



ROOTS AND GOLD DUST GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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

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

JANUARY 2016 NEWSLETTER

The first **Roots and Gold Dust** Genealogical Society meeting for 2016 will be held Tuesday, January 19, 1:00 pm at the Family History Center in the Church of Latter Day Saints building, 3275 Cedar Ravine Road, Placerville. The topic will be “**Genealogy Software and Your Family Tree**” by Richard Wilson. He has been maintaining a formal recording of his family history since 1995, and has made presentations on genealogy since the early 2000’s. Richard will discuss the two separate ways to use a computer to manage your family genealogy on software programs offered by companies for storing and maintaining the information. He will explain how the information can be managed in “The Cloud” or how to manage the information using a program you install on your own computer. Visitors are welcome. For more info please call Carlyn White, 530-663-0017.

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WELCOME TO 2016

RICHARD WILSON - GENEALOGY BIOGRAPHY December 14, 2015

Richard is a fourth generation Californian and has had an interest in his family history since he was a child. He and his wife raised a family in Silicon Valley in the south Bay Area where he worked as an electronic technician and engineer. He started a more formal recording of his family history in about 1995, using a basic Roots program on a PC. He has given lectures on the use of a computer for genealogy while belonging to genealogical societies in Everett, WA and Placerville CA. These lectures have included how to enter your information into a genealogy program and how to produce a family album for your relatives. He has also done extensive research in French-Canadian historical records. He presently teaches a class in the use of the Legacy software program and is president of the Roots and Gold Dust Genealogy Society in Placerville California.

THE FAMILY HISTORY CENTER NEEDS YOU!!

In the past week, we have had to close the FHC early twice because staff volunteers were unable to do their shifts. Regulations require that at least two staff members be on duty during open hours. If only two people are scheduled for a shift and one of them can't come in, we have to close the library.

We would like three people on each shift. Can you do one three-hour shift a week, or every other week? It's a great way to learn while you help others and, if no one needs your help, you may do your own research.

The FHC is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. There are three shifts each day: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., and 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Contact: FHC Secretary Teresa Power
Email: thepowerclan@hotmail.com
Phone: (530) 626-6970
or: leave a note in her file folder in the FHC

— Alice Morrow

R&GD INCOME/EXPENSE
December 2015 Report

Society General Account

Balance \$ 1,475.02

We had no meeting or financial activity for the month of December 2015.

**PLACERVILLE FAMILY HISTORY
CENTER UPDATE**

Alice Morrow, morrrowz@comcast.net

* We are CLOSED the first week of January.*

The LDS Placerville Family History Center ("FHC") is open to all researchers and volunteers. Several R&GD non-church members (me included) are part of the volunteer staff, and we can always use more! The FHC gives us access to the online records and microfilm collections of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Much of the FHC's own collection of books, periodicals, maps and microfilms has been donated by R&GD or its individual members. The online "Portal", which can only be used at an FHC, provides free use of several major paid genealogy websites (Ancestry, Fold3, etc.)

The Family History Center is normally open Tues - Thurs., 11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. If you're coming in the evening or in bad weather, it's a good idea to call first (530-621-1378) and make sure they are open.

New Library Material - There are none to report this month.

Microfilms on Loan - These are all short-term loans and are due to be renewed or returned by the date given. Please note that the person who paid for a loan has first dibs on using it.

Surnames –

2055179 - Due Feb 22
Item 1. Our JUVE family history.

Item 2. Three generations of HALLs beginning with William C. (1827-1890) and Arabella R. Hall (1829-1910).
Items 4-9. Vincent CHRÉTIEN & Anne LECLERC married in 1668 in Sillery, Quebec.

2055179 - Due Feb 22:

Item 28. Captain Edward YORKE, a New England planter in Nova Scotia.

U.S., NEW JERSEY

842264 - Due Feb 17

Burlington Co. Grantee index, N-Q 1785-1921.

U.S., NEW YORK

2055179 - Due Feb 22:

Broome Co. Item 26, State census index 1825.

Chautauqua Co. Items 21 & 22, State census indexes 1835 & 1825.

Cortland Co. Item 11, Will testators index, 1832-1909.

Essex Co. Item 16, Will testators index, 1803-1904.

Fulton Co. Item 18, Will testators index, 1789-1937.

Herkimer Co. Item 14, Will testators index, 1792-1921.

Herkimer Co. Items 23-25, State census indexes 1825-1845.

Jefferson Co. Item 12, Will testators index, 1830-1900.

Lewis Co. Item 15, Will testators index, 1806-1870.

Oneida Co. Item 20, Will testators index, 1798-1900.

Onondaga Co. Item 17, Will testators index, 1796-1867.

Oswego Co. Item 27, Will testators index, 1816-1901.

St. Lawrence Co. Item 19, Will testators index, 1830-1916.

Warren Co., Item 10, Will Testators index, 1813-1920.

Washington Co. Item 13, Will testators index, 1788-1916.

GERMANY, WÜRTTEMBERG

Rottenacker Protestant Church records:

1184539 - 1622-1890, Due Feb 16

1184540 - 1657-1875, Due Feb 16

EL DORADO COUNTY HISTORY TIDBITS

HANGTOWN, OR PLACERVILLE

Part One

Placerville, at first known as Old Dry Digging's, and then as Hangtown, was founded in 1848. James Marshall stated that in the summer of 1848 he had located the Old Dry Digging's. Usually, however, this discovery has been credited to William Daylor owner of a ranch on the Cosumnes River not far from New Helvetia (Sacramento). Daylor did pan for gold on Hangtown Creek during the spring, in company with Perry McCoon and Jared Sheldon. With the help a number of Indians they took out from one small ravine or gutter "not more than a hundred yards long by four feet wide and two or three feet deep" as much as \$17,000 in one week's time. Governor R. B. Mason, who had the spot pointed out to him that July, included it in his report to the federal government, mentioning Daylor and McCoon as the men who had worked it.

The Old Dry Digging's had become quite a camp by the autumn of 1848. Practically free from crime at first, the motley society which began pouring into it by 1849 brought with it the riff-raff and criminal element of all nations. Rob-

beries and murders became prevalent, and became there was no organized government the people took matters into their own hands. Stories are told of robbers and murderers being flogged or hanged by the irate citizens of the new town, early in 1849, this giving rise to the name Hangtown. The site of one of the hang trees at which justice was meted out is near the corner of Main and Coloma streets where the Post Office now stands. However, by 1850, Hangtown had become a well-ordered, civilized community, and on May 13, 1854, the town was incorporated under the name of Placerville in preference of Ravine city, also suggested as a substitute for the earlier designation.

The dry diggings on Hangtown Creek fluctuated with the seasons—in winter there was “water and prosperity” in summer “dullness and departures.” But with the building of the South Fork Ditch prosperity became more stabilized, and the place grew to be one of the leading mining centers of the county and one of the most populous of all the early mining camps. Its voting population in 1854 was the third largest in the state, and in 1857 it was made the county seat. As early as 1845, however, a decline had begun to set in, due to the diminution of activity in the gold fields and the occurrence of two severe fires. A revival of fortune followed the discovery of the fabulous rich Comstock Lode in Nevada and the subsequent building of the Placerville Road. From 1859 until the building of the Central Pacific Railroad, Placerville witnessed an ever greater period of activity, marked by the construction of permanent church buildings, an academy, hotels, and business houses.

The picturesque quality of the Placerville of today is chiefly attributable to the fact that its streets all conform to the topography of which the town has become a part. Following the courses of the streams and gulches and contours of surrounding hills, the earliest settlers pitched their tents or built their first log cabins

along these meandering paths. Later, the builders of the permanent town were content to emulate the early example set them. As the traditional cow paths set the pattern for the streets of Boston, so the pack-mile trails of the miners as they wended their way to and from the diggings are responsible for the intriguing course of Placerville's Main Street along Hangtown Creek, as well as for the direction of the score of little side streets and alleyways which penetrated the ravines and the steep hillsides, now covered with old-fashioned homes and shaded gardens.

Placerville, with its many buildings dating back to the '60's, has an atmosphere of age. The present office of the Pacific Gas and Electric company dates back even farther, having been erected in 1852. Built of rough native rock placed in horizontal layers (a type of construction characteristic of the early '50's), this fine relic is one of three or four which survived the fire of 1856s, and the only one still in existence. It was restored recently by the Pacific Gas and Electric Company and a marker was placed on it by the Native Daughters of the Golden West and dedicated to the memory of the pioneers. The Ivy House, a large three-story brick hotel with wide verandas fronting the two lower floors, once served as the Placerville Academy, originally established as the Conklin Academy in the fall of 1861 by E. B. Conklin and his wife. With the cessation of travel to Virginia City and the subsequent lack of patronage, the Academy closed its doors in 1868. Three years later, Professor George P. Tyndall, from New York, purchased the buildings, and in 1881 enlarged them, also laying out a garden. The giant ivy which still grown along the front wall beneath the balcony is of a very early planting. The Academy continued its activity until 1894, when the public high school was opened in the building.

(Part 2 will continue in February's issue.)

LEGACY 8 USER GROUP

There was no meeting of the Legacy8 User Group meeting during January 2016 because the meeting date was too close to the New Year's celebration. The User Group will resume on the first Tuesday of the month, Feb 2, 2016.

Richard is working diligently to prepare the handouts for the upcoming user groups. As we progress, the lessons are needing more detailed preparation.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Please remember that our membership dues is due in January. A check or cash can be presented to Carol Sexton, our treasurer, on January 19th at the first meeting for the year 2016. We thank many members for renewing their membership at our meeting on November 17th.

Dues: Individual \$15
Family \$22

GENI RESOURCES

CALIFORNIA STATE ARCHIVES SPEAKER SERIES

Thursday, February 18, 2016
5:00PM - 6:30PM

"No Summer Vacation for the Duration: Working Kids during the Second World War."

Much ado has been made about the patriotic droves of American women who entered the workforce during World War II. Less well known, however, is the fact that millions of children and teenagers also answered the nation's call to duty, often recruited right out of their schools. Children toiled in industry, agriculture,

retail, and service sectors, yet few of those children left direct documentation of their work experiences. Jennifer Robin Terry's presentation will discuss children's labor during World War II, challenges associated with finding children in archival records, and her current project on the Victory Farm Volunteers (VFV), a program that recruited urban kid power for farm production labor during the war.

While this is a free event, tickets are required for planning purposes.

For more info, or to reserve seat tickets, go to: <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/california-state-archives-speaker-series-with-jennifer-robin-terry-tickets-19784666470>

[Excerpted from the Winter 2015 Quarterly Newsletter of the California State Archives.]

Wednesday, December 09, 2015

ANCESTRY.COM ANNOUNCES END OF FAMILY TREE MAKER SOFTWARE POSTED BY DIANE

You've probably heard by now: Ancestry.com announced on Tuesday that it will discontinue its Family Tree Maker software. (I feel compelled to mention here that *Family Tree Magazine* isn't related to the software or to Ancestry.com.)

In a [post on the Ancestry blog](#), Senior Vice President of Product Management Kendall Hulet said Family Tree Maker will no longer be sold as of Dec. 31, 2015. Ancestry.com will continue to provide support and fix bugs "at least through Jan. 1, 2017." During that time, Tree Sync, the feature that syncs your Ancestry Member Tree with Family Tree Maker software, will continue to work.

Why retire a popular program? "We've taken a hard look at the declining desktop software market and the impact this has on being able to continue to provide product enhancements and support that our users need," Hulet writes.

Software in other fields is moving to versions available only via the cloud by subscription, such as Adobe Photoshop and In-Design software. Advantages include the ability to automatically roll out updates, access from multiple devices, and online data storage.

But switching can be a pain, especially when you're using older desktop software that's not compatible with the cloud version, and you need to find new tools or create a new workflow, and you feel forced to keep information in the cloud, where you have less control over it (remember the [Ancestry.com DDoS attack](#) last year, when the site was inaccessible for several days?).

My guess is that Ancestry.com will try to move Family Tree Maker users to Ancestry Member Trees—hopefully, by enhancing the online trees (at least for subscribers) with features such as reporting and easier source citation.

If you do go with a member tree (or you already have one), make sure you download the records you find to your computer. Otherwise, if ever you let your subscription lapse, you'll lose access to them.

If you want to stick with a desktop application, look for offers from other software companies who want to acquire former Family Tree Maker customers.

Update: Several other genealogy software

companies have set up special pricing and information for Family Tree Maker users looking to find another desktop program. Here are links to those we know of:

- [RootsMagic](#)
- [Legacy Family Tree](#)
- [Ancestral Quest](#)
- [MyHeritage Family Tree Builder](#) (free)
- [Reunion](#) for Mac

The [Software Toolkit on FamilyTreeMagazine.com](#) can help you scout out your options.

Lisa Louise Cooke has [helpful perspective and user tips for dealing with the end of Family Tree Maker on the Genealogy Gems blog](#).

FREE DOWNLOAD FROM FAMILY TREE TIPS

www.familytreemagazine.com/family-tree-tips-23-secrets-to-organize-your-genealogy

www.familygreemagazine.com.info/podcasts

www.familytreemagazine.com/article/tutorial-ordering-familysearch-microfilms.online

(You may have to highlight and copy these to get them to work.)