



ROOTS AND GOLD DUST Genealogical Society

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

UPCOMING MEETING DATES & AGENDA

November 19, 2013 *Everybody*
Annual Election of Officers and
Finger Food Pot-Luck

December 17, 2013 *No Meeting In December*
Have a Very Merry Christmas !!

January 21, 2014 *Linda Johnson*
Cussin'Cousins: An Open Forum for Frustrated
Genealogists

MEETING IDEAS FOR 2014

Our Program staff is already planning for our meetings in 2014 and they could use your thoughts and ideas. Here's your chance to share those great ideas you've been having but were too shy to share before. If you have any suggestions please contact Mary Lee Gilliland at 642-2002 or e-mail her at maryleegilliland@yahoo.com.

YOUR 2013 ROOTS AND GOLD DUST EXECUTIVE BOARD:

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

RECAP OF THE OCTOBER MEETINGS

We had an excellent meeting in October. There were 36 people present, including 8 guests. We had a great time with Glenda Lloyd who came up to talk with us about organizing our genealogy research and records – not an easy thing to get us genealogists to do. Most of us are so excited about doing the research we forget to do the necessary organizing so we can find that important fact we know we put someplace! Well Glenda did a great job of giving us ideas on how to get everything right there where you can find it in just a few minutes instead of a few days. Thank you Glenda. We want to thank Carole Waller for being our Greeter and Alice Morrow and Carlyn White for the refreshments. We also wish to thank all of you who helped set up the room before the meeting and then put everything away afterwards.

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 -- November 19, 2013

Well, if this month's meeting is anything like November meetings in the past, it's going to be productive, educational, fun and tasty. Productive because we get to vote on the slate of officers for the 2014 Executive Board, and educational because we will be having Show and Tell where everyone who wants to can bring in something to share with the rest of the members. We will be having fun, both from the items that are shared and from the time we spent together. And... it'll be tasty because it's our annual Finger Food Pot Luck. Every year we have a special pot luck where everyone brings one of their favorite finger foods for everyone to share. Let me tell you, we have some folks in our Society that have a talent for good eats!!

Marylee should be sending an e-mail out shortly with details on both the Show and Tell and the Potluck.

So grab a plate of your favorite finger food and come have an enjoyable time with the rest of us.

LAW OF PROBABILITY

The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.

TREASURER'S REPORT – *for November 1, 2013*

Checking Acct: Beginning Balance	\$ 1490.34
Income	\$ 30.00
Expense	\$ 96.15
Ending Balance*	\$ 1,424.19
<i>*Includes the Book Can at \$360.42</i>	
Savings Account	\$ 10.05

YOU KNOW YOU'RE TAKING GENEALOGY TOO SERIOUSLY IF....

Your house leans slightly toward the side where your genealogical records are stored.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS The Nominating Committee's Report

We wish to thank this year's Nominating Committee for compiling an excellent slate of nominees for the 2014 Roots and Gold Dust Executive Board. The slate of nominees they have presented is:

President:	Richard Wilson
Vice-President	Milton Mulligan
Secretary	Carol Sexton
Treasurer	Cathy Chiveron
Program	Mary Lee Gilliland

We will be voting on the Executive Board members at the November Meeting. A big Thank You to Linda Galley, Richard Wilson and Carol Pirtle for their work on this committee.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Usually we have a list of seminars and other events to inform you about, but the seminar season doesn't start up until spring, so there are no dates to share with you yet.

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 **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.**

Regional Family Search Center Wednesday Classes

The Regional Family Search 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.

The Family History Center Library will be closed on Thanksgiving Day. If you plan on visiting the Library on Tuesday or Wednesday of that week, it would be a good idea to call and make sure they are open. The number is 621-1378.

New To The Library

The following books, which were donated by "Jackie's Library", have been placed on the shelves.

PENNSYLVANIA

- PA 58 The PA Historical & Museum Commission-
A History
- PA 67 Centre County, Pennsylvania Records
- PA 68a 1847 History of Clinton Co. PA
- PA 68b 1847 History of Centre Co., PA
- PA 69 History of Centre and Clinton Counties, PA
- PA 70 Clinton Co., Pennsylvania Records
- PA 71 Rock Haven 1833-1983
- PA 72 History of Lycoming County, Pennsylvania
- PA 73 1843 History of Lycoming County, PA
- PA 74 Cemetery Records-Lycoming Co. PA
- PA 75 Marriages & Deaths Lycoming County, PA
- PA 76 Index to Washington County, PA Wills 1781-
1900
- PA 77 Washington County, PA Marriages,
1780-1857
- PA 78 1840 Census of Pennsylvania Pensioners for
Revolutionary or Military Services
- PA 79 PA Soldiers of the Rev. War (living in other
states)

SOUTH CAROLINA

- SC 3 1800 Census of Pendleton District, S.C.
- SC 16 History of Old Pendleton District and
Genealogy of Leading Families
- SC 25 Abstracts of Old Ninety-Six and Abbeville
District Wills and Bonds

- SC26a A Genealogical Collection of South Carolina
Wills and Records – Volume I
- SC26b Volume 2
- SC 27 North and South Carolina Marriage Records
From Earliest Colonial Days to the C. W.
- SC 28 A History of the Upper Country of S.C.
Volume II – A Journal
- SC 29 The South Carolina Upcountry, 1540-1980
Historical and Bio Sketches – Vol. II
- SC 30 A Collection of Upper South Carolina
Genealogical and Family Records – Vol. III
- SC31a Anderson County Cemeteries – Vol. One
- SC31b Anderson County Cemeteries – Vol. Three
- SC 32 Early Rec. of Fishing Creek Presbyterian
Church, Chester Co., SC, 1799-1859
- SC33a Oconee Co., SC Cemetery Survey, Vol. One
- SC33b Oconee Co., SC Cemetery Survey, Vol. Two
- SC 34 Marriage and Death Notices From Pendleton
S.C. Messenger 1807-1851
- SC 35 Settlement of Pendleton District S.C.
- SC36a Pickens Co. S.C. Cemetery Survey-Vol. 1
- SC36b Pickens Co. S.C. Cemetery Survey-Vol. 3

SURNAMES

Jerry Church, Travels, Adventures and Remarks

In addition to the above books, we have two books donated by members who won the Book Can drawing:

CALIFORNIA

CA91b *Sacramento Coroner's Record Collection*
1887-1969, Vol. II, 1903-1914
Donated By: Elaine Andrews

NEW ENGLAND

NE 17 *Piscataqua Pioneers-Selected Biographies*
of Early Settlers in No. New England
Donated By: Linda Galley

A THOUGHT TO PONDER

*A truly Happy Person is one who can enjoy
the scenery on a detour.
And, one who can enjoy browsing old
cemeteries...*

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.

Onondaga County (New York) Public Library

Onondaga County is located in the west central part of the state of New York. The Onondaga County Public Library Local History and Genealogy Department has produced and uploaded a number of "one-of-a-kind" searchable databases to its website, http://www.onlib.org/web/lh/databases_list.htm

1855 and 1865 New York State Census for Onondaga County:

The 1855 index includes the city of Syracuse and some or all of the towns of Clay, Cicero, Dewitt, Geddes, Manlius, and Salina. The index contains 5,432 records. The 1865 index, which contains 8,143 records, includes the city of Syracuse and some or all of the towns of Geddes, Lysander, Manlius, Onondaga, Salina, and Van Buren. Both census databases can be searched by: last name, first name, middle name, title, visitation number, and "town-ward-district number."

Necrology:

This database serves as an index to deaths of residents of Onondaga County. The list was derived from a number of sources, which include WPA records, "Minnie Kellogg's deaths from Syracuse newspapers and directories between 1850-1880," and obituaries found in Syracuse newspapers. Most deaths occurred prior to 1900. The database may be searched by last name, first name, maiden/other name, age, death year, month, day, source, citation, notes, cemetery, mother, father, spouse, event date, date, and record number.

Obituary Clippings:

This index to obituary clippings from Syracuse newspapers covers 1862 through 1992. The clippings are from the library's Local History/Genealogy Department. The collection also includes clippings related to other types of records, such as marriages and probate. You can search the index by last name, first name, and/or record number. The data fields in the search results are last name, first name, call number, volume and page number, note, and record number.

Timeline:

Using various sources, the timeline covers major local events from 1654 through 1994. You can search the timeline by record number, event, date, year, notes, and citation. The data fields in the search results include record number, event, date, and year.

Woodlawn Cemetery:

Woodlawn Cemetery, on the east side of Syracuse, is one of the largest in the county. There are more than 46,000 records in the index. The search fields are last name, first name, year, month, day of death, section, lot, grave number, mausoleum code, row, tier number, block number, and record number. The data fields in the results returned include last name, first name, section and lot number, and year, month, and day of death.

Onondaga County WPA Files:

Individuals working for the Works Progress Administration during the Depression compiled a card index for items of general and historic value to the region from the newspaper files of the Syracuse Public Library and the Historical Scrap Books of the Onondaga Historical Association. The original index has been digitized and uploaded to the library's website. It covers 1814 through 1900 and contains nearly 53,000 records. The index can be searched by the following: last name, first name, notes, event date, source, and date of appearance in the source document. The data fields include event (type), last name, first name, notes, event date, source, page citation, date of publication, and record number.

Courtesy of The Weekly Genealogist, Vol. 15, No. 33, Whole #596, August 15, 2012, by Valerie Beaudrault.

California Mining Claims

Judy Russell, the Legal Genealogist, wrote a post in June about all the federal records one might find when researching mining claims and the land they are on. It's a great article and I urge you to read it.

I am going to tell you about records at the county level and in special collections at libraries here in California. These kinds of records most likely will not be found online. You will have to get up off the couch and get yourself to the county recorder's office.

To help you understand the who, what, where and why of mining records here is some background information you will need.

On January 24, 1848, gold was discovered at Sutter's sawmill in California's Sacramento Valley. Tens of thousands of "forty-niners" flocked to California in the Gold Rush. In 1849, the surface mines in California yielded \$10 million, reaching a peak of \$81 million in 1852.

At first, when a new mining area was discovered, a group of miners would hold a meeting to form a mining district. The boundaries, rules and presiding officers were decided upon, including who would be the Mining District Recorder. It would be that man's responsibility to keep a record book of all the claims made within that district.

Miners marked the boundaries of their claim with rock piles or wooden stakes. This is called "locating a claim" or a "location." Next they would go to the mining district recorder, give a description of the claim and location and pay the required fee. The last step was to register their claim with the County Recorder's Office. They did not always do this, but those who wanted to be certain of the legality of their claim would do so.

There are different types of mining claims. Here are a few of the more common claims you might run into in California:

A "lode" claim is mining what is in the rock, in the mine. This type of claim is limited to 1500 feet in length along the vein of the lode and a maximum of 600 feet wide. Think tunneling and pick axes when you think lode claim.

A "placer" claim only gives you the right to what is already on the ground or removed from the lode. There is no rock mining allowed with this

type of claim. Gypsum and limestone are also types of "placer" claims. The maximum size of a placer claim is 20 acres. Think gold panning or sluicing when you think placer claim.

Your mileage may differ, depending on what state you are in. For instance - in Alaska they do not differentiate between a placer claim or a lode claim and one can have up to 160 acres.

Now just because you have a claim does not mean that you have ownership. One can own the minerals without owning the land or own the land and not the minerals rights or you can have it all. You would need a patented mining claim for that. With this type of ownership the Federal government has passed the title to you making it private land - you own the land and the minerals.

I have compiled a fairly extensive list (although certainly not complete) of where you can find the records both online and off.

The **Online Archive of California** provides free public access to detailed descriptions of primary resource collections housed at over 200 institutions including libraries, special collections, museums, archives, historical societies and collection maintained by ten University of California campuses.

A search with just the word "mine" from the main page resulted in over 1200 collections listed **HERE**. In these collections are photographs, maps, stock certificates, correspondence, legal documents, employee records, oral history transcripts, deeds, bylaws of mining companies, financial records, genealogical records, family histories - the list is huge!

Here are a few more places to look for mining records in Northern California.

Doris Foley Library for Historical Research

211 North Pine Street
Nevada City, CA 95959
(530) 265-4606

The Kennedy Mine Foundation Mining Archive

PO Box 684
Jackson, CA 95642
(209) 223-7968

archives@kennedygoldmine.com

Holdings include many of the records from 1886 through 1942.

Mariposa County Recorder

4582 10th Street
Mariposa, California 95338
(209) 966-5719
Extensive microfiche located at the Recorders Office:

University of the Pacific, Special Collections,

Holt-Atherton University Library
Phone: (209) 946-2404

Amador County Library

530 Sutter Street
Jackson, CA 95642
(209) 223-6400
The library has a special mining collection

Yolo County Archives

226 Buckeye Street
Woodland, California 95695
Phone: (530) 666-8010
Fax: (530) 666-8006
Email: archives@yolocounty.org

Calaveras County Clerk - Recorder

Calaveras County Archives

891 Mountain Ranch Road
San Andreas, CA 95249
(209) 754-6371

Tuolumne County Archives

2 South Green Street
Sonora, CA 95370
(209) 536-1163

Yuba County Library Local History Archives

303 Second Street
Marysville, CA 95901
(530) 749-7386

Yuba County Recorder

915 8th Street
Marysville, CA 95901
(530) 749-7850

Placer County Recorder

2954 Richardson Drive
Auburn, CA 95603
(530) 886-5610

California State Archives

1020 O Street
Sacramento, CA 95614
(916) 653-2246

Butte County Recorder

25 County Center Drive
Oroville, CA 95965
(530) 538-7691

California State Library

900 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 654-0176
Houses a huge collection of mining records.

Yep, the most important one was left out. ☺ The El Dorado County History Museum has a fantastic collection of mining records, maps, stories, photos, etc., and they have some very knowledgeable volunteers to help you. (Ed.)

Courtesy of Sheri Fenley:

<http://sherifenley.blogspot.com/2013/09/california-mining-claims.html> . Friday, September 06, 2013 Sheri Fenley

FUN TOMBSTONE ☺

Tombstone on Anna Hopewell's grave in Enosburg Falls, Vermont:

Here lies the body of our Anna,
Done to death by a banana.
It wasn't the fruit that laid her low,
But the skin of the thing that made her go.

BIRTH CERTIFICATES AND 27 OTHER PLACES TO LOOK FOR BIRTH DATA

This article comes from the World Vital Records Blog site. It lists some good alternatives to birth certificates you can use. We will be running their article on Death Certificates in next month's Newsletter.

When you explore your genealogy, one of the first things you need to know about a person is the birth date. The birthplace helps too, of course. There are many places to find this information, and most of them have additional useful data. We'll look at some of the possibilities here.

Birth Certificates:

In the modern world the official birth record is the **birth certificate** or “certificate of live birth.” As such, it is a “primary source,” usually created near the time of the birth, by someone who was present. It may come in different forms, such as a short form for public information and a long form with more details. Its availability and the information it contains vary widely from place to place and in different times, but it’s common to find much more than the name, date, and place. Here’s a partial list of what else you might see:

- the baby’s gender
- parents’ names, including the mother’s maiden name
- parents’ ages or birth dates (or approximate years of birth)
- parents’ birthplaces
- parents’ address (which can lead you to census records)
- information about the baby’s siblings
- parents’ occupations
- grandparents’ names
- the baby’s race
- the family’s religious affiliation

In some cases, birth certificates may be corrected or amended years later to show legal name changes or even, in some jurisdictions, gender changes. Sooner or later, you’ll also encounter “delayed registrations,” which are birth certificates created long after the birth and on the basis of other evidence.

It’s Complicated:

Obtaining a birth certificate is complicated. Every nation or other jurisdiction has its own rules, practices, fees, and timelines. As if that weren’t enough, the names of the offices and departments where one inquires vary widely, too. However, among the English-speaking nations I’ve checked, all this is just many variations on the same themes.

Here are three examples from the United States, where birth certificates are obtained from state governments. I’ll give you enough details to give you the flavor of the experience, but don’t worry if your head spins a little. There’s no quiz at the end of this blog post.

Hawaii’s Department of Health is typical. Many birth certificates can be ordered online, but some must be ordered by mail or fax or in person. **Certified copies** (useful for official identification) are available only for yourself and immediate family members. **Non-certified or “genealogical” copies** (for information, not identification) are available on similar terms, unless the birth was at least 75 years ago, in which case anyone can request a copy — but only by mail.

In **Colorado**, birth certificates are available from the Center for Health and Environmental Information and Statistics. Records become public 100 years after the birth, unless the person is known to be still alive. Before then, proof is required of a close relationship. A spouse must provide a marriage certificate. A parent must be listed on the birth certificate requested. Grandparents and great-grandparents must provide other birth certificates showing the relationship. Siblings must provide a birth certificate showing at least one of the same parents. In-laws, uncles, aunts, nephews, nieces, and cousins can only obtain birth certificates that are 50 years old or more, and then only if they produce the individual’s death certificate. Unrelated genealogists must provide a signed, notarized release from an immediate family member, as well as proof of the family member’s relationship, and then the issued certificate will be stamped “for genealogical use only.”

In **New York**, only the child or a parent named on the certificate can obtain a certified copy without a court order. Genealogical copies are available after 75 years, if the person is known to be deceased, but this time period is waived for direct-line descendants of the person whose record is requested - given proof, of course.

Some jurisdictions will search for a birth certificate, if the precise date is unknown. For example, as of the time of this publication, New York Department of Health will search up to a three-year span for no extra charge. A larger search requires an additional fee. Requests must be made by mail, and processing may take up to eight months.

These are just three examples, of course. The easiest way to find out what’s available, from where, and on what terms is to do an Internet search to find the responsible office’s web site. (Use a

search term like “Colorado birth certificates”; don’t try to guess the office’s name.) There you should find a wealth of detail, including what information you’ll be required to provide, as well as the applicable fees.

Other Places To Look For Birth Records:

Did I mention that getting birth certificates from government offices is complicated? Privacy laws, growing concern for identity theft, and bureaucracy itself pretty much guarantee it won’t ever be easy. The good news is, there are many other places to get a person’s birth information. In fact, you might need at least one other source before you have enough data to request a birth certificate, if that’s what you want.

Some of these sources are more reliable than others. In general, the closer the record-keeper’s relationship is to the individual, and the sooner the record is made after the birth, the more likely it is to be accurate.

Siblings or other close relatives might remember a person’s birth date.

Church and municipal records often record births. A **christening date** in church records can be a useful substitute for a missing birth date.

Newspapers often run **birth announcements**.

Family Bibles and **family histories** may contain birth information.

Personal journals, diaries, histories and **scrapbooks** may record births, among many other things.

Official marriage records often list birth dates, or at least current ages or ages at next birthdays.

Death certificates, obituaries, newspaper articles and death announcements, mortuary records, cemetery records, funeral programs, and tombstones often give birth dates.

Census records commonly list either age or year of birth.

Many **military, pension, probate, land, property, immigration, and emigration records** have at least a birth year or age, and may have a complete birth date.

Somewhere in a box, a folder, or a drawer — perhaps in an attic — you may find an assortment of **other personal documents**, including forms of identification, such as driver licenses and passports, and other government documents containing a birth date, such as my Selective Service letter, as in the image.

That’s 27 different record types in addition to birth certificates, by my count. At WorldVitalRecords you can search most of these. For your siblings, the family Bible, that scrapbook Aunt Tillie kept, and whatever you may find in the attic, you’re on your own. Enjoy the adventure!

*Posted by David Rodeback on September 25th, 2013 on the World Vital Records blog at:
<http://blog.worldvitalrecords.com/2013/09/25/birth-certificates-and-27-other-places-to-look-for-birth-data/>*

***We’ll Be Looking Forward To Seeing YOU
At The November 19th Meeting!***

Bring Something To Share, a Finger Food and an Appetite!

Have A Happy Thanksgiving