



San Joaquin Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 690243, Stockton, CA 95269-0243

www.rootsweb.ancestry.com~sigs/index.htm

Volume 34 Number 2

February 2013

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MEETINGS

Board Meeting: Monday,
February 4, 7 p.m.,
at the home of Virginia
Kranz, 6 West Loretta,
Stockton

General Meeting
**Thursday, February 28
6:00 p.m.**
Troke Library
502 W. Benjamin Holt
Stockton

Local historian and author featured

Thursday, February 28, 2013

6:00 p.m.

*Margaret Troke Library
502 W. Benjamin Holt Drive, Stockton*

Stockton and The Civil War

We are pleased to have the opportunity to welcome local author **Delmar McComb** as the featured speaker for our monthly meeting for **February**.

Mr. McComb, a former history instructor at Delta College, recently published a new volume on the aspects of life in Stockton during this nation's Civil War. The book, ***Blow! Bugles! Blow!: A History of Stockton During the Civil War, The Final Phase***, takes up the narrative following his previously published volume, ***Beat! Beat! Drums!***

The new publication was mentioned in conjunction with the recent film about Abraham Lincoln in an article in [The Record](#). This book is the product of painstakingly detailed research, combing through microfilmed Stockton area newspapers during the last phase of the Civil War, from 1863 to 1865. The resulting narrative helps you place yourself in those times in a very familiar place: our own town. As far removed as the conflict may have seemed from our Stockton locale, Delmar McComb's research gives that sense of how the struggle did, indeed, touch home.

Join us on February 28 at 6:00 p.m. at our **new meeting location**, the **Margaret Troke** branch of the public library. In addition to his presentation to the Society, Mr. McComb will be on hand for a book signing, with copies of his book available for purchase.

Goal for 2013: More Informative Meetings!

Yes, you read correctly: the first page of this newsletter announced a meeting for the month of February. Your 2013 Executive Board has hit the ground running, with lots of useful, informative and exciting plans for the upcoming year.

One goal is to make the switch from our prior meeting schedule to a new one, offering our membership monthly meetings in the spring and fall, with a break for the summer months of July and August, and a year-end break for December.

We look forward to bringing you a wide variety of educational resources and respected speakers with this expanded meeting schedule.

Goal for 2013: Increased Member Communication and Accessibility

As our 2013 Executive Board implements the new meeting schedule, we will also augment our communications outreach. For members, this includes:

- Monthly newsletters: once we make the shift from the former bi-monthly publication schedule, you can expect to receive your Society newsletter by the first of each month in which we hold meetings.
- Increased communication through our Society website (at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~sjgs/>) and our Society blog (at <http://sanjoagensoc.blogspot.com/>)
- Increased requests for member feedback through surveys.

Have a Heart and Lend Us a Hand on Valentine's Day

We are looking for members available to join us the evening of **February 14** for a workshop **planning meeting**.

Last fall, our organization embarked on a new project: providing free training to interested library patrons on how to begin researching their family history. Our format was simple: Society volunteers taught brief workshops on specific topics of interest, followed by a session in which Society volunteers worked one-on-one or in small groups with attendees, answering questions about beginning genealogy. The workshops were held at the north Stockton branch of the public library, thanks to a joint effort of the Society and staff of the Troke Library.

This spring, we will continue these community workshops, with two Saturday workshop dates already scheduled: **March 16** and **March 23**. Each session goes from **11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.**

We need volunteers and committee members to help at each of these workshops! Be a **Presenter** for the March 23 workshop. The presentations can be short, basic and a lot of fun. Or, step up and be **Workshop Chairman** for future workshops. It really is a fun and fulfilling position!

The workshops last fall were a great success. We hope to continue this appreciated community service. Please consider joining us at our workshops planning meeting **February 14, 7:00 p.m. at Troke Library**, to work on these and future workshops for this year. If you decide you might like to be involved, give me a call at 209 474 6448.

~Lori Calhoon

From Our President

Dear SJGS member,

Our Executive Board for 2013 is putting together an exciting plan for our Society activities for this year. Please let us know your ideas—what you want to get out of this organization. We want to work your interests into our plans!

Some of our plans for this year, so far:

- Monthly Membership Meetings (with a few exceptions); see schedule
- Dynamic guest speakers with informative presentations you will enjoy
- Variety of educational, social events, workshops, projects, etc.
- Four free library genealogy workshops for community this spring that we hope you can participate in
- Continuing our Tuesday genealogical research help at Chavez Library
- Searching for more opportunities to preserve, copy local records and make them accessible through publications and Internet
- SJGS newsletter published monthly, except summer and December, and inviting your contributions
- Developing a better, informative website for ourselves and for the public
- Revising and updating bylaws (to be submitted to membership for approval)
- Continuing research help for queries sent in from those researching San Joaquin ancestors
- Preparation for hosting a regional workshop sponsored by the California State Genealogical Alliance in February, 2014
- A new membership brochure, handbook, and a new logo.

If there is something you would like to see us offer, you need to let us know and also consider helping on a committee of interest. An organization is only as good as the involvement of its members!

You are welcome to join us at our board meetings, call me or e-mail SJGS or me with your ideas.

The next general membership meeting will be Thursday, February 28, 6:00 p.m. at Troke Library, with an excellent presentation as described in the meeting announcement. We will also have a short business meeting, covering our basic agenda, reviewing goals and activities for 2013, and inviting your input as well. This will be an excellent time to attend and get involved.

Hoping to hear from you and see you soon,

Lori Calhoon

SJGS President, 2013

garycalhoon@comcast.net, 209-474-6448

Calendar of Upcoming Events

February

Thursday, February 28: Monthly meeting at Margaret Troke Library, 502 W. Benjamin Holt Drive, Stockton. Meeting begins at 6:00 p.m. Speaker: Delmar McComb.

March

Saturday, March 16: Free workshop conducted by SJGS members for library patrons. Topics presented will include Use of Military Records to Glean Family Information, World War I Draft Cards, Finding Family Through Immigration Records and Passenger Lists. Participants are welcome to bring their own lunch for the brief lunch break. Afternoon session: one-on-one and individual question-and-answer sessions. Location: Margaret Troke Public Library, 502 W. Benjamin Holt Drive, Stockton. Time: 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 21: Monthly meeting at Margaret Troke Library. Meeting begins at 6:00 p.m. Speaker and program to be announced in March newsletter.

Saturday, March 23: Free workshop conducted by SJGS members. Topics to be provided by Society volunteers for March newsletter. Location: Margaret Troke Public Library, 502 W. Benjamin Holt Drive, Stockton. Time: 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Researching German Ancestors?

Learn how events shaped the lives of your German ancestors—even those events about which we are too seldom aware—in this Tuesday afternoon workshop sponsored by the Sacramento German Genealogy Society on February 26, at 1:00—3:00.

Speaker Warren Bittner, C.G., presents “How German History Makes a Difference in Your Family History Research” at the Saint Mark’s United Methodist Church, 2391 Lusk Drive at St. Mark’s Way in Sacramento, behind the Country Club Plaza near Watt Avenue and El Camino.

Check the Sacramento German Genealogy Society’s [website](#) for more workshop information or to contact them for further details.

Thomas MacEntee Featured In Sacramento Workshop

The spring seminar for [Root Cellar—Sacramento Genealogical Society](#) is an all-day workshop taught by [GeneaBlogger](#)’s Thomas MacEntee. Four beginner level topics covered will include:

- Building a Research Toolbox
- Internet Archive: A Gold Mine for Genealogists
- Social Networking: New Horizons for Genealogists
- You Use *WHAT* for Genealogy? Wonderful Uses for Unusual Tools

The workshop begins at 9 a.m., Saturday, March 16, at the Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church, 11427 Fair Oaks Blvd. in Fair Oaks. Cost for non-members is \$30 with [registration](#) before March 1, as room permits.

Genealogy Meets Technology

If you have the time and resources to travel to Salt Lake City on March 21 through 23, you will be in the right place at the right time to attend the event generating the latest buzz in the genealogy world: RootsTech.

RootsTech is an opportunity unlike any other to discover the latest family history tools and techniques, connect with experts to help you in your research, and be inspired in the pursuit of your ancestors. It is a conference with a unique emphasis on helping individuals learn and use the latest technology to get started or accelerate their efforts to find, organize, preserve and share their family's connections and history.

Attendees to this year's convention will learn key skills from over 250 hands-on workshops and interactive presentations at the beginner, intermediate and advanced level. A host of nationally-known presenters will be on hand for the three day event, as well as exhibitors in a forty percent bigger Expo Hall.

Convening at the Salt Palace Convention Center in Salt Lake City, Utah, RootsTech draws attendees from across the United States, Canada, and nearly 25 additional countries.

Preceding the event, the Association of Professional Genealogists will present their 2013 Professional Management Conference: Strategies for Building a Successful Business, held at the nearby Radisson Hotel.

If you intend to register for RootsTech, be sure to hurry to [their website](#). The Early Bird price of \$149 expires February 15.

Post Script on January Meeting

If you were not able to join us for our January meeting, you missed an informative session with our speaker, Katherine Borges of the International Society of Genetic Genealogy.

If you'd like to catch up on some reading about the current state of DNA testing and how it may assist you in your genealogy research, here are some blog articles and website resources to further your quest. Just click on each link to access the post.

[Betty Tartas](#) provides a Comparison of the Three Major DNA Testing Websites for Genealogy.

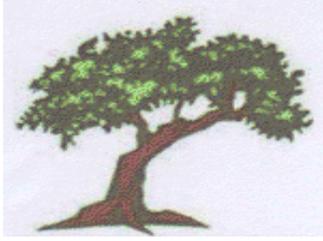
[Roberta Estes](#) provides her analysis in her blog's article, Autosomal Testing Comparison.

[CeCe Moore](#)'s blog contains several informative articles, including her comparison of test results from four different companies.

The organization Katherine Borges represents, the [ISOGG](#), has its own website with links to several informative articles and resources on the topic of genetic testing for genealogical purposes.

Newsletter Copy Deadline

The San Joaquin County Genealogical Society newsletter is published nine times a year: monthly from January through June and September through November. Upcoming copy deadline is **February 20, 2013**. Please submit articles to afamilytapestry@gmail.com.



San Joaquin Genealogical Society

Dues are for the year – January to December 2013
\$10 per member – or – \$15 per family

We appreciate your support through your renewal of membership dues.

Circle Appropriate: Renewal New Member // Individual Family

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____

City and State _____ Zip code _____

Email Address _____

May we send your newsletters and announcements by email? Yes _____ No _____

I will help with the following (check all that apply):

_____ Research (Do research for those who request our Society's services)

_____ Projects (We always need transcribers and typists)

_____ Program Committee (Help set up programs and speakers for meetings)

_____ Volunteer work in the Genealogy Collection at the Chavez Central Library

Please mail dues to Barry Wood, 1910 S. Church St., Lodi, CA 95240

Make checks payable to San Joaquin Genealogical Society

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