

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

Saturdays: 1st, 2nd & 3rd. 10 to 2

And by appointment

Email: napagen@napavalleygenealogy.org

Web: napavalleygenealogy.org

Volume 44

No. 3

May, June 2016

Elected Officers

President, Karen Burzdak
kjburzdak@comcast.net

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Librarian: Sandra Hoover
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Membership: Lanita Stilwell
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Program: Vacant

Publications: Sandra Hoover
and Karen Burzdak

Publicity: Wendy Rosenthal
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Volunteers: Sharon Marangoni
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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 stumped Google. It does not recognize SIG, a code *word*, obviously, that genealogy societies alone use, or so I am going to presume. In case you don't know what a *SIG* is, it stands for Special Interest Group. More specifically, it is a group formed by people who want to discuss and learn more about a single focus or aspect of their genealogy research. Our society has a writing group and a software users group. There is plenty of room for more.

SIGs are a great way to collaborate with other members with similar interests or needs. It can provide the structure and commitment you might need to increase your learning in a casual format. No credit course pressure. No homework. No fee. No sick leave slip from your doctor required if you miss a meeting.

While any group topic can be formed, the one I am most excited about forming is a DNA group. The Marin County Genealogical Society formed one at least a year ago. Its leader, Vernon Smith, will be our program presenter in October. Vernon assures me that he will structure his presentation of interest to both non-testers and already-testers of DNA. Let me know if you are interested in forming a DNA SIG in September, just before his presentation.

It's all about collaboration!

Karen Burzdak
NVGS President

NAPA VALLEY GENEALOGY SOCIETY CALENDAR of EVENTS

All members and guests welcome to attend.

May 2016

May 4, (1st Wed) **Genealogy Software Group**, 2pm NVGS Library.

May 9, (2nd Mon) **BOARD MEETING**, 2pm NVGS Library.

May 10, (2nd Tue) **Family History Writing Group**, noon, at NVGS Library.

May 19, Program, "**Hispanic Genealogy: Spanish Records in the New World.**"

Presented by Lucy Sweeney. 1:30pm at NVGS Library.

May 24, (4th Tue) **Family History Writing Group**, noon, at NVGS Library.

Jun 2016

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

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

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

Jun 16, (3rd Thur) (*Evening*) Program, "**The Jewish Surname Process in the Russian Empire and its Effect on Jewish Genealogy.**" Presented by Jeffrey Mark Paull. 7 *pm* at NVGS Library.

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

WinePress deadline, June 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 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.

May 12, 2016 "Divorce Records" presented by Glenda Gardner Lloyd.
Christ Community Church, 5025 Manzanita Avenue, Carmichael, CA 95608
7:00 p.m-9:00 p.m. Sponsored by **Root Cellar – Sacramento Genealogical Society**

June 2-5, 2016 "Giving to the Future by Preserving the Past" 47th Annual So. California Genealogy Jamboree and Pre-Conference DNA/Workshop. "The Future of the past: Genetic Genealogy 2016." Burbank, CA. Further information go to www.genealogyjamboree.com.

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>

Aug 17-20, 2016 "Northwest Genealogy Conference, Family History Uncovered-Lost History Found." Brought to you by the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society in Arlington, Washington. For further information go to www.nwgc.



NEW ACQUISITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

California

979.419 H29cd *Wooden Valley, A Teachers Memoir.*

Family Histories

929.2 C543 *Chitwood Family and Related Lines*

929.2 H297 *The Harriman Family: Research in Progress.*

Massachusetts

974.461 W28ww *Port Arrivals and Immigrants to the City of Boston, 1715-1716 and 1762-1769.*

Ohio

977.119 H29b *History of Hancock County, from its earliest settlement to the present time. Together with reminiscences of pioneer life, incidents, statistical tables, and biographical sketches. Indexed.*

977.119 V38ot *Hancock County, Ohio Cemetery Inscriptions. Orange and Van Buren townships.*

977.119 V38mt *Hancock County, Ohio Cemetery Inscriptions. Marion Township.*

977.124 H29w *History of Seneca County, Ohio : containing a history of the county, its townships, towns, villages, schools, churches, industries, etc., portraits of early settlers and prominent men, biographies, history of the Northwest territory, history of Ohio, statistical and miscellaneous matter, etc.*

977.124 V38og *Seneca County, Ohio Cemetery Inscriptions.*

977.128 V28ma *Richland County, Ohio Marriage Records, 1813-1871.*

977.138 V38t *Trumbull County, Ohio Cemetery Inscriptions, 1800-1930.*

977.138 V28w *Trumbull County, Ohio Early Marriages, 1800-1865.*

977.138 D28a *Trumbull County, Ohio Bible and Family Records.*

977.138 V28g *Trumbull County, Ohio Birth Records, 1867-1908.*

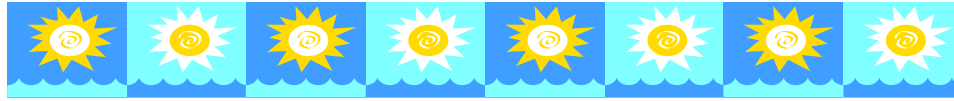
Mary's Book Corner



Reunited: An Investigative Genealogist Unlocks Some of Life's Greatest Family Mysteries
by Pamela Slaton

Fascinating stories of adoption reunions from an expert investigator. Pamela Slaton has an enviable record of being able to find both birth families and children placed for adoption. Genealogists may be disappointed at the lack of detail on how she accomplishes her searches but her aim in this book is to explore how families are able, or not, to reunite after many years. It is not a "how-to" book. It is available in the Member's Lending Library.

*Happy reading,
Mary*



Welcome New Members

Name	Surname Searches
Michele Stahr	Hellar, Stahr, Potgeter, Hurley

Notice About Upcoming Membership Dues



Renewal invoices for 2016-2017 membership will be going out the first part of May 2016. Members of record who have an email address on file will receive their invoice via e-mail; members without an e-mail address will receive their invoice the old-fashioned way, by snail-mail.

Please watch for this invoice and 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, if that happens you will need to be re-instated and this will require a new application and electronic consent form.



WE ARE IN CRISIS! Each member will be contacted in the month of May by phone asking for your thoughts on the direction our Society should take.

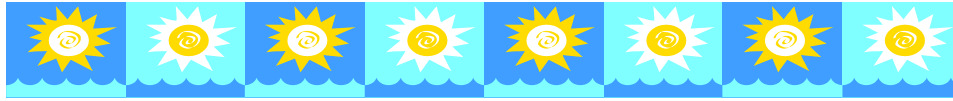
**CRISIS
ALERT**

NVGS made it in the News

If you missed or don't receive the *Napa Valley Market Place* (Napa Valley's Community Magazine), then please access the article "A Brief History of the Napa Valley Genealogical Society" written by member and local author Cecelia Setty. Find the April issue at www.napavalleymarketplace.com on page 63 (page 60 if reading a hard copy).



Thank you Cecelia Setty for your fine article about our society.



PROGRAM

Napa Valley Genealogy Society
May Program

**HISPANIC GENEALOGY:
SPANISH RECORDS IN THE NEW WORLD**

This presentation will give you some tools to search for your ancestors, using original records from the entire range of your country's history. Included will be a list of helpful Hispanic genealogy materials, online and in print.

Presented by Lucy Sweeney

Thursday, May 19, 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

PROGRAM

Napa Valley Genealogy Society
June Program

**JEWISH SURNAME PROCESS in the Russian Empire
and its Effect on Jewish Genealogy**

Presented by Jeffrey Mark Paull

Thursday, June 16, 2016
Evening at 7 p.m.
Napa Valley Genealogy Library
1701 Menlo Avenue, Napa, CA

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

Jabber from Janice

Have you tried the "Chronicling America" website?
<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>



Your LIBRARY OF CONGRESS is doing an amazing job of getting information online and accessible for us. Currently, digitization's span 1832 to 1936.

Here is the page of the newspapers by state: <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/search/titles/>. These papers date from 1790 to present and the project is making a significant effort to get them all in this searchable form.

I chose newspapers in Kansas with the Search Pages tab, and entering a surname in the search box, I found several pages. That is a simple straightforward search. When I examined the pages, I was very pleased to see the matches highlighted in color...made it easy to read them. Then using the Advanced Search tab, you can enter the surname along with another search term (death, birth, town or anything else) to more specifically narrow your search. You will see the separate pages and the paper name, place and date below. Tapping on the paper page allows you to skim through it and locate the highlights. This is an exceptional website.

Happy hunting!

Janice Cox Brown

REMEMBER 8870

That's not an error: It's the number to remember when you want to find the birth date of someone when you only have the date of death and age.

How do you figure the birth date?

Suppose the person died May 6, 1889, at the age of 71 years, 7 months, 9 days.

- Write the death year, month, day as: 18890506
- Subtract the age at death: 710709
- This gives the figure: 18179797
- Now subtract 8870
- The result is: 18170927

Birth date is 1817, 9th month (Sept), 27th day or 27 Sept, 1817.

Source: Platte County, MO Historical/Genealogical Society

Three Things to Periodically Do in Your Genealogy Research

Genealogy is far from a routine pursuit. There is always something new to learn, whether it is a new resource or a new method to try out. For me, that's part of what makes genealogy so enjoyable! But for as much fun as it is to learn about new things and add more people to the family tree, we need to make sure that we do some things on a regular basis. Just like regularly changing your furnace filter, these three items will keep your research humming along and not burning out.

1. Review Your Notes

Sometimes adding more to our research isn't what we need to do. Sometimes it's better to review. (It's why I actually opted not to go to the Family History Library on a trip to Salt Lake City.) You know that brick wall that you've been trying to break down? You might already have the sledgehammer. Those notes and photocopies from prior research might not have "fit in" when you took them, but when you plug them into what you've learned since then, they can open up all sorts of possibilities.

Let's say that you took notes of all of the marriages of a particular surname in a county. Not all of those marriages fit in with your research then, but you've done more research between then and now. Those old notes might reveal the married name of a daughter you didn't know about back then or a remarriage of one of the family members.

2. See What's New

Yes, I know I said that we need to build in some routines. Ironically, looking for new resources is part of a good research routine. On a regular basis, review what new collections have been added for the areas in which you're researching. Using the Ancestry Card Catalog or the map at the bottom of the search page are two good ways to see what's available.

Ancestry adds new record collections all the time, but don't stop your review of new records there. Make a habit of exploring the websites and catalogs of state historical societies, state archives, state and local genealogy societies, and the libraries in the areas where your ancestors lived. There could be all sorts of good things added since the last time you checked them out.

3. Share What You've Found

When you've made a big discovery or just something that struck your fancy, don't keep it to yourself. Share it! These new discoveries can serve as "cousin bait" and reel in others who are researching the same line. There are all sorts of ways you can do this. Adding the materials your public online tree will help others discover you. You can also blog about it, share it on Facebook (either on your page or in relevant groups), and send emails to your cousins. You could write something up and submit it to a genealogy society for publishing in their newsletter or journal.

Conclusion

Researching is fun. (If it wasn't, we probably wouldn't do it.) Reviewing what we have, exploring what new resources are available, and sharing what we've found aren't what we think of as "research," but doing these things regularly can help us move our discoveries along.

Reclaim The Records: The NYC Marriage Index 1908-1929 Goes Online

The following announcement was written by the folks at Reclaim The Records:

The 1908-1929 NYC marriage index goes online for free public use

It took one Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) request, one modification of that FOIL request, one FOIL Appeal, one Advisory Opinion issued by the New York State Committee on Open Government, one "Article 78" legal petition filed in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, one legal settlement with the City of New York, 46 brand new microfilm copies created from the master films held in one city agency's vault and another two films from another city agency's vault, one portable hard drive full of high-quality digital scans of the 48 films donated by a kind non-profit organization, several days working in the headquarters of another non-profit to borrow their Internet bandwidth and hard drive space, and sixteen months.

But we did it. Today, Reclaim the Records is very pleased to announce that the index to the New York City Clerk's Office marriage records (the application, affidavit, and license) for 1908-1929 is **now online** and open for public use.

There are no logins required, no paywalls, no copyrights, and no usage restrictions. The index is now free and open data, forever.

39 of the 48 microfilms are now online at the Internet Archive, and the remaining nine films will be put online throughout the next few weeks.

ITEM FOR SALE

The Napa Valley Genealogical Society has an extra card cabinet for sale. This is a solid oak cabinet with 30 drawers. It is in excellent condition. Call to make arrangements to see this cabinet. Napa Valley Genealogical Society. 707-252-2252.

NVGS Members with Wine Club Memberships

We are working on our next Wine Draw fundraiser and are reaching out to you, our Society membership. It is important that we have a great fundraiser this year so we can have funding for the things we need to keep our Society running. In addition to the wineries that we have already contacted, we still need wine donations from premium *Napa Valley* wineries.

Do any of you have wine club memberships that would be willing to help us with our fundraiser? Here's the thought process:

1. Would you be willing to donate one of your wine club bottles to our fundraiser?
2. Do you know the Marketing or Wine Club Manager at your club? If so, do you have a relationship with that person? If the answer is *yes*, perhaps you could approach them on behalf of the Society and see if they can donate to our fundraiser.

A personal contact should increase our wine donations.

For more information and/or a copy of our solicitation letter, please contact Karen Burzdak at kjburzdak@comcast.net or 707/253-1524.

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.

In the afternoon Lethin and Hannah came home, as Mrs. Allen's parents returned to their flat, the one we had had. We got an expressman and Hannah went with him to 5th Ave. and by six o'clock all our property was once again under our own roof.

With the return of the girls (and Lee Jim, the laundry man, on Monday) the extreme discomforts of the time disappeared and we gradually settled back into a regular, if not normal life.

A temporary kitchen was constructed on Gough Street and it was used for seven weeks after stores were opened on Fillmore Street. We no longer drew rations and I gave the cook \$1.00 a day for provisions, and we lived on that until our chimneys had been finally inspected and we were allowed to have fires within doors.

We were ten days without running water which was the most serious condition we had to meet. All water for the house was brought at first from Van Ness and Vallejo, then as that supply gave out, from Gough and Union and for the last three days from Van Ness and Lombard.

We were twenty-four days without gas during which time we used candles, lamps being forbidden. We suffered from cold in the house even the ordinary and constant warmth from the kitchen chimney being shut off. We sat evenings with overcoats on and travelling rugs around our feet.

This account is written to show what we endured, who were burned out, not without some money and really more comfortably placed than a large proportion of our friends.

It was a great experience, one for which we all feel very thankful; thankful for the many kindnesses shown us by friends at home and abroad; thankful for what we have been able to do for the relief and comfort of others and most thankful that as this calamity to our city had to come, we were here to share in its distresses as for years we had enjoyed its prosperity.

"After closing her story, Edith left a few pencil memoranda showing how life gradually became normal or as nearly so as possible."

Sunday night, Apr. 22, heavy rain.

Monday Trunk room flooded (the roof had been crushed in unknown to all by a chimney).

Saturday Apr. 28, city water in house.

May 5 Heavy shock, 10.30.

May 9 Undressed fully, first time.

May 12 Gas in pipes, water back connected, took down my hair at night, first time.

May 14 Dug up silver from sand in cellar, O.K.

May 15 Down town first time.

May 16 Roof cleaned.

June 5 Fire in range and water back.

May 19 Bricks removed, three loads.

July 30 Final permit for chimneys.

May 24-28 Shower or hard rain.

May 29 Telephone in.

June 4 Chimneys inspected.



This is the final segment of Edith's story.
Reprinted from NVGS library archives.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Napa Valley Genealogical Society
1701 Menlo Ave.
Napa, CA 94558

