

THE LIVE OAK

EAST BAY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

ISSN 0897-9839

November/December 2015

Oakland, California

A HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL

NOVEMBER MEETING

Wednesday, November 11, 2015 at 10 a.m. - Oakland FHC Library Meeting Room

ROOKIE MISTAKES - Speaker: Susan Shoemaker

We're all familiar with them.... help is on the way. Susan's presentation is designed with the idea of keeping you focused and on the right track.

Susan is a member of Contra Costa County Genealogical Society and has many years experience in genealogical research. We are pleased that she has accepted our invitation to share what she has learned through the years.

She will also share her "Super Filing System" - which many of you may find extremely helpful.

MAY YOUR HOLIDAYS BE FILLED WITH JOY

DECEMBER MEETING

Wednesday, December 9, 2015 at 10 a.m. - Oakland FHC Library Meeting Room

ANNUAL COOKIE SHARE TIME!

Hard to believe that the Christmas Holidays are almost here once again. So, folks, it is time to once again pleasantly surprise and delight us with your favorite cookie recipe to share among the members and staff of the Family History Center Library.

We also hope you will share genealogical problems, experiences, research brick walls and/or successes or interesting stories of your family or ancestors.

We look forward to one of our favorite meetings of the year. Be sure to bring a zip-lock bag or container of some sort to take your selected goodies home.

Looking Back at September:

Unfortunately, I was out of town and had to miss Jeremy Frankel's story of his 30 years of research...which I had talked him into presenting. I understand his presentation was most interesting and I thank him for agreeing to speak to our group.

Our Secretary, Jean Christie, wrote a very nice item on this meeting in her September minutes, as follows: "Jeremy Frankel presented a program on his quest to find the daughter of his grandfather's brother who he had not known existed until he learned at a family Seder dinner that this uncle had been previously married. Through civil records and other means he found her birth, marriage in Nigeria, and found her presently living in Wales. Locating the daughter from this uncle's second marriage resulted in a family reunion in London earlier this year."

Looking Back at October:

It is always a delightfully interesting and informative meeting when we have Richard Ferman at our podium. He has done extensive research in Ohio and generously shares his knowledge and research tips.

Richard provided a wonderful inter-active CD and a 40-page handout. I will try to recap some of the important research tips and strategies he outlined in this issue if I have space. If not, please look for the information in the January/February issue of this newsletter.

EBGS NEWS

Would you like to receive your newsletter via email? Let me know at: c-kstorm@Juno.com

Do you have a short tale to tell about your family or ancestors that you would share in this newsletter. It would be most welcome and appreciated.

Any program topics that you would like to see on our calendar for next year? Your input is important to us as we hope to have programs that our members can get enthused about.

We have made our annual donation to the Oakland FHC Library with a request that they use the money toward the purchase of a bound copy of *Meyers Orts*. Please see [Items of Interest](#) for more information regarding our request.

IN MEMORIAM

As many of you know, my dear husband of 56 years, Keith, passed away on September 21 shortly after I returned from my trip to Virginia and Washington, D.C. To those of you who sent their condolences via card, note or email, I and my family thank you so much for your caring thoughtfulness. Thank you also to East Bay Genealogical Society who sent a lovely card and a beautiful orchid plant. We are most appreciative for your kindness and thoughtfulness.

Thank you all, Carolyn Storm and Family

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The Oakland FHC Library will be closed on the following dates:

November 24 through November 29 - Thanksgiving Holiday

December 22 , 2015 through January 5, 2016: Christmas and New Year Holidays

The Oakland FHC Library offers the following classes/workshops. They are free and open to everyone interested.

African-American Workshop: 4th Thursday of each month at 6 p.m.

Beginning Swedish Genealogy: Saturdays -November 7 / December 5 -- 11 a.m. - 12:30- p.m.
Introduction to Swedish resources available at the OFHC library and online. We will cover birth, marriage, death, household exams, censuses military records and more. We will also cover finding living relatives in Sweden. The classes are free, but reservations are required. A workshop is offered after the classes. To make a reservation contact: wolofson@yahoo.com

MAC-GEN Genealogy meetings/workshops for Mac Users. More info at www.macgen.org
2nd Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.
4th Saturday of each month at 1:30 p.m.

FamilySearch.org: New items are added to their database almost daily! Check it often.

San Francisco Research: 10 a.m.- 12:30 p.m. on the **3rd Saturday** of each month at the California Genealogical Society - 2201 Broadway Ste LL2, at the corner of 22nd Street, Oakland, CA. This is an open forum meeting group to help each other looking for ancestors pre and post 1906 in San Francisco. Bring your questions and/or your experience and join the discussions.

For more information email: SFSIG@CALIFORNIAANCESTORS.ORG

ITEMS OF INTEREST

New on the shelves at the OFHC:

Pauper Ancestors: A Guide to the Records created by the Poor Laws in England and Wales
by David T. Hawkings.

Beginning in the 16th century and continuing until 1948 England and Wales enacted many laws and established Unions of parish workhouses to provide support for the poor, needy and homeless. Detailed records were kept of everything: rate-payers, collectors of rates, workhouse overseers and the staff and inmates of workhouses, as well as poor people who were helped to move to the north of England to work, those given assisted passage to Australia and children sent to Canada. Mr. Hawkings, one of Britain's leading genealogists, explains how these records can be used to discover details of your ancestors.

Criminal Ancestors: A Guide to Historical Criminal Records in England and Wales
by David T. Hawkings

Mr. Hawkings revised and updated study includes surveys of material held by all County and Borough Record Offices, the National Archives , police archives, and other repositories.

The Great Migration Directory: Immigrants to New England, 1620 - 1640.

A Concise Compendium by Robert Charles Anderson, FASG

The movement of Europeans - mostly English men, women and children - to New England between the sailing of the Mayflower in 1620 and the outbreak of the English Civil War in 1640. About 30,000 immigrants crossed the Atlantic. The Great Migration Study Project compiled comprehensive genealogical and biographical accounts of every person who settled in New England between 1620 and 1640.

"Insanity is hereditary - you get it from your kids"

fh123.org

Family History as easy as 123, Free Tips and Lessons, Simple to navigate site, Powerful Free Research Tools, Links to the Best Lessons and Helps, New Consultant Tips. That is what is written on the cards available at the Oakland FHC - give it a try.

Meyers Orts:

A gazetteer of the German Empire and an invaluable source for tracking down towns and villages in Germany. A most useful volume for anyone doing German research. Unfortunately, even a used copy in today's economy is extremely expensive and the Oakland FHC Library was reluctant to purchase one. However, they informed me that they do have Meyers Orts on microfilm and it is also available on their website. A google search found it widely available on various other websites as well and also turned up a reference as follows: <http://www.genealogyblog.com> has an article entitled "Understanding Meyers Orts" in which they review Fay S. Dearden's book by that name. It is available through Family Roots Publishing and is reasonably priced. Worth a look if you are seeking information on the German origin of your immigrant German ancestors.

Polish Ancestors?

You might want to look into the Polish Genealogy Society of America, head quartered in Chicago.

www.pgsa.org>

Websites For Danish Research:

Danish National Archives: Arkivalieronline <sa.dk/en/services/records> Searchable digital parish registers, all Danish censuses and more. All are in Danish.

Danish Demographic Database <ddd.dda.dk/en/htm> This free, English-friendly site offers censuses from 1887 on - plus selected probate records.

Why it is Important to Check Every Resource Available:

Especially obituaries...I am living proof! People giving information for death certificates and obituaries are usually under some stress. Although they may know the correct information they might not always provide the correct information at the time because of stress and having many things on their minds at the time. I am embarrassed to say I put the wrong date of death on my own dear husband's obituary! I only missed it by one day, but as a genealogist, I certainly should have been more accurate. The death certificate is correct, however.

I have come across several instances of incorrect information in obituaries and on death certificates by person's who either guessed or misspoke at the time of origin. Check as many sources as possible to prove your research.

There was an excellent article in the latest issue of *Family Tree Magazine* regarding proving relationships. This can sometimes be a daunting task. They suggested making a graph of information from all available censuses and any information possible from City Directories or whatever else might be available for the time period and area of research. They listed the information in chronological order, using each name in question. It is surprising, when you see your information set up in the form of a graph, how some

information you might have questioned becomes more clear - and you just might solve that relationship brick wall.

RESEARCHING IN ALAMEDA COUNTY CALIFORNIA

Part 3 - Cemeteries and Mortuaries

Cities within the county are listed alphabetically with cemeteries and mortuaries combined listed alphabetically. Research in Contra Costa County or Santa Clara County for Southern Alameda County is also recommended. Many Berkeley and some early San Leandro burials before 1908 were at Mt. View Cemetery in Oakland. Since then, most Berkeley burials are in Contra Costa County, and for that reason I have listed the two cemeteries located in Contra Costa County.*

There are NO cemeteries located in the cities of Alameda, Albany, Berkeley, Castro Valley, Emeryville, Newark, Piedmont or Union City.

Two good sources for Roman Catholic records are the Diocese of Oakland for all Alameda County Catholic cemetery records and St. Patrick's Seminary for Alameda County Roman Catholic churches prior to 1956.

The Catholic Cemeteries, Diocese of Oakland, 1965 Reliez Valley Road, Lafayette, CA

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 488, Lafayette, CA 94549. Ph: 925-932-0900

St. Patrick's Seminary, 320 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park, CA 94025

Some mortuaries and cemeteries may charge a fee for copies of records and some may only divulge information to a proven next of kin. Often a phone call can bring the best results. Do enclose a SASE if you inquire by mail.

There have been several booklets printed by various genealogical societies in the county covering cemetery and some mortuary records/inscriptions. To locate them contact the following:

Oakland Main Library, History Room, 125- 14th Street , Oakland, 94612, 510-238-3222

Oakland FHC Library, 4766 Lincoln Avenue, Oakland, 510-531-3905

Amador-Livermore Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 901, Livermore, CA 94551

OR check their website: www.l.ags.org for printed records of Robert Graham Mortuary of Livermore and list of published Livermore cemetery records.

Many of the above published records may by now have been incorporated into familysearch.org.

It has taken a lot of time and effort to update the following information as much as possible and I hope it will be helpful to many of you. If anyone finds an error, please let me know at c-kstorm@juno.com so I can make corrections.

This is quite a long list. The cities of Oakland through San Pablo* will be in the next newsletter.

ALAMEDA: Alameda Funeral & Cremation Service, 1415 Oak Street, Alameda, 94501, 510-522-6020

Est. early 2000's No earlier records

Chapel of the Chimes - no longer exists in Alameda, see Chapel of the Chimes, Oakland

Fowler-Anderson, no longer exists, records may be at Greer Family Mortuary

Greer Family Mortuary & Cremation Service, 2694 Blanding Avenue, Alameda, 94501

510-865-3755. Records 1983+

Fowler-Anderson Mortuary, no longer exists. Records stored at Greers.

- George W. Murphy Mortuary - no longer exists
Records (1950's - 1960's) may be stored at Chapel of the Chimes, Oakland
- Hagy-Keenan / Hagy-Keenan-Sadler Mortuary - no longer exists
Records may be stored at Chapel of the Chimes, Oakland
- Smiley-Gallagher Mortuary - no longer exists
Records (1929-1964) have been filmed and are available at the Oakland Main Library
and on line at **familysearch.org**. Original records stored at Greer Family Mortuary
- ALBANY: Ellis-Olson Mortuary, 727 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, 94706, 510-525-0246
Records 1932+ Formerly James J. Ellis and Ellis & Gay Mortuary
- BERKELEY: Harris Funeral Home, 1331 San Pablo Avenue, Berkeley, 94702, 510-525-1331.
Records 1953+
Bayview Chapel, closed about 2000. Had acquired Berkeley Hills, Edward Niehaus,
and Freeman-Cox-Roach & Leonard mortuaries No records exist for any of them.
- CASTRO VALLEY: Jess C. Spencer Mortuary, 21228 Redwood Road, Castro Valley, 94546,
510-581-9133. Records 1967+
Chapel of the Valley, acquired by San Leandro Funeral Home early 2000's.
Neptune Society , 2914 Grove Way, Castro Valley, 94546, 510-889-7110. Records 1970's+
- DUBLIN: Dublin Cemetery / Heritage Park / St. Raymond's Cemetery, Donlan Way near Dublin Blvd.
Dublin 94566. Early pioneer cemetery. Burials 1860-1930
Deer Creek Funeral Service, 7440 San Ramon Blvd, Dublin, 94568, 925-803-7733
- *EL CERRITO: Sunset View Cemetery/ Mortuary/ Crematory, 101 Colusa Avenue, P. O. Box 187,
El Cerrito, 94530, 510-525-5111. Records 1908+
- EMERYVILLE: Pacific Interment Mortuary & Crematorium, 1094 Yerba Buena, Avenue, Emeryville,
94608, 510-450-0187
- FREMONT: Berge-Pappas-Smith Chapel of the Angels, 40842 Fremont Blvd, Fremont, 94538
510-656-1226. Est. 1913. Records 1953+ Some older records
Centerville Cemetery, no longer being used. See Presbyterian Cemetery
Cedar Lawn Memorial Park, 48800 Warm Springs Blvd, Fremont, 94539. Est. 1967
Operated by Lima Family. Records 1963+
Fremont Chapel of the Roses, 1940 Peralta Blvd, Fremont, 94536, 510-797-1900
Records 1959+
Fremont Memorial Chapel, 3723 Peralta Blvd, Fremont, 94536, 510-793-8900
Previously Lindsey-Fremont Mortuary. records 1950's+
Holy Spirit Cemetery, 5250 Central Avenue, Fremont 94536, 510-797-1660
Catholic burials since 1880's. Early records destroyed by fire.
Irvington Memorial Cemetery, 51001 Chapel Way, Fremont, 94538, 510=656-5800
Est. 1874. Good records 1900+ Information scant in older records
Lima Family-Milpitas-Fremont Mortuary, 48800 Warm Springs Blvd, Fremont, 94539
408-263-2868. Records 1982+
Ohlone Indian Graveyard, Washington Blvd, Mission San Jose (Fremont)
Old Mission San Jose de Guadalupe Cemetery, 43148 Mission Blvd, Fremont, 94539,

Catholic. A printed tombstone inscription index available - possibly at the Fremont or Oakland main Library

Presbyterian Cemetery, near 3800 Bond Way, Fremont. aka Centerville Cemetery
Burials 1847-1930

St. Joseph's Cemetery, 44000 Mission Blvd, Fremont, 94539, 510-656-2364
Catholic. Burials 1860's+

HAYWARD: Chapel of the Chimes Memorial Park & Mortuary, 32992 Mission Blvd., Hayward, 94544, 510-538-3131. Mortuary records 1972+ Cemetery records 1958+ Map of some pioneer plots available for older records.

Cypress Cemetery - aka Decoto & Decoto Masonic Cemetery. See Chapel of the Chimes.
Geary & Grindel Mortuary & Livery, acquired by Sorensen Bros. No records available
Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, 26420 Mission Blvd, Hayward, 94544, 510-581-2488.
Catholic Records 1913+

Lone Tree Cemetery, 24591 Fairview Avenue, Hayward, 94542, 510-582-1274.
Records 1873+ Information available by written request only

Mt. Eden Cemetery Association, 2440 Depot Road, Hayward, 94541, 510-782-3266.
Records 1860+ Direct inquiries to: P. O. Box 11, Mt. Eden, CA 94557-0011

Mt. St. Joseph's Cemetery, Catholic, mostly Portuguese. Direct inquiries to:
All Saint's Church, 824 - 2nd Street, Hayward, 94541, 510-581-2570

Sorensen Bros. Mortuary, 1140 B Street, Hayward, 94541, 510-581-1234. Records 1915+

LIVERMORE: Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Avenue, Livermore, 94550, 925-447-2941.
Formerly Reimer's Mortuary until 1950. Have no Reimer's records

Callaghan records 1950+ Cash journals 1894 and regular journals 1906

Holy Angeles Funeral & Crematory, 3886 East Avenue, Livermore, 94550, 925-465-9696
Contact St. Michael's Cemetery

Livermore Cemetery, see Roselawn Cemetery

Livermore Mortuary, formerly Livermore Memorial Chapel until about 1978.
3070 East Avenue, Livermore, 94559, 925-443-4500. Records 1972+

Masonic Cemetery, See Roselawn Cemetery

Memory Garden, Odd Fellows Memorial Park, 3873 East Avenue, Livermore, 94559,
925-447-8417. Records 1911+ Inscription data available at Amador/
Livermore Valley Historical Society

Oak Knoll Cemetery, pioneer cemetery no longer in use. Outside Livermore on
road to Pleasanton.

Neptune Society, 2177 Las Positas Court, Ste. K, Livermore, 94551, 915-454-1974

Odd Fellows Cemetery/IOOF Cemetery, See Memory Gardens

Reimer Mortuary, see Callaghan Mortuary

Roselawn Memorial Cemetery/Memorial Park, 1240 N. Livermore Avenue, Livermore,
94550, 925-581-1206. Office & Mailing: Art Monument Co (owner) 26295 Mission
Blvd, Hayward, 94544. Est. 1883 by Masonic Lodge #218; aka Masonic Cemetery
until mid 1900's; now a public cemetery. Records 1920's+ Index of interments,
1922+, maps of blocks, plots, gravesites

St. Michael's Cemetery, 3800 East Avenue, Livermore, 94550, 925-447-1585. Catholic.
Mailing address: 458 Maple Street, Livermore, 94550. Records 1880+

Wilson Family Funeral Chapel, 3070 East Avenue, Livermore, 94550, 925-443-4500

MEETINGS

2nd Wednesday each month – 10 am
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

Membership is open to all...

Individual/Organization - \$18.00

Family - \$25.00

Foreign - \$20.00

Request an application by writing to: P. O. Box 1648, Alameda, CA 94501
or download from our website.

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EST. 1979