

WINEPRESS

NEWSLETTER

NAPA VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

NVGS Library
1701 Menlo Avenue, Napa, CA 94558-4725
707-252-2252
Hours: Tue. Wed. Thur. 10 to 4
Thur. eve. 6 to 9
Saturdays: 1st, 2nd & 3rd. 10 to 2

Email: napagen@napavalleygenealogy.org
Web: napavalleygenealogy.org

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July, Aug 2015

Elected Officers

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kjburzdak@comcast.net

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Vacant

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Ways & Means: Bente Shoar
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Mission Statement

The Napa Valley Genealogical Society is dedicated to the promotion of genealogical, historical, and biographical research, and the preservation of family history. The library serves as a medium to share knowledge through workshops and educational programs.

A Message from our President

Greetings to NVGS Members and Friends!



Dear members, would you please take a moment to read our society's mission statement above this article before reading further. Before you became a member, did you read our mission before completing an application and submitting the membership fee? Probably not. I know I didn't. I first took a class and joined a few months later. My belief was that I could not learn genealogy without being a member of a group. It was all about what I could get from the society, not what I had to give.

The board has come to realize that our society cannot fulfill its mission (and satisfy its non-profit status) nor be sustainable without the help of member volunteers. It is our members who promote our society to other groups, preserve all the records and make them available to other genealogists, who staff the library so that others may learn from us. In addition, it takes many volunteer hours to raise the funds needed to operate the facility, both inside and outside. Our society is owned and operated by its members. We are responsible for its existence.

If you already volunteer, thank you for your service. If you do not, can you spare a couple of hours a month? Maybe you could commit to a 5 or 10% return on your genealogy research time. We really need you! A list of jobs is posted in the hallway, but since it was created, we have some additional needs, such as filling four vacant directorships, committee work, even weed-pulling.

I promise you I can put you to work.



Karen Burzdak
NVGS President

NAPA VALLEY GENEALOGY SOCIETY CALENDAR of EVENTS

All members and guests welcome to attend.

July 2015

July 1, (1st Wed) **Genealogy Software Group**, 2pm NVGS Library. **Cancelled-vacation time.**

July 2, (1st Thur) **Baltic States Group**, 1pm NVGS Library. **Cancelled last minute.**

July 13, (2nd Mon) **BOARD MEETING**, 2pm NVGS Library.

July 14, (2nd Tue) **Family History Writing Group**, noon, at NVGS Library.

July 16, (3rd Thur) Monthly Program, **No program this month, vacation time.**

July 28, (4th Tue) **Family History Writing Group**, 12 noon, at NVGS Library.

Aug 2015

Aug 5, (1st Wed) **Genealogy Software Group**, 2pm NVGS Library. **Cancelled-vacation time.**

Aug 6, (1st Thur) **Baltic States Group**, 1pm NVGS Library. **Confirm with society president.**

Aug 10, (2nd Mon) **BOARD MEETING**, 2pm NVGS Library.

Aug 11, (2nd Tue) **Family History Writing Group**, noon, at NVGS Library.

Aug 20, (3rd Thur) Monthly Program, **Finding Answers in Online Newspapers**, presented by Trisha Bomar. Thursday 7:00pm at NVGS Library. **Evening program.**

Aug 25, (4th Tue) **Family History Writing Group**, noon, at NVGS Library.

WinePress deadline, Aug 24, articles to Editor Sandra Hoover, email articles or drop off in editor's box at library. Email: sandrahoover@comcast.net

Calendar of Upcoming Events of Interest

Jul 18, 2015 **“What’s New at Family Search.”** Presented by the San Mateo Genealogy Society in Redwood City, CA. Speaker is Margaret Melaney. Classes, videos, blogs, wikis, "5 Minute Genealogies", RootsTech online....Family Search is more than just the search button. Do you know how to find the thousands of records only available through the catalog? Come find out what's new and what you've been missing from this excellent, unique resource. For more information go to www.smcgs.org.

Jul 28, 2015 **“My Uncle - A Co-Conspirator in the July 1944 Plot Against Hitler”** Presented by Elke Duffy. Sponsored by **Sacramento German Genealogy Society**. St. Mark's United Methodist Church, Lusk Drive & St. Mark's Way, Sacramento, CA 1:00-3:00 p.m. More information at: <http://sggs.us/>.

Aug 13-15, 2015 **“Northwest Genealogy Conference.”** Presented by the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society. Conference will be held at the Byrnes Performing Arts Center in Arlington, WA. NWGC will be offering: •3 full days of classes •Options to purchase individual days •Nationally and internationally renowned speakers •Syllabus •Vendors
For further information go to <http://www.nwgc.org>.

Oct 17, 2015 **“FCGS Annual Seminar.”** The Fresno County Genealogical Society and the Fresno County Public Library, San Joaquin Valley Heritage and Genealogy Center, will co-sponsor its 12th Annual Genealogy Seminar October 17, 2015, 9:15 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Presenting Lisa Louise Cooke. Lisa is host of the Genealogy Gems podcast, author, blogger and national speaker. Look for more information coming soon to the website at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cafscgs/index.html>.



NEW ACQUISITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

Alabama

976.186 H28gv *Old Shiloh*. Lamar county, Alabama history, 1852.

California

979.4 H28wb *Black California, the History of African-Americans in the Golden State*. Includes early settlers, gold rush, civil war. Indexed.

979.415 H29mc *Mendocino County Historical Society, A Little Bit of Willits History and Willits Biographical Sketches*. Includes early settlers, pictures and families.

Delaware

975.1 X29m *1800 Census of Delaware*. Indexed by county.

Family Histories

929.2 G422cv *We Are the Ghiorso's of Conn Valley*. A Napa county family.

Maps

MAP 094 E38da *The Family Tree Historical Maps Book Europe, A Country-by-Country Atlas of European History, 1700's-1900's*. Indexed.

Mayflower

369.124 G326md *Mayflower Families Through Five Generations*. Vol. 16, part I. Family of John Alden. This book is in the silver books series.

Mississippi

976.2 H29jb *Hometown Mississippi, An Early Settlement History of Over 3300 Places in the State*.

Pennsylvania

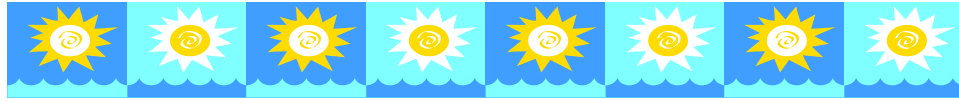
974.816 K28s *HOST Tulpehocken Church at Marion Township Berks County, PA*. Includes church records, baptisms, confirmations, marriages. Indexed.

Mary's Book Corner



Carolyn Marie Wilkins had a problem; although she and her family had always been part of the Black Bourgeois as well educated professionals, she often didn't feel as though she fit. With extremely light skin, blacks didn't quite accept her and whites were often uncomfortable in her presence. She set out to find answers to her questions about her family origins and how they came to be who they were. Her book, *Damn Near White, An African American Family's Rise from Slavery to Bittersweet Success*, relates the saga of her quest and her deepening understanding of what circumstances influenced her family. Even though she hired out some of the more tedious searching, she took an active interest and did an enormous amount of original research herself. We can all relate to her near obsession with finding out the truth and her willingness to fly across the country to dig into obscure libraries. I thoroughly enjoyed reading her book, which I borrowed from the Napa County Library.

Happy reading, Mary



Welcome New Members

Name	Surname Searches
Martha J. Kelso Brookman Upper Lake, CA email: <i>whereismarty@gmail.com</i>	Brookman, Hawley, Kelso
Lynne Champlin Napa, CA email: <i>kawayo@aol.com</i>	Bullen, Bullock, McWilliams, Metcalf, Tretheway
Margaret Wright Bomar Calistoga, CA email: none	Banta, Butler, Randall, Wright
Merry Savage Napa, CA email: <i>none</i>	Savage

National Genealogical Society Conference
St. Charles, Missouri May 13 – 16, 2015

By Karen Burzdak

Have you ever been to a large genealogy conference? After attending RootsTech a couple of years ago with Sharon Marangoni, I promised her that I would go with her to the NGS conference this year. Both of us are members of this society, receiving frequent updates and newsletters from it, as well as other discounted offers. We registered last year and as members received a nice discount. They do the same for their online classes. You might check them out at www.ngsgenealogy.org.

Sharon is an experienced traveler, making both the hotel and airline reservations. She is my guide, my friend, and great roommate.

RootsTech, in comparison, starts each of its days with a terrific speaker. But that's where my preference ends. NGS had an opening day session that included annual awards and a story teller. The time was 8 a.m., CDT, sharp. There were four classes that day, five classes the remaining days. By downloading an app, you had all the classes and their locations on your mobile device. Each participant was given an *Ancestry* bag and a free flash drive that had all the class handouts. Since I did not sign up for the extra (\$\$) lunch speakers, I still sat in on 19 classes, and I saw and heard the best: Tom Jones, Elizabeth Shown Mills, Judy Russell, but missing Colletta.

Most of the classes were held in one building on two floors, with half an hour between classes. Each speaker was allowed one hour. There was no hustle or bustle between classes, so it was easy to spot members Mary Herzog and Tada Darsie going in another direction from mine.

Next year's conference takes place in Ft. Lauderdale, FL from May 4 through the 7 (plenty of time to return for *BottleRock*). I would love to spend another week with Sharon, but if I need another crown replacement, it probably won't happen next year.

But, there is the year after.



Denmark



In May of this year I spent a day at my hometown archive in Fredericia, Denmark, to research my roots. This archive has most of the local history and here I was hoping to find answers to my list of ancestors and their farms. My ancestors have lived in this same area for several hundred years.

Fredericia is a town of 40,000 people, founded in 1650 by King Frederik III of Denmark. Still surrounded by ramparts, canons and moats. I spent many high school days ice skating on these moats.

The archive is open Mon-Thu 9-4, Fri 9-1. Here I met with my school days girlfriend, Inger. We have been corresponding for several years, and she kept bringing up that we were related. Through researching, we finally found out that our great-grandmothers were sisters. Also another researcher, Svend, came to our help, and it turned out we were also related. He gave me some more information about "our" families. Svend showed us family obituaries in the local newspaper from around 1900.....I got goose bumps.


The archive is supported by the town and has several employees and many volunteers. They take time to eat lunch together and to drink afternoon coffee and serve Danish pastry, and I was invited to sit and chat....a very special day. My visit was free, just paying for copies, about 30 cents per copy. I did give them a nice donation, enough to pay for their pasties for a few days.

I will definitely be back to dig deeper into my roots and will keep in contact with my newfound cousins.

Bente Marie Hansen Shoar, NVGS member

PROGRAM

FINDING ANSWERS IN ONLINE NEWSPAPERS



Presented by
Trisha Bomar

We know names and dates, but newspaper articles can make your ancestors come to life by telling us their stories!

Napa Valley Genealogy Library
1701 Menlo Avenue Napa, CA

7:00 PM

PLEASE JOIN US AT 6:30 pm FOR REFRESHMENTS
www.napavalleygenealogy.org

Jabber from Janice



I am always on the lookout for digitized books online. I have lately explored for additional and found new info on old ones. Hope you try them out.

The first site, HathiTrust, “is a partnership of academic & research institutions, offering a collection of millions of titles digitized from libraries around the world.” If you are not a member of a partner institution, partner-specific authenticated services will not be available to you. You can search and access fully viewable materials in HathiTrust, and download materials where there are no third-party restrictions.” <http://www.hathitrust.org/>.

From the Home page, I like to Browse Collections. Typing in “Genealogy” brings up Ancestry and Genealogy with 2760 items. Bringing up that collection and using “Search in this collection,” I typed “Goochland County Virginia Cox” and up came 212 books for my browsing fun. Then I choose “Full View” of the book and entered just “COX” in the “Search This” text box. I got back the hits within context and the page number...amazing. Explore this site.

Secondly, is the LDS site, our old friend FamilySearch <https://familysearch.org/>. This is not as easy. I always login first with my free account. Next on the top left of my screen are three horizontal small gray bars. Click on that and Account with your name comes up. Under “Activities,” choose “Search,” then “Catalog.” Choose “Place,” “Surnames,” etc., then enter your desired search term and hit “Search.” A list will pop up of books and films. Most of the Surname books have been digitized. When you choose a title of a book, if it is digitized, you may see under Notes: (in red) “To view a digital version of this item click [here](#).” You will be redirected to “ExLibrisRosetta.” This is repository for digitized books with the goal of preserving knowledge, mainly for use at universities and libraries. Sometimes, it will let you in to view the book. Well worth the effort. For more information on this site, check www.exlibrisgroup.com.

Third, Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana, has the largest genealogy collection next to the Salt Lake City Family History Library. https://archive.org/details/allen_county&tab=about. Choose “Collection” and browse through their topics on the right and notice the number of digitized books. You can also use the box to search this collection. If you want to take some time to look through an entire book, you have download options available. This is the easiest site to use.

Fourth, another old friend with a new look Google Books <https://books.google.com/>. I just entered “genealogy Cox” into the search box and several books turned up. Google has many features in its menu; one can even translate a portion that you have selected with the scissors icon. You can add this to GooglePlay if you have set up a Google account. Then you have it available at your convenience. I have Google Play Books on my iPad, so I can read the books anytime, anywhere.

Hope you enjoy a summer filled with fun exploring the wonders of eBooks. Saves a bit on air fare to Salt Lake City!

Janice Cox Brown

jancoxbrown@gmail.com

RECYCLING @ NVGS

Thank you member Chris Burditt for bringing your soda cans and plastic bottles to the library for recycling! For those of you who are drinking water at the library or sipping on soda in cans, please place these recyclables in the RED tub. The first trip to *rePLANET* yielded \$16.



THIRD THURSDAY EVENING CHAT GROUP



COME JOIN US TO DISCUSS YOUR GENEALOGY NEEDS

JULY 16 -- RECORDKEEPING & ORGANIZING YOUR RESEARCH

OCTOBER 18 – EXPLORING ANCESTRY, FAMILY SEARCH, FINDAGRAVE

NOVEMBER 19 – DNA—WHAT IT CAN & CANNOT DO

DECEMBER 17 – PRESERVING PHOTOS/KEEPSAKES

DISCUSSIONS ARE OPEN TO ANY GENEALOGY TOPICS YOU WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS!!!

Facilitated by Roxanne Bay & Carole Fisher
7:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.

Cannot find it on our book shelves?

The library has had visitors and members alike looking for a certain publication but cannot find it on our book shelves. This reminder/tutorial will refresh your memory when this happens to you.

Remember to look at the entire call number including the very first line before the numbers start. You will see there could be an O or P or S on that first line of the call number.

O stands for “Oversized” These books will be located in the alcove. The Alcove is located at the north end of the book room. They are oversized and do not fit on the book shelves in the book room.

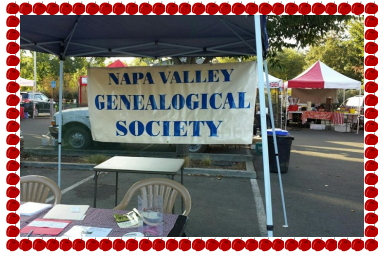
P stands for “Periodicals” These are on the first aisle of the book room, on the east side. They are shelved by state. Then you look for the call number.

S stands for “Special Collections” These are the volumes that are very fragile and need to be handled with care. They are located in the McGuire room.

This should help you find that elusive volume.

Family History Writing Group

Members are invited to attend the Family History Writing Group every second and fourth Tuesday of the month from noon to 1:00 pm at our library. Attendees inspire all to get started in family story writing. While attending this group you can share your story and learn from others. For info, contact the library at 707-252-2252 .



REMEMBER THE
NAPA FARMER'S MARKET
IS NOW ON-GOING FOR THE
SUMMER



Our table is up and running at the Farmers Market.
We have informational material for visitors who stop by.
Sign up at our library to staff the table and have fun with the many visitors who will stop by and ask questions, or share their genealogical researching.

Two people staff the table on Market Day so no one is left alone.

Our Market table days start on May 30th and go through Sep. 12th.

Contact Wendy Rosenthal to volunteer.
wendyjr@comcast.net or call the library, 707-252-2252

WINEFEST 2015

Mark your calendars

Our Annual fundraiser will be held at the Senior Citizens Center on

Thursday evening - September 17, 2015

6:30 pm.

1500 Jefferson, Napa, CA

We will be serving German food, great wine and beer.

Drawing of the lucky winners will be at 8pm.

A festive night honoring our German ancestors.
Come in your ancestor's costume, if you wish,
and bring pictures, trinkets.

See you there.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Do you know that you may request a copy of our speaker's handout? If you miss a meeting and would like a digital copy of the handout, send your request to napagen@napavalleygenealogy.org with the speakers handout in the subject line. In the body of the message request the handout.



Yearly Dues

All members who have furnished us their email address will receive a notice in their inbox when dues are due.

Those without email will receive a paper copy in the mail.



THE WEEK OF THE FIRE

April 1906

Early in the morning of April 18th came the Great Catastrophe.

Edith's Story continues from last issue of the *WinePress*.

It was a sorry sight, as we went on and found, everywhere, the damage to property much greater than we had supposed. Along Van Ness Avenue were bad ruins; St. Brigid's church with the front all fallen out, St. Luke's a terrible wreck and, most startling of all, the fissures in sidewalk and pavement on Van Ness from Broadway to Green. After a while we remembered, however, that it had been filled in within the past fifteen years and not being solid had shifted more easily with the rocking of the earth.



Slowly making our way to Clay Street where Mr. Davis and I parted, he to walk down town and I to see our children. All street cars were put out of commission by the earthquake which threw down all the power house chimneys. As I went up Clay to Franklin, along the latter to Sacramento and so to Norris's house on Gough near California, I walked in the middle of the street on a count of loose bricks on roofs. On all sides was great destruction and people were afraid to remain indoors as there had already been several earthquakes that, under ordinary conditions, we should have called severe, to keep our nerves unstrung.

I found Norris's house more damaged than ours. He had gone down town and Therese was preparing to take Margery to Lafayette Square. I went along and we went by way of Gough and Washington to the Northeast entrance of the Park, which was already filled with people who were afraid to stay indoors and had taken mattresses, chairs, lounges and so forth, to make themselves a little less uncomfortable. While the baby slept I went to the top of the hill in the park and had my first look into what had become, in a few hours, a sea of fire, south of market and along the water front. The big water mains had been broken by the shock and we were without any means of fighting the relentless force that had taken possession of the city and doomed it to destruction. The scene has become indelibly impressed upon my memory.

At noon the supply of gas had given out so we were unable to heat any of the canned things of which we had plenty in the house, and were obliged to have a luncheon of crackers and mineral water; and we sadly speculated on the situation. By this time the Sperry Office had been burned and our First Street property was gone but the fire seemed checked at Sansome Street.

Horace spent the afternoon in going to and from the fire line to report the progress of the flames which by night had reached Montgomery Street on the east and from market, had gone well up to Hayes and Octavia, on the west.

During the afternoon people began coming west from the burnt district, and either going down Gough Street to Fort Mason or out Broadway toward the Presidio. They were loaded with such of their possessions as could be tied in a sheet or packed in a suit case; most of them looked very tired and all seemed more or less dazed.

Edith's story will be continued in the next *WinePress* newsletter/Sept/Oct issue.

Reprinted from NVGS library archives.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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