

GOLD DIGGERS

Vol. 35 Issue 5

FEBRUARY-MARCH 2016

TUOLUMNE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

SONORA, CALIFORNIA

FEBRUARY 8

Using Heritage Quest

with Joan Rutty

2 PM

County Library

480 Greenley Rd., Sonora

MARCH 14

Making the Most
Of On-Site Research

Brenda Hix &
Ron Knox

2PM

County Library

480 Greenley Rd., Sonora

GENEALOGY HELP AVAILABLE BEFORE EVERY MEETING!

Come to the meeting 30 minutes early and get some help. We have "experts" that will get you on the right track!

At our March meeting the program will be "Making the Most of On Site Research" presented by Brenda Hix and Ron Knox. Subjects will be: How to Prepare for the Trip; Making a Plan; Contacting Societies and Repositories at the Research site; Supplies to Take, and other important information for success on the trip. Ron will share his recent research trip along with some interesting finds.

UP-COMING MEETINGS:

APRIL: Peggy Gardiner "What to do With Your Family Heirlooms"

MAY: Elections, Potluck Lunch

GENEALOGY

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

STEPPING FORWARD

After the "Family Treasures" program my thoughts turned to my primary responsibility for the next several weeks—asking for volunteers to serve on a nominating committee charged with finding members willing to fill vacant positions on the Society's Board of Directors.

There are two positions in the Society the committee will need to fill this year. First is the office of Vice-President. Lynne Storm has been an exemplary vice-president and if asked how she did it, Lynne would reply without hesitation, "With lots of great help from the membership."

Some members never volunteer because they are too busy, afraid to fail, uncomfortable speaking in public, or think they are not experienced enough. Every single member who has volunteered to serve could have used one or more of those excuses and said, "No!"

Well then, what made them say, "Yes"? More important than the excuses was the desire to see the Society continue to thrive and grow. They wanted to give something back for all of the encouragement and support they had received in their genealogical journeys. They knew that every successful group needs a continuous flow of new ideas. New officers are an invaluable resource for fresh thinking and innovation.

That second position I would like to see filled is Society President. I have loved serving as president, but I think that three years is long enough. Lynne and I are more than happy to assist a new president or vice-president in anyway possible. We promise that you will not be alone.

If you are contacted by a member of the Nominating Committee please give the request due consideration. If you would like to get more information about a position please do not hesitate to contact either Lynne or me.

I urge you to join the ranks of those members who have selflessly volunteered before you by "Stepping Forward."

Susan Strobe

COLLECTION OF UNITED STATES HISTORY, LOCAL HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

FOUND AT THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY. WONDERFUL PHOTOGRAPHS AND POST CARDS DEPICTING EARLY DAYS OF NEW YORK AND THE REST OF THE COUNTRY. GREAT PICTURES!

[HTTP://DIGITALCOLLECTIONS.NYPL.ORG/DIVISIONS/IRMA-AND-PAUL-MILSTEIN-DIVISION-OF-UNITED-STATES-HISTORY-LOCAL-HISTORY](http://digitalcollections.nypl.org/divisions/irma-and-paul-milstein-division-of-united-states-history-local-history)

DON'T FORGET.....

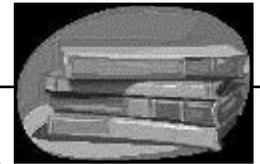
You can always come to the Genealogy Library on Bradford St. and use Ancestry.com on our computers. Or, you can go to the Family History Center on Hillsdale Dr. and use it there! Both offer

FREE ACCESS!

REMEMBER

TO RECYCLE!

The Genealogical Society has an account at the Recycle Center on Camage Dr. in Sonora. When you take your things, ask them to give your society credit.....



As you probably remember from a previous newsletter, last spring our society acquired, "*The Tuolumne Independent*," newspapers for the years 1925-1940, 1945. The museum staff members Dee Baumann, Lori East and Cheryl Maddox started extracting and indexing births, marriages, deaths, divorces and citizenship notices. They have finished several volumes and will continue until this project is done sometime this year. This is a large and important project. Having this index will make it faster for our researchers to help patrons who write or come to the library, looking for a missing piece in their genealogy puzzle. Thank you Dee, Lori and Cheryl for your dedication and hours of work to make our library even better able to help researchers.

Brenda Hix offers two more books that we have in our little library. They are :

"The complete book of Emigrants in Bondage 1614-1775," by Peter Wilson Coldham. There are four volumes, Volume I 1607-1660, Volume II 1661-1699, Volume III 1700-1750, Volume IV 1751-1776. The book is about the 50,000 men, women and children who were sentenced by judicial process to be deported to America.

"Harvard Encyclopedia of American Ethnic Groups," Stephen Thernstrom, editor. From Acadian to Zoroastrians, Estonians, Franks and Swedes, each ethnic group is discussed and described in detail. Their origins and their history, this book presents over 100 ethnic groups that live in the United States.

Below is the query list of Surnames or subject the library received for October, November and January:

Timber research
Cobbs/Smith
Hodges
Ballard Cemetery

Baker
Railroads
Gorman



Looks like El Nino is here! Keep warm and enjoy the quiet time for genealogy.

Kristine

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR GENEALOGY LIBRARY. WE ARE FORTUNATE TO HAVE A LOT OF BOOKS ABOUT VARIOUS STATES & MANY GOOD CD'S TO SEARCH.
ALSO, TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR ACCESS TO ANCESTRY.COM.
COME ON DOWN!

RESEARCH REQUEST FORM

Your Name _____

Address _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Each Research Category is a **\$5 Lookup** - Limit 2 Names Per Category

Surname _____ First _____ Surname _____ First _____

CATEGORY – VITALS - Copies of originals can be purchased from the Recorder's Office, 2 South Green St., Sonora, CA 95370.
Vital Records (Index includes full name, date, location, volume and page in Recorder's Office) – Indexed from documents at the Tuolumne County Recorder's Office (Note: Vital records were not required by the State of California until 1905.)

Births – 1856 – 1940; Deaths – July 1857 – October 1945; Marriages – 1850 - 1950

Surname _____ First _____ Surname _____ First _____

CATEGORY – OBITS - Miscellaneous newspaper clippings (copy of actual article from various newspapers, but not every day/year available):

Obituaries (1849-1992); Obituaries (1992-current – *The Union Democrat* – complete)

Surname _____ First _____ Surname _____ First _____

CATEGORY – NEWSPAPERS BIRTHS/MARRIAGES - Miscellaneous newspaper clippings (copy of actual article from various newspapers, but not every day/year available):

Births (1854-current); Marriages (1851-current)

Surname _____ First _____ Surname _____ First _____

CATEGORY – DATABASES - Miscellaneous Databases (Indexes only unless otherwise noted)

Tuolumne Co. Voter Registers (1866-1976) – not every year available
Index to Business Licenses (1899-1919)
Burden Undertaking Co. (1862-1953); Burial Transfer Permits (1916-1988) – includes actual document
Cemeteries (incomplete); Church Records (incomplete)
Tuolumne County Students (1889 – 1930)
Coroner's Records (1850-1964) – actual record found at the Carlo De Ferrari Archive*
Early Militias (1853-1867)
Naturalization Records – actual record found at the Carlo De Ferrari Archive*
Priest, Minister, Reverends, Pastors, Justices of the Peace in Tuolumne County
1912 Voter's Registration (Women Only), including first women to vote in Sonora.
WWII Selective Service Registration from local newspapers

*Copies from the Carlo De Ferrari Archive can be obtained by contacting www.tcgsonline.org. Price is determined by how many pages need to be scanned and sent.

Surname _____ First _____ Surname _____ First _____

CATEGORY – LOCAL HISTORIES - Miscellaneous Local Histories

Annals of Tuolumne, Thomas Robertson Stoddart (1848-1850); *History of Tuolumne County*, B. F. Alley (~1850s-1882); *Miners & Businessmen Index* (1855-1856); *Saga of Old Tuolumne*, Edna Bryan Buckbee (no later than 1930s); *Then Came the French- History of the French in Tuolumne County, CA*, Mary Grace Paquette (1848-1900); *City & County Directory* (1881); *Chispa-Quarterly* of the Tuolumne County Historical Society

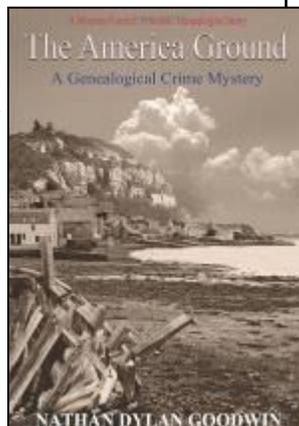
Please make check payable to: **TCGS**. Mail with completed form to: **TCGS, PO BOX 3956, Sonora, CA 95370**

LIVE OUT OF THE AREA? BUT WOULD LIKE RESEARCH DONE IN TUOLUMNE COUNTY?

Fill out this form and our volunteers will do local research for you. We have a wonderful collection of information about people and places in the mother lode, all the way back to the beginning of the Gold Rush in Tuolumne County. If you have never made inquiries, now is the time to do it!

THE AMERICA GROUND—A NEW GENE- ALOGY CRIME NOVEL

Genealogy mystery fiction is becoming more and more popular. Your editor has had the good fortune to receive of copies of two books by Nathan Dylan Goodwin. I have been sharing them with members. Here is a review of the latest one, *The America Ground*.



"I enjoyed the book. The ending was very different. I like mysteries so it held my attention. I just wish I could walk into a building, sit down, and get all of my ancestors information that I need in one place like he does!" - *Dee Baumann*

This book focuses on a place in England in the 19th Century called The America Ground. It has an intriguing history that has mysterious meaning to present day relatives of ancestors that lived there. Morton Farrier who is a genealogist takes on the case of finding out the history of a picture. In the process he gets very involved in the events to do with The America Ground. It's a lot of fun to read about someone that has a passion for doing genealogy especially when it involves mystery!

A GOOGLE TIP

Alerts are fundamental in saving yourself surfing time. In Google Alerts, you can enter some of your most frequent research queries and ask Google to send you an alert when anything new is posted to the internet pertaining to your query.

You can have queries sent to your inbox as it happens, daily or weekly basis. You customize alerts to your own particular needs.

In terms of your genealogy research, you can use alerts to monitor information posted on a particular *relative* or *surname* you are following. As well , if you interested in Irish history or German history and want to know about new websites or articles or information just save a search query in Google Alerts.

You make your alert as specific or general as you like. *It is all in your control.*

www.google.com/alerts.

CHRISTMAS BRUNCH FUN!





Free Google Earth for Genealogy Video Class

In our **Computer Group** that meets every other month we have been discussing and learning how to use Google Earth for genealogy. We have been using two CD's put out by Lisa Louise Cooke. On her Internet website, you can access a video class *free* showing you how to use Google Earth for this purpose.

<http://lisalouisecooke.com/>

Google Earth offers a 360-degree, 3-dimensional way to explore, document and share your ancestor's world!

Google Earth is known for its ability to virtually "fly" us to locations around the world. We can use satellite imagery, terrain maps, 3-D views of city streets and more to understand all kinds of places—even places of the past.

We can harness Google Earth to explore and document our ancestors' lives—and then share those discoveries with others in multimedia style. It's one of the best online genealogical tools available, and best of all, it's FREE!

In this video class you will learn how to unlock mysteries in your research, from unidentified photographs to pinpointing homesteads.

Be sure to check out the **links** below the video and learn extra tips to get the most out of Google Earth.

DO YOU RECOGNIZE THIS MAN?

He is the "Mystery Man". His photo has been in the genealogy area of our museum for a long time. Nobody seems to know anything about him. Do You??

He looks well-to-do and the picture was probably taken c. 1920. We have a prize for the person who can identify him!

CRACKING A COLD TRAIL

Has the trail gone cold for one of your ancestors? If so, here are a few tips to perhaps get it warmed up again....

- Make a list of everything you know about the person. Add a brief time line for him.
- Now, go over every bit of it, reconsidering everything. Does it make sense? Are dates consistent with events? **Check your sources for accuracy**, do you have conflicting sources?
- If you are tracking an ancestor back in time, what is the earliest date you find him? Study the information found at that time for clues to where he came from, what was his occupation? Try googling his name in quotes, the date and the place.
- Look at his near neighbors to see where they were from. Maybe they came together. Do some research on that family as if it was your own.
- If you are trying go forward in your search, use the same methods. Trace siblings. Parents may have gone to live with children later in life. Make sure you find them all in the later Census.

WAS YOUR ANCESTOR IN NEED OF HELP FROM THE POORHOUSE?

What if your ancestors are not to be found in the probate records of the area where they died? There can be any number of reasons. Economic conditions in the colonial and early Federal period were often unstable, and a family could find itself experiencing periods of both comfort and destitution at one point or another. Fortunately, there are a number of techniques to track less wealthy ancestors, both in the interest of making family connections and learning something of the reality of their lives.

You can also generally identify impoverished persons in the early records of the U.S. Census with entries designating poor houses or almshouses. Sometimes these institutions will be identified in the left-hand column of the census. The designation of "pauper" is sometimes found in the occupation column.

At other times, the household is designated as a *poor house* in the line intended for the name of the head of household. For example, in the 1850 U.S. Census for Nottoway, Virginia, a line reads: "at Poor House Edward Clay" before listing the other residents of the poorhouse below in the same household unit. Each of these persons was designated as having no occupation and under the column for "condition" they were described variously as "pauper," "pauper and blind," and "pauper and idiot." These designations reveal assumptions made regarding the nature of pauperism and disability at the time.

Some more specific lists of poor house residents have been digitized. *Ancestry's* database *New York, Census of Inmates in Almshouses and Poorhouses, 1830-1920* could be particularly useful if you are trying to locate elusive immigrant or other ancestors who might have passed through the state's sizeable poor relief system. Ancestry also offers another database, *U.S. Federal Census – 1880 Schedules of Defective, Dependent, and Delinquent Classes*, which contains lists of the impoverished, among others.

Once you have determined your ancestors were associated with a poor house or if you have lost track of them in other records, you can search for records of the *Overseers of the Poor* and other similar organizations to try and find more information about their circumstances and their time in the almshouse. Unfortunately, most of these records have not been digitized and might be more difficult to access.

In some cases, people only needed board for a few weeks, likely due to poverty, especially in the case of the women who are listed with children whose fathers are absent. Others likely found themselves in the poor house due to illness. The Overseers might record the costs of a coffin and funeral expenses, noting a death that might not be found in other records. Some others might only need a cord of wood to keep going.

You can try local societies and libraries for information about any Poor Houses in the area. A website for poor house records and history is <http://www.poorhousestory.com/>. It is dedicated to resurrecting poor houses from historical obscurity. Poverty might make an ancestor difficult to find through more traditional sources, but, fortunately, the system of nineteenth-century poor relief left quite a few records that can be useful in your genealogical pursuits.

HAVE POLISH ANCESTORS? TRY THIS..

<http://poznan-project.psnc.pl/#>

The goal of this website is to transcribe the 19th century *marriage records* from the historic Greater Poland (then Prussian Province of Poznan) into a searchable online database.

GOOD WEBSITES TO CHECK OUT

<http://www.mooseroots.com/>

MooseRoots combines historical records with relevant supporting information to provide unique insights into your family's past

<http://www.maineregistryofdeeds.com/>

Portal through which the public can access and make copies of land records on file at the State of Maine's 18 county Registries of Deeds. This official website is the common entry point- or link - to all registries. (There are many more types of records available on this website, i.e. Probate)

Hint: choose 1875-1889, and use date range you need (01011814—01011850) for example.

<https://familysearch.org/search/collection/list>

Check out the collections listed by state and country that are available to search on Familysearch. You may be amazed!

<http://www.ryersonindex.org/>

The Ryerson Index is a free index to death notices appearing in Australian newspapers. The date range covered extends from the *Sydney Gazette* of 1803 up to newspapers published within the last week or so. The Index also includes many funeral notices, and some probate notices and obituaries.

<http://savnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu/savnewspapers-j2k/search>

savnewspapers-j2k/search

Digital Library of Georgia—Savannah Historic Newspapers collection, 1809-1880, fully text searchable.

<http://archive.org/details/brooklynpubliclibrary?&sort=date>

Brooklyn telephone directories for 1909-1967
Very good!

www.irishgenealogy.ie

is a website that allows users the opportunity to search a wide range of record sources in their search of their Irish Ancestry. The website is home to the on-line historic Indexes of the Civil Registers (GRO) of Births, Marriages, Civil Partnerships and Deaths and to Church Records of Baptism, Marriage and Burial from a number of counties.

INVENTORIES OF THE JEWISH POPULATION IN BOHEMIA 1723-1811

This project focuses on processing and providing access to a database of census lists of Jews in Bohemia that were taken in the years 1723/1724–1811. This source of information is quite unique in character and is of major significance for the history of the Jews in Bohemia in the 18th century and early 19th century. It provides data concerning not only the nature Jewish settlement in the given period and the number of Jewish residents or familiants in each locality, but also to a large extent shows the structure, size and livelihoods of Jewish families, including information on contribution amounts levied, etc. Due to the fact that the list, in the relatively continuous way, cover the period from the 18th to the beginning of the 19th century, they make it possible, to a certain extent – not only in themselves, but also, and primarily, in comparison with other written sources – to record and monitor changes and trends in the life of the Jewish population in this period. They are important source of information for genealogists, researchers in the field of regional history, demographers and researchers in social and economic history.

<http://www.projektsoupis.cz/aindex.php>

**PASSING SCHOOL ZONE
TAKE IT SLOW
LET OUR LITTLE
SHAVERS GROW**

Burma Shave



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

MEETINGS

SHARES REWARD CARD TOTAL

\$4,049.43

**Our society has
made this much
money by just
handing the card to
the clerk at Save-
Mart Market!!!**



DO YOU HAVE A SHARES
REWARD CARD? IF NOT,
CALL LORI AT THE MUSEUM
532-1317....

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS...

(If you have changed your email address, let us know)

NEW MEMBER: Lucy Tyndall, 21891 Ferretti Rd.,
Groveland, CA 95321, Tel: 209 222-0345,
Email: Lmortyn@gmail.com

Pam Ann Dobbs, PO Box 812, Twain Harte, CA 95383,
Tel: 209 206-3143

Karen Holderman, 17010 Monte Grande Dr., Souls-
byville, CA 95372, Email: misspecialk@gmail.com

Steve & Mary Finigian, 10994 Belmont Dr., Sonora, CA
95370, Tel: 209 532-4926, Email:
sfinigian@gmail.com

EMAIL CHANGE: none

ADDR CHANGE: none

MEMBERSHIP ROSTERS

Membership Rosters are available at the
Museum or by e-mail (send request to tcg-
sonline@yahoo.com)

*If your information is not correct, please let us
know by sending an e-mail message to:*

Betty Sparagna, sparagna@sonnet.com

or call Betty at 533-8687.

***Thank you for helping us to keep our
Membership Roster up-to-date!***

Betty Sparagna, TCGS Registrar

COMPUTER TECH GROUP

Explore problem areas dealing with computers and
genealogy. Bring your questions and we will dis-
cuss them and try to find solutions. We are **not**
discussing your genealogy problems...just those
relating to the computer!

We meet in the same room and same day as the
regular genealogy meeting but **only on the ODD**
months. Meeting time is 12:00pm,

Bring a lunch or snack if you like....

Call Judy Herring for information 533-8996

Next Meeting

March 14

Next Meeting

February 8

THE WRITERS GROUP

Contacts:

Pat Perry at 586-3214

or Marilyn Fullam at 588-9873.



*This group meets on EVEN MONTHS except
December. At 12 pm. Meetings are at the
County Library on Greenley Rd.*

This is an informal group that meets to share
information and encourage the writing of our
family histories.

You can come and bring your lunch if you're
working!

Our regular general meeting follows at 2 pm
(during winter hours) in the same room so
plan on staying through.

Come on out!



Upcoming Events



FEBRUARY

- GENERAL MEETING

February 8, 2pm

Public Library

Conference Room

- BOARD MEETING

February 15, 9:30 AM

Papa's New Roost

MARCH

- GENERAL MEETING

March 14, 2pm

Public Library

Conference Room

- BOARD MEETING

March 21, 9:30 A.M.

Papa's New Roost

Label Language

(Dues Reminder)

Take a look at your Gold Digger label. If your name is in red and you see either "12/15" or "1/16 by your name, **your dues are due now.** Although you have 60 days to renew your dues, **please do so now.**

Fill out the application on the following page

(if there are no changes, just your name will do) and mail your check to

the Society's PO Box 3956 (on the Form) or give to the Registrar at the next meeting.

If you have already mailed your check for dues, please disregard this notice.



Letters to the Editor are always welcome! We'd love to hear from you!

My e-mail address: herring@mlode.com

PLACES TO DO GENEALOGY

RESEARCH LOCALLY

- FAMILY HISTORY CENTER

LDS Church

19481 Hillsdale Dr.

Sonora 209 536-9206

Hours—Tue, Wed, Thurs

10AM to 4 PM &

6:30 PM to 9 PM

- TUOLUMNE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL

SOCIETY LIBRARY

158 W. Bradford St.

Sonora 209 532-1317

Hours— Tues, Thurs

10 AM to 4 PM

Sat 10 AM to 3:30 PM

Email: tcgsonline@yahoo.com

Website: www.tcgsonline.org

- TUOLUMNE COUNTY LIBRARY

480 Greenley Rd.

Sonora 209 533-5507

Hours— Tuesday - Saturday

10 AM to 6 PM

Closed: Sunday, Monday

& Holidays

- COLUMBIA STATE PARK ARCHIVES

11255 Jackson St., Columbia (Hwy 49)

Must Call 209 536-9736 for appt.

Open Tues. 12-3pm, Thurs. 10-1pm

2nd Sat. of month 12-2pm



TUOLUMNE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 3956, Sonora, California 95370-3956

LIBRARY – 158 W. Bradford Street, Sonora

Email: tcgsonline@yahoo.com

ONLY FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Name _____

P.O. Box or Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone Number Home _____ Work _____

E-Mail Address _____

MEMBERSHIP

Please check box for the type of membership for which you are including a check:

- Regular/Individual \$20 Patron/Organization \$50
- Family \$28 Life \$300 Individual or Married Couple
- Receive Golden Roots by mail Or Electronically

Make checks payable to TCGS and mail to PO Box 3956, Sonora Ca 95370 Canceled check is your receipt.

If you would like a membership card sent to you, please *enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.*

- Yes, I want a membership card. SASE is enclosed.** **No, I don't want a membership card.**

I would like to make a donation to the Society, Amount _____

Signature _____ of Applicant _____

Date _____

**NEED WORK DONE
ON YOUR
COMPUTER?**

House calls....

STEVE FINIGIAN

**Sierra Network
Services & Home
Computer Repairs**

209 743-0100



Member discount

COMPARE GENEALOGY SOFTWARE PROGRAMS

With Family Tree Maker ending and leaving us in the lurch, here is a list of available software programs along with the cost and features. Compare them and see which one might be a good choice for you.

<http://www.americanancestors.org/education/learning-resources/read/genealogical-software-programs>



TOTE BAGS \$15 EACH

GREAT FOR SALT LAKE - CARRY YOUR RESEARCH MATERIAL ANYWHERE!

HUNTER GREEN WITH OUR TCGS LOGO ON THE SIDE.

ROOMY, WIDE BOTTOM AND SIDES.

AVAILABLE AT MEETINGS OR MUSEUM....

