



STANISLAUS RESEARCHER

Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County

February 2016

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February Program

February 19, 2016

6:00 PM	Souper Supper	← Note the time
7:00 PM	What War Did Your Ancestor Fight?	Millie Starr

Millie Hunter Starr, native Californian, a member of the GSSC since September of 1981, served as President for four and a half years, starting the annual research trips to Salt Lake City. Her own research has taken her to Washington D.C. and to Salt Lake more than thirty five times.

She enjoys teaching and has participated in many workshops. She taught at MJC adult education Genealogy classes and is now concentrating on writing about family.

A Few Words from Your President

Bev Johnson

February greetings to all. As you will quickly notice, this space which I normally fill with Society related issues, is truly just a few words this month. Instead, I refer you to other pages in this Newsletter issue that describe our activities for 2015 in review and also the goals that have been determined for 2016. This information was made available at our January Annual meeting but I realize not all of you were able to attend. I look forward to seeing you all at our February 16th Souper Supper.

February Program

By Jennifer McDonald Vice President – Program Chair

February 16, 2016

What War Did Your Ancestor Fight?

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GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF STANISLAUS COUNTY

STATE OF THE ORGANIZATION – 2015

Bev Johnson, President

THEN - 2015 in Review

The Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County began our 47th year as a society and was incorporated in 1982.

Under the leadership of Sharon Hawley-Crum, 1st Vice President, Programs, Ten programs were planned and presented during 2015:

What to Do with Family Heirlooms, Speaker: Peggy Gardiner

Stanislaus Librarian, Speaker: Diane McDonnell

Trip to Ireland, Speaker: Lewis M Ruddick

Genealogical Proof Standard, Speaker: Angela Kraft

Beyond the Computer: Using Public Records and Going to the Source, Speaker: Lee Lundrigan

21st Century Digital Estate Planning, Speaker: Sharon Hawley-Crum

Searching for Your Civil War Ancestor, Speaker: Judy Herring

The Adventures of a Novice Family Historian: Making the Connection Between our "Stuff", It's History, and It's Future, Speaker: Wendy Nipper

The Orphan Train: Linking Fact to Fiction, Speaker, Catherine Pierce

Ancestor Night, Nine member speakers

Total attendance during the year (including guests) was 513. Member-only attendance was 456. Guest- only attendance was 60. The average monthly attendance was 51.3 individuals. The budgeted allocation for program speakers was \$500.00. The amount expended was \$300.00.

Two Workshop/Seminars, Genealogy Boot Camp 1 and Genealogy Boot Camp 2, were held in the spring at Trinity United Presbyterian Church facilitated by Dr. Kathryn Marshall, Director of the Lodi LDS Family History Center. Several of the attendees joined the Society.

In April, the Salt Lake City Research Planning Committee (Lisa Bruk (Chair), Sharon Hawley-Crum, Judith Welch and Bev Johnson) accompanied 17 researchers for a week to Salt Lake City and the LDS Family History Center.

Our annual three-day Memorial Day observation at the cemetery, organized by Jennifer McDonald and Dale Thompson, was appreciated by those who attended but was sparsely attended with a follow-up recommendation that this event be held on Memorial Day only in the future.

Several members manned booths at both the Highland Games and the MJC International Day Festival.

In September, the Society with the leadership of Pam Atherstone sponsored again a Fall Seminar, "What's in a Name?" given by Victoria Fisch which was held at the Trinity Presbyterian Church.

Organized by Cleda Lane and Vicki Wolff, after a hiatus of a couple of years, the Society once again sponsored a trip to The Sutro Library in San Francisco.

After many months of compiling input and information, Sharon Hawley-Crum distributed to members a Membership Directory of Support Services, an invaluable resource to each of our members seeking assistance on a vast list of genealogy resources from within our own membership.

With an invitation from the Turlock Historical Society to give a one-day Workshop on Beginning Genealogy, several of our members (Millie Starr, Jennifer McDonald, Dorothy Winke, Vicky Wolff, Bev Johnson, Valyrie Javert, and Lewis Ruddick) participated in presentations given at the Covenant Village in Turlock.

Throughout the year a number of research-related and relevant books were purchased and added to our Special Collections Room at the Stanislaus County Library.

With the leadership of Donna Burleaud, our 4 Generation Books were reorganized and updated.

Charlie Tieman, Queries Chairman, reported we had received queries from 31 people in 2015.

With the recommendations of the Bylaws Committee, the Board of Directors approved needed update revisions of our Standing Rules.

Special interest groups, specifically the Writing Group and the Arkansas Group, continue to meet and are always looking for additional interested persons to join their groups.

As the Society year concluded, the Society had welcomed 26 new people as members.

On December 5, 2015, the elected Board of Directors met for a breakfast meeting at Ridgeways Restaurant in Modesto to review the year and develop and prioritize goals for 2016

Facilitated by Audit Committee Chair Jeff Wells, Jeff Wells, Jay Mirza, and Bev Johnson met to audit the financial records of the Society which were found to be accurately accountable as reported to the Society.

Finally, throughout this year I have been proud to be a part of this Society for the vision and compatibility of the Society's leadership, our Board of Directors, and the welcoming attitude by our entire membership as expressed to me by our new members. I believe we are a healthy Society but yet to be faced with other challenges from an ever-changing world of genealogy.

Respectfully,
Bev Johnson, President, 2015

GENEALOGY SOCIETY OF STANISLAUS COUNTY

NOW – GOALS for 2016

In December, 2015, the elected Board of Directors held a brunch planning meeting at Ridgeways Restaurant in Modesto for the purposes of reviewing the strengths and weaknesses of our Society and to propose, develop, and prioritize goals for this New Year, 2016. These goals with recommendation were presented to the entire Board of Directors, elected and appointed, and received full approval at the first Board of Directors meeting for 2016. Additionally, it needs to be stated that these goals were developed to meet the needs and interest of our members as the primary focus. These goals for 2016 are:

GROWTH IN MEMBERSHIP

Through attrition, it is a natural given that we are going to lose members for a variety of reasons. To continue to exist as a society, we must match and exceed that loss in our membership. The goal is to match and exceed the number of 26 new members we welcomed in 2015.

PROJECT OUTREACH

New members often bring new vitality and perspectives to an organization. As we move forward, it is naive to assume that all growth in our membership will come to our front door. As a Stanislaus County organization, in order to grow we are going to need to extend our efforts to market and sell our organization within Stanislaus County such as to: county communities, county schools, varying ethnic and demographic groups within our county, other organizations, and friends.

EXPAND OUR MEDIA RESOURCES FOR MARKETING

POSITIVE SUPPORT OF A SPRING WORKSHOP AND FALL SEMINAR

SUPPORT OF RESEARCH DAY TRIPS

Other than the Sutro Library, the Society is willing to explore other research day trips of interest to our membership.

PROGRAMS

Our monthly programs are a high priority to our membership. Although our membership is one of varying interests and levels of research skills, the leadership is making every effort to accommodate this range as best as possible; not an easy task. Member input is always welcomed as are member presenters.

BYLAWS REVISION

Needed revisions will be presented to the membership in the fall and voted upon at the 2017 Annual meeting.

SUGGESTION BOX

Available at our General Meetings and will be acted upon by the Board of Directors.

6:00 EARLY BIRD BITS AND BYTES SESSIONS

Informal discussions on a variety of topics of member interest at meetings when the program allows.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATION

GSSC Member Job Openings!

By Bev Johnson

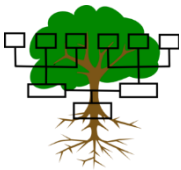
Our Genealogical Society has some shoes to fill to complete our leadership team for 2016. Please consider this a personal invitation to join us. Specifically needed are:

Four Generation Books. This entails keeping our Four Generation Books up to date and displaying them at our General Meetings.

A Queries Researcher. If you are an avid researcher, this position entails responding to queries for information from Stanislaus County.

Special Collections Room at the County Library: Volunteers are needed to assist visitors at this research resource which involves just a couple of hours each week.

Won't you please consider giving back to your Society by volunteering to fill one of these needs? You can respond by contacting me at 209-526-5009 or at jbevjohnson1@att.net.

**RESEARCH TRIPS**

It's a new year and it's not too early to be thinking about where we want to go. Large Libraries--Small Libraries----Short trips, long trips----- ideas needed as to where you would like to go!!!



Cleda Lane 209-577-2289 Vicky Wolff 209-529-9430

2016 Spring Seminar
“Focus On Our German Heritage”

Our first day trip for the Genealogical Society will start with a Spring Seminar **“Focus on Our German Heritage,”** which will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2016 at Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church, in Fair Oaks, CA. This all day event will feature Dr. Fritz Juengling, Ph.D., A.G., who will provide four presentations essential for your German Genealogical Research.

Brochure and more information for this trip will be available at our next meeting.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW! YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THIS EVENT!

Early American Cookery

With St. Patrick's Day Approaching Here is a Traditional Irish Treat

Irish Brown Soda Bread

The ingredients:

220g plain flour (2 cups)

220g wholemeal flour (2 cups)

½ tsp salt

1 tsp baking powder or bicarbonate of soda

500ml buttermilk (2 cups)

The method:

Mix all the dry ingredients together in a bowl.

Make a well in the center and pour in the buttermilk, use your hands to draw the flour and milk together.

Next, pour ingredients onto a floured surface and lightly form into a round (do not over-knead).

Cut a cross on the top (Irish lore says it lets out the fairies).

Place onto a floured baking tray and put into a pre-heated oven 180°C for about 35-40 minutes.

When you take the bread out, turn it upside down and tap the bottom. If the bread sounds hollow it's done.

Leave to cool on a wire rack.



Smoked Salmon Pâté

The ingredients:

225g (8oz) smoked salmon

225g (8oz) creamed cheese

1 tsp horseradish sauce

1 tsp lemon juice

A few sprigs of dill

The method:



Place all the ingredients in a food processor and blend. It's as simple as that!

Then serve with a crisp green salad, or some watercress for a shamrock-style effect. **Don't use shamrock** – as pretty as it looks, it's not actually edible. Watercress makes a good edible substitute. ☺

Genealogy BEGINNERS Boot Camp Alert!

We will be having a BEGINNERS Boot Camp training session on March 19, 2019 from 9:00 until 3:30 at the El Vista History Center, Modesto. More information will be furnished in the next newsletter but we want to give people a chance to plan.

Did you lose a family member at the Salem Witch Trials in 1692? If you did, learn more through Dick Eastman's link: http://www.salemnews.com/news/local_news/salem-witch-trials-descendants-share-thoughts-on-proctor-s-ledge/article_680098ce-5cd0-5e35-acce-037731639346.html

Discovering Your German Roots Seminar

By Vicki Wolff

California Genealogical Society will be having a seminar titled "Discovering Your German Roots: The Great Migration 1815-1914," given by Robert Jackson Ph.D., Saturday, February 27, 2016 from 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM. The California Genealogical Society and Library is located at 2201 Broadway, Suite LL2 Oakland, CA 94612. The cost is \$30.00. Please visit their web site for more information. <http://californiaancestors.org/> and <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/discovering-your-german-roots-the-great-migration-1815-1914-tickets-19898288316?aff=Calendar>

Mocavo and Findmypast are coming together



Dear Customer,

We wanted to let you know that in the coming months Mocavo will be coming together with its sister site, [Findmypast](#). This will create a **single experience for our US customers** in a move that aims to deliver a more **focused, efficient and comprehensive** service to US family historians.

Mocavo's Story

We launched back in March 2011 when, only three months old, Family Tree Magazine named us as one of the **best 101 genealogy websites** of 2011. In 2012 we released **The Free Yearbook** collection and since then we've continued to publish **hundreds of records** and archives every day. We'd like to thank you, our customers, for being there with us as we've continued to grow.

We are now in the process of moving all Mocavo site content to Findmypast so you'll soon be able to enjoy everything currently available on Mocavo and more. As part of our 'Free Forever' promise, Mocavo subscribers will continue to enjoy free access to all of the same records that were previously published for free on Mocavo. We will be transferring your account over to Findmypast soon so stay tuned for updates.

What's next?

You don't need to do anything just now. When we bring the two sites together, we'll be in touch with specific information about your account and some how-to guides that will help make the most of the new experience.

How does this move affect you?

You'll still benefit from the same great content you've been enjoying on Mocavo and this will all be available on Findmypast soon. In addition, you'll be able to take advantage of **hundreds of millions of new and exclusive US records** to further enhance the experience for US family historians.

Findmypast has **more British and Irish records** than anyone else and is adding new records from the US and other locales every single week, so you'll be able to take advantage of these to help your family history search. You'll be able to explore nearly **8 billion** names now and **hundreds of millions** of new names coming this year alone!

You can easily **import your family tree** and we'll start to **hint** against names that we find in the archives to help you discover more about your family and even find relatives you never knew existed.

About Findmypast

Currently the home to billions of names, including the largest collections of **Irish records** and **British Parish records**, **military records** and the **British Newspaper Archive**, not to mention the **1939 Register**. It currently has a plethora of **US records** and will soon be home to all the Mocavo records once the two sites come together.

Findmypast has a free and easy-to-use family tree builder and it releases **new records** every week to keep your family history search alive.

For more information

If you have any questions, please get in touch with our support team [here](#) or please call 1-866-279-4013 (Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm MST).

Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County, Inc. Website

For those of you who are unable to find our GSSC Website please save the following email address to your Browser Favorites:

<http://cagenweb.com/lr/stanislaus/gssc.html>



Membership Information

Dues:	Single membership, \$20.00 per year	Family membership, \$27.50 per year
Stanislaus Researcher	Published 10 times per year by Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County, P. O. Box A, Modesto, CA 95352-3660. \$5.00 additional for hard copy otherwise delivered via email. Submit articles for publication to the editor via email: lrduddick@ix.netcom.com by the 15th of each month .	
Address changes:	Send address, email and phone number changes to Maybelle Allen at: US Mail: Maybelle Allen c/o GSSC, P. O. Box A, Modesto, CA 95352-3660 Email: gssc-founded1968@gmail.com Telephone: 209-523-0593 (Maybelle Allen)	
GSSC web page:	http://www.cagenweb.com/lr/stanislaus/gssc.html . The newsletter is posted at this website, along with other interesting society-related items.	
General meeting:	7:00 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, except July and December at the Trinity Presbyterian Church at 1600 Carver Rd., Modesto, CA.	
Board meeting:	7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Monday of each month the Trinity Presbyterian Church at 1600 Carver Rd., Modesto, CA.	

2016 Officers		2016 Standing Committee Chairs	
President	Bev Johnson	Acquisitions	Ellen Reesh/ Carmen Pedrioli
1st Vice President	Jennifer McDonald	Audit	Jeff Wells
2nd Vice President	Pamela Atherstone	Budget	Jay Mirza
Secretary	Marge Scheuber	Bylaws	Bev Johnson
Treasurer	Jay Mirza	Four Generation Charts	
Director at Large	Dale Thompson	Historian &	
Director at Large	Dorothy Winke	Membership	Maybelle Allen
Director at Large	Cyndi Bray	Memorial Day	Dale Thompson
Director at Large	Heide Arno	Mentor	Janet Lancaster/Marilyn Belleville
Director at Large	Jackie Niemeyer	Newsletter	Lewis M. Ruddick
Past President	Lewis M. Ruddick	Planning & By-laws	Bev Johnson
		Programs	Jennifer McDonald
		Publications	Vicky Wolff
		Publicity	Ellen Reesh/ Carmen Pedrioli
		Queries	
		Refreshments	Jackie Niemeyer
		Registrar	Dorothy Winke
		Research & Publication	Millie Starr
		Research Trips	Vicky Wolff / Cleda Lane
		Research Salt Lake City	Lisa Bruk
		Seminar & Workshop	Pam Atherstone
		Special Collections Room	Marilyn Belleville
		Social Media	Angela Kraft
		Greeter	Cyndi Bray
		Sunshine	Judith Welch

Updated 1-20-2016

We have 63 members for 2016



Genealogical Society of
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