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Lambaren

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### **MEETINGS**

Board Meeting – Monday,  
Dec. 5th – 7 pm at the home  
of Virginia Kranz, 6 West  
Loretta, Stockton

General Meeting - Thursday,  
Nov. 17th - 7 pm at R.E.I.  
Community Room, 5757  
Pacific Avenue, Stockton

## **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)**

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## **GERMAN RESEARCH Hints & Tips For Doing Research in Germany And How To Prepare Before You Go**

**Thursday – November 17, 2011**

**7:00 PM**

**R.E.I. Community Room**

**5757 Pacific Avenue, Stockton**

Be sure to join us for this special presentation as one of our own, SJGS member Donna Shreve, shares hints and tips on how to conduct research onsite in Germany and how to prepare before you go. Donna recently returned from a trip to Germany and will share her experiences with us.

The Community Room is located on the second floor at the back of the store. There is an elevator available.



## RESEARCH REQUESTS

Charlie Lambaren reports he has received 6 requests for research from October 4<sup>th</sup> to November 7<sup>th</sup>. All requests came via email. Out of the six, Charlie agreed to conduct research for two individuals:

- 1) Diana from Nevada requested 3 obituaries for the BLAIR and JEFFRIES families.
- 2) Glenda from Seaside wanted information on the WILLIS family. After communicating back and forth 15 times with Glenda, the final result was several obituaries, information from our San Joaquin County index books and an adventure at the cemetery. I could not find a headstone for Christine WILLIS, buried 1894. Charlie took his grave digging tools and eventually found the lot marker buried about 6 inches deep. A headstone wasn't located and it is possible that it was maybe it had been made of wood and has since disintegrated.

Great job Charlie, keep up the good work. All money that is received for Charlies efforts are deposited into the general fund after reimbursing any expenses Charlie may have had.

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## SURNAME BOOKS and ANCESTRY CHARTS

Melinda Lambaren reports that the Surname Books and Ancestry Charts are back in the Chavez Central Library. They are located upstairs in the genealogical reference section behind the volunteer table on the bottom shelf. Due to privacy issues, each submitter name was removed and replaced with a number. If there are any questions please contact Melinda Lambaren at [melrlamb@juno.com](mailto:melrlamb@juno.com)

Alice Callistro and Joan Bailey teamed up with Melinda to complete this arduous task. Thank you ladies!

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## REMINDER

Volunteers from the SJGS are on hand to help you with your research each and every Tuesday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Chavez Central Library located at 605 North El Dorado Street, Stockton. You will find them upstairs in the genealogical reference section towards the back of the building.



New Publications of the

## **San Joaquin Genealogical Society**

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### Certificates of Deaths in the City of Stockton 1898 – 1907

San Joaquin County, California.

\$15.00

Deceased alphabetically listed by years. Giving all vital information on death certificate. Index to parents.

Soft cover, 101 pages

### Index to Burial or Removal Permits

San Joaquin County Records 1912 – 1922

\$20.00

Alphabetical. Gives name of deceased, age, & date of death

Soft cover, 169 pages

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**Special sale** We still have a few volumes of "Certificates of Deaths in the City of Stockton 1893 – 1897 Soft cover, 117 pages

These books originally sold for \$12.00 Now only \$9.00

\$9.00

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Sub Total \_\_\_\_\_

CA residents add .08% sales tax \_\_\_\_\_

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

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## "The Swem Index"

by John D. Beatty

Virginia is a challenging state in which to research. While genealogists will find extensive published sources for many counties, including histories and record extracts, they also have to deal with the significant loss of original records through courthouse fires. However, many useful sources from the seventeenth, eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, even for so-called "burned counties," have been published in various periodicals and statewide sources.

The essential tool for accessing names in these sources is E. G. Swem's "Virginia Historical Index" (Gloucester, MA: Peter Smith, 1965) (Gc 975.5 Sw41vi). Often referred to simply as the "Swem Index," it provides access to tens of thousands of names, mostly for the colonial period, from several major Virginia periodical series: "Lower Norfolk County Antiquary," the "Virginia Historical Register," the "Virginia Magazine of History," "Tyler's Quarterly," and the first and second series of the "William and Mary Quarterly." These journals, in their early years, published a great variety of historical and genealogical information, including family histories and abstracts of numerous original records, manuscript letters, and articles of local interest on historical subjects. Swem also covered two major secondary sources for the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries: the "Calendar of Virginia State Papers" and "Henning's Statutes at Large," both of which contain legislative records from the House of Burgesses, including many names of petitioners and correspondents to that body.

Arrangement in the Swem Index is alphabetical. After each name, users will see a volume number of the source followed by a letter code for that source, then the page number where the name can be found. For example, among several references for Hutchins Burton, one will find "8C120" and "17W(1)228." The first indicates volume 8 of the "Calendar of Virginia State Papers," page 120; the second refers to volume 17 of the "William and Mary Quarterly," first series, page 228. Swem went beyond the simple listing of names to include a variety of subject references to places and specific types of documents, such as family Bibles, slave records, and petitions. Again using the Hutchins Burton example, we find a reference specifically to his slaves in one entry.

The Swem Index is a useful tool for anyone doing research in colonial Virginia and should be one of the first sources consulted.





## NEWEST MEMBERS OF THE SAN JOAQUIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Larry & Connie Saculla – Stockton

Pattie Williams - Stockton

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### SJGS MEMBER SURVEY RESULTS

It came to my attention recently that the results from the survey I asked members to complete last summer had not yet been published in the newsletter. I apologize for the oversight and present them to you here and now! 29 people responded to the survey. This was more than I had expected and I thank each and every one of you for taking the time to let us know your thoughts.

One of the questions asked if having our meetings 5 times per year was too few, too many or just enough. 16 did not respond, 5 wanted more meetings and 8 answered that it was just right.



As to the question of the day of the week and time of our meetings: 11 indicated that Thursday was a good day and 16 had no preference. 14 prefer the meetings to be held in the afternoon, 6 like the evening and 9 did not respond.

Speakers and topics of interest – 3 of you requested European research [ the topic for our next meeting is German research], 4 want more local history presentations, 7 want more on how to do internet searching, 1 thinks we need to have special interest group meetings, 3 want military records, 2 want more beginner presentations, 1 would like using old photos for clues in research, 1 wants church records, 1 wants a talk about the Netherlands and 5 said they had no preference.

In what area do you personally need help with in your research? - 8 need help with internet research, 8 want help with library/archives research, 5 want help with genealogy software programs, 3 want help with using ancestry.com searches and 5 skipped this question.

What can the SJGS do to better meet your needs? - A whopping 16 of you said that the society needs to have more of an online presence. 18 of you want a way to communicate with other members or meet socially outside of the regular meeting. Only 5 chose not to respond to this question.

We hope to address some of this issues at our next meeting – Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the R.E.I. Community Room, 5757 Pacific Avenue, Stockton. Up for discussion are forming special interest groups and our online presence.

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## A NEW BLOG ABOUT SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY RESOURCES

SJGS member Karen Ramos has a new blog that is all about resources in San Joaquin County. You can find it at:

[stocktoncaresearch.blogspot.com](http://stocktoncaresearch.blogspot.com)



## IN SEARCH OF CONSTANCE MILLER'S FAMILY

by Charlie Lambaren, SJGS Research Chair

After reading the book "Lady Constance, The Collected Letters of Constance Miller," edited by Marian Jacobs, I wanted to know more about Ms. Miller's pioneer family. Using the book as a starting point, information from internet searches, our society index books and a death certificate I was able to put together a simple family history of Constance's family.

Constance's father was Thomas Oxley Miller, born about 1854 in Columbia, Tuolumne County, California. His father was Hezekiah Miller, born about 1795 in New Jersey. His mother was Priscilla LNU (Last Name Unknown), born about 1812 in Pennsylvania. Hezekiah and Priscilla were married in the early 1840's.

Children born to Hezekiah and Priscilla were a set of twins : Frank and Emma, born in Pennsylvania about 1846. The family moved to Cincinnati, Ohio where a daughter Caroline was born about 1848 and a son Lyndal, born about 1850. Between 1850 and 1854, the family moved from Ohio to Columbia, Tuolumne County, California where Hezekiah was working as a miner. This is where a second set of twins, Oxley and Willard H. about were born about 1854. No mention of daughter Emma is made in the 1860 census.

I was not able to find Hezekiah living with the family in 1870, but I did find Priscilla Miller as head of the family and still in Columbia with sons H. Lyndal, Thomas Oxley and Willard H.. No mention of daughter Caroline is made in the 1870 census. Frank Miller, Oxley's older brother, was residing in Stockton as early as 1869. I believe Priscilla moved the family to Stockton between 1870 and 1876 as Willard, Oxley's twin brother, was residing in Stockton in 1876. In the 1880 census, Priscilla is head of house and widowed, living in Stockton with sons Frank, H. Lyndal and twins Oxley and Willard.

While growing up in the mother lode, T. Oxley Miller, Constance's father, developed a great love of the outdoors. At age twenty he decided to become an artist. Moving to San Francisco he enrolled in School of Design, moving back to Stockton four years later in 1878. He was a life long friend of artist William Keith (1838-1911) whose work he greatly admired. While teaching in Oakland one of his pupils was artist James Swinnerton (1875-1974).



Thomas Oxley Miller "Beautiful Woman"  
oil on canvas



T. Oxley Miller established a studio in the Hooks building, giving lessons to pioneer family children. This is where he first met his future wife, Anita J. Galgiani who was the daughter of pioneer Natale Galgiani and Cattarina Peri of Cavigliano, Switzerland. T. Oxley Miller and Anita J. Galgiani were married in Stockton in 1897. Constance, born 7 May 1898 in Stockton, was their only child.

Some of Oxley's art work was shown at the Chicago World's Fair in 1893. While the Haggin Museum in Stockton has much of his work, he is also represented in the Hearst Art Gallery at St. Mary's College in Moraga, California. Oxley passed away in 1909 at the age of 54 and is buried in Rural Cemetery in Stockton.

Oxley's wife, Anita J. Galgiani Miller was born in Stockton in 1875. She was one of seven children born to Natale and Cattarina Galgiani. Anita was an artist in her own right, painting in oils and watercolors which she learned from her husband. She passed away in 1954 at the age of 79 and was buried in San Joaquin Catholic Cemetery.

Natale Galgiani was born about 1844 in Switzerland, immigrating to the United States in 1859. He became a naturalized citizen about 1871 in Stockton, California. His occupation was principally a gardener all his life. He passed away in 1923 at the age of 78 and is buried in San Joaquin Catholic Cemetery.

Anita's mother Cattarina Peri Galgiani was born 1851 in Switzerland. She married Natale around 1870. Her father was Giuseppe Peri, born about 1811 in Switzerland, immigrated to the United States in the early 1860's. Giuseppe passed away in 1878 in Stockton at the age of 68. He was buried in the old Catholic cemetery which was located southeast of the downtown area of Stockton.

Oscar Galgiani, a nephew of Anita was born in 1903 and is a third generation Stocktonian. Oscar's great grandfather was Swiss born Vincent Galgiani, a farmer who later had extensive business interest in a fish market, the Russ House and Grand Central Hotel.

As a teenager, Oscar took painting lessons from his aunt, Anita Miller. At the age of 24, he enrolled at the California School of Fine Arts in San Francisco. He exhibited paintings and wood block prints at Paul Elder's Gallery, Stanford University and Crocker Gallery in Sacramento, California.



Oscar Galgiani "San Rafael Creek - 1851" mural in San Rafael Post Office

Oscar painted two large murals in the Stockton courthouse 1963-64. Also at the San Rafael post office and one at Yosemite Elementary School in Manteca, California. He was a frequent exhibitor at the DeYoung Museum in San Francisco. Oscar was commissioned to paint full-length portraits of Governor E. G. Brown which hangs in the state capital and one of Captain Charles Weber. Oscar passed away in Stockton in 1994 at the age of 91 and is buried in Rural Cemetery in Stockton.

While most of the Galgiani's who settled in Stockton 1860-1870, immigrated from Switzerland, a few were from Italy. Natale Galgiani came from Cavigliano, Switzerland located about 6 miles north of the Italian border in the Alps region. The Peri family came from the same areas also.

I would suppose the most interesting thing that came from my research is that pioneer families came to the Stockton area 20 to 30 years after the founding of the city and remained in this area. These two families produced three well known artists whose works are located throughout California.





## San Joaquin Genealogical Society

Dues are for the Year – January to December 2011

\$10 per member or \$15 per family

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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**

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P.O. Box 690243

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