



# 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  
Some Thur. eve. 6 to 9  
Saturdays: 1st, 2nd & 3rd. 10 to 2

Email: [napagen@napavalleygenealogy.org](mailto:napagen@napavalleygenealogy.org)  
Web: [napavalleygenealogy.org](http://napavalleygenealogy.org)

Volume 44

No. 2

Mar, Apr 2016

### Elected Officers

President, Karen Burzdak  
[kjburzdak@comcast.net](mailto:kjburzdak@comcast.net)

V. President:  
Sharon Marangoni  
[sbookie@pacbell.net](mailto:sbookie@pacbell.net)

Secretary: Christine Dunn  
[cdunn1949@yahoo.com](mailto:cdunn1949@yahoo.com)

Treasurer: Jeanine Layland  
[jelayland@comcast.net](mailto:jelayland@comcast.net)

### Directors:

Computers:  
Ruth Jenkins-McIntire  
[ruthljenkins@yahoo.com](mailto:ruthljenkins@yahoo.com)

Education: Susan Chilton  
[susan.chilton@att.net](mailto:susan.chilton@att.net)

Librarian: Sandra Hoover  
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Membership: Lanita Stilwell  
[lkstilwell@outlook.com](mailto:lkstilwell@outlook.com)

Program: Joy Firtell  
[joyfir@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joyfir@sbcglobal.net)

Publications: Sandra Hoover  
and Karen Burzdak

Publicity: Wendy Rosenthal  
[wendyjrr@comcast.net](mailto:wendyjrr@comcast.net)

Volunteers: Sharon Marangoni  
[sbookie@pacbell.net](mailto:sbookie@pacbell.net)

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 society serves as a medium to share knowledge through workshops and educational programs.*

### A Message from our President



I'm completely overwhelmed! "What with?" you ask. Anything that has anything to do with genealogy is my answer. I bounce from topic to topic; all of them become little snippets of info in my brain, but not enough to give me the answers nor enough to help someone else.

As president I have decided that I should: read and re-read our bylaws and standing rules, know most of the history of the society, bone up on good leadership skills, make contacts with other like organizations in the valley for the purpose of partnering, and lastly, read up on the future of genealogy societies and libraries. And it doesn't hurt to know something about good gardening practices. It is obvious I don't get my own genealogy done. So while I am working on all of the above, let me tell you about some efforts that other board members are working on.

The Library Committee of five members and additional helpers are cleaning, culling, critiquing, and scanning. (We now own a scanner!) Within a few months, I believe you will be able to visually see a difference in our holdings. The committee is keeping in mind that media has changed and more books and documents are now available online.

Member Susan Chilton stepped up and volunteered as Director of Education and Outreach. She was asked to make a list of civic groups for the purpose of making presentations at their meetings. If you would be a presenter or coordinate these efforts with local organizations, please contact her. Susan will also be reaching out to teachers, retired or not, in hopes that our society can assist with the various family history projects in which students of all ages are endeavoring.

With just a little room left on this page, the Web and Computer Team just purchased all new computers and printers for the library. You will be able to see them, in action, within a week or so.

*Karen Burzdak*  
*NVGS President*

## NAPA VALLEY GENEALOGY SOCIETY CALENDAR of EVENTS

All members and guests welcome to attend.

### Mar 2016

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

Mar 8, (2nd Tue) **Family History Writing Group**, noon, at NVGS Library.

Mar 12, (Saturday) Monthly Program, “**Napa 1912 as Seen Through Her Eyes.**” Presented by member Patricia Woichik. *This is a Saturday meeting.* 1:30pm at NVGS Library.

Mar 14, (2nd Mon) **BOARD MEETING**, 2pm NVGS Library.

Mar 22, (4th Tue) **Family History Writing Group**, 12 noon, at NVGS Library.

### Apr 2016

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

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

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

Apr 21, (3rd Thur) Monthly Program, “**Making the Most of Genealogy Travel.**” Presented by member Jennifer Pina. 1:30pm at NVGS Library.

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

**WinePress deadline**, Apr 25, articles to Editor Sandra Hoover, email articles or drop off in editor’s box at library. Email: [sandrahoover@comcast.net](mailto:sandrahoover@comcast.net)

### Calendar of Upcoming Events of Interest

**March 24, 2016** **Marin County Genealogical Society** presents **Meeting – Interactive Timelines**: Online Timelines That Allow You To See Your Family’s Place in History. Presented by Sierra Pope at the Marin Family History Center, 220 North San Pedro Rd, San Rafael, CA 94903 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. For more information go to <http://www.maringensoc.org/>

**April 16, 2016** **Sonoma County Genealogy Society** presents its **24th Annual Spring Seminar**. 9am to 4pm at the Finley Community Center, Santa Rosa, CA. Presenting Judy G. Russell, “**The Legal Genealogist.**” Judy is a genealogist with a law degree, and her purpose at The Legal Genealogist is, in part, to help folks understand the often arcane and even impenetrable legal concepts and terminology that are so very important to those of us studying family history. Without understanding the context in which events took place and records were created, we miss so much of both the significance and the flavor of what happened. Registration forms are available at the Napa Valley Genealogy Society on the front desk. 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](http://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

### Connecticut

- 974.6 E38g *A geographic dictionary of Connecticut and Rhode Island.*
- 974.6 M28jd *List of officials Civil, Military, and Ecclesiastical of Connecticut Colony. From March 1636 through 11 October 1677 and of New Haven Colony throughout its separate existence, also soldiers in the Pequot War.*
- 974.6 M28jh *The Record of Connecticut Men of the Military and Naval Service during the War of the Revolution, 1775-1783.*

### Family Histories

- 929.2 L848 *Edward Henry Long his ancestors and descendents. Includes an index and pictures.*
- 929.2 M817 *200 Years of Moomey Family History, from 1792-1992.*
- 929.2 B329 *Our Bates Genealogy. Includes bibliographical references and indexes.*
- 929.2 E42 *The Elicker Family. Includes an index and pictures.*

### Kentucky

- 976.9 M28qa *Revolutionary Soldiers in Kentucky. Also includes a roster of the Virginia Navy.*

### Maine

- 974.3 M28cw *Soldiers of the Revolutionary War Buried in Vermont.*

### New England

- 974 W28ab *The Great Migration Directory, Immigrants to New England, 1620-1640.*

### Ohio

- 977.128 V28ma *Richland County, Ohio Marriage Record, 1813 to 1871. Has a combined Brides' and Grooms' index. Vol's 1 and 3-10.*

## Mary's Book Corner

*Dr. Martha*



As a genealogist and, therefore, a recipient of the wonderful family history resources of the LDS church, I have long had a fascination with what makes them tick.

I am especially interested in the history of women's issues within the church.

*Dr. Martha* by Mari Graña is the story of one such prominent woman and how the dominant issues of polygamy, women's suffrage, and patriarchy affected her life. It is well researched and well written and gave me some new insights into LDS history.

It is available in our Member's Lending Library.

*Happy reading,  
Mary*



## Welcome New Members

Name	Surname Searches
Ginger Harness	Bailey, Nester
Valerie Johansson	None given
Vondell F. Kennedy	Kennedy
Kristin McMillan	Bush, Dolan

### Notice About Upcoming Membership Dues

*This is the first of two notices about dues renewal in the WinePress, according to our Standing Rules adopted January 11, 2016. You may read the Rules (and our bylaws) in their entirety on our website, [www.napavalleygenealogy.org](http://www.napavalleygenealogy.org), in the About Us Section.*

#### Please mark your calendars for June 1, 2016

At that time all present members (except those who are Life Members) are requested to submit their annual dues according to their present category (single, joint, out-of-state, or institution). You will have until July 31, 2016, to submit your dues, and members whose dues are received after July 31, 2016, will be dropped from membership. Please remember that if that happens, you will need to be reinstated, and this will require a new application and electronic consent form.

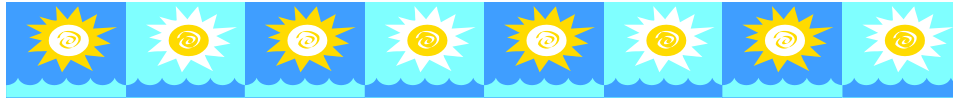
If you have any questions or comments on renewing your membership, please send them to the Membership Chairman, Lanita Stilwell, at [lkstilwell@outlook.com](mailto:lkstilwell@outlook.com) or call 707.224.5241. If you prefer to remain anonymous, you may call the library with your questions.



### *Pictures from our Volunteer Luncheon*

Honoring our volunteers.  
This Social Event was held at the Napa Senior Center, Friday, February 19th, 2016





**PROGRAM**

Napa Valley Genealogy Society  
March Program

**Women's History Month  
"Napa in 1912 as Seen Through Her Eyes"**

**Presented by Patricia Woichik**

My quest was to find out what Napa was like 1912 Napa. The Napa County Historical Society in 1983 audio taped interviews of various people. I matched the descriptions of the what Leah Caffo Scullatti and Lenore Wiloughby Levy said with pictures of Napa. I then researched the oral histories for accuracy.

*Please note this is on a Saturday*

Saturday, March 12, 2016 at 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](http://www.napavalleygenealogy.org)

**PROGRAM**

Napa Valley Genealogy Society  
April Program

**Making the Most of Genealogical Travel**

**Presented by Jennifer Pina**

"Local research can be an exciting part of the genealogist's plan, even as the computer age brings a variety of digitized records within our grasp. Join long-time NVGS member **Jennifer Francis Pina**, as she returns to share her best tips from a long career of hitting the road in search of her ancestors. With 36 years active experience, she has conducted genealogical research in 23 states in the U.S., at sites both large and small. She has flown and driven thousands of miles to out-of-the-way corners and big-city centers. Hear stories of how being "on the ground" can help you achieve your research goals, and see fascinating examples of materials that enrich the genealogical experience. Whether your research takes you across town, or across the country, you'll learn how to make better use of your time and resources."

Thursday, April 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](http://www.napavalleygenealogy.org)



## *Jabber from Janice*



Google again!

Have you tried Google Scholar yet? “Google Scholar provides a simple way to broadly search for scholarly literature. From one place, you can search across many disciplines and sources: articles, theses, books, abstracts and court opinions, from academic publishers, professional societies, online repositories, universities and other web sites. Google Scholar helps you find relevant work across the world of scholarly research.” From the website: [scholar.google.com](http://scholar.google.com)

Read about searching tips on the above link. Then use **Search Scholar** button on the right side of the Scholar home page. Who knows what you might. I found an article on property suggested for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Properties for one of my surnames in Kentucky. There was my great...grandfather’s barn. Now I need to see if it actually made it onto the Great Register.

As usual for me, I always use the **Advanced Search** option under **Search Scholar**. I put in various surname spellings in the **with at least one of these words** box. In the **with all of these words** box, I enter the state and county as well as the word genealogy (switching out the word genealogy for the word records or the word data is helpful). You can also narrow to a date range in the **Return articles dated between** boxes.

If too many choices show up, narrow it down with more criteria in the **with all of these words** box. If nothing shows, eliminate and/ or change some criteria. For example, eliminate the date range or add a township or an additional spouse surname. Keep trying with various surnames and even adding the given name if it is too common (as I would with my Brown or Williams surnames). Combining various options and searching again and again can turn up an unexpected find.

Happy hunting!

*Janice Cox Brown*  
*[jancoxbrown@gmail.com](mailto:jancoxbrown@gmail.com)*

The Vineyard Trails Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution  
would like to invite the members of the Napa Valley Genealogical Society to a presentation & luncheon  
on Saturday, April 16, 2016



### *“Dressing a 19<sup>th</sup> Century Lady & her Civil War Soldier”*

"The presentation will include many articles of men's & women's clothing, fabrics, patterns, equipment, and associated accoutrements."

Further details on the program, timing, location, cost, and how to make a reservation will be emailed directly to all members and a flyer will also be available at the NVGS Library.

This is a very unique, fun, and interesting program, for both men and women, and we invite you to attend. If you have any questions, please contact Lanita Stilwell at [lkstilwell@outlook.com](mailto:lkstilwell@outlook.com) or call 707.224.541



## Mystery Solved: The Finding of Frederick Henry Miller

He was a total mystery to us. No one in our family had heard from him, and no one knew where he was or where he went. Now he is found and we know a bit more about his life and time in Napa, California.

Born Heinrich Wilhelm Frederick Müller in Klein-Süstedt, Germany, April 24, 1885, he immigrated with his parents and older siblings to the United States aboard the ship Eider, arriving at New York on April 24, 1886. The family lived in Blue Island, IL where his mother died in 1889. He grew up there, and later at Buffalo, Dawson Co., NE where his father and younger siblings family moved in 1906. He became skilled as a carpenter/cabinet maker and built houses in Lexington, NE and vicinity. In late 1908 he enlisted in the U.S. Army at Ft. Lawton, WA, discharging a year later at Ft. Stevens, OR. Later he and his two other brothers Martin and William helped brother Albert homesteading at Rockyford, Alberta, east of Calgary, before returning to the United States sometime before 1918. For a time he may have been employed as a carpenter at the Napa State Hospital.

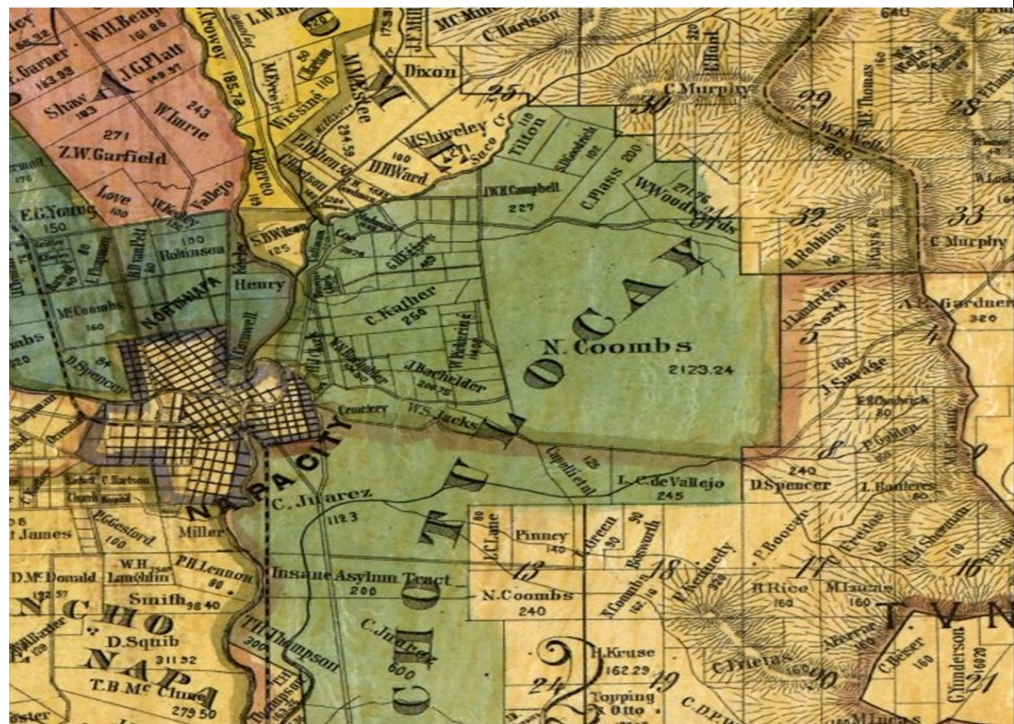
On May 24, 1920 he married Dr. Lena A. Geraldson at Napa. Born at Ophir, CA, Aug. 7, 1874, Dr. Geraldson was on the medical staff at Napa State Hospital from 1903 until she retired in 1946. She was noted in medical circles for her treatment of specialized cases, coming to the hospital after graduating from the Cooper Medical School, later Lane-Stanford Medical School in San Francisco.

In 1934 Lena and Fred acquired a 15-acre property at 1105 Olive Hill Road (today Olive Hill Lane) where Fred was an active rancher and orchardist. The property was originally part of Rancho Tulocay. He grew plums for drying into prunes, was a member of the Napa County Prune Association, with equity in Napa Co-operative Dryers and Silverado Co-operative Dryer at St. Helena.

Lena passed away at home on Aug. 13, 1946, after a lengthy illness. Fred passed away suddenly at home on Feb. 28, 1948. They had no children, and their property was willed by Fred to Lena's nephew Laurence Greer Geraldson, who sold it in 1964. Today the property is home to a number of Napa residences.

Now...the rest of the story! Since no one in our family knew what happened to Frederick, it became a personal challenge of mine to find him. After doing some research with the U.S. Federal census and online enquiries, as well as retrieving some documentation from the Napa County Recorder's office, it was possible to learn a little about his time in Napa, CA. What was a shocker, though, is that his death was due to suicide. So that is possibly why no one ever heard from him. It is possible though, that Albert Miller in Alberta—my grandfather and Fred's brother— did receive notification of his death in 1948 but decided not to tell anyone about it. However, at last it is solved: the mysterious disappearance of Frederick Henry Miller.

Fig 1. A historic map of the Napa area showing part of Rancho Tulocay. Fred and Lena's property was part of the area at the top indicated as "C. Plass 200". <http://www.wine-muse.com/wp-content/gallery/coombsville/coombsville-map-historic.jpg>



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Fig.2. A “zoom in” of a USGS aerial photo of the Napa area taken March 3, 1948. Fred and Lena’s property at 1105 Olive Hill Road outlined in black.

From USGS. <https://ers.cr.usgs.gov>. Original photograph Entity ID: 1EF0000030030. Scale: 28,400. March 3, 1948.. Flying Height: 14,200ft.



Fig. 3. The same area with the 1948 boundary superimposed on a 2015 Google Earth photograph showing present day residences. The nearby orchards are now devoted to growing grapes for the wine industry.



Further Reading:

Rockyford: Where We Crossed the Creek and Settled. Rockyford and District History Book Society. 1980? 1984?. Alcraft printing. p.328. Online at: <http://www.ourroots.ca/page.aspx?id=964187&gclid=8d7efbe8-36a1-428b-a91a-347c225da10c>

Transcription by Dana Smith & Martha A. Crosley Graham Hunt, Marguerite., History of Solano County, California. Chicago: S.J. Clarke Pub. Co., 1926, Pages 441-442. Online at: <http://www.cagenweb.com/placer/pioneers.htm>

Submitted by: Dennis Roll Drumheller, Alberta November 10, 2015.



## 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.

Fire was burning fiercely on Van Ness between Vallejo and Green and all the slope back to Jones was blazing. It was not until nearly seven o'clock Friday night that we were really safe.

Norris came to the evening meal which consisted of coffee, bread and some cold canned corned beef. I washed the few dishes in cold water, brought from Richmond.



After a while Norris went down to look at the fire and there met Freddy Hunt and Mary McCarthy who told them Mrs. McCarthy was very cold and uncomfortable in a tent at Fort Mason so he asked them to come here. We had no light, candles being allowed only until seven. In the dark I rolled sofas into the red room and brought shawls etc., to make them fairly comfortable for the night. Then I waited until ten and they did not come. While I was watching at the gate for them I was obliged to give an account of myself to the military patrol and tell why I was out of doors so late. When I went to bed I left the front doors unchained and my bedroom door open, took off dress and shoes only, the first time they had been off since early Wednesday morning. Also left the shades up and the light of the fires brightened the room. Horace and I were alone in the house. At one o'clock there was a heavy earthquake, very startling in its severity.

Saturday the 21st, I undressed entirely for the first time and found black and blue marks on my arms and broken skin and bruised places on my feet from blows received the 18th, of which I was entirely unconscious.

Therese came in early and brought coffee and later in the morning the cook, Jim, returned. He had been able to get a small oil stove and so we got hot water surreptitiously. He brought water for us from Van Ness and Vallejo. Horace stood in the bread line and got canned beans and roasted coffee. Fires still burning brightly Saturday morning, I went, literally with fear and trembling, to inquire for the Dodges, Boardmans, Talbots, Fry. Saw Mrs. Dodge and her family only, all the others being gone from town. In the afternoon sat on the porch, in fact, was out of doors most of the time for ten days. We kept having little earthquakes. For some days Norris was back and forth several times a day and always at meals and friends stopped to inquire for our welfare and tell the ever absorbing tale of their own experiences, no two of which were exactly alike.

On Saturday we felt sufficiently secure to send a telegram to Herbert, "All well, homes saved, notify Cambridge, Belmont, Washington" but we later knew that the message only reached Boston the following Tuesday.

Sunday I went to church; the service was in Century Hall, our church having been badly shaken, and I had my first view of the burned district from Franklin Street. The service was very impressive. Horace was already in Red Cross work so I had to go alone.

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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Napa, CA 94558

