

THE LIVE OAK

EAST BAY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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July/August 2016

Oakland, California

JULY MEETING

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

I HAVE TESTED MY DNA - WHAT CAN I LEARN FROM THE RESULTS?

Speaker: Christine Green

What do those results from your DNA test tell you and how to understand all that unfamiliar terminology.

Christine will explain to us how to decipher the results and what they mean to us and how they can help us understand our ancestors.

EBGS DOES NOT MEET IN AUGUST

YOU ARE FREE TO ROAM THE COUNTRY GATHERING STORIES FOR THIS NEWSLETTER!

Be sure to look over the items in the "Mark Your Calendar" section. You'll find many interesting classes, tours, or programs taking place around the Bay Area and environs. If you are going to be out and about during the summer, some of these may be of interest to you.

Looking Back at May: My goodness...we had a very nice attendance at our Annual Luncheon at Pier 29. It was great to see so many members there and some quests also.

Everyone seemed to be enjoying the afternoon - there was constant chatter all through the meal and after. Thanks to Pier 29 for treating us so well. Thanks to all who attended.

Looking Back at June: Stephen Morse presented an absolutely fascinating tale of how he gathered genealogy information on a person, knowing only her maiden name and her brother's name when he began his search. He stressed searching for any and all documents relating to your research and keeping an outline of information found and recording all dates, names, etc. even when they differ. Using primarily his One-Step Website, within four hours or so he had amassed quite a collection of documents and information

relating to Renee Kaufman. His One-step Website is terrific! We are thrilled that he has promised to return to EBGs in February to explain One-Step Website in more detail. Don't miss it!

EBGS NEWS: DUES ARE DUE JULY 1ST...

Thank you to those of you who have already renewed. There is a Membership Renewal form at the back of this newsletter for those of you who have not yet renewed your membership. Your dues helps keep this society alive and kicking - please renew and enjoy the interesting programs we have planned for this year.

If you would like to receive this newsletter by email, please contact me and provide your email address. You can reach me at **c-kstorm@juno.com**.

We understand that our secretary, Jean Christie, is out of rehab following her hip replacement and home and doing quite well. We look forward to having her back in our midst real soon.

In Memoriam: The Society extends its sincere condolences to our member and Publicity Chairman, Lynne Bajuk, for the loss of her son John. John was a very intelligent man and an avid jigsaw puzzler - the more difficult they were, the better he liked them.

Get Ready For Our September Meeting: Along with a brief story and explanation on writing a history of an ancestor...we plan to have a "Silent Auction". Please cull your book collection, forms, etc. for anything you wish to contribute. The proceeds will go to EBGs. Leftovers will be donated to the Oakland FHC or a library book sale - and, yes, of course, you may take home any items of yours that did not sell at the auction if you wish

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The Oakland FHC Library has some very qualified researchers on staff daily to help you with your family research. In addition, they offer the following classes/workshops that are free and available to the public.

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

MAC-GEN Genealogy meetings/workshops for Mac Users. More info at **www.macgen.org**
2nd Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.

Genealogy Research Workshop: Thursdays between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Need some help with your Swedish research? Join our experts on Thursdays for some individual assistance. No appointment necessary, and it is free!

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

"Research on a Ring": Glenda Gardner Lloyd and **"Genealogy at the California State Library":** Elena Smith. Root Cellar Sacramento Gen. Society, June 9, 2016. More info: **http://www.rootcellar.org/**

Tour of St. John's Cemetery, Kathy Wade, June 10, 2016. San Mateo County Genealogical Society More info: <http://www.smcs.org/>

"Cemetery Symbolism: Expressions of Individuality and Victorian Culture. June 11, 2016 Hayward Area Historical Society, More info: <http://www.haywardareahistory.org/>

"FamilySearch Wiki", Ralph Severson. June 13, 2015 Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society. More info: <http://www.lags.org/>

Walking Tour of Historic Angels Camp: Calaveras Gen. Society. June 14, 2016. More info: <http://www.calaverasgenealogy.com/>

"Bring Your Own Brick Wall" San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society. June 19, 2016 More info <http://www.sfbajgs.org/>

"Researching Your Litvak Roots": Judy Baston, San Francisco Jewish Genealogical Society. June 20, 2016. More info: <http://www.sfbajgs.org/>

"Basic, Basic DNA: How Three Testing Companies Can Change Your Family Tree": Patricia Burrows. June 20, 2016. Santa Clara County Historical and Genealogical Society. <http://www.scchgs.org>

"WWI Army Training by San Francisco Bay - The Story of Camp Fremont" Barbara Wilcox. June 25, 2016. San Mateo County Genealogical Society. <http://www.smcs.org/>

"San Lorenzo Pioneer Cemetery, Burials of Note, Part II": Hayward Area Historical Society, July 9, 2016 <http://www.haywardareahistory.org/>

"Immigration Records Before 1820: Christine Green, July 23, 2016. San Mateo County Genealogical Societ. More info: <http://www.smcs.org/>

"Institutional Records": Gena Philibert-Ortega, Sacramento Public Library, July 24, 2016. More infor: <http://www.saclibrary.org/>

Northwest Genealogy Conference - August 17-20, 2016: Hosted by Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society in Arlington, WA. To be held at Byrnes Performing Arts Center, 18821 Crown Ridge Blvd, Arlington, WA 98223. For more info: www.stillygen.org

Contra Costa County Genealogical Society Fall 2016 Seminar: "Ancestors on the Move" by John Philip Colletta, PhD Saturday, October 15, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Lafayette Veterans Memorial Hall, 3780 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, CA. Cost for non-members is \$30. Registration at the door: \$50

Four lectures, as follows:

*"Immigration to America, Colonial Times to Post-WWII: Where do your ancestors fit in?
Colonial times in 1882 Part I

*"Immigration to America, Colonial Times to Post WWII - 1882 to Post WWII" Part II

*"U.S. Naturalization Records, 1790 - 1930s: Sources and Strategies for Challenging Cases.

*"Turning Biographical Facts into Real Life Events: How to Build Historical Context"
For more information, contact the CCCGS website or email cccg.ca@gmail.com

ITEMS OF INTEREST

New Mexico History Museum/Palace of the Governors: "Fractured Faiths: Spanish Judaism, The Inquisition, and New World Identities" Exhibit opened May 22, 2016 The Mexican History Museum is located at 113 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fe, NM 97501 ph: 505-478-5200

From the exhibit handout: "Thousands of families hid from the Spanish Inquisition and preserved family traditions of Jewish memory in darkened rooms for generations..." "In Expressions of Complex Identities, Sephardic Jews, Conversos and Crypto-Jews, you will experience a fascinating secret history of religious practices that endured for 500 years." The Jews who converted to Catholicism (known as Conversos) and chose to remain in Spain, lived under constant threat of the Inquisition which had been established to find and arrest any Jews who continued to practice Judaism in secret. Those who continued to practice Judaism in secret, became known as Crypto (or hidden) Jews. Over the years their descendants became skillful at hiding their secret practices, thus allowing the Crypto-Jews to survive." (excerpt and edited from Huellas Del Pasado, newsletter of the Genealogical Society of Hispanic America, May 2016)

What's new on line?: Findmypast in conjunction with FamilySearch has recently made available on line:
* U. S. Marriages: Over 10 million new records. They include generous additions from Indiana, New York, Illinois, Pennsylvania and Maine.
* Yorkshire Baptisms: Over 2.2 million new records, including first names of their parents as well as when and where they were born.
* Ireland Surnames and Family Histories: A collection of nine assorted publications containing more than 7,000 individual records.
* Devon, Plymouth Prison Records: Over 13,000 records of prisoners and prison officers in the 19th and early 19th and 20th century.

"Geman Census Records, 1816-1916: The When, Where, and How of a Valuable Genealogical Resource" By Roger P. Minert, Ph.D., A.G.; 2016. Written in English. Available through familyrootspublishing.com/

Researchers can now learn where and when German census records were compiled as well as why and how. The author also describes state by state the content of census records and explains how surviving census documents can be located. This is groundbreaking information of enormous value to anyone researching their German roots.

Fodder For Those Ancestral Biographies or Stories YOU WILL Write Some Day! Naturally, you want to include more than dates of births, marriages and deaths. What was going on in the world at the time some of these events occurred? The front pages of a major newspaper in the area where your ancestor resided may give some insight as to what was going on in the world at the time. County and/or city histories of where your ancestors lived could also prove useful, as well as local daily or weekly newspapers in their residential area. You may also want to consult "*Chronology of the United States*", by John Clements.

In an article written by Michael John Neill in *Ancestry Daily News*, he suggests searching Pension Files and County Court and Probate Records...not only for your direct ancestors but also for collateral relations and

siblings. Divorce and Probate/Estate Records may not only yield some interesting facts about your family's relations with each other but could uncover relatives or siblings of which you may not have been aware.

The National Archives holds copies of federal pension records. Records of Confederate pensions are generally held by the appropriate state archives.

For future generations, why not jot down some notes on yourself and your experiences? Your writing need not be eloquent or formal...the key is to write *something*. What were you doing or where were you at the time of some historical event? What happened years ago that still makes you chuckle when you remember it today? Just do it! (portions of the above excerpted from San Luis Obispo County Genealogical Society BULLETIN, Vol. 49, No.1, May 2016).

Ships Registries: The UK Archives (formerly the Public Records Office) holds many open-access records of British ship registries, one of which is their BT series. This set of records is especially useful for those looking for information on ancestors who came from the Azores and Madeira to Hawaii and the U. S. on British registered ships. Regular passenger lists do not always give details of births, marriages or deaths aboard the ship. You can search the index of these records for free. When you find the actual page that has the information you are seeking you can order/purchase a copy of the record. Although you have to pay for the copy of the record, it is worth it if you find what you were looking for - and the looking is free.

Go to: <http://www.bmdregisters.co.uk/> From their website: BT158 Registry of Shipping and Seamen: Registers of Births, Deaths, and Marriages of Passengers at Sea. Covering dates 1854-1908. These are registers compiled from ships' official logs of births, deaths, and marriages of passengers at sea by the Registrar General of Shipping and Seamen (RGSS) and its predecessor. From 1874, the RGSS was required to report births and deaths at sea aboard all ships registered in Britain or its colonies and on foreign-registered ships carrying passengers to or from the UK, to the Registrars General of England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland (the General Register Offices). The name of the series is misleading, as it includes events related to persons of any nationality not just British nationals. It should also cover events on foreign-registered passenger ships travelling to or from a UK port, but there is little evidence of this in the registers themselves. (from Monterey County Genealogical Society Newsletter, March/April 2014)

Preserving Old or Antique Clothing: Make sure it is as clean as possible. If washable, use a very mild soap and wash gently. If not washable, consult with a professional dry cleaner (not necessarily the clerk at the counter of your local dry cleaners). Once the item is clean, fold it with as few creases as possible. Pad the sleeves, shoulders and bodice with **acid-free** tissue paper, clean white cotton sheeting or muslin. Pad each fold so that no sharp creases form. Place the item in an acid-free box and place the box in a cool, dry place. You may place more than one item in a box; however, do not pack it too tightly or make it too heavy. The whole idea is to allow space around items so that they are not crushed. Inspect the items annually and refold them in a different direction so that creases will not set, and replace any tissue or cloth that is discolored..

Editors Note: I just recently donated my wedding gown and my late sister's wedding gown to the Alameda Historical Museum. They have a June exhibit of wedding gowns of Alameda persons. Lynda and I were both Alameda born, so they were delighted to have them. They asked for information on where they were purchased, date of the weddings, etc. I also provided photographs. Didn't make sense to keep them stored in the back of the closet any longer. The museum will carefully clean and preserve them; which means I do not have to! It was a win-win situation. This weekend I plan to visit the exhibit.

Today's short reading from the Bible.. "And God promised man that good and obedient wives would be found in all corners of the earth"...and then He made the earth round...and He laughed and laughed.

STANISLAUS COUNTY, CALIFORNIA - A Thumbnail Sketch

Stanislaus County is located in California's Central Valley. In 2010 the population was 514, 453. Much of the area west of the San Joaquin River in the county is devoted to agriculture. Part of the San Joaquin River National Wildlife Refuge is within Stanislaus County.

A good portion of Stanislaus County was originally composed of several government and Spanish land grants. The county was formed from parts of Tuolumne County in 1854. There were several county seats until 1871 when the city of Modesto was permanently established as the county seat.

County Clerk/Recorder's Office: 10211 "I" Street, Modesto, CA 95354. Ph: 209-625-5250
Marriage, Birth, Death and Property Records

Superior Court of California, Stanislaus County: 800 11th Street, Modesto, CA 95354. Ph: 209-530-3100
Civil and Probate Records

Stanislaus County Library: system of 13 libraries, Modesto Main being the primary one for research
1500 "I" Street, Modesto, CA 95354 Ph: 209-558-7800
Give them a 'google', their website offers several searchable data bases, including the SSDI for 1935-2014. The library has a Special Collections Room and on the 1st Monday of each month members of the Stanislaus County Genealogical Society are there to help researchers.

Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County: P. O. Box A, Modesto, CA 95352. Ph: 209-928-5009
They have a list of publications on their website. They also offer to answer queries free of charge.
Send queries to: GSSC, P. O. Box A, Modesto, CA 95352.

McHenry Museum and Historical Society, 1401 "I" Street at 14th, Modesto, CA 95354
Open Tuesday through Sunday - Noon to 4 p.m.
Houses numerous artifacts and other material relating to the history of the county.

Want to learn more? The following books, available at Amazon.com, may be of interest to you.

Old Times in Stanislaus County: A Journey to the Past, by Peter Daras Tatam

Stories of Stanislaus: A Collection of Stories on the History and Achievements of Stanislaus County
by Solomon Philip Elias

The Stanislaus Indian Wars. by Thorne B. Gray

History of Stanislaus County California: with biographical sketches of the leading men and women of the county who have been identified with its growth and development from the early days...

by George Henry Tinkham

Annals of Stanislaus County: River Towns and Ferries By Jack Brotherton

In A Goodly Land: Latter Day Saints of the Stanislaus By John . / Nash

Good luck and much success researching in Stanislaus County, California



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May we hear from you by July 1, 2016 Thank you for your support.

Office use only: Date _____ Amt _____ Ch# _____

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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