



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

Volume 43

No. 3

May, June 2015

Elected Officers

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kjburzdak@comcast.net

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sealfisher1943@yahoo.com

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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!

“You have a low profile.”

I can't seem to get that succinct statement out of my mind. No, it was not a description of my less than 5-foot, 4-inch stature. The story is worth the space I have here.

I met Ed after his gym T-shirt referred to a Tamalpais High School reunion (my alma mater). Then I questioned him when he wore his Antiquarian T-shirt. When I discovered that he specialized in old books, I asked him to look at a collection the society had acquired, which included hand-written, original documents dating back to the 1600s in Massachusetts.

Ed visited our library to look over the collection. Upon leaving the building, he commented that we “have a low profile.”

In other words, Ed, like so many others, did not know about our society and library. He also suggested that his wife's civic group would be interested in a luncheon presentation.

This is my focus for the next year: **Let's get our library on the map!** Our Power Point program is ready for a terrific 20- to 30-minutes presentation at libraries, civic groups, educational groups. Please contact me if you would like to be on the “lecture circuit.” We are also going to invite members of our nearby genealogical societies to an “open house.” Our online research policy should bring more contacts to our website.

I welcome all members to make suggestions to raise our profile.

Karen Burzdak
NVGS President

NAPA VALLEY GENEALOGY SOCIETY CALENDAR of EVENTS

All members and guests welcome to attend.

May 2015

May 6, (1st Wed) **Genealogy Software Group**, 2pm NVGS Library.

May 7, (1st Thur) **Baltic States Group**, 1pm NVGS Library.

May 11, (2nd Mon) **BOARD MEETING**, 2pm NVGS Library.

May 12, (2nd Tue) **Family History Writing Group**, **Cancelled this date.**

May 21, (3rd Thur) Monthly Program, **"The Taxman Found Your Ancestors, Can You?"**

Presented by Karla Henderlong and Madeline Yanov, Thur.1:30 at NVGS Library

May 26, (4th Tue) **Family History Writing Group**, 12 noon, at NVGS Library.

June 2015

Jun 3, (1st Wed) **Genealogy Software Group**, 2pm NVGS Library.

Jun 4, (1st Thur) **Baltic States Group**, 1pm NVGS Library.

Jun 8, (2nd Mon) **BOARD MEETING**, 2pm NVGS Library.

Jun 9, (2nd Tue) **Family History Writing Group**, noon, at NVGS Library.

Jun 18, (3rd Thur) Monthly Program, **"Grandma Lucy & The Orphan Train"** Presented by our own member Gail Martin. Thursday 7:00pm at NVGS Library. **Note this is an evening meeting.**

Jun 23, (4th Tue) **Family History Writing Group**, noon, at NVGS Library.

WinePress deadline, Jun 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

May 13-16, 2015 NGS Conference, **Crossroads of America**. National Genealogical Society Family History Conference will be held in St. Charles, Missouri, featuring lectures for genealogists of all skill levels. Further information at www.ngsgenealogy.org.

June 4-7, 2015 SCGS Jamboree & **"Genealogy as Art."** DNA Day Plus, followed by three days of classes, lectures, and exhibitors. This year, there are creativity contests: Rap, Art, Video, Photo. Registration open now. Los Angeles Marriott Burbank. For schedule & details go to: www.genealogyjamboree.com

June 15-20, 2015 Family History Expos, **"Virginia Research Retreat Bypassing the Burned Counties."** Join us for a unique onsite learning experience in Salt Lake City, Utah. Includes 5 full days of the following:

- One-on-one research assistance with expert genealogists.
- Extensive classroom instruction emphasizing basic to advanced techniques.
- Exploring and practicing online technology (bring your laptop).
- In-depth research guide book designed to increase research skills.

For more information go to <https://www.familyhistoryexpos.com/viewevent/index/83>

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>.



NEW ACQUISITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

Family Histories

973.7 H29ce *The Gettysburg Campaign: A Study in Command.* Indexed.

Maryland

975.255 V38gj *Cemetery Inscriptions of Anne Arundel County, Maryland.* Vol's I & II, Indexed.

Mayflower

369.124 G326g *Mayflower Families in Progress:* George Soule. Sixth Edition, Indexed
369.124 G326md *Mayflower Families Through Five Generations.* Vol.'s 13,14,18, 24.
These are the silver books.

New York

974.7277 B28g *Westchester Connections.* The Journal of the Westchester County Genealogical Society. Church records, families, War of 1812 soldiers. Indexed.

Ohio

977.1 D48cb *First Families of Ohio: Official Roster.* Vol. 2. Pioneer names with birth dates and deaths and the spouse is listed.

977.1 R28da *First Ownership of Ohio lands.*

977.119 R28hh *Early Land Records of Hancock County, Ohio.* Indexed.

977.119 D28hc *Hancock County, Ohio Ancestral Charts.* Vol. 3. 1993. Indexed.

977.119 D28hcc *Hancock County, Ohio Ancestral Charts.* 1984. Indexed.

977.119 V38hc *Index to Maple Grove Cemetery Findlay, Ohio.* Hancock County, 1854-1912.

977.119 D28ph *Hancock County Bible records.* Indexed.

Pennsylvania

974.896 H38vp *History of Venango County Pennsylvania. Its past and present.* Vol.'s 1 and 2. Illustrated and indexed.

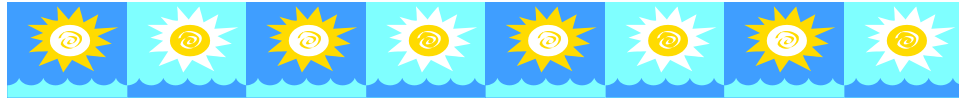
Mary's Book Corner



The Family, Three Journeys Into the Heart of the Twentieth Century by David Laskin

The premise of *The Family*, by David Laskin, sounds like the proverbial genealogical myth - "There were three branches of the family, one stayed in Poland, one went to the United States, and the third went to Israel." However, I quickly realized that Laskin was using his vast trove of family letters, and researching and storytelling skills to tell the compelling story of a large Jewish family caught up in the major issues of the early 20th century: capitalism, fascism, mass migration, and assimilation. At times it is a difficult story to read as he has given faces and personalities to the victims of anti-semitism in the repeated pogroms and the holocaust. I came away from the book with a deeper feeling for the strength of this particular extended family with all their heartbreaks and triumphs. *The Family* is now available on our Lending Library shelf.

Happy reading, Mary



Welcome New Members

Name	Surname Searches
Suzanne L. Arango 206-300-9414 email: <i>Suzanne@arango.net</i>	Long, Grigsby, Hill
Norine P. Combest 707-253-0978 email: <i>cnorine@yahoo.com</i>	Guerin, Diefenbach
Edwin Oviatt 415-332-8885 (corrected phone number) email: <i>edwinoviatt@gmail.com</i>	Morris, Straight, Clapp, Moore, Fenn, Thompson, Shirley
Carol Galbraith 406-788-5943 email: <i>galbraithcarol@yahoo.com</i>	Combest
Mary Ross 707-333-4155 email: <i>mystarbeam@gmail.com</i>	Blair, Jones, Patterson, Robinson

Staff Calendars

We have deleted the staffing calendars from the newsletter. You can now find it online from the website (www.napavalleygenealogy.org) and also view it in the library. In addition, a second calendar has been created that includes meeting groups.

Please contact Karen Burzdak at kjburzdak@comcast.net, to get your group meeting on the calendar. Or contact the library at 707-252-2252.

DUES NOTICE

This is just a little advance notice for those of you who like to plan ahead. Please be advised that beginning with our next dues year, effective July 1, 2015, the annual dues for membership in the Napa Valley Genealogical Society will be going up and the new rates will be as follows:

Single and Institution—\$30/yr
 Junior and Out-of-State-\$20/yr
 Family/Joint-\$50/yr

It has been a long time since the dues were raised for our group! Due to increased costs in all areas of operation of the NVGS, this has become a necessity. We have tried to keep new dues reasonable. We hope with this advance notice that everyone will be able to plan accordingly and maintain his/her membership in this very worthwhile, informative, and educational organization.

PROGRAM

The tax man found your ancestors, can you?

presented by

KARLA HENDERLONG & MADELINE YANOV



Thursday, May 21, 2015
1:30 pm

Napa Valley Genealogy Library
1701 Menlo Avenue Napa, CA

PLEASE JOIN US AT 1:00 pm FOR REFRESHMENTS
www.napavalleygenealogy.org

PROGRAM

Grandma Lucy and the Orphan Train

presented by

GAIL MARTIN

Thursday, June 18, 2015
7:00 pm

(Note this is an evening meeting.)



Napa Valley Genealogy Library
1701 Menlo Avenue Napa, CA

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

Jabber from Janice



Ancestry.com Hints

From <http://www.cyndislist.com/ancestry/search-tips/> came these very useful search tips.

1) Try the advanced search option using tree search fields: name, place your ancestor lived and estimated birth year. This pulls up your possible hits to the top of the list of finds.

2) Create a profile for your the ancestor you are working on. This will help with filling in gaps as well as keeping you focused. Then use this guide for more in depth searching.

- names/spellings
- Names of family members (parents, siblings, spouse, and children)
- Birth date and place (even an estimated date can help)
- Parents' birthplaces (listed in census records 1880-1930)
- Immigration date (check the 1900-1930 censuses for this detail)
- Marriage date
- Known residences (look at the headings of censuses, and beginning in 1880, look for street addresses)
- Church affiliation
- Related surnames (e.g., in-laws, neighbors, business associates, sponsors and witnesses at religious events, etc.)
- Death date and place

3) Names are not always spelled as we think they should be so use these tricks in the search field. Here are Ancestry's wild card rules.

- An asterisk (*) matches zero or more characters.
- A question mark (?) matches one character (but there has to be one character there).
- The first OR last letter of the name can be a wildcard, but not both.
- Names must contain at least three non-wildcard characters.

4) Narrow down the hits you receive in two ways. First find the map on the search page by scrolling down to Place Pages in lower left of screen. Select the area on the map and various collections of data will come on the screen. Secondly, use the card catalog tab and choose a specific collection to search. These methods provide a more thorough search and more hits.

Janice Cox Brown

jancoxbrown@gmail.com

PLEASE TAKE NOTE

Napa Valley Genealogical Society has a
new e-mail address.

napagen@napavalleygenealogy.org



OPEN THURSDAY EVENINGS

Spread the word to those who work or attend school that we are open Thursday evenings from 6 pm to 9 pm.

Bring your research material and find that elusive grandparent. Round Table Discussions may take place most Thursday evenings. Pull up a chair and join in or hang out on the computers or in the book room.

No longer do we accept the excuse that we are closed in the evening.

Napa Valley Genealogy Library

1701 Menlo Ave.

Napa, CA 94558

707-252-2252 or napagen@napavalleygenealogy.org



INTERMEDIATE CLASSES

Intermediate classes will be formed as members request them. We have heard from some of you who you are interested. We would like to have at least three people sign up before we schedule a class. If you have a specialized area in which you can lead a short class, please use the same sign-up sheet and indicate your availability. Intermediate classes are \$5 per class, and the sign-up sheet is in the entry hall of the library. You may also contact Karen Burzduk.

PAY PAL

We will soon be able to accept your yearly dues, payments and donations through Pay Pal.

FYI: PayPal is an online payment service that allows individuals and businesses to transfer funds electronically.

WANTED : EDUCATION and OUTREACH CHAIR



The NVGS needs an Education and Outreach Chair. This position is presently being chaired by our president, Karen Burzduk. With all her other duties, she is finding that this added responsibility is not done as well as could be. Responsibilities would include organizing beginning and intermediate classes and outreach programs to other civic groups, libraries, and classrooms.

This is a NVGS Board position. The board meets once a month at the library. All board members are asked to attend but not all can each month. This position can be done from your own home. No formal training is required.

Please consider joining us.

Contact Karen at kjburzkak@comcast.net or call the library at 707-252-2252



In Memoriam

It is with sadness that we report the passing of long-time member and past secretary of the Napa Valley Genealogical Society.

Martha Louise Ricci

March 4, 2015

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



NAPA FARMER'S MARKET

We will again this year have an informational table at some of the Napa Farmer's Market days.

Sign up 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



Save the date, Mark your calendars'

Our Annual fundraiser, the wine drawing we hold each year in August, has evolved into a WineFest this year. German theme is the way to go, there will be German food and all that goes with it.

New date and time will be
September 17, 2015 6:00 pm

Location: Senior Center

Come in your ancestor's costume and enjoy the festivities of this annual event.

More information will be coming soon.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Do you know that NVGS members 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 "speaker's handout" in the subject line. In the body of the message, request the handout.

The Online Archive of California

If you are researching in California, or if you just want to know about the state where you live, visit the [Online Archive of California](#). Links will lead you to a wide range of historical information. The OAC brings together materials from a variety of institutions. Over 120,000 images, 50,000 pages of documents, letters, and oral histories, along with 8,000 guides to collections are available. It is part of the UC California Digital Library project.

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

April 18, 5:13 am

At thirteen minutes past five o'clock on the morning of Wednesday, April 18, 1906, San Francisco was visited by an earthquake far exceeding in severity any ever experienced before, one that threw down every chimney in the city, destroyed much valuable property and struck terror to the stoutest heart. It lasted, according to the official record, forty-eight seconds, but to most of us it seemed as many minutes.



Fires started at once in the Southern part of the city and in the three days following four square miles of business buildings and residences were burned and two hundred and fifty thousand people were homeless.

Just after five o'clock Mr. Davis had a very severe attack of coughing and I went to him to see if there was anything I could do to relieve the paroxysm; he said it was all over and asked the time. I was looking at my clock when the shock came preceded by a noise like a heavy gust of wind or a distant explosion. Before I could turn around and go back to Horace's room the summer blower had fallen on my foot and a silver vase had also come down and cut quite a gash on the same foot, but I was entirely oblivious of either at the time. In passing through the double doorway leading to the front room first one side of the frame and then the other struck me so that there were black and blue marks on both my arms. The earth was still shaking viciously and I threw myself on my knees by Mr. Davis' bed and we waited for whatever might come. When those interminable seconds were over we thought it pretty bad for San Francisco, but had really no idea at all of what had happened. The noise of falling chimneys, breaking glass and bric-a-brac and the crunching of the earth was appalling.

We at once opened our doors to get to the others in the house, two Swedish maids and two Chinamen who were dreadfully frightened, but behaved with perfect self-control. Part of the indoors skylight had fallen into the main hall and the floors everywhere were covered with broken vases, & ceramics. No pictures fell and we lost no table china or glass, but of ornaments we gathered up three barrels of debris, chiefly things I had received from my mother's estate. We thought things looked bad indoors but when we raised the shades and looked out to see the bricks from chimneys, frightened people in the street and electric and telephone wires dangling everywhere to add to the danger, we began to realize that a terrible calamity was upon us all. The smoke from five fires was plainly to be seen. Those fires, being a great ways off occasioned only a passing comment at the time.

We dressed after a fashion and as rapidly as possible, tho' without being able to wash as there was no water running in the house after the first earthquake, when our main at Van Ness and Vallejo broke. Fortunately, the kitchen kettle was full so we were able to get some hot coffee by means of the gas attachment to the range. No fires could be built as the chimneys had all fallen into the street or back yard. Before breakfast went to Mrs. Poole's, found her all right but her cook had broken her hip. After breakfast we made a second examination of the house, every step making the fact of great destruction more evident and, at last, we started out to see what had happened in our immediate vicinity.

Edith's story will be continued in the next *WinePress* newsletter/July-Aug issue.

Reprinted from NVGS library archives.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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Napa, CA 94558

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