



STANISLAUS RESEARCHER

October 2006

September Meeting

Pansy Willburn, known as the mother of the Genealogical Society came to our meeting to share her thoughts on writing vignettes on ancestors. Pansy brought samples of the more than 200 vignettes that she has done. Each one had a very catchy title and talked about a single incident in the life of an ancestor. Some are from as far away as the 1600s and some are as recent as the 20th century. She limits them to a single page and gives only birth and death dates and OF COURSE THE SOURCES FOR THE STORY.

She gave a sample reading of one entitled 'Will The Cobwebs Catch Your Prayers?' This told of the arrival in a new community of Ida and her father who was a minister. This new church was in the Indian Territory and so Ida was very excited and wanted to see an Indian, now that she had moved out of the country! The story tells of the cleaning of the church and the help of a very solemn Indian that she asked to help with the cobwebs she was not tall enough to reach. This resulted in the question. This was in the 1880s.

The audience immediately fell into her thinking and she challenged all to go home and write a vignette, saying it would only take a half hour.

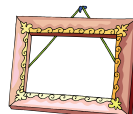
October Meeting

The speaker for the October meeting will be our own President, Millie Starr. The topic will be "Letting Your Ancestors Introduce Themselves to You Using Their Own Written Words". This will cover how to find writings of your own ancestors and what you will learn about them. Examples of some of the articles she will cover are wills, diaries, letters etc. This will be a fascinating insight into extending our knowledge of our ancestors and showing us how to develop them into 'real' people instead of just facts on a piece of paper. Plan on attending this great meeting.

November is Ancestor Night

Every year our November meeting is Ancestor Night. This is one of the most exciting nights of the year. Everyone looks forward to this program. The program is made up of several members talking about one of their ancestors. Pictures, artifacts, stories, or a poem have all been presented. One year we heard the story of a chair and last year we heard the story of a rock. This year should be even more intriguing. Mark your calendars and plan on having an evening of entertainment like no other. For more information contact Bev Graham, 529-6467.

CALENDAR	
October	
Workshop	Oct 7
Board Meeting	Oct 11
General Meeting	Oct 19
Arkansas Study Group	Oct 11
Writing Group	Oct 12
Bus Trip	Oct 26
November	
Board Meeting	Nov 13
General Meeting	Nov 21
Arkansas Study Group	Nov 13
Writing Group	Nov 13



Fall Workshop

The Stanislaus Genealogy Society is having its second annual yearly workshop October 7, 2006, 9am to 3pm. This workshop is for everyone, new beginners and old researchers alike. All levels of researching will be challenged in this workshop. Need a boost? Don't miss these classes. Fun and exciting is the only way to describe this workshop.

Classes will cover all aspects of genealogy and researching. Included classes will be: library researching, dating old photos, internet searching, heritage albums, religious migrations, and Family Tree Maker. Cost is: \$10. For more information please call: 522-8868 or 529-6467.

Visit the website: Genealogy Society of Stanislaus County or e-mail:

GSSC@worldnet.att.net

DRAWING at the OCTOBER WORKSHOP

Will you be the lucky winner??? We are having a drawing at the October 4, 2006 workshop.

The prize is a leather document preservation case. Inside there are acid free-archival protector sheets. (These are perfect for your larger documents). This leather case is supposed to be specifically for newspapers (yes, it's that big), however, you can decide which of your documents you will want to preserve in it. Engraved in gold on brown leather, it is really historic looking. What a find!!

The leather case will be at the next meeting so you can see exactly what it is like. There are NO raffle tickets for this drawing. Your name will be entered in the drawing when you sign up for the workshop!! Just think!! You can LEARN something and WIN something and really BE something....all at the fall workshop!!!

"GSSC EXPRESS" ON THE ROAD AGAIN IN OCTOBER

Hope everyone has had a great summer and are now ready to get back to doing the fun work of researching your family tree. October will be here before you know it and it will be time for our annual trip to the National Archives in San Bruno and the Sutro Library in San Francisco on Thursday October 26. The cost is \$30 (that is less than a tank of gas).

We leave from the Geneva Presbyterian Church at 7:30 AM and return about 7:00PM.

Bev Johnson has agreed to be your GSSC Express Hostess for this trip as Ellen will still be in China the day the bus rolls out. Don't wait until the last minute to sign up so mark your calendars!

Writing Group

In October we will meet at Joann MacDonald's home on the second Thursday, Oct. 12th. In November we will be back to our regular schedule. Everyone is invited.

Courthouse Indexes Illustrated by Christine Rose

Rose has written a new book entitled */Courthouse Indexes Illustrated/*. I have been doing genealogy research for years and thought I knew how to read an index. However, I must say that I learned a lot more by reading Christine's new book!

This slim, 58-page booklet describes the various kinds of indexes in great detail. One would think that an index was a simple list of words in alphabetical order. Not so!

For instance, I now know that the Graves Tabular Index is popular in certain states and that it lists names by the first three letters of the name, but in a manner that saves a lot of space on the printed page. I also learned that a Proceedings Index or Proceedings Docket is commonly used in certain other states and involves the use of two books.

Christine Rose also explains the details of Russell Indexes, Graves Indexes, Campbell Indexes, Vowel Indexes, and more. One chapter is entitled Traditional Indexes and is the only chapter that I understood before reading this book. All the other chapters were news to me! Without this knowledge, I have probably overlooked genealogy information that was, in fact, already indexed and available to me.

Christine Rose is highly qualified to write this book. She is a Certified Genealogist, Certified Genealogical Lecturer, and a Fellow of the American Society of Genealogists. She lectures frequently at national genealogy conferences and at many regional seminar and local seminars. She served on the faculty of the Institute of Genealogical Research in Washington, D.C., and has been on the faculty as an instructor and a coordinator of Samford University's Institute of Historical and Genealogical Research since 1992. Christine was elected Fellow, American Society of Genealogists, in 1988. She has also been awarded the prestigious Donald Lines Jacobus award for two Rose genealogies and received top reviews for the book she co-authored, */The Complete Idiot's Guide to Genealogy/*.

/Courthouse Indexes Illustrated/ is an excellent "how-to" book that will sharpen the research skills of most any genealogist. It sells for \$9.95 plus postage. You can order *Courthouse Indexes Illustrated* online at <http://www.christine4rose.com>. Other bookstores should be able to order it for you if you specify ISBN 0-929626-17-6.

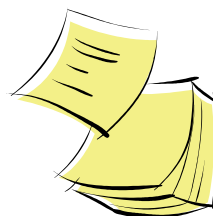
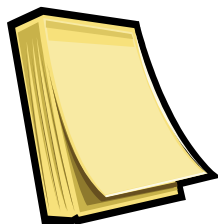
Dick Eastman on May 14, 2006

http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/2006/05/courthouse_inde.html

Post-ems

The Ancestry World Tree post-ems are great for adding comments to someone else's database, but I use them on my own family tree too, to note errors and omissions that will be corrected when I post my next update. This is a quick and easy way to prevent bad data from sitting online uncorrected without having to re-upload my database every time I tweak it.

Leslie Nelson



Ancestor In The Civil War?

Question: Is there a twentieth-century census that would indicate whether or not my ancestor from Massachusetts fought in the Civil War? I have seen the 1930 Census but he died in 1927.

Answer: If you are simply trying to confirm whether or not he was a Civil War soldier you can do so by looking at his military or service records. A free website to confirm his service is offered by the National Park Service at www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/ The 1910 U.S. Census has a column enumerating whether an individual was a Union or Confederate Veteran. Massachusetts also had a 1915 State Census which listed veterans by town. This schedule was published as A List of The Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines of The Civil War, surviving Residents in Massachusetts on April 1, 1915, prepared for the Department of Massachusetts, Grand Army of the Republic, by the Director of the Bureau of Statistics, In Accordance with the Provisions of Chapter 25 of the Resolves of 1915. (Boston, Wright & Potter, 1916). We do not have this title at NEHGS; however you should find it at the Massachusetts State Library in Boston.

Old Coin

Question: While reading a will from 1777 I found mentioned in my ancestor's inventory "in old purse one eleven penny bit." What type of coinage is this?

Answer: This coin was legal tender in colonial New York and Pennsylvania. It was also referred to as a "York Shilling". In the latter half of the 18th century it took eight shillings to equal one dollar.

David Allen Lambert is the Online Genealogist.

VOGEL OR BIRD

Yesterday, I had a break through! I called a church in Kalamazoo, Michigan to ask if they had a copy of my great-grandparents marriage license from 1887. The woman who answered the phone referred me to their historian who would know what happened to the surviving records since there was a fire in the church in 1925. I called the historian who was just getting ready to leave her home to go to the church and she said she would look into other records for me such as member records. When I told her the bride's name was Catrina Vogel. She said Vogel is the German word for "bird." That totally blew me away as on the marriage records of my great-grandmother's children their mother is sometimes listed as Catrina Bird. All this time, I have been wondering if my great-grandmother had another marriage and these children were from a previous marriage. Now I know she was only married once and her children used the English word "bird" for her last name. Mystery solved.



BACK TO THE FUTURE

What legacy will you leave for your descendants?

Saturday, October 7, 2006

Registration: 8:45 a.m.

General Meeting – Welcome 9:00 a.m.

Cost: \$10.00, if postmarked by October 1, 2006
or \$15.00 at the door

Location: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
731 El Vista Avenue
Modesto, CA

	Family History Center	Primary Room	Scout Room
9:15-10:15	Using Historical Novels Teresa Grieshaber	FTM- Beginning Beverly Krieg	Religious Movements Eileen Kerr
10:30-11:30	Some German Results Susan Hammari	FTM – Advanced Beverly Krieg	Coming West Eileen Kerr
11:45-12:45	LUNCH BREAK		
1:00-2:00	Court System Francis Lloyd	Photo Dating Millie Starr	Heritage Scrapbooking Beverly Graham
2:15-3:15	Library System Francis Lloyd	Internet Searching Millie Starr	Pay It Forward Beverly Graham

Cut and return this bottom portion with your check to reserve space in classes.

For further information contact: Beverly Graham at (209) 529-6467, or baglady@sbcglobal.net

Please send remittance by October 1, 2006 to: GSSC Workshop, 4105 Fern Grove Court, Modesto, CA., 95356-9372.

Make checks payable to GSSC.

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____ City _____ Zip _____

Email address: _____

Circle your choice for each time period.

9:00	Historical Novels	FTM Beginning	Religious Movements
10:15	Some German Results	FTM - Advanced	Coming West
1:00	Accessing Court System	Photo Dating	Heritage Scrapbooking
2:15	Library System	Internet Searching	Pay It Forward

Using Historical Novels--Teresa Grieshaber: General discussion on historical novels and other books that will set the stage for the lives of our ancestors. Learn how to learn without feeling you are buried in a sea of names, dates and facts.

Pay It Forward--Bev Graham: What will you contribute to the future? A scrapbook, documents, writings, contributions and teachings. Saving and preserving your documents, pictures, and personal items will help your heirs to know who you were and where 'they' come from. Do you wonder what your legacy will be? Make sure you leave one that you will be proud of.

Some German Results – Susan Hammari: Learn about what you can and cannot expect when researching in Germany. Why you must learn German Script and the secrets that may unfold when you do. This is focused on the Baden Region, but can pertain to much of Germany.

Family Tree Maker Beginning/ Intermediate--Bev Krieg: Learn how to use the Family Tree Maker easily and successfully. Make it work for you. Easy and fun.

Family Tree Maker Advanced--Bev Krieg: Learn of the many wonderful options that FTM has to offer, including maps, e-mailing and printing, inserting photos and searching skills. If you have been using FTM for a while this is the one for you.

Coming Out West/The Migration--Eileen Kerr: The many movements West. What was it like living through "The Gold Rush", "The Great Depression", "The Dust Bowl, and the many other hardships that our ancestors faced. What they went through to get to the West and are we now West?

The Religious Migrations--Eileen Kerr: The smaller separatist religions, who they were, what they believed, and where they went. Who are these religions? What was their role in the settling of the country. And lastly, how to find them.

How to Use the Library System for Researching--Francis Lloyd: Finding out what the different libraries can offer and how they can help you in leaping over brick walls.

How to use the Court System for Researching—Francis Lloyd: Find out what the courts have to offer and how to get the info you need. Learn about different courts and how to ask for records that you thought were unavailable to the average person.

Dating Old Photographs—Millie Starr: Bring your own photographs, this is a hands on workshop class. Learn how to look at old photos and to identify the details that will tell you about when they were taken.

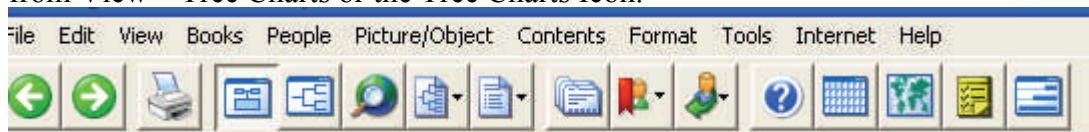
Internet Searching, Scrounging and Digging—Millie Starr: How to find sites to help the under-achiever. Sites to help you get started. Turn into the Energizer Bunny to keep going, and going and going.....

Scrapbooking Your Heritage—Bev Graham: Learn how to complete an album without having a lot of personal pictures. There are pictures to be found. There is memorabilia to be found. Web sites to find your ancestors information and facts about their occupation, religion, ethnic and social groups. You don't always need personal pictures to make an album complete. Download and print from the internet..... Fun, fun

Family Tree Maker User Tips

Bev Krieg
kb.krieg@sbcglobal.net

I hope you were pleased with your Pedigree Chart from last month. Maybe, though, you are thinking you would like to make some changes to it. I'll talk about the places you can select to make some of those changes. First, if you selected Standard Pedigree, you have fewer choices to make than if you selected Ancestor Tree-Standard. Remember these are available from View – Tree Charts or the Tree Charts Icon.



The Top text menu bar allows you to make changes to the “Contents” of the Pedigree Chart and the “Format”.

The vertical bar (to the left of this text) allows you to make the some of the same changes to your chart.

Family Tree Templates – available under Format/Tree Templates or on the vertical bar, the 4th icon down. Select each style to see which ones you might like to try. Notice Portrait selects a picture from the scrapbook of each individual on the tree. To return to the original style, select Default.

Tree Format – available under Format/Tree Format or on the vertical bar, the 1st icon. The selection I use the most is to check off the Center on page. If you select Fit to Page, some data may be dropped from the boxes. Look carefully at all changes.

Box, Line, & Border Styles – available under Format or on the vertical bar, the 5th icon. Color choices as well as box, line and border styles may be made for Females, Males, Unknown gender, Pictures, and Captions.

Text Font, Style, & Size – available under Format or on the vertical bar, the Abc icon. You may make selections for each of the content items.

Within the Contents menu bar, you have several selections. You may want to make these choices before you do the Format.

Items to be Included in Each Box – available under Contents or on the vertical bar, the 2nd icon. Each of the data fields you have entered are in the left box. Select an item you would like displayed and click on the > to include it. To remove an item from the right box, select it and click on the <. To remove all items in the right box, click on <<. Within the right box, you may move any item by selecting it, then click on Move Up or Move Down. Click on Options to have other choices.

Title & Footnotes – available under Contents.

Cont. page 8

Family Tree Maker Tips—Cont.

of Generations – available under Contents or on the vertical bar 3rd icon, 123.

Options – available under Contents or on the vertical bar 7th icon. Includes labeling columns for Parents, Grandparents, etc.; including individuals who appear in more than one place relationship, etc. You may also select to include the names of siblings for the primary individual or all other individuals.

All in all, you have lots of control and creativity over the way in which your Ancestral Tree appears. Have fun.

Legendary Pancake Breakfast

It is time again for one of the Society's wonderful pancake breakfasts. You know the fun, fellowship and great food which are all the hallmarks of our breakfast.

At this writing, we do not know the **exact** date, but it **will** be in November. This is always a great social activity, as well as raising an opportunity to raise money for the Society. Please keep an eye out for the announcement next newsletter.

Nomination of Officers

At the Society Board Meeting on September 11, Bev Johnson volunteered to be the Nomination Chairman to pick the people to be nominated for the offices in the upcoming year. If you would like to be nominated for a particular office, or know someone who should be in an office please contact Bev Johnson at 526-5009. She would be most grateful for making the work of the committee a little easier.

Book Nook Books

As you know, the Books in our Book Nook were taken to Merced and given to the Library. Last month we received a nice thank you from the President of the Society. Our Society has received a \$500 donation for our generosity. We thank Merced very much.

LORD OF THE MANOR



Discovering Ordinary Folk in Manorial Records. Even though you may reasonably assume manorial records deal with a lord, his family and his wealth, be aware that these records also include information -- sometimes in fair detail -- about tenant farmers, families, livestock, jobs, rents, wages, deaths, crimes, and even local events, all of which the lord would have tracked as he assessed his fortunes," according to Lise Hull, a castellogist, who writes the "Finding Your Roots" column for TimeTravel-Britain.com. Her website is Castles of Britain: <http://www.castles-of-britain.com/>

WELCOME NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS

We have 248 members—09/21/06

We wish to welcome all new members for the year 2006. We hope you have found our society helpful, knowledgeable, and resourceful.

We look forward to welcoming many new members in the year 2006.

NEW MEMBERS:

955 Pat Vos Modesto, CA 95350

If there are **any** corrections, changes in your telephone number, mailing address, or e-mail address **please** send information to Maybelle Allen: telephone (209) 523-0593; e-mail rmallen213@sbcglobal.net, or write to GSSC, PO Box A, Modesto, CA 95352-3660; Attn. Maybelle.

Membership dues:

\$20.00 single membership
 \$27.50 Family membership
 Newsletter subscription included with both memberships.

The General Meeting is at Geneva Presbyterian Church, 1229 E. Fairmont, Modesto, CA

7:00 PM on the 3rd Tuesday, except in July and December

HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS? IN THE LAST 6 MONTHS? THE LAST YEAR? IF SO, PLEASE, EMAIL CHANGES TO

>gssc@worldnet.att.net < On the subject line just put 'updating email address.' If your name is not included in your email address, **please, please**, put it in the body of the email. If you'd do it the day you receive your newsletter, it'd be greatly appreciated.

GSSC Web Page

[Http://www.cagenweb.com/stanislaus/gssc.html](http://www.cagenweb.com/stanislaus/gssc.html)

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

Our Standing Rules read: #3 Annual dues will be \$20.00 single membership, \$27.50 family (living at same address), and payable on or before January 31 of each year. **Dues not received by February 15 are delinquent and member will not receive the March newsletter.** New members joining after October 1 are paid for the remainder of the current year and the following calendar year.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL

326	2006
Jane Doe	
1234 My Place Avenue Modesto, CA 95355-4820	

If it reads **2006** it is time to renew your membership. **Thank You.**

IT'S MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!

With this issue you will find a renewal form. Again, we ask, *please*, fill it out and include it with your check.

Thought For Today

"The secret of genius is to carry the spirit of the child into old age, which means never losing your enthusiasm." --- Aldous Huxley



G.S.S.C. CA.
P.O. Box A
Modesto, CA
95352-3660

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*Deadline for the STANISLAUS RESEARCHER is
the Society Board Meeting, second Monday of each month*

**THE STANISLAUS RESEARCHER MAKES EVERY EFFORT
TO PROVIDE ONLY VERIFIED INFORMATION, HOWEVER,
WE ASSUME NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR ERRORS**