chickamauga
- MIL CW 26b: History of the Civil War
- MIL CW 26c: The Battle of Shiloh
- MIL CW 26d: Chickamauga and Chattanooga On Your Own
- MIL CW 26e: Southern Loyalists in the Civil War: The Southern Claims Commission
- MIL CW 26f: Barred and Disallowed Case Files of the Claims Commission 1871-1880
- MIL CW 26g: National Geographic Guide To The Civil National Battlefield Parks
- MIL CW 27: The Confederacy-A Guide to the Archives of the Government of the Confederate States of America

Military Revolutionary War

- MIL REV 43 a&b: Revolutionary Pensioners-Transcript of the Pension List of the U.S. for 1813 & Register of Invalid Pensions Rev. Service 1789

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.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

In the summer of 2008, I took a short trip back to Illinois for a couple of weeks. The idea was to visit the area where my father's parents settled when they came to the U.S. shortly before World War I. This short trip turned out to be ten weeks long and took me as far east as Vermont and Connecticut. The whole time was spent doing family history. Being on such a genealogy "high" after that trip, I decided to attend a meeting on the local genealogy society, Roots and Gold Dust Genealogical Society. The rest, as they say, is history. I've been an active member ever since and have enjoyed the camaraderie and friendship, learning and joy that comes from being around good people who are bitten by the same genie bug that I am. Thanks to the combined efforts of both the "old guard" (speaking in terms of years of membership in the society and not in terms of age) and the new comers, I've seen this organization grow and flourish over those few years. Roots and Gold Dust is a Society we can all be proud of and it is that way because of you, the members.

I've been impressed by the people who have stepped up to do whatever it has taken to make this society a success. It doesn't matter if you've served as an officer, brought refreshments, given presentations, helped set up and/or take down the room for the meetings, your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Speaking of appreciation, I appreciate those of our predecessors who wrote up our Bylaws. Our Bylaws haven't been changed or modified since 2002 and they are still a solid framework for our Society. There are a couple of clarifications that need to be addressed, but the Bylaws have provided us the means of addressing this also.

Article III of the Bylaws covers the "Purpose and Objectives" of the organization. These are:

- a. To create and foster interest in genealogy.
- b. To gather, preserve, and publish local genealogical and historical data.
- c. To aid individuals in their genealogical research and in compiling their family histories.
- d. To establish and maintain a genealogical library through contributions, donations, exchange and purchase of materials.

This year's Board has elected to review how we are doing at achieving our Purpose and Objectives. We have found that in most areas, the society has been doing a good job. Sure, we're not perfect and we can still improve in some of the areas, but we have every right to be proud of our achievements. The areas we are doing good in are A, C, and D. Area B, the mandate to "gather, preserve, and publish local genealogical and historical data" is lacking. In the early days of our society, we had a committee dedicated to just this purpose and the society published the research that they did. Unfortunately, while there is some out there that we can retrieve, much of that research has been lost over the years. It behooves us, as a society, to do what we can to retrieve what we are able and to do more local research. We need to insure that anything we come up with will be preserved for future generations. To that end, we are reactivating the Genealogical Records and Research Committee as it is presented in the Bylaws.

Another area where we have been hurting is the position of Program Director. The Bylaws designate a Program Committee to handle the program arrangements. During those years when the society was very low on membership this committee was replaced with a program director, one person to do the job of many. This has resulted in our Program Directors, whom I wish to say have done a fantastic job, becoming very overloaded and burned out. There is no longer a need for only one person to do all the work. Why overload one person and deprive others of the opportunity to serve in the society? We are reactivating the Program Committee. Instead of having a Program Director, there will be a Program Chairperson who will chair the committee and be a member of the Executive Board. By having a number of members working on this committee, each one will have a light load, but the total result will be far greater than could be accomplished by just one person.

Another thing we've noticed is that there is a tendency for just a few people to take on everything themselves. This denies the other members, who may not have as much spare time, the opportunity to serve the organization.

There is need of help in many areas. Jobs that are not labor intensive if they are shared, but jobs if all done by one person become "the straw that broke

the camel's back". We will be asking some of you members to volunteer to take on one of these Special Assignments.

And there is always a need for people to lend a helping hand at "onesy" tasks. This can be acting as a greeter, bringing refreshments, helping to set up or take down the room for meetings, assisting at a table at an event where we are promoting Roots and Gold Dust, etc.

Here is what we are asking of all of you, who are able, to either:

- * Serve on a Committee or
- * Accept a Special Assignment or
- * Pledge to donate 20 hours to the Society during 2013.

If you wish to pledge some of your time instead of serving on a committee or a special assignment, you would be asked to:

- Help set up for a meeting,
- Help clean up after a meeting,
- Bring refreshments to a meeting,
- Serve as a Greeter at a meeting,
- Assist in promoting Roots and Gold Dust,
- Etc.

Just think, 20 hours a year isn't even 2 hours a month. If you come early and help set up the room, you can count that for an hour, even if it only takes you 20 minutes. If you bring refreshments, you can count that as an hour also. If we have a promotional table up at one of the Wagon Trail events and you volunteer to spend three hours visiting with people there, you just fulfilled 1½ months of the time you've pledged. There isn't going to be anyone looking over your shoulder with a stop watch, you will be tracking your own time.

Please, support the Society however you are able.

Thank You, Paul E. Hodel

**THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY
VOLUNTEERED TO SUPPORT THE
SOCIETY IN 2013**

The Executive Board

Paul Hodel,
Milt Mulligan,
Luana Zylla,
Carol Sexton

Library Committee

Judy Williams, Librarian,
Alice Morrow, Asst. Librarian
Milt Mulligan

Program Committee

Sandy Beals
Mary Lee Gilliland
Mary Ann Harper
We need more volunteers for this committee

Genealogical Records & Research Committee

Aaron Tassin
We need more volunteers for this committee

Representative to the Genealogical and Historical
Council of Sacramento Valley

Carlyn White

Newsletter and Webmaster

Paul Hodel

Special Assignments

Linda Galley, Newsletter Distribution
Bonnie Holbrook, Newsletter Indexer
Available Position, Visitor/Guest Greeter

Other Special Assignment Positions will soon be available.

***We'll see YOU at the
February 19th meeting!***