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*East Bay Genealogical Society*  
**The Live Oak**

September/October 2008

Oakland, California

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Wednesday, September 10, 2008

CIVIL WAR VETERANS IN THE **LIVERMORE** VALLEY

Our speaker will be Richard Finn, who is presently writing a book about the Civil War veterans who lived in the Livermore Valley in California. This promises to be a very interesting program.

OCTOBER MEETING

Wednesday, October 8, 2008

## LET'S GET ORGANIZED

Organizing your genealogy... the bane of every genealogist! We could all benefit from some help or hints in this department. This meeting will be a roundtable discussion led by Sally Stevens and the Board on this topic. We will learn what works, good points on record keeping, good tips on visiting a library, etc.

Almost everyone probably has a solution that works for them in organizing some area of their research and files. Bring your ideas, hints, solutions AND your problems and hang-ups! If you wish, contact the Board ahead of time with your questions, so we can be prepared at the meeting.

Let's put our heads together and see how we can help one another manage all those notes, files, photos and documents we have so meticulously collected over the years.

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Martha Whitaker gave us a most interesting talk on the Sutro Library. She provided a very helpful handout, which is available in our library for those who missed this meeting. Martha gave each of us some idea of what we might find helpful among Sutro's vast collection for the localities we are researching. Many members are enthused to visit Sutro Library, and we are planning to do so in November.

I hope everyone had a pleasant summer, in spite of the not always pleasant weather we have been experiencing lately. Did you take a research trip that you would like to tell us about? Please step up and do so! You would have a captive audience and your tales and stories ARE worth sharing.

**EBGS NEWS**

Since we had no meetings, either Board or otherwise, in August there isn't a lot of news to report!

However, we are always looking for programs for our meetings. If you are aware of someone you think would be interested in speaking to our group, please do not hesitate to let President Sally Stevens or Program Chairman John Wheat know about them.

Someone mentioned it might be interesting to have a private investigator speak to our group telling us how THEY find people. Anyone out there know a private investigator we might contact?

Do you **have** a particular **area** or topic **you** would like to **have a program on**? Please let us know. We want to keep our members interested, involved, informed and inspired.

EBGS will print your queries free, when space allows. PLEASE keep them brief and succinct. Include your name and address or email contact for reply. Send them to: EBGS/Queries, P.O. Box 20417, Oakland, CA 94620-0417 or email them to [c-kstorm@iuno.com](mailto:c-kstorm@iuno.com) - Subject: Queries

***IOWA, KANSAS AND NEBRASKA CIVIL WAR VETERANS, Compilation of the Death Rolls of the Departments of Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska, Grand Army of the Republic, 1883-1948.***

A recently published book by Dennis Northcott.

Previous publications by this author include:

*Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Illinois; Transcriptions of the Death Rolls, 1879-1947* and

*Indiana Civil War Veterans: Transcriptions of the Death Rolls of the Department of Indiana. Grand Army of the Republic, 1882-1948.*

To see if your ancestor might be listed in these books, or to order copies of these books, visit Dennis Northcott's website at: [www.ngpublications.com](http://www.ngpublications.com)

**Monterey County Genealogical Society and Monterey/Seaside Family History Center present**

**HERITAGE HARVEST CENTRAL COAST GENEALOGY CONFERENCE**

Saturday, October 13, 2008, 8:30 a.m. –4:30 p.m., 1024 Noche Buena St, Seaside, CA.

Cost is \$30 including lunch.

Several classes available led by reputable and knowledgeable speakers.

Visit [www.mocogenso.org](http://www.mocogenso.org) for more information or write to MoCoGenSo, 22309 Capote Drive, Salinas, CA 93908.

## Tuolumne County, California - A Thumbnail Sketch

Nestled in the heart of California's Gold Country, mostly in the Sierra foothills, is Tuolumne County. One of the state's original counties, it is small, but rich in history of the Gold Rush era. Much of the county was occupied by the MiWuk Indians before the Spanish arrived in California. Within its' boundaries lie the northern **half of Yosemite** National Park, the Stanislaus **National** Forest, and Emigrant Wilderness. The population in 2000 was **54,501**.

The County Seat, Sonora, is the only incorporated city in the county. It was originally settled by miners from Sonora, Mexico in 1848. **Other** small communities date back to old mining days **and** Spanish and Indian occupation with names like Chinese Camp, Confidence, Mocassin and MiWuk Village.

The community of Mocassin is a "company town" owned entirely by the city and county of San Francisco. Its' citizens maintain the Hetch-Hetchy Dam **and** Mocassin Powerhouse which supplies water **and** power to San Francisco.

Columbia State Historic Park is the best preserved Gold Rush town in the state. Jamestown, the spot where **gold** was first discovered in the county, is home to Tuolumne County Railtown 1887 State Historic Park.

Tuolumne County Courthouse - home to the County Recorder  
2 South Green Street  
Sonora, CA 95370  
209-533-5531

Tuolumne County Library, Sonora Main Branch  
480 Greenly Road  
Sonora, CA 95370  
209-533-5507  
Open 10 a.m. Monday through Saturday.

Tuolumne County Genealogical Society  
A very active society whose members have **devoted** much of their time to transcribing early records throughout the county. They maintain a library in the county museum building. It is open Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

158 West Bradford Avenue  
Sonora, CA 95370  
209-532-1317

Tuolumne County Historical Society  
Mailing Address: P. O. Box 695  
Sonora, CA 95370  
209-532-1317

You are in for a treat when you visit or research in Tuolumne County, California.

## **GENEALOGY OR FAMILY HISTORY?**

While it is common for people to use the terms 'genealogy' and 'family history' interchangeably, they actually have a subtle but different meaning. *Genealogy*, the study of ancestry and descent, refers more to the actual search for ancestors, **while** *family history*, the narrative of the events in your ancestors lives, denotes the telling of your family's story. Family history is genealogy come alive.

To experience the difference between genealogy and family history, place yourself in the world of an ancestor. For the best experience, select one for which you only have a few dull, dry facts; such as birth date, hometown, marriage, children and burial location. Then try to learn the circumstances of his/her life —what they did to put food on the table, how they spent their leisure time, their position in the town or community, the cost of living in effect at the time, the types of food they ate, the clothes they wore, diseases which were prevalent for the time period, the traditions they followed.

To dig up the answers to these questions, you can turn to a variety of historical resources: timelines, social histories, community histories, newspaper accounts, biographies, etc. The records which gave you the names and dates for your ancestors are also a source for potential clues. Census records may be able to tell you about your ancestor's neighborhood, occupations, educational background, and financial situation. Wills may provide insight into your ancestor's feelings, friends, and possessions. Immigration and naturalization records may offer a look at your ancestor's motivations for moving to a new country.

In your quest to learn more about where you came from, don't limit yourself to the 'genealogy' search. Flesh out the lives of your ancestors, tell the stories of your living family members, and bring your *family history* to life.

Previously printed in Vol. XXIII No. 6, January, 2008 newsletter of the San Ramon Valley Genealogy Society, from: About.com: Genealogy Tip of the Day.

## **ON THE SUBJECT OF FAMILY HISTORY...**

Are you writing the tales of your childhood experiences down for your grandchildren and their grandchildren to enjoy? We weren't always THIS old, though the younger generation might think so. And, we most likely did not cross the country by covered wagon. But, we did each have unique, comical, or awkward experiences during our growing up years and those little tales let our progeny know who we are.

My grandkids love the story of when I chased a little girl (whom I considered a big pest) home with my father's shotgun pointed at her back the entire block! I had fired that gun in the basement many times and I knew it was not loaded, but poor little Mary Jane didn't know that! They have also enjoyed the tales of the many cats we have owned over the years and the mischief those cats got into.

Your stories do not need to be grammar-perfect. The grandkids will enjoy them in spite of the fact that you are not a professional writer. Trust me! Get those little tales down on paper and bring some smiles to their faces and perhaps some amazement at your antics or accomplishments.

Would you just look at the expression on the 'other' little girl's face!  
That is absolutely priceless!



THIS IS TOO SWEET FOR WORDS!!!

A six-year-old boy told his father he wanted to *marry* the little girl across the street. The father, being modern and well-schooled in handling children, hid his smile behind his hand.

'That's a serious step/ he said. 'Have you thought it out completely''

'Yes,' his young son answered. 'We can spend one week in my room and the next in hers. It's right across the street, so I can am home if I get scared of the dark.'

'How about transportation?' the father asked

'I have my wagon, and we both have our tricycles,' the little boy answered.

The boy had an answer to every question the father raised. Finally, in exasperation, his dad asked, 'What about babies? When you're married, you're liable to have babies, you know.'

'We've thought about that, too,' the little boy replied. 'We're not going to have babies. Every time she lays an egg, I'm going to step on it!'

**Listen to Genealogy Podcasts** by Bill George <http://www.billgeorge.com>

Did you know you can easily listen to Genealogy Podcasts, which are very much like radio shows, on your computer? A podcast is an audio file produced weekly and usually free, covering every topic you can think of including genealogy.

When you play podcasts on your computer they seem like a radio broadcast and do not take up a lot of space. Podcasts are created as MP3 files, the same highly compressed as standard music MP3 files.

There are a number of different Genealogy shows available for your computer. Just download a podcast and play it with Mac's Quicktime Player or Windows Media player. Double click on the file and start listening. Be sure to turn on the speakers on the computer and the volume.

Being a genealogy novice, I'm getting up to speed by listening to the very knowledgeable producers of genealogy podcasts. Each podcast has a good web site with show notes supporting it. You can easily retrieve the helpful internet destinations discussed in the broadcast. Here are a few examples:

**The Genealogy Guys Podcast** - <http://www.genealogyguys.com>  
by George Morgan and Drew Smith. Click on Year/Month desired where it says "Archives". George Morgan authored the official guide to Ancestry.Com.

**Family Roots Radio Podcast** - <http://www.familyrootsradio.com>  
by Kory L. Meyerink. Click on any of about 13 archived podcasts produced in 2007. Kory is an acclaimed author, teacher and professional researcher. See <http://www.progenealogists.com/kory.htm>.

**Dick Eastman's Podcast** -  
<http://blog.eogn.com/eastmanonlinegenealogy/podcasts/>

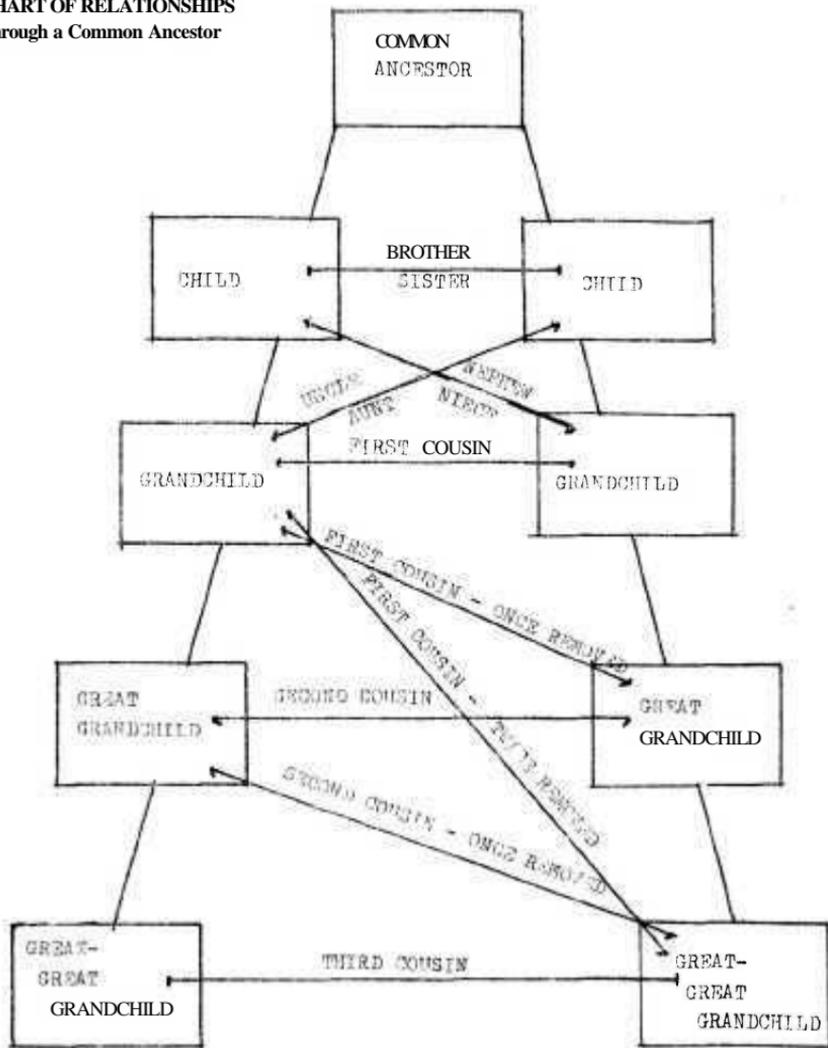
By Dick Eastman. Click on any of 10 archived podcasts from 2006-7. Dick Eastman owns Eastman Online Genealogy Newsletter (E0GN.COM).

**Genealogy Gems Podcast** - <http://www.genealogygemspodcast.com/>  
by Lisa Louise Cooke. Click on Year/Month desired where it says Archives. This is a very home town informal podcast.

**Genealogy Podcast Web site** - I did a search on Google using "Genealogy Podcast" that revealed the above web sites. There also is a web site devoted to Genealogy Podcast and Broadcast Schedules - <http://audio.genealogytoday.com>

For those who use **iTunes**, you can receive the above podcasts free, and automatically receive new episodes each week to your computer. In iTunes, go to the "Apple Store" and do a search on "Genealogy". Subscribe to the ones you like (for free) and play them on your computer or iPod.

**CHART OF RELATIONSHIPS**  
Through a Common Ancestor



# EAST BAY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 20417  
OAKLAND, CA 94620-0417

## MEETINGS

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday each month – 10am

Family History Center Library  
4766 Lincoln Avenue, Oakland, CA

**Visitors welcome!** Typically a speaker discusses genealogical record sources, research techniques, research tips. Occasionally, working meetings are held at sites of genealogical interest.

## MEMBERSHIP

Individual/Organization - \$15.00.

Family - \$15.00 + \$7.50 each additional person

Foreign - \$20.00

Request an application by writing to our P. O. Box or download from our website.

## LIBRARY

Financial Building, Terrace Level  
405 -14<sup>th</sup> St. at Franklin, Oakland, CA

Open Monday - 9 am to 4 pm

Phone: 510-451-9599

Genealogical material with emphasis on Alameda County and Oakland Bay Area. Collection of Society of Mayflower Descendants also available on site.

## PUBLICATIONS

**1890 Great Register of Alameda County**  
(1998) 1500+ names from voter registration records. Alphabetical with name, age, birth place and residence. **\$26.00**

## Genealogical Research Guide, Oakland, CA Main Library

A comprehensive guide to resources available in the Oakland History Room and other areas of the Oakland Main Library. **\$6.50**

Prices include S&H. Order by downloading form from our website or send check or money order to EBGS, P.O. Box 20417, Oakland, CA 94620-0417

## WEBMASTER

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