

CSGA Newsletter

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100 Years

Women's Suffrage in California

by Cath Madden Trindle, CG

“Votes for Women these are three small words which constitute the biggest question of the political world today.”

The Sacramento Congressional Record of January 1911

On October 10, 1911, California became the 6th state to give women the right to vote—nine years before the passage of the 19th amendment guaranteed equal voting rights to women throughout the United States.

New Jersey had granted women the right to vote in the state's original constitution. However, it was revoked in 1807. It would take more a century for the United States to restore voting rights to women in New Jersey and the rest of the country.

An effort to enfranchise women came in 1838, when Kentucky gave women who had children in local schools the right to vote in school board elections. In July of 1848 the first Woman's Rights Conference was held in Seneca Falls, New York and the women's suffrage movement was born, but progress was slow.

Wyoming, which, as a territory, had granted voting rights to women, entered the Union in 1869 with women's right to vote intact despite efforts by Congress to change their position. The west was ahead of the game. In fact it was a sen-



Life Magazine cover, 1911

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A Busy Month

There are many genealogical events happening in October in California. A big one is Family History Day in Sacramento. See the notice on page 49. If you can't make it to Sacramento, be sure and check the events list on page 50 as well the society news pages starting on page 48.

The internet is great but getting together in person with fellow researchers and having the opportunity to listen to well-known speakers is invaluable.

Support your local societies and have a great learning experience by attending one of these events.

**BALLOT ENCLOSED!
PLEASE REMEMBER TO VOTE**

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About CSGA

Our Mission:

- Serve as an information source for the California genealogical community
- Form a communication link between societies and the genealogical community
- Identify, assess, inventory and preserve the genealogical sources within the state
- Promote and advertise genealogy

CSGA Newsletter

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Ralphs Community Program Fundraising – Time to Renew Your Shopper Cards

by Junel Davidsen, CG

Thanks to all in southern Californians who are participating in the Ralph's Community Program to help raise funds for CSGA by shopping at Ralphs stores.

Participant registration for the new term begins on September 1, 2011. Participants will be required to register or re-register for the new term at www.Ralphs.com or by using the scanbar letter at the register starting September 1, 2011.

If you received a scanbar letter last year, it is still good and can be used this year.

Even if participants registered as recently as June or July 2011, they will be required to register again, on or after September 1, 2011.

CSGA does NOT need to re-register, only the participants. This notice does not apply to participants of the Food 4 Less/Foods Co Community Rewards program.

Savemart, Lucky and FoodMaxx SHARES Program Fundraising – Time to Request a Shopper Card

There are still shopper cards available (primarily Central and Bay areas of California). This is an easy way to help raise funds for CSGA. Simply scan your shopper card and earn SHARES points for CSGA. SHARES will donate to CSGA based on the number of points.

Call Junel Davidsen at 831-206-1602 or email genietreas@yahoo.com to receive your card.

Webinars

The Southern California Genealogy Society has three upcoming webinars:

Sept. 21–6 pm. Immigrant Cluster Communities: Past, Present and Future–Lisa Alzo;

October 1–10 am. Remembering the Ladies: Researching Your Female Ancestors–Gena Philibert Ortega;

October 19–6 pm. Yes you Can! Do Genealogy in Spite of a Learning Disability - Jean Wilcon Hibben, PhD, CG.

The nice thing about webinars is that you can live anywhere and still take part. So wherever you are in California or beyond, you can tune these in. Go to <http://www.scgs-genealogy.com/> for more information and to register.

President's Message



by Sue Roe

October board meeting

The next CSGA board meeting will take place on October 15, 2011 at Family History Day at the State Archives in Sacramento. This meeting will be held in the early morning, before Family History Day begins. CSGA will be represented in several ways on that day: We will have a booth in the exhibit area; we will do a workshop on the use of our website and other benefits of membership; and several of our board members will be giving other workshops. Family History Day is a great event and a chance to see our "state of the art" state archives. I hope many of you are planning to be there.

For further information, go to:

<http://fhdnews.blogspot.com/> or <http://www.sos.ca.gov/archives/events/family-history-day.htm>

Meet the candidates

You will find a ballot in this newsletter for officers who will begin their 2-year terms in 2012. Two directors will serve for only one year, just this once. After that the 2-year terms will be staggered. All individual members may vote. Each member society has one vote. This vote should be cast by the president unless he/she designates someone else to do it.

The positions of president, 2nd vice-president, and treasurer are not up for election this year. However, it would be good for everyone to start thinking of people who might like to fill these positions next year. Melinda Kashuba and I will be "termed out" and you will have to replace us in our offices.

First vice-president: Catherine Luijt is a family history researcher. She has degrees in Industrial Technology (B.S.) and Urban Studies (B.A.) from California State University, Los Angeles, a Certificate in Land Use and Environmental Planning from the University of California, Irvine, and is currently working on her M.A.

in history (United States and Latin America). She has worked as a CSGA liaison for the Society of Hispanic Historical Ancestral Research (SHHAR) and is also a former board member of that group (term ended August, 2011).

Secretary: Sheri Fenley serves as: editor for the San Joaquin County Genealogical Society newsletter (2007 to present); Registrar for the El Toyon Chapter NSDAR (2007 to present); and coordinator for NGSQ article online discussion groups. She is the writer of "The Educated Genealogist," a genealogy blog (2008 to present) and has worked as a professional genealogist from 2006 to present. She is an IGHR Alumni 2008 & 2009. She holds a Certificate in Family History Studies from Monterey Peninsula College and a Certificate of Completion from the 1st ProGen group. She lives in Stockton, is married to a 4th generation longshoreman for the Port of Stockton, and has 3 grown sons and 1 fat cat.

Director at large (two year term): Sandra Aberle-Benward was born Sandra Lee Gardner in Alliance, Stark Co, Ohio. She was an Army brat, an Air Force wife and now, 23 years later, a retired federal worker's wife. She has two grown married sons and 3 grandchildren. She says she is very family oriented. Family tree roots are a lifelong task for her. She is very active in her local society—Root Cellar Sacramento Genealogical Society. She has held several offices and is the current president. She chaired the Family History Day at the California State Archives in 2010 and is co-chairing the event this year. She also has memberships in Roseville Genealogical Society, Genealogical & Historical Council of Sacramento Valley, California State Genealogical Alliance, California Genealogical Society, National Genealogical Society, and Ohio State Genealogical Society.

Director at large (two year term): Barbara Edkin, has been involved with doing family research since 1961,

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President's Column

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and with CSGA since the 1980s. She is retired and says she is busier than when she was working! She says, "My experiences with family research have reinforced my belief in the goodness of others. It is with the sharing of knowledge, experiences, and willingness to go the extra mile for others that has moved me past many brick walls. CSGA has given me exposure to wonderful genealogists, the ability to "pay back" by helping with open access (and similar) campaigns, and working to unite the genealogical community throughout the state for sharing and growth." Barbara is a past president of CSGA and serves as our awards chairperson.

Director at large (two year term) Sharon Hoyt is a third-generation California native who lives in the Silicon Valley. A former information architect, she is a full-time genealogist who conducts genealogical research for individual clients and serves as a consultant to Ancestry.com. She holds a Master's degree in Library and Information Science. Sharon is a member of several local and national genealogical societies, and is a former volunteer at the Cupertino Historical Society and California History Center at De Anza College.

Director at large (one year term): Gena Philibert-Ortega holds a Master's degree in interdisciplinary studies (psychology and women's studies) and a Master's

degree in religion. Presenting on various subjects involving genealogy, Gena has spoken to groups throughout California and Utah, as well as audiences across the United States and Europe. Gena is the author of hundreds of articles published in genealogy newsletters and magazines. Her writings can also be found on her blogs, *Gena's Genealogy* and *Food.Family.Ephemera*. She is also the author of the books, *Putting the Pieces Together* and the *Cemeteries of the Eastern Sierra* (Arcadia Publishing, 2007). Gena serves as vice-president for the Southern California Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists. She is also a regional director for the California State Genealogical Alliance.

Director at large (one year term): Barbara Perez, originally from Omaha, Nebraska, now lives in Temecula, where she is president of the Temecula Valley Genealogical Society. She says, "Family is very important to me. When I was growing up, I had five great-grandparents and two lived until I was in junior high. I heard all the stories and knew the facts but I didn't start serious research till 2000." In addition to the TVGS, she is a member of Southern California Genealogical Society and South Orange County California Genealogical Society and is looking forward to becoming more active in the genealogical community. In addition to family research, she also enjoys cooking, needlework, reading, and travel.

Projects

by Cath Madden Trindle, CG

On August 24 FamilySearch released the next in a great lineup of California Projects, The US, California, Sawtelle—National Homes for Disabled Soldiers, 1866–1938. These records give military history (unit(s), enlistment date, discharge date); personal history (birth date and place, description, occupation, religion, residence after discharge from home); history while in the home; and general information which can include pension number and more.

"The Sawtelle Veterans Home was a care home for disabled American veterans in what is today part of the Los Angeles metropolitan area. The Home, formally the Pacific Branch of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, was established in 1887 on part of Rancho San

Vicente y Santa Monica lands donated by Senator John P. Jones and Arcadia B. de Baker. By 1900 with over 1000 residents a new hospital was built. This in turn was replaced in 1927 by the Wadsworth Hospital." (Wikipedia)

In the late 1930s the National Homes for Disabled Soldiers were absorbed into the Veterans Administration.

This appears to be an easy project, two entries per image. With the speed of our current indexers, it may be gone before this project update is printed in the newsletter. If so, watch for other California projects. I will continue to send out a notice to the CSGA lists when the projects are launched.

If you would like to be added to a separate project notification list send an email to Projects@csga.com and I will make that happen.

Women's Right to Vote

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ator from California who introduced the topic of equal rights for all women to the U.S. Congress in 1878.

For a time it looked like California would be the third state to extend the vote. In 1893, the legislature voted in suffrage for women. Unfortunately the governor at the time, Henry Harrison Markham, decided the bill was unconstitutional and quashed it with a veto.

Another effort was made in 1896 when the suffragists managed to get a statewide referendum on the ballot. While the Populists, Prohibitionists, Republicans and unions were on their side they still lost by a sizable majority. It is interesting to note that the referendum won in all but two counties, San Francisco and Alameda, today among the most liberal counties in the state.

The Liquor Dealers League and the Democratic party were instrumental in the crushing defeat, causing the movement to languish over the next ten years.

A suffrage convention convened in San Francisco after the 1906 earthquake. In the past, the movement had been strongest among the well-to-do, well-educated classes, but now the movement went door to door seeking shop girls, factory workers, and small town residents. The mantra of "Equal Pay for Equal Work" became part of the campaign. Those seeking prohibition were pushed to the background as the leaders recognized the need to separate the two movements if women were to win the vote.

The Yellow Ribbon, a suffrage newspaper founded by Katherine Reed Balentine in 1906* and Charlotte Spears Bass's suffrage editorials in Los Angeles's *The California Eagle*, the state's largest African-American newspaper, kept the issue before the public.

The movement produced heroes, such as Maud Younger, a wealthy San Franciscan turned dedicated suffragist, labor union supporter, and political activist. Younger, dubbed the "millionaire waitress," helped organize that city's first waitresses' union and was instrumental in the establishment of labor laws that protected the average worker, including California's first eight-hour-day law for women. As the suffrage movement grew in California, Younger encouraged the working class to join. Her flamboyancy and wealth helped to attract the



Maud Younger, December 1920
National Photo Company Collection (Library of Congress)

press coverage that kept the issue before the public.

After passage of the vote in California. Maud was called to join the greater movement in Washington, D.C., staying there until passage of the 19th amendment in 1920.

The suffrage movement in California faced quite a bit of opposition. Opposing the vote for women were *The Los Angeles Times*, the Liquor Dealers League, the Southern California Anti-Suffrage Association, the Northern California Anti-Suffrage Association and prominent figures such as nationally respected writer and orator John Powell Irish. But the movement could not be squelched and a constitutional amendment was put on the ballot.

On October 10, 1911, suffragist precinct workers were prepared for problems at the polls in San Francisco and Alameda counties. Over a thousand ballot box watchers monitored every polling place in San Francisco. Thousands of fraudulent ballots were caught. As the votes started to filter in the next day, newspapers declared the amendment was dead. San Francisco soundly defeated it and Alameda was close behind. But the day progressed and results came in from further away. By the end of the 2nd day of counting, the small towns and valleys had pushed the vote to a win by just about 4000 votes, an average of one per precinct. California women joined the franchised women of Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Idaho and Washington. In 1912, Oregon, Kansas and Arizona women won their vote. West coast women claimed their franchise.

The potential power of that vote did not go unnoticed.

* Issues from 1906-1907 are available today in the Huntington Library in San Marino and the California State Library in Sacramento.

Spotlight on genealogical research facilities

A series of articles about places to do research

Genealogy Research at Stanford University Libraries

by Carolyn Ybarra, Ph.D.

What resources for genealogists are available at Stanford University? I have found books on eastern European genealogy in the law library, and old Sears catalogs showing early 20th century clothing styles in the business library. There are northern California city directories and 1890s county histories from all over the country. They have historical California newspapers on microfilm, and you can search the historical *San Francisco Chronicle* and the *Los Angeles Times* (via ProQuest Historical Newspapers) onsite only (every word index). Special Collections has a variety of family papers and diaries which may feature a surname you are researching or a time period and place in which you are interested.

Stanford University Libraries are open to the public seven days each year, free of charge, with no borrowing privileges. Longer periods of access and borrowing privileges may be purchased. This policy applies to the Cecil H. Green Library (which houses the main social science and history research collections, the Johnsson Library of Government Documents, and the Special Collections and University Archives), as well as several branch libraries, notably the Branner Earth Sciences Library, which has much of the university's map collection.

The professional school libraries (Law, Medicine, Business) have differing access policies, as does the Hoover Library, which contains many resources on the politics and history of other countries.

The main web page for Stanford library information is <http://www-sul.stanford.edu/>. From that page, you may select "For Visitors" under the heading "Services" to get detailed information on access, parking, maps and directions, and photocopy services. Parking is difficult later in the day so plan to come early. There are public spots where you can pay by machine at the Tresidder lot and the underground parking structure 6, both within ten-minute walking distance to the Green Library. Hours change with the academic calendar, so check the website or call (650) 725-1064.

From the libraries' main web page you may also search

the libraries' catalog under either "SearchWorks" (a newer catalog, still under development) or "Socrates." It is important to search in advance of your visit because many resources are housed remotely and require a few days to page. This is true particularly for Special Collections (rare books), as well as many older books (such as state papers or county histories), housed in one of the Stanford Auxiliary Libraries – marked "SAL" in the catalog. Be sure to try different wording and both catalogs. For example, putting in the search term "Sanborn Maps" in Socrates brought up two results, while putting in "Sanborn Fire Insurance" brought up a total of four (including the California maps the library has on microfilm).

Late 19th century county histories are best found via a subject search, using the format "Seneca County (N.Y.) history" or "Santa Clara County (Calif.) history," i.e. using the old state abbreviations and not the current two-letter postal abbreviations.

Back on the main web page, you can find a variety of online resources by clicking "E-resources" under "Catalogs and Search Tools." Some links provide information digitized by Stanford, while other links take you to outside sources.

While the e-journals and digital collections are public, many of the databases are subscriptions accessible only to Stanford affiliates (or, as in the case of the ProQuest Newspapers, only onsite). On the "E-resources" page, you can choose "Special Collections Finding Aids" to get a sense of what is available in the university archives.

For example, you might be interested in the (Nathaniel) Hawthorne Family Papers, which include personal journals and letters of Sophia Peabody Hawthorne and her children. Or you might want to see the original notes and documents belonging to Timothy Hopkins, author of the genealogy *John Hopkins of Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1634*. You can learn about early Ranchos in California via the *Mesa Land Case Papers, 1853-1930*. Or, you might want to read the

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Legislative Watch

Offices of the Court Clerk to Close Early

by Junel Davidsen, CG

In response to recent budget cuts affecting the Alameda Superior Court, offices of the Court Clerk will close at 2:30 p.m. every day. The early closures will begin in October 2011, and will continue indefinitely according to notices posted in the public area and website announcements at <http://www.alameda.courts.ca.gov/> > “Notice of Reduced Service Hours in the Court Clerk’s Office.”



Superior Court Clerks throughout California may be similarly impacted by service hour reductions. For example, San Francisco offices will open later and close earlier. (See <http://sfsuperiorcourt.org/> “What’s New”) and offices in Mendocino County will be closing at 3 p.m. (See http://www.ukiahdailyjournal.com/news/ci_18775104.)

Offices of the Superior Court Clerk handle the filing, indexing and maintenance of records such as civil suits and divorces, probate matters and criminal cases, dating back to the establishment of a county. Early office closures will limit access to those records.

An ABS news video (http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=news/local/san_francisco&id=8253965) reported that “it might take months to get copies of court records.” It is best to check the Court Clerk’s public service hours and access procedures when planning research in court records. In addition to changes in hours, their procedures may specify that no records can be pulled for examination after a certain time or require payment of fees for records to be pulled from storage.

Stanford Libraries

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Journal of William Perkins, covering the beginning of the Gold Rush in California, 1849-51.

There are book and manuscript exhibits in Green Library lobby and near Special Collections. Stanford University campus is beautiful, with Memorial Church (with a mural facade of tiny Italian tiles, and elaborate stained-glass windows) and Palm Drive, the dramatic tree-lined, granite-curbed entrance to the original “Main Quad” sandstone buildings designed by Frederick Law Olmstead. The view of the foothills and the red-tiled roofs from the Hoover Tower is fantastic; check for hours before you come.

The bookstore, not far from Green Library, has great art books and children’s books, and covers nearly every academic subject while also offering t-shirts and other souvenirs.

The Cantor Arts Center is free, and has an extensive Rodin sculpture garden and a good lunch venue, the Cool Café, headed by Chef Jessie Cool.

Just Published!

Merced County, California Delayed Birth Certificates

Abstracts of applications, 1943-1997

Six books in four volumes:

Book 1: 1943-1954

Book 2: 1955-1961

Books 3 & 4: 1962-1975

Books 5 & 6: 1975-1997

Each volume indexed separately

Project begun 1997, finished 2011

\$25 per volume, \$90 per set of 4
tax included

Shipping: 1 book \$4.25; 2-4 books \$5.95

Merced County Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 3061, Merced, CA 95344

For more info: 209-723-9019 (Lois)

To order: Sto4us@aol.com

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~camcgs/>

(paid advertising)

Society News and Reports

Jewish Family History Open House

The San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society has a special event coming up November 13, from 1 - 5 pm at the Oakland Family History Center, 4766 Lincoln Avenue, Oakland

In celebration of International Jewish Genealogy Month (the Hebrew month of Cheshvan, which in 2011 runs from October 29 to November 26), the San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society will host a family history open house for beginners through advanced researchers in Jewish genealogy, using the resources at the Oakland Family History Center and the know-how of a panel of experienced researchers. Bring your materials (copies only, no originals, please) and questions. The goal is for each attendee to find the answer to at least one question about his or her family history. In addition, local researcher and author Ron Arons will present "Putting the Flesh on the Bones: Researching Why Our Ancestors Did What They Did." Ron's talk will be given twice during the open house so that all participants have a chance to attend. For more information, visit <http://www.sfbajgs.org/>.

Root Cellar Sacramento Genealogical Society

by Denise H. Richmond, Publicity Chairperson

— **Hot Off The Presses!** Volumes III, IV and V of the Sacramento County Coroner's Records have just been published as announced by Marilyn Ulbricht, past President and Extraction Committee Chairperson. Now available for distribution are: Volume III—Book 7: Record of Coroner's Inquest November 1911–August 1929; Volume IV—Book 8: Coroner's Record April 1919 -December 1934; Volume V—Book 9: Coroner's Record—December 1925–November 1941; Book 10: Coroner's Receipt for Property—January 1927–January 1925; Book 11: Indigent Burial Records—January 1927 - 1928*; Book 12—Record of Coroner's Inquests—September 1929–April 1964.

*Book 11 includes information about the disposal of bodies and property and where they were buried. Not everyone was buried in a potter's grave as there were contracts with various cemeteries in the area to bury decedents whose family was unable to bury them.

The volumes are based on records held at the Center for Sacramento History, 551 Sequoia Pacific Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95811. Research is by appointment only at (916) 264-7072. Website: csh@cityofsacramento.org.

— **The countdown is on!** Family History Day at the California State Archives will be held on Saturday, October 15, 2011. Root Cellar is a major sponsor and organizer of this annual day of free, beginner level genealogical classes, Archives tours, preservation lab classes and exhibitors representing genealogical and lineage societies, archives and libraries. We are pleased to welcome CSGA Board members for their October meeting on this day as well as CSGA members who will be speakers including Cath Madden Trindle, Lisa Lee, Kathy Burrows, and Janice Sellers, and as an exhibitor, the California Genealogical Society and Library. Keep up-to-date on other speakers and exhibitors—subscribe to our blog at <http://fhdnews.blogspot.com>.

— Our blog

Members are becoming familiar with and contributing to our blog at <http://rootcellarramblings.blogspot.com>. To maintain momentum, the blog administrators have initiated an ongoing blog education program. At each workshop and meeting, a live but brief "tour of the blog" is conducted usually covering a specific area, e.g., how to follow the blog. The blog is intended to promote our society and serve as a benefit to members by introducing their research to a wider audience. The blog caught the eye of our neighbor society—the Nevada County Genealogical Society. By invitation, Root Cellar members Ron Setzer and Denise Richmond gave a presentation at their August membership meeting about how to create a blog, and its benefits to the society and members.

— Media attention

Our society members were interviewed by reporters from two local newspapers which subsequently printed articles about the popularity of genealogy and the availability of local resources like Root Cellar. Member Denise Richmond will be attending the Federation of Genealogical Societies conference in Springfield, IL. We are very thankful to Kathryn Doyle, Communications Director for the California

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Society News and Reports

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Genealogical Society and Library, for her generous offer for Root Cellar to share their table at Society Showcase. It will be a fun evening and conference.

From the Conejo Valley Genealogical Society

One of our own members went on a fantastic journey tracing her roots to Italy. Gail Ireland used a few detective (or genealogical) methods to reach out to those whom she felt could help her in her quest. Gail is the treasurer for the Conejo Valley Genealogical Society. Follow this link to read all about it:

<http://www.vcstar.com/news/2011/aug/26/simi-valley-family-reunites-with-members-from/>

“Gail, you’re an inspiration,” says Pat Harmon, president.

New Society

The newly formed African-American Genealogy Society of Solano County meets on the third Tuesday of

the month at 6 pm at Jack & Linda’s Country Cafe, 2390 North Texas St., Fairfield. For more information call Gerald Gordon at 446-8532 or Ardine Adams at 448-4749. (From Rootdigger, Solano County Genealogical Society).

Classes for Family History Month

The Genealogical Society of North Orange County California will hold four free classes in October:

Getting Started: Gathering, Organizing, Documenting
October 3, 7 pm, Yorba Linda Library, 18181 Imperial Hwy.;

The Family History Library System and Family Search
October 11, 7 pm, Placentia Library, 411 E. Chapman;
Places To Go for Family History Research
October 19, 7 pm, Yorba Linda Community Center, 4501 Casa Loma Avenue.

Using U.S. Census Records for Family History Research

October 25, 6:30 pm, Canyon Hills Library, 400 S. Scout Trail, Anaheim.

Classes are free. No registration. Go to www.gsnocc.org for more information.

Mark these dates — more on these next issue

February 4, 2012—San Luis Obispo Genealogical Society Seminar with Thomas W. Jones, Ron Arons and April Cox, “Genealogy NOW! Growing Your Family Tree.”

February 25, 2012—Whittier Area Genealogical Society Seminar featuring George Morgan, “Bring ’Em Back to Life.”

Los Banos Funeral Cards

Looking for someone who died in the Los Banos area? The Los Banos Genealogical Society has been collecting funeral cards from local mortuaries for years and they are on file in their library along with obituaries and books of births and deaths for Merced County. Give them a call at (209) 826-0763 for more information.

Torrance Online

The Torrance Herald, *Torrance Press* and historic city and phone directories are now online at www.Torranceca.gov/LibraryArchive. Check it out!

FAMILY HISTORY DAY


AT THE CALIFORNIA STATE ARCHIVES

1020 “O” STREET, DOWNTOWN SACRAMENTO

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2011

8:30AM TO 4:00PM

<http://fhdnews.blogspot.com/>



Who's in your family tree? If you're *beginning* the journey into your family's past, FAMILY HISTORY DAY is for you. Learn the research techniques & tricks for discovering your ancestors & exploring the world in which they lived.

- Choose from at least 20 classes focused at the beginner level with opportunities for experienced researchers to refresh their skills.
- Attend classes in the Preservation Lab to see how to preserve family papers.
- Research in the Root Cellar Genealogical Library.
- Tour the Archives and learn about the historical documents held there.
- Talk to representatives from genealogical, historical & lineage societies, research libraries & archives.
- Follow Family History Day activities at <http://fhdnews.blogspot.com/>

→ FREE ADMISSION ←

Sponsored by:
California State Archives www.sos.ca.gov/archives
Root Cellar Sacramento Genealogical Society www.rootcellar.org
Genealogical & Historical Council of Sacramento Valley www.sacvalleygenes.net
The California Museum www.california-museum.org

Light Rail stops at the Archives' front door (Archives Plaza).
Limited free parking in the lot opposite the Archives entrance.

Calendar of Events

September 24 Seminar sponsored by the Chula Vista Genealogical Society featuring Donna Bradley and Anne Bowman. 9 am to 3 pm at the Chula Vista Golf Course, 4475 Bonita Rd, Bonita. Go to www.rootsweb.com/~cacvga2 for more information.

September 24 - Escondido Genealogical Society in conjunction with the Southern California Chapter Association of Professional Genealogists will host a special panel discussion, "The Role of Professional Genealogy," featuring members of SCCAPG10:15 to noon, Turrentine Room, Escondido Public Library, 329 S. Kalmia St.

October 1 - Seminar sponsored by the North San Diego County Genealogical Society. "The Immigrant Experience: Case Studies." Carlsbad City Council Chambers, 1200 Carlsbad Village Drive. For more information, contact Tom Gordinier at tgordinier@roadrunner.com or call 760-435-2536..

October 8 - Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County presents Pamela Dallas for an all-day seminar, 9:30 am to 3:30 pm, at the Trinity United Presbyterian Church, 1600 Carver Rd., Modesto. She will present 4 lectures. For more information write to dloomis@pacbell.net or go to <http://cagenweb.com/lr/stanislaus/gssc.html>.

October 8 Seminar sponsored by the San Diego Genealogical Society and Ancestry.com. Speaker is Loretto Dennis Szucs. For info and flyer, go to http://casdgs.org/upload/files/2011_SDGS_Ancestry_Registration.pdf.

October 8 Conejo Valley Genealogical Society fall seminar, featuring Jean Wilcox-Hibben, Alice Fairhurst and Richard McBride. 8:30 am to 3:45 pm at Grant R. Brimhall Library, Janss Rd., Thousand Oaks. Contact Lois Burlo at 805-418-7220 for further information.

October 15 - Southern Orange County California Genealogical Society seminar featuring Curt B. Witcher, Manager for the Allen County Library Genealogical Dept. – Ft. Wayne, Indiana. He will be presenting four topics under the topic title of "An Ancestor's Life — Pulling It All Together" during this all-day seminar in Mission Viejo. The seminar registration form can be found on the SOCCGS website at: www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~casocgs/.

October 15 Seminar sponsored by the Ventura County Genealogical Society, featuring Karen Clifford.

October 22 British Isles Family History Society seminar, "Treasure, Travel & Technology," featuring Darris Williams. Whittier Masonic Lodge. For more information go to <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~bifhsusa/semianr/index.html>.

October 29 8th Annual Seminar sponsored by the Fresno County Genealogical Society and the Fresno County Public Library, featuring Beverly Rice, CG and titled "Ancestral Journey." Free (syllabus \$10). For more information go to <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cafegs>.

October 29 San Mateo County Genealogical Society Fall Seminar featuring John Colletta, PhD. 9 am to 3:15 pm at the Menlo Park Family History Center, 1105 Valparaiso, Menlo Park. Go to www.smogs.org for registration and info.

November 5 Ancestry Day in San Francisco, sponsored by Ancestry.com and the California Genealogical Society. 8 am to 4 pm at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco, 5 Embarcadero Center. \$42 early bird price (before Oct. 5). For more information go to <http://ancestry.com/ancestryday-sanfrancisco>.

November 12 Seminar sponsored by the San Diego Genealogical Society and Ancestry.com. Speaker is Loretto Dennis Szucs. For info and flyer, go to http://casdgs.org/upload/files/2011_SDGS_Ancestry_Registration.pdf.

November 13 Jewish Family History Open House/San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society. See short article on page 48.

Why Wikis Matter

by Thomas MacEntee

As I travel around the country giving genealogy presentations at conferences and genealogy society gatherings, I often see what I call the “What’s a wiki?” look from members of the audience. Before educating potential users and contributors about the FamilySearch Research Wiki, perhaps the goal should be to answer the question, “Why do wikis matter?”

If I had to convince someone about the power of a wiki, in five minutes or less, here is what I would say:

What if you could have available at your fingertips an online guide, like an encyclopedia, for genealogy that covered almost every aspect of family history, from German church records to delayed birth records to Social Security applications?

What if that guide was free to use and you knew that members of the genealogy community—those who do research day in and day out—were those who had contributed to the guide?

What if this guide allowed your genealogy society to have an instant Internet presence and allowed your members to contribute information and articles based on their own areas of expertise and research experience?

What if you could add valuable information that you’ve discovered, such as where to find archived news-

papers for Lewis County, New York, or what substitute records exist for Chicago vital records destroyed by the Great Fire of 1871?

What if this guide constantly grew with new content and continually became better and more accurate as a result of frequent updates?

Focusing on concepts such as collaboration and sharing pushes the worry of using a wiki out of the picture and demonstrates how the FamilySearch Research Wiki can be a useful tool in family history research.

We live in a time in which we are blessed to have tools and technology that make collaboration and sharing easier. With wikis like the FamilySearch Research Wiki, delivery and sharing of information is faster and the ability to reach thousands if not millions of researchers is much greater.

Thomas MacEntee is a professional genealogist specializing in the use of technology and social media to improve genealogical research and as a means of interacting with others in the family history community.

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California State Genealogical Alliance Membership Application



Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Society contact _____ Society website _____

Membership type

_____ Genealogical Society _____ Business or Institution _____ Individual

Annual dues \$30.

Individual life membership \$400.

Send form and check made payable to CSGA to: CSGA - Treasurer, PO Box 10195, Oakland, CA 94610-0195.

CSGA Directory

Directors

(see information box on second page for officers' names and contact information)

Historian	<i>Volunteer needed</i>		
Newsletter editor	Peggy Rossi	858-592-9360	peggyrossi@sbcglobal.net
Parliamentarian	<i>Volunteer needed</i>		
Webmanager	Cat Nielsen	510-236-6227	webmanager@csga.com

Committee chairs

Awards	Barbara Edkin		CSGABEdkin@aol.com
Legislative Watch Chair	Junel Davidsen	831-206-1602	thefamilyrecord@comcast.net
Special Projects	Cath Trindle	650 366-5059	catht@aol.com

Correspondents from other states

Arizona	Linda Caldwell McCleary	623-933-7144	caldmcl@earthlink.net
Nevada	<i>Volunteer needed</i>		
Oregon	Kristy Lawrie Gravlin	503-324-6046	Hannah@teleport.com

Regional directors

Regions	Geographic Location	Director	Phone	Email address
ELAO - Orange	Orange Co., LA, E. of 605 Fwy.	Alice Volkert		alice@volkertservices.com
NB - North Bay	Lake Mendocino, Napa, Sonoma	<i>Volunteer needed</i>	707-528-1127	
NCR - North Corridor Region	Shasta, Siskiyou, Trinity	Melinda Kashuba	530-246-1525	Tkashuba@aol.com
NCV - North Central Valley	Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Sutter Tehama, Yuba	<i>Volunteer needed</i>		
NER - Northeast Region	Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Sierra	<i>Volunteer needed</i>		
NSJV - North San Joaquin Valley	Calaveras, Mariposa, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tuolumne	Barbara Edkin	209-394-1770	CSGABEdkin@aol.com
NWR - Northwest Region	Del Norte, Humboldt, Trinity	<i>Volunteer needed</i>		
R/SB - Riverside, San Bernardino	Riverside, San Bernardino	Gena P. Ortega	909-556-9003	yourfamilyhistory@hotmail.com
SACV - Sacramento Valley	Alpine, Amador, El Dorado Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Solano, Yolo	Sandra Benward		SLBenward@comcast.net
SCC - South Central Coast	Monterey, San Benito, Santa Cruz	<i>Volunteer needed</i>		
SD/I - San Diego Imperial	Imperial, San Diego	Joan Lowrey	858-454-7046	joanlowr@pacbell.net
SD/I - San Diego Imperial	Imperial, San Diego	Everett B. Ireland	858-485-7684	ebireland@earthlink.net
SFB - San Francisco Bay	Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo Santa Clara	<i>Volunteer needed</i>		
SFV - San Fernando Valley	Los Angeles (San Fernando Valley portion)	Ron Batiste	626-797-2839	rrbatiste@aol.com
SSJV - South San Joaquin Valley	Fresno, Inyo, Kern, Kings Madera, Mono, Tulare	<i>Volunteer needed</i>		
SWLA - South West LA	Los Angeles South & West of Hwy 605	<i>Volunteer needed</i>		
TRI - Three Counties	San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura	<i>Volunteer needed</i>		

California State Genealogical Alliance

Ballot for 2012-2013

(Members only. One ballot per society or individual member please)

The following positions are open. .

1st Vice-President—two-year term (vote for one name only)

- Catherine Lujit
- _____ (write-in)

Secretary—two-year term (vote for one name only)

- Sheri Fenley
- _____ (write-in)

Directors at large—2-year term (vote for three only)

- Barbara Edkin
- Sandra Benward
- Sharon Hoyt
- _____ (write-in)

Directors at large - one-year term (vote for two only)

- Barbara Perez
- Gena Philibert-Ortega
- _____ (write-in)

This ballot is meant to be a tri-fold self-mailer. Fold so that the return address is on the outside and seal with tape.

For a secret ballot, you may either refrain from using a return address label or put the ballot in a #10 envelope with your return address. Mail to the address below. In the latter situation, your ballot will be removed from the envelope and tallied separately from the envelope in order to maintain secrecy. Please mark outside of envelope to indicate ballot enclosed.

Ballots must be received by December 1, 2011.

Mail ballots to:

CSGA, PO Box 10195, Oakland CA 94610-0195

STAMP

CSGA
PO BOX 10195
OAKLAND CA 94610-0195

BALLOT