



# ROOTS AND GOLD DUST GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

P. O. Box 1354, Diamond Springs, CA 95619

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cargdgs/index.htm>

## Newsletter – SEPTEMBER 2015

**WHEN TO COME:** Our meeting starts promptly at 1:00 P.M. on the Third Tuesday of each month, except in December. Come a little early to get signed in and to GREET SOMEONE WHO YOU MET AT THE AUGUST GROUP, if you attended!

**WHERE TO COME:** Our monthly meetings are held in the Primary room at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints building at 3275 Cedar Ravine Road, Placerville, CA. Visitors are always welcome to come and share!

### OUR 2015 BOARD MEMBERS

President: . . . . . Richard Wilson  
Vice President: . . . . . Rodi Lee  
• Secretary: . . . . . VACANT  
Treasurer: . . . . . Carol Sexton  
Library Liaison: . . . . . Alice Morrow  
Assistant: Judy Williams  
Assistant: Catherine Keeler  
Programs: . . . . . Mary-Lee Gilliland  
Newsletter Editor: . . . . . Carol Pirtle  
Webmaster: . . . . . Paul Hodel  
Hospitality . . . . . Carlyn White  
Assistant: . . . . . Luana Zylla

### UPCOMING R&GD MEETINGS AND AGENDAS

In September, a Nominating Committee of three members will be selected to volunteer and obtain a Secretary and a Vice-president candidate for the year of 2016. This will be explained during the September 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

SEP 15<sup>th</sup> Kim von Aspern-Parker Parker  
*“Irish Research”*

OCT 20<sup>th</sup> Christine Green  
*“British Research, Sans Ireland”*

NOV 17<sup>th</sup> Everyone Attending

”Annual Finger-Food Pot Luck AND Show-N-Tell AND Election of Executive Officers for 2016”

### RECAP OF AUGUST 18TH MEETING

“Round Table Discussions”

The attendance was 19 members and 1 guest. Our meeting Greeter was Luana Zylla. Snacks were provided by Lorraine Bradford and Carol Sexton provided the beverages.

We randomly divided into groups and each group was given time to share their personal story of how they got to El Dorado County.

Questions asked of us were the following:

1. What brought you or your family to California?
2. What brought you or your family to El Dorado County?
3. What inspired your search into family genealogy?
4. What did you hope to find? Verifying family stories, find birth, marriage, death dates; burial location, missing relatives!
5. What is your most exciting discovery? How did you get there?

Our attendees had a fun-loving sharing about our genealogical adventures, accomplishments, and some unique discoveries! Several people had had a DNA test and were intrigued at the results. All of this exchange of information did not divulge any personal researching.

### INCOME & EXPENSE REPORT To Aug 11, 2015

*Beginning Balance* . . . . . **\$ 1,498.65**

There was NO financial activity in August 2015

*Ending balance* . . . . . **\$ 1,498.65**

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Savings Account \$ 10.05

### LEGACY 8 USER'S GROUP

Richard Wilson leads our Legacy8 User's Group on the first Tuesday in each month. We will meet on October 6, 2015. He will refresh the knowledge on Legacy's installation and overview of features on how to set up the program to become what we want our family tree to be. He will also instruct us on how to enter

information on our Legacy8 Family Tree program. The following meeting will cover a "Style Guide" which will enable us to maintain the way our information will appear and be consistent. We meet in the same location as our Monthly meetings; the Primary room.

Please send an email to Richard Wilson at: **richardwilson1204@gmail.com** if you are interested in coming to the user group.

### GENI RESOURCES

**Classes held at SacFamilySearch Library**  
2745 Eastern Ave. Sacramento, CA  
**Obtain details and register information at:**  
**(916) 487-2090**  
[www.sacfamilysearchlibrary.org](http://www.sacfamilysearchlibrary.org)

**National Genealogical Society**  
[http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/ngs\\_article\\_archive](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/ngs_article_archive)  
"Libraries vs Archives"

**GenWeb.org**

[www.??genweb.org/??/society](http://www.??genweb.org/??/society)  
(Enter the abbreviation of the state you want to search) thus:  
[www.tx.genweb.org/tx/society](http://www.tx.genweb.org/tx/society)

**Once you are on this site, search for the County you are searching.**

**Note: I searched txgenweb.org/tx/society. From there I chose Brazos County and came up with the history of Brazos, Texas, and many, many other records to search!**

**Do any of you have a site or place that has brought you to an exciting place or site? If so, please share with other members.**

## A TIDBIT OF EL DORADO COUNTY HISTORY

### THE CARSON EMIGRANT ROAD

The main route to Coloma and the gold diggings in 1849 and the early '50's was the Carson Emigrant Road by way of the Kit Carson Pass. John C. Frémont and a few picked men led by Kit Carson himself were the first to cross the Sierra Nevada by way of this pass, in 1844, and also the first to traverse the length of what is now El Dorado County. Traveling with great difficulty down the sunny side of the South Fork Canyon from Silver Lake to the South Fork of the American River, they forded the latter stream and climbed the opposite wall of the canyon to the edge of the Georgetown Divide, down which they proceeded to the southern Sacramento Valley and Sutter's Fort.

Only that part of Fremont's route from the Kit Carson Pass to Silver Lake is identical with the later Carson Emigrant Road. In the summer of 1848 members of the Mormon Battalion, on their way to rejoin their coreligionists in Salt Lake City, opened up this emigrant trail over the Sierra, and again, in the spring of 1849, Jefferson Hunt, a captain in the Mormon Battalion and later founder of San Bernardino, brought the first wagon that way, thus opening the Carson Emigrant Road to the host of Argonauts who

entered California by this route in 1849 and the '50's.

Winding its way over a very high pass, the Carson Emigrant Road was long and difficult, but, according to Bancroft, "the immigrants . . . in order to avoid the sharper hills and deeper gulches of a possibly lower pass, had preferred to climb to an elevation of nine thousand feet to secure a road less broken. As they arrived at the pass late in summer when the snow was off the ground this would do very well."

The course of the old road through El Dorado County may be traced on modern maps by the names of camp sites, once important places along the divide between the Cosumnes River and the South Fork of the American River: Tragedy Springs, Leek Spring, Camp Springs, Sly Park, Pleasant Valley, Diamond Springs, Mud Springs (El Dorado) Shingle Springs, Clarksville, and White Rock Springs (in Sacramento County). From White Rock Springs to El Dorado, the Lincoln Highway follows the same route today, but from El Dorado to Silver Lake in the High Sierra no through travel goes over the old road, the Carson Emigrant Road having been superseded by the Placerville Road, now goes over the old road, the Carson Emigrant Road, now the continuation of the Lincoln Highway.

Traffic over the Carson Road was enormous during the early '50's, and a chain

of wayside stations was established along its entire length between Mormon Station (later Genoa, in Nevada) and Hangtown (Placerville). Every mile had its inn or hotel. Few remnants of these early taverns remain, and even the sites of many would be difficult to determine and even the sites of many would be difficult to determine exactly.

From the main road a number of branches diverged at various points, chiefly at Diamond Springs, where the stream of emigrants turned off to Coloma by way of Hangtown and (as new diggings were discovered) to Salmon Falls, Pilot Hill, Georgetown, Kelsey's Diggings, and numerous other camps. Two main branches led to the southern mines, one by way of Grizzly Flat to Brownsville (Mendon), Indian Digger's and Fiddletown (in Amador County), and another via Mud Springs to Logtown, Quartzburg (Nashville), Saratoga (Yeomet), and Drytown (in Amador County). At Clarksville still another fork of the Carson Road went to Folsom, and thence to Auburn and the river –bar camps on the North Fork of the American River. Many of these arms of the old Emigrant Road may be traversed today over good county roads, with historic reminders of a glamorous past visible on every hand.

Although the Carson Road continued to be used for twenty years or more, increased transportation needs necessitated

the development of easier routes. As an all-year road, The Carson Pass route, subject as it was to the deep snows of its higher altitudes, was impossible and a road over a lower pass became imperative. This need led to the survey and construction of the Placerville Road over Johnson's Pass and down the canyon of the South Fork of the American River to Hangtown.

Extracted from: Hoover, Mildred Brook and Rensch, H.E. & E.G., "*Historic Spots in California*". Published by Stanford University Press, Stanford, California. 1948, Pgs. 83-84.

#### **PLACERVILLE FAMILY HISTORY CENTER UPDATE- Sept 2015**

By: Alice Morrow, [morbrowz@comcast.net](mailto:morbrowz@comcast.net)

The LDS Placerville Family History Center ("FHC") is open to all researchers and volunteers. In fact, several R&GDGS non-church members (me included) are part of the volunteer staff. And we can always use more! The FHC gives us access to the data base ("FamilySearch.org") and microfilm collections of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, as well as its own collection of research books, periodicals, maps and microforms. Much of the collection has been donated by R&GDGS or its individual members. The online Family Search "Portal", which can only be used at an FHC, provides free use of several major subscription genealogy websites (Ancestry, Fold3, etc.)

Volunteers are available during open hours to assist researchers. (Wouldn't you like to become a volunteer?) The FHC is normally open on Tues., Wed., and Thurs. from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Phone # 530-621-1378. If you're coming in the evening or in bad weather, it's a good idea to call first and make sure they are open.

### **New Library Materials**

The following have been placed in the "New Books" section on top of the last microfilm cabinet unless otherwise noted.

#### U.S., CALIFORNIA

CA 100 Cosumnes: *a kid's history of the Elk Grove area.*

CA 101 Cosumnes: *communities in the Elk Grove area: a kid's history, book 2.*

#### U.S., KENTUCKY

Microfilm 1977781 *Church Records, 1870-1935.* Catholic Church St. Joseph, Cold Spring, Campbell Co. This is on indefinite loan and has been filed in the microfilm cabinet.

#### U.S., VIRGINIA

Periodical VA 18 *Bulletin of the Fluvanna Co. His. Soc.*

#### SURNAMES

DORAN: *Doran Genealogy.* First generation begins with Senator Michael DORAN, born in Ireland in 1827. Immigrated to Minnesota.

Married (1) Ellen BRADY, (2) Catherine O'GRADY.

DORAN: *Doran Records, U.S.A. States A — New York.*

### **Through The Portal with Alice — the Case of Freddy the Forger**

[The Family History Center "Portal" provides free access to a Wonderland of genealogy subscription websites. Please note that the arrangements with these websites require that you have to actually be using a computer at a Family History Center; you cannot simply log on to FamilySearch.org at home for this. Ancestry.com is probably the most popular site on the Portal, but don't stop there.]

I have been helping a friend research her father's family (surname FARLEY), whom she had always been told came from Ireland. But some vital records on the first generation in America said that they were English. We combined family documents in her possession with searches in FamilySearch.org (vital records), and **Ancestry.com** (U.S. and U.K. census records, and an 1872 passenger list) to put together the members of several generations of the Farley family on both sides of the pond. We discovered that they did come from England, not Ireland. We found the family in the British census records for 1841-1871, before the family migrated to the U.S. We also found the mother, Ann, with the two youngest children in the 1881 census; she apparently returned with the younger children to England after accompanying her older children and their families to America.

Problem: The patriarch of the family, Frederick Farley, was not with his family in the 1861 and 1881 census records, and he did not go with them to America. He was with them in 1841, 1851 and 1871.

Further searching of the 1861 census found a possible answer — there was a "F. Farley" in prison in 1861. Confirmation that F. Farley was indeed our missing Frederick was found in

**FindMyPast.com**, another Portal website that we've discussed previously. FindMyPast has a collection "England & Wales, Crime Prisons & Punishment, 1770-1935". Prison records for Frederick not only confirmed that this was the right Frederick but gave a physical description as well: [*"Complexion: fresh. Hair, brown. Eyes grey. Height 5 ft., 7 in. Stout. Several wound marks left side head, several blue wound marks from the hair above left temple down to left corner of eye. . .*] Many more wounds, plus moles and warts, are described in detail.

The most interesting material was found in another Portal website, **19C British Newspapers**. Frederick was arrested in 1858 for forging a check and trying to cash it. He was sentenced to four years in prison and got out in time to be in the 1871 census. There were some lengthy articles in several major newspapers describing the crime and Frederick's trial.

Ah, but there's more! In February 1872 Frederick was arrested in a bank again – this time for attempted murder of one of the owners. The following is excerpted from *The Morning Post*, 19 Feb 1872:

*"ATTACK ON A BIRMINGHAM BANKER. — On Friday evening a man named Frederick Farley, about 55 years of age, by trade a plumber and glazier . . . entered the bank of Messrs. Goode, Marr, and Co . . . and requested change for a sovereign . . . Farley is said to be well known at the bank . . . Mr. Marr . . . turning from the counter . . . received a stab in the back from an instrument which Farley carried in his hand wrapped up in brown paper. . . . [Farley] aimed a blow at his left breast with the same instrument, but as it fortunately struck upon the button of his overcoat it*

*glanced off . . . William Gilliver . . . and his son, rushed at Farley, and succeeded in detaining him. He made a desperate attempt to escape by striking his captor on the head with a hammer. . . . At the police station . . . He offered no explanation of his conduct. The weapon . . . consisted of a handle about a yard and a half long, into the end of which two spikes were driven . . ."*

Other articles relate how Frederick tried to kill himself and describe the trial. His defense attorney said that Frederick was not responsible for his actions because he had previously suffered a head wound. Nonetheless, he was sentenced to life in prison. Three months later, his family arrived in America. Frederick died in prison.

I found at least 15 newspaper articles covering Frederick's two arrests and notices of his property being sold to pay his creditors. (He had owned a hotel and a plumbing business.) One of the reasons there was so much publicity was that he was an established businessman in the community. I found no explanation for his behavior other than his attorney's claim of head trauma. There were other newspaper articles about a man of the same name in the same town that was arrested and fined for racing a pony so hard that he died.

I have been telling my friend that most genealogists would give their eyeteeth to have her family to research because there are so many interesting records available.

HAPPY HUNTING FOR YOUR  
"DEAR" FAMILY