



## **Executive Board Members**

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Surname List – Melinda  
Lambaren

Research – Charlie Lambaren

Newsletter – Sheri Fenley &  
Leah Allen

## **MEETINGS**

Board Meeting – Monday,  
March 7<sup>th</sup> – 7 pm at the  
home of Virginia Kranz, 6  
West Loretta, Stockton

General Meeting - Thursday,  
March 18<sup>th</sup> – 1 pm at Chavez  
Central Library

## **San Joaquin Genealogical Society**

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

**[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~sjgs/index.htm](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~sjgs/index.htm)**

**Volume 32    Number 2**



## **JANICE SELLERS - NEWSPAPERS ONLINE**

**Thursday – March 17, 2011 – 1:00 PM**

**Chavez Central Library – Stewart Hazelton Room**

Newspapers are valuable in genealogical research because you can find information about births, deaths, marriages, moves, business, naturalizations, court cases, and more. Millions of pages of the world's newspapers are now accessible online, but there is no one place to find them all. Janice will give an overview of what is available and how to find it, and teach you some techniques to find your ancestors in the paper.



Janice is a professional genealogist. She is publicity director for the San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society and the editor of a quarterly newsletter focused on Jewish research in the former Austrian province of Galicia. She has been on the staff of the Oakland Regional Family History Center for eleven years. We are pleased to have Janice share her techniques and knowledge with our members.



# **Murder at Benson's Ferry**

by Leah Allen

My great-great-grandmother's sister had long interested me probably because her life was cut so short. Martha Ann Tock died at the age of twenty-one, less than two years after her marriage and leaving behind a three month old baby girl. Martha also intrigued me because of the fact that she and her husband's family were all interred in one of my favorite cemeteries, the Old City Cemetery in Sacramento.

It was a few years ago when I was at the Cemetery's website looking through their excellent burial index (<http://www.oldcitycemetery.com/BurialIndex.htm>) and I came across the notes listed for Martha's father-in-law, John A. Benson. Following the row with his name I read "Murdered at Mokelumne City, San Joaquin Co.; Shot by G. Palmer." A murder in the family? This was complete news to me and needed some further investigation!

John A. Benson and his family had come to Oregon in the 1840s from Missouri. In 1849 the Benson family moved south to California and settled in San Joaquin Co. In 1850 Benson bought what became Benson's Ferry, just north of present-day Thornton.

Although a successful landowner, things came abruptly to an end for Benson nine years later. On Valentine's Day 1859, John A. Benson was shot and killed near the home of Green Palmer on Lower Sacramento Road. There were rumors of an affair between Palmer's wife and Benson which was believed to be the reason behind the shooting. Palmer, an employee of Benson's, was tried twice (ending in hung juries each time) before being found not guilty at his third trial in January of 1860. Benson's believed improprieties with Palmer's wife were a major reason he was not convicted of Benson's murder. Rumors of corruption also plagued the trials and might have had an influence on the outcome. Palmer's victory was short-lived, however. A year later, he committed suicide, blaming his wife for his unhappiness. A few months after his death, his wife married a sometime boarder and friend of Palmer's who also was the main witness of Palmer's suicide.

Benson was survived by his wife and several children. His son, John M. Benson, went on to marry Martha Ann Tock in 1874.



Some Sources and Further Reading:

Sacramento Historic City Cemetery Online Burial Index  
(<http://www.oldcitycemetery.com/BurialIndex.htm>)

California Digital Newspaper Collection  
(<http://cdnc.ucr.edu/newsucr>)

"Benson Ferry Tragedy" article on page 94 of the book History of San Joaquin County, California with Biographical Sketches... by George H. Tinkham

## MEET LEAH ALLEN



In the last issue of the newsletter, I put out the call for assistance with the newsletter. Much to my surprise and delight, my plea for help was answered by Leah Allen. Leah, who is probably the youngest member of the San Joaquin Genealogy Society, is a college student who lives up in Davis, California. Leah has deep roots in San Joaquin County - her ancestor John R. Shinn came to California during the Gold Rush and settled in San Joaquin County where he established a farm near Lodi which is still in the family to this day. John R. died young and it fell to his young son, Heman Doyle, to clear and develop most of the farmland which he worked for the rest of his life and left to his son.

Leah is the author of two genealogy blogs:

**The Internet Genealogist** - <http://shbwgen.blogspot.com/>

**The Sacramento Valley Graveyard Rabbit** - <http://sactogyr.blogspot.com/>

Leah and I will be co-editors of the newsletter. Look for all the articles in this issue with her byline. Thank you Leah for your gift of time and talent.



## **The Little Brown Photo Album: Andrew and Laura Hammer, Part II**

*By S.A. Mendenhall*

In the last issue of the newsletter, we discovered Laura Hammer was more than just a portrait in Emma & Everett Young's photograph album. As it turned out the lovely Laura Blanche Swartz married into the Hammer family, and apparently from the 1890s until they died, they were simply good friends and neighbors to the Mr. & Mrs. Young in Wrightman township and later in Stockton. Laura Hammer had two daughters, and was a life-long companion to her husband, Andrew Hammer. Of further interest, the researcher discovered Andrew was born in California in 1864, was one of several brothers and a sister, all of them California natives and children to early European immigrants to San Joaquin Valley.

Reviewing the 1900 U.S. Census, Andrew Hammer's younger brothers and a married sister were also neighbors of E.G. and Emma Young. Five doors away, lived Edward W. Hammer, age 23, born April 1877, a farmer, who owned the farm without a mortgage. He may have inherited it. With him lived George A. Hammer, age 21, born December 1878, also a farmer. Both young men were single. Their 26 year-old married sister, Edith M. Dolone (sic), and her husband, James F. Dolan, lived with them. James was a 36 year-old blacksmith. Edith was born May 1874. All four were born in California. All four could read and write.<sup>1</sup> Their other brother, William Hammer lived nearby, on his farm with his German born wife, Minnie Hammer, and their two children. William was 32, born in California in July 1867.<sup>2</sup>

In the 1880 U.S. Census, Andrew Hammer attended school with four of his siblings and was the oldest child in his parents' household. The Hammer family resided in O'Neal Township, San Joaquin County, California. Andrew's father, Andrew Hammer [senior], was a 46 year-old, white man, born about 1834 in Bavaria, his parents were also born in Bavaria. Andrew senior was a married farmer, whose wife, was named "Dorthar." At 41 years-old, she kept house and cared for her own mother and six children. Dorthar Hammer was from Alsace, where her parents were born. The Hammer children were: Andrew, age 15; William, age 13; Caroline J., age 11; George, age eight; Edith, age six; Edward, age three. Young Andrew's maternal grandmother was a 64 year-old married (sic, widow?) woman, named, Dorthar Roehrig. Also in the home were two single, white, farm laborers, Charles Spark (Pennsylvanian), age 26 and Nicholi Jenson (Danish), age 21. It is assumed Charles and Nicholi, along with the Hammer boys, helped Mr. Hammer on his farm.<sup>3</sup>

It was enlightening to learn more about Hammer's farm from the Agricultural Census Schedule dated 22 June 1880. It provided a picture of the financial success of Andrew's family in O'Neal Township. Andrew, the father, was listed renting the farm, with 370 acres tilled including fallow and grass in rotation. Estimates were made for the farm value \$460.00, implements value \$750.00, and livestock value \$1,400.00. Mr. Hammer apparently paid \$1,500.00 for farm labor wages and board over 210 weeks. Would that be for Charlie Sparks and Nicholi Jenson only, or did Hammer hire extra seasonal laborers? The estimated value of all farm production sold, consumed, or on hand for 1879 amounted to \$9,000.00. That much profit seems like Hammer was very successful. There were six horses and 11 mules to help with the work. The farm had 15 swine, three milch cows, one other—probably a bull—and three calves dropped during 1879. He purchased one and sold one live cattle, while two died, strayed, or were not recovered. From the cows they produced 350 pounds of butter and



from 36 barnyard poultry produced 350 dozen eggs. During 1879 he cultivated 17 acres of Barley with 800 bushels crop yield and 400 acres of Wheat with 8000 bushels crop yield.<sup>4</sup>

Regressing in time, in Stockton, San Joaquin County the 1870 U.S. Census listed Andrew's maternal grandmother Roehrig was found as "Dorathy Rouke." She lived with Phil Rouke, a laborer, and Mary Rouke, who attended school. The adults were both 54 years-old, born about 1816 in France, the young girl was ten years-old and born about 1860 in California. The family lived near the Stockton post office.<sup>5</sup> It was interesting how many other spellings there were for this surname.<sup>6</sup> I did not find Andrew Hammer or his family in the 1870 census. I suspect that he either evaded the assistant marshal or the census page is missing from the resources used.

Other information came to light when the listing in the Business Directory of San Joaquin Co., 1878-79 was found. "Michael Hammer, resided O'Neal Township, near the Stockton post office," he was a farmer with 160 acres of land. Michael Hammer was born in Germany, came to California in 1856, and settled in San Joaquin County the same year.<sup>7</sup>

Additionally, Andrew Hammer [senior] was in the U.S. IRS Tax Assessment Lists, 1862-1918. Further, he was listed in Stockton [post office] on the tax rolls filed for 1864 and 1865. This assessment covered eleven of the monthly ledger pages over fifteen months. From these ledger pages, Andrew Hammer paid over \$74.80, averaging \$6.80 per month. The ledger itemization each month, covered Hammer's taxable assets, a cart or wagon rects(?) valued from a low of \$62.00 to a high of \$450.00 varying each month. Each was assessed tax at the rate of 2-1/2 cents on the dollar.<sup>8</sup>

Much later, when World War I began, young men registered for the draft. The only Hammer brother to qualify was Edward Walter Hammer. The most interesting detail was his physical description, because one can leap to the conclusion, Andrew must have looked similar. In 1917 Edward was described as tall, slender, brown eyes, and with brown hair.<sup>9</sup>

From San Joaquin County Great Register I found Andrew's siblings, confirming the names of their wives in 1936-38. Listed as farmers and housewives, there was: William F. and Minnie Hammer lived Wrightman, 1st precinct, Rt. 2, Box 283, Stockton; George A. and Bessie B. Hammer lived Live Oak precinct, Rt. 3, Box 330, Lodi; and, Edward W. and Christina H. Hammer lived Wrightman, 1st precinct, Rt. 2, Box 314, Stockton, all Republicans. Their sister, Edith M. was a farmer, her husband, James F. Dolan was a carpenter. Both were registered Democrats. They also lived in Wrightman, 1st precinct, Rt. 2, Box 312, Stockton.<sup>10</sup>

Rechecking various death and cemetery records I found Andrew Hammer's maternal grandmother. She was listed "Dorethia Rolhrig, died 29 March 1899, white, age unknown, female, married, born in France, died in Salinas."<sup>11</sup> However, her burial is located in the Rural Cemetery, near Stockton, "Dorethia Roehrig was buried 3-26-1900, aged 84." She was near Andrew's younger sister, Carolyn, "Carrie Hammer, buried 7-11-1888, aged 19" and Andrew's mother, "D. Hammer, buried 5-5-1895, aged 56." There was also an older Hammer, Andrew senior's father, "Michael Hammer, buried 8-23-1875, aged 65."

Andrew's sister-in-law, Truth E. (Moore) Hammer was Edward's first wife.<sup>12</sup> "Truth Eleanor Hammer," buried in Rural Cemetery on "2-14-1917, aged 29."<sup>13</sup> His brother, "George Hammer, 1871-1954," is buried in the Lodi Memorial Cemetery, Lodi, San Joaquin County, California. He was found with his wife, "Bessie (Bach) Hammer, 1874-1951."<sup>14</sup>



Finally, three of Andrew's siblings were located in the California Death Index, 1940-1997, each born in California and died in San Joaquin County. Edith M. (Hammer) Dolan was found by her maiden name and her mother's maiden name "Roheric." Edith's birth date was 19 May 1874 and she died 16 February 1959. Two brothers were found by their mother's maiden name, "Roehric," and their surname, "Hammer." George Arthur Hammer was born 15 December 1871 and died 11 May 1954. Edward Walter Hammer was born 14 April 1877 and died 27 July 1951.<sup>15</sup>

The really fascinating aspect to researching the Hammer family, was learning how early they arrived in California from Europe. They were some of those exceptional pioneers that helped early California grow and develop. I'm sure, Laura Hammer was proud to be a part of their family. E.G. and Emma Young must have been impressed with the Hammer's early establishment in San Joaquin County.

## ENDNOTES

1. Hammer, Edward W., household, San Joaquin Co., Calif., 1900 U.S. Census, population schedule, Wrightmans, precincts 1-2, enumeration district (E.D.) 107, supervisor's district (S.D.) 4, pg. 162B/sht. 20, lines 71-74, dwelling 415, family 425, "Dolone" was the surname spelling, but it is correctly Dolan, five doors from Everett G. Young's family #419, located online at Ancestry.com and transcribed 5/17/10, roll T623\_108.
- 2 Hammer, William, household, San Joaquin Co., Calif., 1900 U.S. Census, population schedule, Wrightmans, precincts 1-2, enumeration district (E.D.) 107, supervisor's district (S.D.) 4, pg. 163A/sht. 21, lines 21-24, dwelling 427, family 437, near his siblings Edward, George, Andrew, and Edith as well as Everett G. Young's family, located online at Ancestry.com and transcribed 5/17/10, roll T623\_108.
- 3 Hammer, Andrew, 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. 133A/sht. 47, lines 6-17, dwelling 290, family 292, located online at Ancestry.com 3/22/10 and transcribed, roll T9\_80, FHL film #1254080.
- 4 Hammer, Andrew, farmer, San Joaquin Co., Calif., 1880 U.S. Census, Agricultural Schedule, O'Neal Twp., pg. 20D, enumeration district (E.D.) 101, supervisor's district (S.D.) 2, line 3, located online at Ancestry.com and transcribed 5/10/10.
- 5 Rouke (Indexer listed it as "Rourke"), Phil, household, San Joaquin Co., Calif., 1870 U.S. Census, population schedule, Stockton, 3rd ward, pg. 62/245B, lines 8-10, dwelling 486, family 462, located online at Ancestry.com, 3/23/10, roll M593\_86, image 496, FHL film # 545585.
- 6 In addition to the first time I found the name as "Roehrig," there were the following spellings: Roerig, Rouke, Rourke, Rohrich, Roheric, Roehric, Rihrig, Rohrka, Rohrke, Rorach.
- 7 Business Directory of San Joaquin Co., 1878-79, [appears to be Sacramento County Directory Pub. Co., 1879u], located online 3/23/10, <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~npmelton/sjone78.htm>.
- 8 Hammer, Andrew, U.S. IRS Tax Assessment Lists, 1862-1918. I do not know the meaning of "wagon rects." 3/22/10 on Ancestry.com. all but the first were from NARA M756, roll 22. When I went back to double check May 1865 I could not find it, I am including it here with the caution it may be an error. I do not understand the date discrepancies between June and July, the tax due was different each time, clearly for the same man.
- 9 Hammer, Edward Walter, World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918, Sr# 1645, order #2891, register 4-3-17-C, born 14 April 1877, located online at Ancestry.com and noted 5/17/10.
- 10 Hammer, San Joaquin County Great Register, 1936-38, "California Voter Registrations, 1900-1968," located online and transcribed 5/17/10.
- 11 Rolhrig, Dorethia, Death Records, San Joaquin, Co., Calif., vol. II, 1895-1905, compiled by SJGS, (c)1999, p. 119, #221, located online 3/23/10.
- 12 Hammer, Edward, household, San Joaquin Co., Calif., 1910 U.S. Census, population schedule, O'Neal Twp., pg. 6B, enumeration district (E.D.) 123, located online at Ancestry.com 5/17/10 and noted, roll T624\_102, image 1241.
- 13 Roehrig, Dorethia, Carrie, D., Howard, Michael, and Truth Eleanor Hammer, Old Cemeteries of San Joaquin County, California, v. II, pp. 168, 82, compiled by SJGS, (c)1960, R.(c)1994 & 1999, located online 3/23/10.
- 14 Hammer, George, and Bessie (Bach) Hammer, Find-A-Grave, located online 3/23/10.
- 15 Dolan, Edith M. (Hammer), George Arthur, and Edward Walter Hammer, California Death Index, 1940-1997, located online at Ancestry.com and transcribed 3/24/10. I confirmed two different spellings for their mother's maiden name.



New Publications of the

## **San Joaquin Genealogical Society**

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**Marriage Records of San Joaquin County, California** **\$ 18.00**  
**1914-1920 Vol. VI**

An index to all marriages found in Book M of Marriages Volumes 21 - 32  
Alphabetical by groom with brides' index soft cover, 203 pages.

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**Births and Birth Certificates Reported in 1905 - 1906** **\$6.00**  
**San Joaquin County, California Volume III**

Includes all information from original book. Giving child's name, date & place of birth  
Parent's names, ages, place of birth, occupations and residence.  
Indexed soft cover 46 pages

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# Genetic Genealogy: What Is It?

By Leah Allen

One of the most talked about new avenues of genealogy research is genetic testing. But what is tested and why is it something to think about trying?

A genetic genealogy test examines certain parts of a person's DNA for specific markers. Submitting a DNA sample is usually pretty easy and quick and can entail spitting in a tube or taking an inner cheek swab (depending on the company you chose to test through). Once you've submitted your sample you sit back and wait, usually at least a month. While you're waiting for your results, the company that has your sample analyzes it for certain markers. Once your results are done, most companies compare your markers with other people's genetic profiles in their database (you can opt out of this if you chose) and any genetic matches that turn up are likely related to you in some way. You can then chose to contact the person who you match and see just how and where your family trees intersect.

There are two main tests you can take: a mtDNA test and a Y-DNA test. Anyone can take a mtDNA test because mtDNA (or mitochondrial DNA) passes from mother to child. However, only males can take a Y-DNA test because it tests the Y chromosome which females do not have. Women who wish to know what their family's Y-DNA (which passes from father to son) results are can ask a brother or their father to take the test.

A person's mtDNA or Y-DNA is tested for certain markers and, depending on the markers they test positive for, they are assigned a haplogroup. A haplogroup is a group of people who share the same specific markers, indicating a shared ancestor many generations back (usually thousands of years). Once the haplogroup is established, more markers are looked at to determine a person's sub-clade. For example, my maternal haplogroup is K because I have specific markers (also called mutations) that correspond with the defining mutations of that haplogroup. Since I have the mutations of 16224 and 16311 among others, I am in K. Within K, I fall into a sub-clade. My specific sub-clade is K1a4a1. While I still share a common ancestor with everyone in haplogroup K, people



who are in the sub-clade K1a4a1 like myself share an even more recent common ancestor (still many generations back). Haplogroups and sub-clades can come in handy to know because they can often indicate where someone's ancestral roots are. For example, people in certain sub-clades of K, like K2a2a are likely to have Ashkenazi Jewish ancestry.

Y-DNA also has haplogroups and sub-clades. For example, people who have the Y-DNA haplogroup of R, sub-clade R1b1b2 are likely to have western European ancestry. Haplogroups and sub-clades can be especially good to know when it comes to Y-DNA because surnames also pass through the male line. Before DNA testing all we knew about my father's paternal line is that they were originally from Scotland, by way of Ireland and that the last name was Allen. After his results came in, we were able to match up with a group of Allans originally from Morayshire who came to the Glasgow area in the 1600s. Although our most recent shared ancestor is still probably a few hundred years back, I now have an idea where in Scotland they originated and that there was a spelling change in the surname somewhere along the way.

There is much, much more to genetic genealogy but those are some of the basics. Next month I'll get into more specifics and frequently asked questions related to genetic genealogy testing.

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Sacramento Family History Center

2745 Eastern Avenue, Sacramento, CA

March 16 – **Scandinavian Research** – Mel Stephensen

A brief outline of the geography and history of Scandinavia. Purposes of Scandinavian genealogical records and their accessibility. Role of the State Church in creating these records. Some customs in the use of names. A study of the languages and handwriting of these records. A survey of the parish, census, probate and civil records. An introduction to the Scandinavian records found online. Class ends with a practice trial of reading some parish registers from all three countries.



# American Civil War Association

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**Main Event: Sat. & Sun, March 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**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](http://www.acwa.org)



## **Root Cellar – Sacramento Genealogical Society's 2011 Family History Writing Contest**

The Root Cellar Family History Writing Contest is open to the public, and you need not be a member of Root Cellar – Sacramento Genealogical Society to enter. Root Cellar will accept factual articles about family or local history, character sketches, or memoirs. Submissions should relate the experiences of a family or individuals, revealing their character and personality. The best entries will display the human drama and historical or social situation of the subjects.

The subject matter of the entries is to be family history or local-history stories, memoirs, or character sketches. Entries should be between 500 and 2,000 words in length. How-to articles or articles about the research process would not be acceptable for this contest.

All entries must be received by April 30, 2011. Late entries will not be considered. Finalists and other prize-winners will be notified by e-mail about May 25, 2011. If you have any questions, please contact Ron Setzer, PreservesEditor@macnexus.org.

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## **WELCOME NEW MEMBER**

Sharie Goodfellow from Woodbridge is the newest member of the San Joaquin Genealogical Society.

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## **THANK YOU NEW LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS**

Welcome to Lori Calhoon and Jim McWilliams, our new library volunteers. Thank you both for your gift of time.



# FREE WEBINARS

The Southern California Genealogical Society, (SCGS) which hosts the Southern California Genealogy Jamboree each year, is going in a bold new direction. They have decided to supplement the Jamboree with what they are calling the Jamboree Extension Series.

The Jamboree Extension Series is a new program that provides webinars for **FREE** to genealogists. All you need to participate is access to the internet. The program will offer Jamboree-style seminars for up to 1000 attendees per session. The programs will be held the first Saturday and third Wednesday of each month.

A webinar is a seminar that is held over the internet. You log in through an email link onto the internet. During the presentation you will view a live slide presentation on your monitor and hear the presenter's voice, also live (so you need to make sure you have speakers). You will have the opportunity to send comments and questions via chat to the organizers/speaker.

The first presentation will be **Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM - Social Networking - New Horizons for Genealogists - by Thomas MacEntee**

Did you know that the over-55 crowd is the fastest growing group of Facebook users? Did you know that Twitter is not the domain of the much younger "texting" crowd but is used by an older more savvy group of people? Did you ever wonder how and if these programs, along with others such as blogs and wikis, can be used to help genealogists? Wonder no more as we explore what makes up the oft-mystifying term "social networking" and how each program is currently being used by genealogists and family historians of all ages. To register for the free webinars go to:

<http://www.scgsgenealogy.com/JamboreeExtensionSeries2011.htm>



# **Some Ways to Share Your Genealogy and Family History Research in the Digital Age**

by Leah Allen

## **Blog**

A way of sharing all things genealogy and family history that is becoming more and more popular is blogging (sometimes called journaling for the 21st Century). There are several nice free options when it comes to finding a web host for your blog, Blogger and Wordpress being the most popular. Posterous is also an option that is becoming popular.

[www.blogger.com](http://www.blogger.com)

[www.wordpress.org](http://www.wordpress.org)

[www.posterous.com](http://www.posterous.com)

## **Create a Website**

You can pay if you want your own domain name (site URL), but there are also some nice free options out there worth looking into (especially if this is your first foray into creating and maintaining a website). Rootsweb offers its popular Freepages web space for people wanting a genealogy website. There is no limit to how many web pages or files you want to upload which is a perk and you have the option of creating and uploading web pages instead of using their WYSIWYG (What You See Is What You Get) editor. (<http://freepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/>)

A nice alternative to Freepages (especially if you have a Google account) is Google Sites. A perk of Google Sites is that you don't need much knowledge of website building. You can just pick out a template and start adding your information. You also don't have to deal with the top and bottom banner ads that come with Freepages web space and because it is a product of Google, you can link your Google Site to the other products under the Google umbrella like Maps and Calendar. ([sites.google.com/](http://sites.google.com/))

## **Self-Publish Your Work**

Blurb is a popular option because their free software is so easy to use and they give you the option of creating a book out of your existing PDF files and blog articles among other avenues. Once you're happy with the book you've created



on your computer screen you can purchase (and sell) copies of it in actual book form on Blurb. (<http://www.blurb.com/>)

Lulu is another self-publishing option similar to Blurb but with the added option of being able to create, buy and sell e-books (aka digital books). (<http://www.lulu.com/>)

## **Online Storage**

If you just want to put your information online but don't want to mess with anything fancy like a personal website or blog, sites like GoogleDocs and Scribd are options. You can upload your word processors files and have the option to make your documents public or private. Both are free but there are limits (Google has a space limit of 1024MB, though more storage can be purchased while Scribd has no total document limit, though you cannot upload a file larger than 100MB at a time). An added perk with Scribd is that you can chose to make certain documents for sale and an added perk with Google Docs is that uploading documents that you make publicly viewable will turn up in search results.

## **"But Why Should I Try Any of These?"**

There are two big reasons to try any or all of these. For one, each is another way of backing up your hard work - and we all know how important it is to save everything multiple times and in multiple places. The second reason is that it increases your digital profile, and by that I mean potential cousins (you know, the ones with the long sought after keys to your most stubborn brick wall ancestors) are more likely to find you the more places you have an online presence.

\*\*\*\*\*

An all-day seminar presented by the Sacramento German Genealogy Society, Saturday, April 16, 2011, **IN SEARCH OF OUR GERMAN ANCESTORS**, by Dr. Roger P. Minert, A.G.. 9:00 a.m. until 4:15 p.m. Pre-registration by April 9, *SGGS* members, \$40, \$50 per couple/\$55 per person at the door. Non-members, \$50 each/ \$60 per couple (\$55 per person at the door. **Marilyn Rauzi is looking for someone to go with her.** Contact her at: 209-465-8724



## **SAN JOAQUIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

**Thursday – May 19, 2011 - Calaveras County Author and Historian Sal Manna**

**R.E.I. Community Room – 5757 Pacific Avenue, Stockton – 7:00 PM**

Did you know that the 1960s "Big Valley" TV series was inspired by a woman rancher in West Calaveras? Or that both the first and the most famous olive orchards in the entire region were in Wallace? How about Capt. Messenger during the Civil War or Catts Camp or the San Joaquin & Sierra Nevada Railroad or the area's connections with Charles Darwin and Old Ironsides? Sal Manna, a Burson-based historian, writer and founder of the The Society for the Preservation of West Calaveras History will be on hand to enlighten us all about Calaveras County history.





## San Joaquin Genealogical Society

Dues are for the Year – January to December 2011

\$10 per member or \$15 per family

**Pay Your 2011 Dues Now**

Circle Appropriate:    Renewal    New Member //    Individual    Family

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City & 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

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

Make checks payable to San Joaquin Genealogical Society

**San Joaquin Genealogical Society**

P.O. Box 690243

Stockton, CA 95269-0243