



San Joaquín Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~sjgs>

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Board Meetings

Dec 6, 2010

7 p.m. at the home
of Virginia Kranz
Everyone welcome

Jan 3, 2011

Same time & place

General Meetings

Nov 18, 2010

See at right >>>

No meeting in December

Happy Holidays!



January 20, 2011 Dinner Meeting

UJ's Restaurant, 6 p.m.

Join Us for Our Special November Meeting:

The California Genealogy Society on the Road in San Joaquín County

REI Store Meeting Room

Stone Creek Shopping Center

5757 Pacific Avenue at Robinhood Drive

Room upstairs at rear of store. Elevator available.

Thursday, November 18, 2010

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

1-1:45 p.m. **California Genealogical Society Resources**

Past-President Jane Lindsey will present an overview of the Society's large library holdings and share information about upcoming events and programs.

2-3 p.m. **Some Brick Walls Are of Our Own Making**

Lavinia Schwarz's spell-binding talk will help you look at your own brick walls with new openness, ideas, strategies and historical insight.



Our Annual Dinner & Installation Meeting

Thursday, January 20, 2011

UJ's Restaurant at 7628 Pacific Ave, Stockton,
in the Hammer Ranch Shopping Center.

6 p.m.

Join us for an evening of socializing. We will be able to order from the regular menu. We also install our new officers at the January meeting.

A CALL FOR OFFICERS

Our current officers deserve kudos for their hard work over many years. They also deserve a break. One of the best ways to get involved in genealogy and our genealogy society is to become an officer. It doesn't take any special knowledge or skill, just dependability, a friendly smile, and a willingness to help. Board members work together to get the job done. There is always someone willing to give advice and to help. They're a great group of people to get to know.



Won't you please consider becoming an officer? Don't be shy. Just call our secretary and chair of the nominating committee, **Jean Ebenhack**, at 477-7558, and tell her you are willing to volunteer. Positions in the Society include President, Vice President, Secretary, Publicity Chair, Treasurer, Membership Chair, Newsletter Editor, WebMaster, Historian, Surname Registrar, Researcher, Books and Projects Manager, and Librarian. You can do it. We want your fresh outlook and new ideas. Please volunteer.

NEW BOOKS FOR OUR COLLECTION

Half of your annual dues are used to buy books for the genealogy collection at the Chavez Central Library. The book committee recently ordered the following:

The Great Migration, Volume VI, 1634-1635, to add to our collection of *The Great Migration* books

The 1890 Great Register of Arizona

Three volumes of *Oakland Cemetery Records, St. Paul, Minnesota*

Fairview Cemetery Records, Washington County, Minnesota

Brown Cemetery records, Sibley County, Minnesota

The Minnesota cemetery records have arrived. The others should arrive soon.

New books are held at the home of our librarian, Virginia Kranz, for one year before they go to the public library. As a member you may check these books out from her home. Give Virginia a call at 477-0634 to arrange a visit.

OCTOBER QUERIES

Our researcher, Charlie Lambaren answered seven queries from Florida, Missouri, and various California cites for multiple obituaries. Of course, as always, Charlie went the extra mile. For one he found the woman's occupation and copied an obituary for her husband as well. Another researcher was looking for an obituary or an article on a person's murder. When he found no article on a murder, Charlie checked the death certificate at the Recorder's office and noted that the death was listed as natural. One researcher was using an obituary to hunt for a male DNA donor.

The Society does San Joaquin County research for \$15.00 an hour plus expenses.



LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS TAKE BREAK

Each Tuesday members of our Society volunteer at the Chavez Central Library to help patrons with their genealogy and local history questions. We also keep the genealogy collection in order. With the holidays and library furloughs approaching, the volunteers plan to take a break until the new year. Make it your new year's resolution to join us there in January with your research goals in hand.

Remember, the Library offers the Library Edition of Ancestry.com for free at all of its branches. You can use library computers or connect your laptop to the Library's free Wi-Fi to access it.

IMMIGRANTS SPEAK IN THEIR OWN WORDS.

More than 12 million immigrants arrived at Ellis Island in New York Harbor between 1892 and 1954. Now you can hear first-person accounts of their ocean journeys, daily life in their home countries and experiences at the federal government's former processing station. The genealogy website Ancestry.com is providing free access to more than 1,700 taped interviews with immigrants, a collection that was once available only to visitors at the Ellis Island Immigration Center. Go to

<http://www.ancestry.com/immigration> . If you do not find a relative, you can still hear interesting stories by entering a country of origin and/or a range of years and choosing from the results. If you are not a paying or free member of Ancestry.com you will be asked to sign up for a free account to listen to this free content.

AARP magazine, Nov. 2010, Vol. 51, No. 9.



German From Russia Heritage Collection (GRHC)

Located at
North Dakota State University Libraries
1201 Albrecht Blvd., P. O. Box 6050
Fargo, ND 58108-6050
701-231-8416 710-231-7138 (Fax)

Researchers interested in locating information about their German-Russian ancestors who emigrated from South Russia may find assistance when contacting Michael Miller, director and bibliographer of the GRHC, at North Dakota State University. His email address is Michael.Miller@ndsu.edu. Even though he has been a busy member of the faculty since 1967, he returns emails very quickly.

Professor Miller's family (Muller) came to the U.S. during the 1880s from a former

German village near Odessa, Ukraine, and settled in Strasburg in south-central North Dakota. Growing up speaking both English and German, he became interested in the heritage, culture and history of his ancestors and has made it his life's career to preserve and document the rich heritage within the German-Russian communities in the U.S. He has contributed a special collection of learning resources to Valley City State University, which includes books, maps, and videotapes. Since 1999, he has produced award-winning documentaries including *The Germans from Russia: Children of the Steppe*, *Children of the Prairie*; *Schmeckfest: Food Traditions of the Germans from Russia*; *Prairie Crosses*, *Prairie Voices*; *Iron Crosses of the Great Plains*; *A Soulful Sound: Music of the Germans from Russia*; and others.

For those researchers who like to travel, Professor Miller conducts yearly tours to former German ancestral villages. Entitled "Journey to the Homeland," the tour has included Odessa, Ukraine and Stuttgart, Germany. He also organizes ancestral events throughout North Dakota and South Dakota. A calendar of events can be viewed at the website:

<http://www.ndsu.edu/grhc> . Another resource available to German-Russian researchers is Concordia University & the Center for Volga German Studies. Their website is <http://cvgs.cu-portland.edu/> . Information submitted by member Joan Bailey.



DIGITAL ARCHIVES OF OKLAHOMA

<http://www.digitalstatearchives.com/oklahoma>

This collection includes Oklahoma Territory military records, marriage and obituary indexes, and Dawes Roll card numbers for the Five Civilized Tribes.

HISTORICAL NEWSPAPERS ONLINE

<http://library.illinois.edu/hpnl/newspapers/historical.php>

While many of the newspapers listed on this page can only be used by University of Illinois members, many are free for us all. Ignore all of the titles at the top of the list. Scroll down to "Major Digital Newspaper Collections" and choose those that say "Freely available" in the right-hand column. At the bottom of the page is the really good stuff. You will find individual collections of newspapers for California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Las Vegas, Louisiana, Missouri, Northern New York, and parts of Massachusetts and Minnesota.



The California Digital Newspaper Collection (CDNC)

<http://cdnc.ucr.edu/newsucr>

This California collection deserves special mention for us in California. While it does not include any San Joaquin County newspapers, it does include the *San Francisco Call*, the *Sacramento Daily Union*, *Amador Ledger*, *Placer Times*, *Daily Alta California*, and a host of other publications for the dates 1846 through 1922. Doing a search for Lodi brought up an article on the opening of the "new" Carnegie Library in 1910 with a photograph. There were over 1500 article references for Lodi. I also stumbled across an obituary for our Dr. Asa Clark. On another topic I found many articles in the *San Francisco Call* duplicated from the Stockton papers. If you click on the page you are viewing (just a regular left click), you are given the option to view (and print) a PDF or a plain text version of the whole page.

2010 BEST STATE WEBSITES

<http://familytreemagazine.com/article/2010-best-state-websites>

The 75 sites singled out here (at least one per state) represent outstanding sources of information at the state level. *Family Tree Magazine* always does a great job of finding the best.

I CLIMBED MY FAMILY TREE

I climbed my family tree and found
it wasn't worth the climb.
And so I scrambled down convinced
it wasn't worth the time.
Some branches on my tree I found
were rotten to the core,
and all the tree was full of sap
and hung with nuts galore.
I used to brag my family up
before I made the climb,
but truth compels me now to tell
of those not worth a dime.
I beg my friends who boast aloud
of ancestors so great
to climb their family trees and learn
of those who weren't so straight.
I've learned what family trees are like.
That's why I scrambled down.
They're like a "tater vine" because
the best are underground.
--Unknown

Contributed, via *The Tree Shakers*, Los Banos GenSoc, Oct 2010, by Kay Brimhall who received it from a friend in Missouri

**The Little Brown Photo Album:
The Pretty "Laura Hammer," California**
[Part of a series of articles about different photographs.] By S.A. Mendenhall

Sue Mendenhall's research on San Joaquin County families continues this month in a separate file that will be included with this newsletter so that you can enjoy the story uninterrupted. I believe Hammer Lane in Stockton gets its name from the family discussed this time and next.

THEY CAME THROUGH CANADA

In the early 19th century many immigrants, particularly from Britain, Scandinavia, northern Europe, or Russia, came to the United States through Canada. For these immigrants there are no U.S. immigration records. In the 1880s the U.S. imposed more restrictions on its immigrants, which brought even more immigrants through Canada to avoid the trouble and the delays of U.S. immigration. By 1890 steamship companies were even advertising Canada as a more desirable route to the U.S. While most of these immigrants still came from northern Europe or Russian, more ships started carrying Italians, Greeks, and others from Mediterranean ports to Canada.

In 1894 the U.S. Immigration Service entered into an agreement with Canadian railroads and steamship lines serving Canadian ports. The steamships would complete U.S. passenger ship manifests, and U.S. Customs inspectors issued "Certificates of Admission" to those who had been inspected and passed Canadian quarantine. Railroads required all passengers who landed in Canada within the last thirty days to present a Certificate of Admission before boarding a U.S.-bound train. When the train came to the border another U.S. inspector collected the Certificates of Admission.

At land border ports, inspectors also prepared another manifest list called "Form 1-Canada." Similar to a ship passenger manifest, the form was entitled "List or Manifest of Alien Passengers Applying for Admission to the United States from Foreign Contiguous Territory." This border port manifest includes immigrants who had been in Canada for months or years and applied for admission at the border.

Before October 1, 1906, the records include only those immigrants born outside Canada. Beginning on that date the records include Canadians. The Form 1-Canada contains all the information

required under U.S. immigration law and sometimes more.

Commonly referred to as The St. Albans Lists, these lists are found in two of the National Archives' St. Albans Lists publications, divided by geography: Manifests of Passengers Arriving in the St. Albans, VT, District through Canadian Pacific and Atlantic Ports, 1895-1954 (NARA microfilm publication M1464) and Manifests of Passengers Arriving in the St. Albans, VT, District through Canadian Pacific Ports, 1929-1949 (NARA microfilm publication M1465).



In the 1930s the WPA created a series of Soundex indexes to these records. There is a comprehensive index to all arrivals between 1895 and 1917 and the majority of arrivals from Canada into Eastern and Midwestern States to 1927. The Soundex indexes are divided chronologically: one before and one after 1924 (NARA microfilm publications M1461 and M1463). The later St. Albans Soundex covering the years 1924 to 1952 (NARA microfilm publication M1463) is a much smaller set. This later list often includes people who arrived illegally or who overstayed their visas and had to apply for legal entrance late.

If you are interested in the St. Albans Lists, you may read the full article from which this summary is written in *Prologue Magazine*, a publication of the National Archives:

<http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2000/fall/us-canada-immigration-records-1.html> .

The Chavez Central Library has a subscription to this entertaining glossy magazine, and all issues can be read online at <http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/>

After reading the current issue, click on “**Previous Issues**” in the left-hand column to read more or “**Genealogy Notes**” for a subject list of genealogy articles. From *Prologue Magazine*, Fall 2000. Vol 32, No. 3.

IMMIGRATION NATION

A chart in *Family Tree Magazine* shows the countries that provided the ten largest immigration groups between 1820 and 1975:

Germany	6.95 million
Italy	5.27 million
Great Britain	4.85 million
Ireland	4.72 million
Austria Hungary	4.31 million
Russia	3.35 million
Sweden	1.27 million
Norway	820,000
France	740,000
Greece	630,00

Family Tree Magazine, January 2010, p. 31.

1852 Calif State Census

California's only state census has never been available to the general public. Though the original sits at the State Archives, it was never microfilmed. The DAR made a typescript of the census, but it left out the Chinese and any name that was too hard to read, and of course, any typescript has errors. It was a noble effort, complete with index. The Chavez Central Library has a microfilm copy. Still, we've been waiting for something better for a long time. So, it is particularly exciting that Ancestry.com now includes an online copy of the original. The details are excellent. Everyone is listed, including age, sex, color [White, Negro, Mulatto], birth place, and last place of residence before coming to California. Then there are check marks to indicate if the person is a white male or female, and if a citizen over 21; a Negro male or female and if over 21, Mulatto male or female and if over 21;

Domesticated Indian male or female and if over 21; and if a foreign resident male or female and if over 21. In El Dorado County I saw a “C” used in the race column for someone who was Chinese, but in Calaveras County the census enumerator called a whole column of Chinese miners white. Ancestry lets you choose Oriental as a race. Since the census had no official category for Asians, Ancestry must have created this option from the birthplace column.

CAN I TRUST SOMEONE ELSE'S FAMILY TREE?

We all get clues and direction from looking at other people's family trees in books and online. But can you trust what you see?

First, does the person cite source? Are most of those sources primary sources such as vital records, censuses, deeds, military records, and the like? Other sources such as printed genealogies and history books, family Bibles, oral histories, and newspaper articles are still useful, but require even more back up.

Online genealogies are particularly suspect because we are all so anxious to get our work online that we include guess work and possibilities instead of verified facts.

So, feel free to make copies of those records you find, but recheck their sources or look for sources where none are given. Never copy from a book without copying the list of sources too.

And when you look for “the preponderance of evidence” (that is several sources leaning to the same conclusion), be sure it is not really ONE source being cited over and over again.

I have a friend who claims to have traced her family back to Moses online. I just smile.

New Publications of the

San Joaquin Genealogical Society

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.

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

Please Note: If you are a member of the San Joaquin Genealogical Society, please deduct \$2.00 off of each book ordered.

Sub Total -----

CA residents add 9 % sales tax -----

Postage \$2.50 for the first book and 50 cents -----
for each additional book.

Total -----

Mail orders to

San Joaquin Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 690243

Stockton, CA 95269-0243

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Address _____

City, State, Zip _____



San Joaquín Genealogical Society

Dues are for the Year – January to December 2011

\$10 per member or \$15 per family

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Circle Appropriate: Renewal New Member // Individual Family

Name _____ Phone # _____

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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

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P.O. Box 690243

Stockton, CA 95269-0243