

THE LIVE OAK

EAST BAY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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March/April 2018

Oakland, California

MARCH MEETING

Wednesday, March 14, 2018

WERE YOUR ANCESTORS FARMERS?

Speaker: Madeline Yanov

Many of us do have farmers in our family tree. Have you found them in records other than the Census Schedules? Madeline will guide you in finding what records are available and sources that may provide information on where to find Social History, Economics, and Politics that affected our ancestors. They were influenced by more than just the weather and they were more than just *farmers*.

Please join us...and bring a friend if you would like.

APRIL MEETING

Wednesday, April 11, 2018

TIMELINES

Speaker: Virginia Kysh

Why should we be using them? What are they? When do we use them? How and why do they help you in your research?

Please bring one of your Family Group Sheets to this meeting in order to apply what you learn. This is a subject we have not covered before and I am sure you will find it very interesting and helpful. Hope to see many of you there...bring a friend if you like...guests are always welcome!

Looking Back at January:

As usual, Dennis Evanosky had a captivated audience. I brought a couple of my neighbors to this meeting and they truly enjoyed his program. He is so enthusiastic and has such a love of history. He had some fascinating tales to tell about Alameda and some of its early residents. It was a delightful meeting.

Looking Back at February:

Ralph Seversen had more tips and information for us than I could keep track of in my notes!

He suggested once you get to FamilySearch.org to click on the Research tab and then work down through the tabs: Family Tree, Genealogies, Books, Catalog, Wiki. It works folks! I came home and followed the instructions and in Family Tree I found my husband's great, great grandfather in the Canadian census. I also got some hits on other ancestors. Hope you will be fortunate to find someone you have been searching for!

EBGS NEWS:

The membership voted not sponsor a booth at the upcoming San Francisco Days celebration this year.

Our Annual May Luncheon is coming up soon at Pier 29 in Alameda. Save the date...May 9th.

Finding speakers for upcoming meetings is quite a challenge at times. If you know or have heard of a speaker you would like to recommend to our group, please, please let us know.

Apparently some of our members have changed their email addresses since the printing of the last Roster. PLEASE let me know if you change your email address. I will need to update my records.. **c-kstorm@juno.com**.

It is not only our members who read this newsletter - well, I hope they read it!

I have been contacted several times over the years by libraries and researchers throughout the country in regard to stories or information they have found on these pages. With that in mind, why not submit a story of one of your ancestors or perhaps a research dilemma? You might be surprised with the response.

Would you be interested/willing to have your Ancestor Chart or a Family Group Sheet printed in this newsletter? It might generate some interest from distant cousins you never knew you had...who knows? Or, perhaps you would like to enter a query. Send them to me and I will print them. There is almost always plenty of space to fill...just let me know. **c-kstorm@juno.com**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The Oakland FHC Library offers the following on-going classes/workshops. ALL classes at the FHC are free and open to everyone interested. Sometimes there might be a small charge for handouts. You can check their website to view information on the library's workshops and upcoming classes. They are not always mentioned in his newsletter as they do not coincide with the mailing date.

Please Note: When the library reopens after the holidays you will have to sign-in with a user name and password to get into their **familysearch** website from home or in the library. This is to be sure you are not a "robot" and to discourage scammers. Keep your password simple so that you can easily remember it.

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

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

Swedish 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!

Hispanic Research Workshop: Wednesday evenings, 6-8 p.m. Come join the group and learn more about researching your Hispanic ancestors.

Personal/Family History: Write Your History in Stories:
2nd Thursday each month, 1-2 p.m. Instructor: Ken Miller, staff genealogist.

Does writing your personal history sound intimidating? Does "I was born..." seem like a boring way to start? How about writing your memories one story at a time? Come once or come monthly or come when you can. Set aside the 2nd Thursday of each month and spend an afternoon jump starting your memory. Write one story each time you come and you could have quite a personal history recorded by the end of the year.

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.

California Genealogical Society DNA Event: "A Day With the Genetic Genealogist Blaine Bettinger". March 5, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. In Berkeley. There is a charge for this seminar and reservations are required. Check CGS website or blog for further details.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Hit a Brick Wall? Go to Cyndi's List where you will find links to 25 articles from magazines, etc., that may help you knock down that brick wall.

"Genealogical Abstracts From Newspapers of the German Reformed Church 1830-1839" by Barbara Manning: A compilation from the "Weekly Messenger" of the German Reformed Church".

Though much of the writing of that time is rather 'flowery' and a little over-done, it was also a little harsh and abrupt.

For instance: on page 202:

"February 27, 1839 (from) The Cumberland (Md) ...Civilian records, the death of the daughter of DANIEL ALBRIGHT, in her fifteenth year. Alone in the house with younger children, her clothes caught while putting a kettle on the fire, and she burnt to a crisp."

How sad and how coldly and insensitively reported!

I have this book, it is indexed, and I would be happy to search your ancestor's names if you wish...free. Just email me: c-kstorm@juno.com. Please type "Live Oak-research" in the subject line so I do not treat it as spam.

Finding the Maiden Names of Those Elusive Women in Your Family Tree

Findmypast newsletter suggests searching newspapers for the following life events, and others if your ancestor was a troublemaker or prominent and/or well-known member of her town or community.

Obituaries - you may find the name of her parents or members of the family. Remember, once you find your ancestor's death record, don't neglect to send for a copy of the original which may contain much more information on the document than what is revealed on a website.

Birth Announcements - include the parent's names and often reveal maiden names when mentioning grandparents.

Marriage Announcements - often include parent's names and sometimes names of members of the wedding party who might be related.

Social and Society Announcements - often tidbits from the society pages can reveal details that might help you break down that brick wall.

They also suggest searching:

Church Records: Baptisms, births, deaths, marriages may each reveal parent's names or names of other family members.

School Records: Perhaps not likely to reveal maiden names, but they may contain many details about the lives of your ancestors and help verify your timelines. Sometimes a guardian may be mentioned who could be an aunt or uncle

Pension Records: Records of the husband's or a son's military service can often provide many clues or additional records to search.

Census Records: Look for others listed with the family. They may be mother-in-laws or other relatives. look up and down the page at neighbors, you may discover relatives living near by.

Genealogists Responses to Findmypast Inquiry-

"The Best Genealogy Advice Anyone Ever Gave Me Was...."

Ask questions now, while people are still here...and record your sources.

Don't throw anything away. Future generations will value it.

Go back and check some of your earlier discoveries. As more records are released, you may find some of them are proved incorrect.

Familiarize yourself with registration districts. I discounted many BMD records because I thought they weren't in the right area.

Don't ever jump ahead. Always work backwards and check all records for yourself. Don't just copy someone else's input.

Keep looking. They will turn up eventually.

Be prepared to get addicted.

If you can't go back...Go sideways.

Start with yourself

Never give up!

An Open Book

The October/November, 2017 edition of *Family Tree Magazine* features an article by this name. In it are listed three primary types of books the family historian can utilize to report what they have learned for future generations. The three book types are Photo, Narrative, and Family History. Each is described in some detail and there are on-line references also.

Some options have to do with publishing, but many of us are in a more basic place, we don't have a plan.

Banish excuses for not writing your family history...

<familytreemagazine.com/articles/newsblogs/genealogy_insider-banish-the-buts-top5-excuses-for-not-writing-your-family-history>

...and while we're on the subject, check out the website for free downloadable forms.

www.familytreemagazine.com/freebie.

I found a form that will be useful to me, it's a simple one I had not thought of, called "Artifacts & Heirlooms in Other People's Possession"...and I will create it's companion for those items in my own possession.

Laurel Knapp

(from Vol. 21, Issue 2, Genealogy Society of Vallejo-Benicia "Taproot", February, 2018)

A Valentine's Day in Grammar School

I think I was in the 5th Grade, so perhaps about 10 years old - several years ago! Oh my, how time flies! In those days, and perhaps still today, we brought our Valentines to school and deposited them in a large decorated box. Usually one card for each classmate. On Valentine's Day afternoon the cards were delivered to the students by someone chosen by the teacher.

Alden R..... had a paper route, and he bought his Valentine cards with his own money. He bought only three Valentine's cards, not one for each classmate. Those cards cost about \$1 each at the time and were elegant, about 8x10, the sort of "gushy" card a young man would buy for his sweetheart.

Apparently Alden had three sweethearts in the fourth grade! Judy G....., Janet F....., and Me! Each of us received one of those beautiful cards from Alden.

The teacher was a little surprised. Alden's older brother asked me after school if I had liked Alden's card. My parents were somewhat skeptical of this young kid.

I must remember the next time I am browsing through the attic to look through my stash of 'saved treasures' to see if I still have that lovely card!

Carolyn Storm

Hope someone treated YOU special on Valentine's Day

Digitize and Save Your Memories

Digging through the family treasures, I found a birthday card my daughter had made for me when she was a little girl.

I didn't want this card to be lost, and realized that with a few clicks and the power of PDF, I could preserve it...forever.

Armed with the photos I took of the front and the inside of the card, I had two options to preserve it. I could upload each photo to my family tree and preserve the card as multiple photographs. Or, I could use the Adobe PDF "Combine Files into a Single File" option to "print" and combine these separate photos into one PDF file, making sure that the multiple images of the card were preserved together.

I took the second option. This made it easy for me to upload these multiple photos as one file and preserve this homemade birthday card on my online family tree as one file.

Here is how I did it:

First I saved each file as a copy.

Then I combined those separate PDF files into one file, making it easy to scroll up/down to see the card from the front and as I opened it.

Then with a click I uploaded the combined PDF to the Memories page of my online family tree

Give it a try...don't let your family memories be lost.

(from *Huellas Del Pasado*, December 2017 issue Vol. 23, No. 5, via *Genealogybank* by Jay Kemp, May, 2017)

A 1920's Camping Trip

When my in-laws, Ray Storm and Mary Spargo, were courting in the mid 1920's, Ray invited Mary to accompanying him on a camping trip. Isn't this a dandy old tent?



Mary agreed, but there was one stipulation...her mother must accompany them....and so she did.

I guess all went well, as they were later happily married for over fifty-five years.

I don't believe they ever went camping again. Mary did not really like camping, nor did she like picnics very much. She intensely disliked having flies, bees, ants or dirt anywhere near her table or her food!

JSTOR: The Great Online Genealogy Resource that Few Genealogists Know About

JSTOR is an online library of hundreds of years of academic research and presently contains more than 1,900 journal titles in more than 50 disciplines. The website started in 1991, containing back issues of academic journals. Since then it has grown to include books and primary sources and current issues of journals. A quick search for "genealogy" produced 105,889 "hits"!

JSTOR provides full- text searches of more than 1,900 journals, and more than a few of those journals are published by some of the most respected historical societies of our time. Most of the journals are published online about 3-5 years after publication in print. However, if a journal's publishers agree, journals may be published even earlier.

Journals available typically do not contain lists of individual residents of an area. However, they are very useful for:

- Researching historical figures, places, and events
- Finding state and region-specific information and history
- Learning about immigration patterns, political movements, and social issues of the day.

Some of the available online journals include: The Arkansas Historical Quarterly published by the Arkansas Historical Association, Massachusetts Historical Review, Michigan Historical Review, Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, Wisconsin Magazine of History, and Tennessee Historical Quarterly... and there are many more.

JSTOR is a subscription site, although it is possible to read up to three articles at no charge. Plans start at \$9.99 a month or \$99 a year if paid one year in advance. However, many libraries have subscriptions to JSTOR so it is possible to gain free access by visiting a local library or, in some cases, accessing JSTOR remotely by logging onto your library's website and using its "gateway" to JSTOR. More than 7,000 academic institutions, public libraries, research institutions, museums, and schools in more than 150 countries have access.

JSTOR is available at: **<http://www.jstor.org/>(<http://www.jstor.org>)**

(From Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter, The Daily Online Genealogy Newsletter, <https://blog.eogn.com/>)

To Err is Human...to Really Mess up, You Need a Computer!

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

EBGS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Mail to: EBGS, P. O. Box 1648 Alameda, CA 94501

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss _____

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Amt. Enclosed _____ \$18 Individual/\$7.50 Each Additional Family Member

May we hear from you by July 1, 2017 Thank you for your support.

Office use only: Date _____ Amt _____ Ch# _____

ANNUAL ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON – MAY 10, 2017

Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant, 1148 Ballena Blvd. Alameda, CA
Directions will be printed in May/June LIVE OAK. Time is NOON

Teriyaki Chicken _____ Shrimp Louie _____ Caesar Salad w/chicken _____

Salads served with a cup of clam chowder. Teriyaki Chicken served with choice of clam chowder or tossed green salad w/zesty Italian dressing, garlic mashed potatoes, fresh steamed vegetables. Meals include roll and butter, coffee or tea, and ice cream or sherbet for dessert.

Tax and tip are included. Cost: \$25.00 per person

Mail your check and this form to:
EBGS c/o Joyce Schleicher, 4345 Detroit Avenue, Oakland, CA 94619

Name _____ Amt. Enc _____ No. Persons _____

We look forward to seeing many of you there. Guests are certainly welcome!