



San Joaquin County Genealogical Society

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

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

Volume 34 Number 5

May 2013

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MEETINGS

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

General Meeting
Thursday, May 23
5:45 p.m.
Troke Library
502 W. Benjamin Holt
Stockton

Thursday, May 23, 2013

5:45 p.m.

Margaret Troke Library
502 W. Benjamin Holt Drive, Stockton

Little Manila: Filipinos in California's Heartland

This month, the SJCGS is pleased to welcome as our speaker Anita Bautista, Vice President of the Stockton Chapter of the Filipino American National Historical Society. In Ms. Bautista's multi-media presentation, she will include information on Filipino heritage and family history in San Joaquin County, providing examples of recorded biographies in paper and album form.

The Stockton Chapter of the Filipino American National Historical Society includes, among its projects, the provision of assistance to members and groups wishing to record Filipino American oral history or "Talk Story." The chapter's project goals include an archival collection, including historic photographs and videography.

As Vice President of the Stockton Chapter of this organization, Anita Bautista will speak to the current efforts of her organization in preserving local Filipino history, including the projects and long term goals listed on [their website](#).

We invite you to join with fellow members of the SJCGS in welcoming Anita Bautista to our May membership meeting. As we did last month, we will begin gathering at 5:45 p.m. on Thursday, May 23, so that the presentation may begin promptly at 6:00.

The meeting will include refreshments and time to meet and mingle with fellow members. If you know any friends who are interested in pursuing oral family histories—or genealogy in general—please consider inviting them to attend our meeting on the 23rd as your guest!

SJCGS Members: We Need YOU to Volunteer!

Our Genealogical Society has been experiencing positive results as we work together with staff at the Margaret Troke Library in north Stockton to provide on-going workshops for beginners in genealogy research.

The format for each Beginners' Workshop is simple: two brief instructional sessions in the morning, followed by a lunch break. We resume our program after lunch with a hands-on session in which SJCGS volunteers work directly with attendees one-on-one or in small groups, answering their questions and providing guidance to further their research skills.

The key to making this afternoon session a success is the volunteer contributions of our members. Without their help, this program would not be as successful as it is.

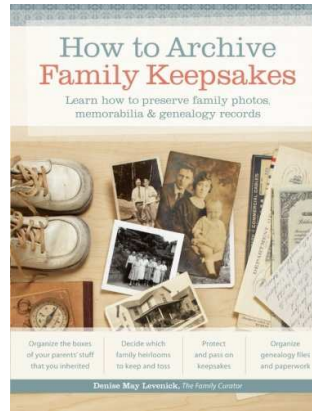
We would like to encourage **you** to consider becoming a part of this volunteer group, and join us on Saturday, **May 23** for our next Beginners' Workshop at Troke Library. If you would be able to help us this month, please [email President Lori Calhoon](#) or call her at 209-474-6448.

Did You Remember To Complete Your Membership Survey?

If you have not yet completed and returned your Membership Survey, we still value your opinion and would like to hear from you. Please check your April newsletter for a copy of the survey, and send your response to President Lori Calhoon as soon as possible. Thank you!

Congratulations to Winners of Last Month's Drawings!

Our April meeting featured two drawings.



Each person in attendance at our April 18 meeting was eligible to enter the drawing for Denise Levenick's new book, ***How To Archive Family Keepsakes***. We are honored that Denise donated a copy of her re-

cently-published book for the SJCGS drawing.

Congratulations to **Sylvia Perez** for winning this copy of Denise Levenick's book!

In addition, for those members who returned their Membership Survey response by April 18, all were entered in a drawing to receive a one-year membership in SJCGS. Congratulations to **Alice Callistro** for winning this drawing!

Come Early For This Month's Membership Meeting!

You may have noticed the new starting time for our monthly meetings, listed on the front cover of this newsletter. We began gathering at this new time for our meeting last month, and found that it allows us time to get to know one another as Society members. In addition, those brief extra fifteen minutes allow members to browse through speakers' displays, which can be very informative.

Please be sure to join us again **starting at 5:45 p.m.** for our general membership meeting on **Thursday, May 23**.

From Our President

Dear SJCGS Member,

Our society is having an eventful spring, with excellent activities coming up for you to enjoy.

Just recently we had a charming and engaging speaker, Elizabeth Lew, at our April 18 membership meeting, giving us stories about her grandparents and earlier ancestors who came to the Bay area from China and suffered discrimination, such as the Exclusion Acts. Elizabeth told us about the ancestral history of 5000 years she was able to trace back and what she had learned on her several trips to her ancestral village there.

A field trip tour of the Cambodian Buddhist Temple on April 27 was another chance to learn about the customs of other Asian-American citizens, many of whom live here in the San Joaquin Valley.

Coming up this month is the **Saturday, May 18**, beginner's genealogy workshop at the Margaret Troke Library in north Stockton. The morning presentations will be a continuation of previous sessions on military records and immigration and naturalization records. In the afternoon **we need SJCGS volunteers** to help participants with starting their research (mainly on the computers at the library).

Our **Thursday, May 23**, membership meeting at Troke Library will welcome our speaker, Anita Bautista of the Filipino American Historical Society, speaking on local Filipino family history. Please join us.

The proposed bylaw revision was approved at the April membership meeting. This should help the Board in serving our membership more efficiently by having better guidelines to follow. We will also be expanding on this by developing standing rules, policies and procedures (guidelines for officers and committees to follow). As we have mentioned before, we welcome all members to attend our Board meetings, to offer their ideas and suggestions. This is your organization and we need to fulfill the reasons why you joined.

The questionnaire had lower response than I expected, so we will not give up on our goal of getting better feedback from all members on what they want from SJCGS. Please send in your survey, if you have not already done so. Another copy was in the April newsletter. If you need another copy, please send me an email and I will send you another copy. Don't hesitate to add any suggestions to the survey. I'm sure I did not cover everything. Thank you for your help!

Lori Calhoon
SJCGS President, 2013
garycalhoon@comcast.net, 209-474-6448

Calendar of Upcoming Events

May

Monday, May 6: SJCGS Board meeting at 7:00 p.m. All members welcome to attend.

Wednesday, May 8: The California Genealogical Society hosts their members-only field trip to the State Library and State Archives. Further info [here](#). Not a member? Join [here](#) for \$40 per year.

Saturday, May 18: Beginners' Genealogy workshop at Margaret Troke Library from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. "Military Records and Immigration Research, Part II."

Thursday, May 23: General membership meeting at the Margaret Troke Library from 5:45 p.m. until 7:45 p.m. Featured speaker: Anita Bautista, Vice President of the Filipino American Historical Society, presenting on Filipino Heritage and Family History.

June

Monday, June 3: SJCGS Board meeting at 7:00 p.m. All members welcome to attend.

Friday-Sunday, June 7-9: Southern California Genealogy Jamboree in Burbank. For more information, see <http://genealogyjamboree.org/>

Thursday, June 20: General membership meeting. Potluck dinner and social gathering. Watch next month's newsletter for details.

Saturday, June 22: Beginners' Genealogy workshop at Margaret Troke Library from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. "How to Begin Your Genealogical Research."

Friday-Saturday, June 28-29: Family History Expo in Sacramento. For more information, see their website at <https://www.familyhistoryexpos.com/viewevent/index/62>.

Did You Know?

The San Joaquin County Genealogical Society traditionally takes a hiatus from our meeting schedule during summer months so members and officers may focus on independent research, travel projects—or just enjoying time with families and friends.

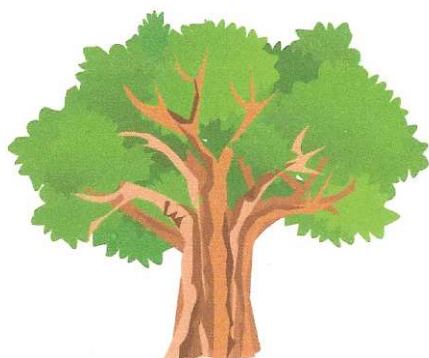
Following our June calendar of events, we will break for summer vacation. Our general membership meetings will resume on Thursday, **September 19**. Due to the Labor Day holiday, our next Board meeting will be held the preceding Monday, **August 26**.

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 **May 20, 2013**. Guest submissions pertaining to topics of *specific interest* to the San Joaquin County Genealogical Society are welcome. Please submit articles by Microsoft Word or plain text format to afamilytapestry@gmail.com.

Teen & Adult Program



A Free Genealogy Workshop for Beginners

Saturday, May 18, 2013
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

Session 1
11 a.m.

**More information on Immigration,
Naturalization, and Military Records!**
Presented by the San Joaquin Genealogical Society

Break for Lunch

Bring a brown bag lunch to enjoy between sessions

Session 2
1:30 p.m.

**Volunteers will help you research your
family histories through Internet Resources**

Space is limited. Pre-registration is required.
Sign up at the Troke Branch Library's Information Desk.
Participants may bring their own laptops.

Troke Branch Library
502 W. Benjamin Holt Dr., Stockton
(209) 937-8221 or (866) 805-7323 (READ)



STOCKTON
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
**PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

www.ssicpl.org

Fan and Follow SSJCPL



This free program is provided
through the generosity of the
San Joaquin Genealogical Society and
Friends of the Stockton Public Library

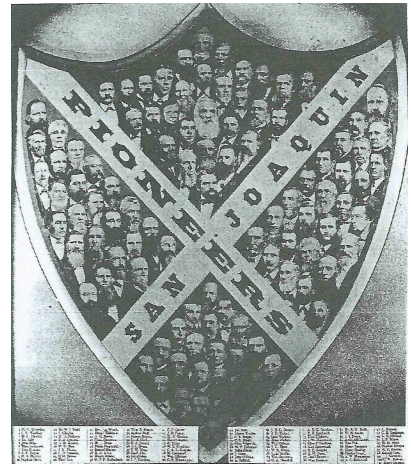
First Lady of Micke Grove Regional Park: Mrs. Julia Harrison Micke

Data compiled by Adine Wakefield Gnekow*

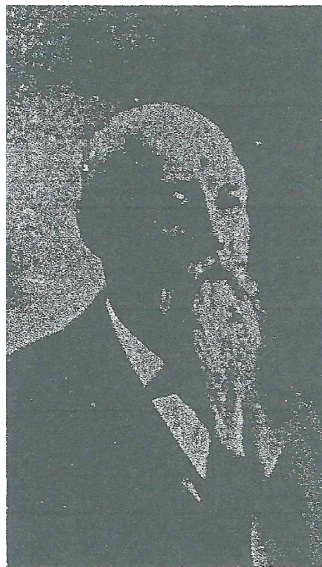
Julia Harrison (later known as Mrs. William Micke) came from a well established pioneer family of Stockton. Her grandfather, Joseph F. Harrison of Iowa, arrived in San Joaquin County by September 9, 1850, and settled in Linden, California. He raised stock and did teaming and farming. He was a member of the San Joaquin Society of Pioneers:



Julia Harrison's grandfather, Joseph F. Harrison, in photograph at left, obtained from lapel pin of the San Joaquin Society of Pioneers, pictured at right.



Julia Harrison's father, William Bruce Harrison (1849-1905), was a teacher, clerk, bookkeeper, president and manager of Farmers' Union and Milling Company, School Director, Councilman-at-large, and Mayor of Stockton. Her mother was Belle E. Griffiths (1854-1943).



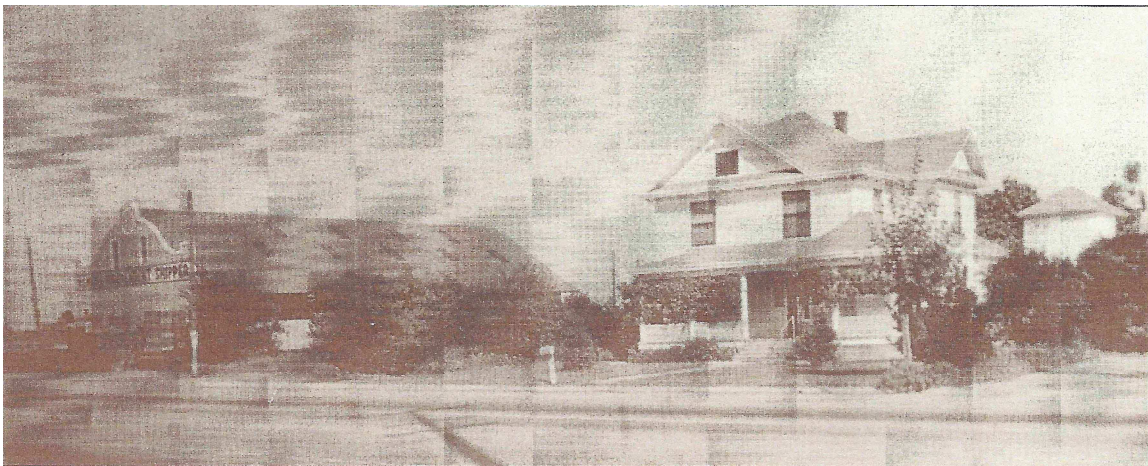
Julia Harrison's father, William Bruce Harrison

When Julia's father William Bruce Harrison died in 1905 at his home in Stockton (buried at Stockton Rural Cemetery), his wife Belle, daughter Julia (soon-to-be Mrs. William Micke) and a son were all living at the family home located at 444 West Poplar Street in Stockton, California.



*Photograph, left:
The home of Julia
Harrison and the
Harrison family
in Stockton, Cali-
fornia. The home
was built in 1892.*

Julia Harrison was a clerk at a savings bank before she married Mr. Micke in 1909. Mr. Micke was thirty four years old; Julia Harrison was thirty one years old. The marriage was held at William Micke's house in Lodi. Julia was a dainty bride; William was six feet tall.



The William Micke house with packing and shipping shed on Cherokee Lane in Lodi, California.

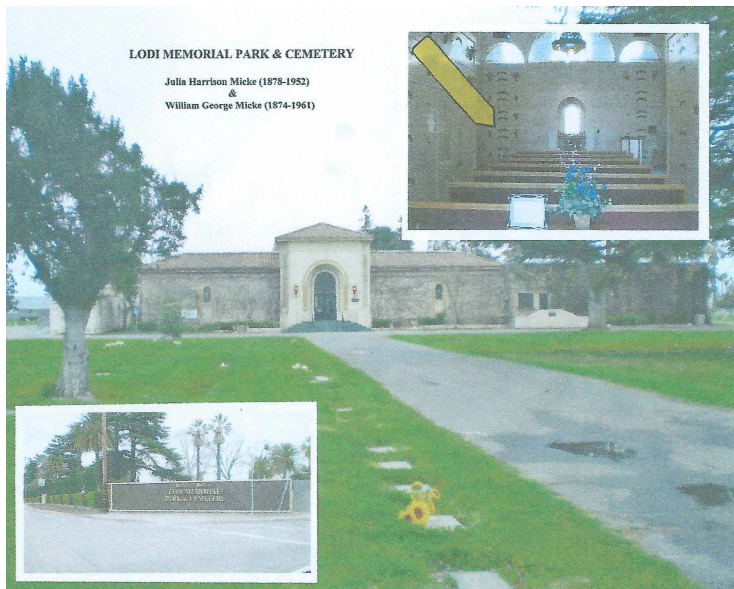
Though Julia and William Micke had no children, their dining room table had four people sitting around it for many years. The two additional people were Julia's mother, Belle Harrison Shaw, and Julia's stepfather, James Shaw. They lived with Julia and William Micke from at least 1920 until they both passed away (James Shaw in 1934; Belle Harrison Shaw in 1943. Belle is buried next to her first husband at Stockton Rural Cemetery).

Mrs. Micke enjoyed her mother's company for many years while they lived together at the Mickes' house. This mother and daughter team attended various functions together such as the Order of Eastern Star in Stockton, Hartford Women's Relief Corp. of Lodi and Ladies Auxiliary to California Pioneers at Haggin Museum in Stockton. In the 1930s, they probably even rode to and from their meetings in Mr. Micke's Franklin automobile. You can see his car in the Tree and Vine Building at San Joaquin County Historical Museum located within Micke Grove Regional Park (known to all as simply Micke Grove Park).

Julia and her mother also enjoyed being active members with various organizations. Every May, for example, this mother and daughter team would host a picnic at Micke's Grove for the Ladies Auxiliary to California Pioneers.

Julia was also a life member of Lodi Woman's Club and a member of Saint John's Episcopal Guild of Lodi.

An exhibit of Julia and William Micke's living room can be seen in the Erickson Building at San Joaquin County Historical Society and Museum. The Mickes' house furnishings were simple—even though Mr. Micke passed away in 1961 as a millionaire from growing grapes and fruit trees.



In 1952, Mrs. Julia Harrison Micke passed away with a sudden heart attack while visiting the Lodi Grape Festival with her husband, William Micke.

William Micke spent his remaining years eating at Hollywood Café, which is still in existence on Cherokee Lane in Lodi. It is located across from the Orchard Hardware store where Julia and William Micke had their home and packing shed.

Mr. Micke passed away in 1961.

Their house was demolished in 1967.

Julia and William Micke are entombed at the mausoleum located at Lodi Memorial Park and Cemetery at 5750 East Pine Street in Lodi, California.

Memorials of Julia and William Micke can be seen throughout Micke Grove Park. Three of them were built by William Micke in memory of his wife: a swimming pool in 1953 (which is

no longer in existence), a memorial building and auditorium in 1955, and a zoo in 1957.



Above: The Julia Harrison Micke Memorial Building, still used today for wedding receptions, club meetings and other community purposes.

Left: Life size bronze statues of Julia and William Micke, unveiled at the Micke Grove Zoo in 2007 during the Zoo's Fiftieth Year celebration.

In conclusion, William and Julia Micke believed that children should have a place where they could play. One can visualize William and Julia Micke sitting at their dining room table, dreaming and planning their oak grove becoming a recreational park for families and all to enjoy.

Wouldn't it be nice if they could see their oak grove today—simply known to all as Micke Grove Park.

***Sources:**

San Joaquin County Historical Society and Museum

The Beginnings of San Joaquin County Historical Museum, Micke Grove, Lodi, CA for Docent's Reading Material (early 1950s—March 1980), compiled by Celia E. Myers, Secretary for the San Joaquin County Historical Society.

San Joaquin County Historical Society and Museum Docent Training binder.

Lodi Historical Society newsletters.

Lodi News-Sentinel newspapers.

Early Stockton newspapers.

Google™ Maps Street View.

Adine Gnekow's photographs

Lastly, the pioneers of our Stockton/Lodi area and those who believe in preserving their history.



San Joaquín County 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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