

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 44

No. 1

Jan, Feb 2016

Elected Officers

President, Karen Burzdak
kjburzdak@comcast.net

V. President: See nominations

Secretary: Christine Dunn
cdunn1949@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Jeanine Layland
jelayland@comcast.net

Directors:

Computers:
Ruth Jenkins-McIntire
ruthljenkins@yahoo.com

Education: See Nominations

Librarian: Sandra Hoover
sandrahoover@comcast.net

Membership: Lanita Stilwell
lkstilwell@outlook.com

Program: See Nominations

Publications: Sandra Hoover
and Karen Burzdak

Publicity: Wendy Rosenthal
wendyjrr@comcast.net

Volunteers: See Nominations

Ways & Means: Vacant

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



At this time of giving, I would like to tell you how I gave the gift of genealogy to a gym friend, whom I'll call John. Several months ago John had inquired about the prevalence of his surname, thinking it rare; he had also been told that his middle name was the result of being related to a U.S. president.

I gathered the information through Ancestry, put it into my Legacy software program, and there it sat. Occasionally, I would find information from a digitized book, and bring him the information. Now might be the time to tell you that he doesn't read more than fifth-grade level, or at all, depending on the day of conversation. Motivated by my desire to purge my filing cabinet of his documentation *and* that he would be celebrating his 75th birthday at the end of November, I printed out two pedigree charts and several reports. I like using the "descendants of" the oldest known relative. And, by the way, he has one who fought in the Revolutionary War.

Inserted between each male generation, I printed out a heavy-weight page that had the name of his male ancestor with the spouse(s) included. And all were placed in a binder and left for him to find at the gym while I was in an exercise class.

John found me after my class and, with voice cracking, said it was the nicest present he has ever had. I haven't told you his background, but his response was significant, unexpected.

The outcome: he read it all that day. His middle name is the maiden name of a great-grandmother, and now he is interested in some of his female ancestors.

Isn't genealogy great? Happy holidays!

Karen Burzdak
NVGS President

NAPA VALLEY GENEALOGY SOCIETY CALENDAR of EVENTS

All members and guests welcome to attend.

Jan 2015

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

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

Jan 12, (2nd Tue) **Family History Writing Group**, noon, at NVGS Library.

Jan 15, (3rd Thur) Monthly Program, **Using Family Search** presented by Mary Herzog.
1:30pm at NVGS Library. Election of officers, directors, and approval of the budget included before the presentation.

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

Feb 2016

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

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

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

Feb 18, (3rd Thur) Monthly Program, *The Mayflower*, presented by Louise Throop. 1:30pm at NVGS Library.

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

WinePress deadline, Feb 22, 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

Jan 16 & 23, 2016 “**Beginners Class**” presented by **Napa Valley Genealogy Society**. For information, contact Mary Herzog at herzogm@pacbell.net

Jan 30, 2016 “**Whittier Area Genealogy Society 33rd Annual Seminar**” featuring professional genealogist Thomas MacEntee. He specializes in the use of technology and social media to improve genealogical research. He advocates the use of these tools as a means of more effectively interacting with others in the family history community. His topics will include: Genealogy Do-Overs, Successful Collateral & Cluster Searching, After You're Gone: Future Proofing Your Genealogy Research, and Genealogy: The Future Is Now. For more information www.cagenweb.com/kr/wags.

April 16, 2016 “**Sonoma County Genealogy Society** presents its **24th Annual Spring Seminar**.” 8am to 4pm at the Finley Community Center, Person Auditorium with Judy G. Russell, “The Legal Genealogist.” For more information go to <http://scgsonline.org/events.html>.

May 4-7 2016 “**NGS Conference**.” The National Genealogical Society presents “Exploring the Centuries: Footprints in Time.” The conference will be held at the convention center in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. For further information go to www.ngsgenealogy.org.

Aug 31-Sep 3 2016 “**FGS Conference**” Will be held in Springfield, Ill. For more information go to <http://www.fgs.org/cpage.php?pt=43>



NEW ACQUISITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

Family Histories

929.2 B135b

Uncle Roy's Relative Families, family history of Badgley and Lumbaugh families. This publication has family records, photographs and narrative history.

Maine

974.182 H28fw

A History of Turner, Maine, from its settlement to 1886.

New Jersey

971.4 M28b

The King's Men On Command. New Jersey Loyalist Volunteers in the American Revolution.

New York

974.7 M28rm

New York in the Revolution as Colony and State.

Ohio

977.124 H29lw

History of Seneca County Ohio from the close of the Revolutionary War to July 1880.

US Land Patents

333.1 R28sc

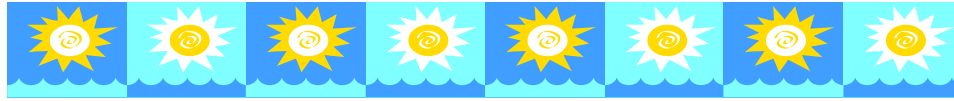
Federal Land Series. A Calendar of Archival Materials on the Land Patents issued by the U.S. Government, with subject, tract, and name indexes. Volume 2, 1799-1835. Federal Bounty-Land Warrants of the American Revolution.

Mary's Book Corner



Once again we are fortunate to have received a review copy of Nathan Dylan Goodwin's latest Morton Farrier Genealogical Crime Mysteries. *The America Ground* is the third in the series and is just as gripping as the previous ones. His writing has tightened up some, making this one all the more enjoyable. I found it very difficult to put down, cheering Farrier on as he uses genealogical records and deductive reasoning to solve an almost 200 year old mystery. The settings are very evocative and I could just see myself in the research rooms he describes. I recommend borrowing this book from our Member's Lending Library Shelf and see for yourself.

*Happy reading,
Mary*



PROGRAM

Napa Valley Genealogy Society
January Program

Using FamilySearch.org

Presented by Mary Herzog

Want to know more about a website with over 3.5 billion names in searchable databases? One that adds more than 35 million new historic records every month? One with a FamilyTree with an ultimate goal of one record for everyone who has ever been documented as having lived on this earth? One that is entirely free?

Thursday, January 21, 2016
1:30 p.m.

Napa Valley Genealogy Library
1701 Menlo Avenue Napa, CA

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

PROGRAM

Napa Valley Genealogy Society
February Program

THE MAYFLOWER

Presented by Louise Throop

Louise Walsh Throop, a resident of Sunol, CA is our speaker in February. Louise is the principal researcher for the National Society of Mayflower Descendants for the families of George Soule and Francis Eaton. Several of her pink booklets are on the Mayflower shelf in our library. Louise will speak on "*Secrets on the Mayflower*" and will also attempt to give some research tips, which might help to break through your brick walls in genealogical research. Louise is continuing the abstracts of probate records of Bristol County, Massachusetts, which were published in 1987 and 1988 by Rounds. She also is working on a five-generation genealogy of the descendants of immigrant William Throope, including the female lines. Louise is a volunteer administrator for several surname projects housed with FamilyTreeDNA. So bring your questions, especially pertaining to research in New England and New York before 1850. A member of several genealogical societies including the Daughters of the American Revolution, she visits Napa often as her daughter and twin grandsons live in Napa.

Thursday, February 18, 2016
1:30 p.m.

Napa Valley Genealogy Library
1701 Menlo Avenue Napa, CA

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



National Digital Newspaper Program

By Richard Eastman

I have written before about the National Digital Newspaper Program, but not for some time. The program continues to grow and expand, so perhaps it is time to go back and look at it again.

The National Endowment for the Humanities and the Library of Congress have partnered to enhance access to historic newspapers for many years with the National Digital Newspaper Program. This long-term effort has developed an Internet-based, searchable database of U.S. newspapers with descriptive information and select digitization of historic pages. Best of all, the information on the National Digital Newspaper Program is available free of charge. Millions of newspaper pages are available.

The National Digital Newspaper Program is the replacement for the earlier, successful United States Newspaper Program that ran from 1982 to 2009. That was a project sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities which, with technical support from the Library of Congress, organized the inventory, cataloging, and selective preservation on microfilm of at-risk newspaper materials. While useful to many historians, students, genealogists, and others, the earlier program captured only a limited number of newspapers. The microfilms are not easily available to everyone, especially in rural locations. In addition, microfilm readers are now becoming harder and harder to find. Another problem is the production of microfilm copies for distribution to libraries and other repositories; duplicating microfilms is becoming more and more difficult as vendors exit the business due to a lack of customers. Finally, microfilms cannot be quickly and easily searched for every word the way computer databases can be searched.

The National Digital Newspaper Program has now digitized all the earlier microfilms and also has embarked on an ambitious program to scan and preserve many more newspapers. As a result, many more people now have easy access from home to this valuable information. The new Program also provides an opportunity for institutions to select and contribute digitized newspaper content, published between 1836 and 1922, to a freely accessible, national newspaper resource.

Since 2005 the National Endowment for the Humanities has awarded grants to state libraries, historical societies, and universities representing states in the national program. These awards are projected to generate more than 5.6 million newspaper pages to be deposited at the Library by the end of 2013, with many more states and territories to be included in the coming years. Over 4 million of these pages are already available through the *Chronicling America* website.

To access this wealth of information, go to the *Chronicling America* website at <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>. Once there, you will find a simple search method along with an **Advanced Search** and a third search method, simply labeled as "All Digitized newspapers 1836-1922." I suspect most people will immediately use the simple search shown on the home page to search for names or locations of interest.

Simple search works well for the following:

- Information on persons, places, or events;
- Specific topics or news of the day;
- Concepts or ideas;
- Unique passages of text, such as the source of a frequently-quoted phrase.

Indeed, you may be lucky enough to find what you want by using the simple search. However, the real power of the *Chronicling America* website becomes apparent only when using the **Advanced Search**. **Advanced Search** is more flexible and is better for the following:

- To limit your search to particular geographic area by selecting one or more States.
- To limit your search to a particular newspaper or several newspapers by picking from the list of titles currently available in *Chronicling America*.
- In addition or alternatively, you can search the entire date range available (default), or select a specific date that will limit your search to a specific year, month, or even day, using the begin date and end date lists provided. (Note: Selecting the same beginning month/day/year and ending month/day/year will provide links to every page available for that specific date.)
- In addition or alternatively, enter a specific search term or terms in the Key-word boxes provided.

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National digital Newspaper Program continued from page 5

The operators provided will influence the results of your search significantly and can be used in separate searches or in conjunction within a single search.

To use Advanced Search, you can start by first specifying a state (also available in simple search) and then perhaps a specific newspaper. Another option is to search all newspapers at once although that may be too broad a sweep for most searches, especially for common names. The Advanced Search then provides many other options:

- Years (any year(s) from 1836 through 1922)
- Search only front page(s) or entire newspapers
- Language (The National Digital Newspaper Program contains many foreign-language newspapers published within the United States.)
- Several Boolean search options (search only specific words, search for ALL words, search for specific phrase, or search for words within close proximity). For any options that do not apply to your search, you simply leave the search boxes blank.

A third search option is called "**All Digitized newspapers 1836-1922.**" While that sounds like a duplicate of simple search, it does add one important difference: the ability to search by ethnicity. Many newspapers were written for specific ethnic groups, including African-American, American Indian, Irish, Jewish, Latin American, Mexican, Pacific Islander, and Spanish. Those ethnic groups are best searched by using the "All Digitized newspapers 1836-1922" search option.

Newspaper pages may be viewed online as well as downloaded and stored or printed locally. The images may be stored in either PDF or JPEG200 format.

When a newspaper page is displayed, you will see the image of the original page. You can also click on "View Text" to display machine-generated text that is produced by Optical Character Recognition (OCR) software. OCR is a fully automated process that converts the visual image of numbers and letters into computer-readable numbers and letters. Computer software can then search the OCR-generated text for words, phrases, numbers, or other characters. However, OCR is not 100 percent accurate, and, particularly if the original item has extraneous markings on the page, unusual text styles, or very small fonts, the searchable text OCR that generates will contain errors that cannot be corrected by automated means. Digitization of microfilmed newspapers inherently includes a wide range of image quality in the content (quality derived from the original newspaper, the original newspaper when it was microfilmed and associated deterioration, or the film itself.)

The person viewing the newspapers also needs to be aware that spellings and abbreviations have changed over the years. The newspapers always used whatever was common in their areas at the time of publication, not what is used today. For instance, newspapers in Massachusetts often abbreviated that state as "Ms" in the 1800s and well into the 1900s. Newspapers in Mississippi also used the same letters, "Ms," as their commonly-used abbreviation for that state. The current abbreviations of MA for Massachusetts and MS for Mississippi became standardized only when the Post Office introduced ZIP codes in 1963. Even then, the abbreviation for Nebraska was changed again in 1969, from NB to NE. ("NB" is now the commonly-accepted abbreviation for the Canadian province of New Brunswick.)

Another thing to remember is that newspapers of many years ago did not follow today's "politically correct" words and euphemisms. Do not be surprised if you see words and phrases published that would raise eyebrows today. Even common words and phrases changed over the years. Today we might say "gas station" but older newspapers would refer to them as "filling stations." Today we probably would say "voting rights" but older newspapers always referred to the same thing as "suffrage."

All the newspapers in the National Digital Newspaper Program are recorded with the abbreviations, words, and phrases as originally published. When searching, try to always use the historic terms, not today's lingo. The National Digital Newspaper Program does not cover all newspapers from all states. However, new additions are being made frequently; if you don't find what you want today, you might return again in a few months to perform the same search(es) again.

The National Digital Newspaper Program is a great research tool for genealogists, as well as historians, students, and many others. If you have not yet used it, I suggest you go to <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/> and see for yourself. You certainly cannot beat the price tag: **FREE!**

This article is from *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter* and is copyright 2015 by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at <http://www.eogn.com>.

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.

I told the servants they might go with me, or go to their own homes, that I did not know what was in store for us, whether we would have any property or not, but that they should share with me if they stayed by me; and I should have no ill feeling towards them if they left. The girls, Hannah and Lethin said they would go with me; the two Chinamen preferred to go with their friends and promised to return to me when I needed them. We had sheltered some twenty-five Chinese men, women and children since Chinatown had burned and I could not blame our men for wanting to stay with their countrymen.



We took three bolster cases and filled them with the table silver and Horace and an old cook, Sing, buried them in the sand cellar under the house. There were two feet of sand over the bags. Norris dragged a trunk of their silver down the hill from his home and buried it also in our cellar. Then we filled sheets with all our clothing, the girl's too, my laces, the camels hair shawl Mr. Norris gave my Mother in 1873 besides all the mattresses and blankets, fifteen pictures that we prized particularly, were taken from their frames and wrapped in sheets and we were ready to go if we could get an expressman. I had noticed that the wagons went down Gough Street, full and returned empty, so we watched for one to come up. The first man would not consider going to the Richmond district, the second asked if it would be worth ten dollars for the load. We secured him for two loads to be paid for by me when the second load was delivered and at 3.30 P.M. I climbed on to the seat by the driver, leaving the girls to come with the second load and Horace to stay by the home until it should be settled beyond a doubt that it must burn.

It was an unhappy trip but I was still so dazed with the magnitude of the misfortunes that had come on all, young and old, rich and poor, that my sensibilities were numbed. Friends whom I saw on my way west come to the wagon, pressed my hand and, after a few words of sympathy, we parted with a heartfelt blessing. And so I went along by badly wrecked houses, through crowded streets, to No. 355 Fifth Avenue. My things were literally dumped into the front yard and the expressman returned for the second load and the girls. Therese went in with him to try and save a few of her things from 1814 Gough Street.

I inspected my quarters and found two little rooms with more than half the plaster lying on the floor. The bedroom left just as the people had fled from it in the early of Wednesday morning. It was utterly forlorn, still it was a temporary shelter and therefore more than many of my friends had. Just before dark, Thursday, the expressman returned with a big load of things belonging to Therese and me. The girls took in the situation at once and most affectionately turned me out of the rooms, moved all our belongings inside and brought some order out of chaos. They made up the bed for me with my own mattress and bedding and put mattresses for themselves on the floor. Mrs. Allen prepared a good supper for us of bacon and beans and coffee, but my throat would close up when I tried to swallow and I found it impossible to take more than two or three mouthfuls of coffee.

Little Margery was well and happy and her Mother had been fortunate in getting good milk for her.

I walked up and down the sidewalk until midnight then laid down with my clothes on and slept nearly two hours. From then until Friday morning I sat on the steps or with Mrs. Morgan in her carriage, watching the fire spread north, listening to the dynamiting and thinking of my husband in his lonely watch by the home we might lose so soon. The glare of the fire and sound of dynamiting were brighter and louder than in town. Refugees were passing all night long.

Shortly after five o'clock Friday morning, Mrs. Morgan took Therese and me a mile away where we got water from a well in a little barn. We had a teacupful apiece to wash with and took some bottles and two pails full back to Mrs. Allen. Mrs. Allen gave us some coffee and bread and my Hannah went to the breadline and got a loaf for Horace and Mrs. Allen let me have a bottle of coffee for him. Mrs. Morgan took me in town and I was glad to find the home still standing although it had been seriously menaced during the night of Thursday. In a couple of hours I went back to Richmond with Mrs. Morgan to tell the girls I should go home to remain in the afternoon and to arrange for them to stay with the property until sent for, which would be when all danger had passed.

As it was necessary for Mrs. Morgan's horses to rest, they having been in harness two days and nights, it was four in the afternoon of Friday before I came home.

Edith's story will be continued in the next *Winepress* newsletter/ Mar/Apr issue. Reprinted from NVGS library archives.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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1701 Menlo Ave.
Napa, CA 94558

