



# ROOTS AND GOLD DUST Genealogical Society

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

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## UPCOMING MEETING DATES & AGENDA

- June 18, 2013 *Lynn Brown*  
*Digital Books and Newspapers*
- July 16, 2013 *Jim Rader*  
*What can a Genealogist use from DNA Test Results?*
- August 20, 2013 *Roundtable Discussion*  
*Genealogical Websites and Software*
- September 17, 2013 *Marilyn Kile*  
*PC Tips*
- October 15, 2013 *Glenda Lloyd*  
*Getting Organized*
- November 19, 2013 *Everybody*  
*Annual Election of Officers and Finger Food Pot-Luck*

*We will not be meeting in December so that all may enjoy the Christmas Season.*

## RECAP OF THE MAY MEETING

What a fun time we had at the May meeting. Instead of a regular meeting we toured the El Dorado County Museum. We met early for a sack lunch at the wine garden picnic area on the fairgrounds located just behind the museum. Then Mary Cory, the director of the museum invited us into the museum. There, we were greeted by Heather, one of the docents, who led us through the museum displays. She was very informative, both as to the displays in the museum as well as El Dorado County history and families. We then gathered in the Research Room where we were greeted by Pam who provided us with an excellent

overview of the records and information available there, especially the genealogical sources available.

We asked many questions of both these friendly and knowledgeable ladies and they did an excellent of answering them all. Our thanks to Mary, Heather and Pam for the fantastic experience we enjoyed. We encourage others to visit this excellent resource located right in our back yard.

## **ON THE GRAVE OF EZEKIAL AIKLE,** in East Dalhousie Cemetery, Nova Scotia:

Here lies  
Ezekial Aikle  
Age 102  
The Good  
Die Young.

## **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>

## YOUR 2013 ROOTS AND GOLD DUST

### EXECUTIVE BOARD:

President:.....Paul Hodel  
Vice President:.....Milton Mulligan  
Secretary:.....Luana Zylla  
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Program Chairperson.....MaryLee Gilliland  
Library Liaison:.....Judy Williams  
Newsletter/Website .....Paul Hodel

### NEXT MEETING

June 18, 2013

For our June meeting we are fortunate to once again have Lynn Brown as our guest speaker. She will be talking about **Digital Books and Newspapers**. For those of you who have heard Lynn before, you know that this topic is right up her alley.

Lynn Brown has been a Family Historian for over 40 years and offers an extensive background in computers and genealogy research. She enjoys helping others with their research projects and is currently a volunteer with the Sacramento Regional Family History Center. Lynn has lectured and given workshops throughout the Sacramento Metro and San Francisco Bay areas and holds two BS degrees; as a Community Director from San Jose State University and in IT Engineering. She is a Certified California Adult Education Teacher, Certified US Army Occupational Instructor, and has taught and directed alternative education for the Gifted.

Lynn Brown currently operates her own genealogy consulting and research business. She has recently retired from teaching genealogy at Folsom Cordova and San Juan School Districts to begin new adventures of taking genealogy research education online.

Lynn's presentation will discuss the Library of Congress, Google Books, researching through Archive.org, plus how to find old "disappearing" URLs. A review of various search techniques will also be covered. The presentation will also include researching online for other e-books available,

techniques for searching newspaper articles, and a brief explanation of e-book reader file formats for downloading .

### TREASURER'S REPORT –

*for June 1, 2013*

Checking Acct: Beginning Balance	\$ 1413.59
Income	\$ 15.00
Expense	\$ 00.00
<i>Ending Balance*</i>	\$ 1,428.59
<i>*Includes the Book Can at \$332.42</i>	
Savings Account	\$ 10.05

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **.Beginner's Workshop**

Placer County Genealogy Society - Auburn  
June 15, 2013, 9:00 am – 3:30 pm

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.

#### **Northern California Family History Expo**

Sacramento  
June 28 – 29, 2013

The Northern California Family History Expo will be held June 28-29 at the Crowne Plaza Sacramento. The keynote speaker will be James L. Tanner and there will be fifty different classes to select from, and the list has something for everyone. You'll want to register early to get the best price break. You can visit their site at <https://www.familyhistoryexpos.com> .

### 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

## 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.

The FHC is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. till 8:00 p.m.

#### **New to the Library**

*Judy has had to take some time off from the Library due to her husband's knee surgery. (She's such a good wife!) We'll have more information on the new books being shelved in next month's newsletter.*

### 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.

#### **Photos and Vital Information on every Tombstone in more than 770 Connecticut Cemeteries Now Online**

The Godfrey Memorial Library continues to expand its searchable **Scholar+** online database weekly. The database now contains listings from 770 cemeteries in Connecticut and includes:

- A photograph of every tombstone in each cemetery
- Vital information from each tombstone is transcribed

- Information from missing tombstones is added from the Hale Collection

Scholar subscribers can search for people by name or browse all the names in a particular cemetery at <http://www.godfrey.org/scholar/login.html>. Once logged in, anyone who participates in the Godfrey Scholar program can search and then click on the name to view a photo of the persons' tombstone. Information about the Godfrey Scholar program may be found at

<http://www.godfrey.org/subscribe.html>.

Volunteers from the Godfrey Memorial Library continue to add cemeteries to this database weekly and hope to have completed 1/3 of the Connecticut Cemeteries by the end of the year. If you would like to assist this effort, look at the information available at

<http://www.godfreydata.org/Volunteer%20for%20the%20Ed%20Laput%20Cemetery%20Project.pdf>.

*Courtesy of Eastman Online Genealogy Newsletter, 1 May 2013.*

*Most of us aren't subscribers to the Godfrey Library Website, but the good news is that it is one of the sites available to use for free at our local Family History Center. Drop by and check it out.*

#### **Various Massachusetts Cemeteries**

Cemetery Records, Amherst, Massachusetts  
<http://gis.amherstma.gov/apps/cemetery/>

The town of Amherst is located in Hampshire County in western Massachusetts. This database comprises burial records from the North and West Cemeteries. Much of the historical information and the photographs of gravestones were contributed to the project by The Association for Gravestone Studies. To find a burial in the database choose a surname from the dropdown list. This will open a new page with the names of all individuals with that surname buried in the cemeteries. The data fields in the search results are "Map It!," cemetery name, grave location, full name, lifespan (birth and death years), age, and deed. The deed field contains the name of the lot owner, if known. Click on the "Map It!" link to view the location of the burial plot on a GIS map.

Spring Grove Cemetery, Andover, Massachusetts

<http://andoverma.gov/facilities/cemetery/>

Spring Grove Cemetery is located in Andover, a town in Essex County. There is a burial database on the town's website. Click "Spring Grove Cemetery Lot Search"

<http://andoverma.gov/facilities/cemetery/search.php>

to launch the surname-searchable database. Data fields in the search results include last name, first name, middle initial, age, sex, interment date, section, lot, and an active link to burial information for all individuals in a particular lot.

St. Patrick Cemetery, Lowell, Massachusetts

<http://stpatrickcemetery.com/>

St. Patrick's Cemetery is located in Lowell, a city in Middlesex County. The cemetery, originally known as the Catholic Burial Ground, was established in 1832. Many of the city's Irish residents were buried there (click the History link to learn more). Click the Genealogy link to access the burial database, which covers 1895 to 2011. The records from 1832 to 1894 are incomplete and are not online at this time. Click the first letter of a surname to open a PDF of search results. The data fields in the search results are last name, first name, middle initial, age, date interred, century, yard, range, section, lot, grave, and funeral director. The numbers entered in the century field are the first two numbers of the century - 18 indicates the 1800s, not the eighteenth century. The burial listings database is a work in progress and will be updated from time to time.

St. Mary Cemetery, Tewksbury, Massachusetts

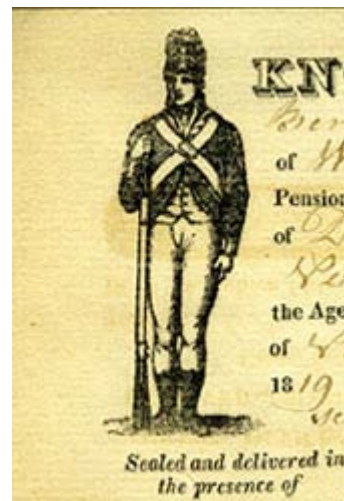
<http://www.stmarycemetery.com/>

Tewksbury is located in Middlesex County. St. Mary's Cemetery was established in 1961. Click on the Genealogy link to access the burial database, covering 1961 to 2011. Click the page image to open the alphabetical database in PDF format. The data fields in the search results are last name, first name, middle initial, age, date interred, section, lot, grave, and funeral director. The burial listings database is a work in progress, and it will be updated from time to time.

*Courtesy of The Weekly Genealogist, Vol. 15, No. 35, Whole #598 August 29, 2012*

## HOW TO FIND A REVOLUTIONARY WAR PATRIOT

The Revolutionary War started with the battle between British troops and the local Massachusetts militia at Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts, on 19 April 1775. It ended eight years later with the signing of the Treaty of Paris in 1783. If you have been able to trace your ancestry in America back to



those years, you have an excellent chance of finding at least one ancestor who had some type of service related to the Revolutionary War effort.

In fact, your ancestor may have been a Patriot or a Loyalist. We don't celebrate the efforts of Loyalists very much in the United States, but go north to Canada and you will find that Loyalists are well documented and honored as heroes. They are especially honored for their contribution to the development of Canada. Perhaps one Canadian in ten has a Loyalist ancestor, and many people with English blood who live elsewhere – in the United States, in commonwealth countries such as Australia and New Zealand, or in nearly any other country round the world – are also of Loyalist descent. Visit the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada web site at <http://www.uelac.org/> for more information.

If you have already documented your U.S. ancestry to 1760 or earlier, you already have an excellent chance of finding either a Patriot or a Loyalist in the family tree. Boys as young as 16 were allowed to serve, so any male ancestors born in 1760 or earlier are possible veterans. You can even find a few younger boys who served as drummers or assistants in the Revolutionary War and later were credited as veterans, even though they were not considered soldiers during the war itself.

Those who didn't serve directly in a military capacity may have helped in other ways, such as providing goods, supplies, or non-military service to

the cause. Women also participated in the American Revolution, sometimes as spies. A few even fought in battles disguised as male soldiers.

If your ancestor served as a Patriot and lived long enough after the war to apply for a pension, you can probably find a pension application for him. Almost all federal pension applications have survived, even the applications of those who were later turned down. In most cases, the veterans had to prove they were true veterans and therefore eligible for pensions. The "proof" often consisted of testimonials from relatives, neighbors, or from other military veterans with whom they served. Such testimonials often provide a wealth of genealogy information, frequently mentioning parents, spouses, siblings, and children. Even the applications that were eventually rejected can be valuable to today's genealogists.

Before 1818, national pension laws concerning veterans of the Revolution specified disability or death of a serviceman as the basis for a pension award (with the exception of the Continental Congress resolution of May 15, 1778, granting half pay to officers for service alone). On March 18, 1818, the U. S. Congress granted pensions to Revolutionary War veterans for service from which no disabilities resulted. Officers and enlisted men in need of assistance were eligible under the terms of the 1818 act if they had served in a Continental military organization or in the U. S. naval service (including the Marines) for 9 months or until the end of the war. Pensions granted under this act were to continue for life.

Congress passed another service-pension act on May 15, 1823, which granted full pay for life to surviving officers and enlisted men of the Revolutionary War who were eligible for benefits under the terms of the Continental Congress resolution of May 15, 1778, as amended.

The last and most liberal of the service-pension acts benefiting Revolutionary War veterans was passed on June 7, 1832, and extended the provisions of the law of May 15, 1828 to even more veterans. The act provided that every officer or enlisted man who had served at least 2 years in the Continental Line or State troops, volunteers or militia, was eligible for a pension of full pay for life. Naval and marine officers and enlisted men were also included.

Veterans who had served less than 2 years, but not less than 6 months, were eligible for pensions of less than full pay. While thousands applied for pensions under the earlier acts of Congress, this final act of 1832 was the one that saw the most applications.

In 1832, all of the living veterans would have been at least 72 years old. Many had already died, either from war injuries or from unrelated causes. In many cases, widows of veterans applied for benefits based on a husband's service. In most cases, widows' applications provided even more family information than did the applications received from actual veterans.

On July 29, 1848, Congress provided life pensions for widows of veterans who were married before January 2, 1800. All restrictions pertaining to the date of marriage were removed by acts of February 3, 1853, and February 28, 1855. On March 9, 1878, widows of Revolutionary War soldiers who had served for as few as 14 days, or were in any engagement, were declared eligible for life pensions. This was still an issue in 1878 because many older veterans had married younger women, resulting in a large number of widows obtaining benefits 108 years or more after the birth of their husbands.

*Follow the Money - Tracking Revolutionary War Army Pension Payments* by Claire Prechtel-Klusens is a great tutorial on researching Revolutionary War pension applications. The tutorial may be found at

<http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2008/winter/follow-money.html>.

Revolutionary War pension applications may be found in their entirety on Fold3.com at <http://www.fold3.com> along with many Revolutionary War service records, final payment vouchers for several states, many Revolutionary War rolls, and more.

The Roots Web's World Connect Project is another good place for identifying Patriot ancestors, although the site is not easily searched. The site is also plagued with MANY ERRORS; but, you will find it easier to use other people's research and gather the documentation needed to validate the research than to try to research something entirely

from scratch. As always with any genealogy claims, you need to independently verify each piece of information you obtain on the WorldConnect Project.

**NOTE:** When searching at this site, type ONLY the Surname and Given Name of the person you are searching AND one of the following in the Spouse box: 1) spouse's first name only, 2) spouse's maiden name only, or 3) spouse's first and maiden name. Do NOT fill in any other search boxes unless you are researching an extremely common name.

Another problem with searches on the WorldConnect Project is that you must specify the exact spelling of all names entered. This is especially difficult when spelling of names were not standardized at the time. Sarah might be spelled as Sara, or Philip could be spelled as Phillip. All you can do is conduct multiple searches, trying every combination you can think of.

Census Records for 1790 and the early 1800s also can be very helpful in identifying Revolutionary War ancestors. The census records may be found on Ancestry.com. FamilySearch.org also has many census records available online although not all of them.

If you are unsuccessful at proving connections via the above online resources, you will need to resort to printed books and microfilm images as many of the needed records are not yet online.

If you have identified an ancestor born between 1710 and 1765 who was living in 1775-1776, check the online DAR Patriot Index to see if your ancestor is listed. If the answer is yes, someone else has submitted an approved DAR application for your ancestor; you will want to see more details in that application. If the answer is no, your ancestor could still be a Revolutionary War patriot; however, no one has submitted an approved DAR application for him/her.

A DAR Patriot **INDEX** (not the full records) is available at

[http://services.dar.org/public/dar\\_research/search/?Tab\\_ID=1](http://services.dar.org/public/dar_research/search/?Tab_ID=1).

Other books to be searched include numerous compilations or source records from various states, land grants made years later as a result of Revolutionary War service, and even books about various generals and admirals that may mention some of the men who served under them. For example, I found a record of one Revolutionary War Marine in my family tree who served on board the Ranger in a book about John Paul Jones.

You can find many such books in your local library and at Google Books, as well as at Genealogical Publishing Company at

<http://www.genealogical.com/categories/Revolutionary%20War/4.html>

and at <http://www.heritagebooks.com/>.

As with any genealogy effort, a bit of perseverance may provide records you never knew about – and very possibly contribute facts about your ancestors that you never knew.

*Courtesy of Eastman Online Genealogy Newsletter,  
July 01, 2012*

***We'll be Looking Forward to Seeing YOU  
at the June 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting!***