



September/October 2009

Oakland, California

SEPTEMBER MEETING

10 a.m. Wednesday, September 9, 2009 - Oakland Family History Center Library Meeting Room

WHAT WAS IT LIKE ABOARD A SAILING VESSEL AT SEA IN 1630?

Speaker: Mary Ames Mitchell

Mary Ames Mitchell has degrees in Art History and Fine Arts. Her interest in genealogy came about when she was researching for the purpose of teaching the history of typography and book design at the Academy of Art in San Francisco. The history of type correlates with the history of the Reformation, which is part of the history of the Puritans who settled in New England. During this time she was also researching her own Puritan and Separatist ancestors. All this researching led her to the story she is writing today about the Puritans. Mary will share the many interesting facts she has gathered about life aboard those old ships during the process of researching her latest novel, *The Lyon's Tales*. This will be Mary's third book. Her first, *The Man in the Purple Cow House*, was about her father's decline to homelessness. It includes a short narrative about his Puritan ancestry. Mary's second book, *The Search for Eileen Maude*, journals Mary's search through records and graveyards in Old England for her English grandmother's grave.

OCTOBER MEETING

10 a.m. Wednesday, October 14, 2009 – Oakland Public Library, 125 14th Street, Oakland, CA

OAKLAND LIBRARY – HISTORY ROOM

Steve Lavoie, Oakland History Room Librarian, is looking forward to our visit and has much to show and share with us. Those members and guests having ancestors from Oakland and environs will find many avenues of research available at the Oakland Library.

We'll meet inside the main entrance at 10 a.m. Plan to get together somewhere for lunch after our library visit.

I hope everyone had a pleasant summer, in spite of the not always pleasant weather we have been experiencing lately. Did you take a research trip that you would like to tell us about? Please step up and do so! You would have a captive audience and your tales and stories ARE worth sharing.

EBGS NEWS

Since we had neither a Board Meeting nor a Regular Meeting in the month of August, there is not a lot of news to tell....but I shall attempt to conjure up some!

We are planning to place an ad in the Alameda newspapers about our society, its meetings and programs. The Alameda papers are reluctant to print any publicity for EBGS since we are not an Alameda organization – though we did originate in Alameda. Hopefully this will generate some interested people to come to some of our meetings, and perhaps join in the fun!

We did have a surprise visitor to our library during July. John Fripp from Australia paid us a visit, joined our society, and also made a generous contribution! We had previously done some research for him in the Oakland area. John's grandmother was living in Oakland with her Australian parents in the early 1900s. He was thrilled to visit the building where she had lived and to walk around Oakland. He took in all the sights downtown, admired the architecture of the early buildings still standing and was so happy to get a feeling of what the area may have been like when his grandmother had lived there as a child. It was truly a delight to meet this pleasant, energetic man.

EBGS LIBRARY NEWS

We have completed inputting the data of our wedding/engagement clippings from local newspapers. We are presently proofing and setting up the folders for this project. It is a very time-consuming job and we would certainly appreciate a volunteer or two to give us a hand at the library on Monday afternoons. Please call Lois if you can help on an occasional Monday.

NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

The Casket & Coffin Books of Ellwood S. Shelton 1880-1890 and Isaac W. Senft 1884-1888
F157 Y6 1998

Special publication No. 57 of the Couth Central Pennsylvania Genealogical Society, York, PA

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Kay S. Arnold
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John Bradley Fripp
32 Nelson Crescent
Lesmurdie, 6076, Australia
John.Fripp@pc.wa.edu.au
jbfripp@westnet.com.au

John is researching MAY in
Oakland, CA and LUCAS in
Tasmania

THINKING OF PURCHASING A COMPUTER GENEALOGY PROGRAM?

Genealogy Software Review has reviews from users of various programs with ratings up to 5 stars. It covers programs with full feature family tree software and many add-ons, freeware and shareware. Read the reviews to help you make a selection at www.gensoftreviews.com. (as reported in NVGBS *Winepress*, Vol. 35, No.1, January, 2009 – Napa Valley, CA)

INDEX TO ANNIVERSARY ANNOUNCEMENTS CLIPPED FROM LOCAL NEWSPAPERS

If you would like a Xerox copy of the news clipping for anyone listed in this index or in previous newsletters, please send your request with \$3 (per item) and a SASE to EBGs, P.O. Box 20417, Oakland, CA, 64620-0417

NAME	EVENT	YEAR
SMITH, Max & Evelyn	50th Anniversary	1989
SMITH, Raymond & Gertrude	55th Anniversary	1987
SOUSA, Anthony & Lillian	50th Anniversary	1991
SOUZA, Godfrey & Lillian	50th Anniversary	1992
SOUZA, John & Alice	50th Anniversary	1989
SOUZA, Laurence & Estelle	50th Anniversary	1989
SOUZA, Lloyd & Doris	50th Anniversary	1989/90
SPANN, Charlie & Maude	50th Anniversary	1990
SPARACIA, Joe & Virginia	50th Anniversary	1993
SPEER, George & Bernice	50th Anniversary	1990
SPEIGHT, J. C. & Donna M.	50th Anniversary	1992
SPRATLEY, Jim Jr. & Kay	50th Anniversary	1986
SPRINGER, David A. Sr. & Grace	50th Anniversary	1991
STARR, Virgil & Wanda	50th Anniversary	1989
STARTZMAN, Robert & Treva	50th Anniversary	1987
STEVENS, Fred & Helen	50th Anniversary	1989
STEVENS, O, R. & Lois	60th Anniversary	1992
STEWART, George & Dorothy	50th Anniversary	1991
STEWART, Lloyd & Frances	50th Anniversary	1992
STOCKMAN, Frank & Grace	50th Anniversary	1989
STONE, Edwin & Vivian	50th Anniversary	1989
STONEHOUSE, Adam & Edna	50th Anniversary	1984
STUMBORG, Bernard & Muriel	50th Anniversary	1992
SUCHMAN, Edwin "Ed" & Maxine	50th Anniversary	1993
SUR, Urban & Virginia	50th Anniversary	1993
SUTHERLAND, Kenneth & Jean	50th & 54th Anniversaries	1987 & 91
SYLVIA, John & Angelina	50th Anniversary	1992
TABLER, Frank P. & Muriel M.	50th Anniversary	1988
TAL, Tranquilina & Abundio (Allen)	50th Anniversary	1996
TARKINGTON, Calvin & Frances	50th Anniversary	1993
TATTAR, Jack & Erma	50th Anniversary	1990
TEIXEIRA, Frank & Mary Agnes	50th Anniversary	1991
TELLES, Matthew J. & Marie E.	50th Anniversary	1992
ten BOSCH, Robert & Lucille	50th Anniversary	1987
TESCHE, Arthur & Katherine	50th Anniversary	1993
THAU, Charles & Florence	50th Anniversary	1987
THOMAS, Rich & Renee	25th Anniversary	1983
THOMPSON, Jim & Diane	50th Anniversary	1997
THOMPSON, Joseph & Bernice	50th Anniversary	1987
THORPE, Bill & Inez	50th Anniversary	1990
TILGLMAN, Noah & Vera	50th Anniversary	1992

TOLENTINO, Benigno S. & Gregoria C.	60th Anniversary	1988
TORRES, Fortunato & Guadalupe	71st Anniversary	1989
TOWNES, Alfred J. & Maudie L.	62nd Anniversary	1992
TRAYLOR, George & Pearlean	39 years	2004
TRUJILLO, Angelo & Margaret	50th Anniversary	1991
TUCKNOTT, James & Gladys	50th Anniversary	1989
TULLOH, Bill & Eleanore	50th Anniversary	1988
TURNER, Glenn & Rose	50th Anniversary	1989
TWISS, John & Sylvia	50th Anniversary	1993
VALENTINE, John & Marguerite	50th Anniversary	1988
VALENZUELA, Larry & Dolores	50th Anniversary	1993
VALIN, Joe & Mary	60th Anniversary	1989
VAN GUNDY, Ed & Nell	50th Anniversary	1992
VAN VEEN, Floyd & Hester	50th Anniversary	1991
VENTIMIGLIA, Sal & Esther	50th Anniversary	1992
VERGEZ, Johnny & Helen	60th Anniversary	1990
VIERA, Joaquin & Cecelia	50th Anniversary	1993
VISS, Nicholas & Tracy	60th Anniversary	1986
VOIGT, Courtenay & Gail	50th Anniversary	1993
WAGNER, Ivan & Eileen	50th Anniversary	1992
WAILDER, Willis & Mavis	50th Anniversary	1993
WALLIMANN, Arnold & Teresa	60th Anniversary	1999
WALTERS, Robert & Dorothy	60th Anniversary	1991
WARNER, Robert W. & Elizabeth L.	50th Anniversary	2001
WATSON, James & Martha	50th Anniversary	1991
WAUGH, Jerry & Myrtle	50th Anniversary	1988
WEARANGA, Robert & Katherine	50th Anniversary	1992
WEAVER, Ray & Geri	50th Anniversary	1993
WEEKS, Edwin & Irene	65th Anniversary	1988
WEISS, Charles & Marrylee	50th Anniversary	1992
WHITE, Allen & Sheila	53rd Anniversary	2008
WICKMAN, Ioyd & Peggy	50th Anniversary	1992
WILLIAMS, Waldo & Hilda	50th Anniversary	1991
WILSON, Carl E "Jeff", & Estelle	68th & 70 Anniversaries	1991 & 93
WILSON, George & Dorothy	50th Anniversary	1992
WINDER, Harold LaVerne	50th Anniversary	1990
WOOD, Mitchell & Ivis	50th Anniversary	1988
WOODWARD, Charles & Almeda	50th Anniversary	1993
WRIGHT, Howard & Louise	50th Anniversary	1991
WRIGHT, Howard & Louise	50th Anniversary	1991
YORK, Dave & Tillie	50th Anniversary	1990
YOUNG, Delmar & Dorothy	50th Anniversary	1993
YOUNG, James & Hattie	42nd Anniversary	2000
YOUNG, Vernon M. & Dorothy R	45th Anniversary	1990
ZACHAROFF, Peter & Deborah	25th Anniversary	2008
ZENO, James & Violet	50th Anniversary	1988
ZIMMERMAN, John & Virginia	50th Anniversary	1992

MACINTOSH GENEALOGY GROUP

This MacGen Group started in April and has had such a good turnout and response from Mac users that they have now set up permanent monthly meetings. They have no connection to Leister Productions, the Church of Latter Day Saints or Apple, Inc. They just want to discover and discuss genealogy techniques of what they consider one of the best computing platforms and genealogy software programs in the business.

Meetings are held on the fourth Saturday each month at 1:30 p.m. at the Oakland FHC, 4766 Lincoln Avenue. All Mac users are welcome and it is FREE. (510) 531-3905 and/or <http://www.macgen.org> for more information.

Future topics on their meeting agenda are: Importing, GED Sharing, File Locations, Selecting People, Using Photos, Slideshows, Citing Sources, Mailing Lists, Types of Charts, and Shortcuts.

ITEMS OF INTEREST – HELPFUL TIDBITS – NEWS YOU CAN USE

OaklandFHC.org offers some fabulous finds. Check it out!

If you have not browsed the online catalog of the Oakland Family History Center – you should! New material is constantly being added to their collection, plus their website gives you access to the catalogs of several other Family History Libraries located in the general Bay Area.

A good example...searching for Irish records? The Oakland FHC has Quarterly returns of births in Ireland 1864-1955, with index to births 1864-1921 available on microfilm. For Northern Ireland they have Parish records of Tamlaght and Ballinderry: baptisms, births, marriages, burials, confirmations and in some cases, vital records.

Halsted Mortuary Records Database and Index now available for free online.

SFgenealogy has completed the first phase of indexing the Halsted Mortuary Records database. This database includes digitized images of over 45,000 mortuary records, along with searchable index, for the years 1923 to 1960. The index has advanced surname search options such as Soundex and Metaphone, and wild-card searching. The Halsted Mortuary merged with Halsted N.Grey, Carew & English, Inc. around 1974. It was one of the oldest and largest mortuaries in San Francisco. Some of the records include reinterments and military burials. Years prior to 1923 are being processed by the California Genealogical Society, and the years 1961 to 1974 are still being indexed. Access this database for free at: <http://www.sfgenealogy.net/php/halstedsearch/halstedindex.php> (excerpted from California State Genealogical Alliance Newsletter)

You may not be able to trace your ancestors back to The Mayflower, but if your research requires searching early records of Connecticut, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine or Massachusetts the library of the Descendants of the Mayflower in Oakland has volumes of information for your browsing pleasure. They are only a block away from Oakland City Center BART in the basement of the Financial Building at 14th and Franklin Streets. Open Mondays 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Their librarian Myrtle Savage is a wealth of information and would be delighted to help you access records in their collection.

Heritage Harvest Family History Workshop presented by Monterey County Genealogy Society and Monterey Peninsula College Library/Tech Center will be held Saturday, October 17, 2009 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., 980 Fremont Street, Monterey, CA. Featuring: Karen Clifford, accredited genealogist. Program includes: Understanding Migration, British Basics, Electronic Resources for Solving Difficult Research Problems and Land Records from Colonial Times to Present. Cost is \$30 and you must register by October 10th. EBGs has one flyer/registration form which will be available at the September General Meeting. For more information: email: genietreas@yahoo.com or call 831-206-1602.

Our Roots is a library, archive, museum and school all in one. Log onto <http://www.ourroots.ca/> and check the collection to find Canadian local histories in French and English. You can find the history of your small town, rural area, or large city; the Acadian migration to the Maritimes, Metis heroes; the Royal Canadian Mounted Police; or the Irish at Grosse Isle all in a matter of seconds.

Our Roots now has close to 5,500 digital texts with 1.3 million pages of facts about Canadians and Canada, and it is still growing. A national network of libraries, universities, colleges, archives, historical associations, businesses, and individuals have generously donated time and copyright permission to have their materials digitized. (From Santa Clara County Historical & Genealogical Society newsletter, July, 2009)

“RETARDED GRANDPARENTS”

Supposedly reported by a teacher who, after Christmas, asked her young pupils how they spent their holidays. One child wrote the following:

We always used to spend the holidays with Grandma and Grandpa. They used to live in a big brick house but Grandpa got retarded and they moved to Arizona. Now they live in a tin box and have rocks painted green to look like grass.

They ride around on their bicycles and wear name tags because they don't know who they are anymore. They go to a building called a wreck center, but they must have got it fixed because it is all okay now. They do exercises there, but they don't do them very well. There is a swimming pool too, but they all jump up and down in it with hats on.

At their gate, there is a doll house with a little old man sitting in it. He watches all day so nobody can escape. Sometimes they sneak out and go cruising in their golf carts. Nobody there cooks, they just eat out, and they eat the same thing every night...early birds. Some of the people can't get out past the man in the doll house. The ones who do get out bring food back to the wrecked center for pot luck. My Grandma says that Grandpa worked all his life to earn his retardment and says I should work hard so I can be retarded someday too.

When I earn my retardment, I want to be the man in the doll house. Then I will let people out, so they can visit their grandchildren

Ah, from the mouths of babes!

BUTTE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA – A Thumbnail Sketch

One of the original counties in California, it lies along the Sierra foothills in the northern area of California's Central Valley north of Sacramento. The county was established in 1850, and the county seat is located at Oroville.

Butte County lost much of its original land when part was given to Plumas County in 1854 and part was ceded to Tehama County in 1856. In 2000 the population was 203,717 and "growing".

It is home to Cal State Chico campus, several hydroelectric plants, and a few Indian Casinos.

The Feather River flows through the county on its way to join the Sacramento River. The Feather River area is well known for vacationing, camping and fishing. Butte County boasts several waterfalls and Table Mountain, a popular back-pack hiking area. Within its borders are parts of Butte Sink National Wildlife Refuge, Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge, and parts of Lassen and Plumas National Forests.

County Library, 1820 Mitchell Avenue, 95966, (530) 538-7525

Their collection includes 1904-1922 City Directories; pre 1905 County Death Index, Butte County Vital Record Index 1854-1897 and Death Index *Oroville Democrat*, August 1854 – July 1862.

County Recorders Office

Administration Bldg., 25 County Center Drive, Oroville, 95965, (520) 538-7691

Butte County Historical Society

1749 Spencer Avenue, Oroville, CA 95966 /Mailing address: P.O. Box 2195

Phone: (530) 533-9418 Archives open Thursday and Friday

Paradise Genealogical Society

5587 Scottwood Road, Paradise, CA 95967 /Mailing address: P.O. Box 460, Ph: (530) 877-2330

A very active society. Their library boasts a marvelous collection of resources, including mortuary records, a Coroner's Inquest Index, early probate records and vital records.

On their website you can view the California Mason's Index, Oroville Death Certificate Index (mid 1800s to 1920) and their members' Surname Index. <http://pargenso.org>

Want to learn more:

History of Butte County, California Vol. II 1920-1980 by Joseph F. McGie

Magalia to Stirling City (Images of America) by Robert Colby and Lois McDonald

Paradise California (Images of America) by Robert Colby