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Leah Allen

MEETINGS

Board Meeting – Monday,
Apr. 2nd – 7 pm at the home
of Virginia Kranz, 6 West
Loretta, Stockton

General Meeting - Thursday,
March 15th – 1 pm at Chavez
Central Library, 605 N. El
Dorado St., Stockton

San Joaquin Genealogical Society

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

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

Volume 33 Number 1

MAR/APR 2012



RESEARCHING YOUR IRISH ROOTS:

What you need to know before you begin

Thursday, March 15th – 1:00 pm

Chavez Central Library

605 North El Dorado Street, Stockton

Please join us for a very special meeting. In keeping with the St. Patrick's Day theme and spirit, the San Joaquin Genealogical Society presents LEWIS M. RUDDICK for a presentation on Irish research.

Mr. Ruddick been doing serious genealogical research since 1980. He is the coordinator for the CalGenWeb websites for Amador, Calaveras, Mendocino, Sonoma and Stanislaus Counties. He is also the Group Administrator for the FTDNA Reddick/r320 Group Project and the editor of the newsletter for the Stanislaus County Genealogical Society.

As a result of yDNA testing he learned that his surname line was from Ireland and Ruddock. He began an intensive search of everything he could gain access to that was Ruddock and Ireland and as a result learned a great deal about researching on that island.

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER FOR 2012

The membership roster for the society, which is current as of March 2012, has been sent out to all members as an attachment in an email. In most all cases it will be the same email as the one with this newsletter. For the few members we have without email addresses, the list has been sent regular mail along with your newsletter.

Please take a few minutes to make sure the information is correct. Also I want to ask that you not share the list with anyone outside the SJGS or use it for any purpose other than society business.



Barbara Hansen – El Cajon, CA

Lynn Day – Jamestown, CA

Beverly Clark – Stockton, CA

Annette MacInnis – Stockton, CA

Jacqi Stevens & Claire Stevens – Stockton, CA

Al & Maria Baker – Stockton, CA

Stewart Barber

SAN JOAQUIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

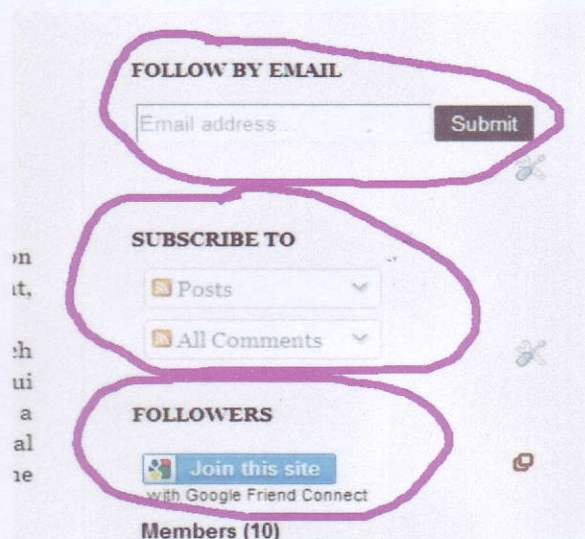
Reaches out to Membership with a Blog

The purpose of this blog is to communicate information more timely and efficiently and to encourage and promote interaction with you - the membership. Let's have a short tour of the blog. First you need to get online and go to:

<http://sanjoagensoc.blogspot.com/>



Up at the top of the page are a number of tabs, including FAQ About Blogs. Make yourself at home - click on each one of the tabs for more information about the society.



On the right hand side of the blog, you will see several options available that will enable you to keep up to date. If you are not used to reading blogs or using a blog feeder then I suggest following by email is the best way to go. You will only get an email when something new has been posted to the blog.

hope you will become a regular visitor. If you have any questions or suggestions, please leave a comment below.

Posted by Sheri Fenley at 7:52 PM 2 comments



Recommend this

Links to this post

Want to leave a comment about any of the posts or just have something to say? This is so very easy to do. At the end of each post is a comments button. Just click on the word "COMMENTS" and a window will pop up for you to write in.

In the weeks and months ahead, we plan to share information about our meetings, events, and other exciting projects. We hope you will become a regular visitor! If you have any questions or suggestions, please leave a comment at our blog or you may email me directly at : sherifenley@gmail.com

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PAY YOUR DUES!

The last page of this newsletter is where you will find the form to renew your dues or begin a new membership. Please include any updates to your address, phone and email address.

Interested in helping the society? Please use the same form to indicate your interests and talents that you can share with us. We would LOVE to have you join us!

BASICS ON BLOGGING

Your blog is whatever you want it to be. There are millions of them, in all shapes and sizes, and there are no real rules.

Blogging is about connecting with and hearing from anyone who reads your work. You control who can read and write to your blog — keep it private, let just a few friends read it or you can let the entire world see what you have to say!

It is the PERFECT platform for getting your family stories out there. Some genealogy bloggers call their blogs “Cousin Bait.” The ability to reach out and connect with someone who shares a common ancestor with you can be done in a matter of seconds.

The comments section of a blog let anyone, anywhere, offer feedback on your posts. You can choose whether you want to allow comments on a post-by-post basis, and you can delete comments you don't like.

Access controls let you decide who can read and who can write to your blog. You can use a group blog with multiple authors (like we have done with the SJGS blog) as a communication tool for small teams, families and other groups. As a single author, you can create a private online space for collecting news, links, and ideas, to keep to yourself or share with as many readers as you want.

Below are 6 easy steps to create a blog using the Blogger platform. While there are many platforms out there to choose from, I find Blogger to be the easiest and most user friendly.

Step 1: Sign Up to Create a Blog at Blogger.com



Visit the Blogger.com home page and select the "Create Your Blog Now" button to begin the process to start your new Blogger.com blog.

Step 2: Create a Google Account

1 Create a Google Account

This process will create a Google account that you can use on other Google services. If you already have a Google account, please [sign in](#).

Email address
(must already exist)

Enter a password
[Password strength](#)

Retype password

Display name

Word verification

☐ I agree to the Terms of Service ☐ I agree to the Privacy Policy

If you don't already have a Google account, you'll need to create one by completing the form on this page. **This is free of charge and it is required.** If you already have a Google account, you can bypass the "Create Google Account" step and simply sign in with your existing Google account username and password.

Step 3: Name Your New Blog

2 Name your blog

Blog title

Blog address (URL) [http://](#) [blogspot.com](#)

Advanced Setup

[Continue](#)

Enter the blog name and corresponding domain name (to precede .blogspot.com) in the spaces provided. **The domain name is part of the URL (web address)** that represents a specific website. Some just use the name of the blog itself. For example, if you had named your blog "ABC Genealogy" you might want to use the same for your blog address so it would become:
<http://abcgenealogy.blogspot.com>

Step 4: Choose a Template

2 Choose a template

[Continue](#)

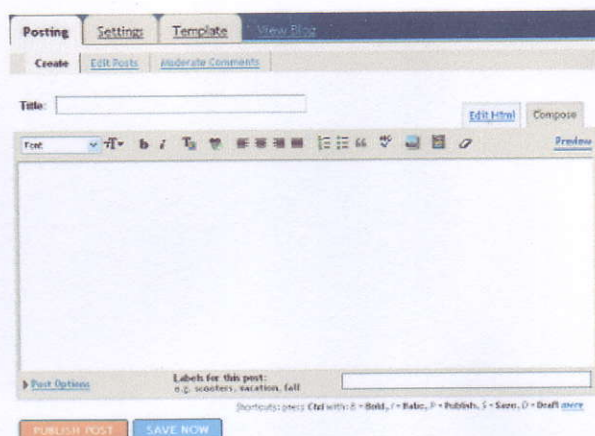
Select a standard template for your new blog.

Step 5: Congratulations - Your New Blog is Active!



Your blog is now live and ready for you to start writing content.

Step 6: Write Your First Post



That's all there is to it! You're now ready to write your first blog post. If you have trouble, just click the Help button from any screen, and you can find the answer you're looking for. If you are in need of some inspiration, you should visit Geneabloggers.com which is the genealogy community's resource for genealogy blogging. There you will find over 2000 blogs listed by type, resources for your blog and much, much more.

THE SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY OBITUARY INDEX PROJECT

The project, which began in June 2011, represents a joint effort of the San Joaquin County Genealogical Society, the Stockton-San Joaquin County Library, and the San Joaquin County Historical Society and Museum in cooperation with IT specialists from San Joaquin County Delta College and FamilySearch.org. Its goal is to make available online an index of newspaper obituaries for the County from the 1850s to the 1990s that has existed for years on cards and microfilm.

With the help of FamilySearch.org and 698 volunteers from all over the country, the project has been completed. The database can be searched at the FamilySearch.org website located at:

<https://familysearch.org/search/collection/show#uri=http://familysearch.org/search/api/search/collection/1929846>

A huge round of applause and gratitude goes out to all the volunteers who helped with the indexing, especially the representatives who formed the coalition:

San Joaquin County Historical Society & Museum - Leigh Johnsen and Dave Stuart

San Joaquin Genealogical Society – Karen Ramos, Betty Mathis and Sheri Fenley

Stockton-San Joaquin County Library – Gretchen Loudon

Devon Ashby from FamilySearch.org is also to be thanked for the major part he played in getting our project off the ground

ONLINE FUNERAL HOME & MORTUARY RECORDS

Below are just a few of the growing number of searchable databases you can find online for funeral home and mortuary records. To find more, just Google “online funeral home records”

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

It was the culmination of several years' work to bring the digital images of thousands of mortuary records, stored by the Halsted Gray Mortuary in San Francisco, to researchers all over the world. The records are a significant genealogical find because of the richness of their detail and the miraculous way they survived the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake and Fire.

The records include the complete holdings of the first mortuary in San Francisco, undertakers N. Gray & Co., from the day it opened - July 1, 1850. In all, the project includes the surviving records of several mortuaries that merged with either Halsted or Gray, over the years.

<http://www.sfgenealogy.com/php/sfmrsearch/sfmrindex.php>

NORMAN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

The Norman County Genealogy Society prepared and made available the Skaurud Funeral Home Index. Norman County is located in northwestern Minnesota. The city of Ada is the county seat. The Skaurud Funeral Home was located in Ada. The database covers the period from 1913 through 1945. It is in PDF format. You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to view the files. The records are grouped into seven files: 1923-1929; 1930-1935; 1936-1938; 1939-1941; 1942; and 1943-1945. Each file contains an alphabetical listing. The data fields in the files include name/residence (where the deceased lived), age, date of birth, date of death, place of death, location of the funeral/clergy involved, and cemetery name.

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mnnorman/miscellaneous/SkarudFun/SkaurudMain.htm>

You will also find a death record and marriage record index and census records for Norman County at their website.

MARSHALL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

The Marshall County Funeral Home Records database is one of the resources available on the Marshall County Genweb website. The county is located in the central part of the state. The information in this database has been abstracted from the records of the London Funeral Home, which is in Lewisburg, the county seat. The records are for deaths that occurred from 1938 to 1941. They are organized alphabetically by surname, then given name. Click on the first letter of the surname to open the page containing the records. The information provided for each individual includes last name, first name, sex, race, date of birth, place of birth, age, date of death, place of death, place of burial, marital status, spouse, father, mother, informant, and funeral home name.

<http://www.tngenweb.org/marshall/fh/index.html>

TULSA, OKLAHOMA

13 volumes of funeral home records dating from 1906 to 2000 have been indexed and placed online by the Tulsa Oklahoma Genealogical Society. The indexes were transcribed from books published by the society and contain the name of the deceased, the date of birth, place of birth, date of death and place of death, plus a brief history of the funeral home.

<http://www.tulsagenealogy.org/library/funhmindx.html>

What was the Hohenshell Twins' Grandfather Thinking?

By S. A. Mendenhall

Part Two

In part one of the story, we had left off with the conviction of Abraham Hohenshell for manslaughter.

Sacramento Daily Union, vol. 16, no. 2461, 16 Feb. 1859, pg. 2, c. 1,

News of the Morning.

A. Hohenshell, convicted by the District Court of San Joaquin county, on April, 1858, of manslaughter, and sentenced to two and a half years imprisonment in the State Prison, has been pardoned. It appears from the certificate of two physicians that he has become entirely blind since his conviction. He has a wife and three children, and proves an excellent character up to the time of the commission of the crime. The District Judge who tried the case, and eight of the jurors, as well as the county officers and some five hundred respectable citizens of Stockton, unite in recommending a pardon. To this pardon is attached the condition that a violation of any of the criminal laws of this State at any time, shall work as an absolute forfeiture of all the rights and privileges conferred upon him.[1]

February 19, 1859, *San Joaquin Republican*, pg. 2, col. __

PARDON OF HOHENSHELL.—The *Sacramento Union* says: "A. Hohenshell, convicted by the District Court of San Joaquin county, in April, 1858, of manslaughter, and sentenced to two and a half years imprisonment in the state prison, has been pardoned. It appears from the [certificates] of two physicians that he became entirely blind since his conviction. He has a wife and three children and proves his excellent character up to the time of the commission of the crime. The District Judge who tried the case, and eight of the jurors as well as the county officers and some five hundred respectable citizens of Stockton, unite in recommending a pardon. To this pardon is attached the condition that a violation of any of the original laws of the state, at any time, shall work an _____ of all the rights and privileges __ upon him." [2]

If being released provided blinded Abraham respite, it probably was a huge relief to be home in the care of his family. Albeit, the family atmosphere must have been strained, after all he was a handicapped man that had to learn how to adapt to this life and somehow provide for his family. With so much community support during his incarceration, Abraham's neighbors must have been a source of additional help. The 1 June 1860 census gives us a picture of the home. "Abram (born about 1821) and Delilah (born about 1822) Hohenshell," was a farm family in Elkhorn Township near the Stockton post office in San Joaquin County, California with their two sons, Cyrus (born about 1847) and Byron (born about 1851) and two daughters, Mary E. (born about 1844) and Sarah J. (born about 1849), everybody was born in Pennsylvania. The three youngest children attended school.[3]

On 5 Aug 1860 the agricultural census reported "Abram Hehenshell" (sic) lived near Woodbridge post office. His farm was 400 acres improved land with a cash value of \$3,520.00. He had \$200.00 farm equipment, four horses, four milch cows, four other cattle, four swine, \$400.00 livestock value, and he had produced 45 tons of hay prior to 1st of June.[4]

The family began to change before 1 June 1870. Mary had married Charles H. Wakefield the previous November and "A. & Delia, Honenshell (sic), [both] age forty eight" (born about 1822), lived in O'Neal Township, San Joaquin County with Mary, 25, Cirus, 21, Sarah, 20, and Byren, 18, A. [a nephew], age 19, Slaughter Seat, & Son Long (Chinese), farm laborers.[5] The agricultural census, recorded 15 July, "Ab" Hohenshell's agricultural holdings included 200 acres improved land, valued at \$6,000.00, and owned \$500.00 worth of farm implements. He paid \$200.00 wages during the year. There were 16

horses, six mules, seven milch cows, six cattle, 30 swine, all worth \$1,600.00. The farm produced 3,000 bushels of winter wheat, 1,000 bushels barley, 200 pounds Butter, 300 tons of hay. Farm production had been a total of \$3,000.00.[6] It was reported in the *Pacific Rural Press* on August 26, 1876:

SAN JOAQUIN. A Phenomenon. —Stockton Independent, Aug. 19: Curiosities and strange freaks of nature in the vegetable as well as in the animal kingdom are of frequent occurrence, but we remember of seeing none more curious than a branch of a peach tree shown us yesterday by Mr. Hohenshell, a farmer living three miles north of Stockton, on which were a ripe peach and a ripe nectarine, side by side. The peach was a cling-stone, large, whitish colored, and covered with a heavy down. The nectarine was of the usual size of that fruit, smaller than the peach, and of a reddish purple color, and perfectly smooth—in fact an unmistakable nectarine. The tree on which this singular phenomenon occurred grew in an orchard on the Cherokee Line road, about six or eight miles from town; and what is more remarkable about it is, that no nectarine or apricot trees grow on the place or near it. It is possible that the pollen from a plum tree might have fructified the peach blossom and produced the result, as the nectarine is a cross between the peach and the plum, but we never heard of the attempt to produce a nectarine having been successfully accomplished in that way, as the usual process is by engrafting.[7]

1879 Hohenshell's fortune was hailed about in "History of San Joaquin County":

ABRAHAM HOHENSHELL ... His farm, which is situated in O'Neil Township, contains 458 acres of excellent wheat-raising land, all of which is under cultivation, and is considered worth \$100 per acre. The soil is especially adapted to wheat and grain, and he says will produce from thirty to fifty bushels of wheat, and from fifty to seventy-five bushels of barley per acre. The new irrigating ditch from the Mokelumne river will cross his land, and will add largely to its value. ... [purchased 1856] land on which he is now living, and on which he has resided since that time. His house is built of brick, and was erected in 1871, at a cost of \$4,600. His place is about five miles from Stockton.[8]

Abraham's loyal wife, Delilah Pool, died February 28, 1875, leaving four children.[9] 1 June 1880 found fifty-nine year-old farmer, Abraham Hohenshell, a blind widower, lived in O'Neal Township, with his son, Cyrus, and a nephew, Allison. The young men worked as farm laborers. In separate buildings, son, Byron lived, also a farmer, and a cook, Gem, a single male, nineteen year-old, born in China.[10] Nevertheless, "Abrakam (sic) Hohenshell," was a successful man, an owner of 500 acres tilled acreage, with his farm was valued \$40,000.00, equipment and machinery worth \$500.00, and livestock worth \$1,300.00. During the year he paid \$1,500.00 for 210 weeks labor, which produced \$5,000.00 estimated farm production; 15 acres mown, 30 acres hay, 18 horses, and two mules.[11]

The Hohenshell family mourned Abraham's death. They buried him 16 Apr 1887 in Rural Cemetery, Stockton, San Joaquin. His stone may read, "Abram Hoenshell, aged 66,"[12] however, his legacy lies in archives, written reminders unearthed to this day, added words to Abram's epitaph.

Researched and written by S.A. Mendenhall, 101 Valley Farm, Sequim, WA 98382; e-mail suemendenhall@hotmail.com.

[1] California Digital Newspaper Collection, ©2008-2011, Digital Library Consulting, accessed and noted 5/9/11, (website) <http://cdnc.ucr.edu/>.

[2] Transcribed from GenealogyBank.com, ©NewsBank and/or the American Antiquarian Society, 2004, accessed 4/28/11.

[3] Hohenshell, Abran (sic), household, San Joaquin Co., Calif., 1860 U.S. Census, population schedule, Elkhorn Twp., pg. 985/sht. 116-1/2, lines 17-25, dwelling 839, family 857, assistant marshal N. Douglass recorded household information 24 July, accessed Ancestry.com and transcribed 9/2/09,

roll M653_64, FHL film #803064

[4] Hehenshell (sic), Abram, yr. ending 1 Jun 1860, San Joaquin Co., Calif., non-population schedule, farm, pg. 43, line 35, accessed and transcribed 24 Apr 2011, 1860, Archive Coll. No. 96:18, roll 18.

[5] Hoenshell (sic), A., household, San Joaquin Co., Calif., 1870 U.S. Census, population schedule, O'Neal Twp., pg. 15/sht. 105A, lines 1-9, dwelling 103, family 103, provided several family members' names, Cyrus b. abt. 1849, A. b. abt. 1822, Sarah b. abt. 1850, accessed Ancestry.com and transcribed 1/15/10, roll M593_86, FHL film #545585; Wakefield, Charles H., household, 1900 U.S. Census, duration of marriage; and, Anonymous, *An Illustrated History of San Joaquin County, California*, "Charles Wakefield," pp. 336-67, Lewis Pub. Co., ©1890 Chicago, Illin., accessed HeritageQuest.com and transcribed 1/16/10.

[6] Hoenshell (sic), Ab, San Joaquin Co., Calif., 1870 U.S. Census, Non-population Schedules, Elliott, pg. 1, line 21, accessed Ancestry.com and transcribed 24 Apr 2011, Archive Coll. No. 96:20, roll 20, Agriculture.

[7] *Pacific Rural Press*, vol. 12, no. 9, 26 August 1876, Agricultural Notes. [Section], pg. 141, col. 3, [this article does not refer to which Hohenshell, I have inferred because his sons agricultural production was unrecorded]

[8] Thompson & West, "History of San Joaquin County 1879," pp. 91-100, transcribed by Sharon Marie Robinson, (c)2010, accessed webpage
<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nrmelton/sjbios1.htm>.

[9] Thompson & West, "History of San Joaquin County 1879," pp. 91-100, transcribed by Sharon Marie Robinson, (c)2010, accessed webpage
<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nrmelton/sjbios1.htm>.

[10] Hohenshell, Abraham, household, San Joaquin Co., Calif., 1880 U.S. Census, population schedule, O'Neal Twp., enumeration district (E.D.) 101, supervisor's district (S.D.) 2, pg. 45/sht. 135A, lines 41-43, dwellings 322, family 324; line 44, dwelling 323, family 325 is Byron, recorded 23 & 24 June by Arza Crabb, accessed Ancestry.com and transcribed 7/26/09, roll T9_80, FHL film #1254080.

[11] Hohenshell, Abraham, 1880, San Joaquin Co., Calif., E.D. 101, S.D. 2, pg. 23, line 1, recorded 24 June Arza Crabb, accessed and transcribed 24 Apr 2011, Archive Coll. No., 97:2, roll 2, Agriculture.

[12] Anonymous, "Old Cemeteries of San Joaquin County, California," vol. 2, pg. 93, c. 1, "Abram Hohenshell," [correct age], The Society, ©1964, Stockton, CA, accessed online HeritageQuest.com and transcribed 1/16/10.

American Civil War Association

Invites You
To Enjoy and Participate in
Knights Ferry Civil War Days

“Where the Civil War comes alive”

Main Event: Sat. & Sun, March 24th-25th, 2012

Gates open at 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Battles Times: Saturday 1:00 PM & 4:00 PM

Sunday 11:00 AM & 2:00 PM



“Located at the Historic Knights Ferry Covered Bridge”

Stanislaus River Parks located in Knights Ferry, twelve miles east of Oakdale on State Route 108/120.

“Step back in time and experience how life was for the Soldiers, Women and children, during the most trying time in history. Hear the sounds of the Battles and Experience the Camp Life and enjoy living history!”

American Civil War Association is a nonprofit organization 501 (c) (3)
Dedicated to preserving our American Heritage and sharing with the general public.

www.acwa.org

**SAN JOAQUIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
DUES FOR THE YEAR - JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2011**

\$10 per member and \$15 per family

Circle one: Renewal New Member Individual Family

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____ City & State _____ Zip _____

Email address _____

I am willing to help with the following: (check all that apply)

_____ Phone committee to notify members of meetings, changes or other items

_____ Research (do research for those who request our Societies services)

_____ Projects (always need transcribers and typists)

_____ Program Committee (work on setting up programs and speakers for meetings)

_____ Set up and clean up Other _____

Send dues to: Barry Wood, 1910 S. Church St., Lodi, CA 95240

Check payable to: San Joaquin Genealogical Society