



**November/December 2009**

**Oakland, California**

**NOVEMBER MEETING**

Wednesday, November 11, 2009 - Oakland Family History Center Library – 10 a.m.

**GETTING THE MOST OUT OF CITY DIRECTORIES**

**Speaker: Steven Harris**

City directories can help find missing people in the Census, reconstruct families, find neighbors, track families between censuses, develop occupational histories, and more. This presentation will tell you where to find city directories, in-person and on-line, and how to use them in your research.

Steve Harris is a consulting genealogist who uses city directories extensively in assisting clients with their family histories. His own genealogical interest began in 1991 when the Berkeley Hills fire destroyed his (previously unexamined) trove of family history documents. He has since decided that other peoples' families are more interesting than his own. Steve is vice-president of the California Genealogical Society. His office and 6,000-volume directory library are in Oakland, just down the hall from CGS.

*MAY YOU FIND MUCH TO BE THANKFUL FOR THIS THANKSGIVING*

**DECEMBER MEETING**

Wednesday, December 9, 2009 – Oakland Family History Center Library – 10 a.m.

**ANNUAL COOKIE EXCHANGE - plus "PHOTO-OP"**

Hunt up your favorite cookie recipe, get out the mixing bowl and whip up a batch to bring and exchange with other members. Don't forget to bring a container to take home all those delicious samples.

Shuffle through those old photographs and find one of YOU as a child or young teen and bring it also. Put your name in pencil on the back. Let's see how many of us can recognize each other's early photos. Sepia and daguerreotype are acceptable!

Have you had any successes during the year? Your successes can be an inspiration to others. Do you have a brick-wall problem you could use some help with? Maybe someone in our group has a helpful suggestion.

This meeting is the time to share cookies, joy, and your experiences with fellow members.

***MAY YOUR HOLIDAYS BE MERRY AND BRIGHT!***

In September, Mary Mitchell shared her enthusiasm and knowledge for researching her forthcoming novel, *The Lyon's Tales*. It was a most interesting meeting.

In October, Steve Lovoie, librarian of the Oakland History Room at the Oakland Main Library smuggled our group in before opening hours and gave us quite an extensive tour of the vast resources available in the History Room, Newspaper Room, and other areas of the library. The History Room's collection is primarily devoted to Oakland. However, genealogically useful material within the library includes the San Francisco Chronicle from early days to present on microfilm, a collection of San Francisco and some Hayward city directories and county histories for every California county.

If your research takes you to Oakland, CA the Oakland Library offers a wealth of information and resources to get you started. Steve's suggestion was to first do a search through the library's collection on the computers in the main lobby or the Newspaper Room to determine what information might be available and of use to you.

**EBGS NEWS**

Corrections to our Roster:	Add: John Bradley Fripp 32 Nelson Crescent Lesmurdie 6076, Australia <a href="mailto:john.fripp@pc.wa.edu.au">john.fripp@pc.wa.edu.au</a>	Correct Gwen Frankell's address to read: 1641 Skycrest #10 Walnut Creek, CA 94595
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The board has decided on some very interesting and useful programs for the coming year. We also feel that informing our members of the material and references available at other genealogical society's libraries in the general bay area would be worthwhile. Programs to look forward to:

Oral History – the Hows and Whys  
Santa Clara County Historical & Genealogical Society and Library

And, hopefully, we can coax Lisa Cooke to make a return visit to cover one of the many topics she does so well.

**NEW BOOKS IN EBGS LIBRARY**

Ales, Beverly Schell. [2009] INDEX TO OBITUARIES AND DEATH NOTICES IN PLESANTON (CA)  
F869 A3 2009 Pleasanton, CA Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society 2009

Thompson, Nancy. [2009] A LEGACY OF COURAGE; ELDER CIRCLE ORAL HISTORY PROJECT  
F861.3 A3 2009 Authur 2009

**A message from our librarian:** We need help with data entry, clipping, and filing. We try not to keep a volunteer on any one project for more than an hour – so the jobs are not nearly as boring as you might think.

Please, if you can spare three hours on an occasional Monday afternoon – come help **your society maintain your library.**

## BOOK REVIEW

### *A Legacy of Courage, Pioneering Spirits.*

This was an Elder Circle Oral History Project written by Nancy Thompson, an award-winning oral historian, filmmaker, and writer. Nancy visited our library recently and presented us with a copy of her book. She will be our speaker in January and we are looking forward to having this sweet, vivacious person at our podium.

Nancy interviewed many persons at the North Oakland Senior Center and selected four men and eight women whom she felt had shown exceptional courage and spirit throughout their lives to include in this book.

These twelve persons ranged in age from 58 to 95. There is a short biography of each subject, a page or so of their “personal reflections”, and some photos.

I found it very interesting and sometimes moving. It is always fascinating reading about the lives of “ordinary” people – who in many cases are really rather “extraordinary”. A good read.

## FREE CLASSES AT THE OAKLAND FHC

The Oakland FHC announces classes on one Saturday each in November and December. Classes are one to one and on-half hours long. Classes are free, there is a nominal charge for hand-outs.

Please register in advance by calling 510-531-3905 or go to [www.oaklandfhc.org](http://www.oaklandfhc.org).

<b>Newspapers On-Line</b>	Saturday - November 14, 2009	1:30 p.m.	Janice Sellers/Staff
<b>Getting the Most Out of Ancestry.com</b>	Saturday - December 5, 2009	1:30 p.m.	Kay Arnold/Staff

## NEWS YOU CAN USE

On Google Books is a scanned image of the book, “*A Census of Pensioners for Revolutionary or Military Services with their Names, Ages, and Places of Residence as Returned by the Marshals of the Several Judicial Districts, Under The Act for Taking the Sixth Census Printed 1841*”. You can look at lists of pensioners still living when the 1840 Census was taken. What a great source this is to help you find pension records.

From “Jabber from Janice” in the September/October 2009 issue of *Winepress* (Napa Valley Genealogical & Biographical Society)

ED: Book title is a little overwhelming, however, give it a try at:

<http://www2.census.gov/prod2/decennial/documents/1840c-01.pdf>

### .MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA – A Thumbnail Sketch

Mariposa County was one of California's original counties in 1850 and began as the largest county in the state. Over a number of years, portions of it were ceded to twelve other counties: Fresno, Merced, Inyo, Kern, Kings, Los Angeles, Madera, Mono, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, San Bernardino and Tulare. In 2000 the county's population numbered 17,300. The county seat is located in the city of Mariposa. Today this county holds the distinction of being the only county in the state having no permanent traffic lights anywhere within the county.

Early gold miners mined the creeks of Mariposa County and later there was hard-rock mining in the Sierra foothills. The early Spanish settlers named Mariposa Creek, mariposa means "butterfly" in Spanish. The town of Mariposa is known for the spring migration of Monarch butterflies. Mariposa County can well boast of its' beautiful scenery and lovely historical towns. A large portion of Yosemite National Park is located inside the county boundaries as well as portions of Stanislaus and Sierra National Forests. Obviously, it is a popular vacation destination.

Mariposa County Recorder  
Mariposa County Clerk  
4982 – 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
P. O. Box 36  
Mariposa, CA 95338  
209-966-5719

Vital records, Property records, Military Discharges, Homestead declarations, Mining claims

County Clerk : Marriage records

Mariposa Historical Museum  
5119 Jessie Street  
P. O. Box 606  
Mariposa, CA 95338

#### **Mariposaresearch.net**

click on Mariposa History and Genealogy.....

Here you will find many databases for genealogical research. There is a large collection of research material, vital records and cemetery records. There is also a database of "murders, hangings and other events in Mariposa County", in case you might be tracing the lineage of a horse thief, etc.

Mariposa County Library  
4978 – 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Mariposa, CA 95338  
No phone number listed

An extensive collection of California reference books with emphasis on local and regional history. Separate collection of genealogy reference material, including Passenger and Immigration Lists Indexes. Mariposa Gazette newspaper is available on microfilm from 1954 to date, also Mariposa County Great Registers 1867 – 1904.

The library belongs to the San Joaquin Valley Library System, which also includes Madera, Fresno, Kings, Kern, Tulare County libraries as well as Porterville, Tulare and Coalinga Huron public libraries. A virtual gold mine for the researcher. Google Mariposa County Library and click on ValleyCAT then click on History & Genealogy Links. You'll find quite a list of subjects to choose from. I found the most interesting to be "Portraits". You can browse by library. It is amazing the huge collection that is available! A click of the

mouse on a particular spot on each photo allows you to enlarge the image or view more information regarding that photo.

### Happy researching in scenic Mariposa County!

Since 1985 we have been clipping “vital” records from Alameda newspapers; such as, obituaries, births, anniversary/engagement/wedding announcements. We continue to clip; but today the Alameda Times Star has, in essence, become the Oakland Tribune. In recent years there are fewer and fewer announcements of events, but an abundance of obituaries.

Obituaries from 1985 through 2006 have been digitized. Obituaries from January 2007 to date (and growing daily) are on cards. The index of anniversary announcements have been printed in previous issues of this newsletter. We are presently filing and indexing the engagement/wedding announcements and you will find the first installment of this index below and in subsequent issues.

All of these resources are available at our library. If you wish a search and copy of the clipping, please send \$3 per name and SASE to East Bay Genealogical Society, P. O. Box 20417, Oakland, CA 94620-0417.

Groom	Bride	Event	Date	Place
AARON Steve Ross	MATTESON, Noelle Lyan	mar	August, 1998	Contra Costa Co, CA
ABREU, Alcino Rua	KLUEGL, Mary Kathryn	mar	April, 1988	Alameda Co, CA
ABREW, Joseph Frank	MURPHY, Heather	mar	July, 1991	Alameda Co, CA
ABUEG, Abelardo	CRUZ, Nerissa	eng	October, 1988	Alameda Co, CA
ACEVEDO, Jimmy A	ROLLER, Shannon Joan	mar	July, 1989	San Francisco, CA
ACKERMAN, Martin Gary	WORTMAN, Tricia Ann	eng	April, 1989	Contra Costa Co, CA
ACKLEY, Thomas D.	DONAHUE, Kathryn D.	mar	Sept, 1988	Sonoma Co, CA
ADAMS, Clifford	ROEHL, Kim	eng	December, 1992	Alameda Co, CA
ADAMS, Gregory	BATTERSBY, Anne	mar	July, 1999	Alameda Co, CA
ADAMS, James Walter	BOHRER, Deanna Dawn	eng	January, 1993	Alameda Co, CA
ADAMS, William R. Jr.	HART, Michaela M.	eng	March, 1988	Alameda Co, CA
ADLER, Paul	LUNARDI, Lisa	eng	October, 2008	Lucca, Italy
ADRAGNA, Jeff	DARNELL, Joan	eng	December, 1995	Brighton, MI
AFONSO Kevin	GUTHRIE, Terri Lynn	mar	April, 1990	Alameda Co, CA
AGNEW, Christopher L.	PHELPS, Mary Beth	mar	December, 1993	Alameda Co, CA
AGNEW, Michael J.	MAHONEY, Mary Jane	mar	January, 1986	Alameda Co, CA
AH SAM, Vance	BURNS, Angel	eng	March, 1985	Alameda Co, CA
AHLSTRAND, Justin K.	MARCELINO, Cristina G.	eng	February, 1998	Alameda Co, CA
AHO, Jonni Ville	JOHNSON, Mary Elizabeth	eng	July, 1991	Alameda Co, CA
AHO, Jonni Ville	JOHNSON, Mary Elizabeth	mar	Sept, 1982	Alameda Co, CA
AHRENS, James Paul	SWEENEY, Christine Marie	eng	January, 1992	Alameda Co, CA
AHRENS, James Paul	SWEENEY, Christine Marie	mar	March, 1992	Alameda Co, CA
AIKEN, Robert H.	WILL, Carolyn Elizabeth	mar	March, 1990	San Luis Obispo, CA
AINSWORTH, Michael Dean	OSANNA, Jacqueline Ann	mar	July, 1994	Alameda Co, CA
AKANA, Guy	BAILEY, Lorinda Diane	mar	February, 1988	Alameda Co, CA
AKERS, Pierce Lee	SISNEROZ, Lisa Marie	mar	Sept, 1990	Alameda Co, CA
ALBERTSEN, Howard L. III	WADLOW, Maria Cecile	mar	November, 1989	Burlingame, CA
ALBRIGHT, Bill	FESTINESE, Anna Odette	eng	March, 1994	San Francisco, CA
ALEXANDER, Dean Russell	HORN, Kristen Helen	mar	October, 1992	Menlo Park, CA
ALEXANDER, Roger	CHAIX, Adrienne Helen	eng	February, 1985	Alameda Co, CA

ALEY, Ned Eugene	JOHNSON, Kirsten Marie	mar	August, 1988	Boulder, CO
ALLEGROTTI, Mark Louis	WATKINS, Tracy Lynn	mar	August, 1985	Alameda Co, CA
ALLEMAND, Wade	HURWITZ, Laura	mar	February, 1988	Lake Tahoe, CA
ALLEMAND, Wade	HURWITZ, Laura	mar	January, 1988	Alameda Co, CA
ALLEN, Marc Alani	JARDIN, Carrie Louise	eng	November, 1993	Alameda Co, CA
ALLEN, Rex Charles	CARSON, Sally Vance	mar	July, 1990	Alameda Co, CA
ALLEN, Robert	CARNES, Teresa Lynn	mar	April, 1990	So. Lake Tahoe, CA
ALLMANDIN, Kevin	JENSEN, Marcia Lenore	eng	June, 1985	Saratoga, CA
ALMEN, Eric Schall	SOLITO, Ana Gladys	mar	June 28, 2003	San Mateo, CA
ALONSO, Michael	MORGAN, Stacey	mar	February, 1992	Alameda Co, CA
ALSTON, Thomas Fox	BORDIN, Catherine Elaine	eng	February, 1993	Alameda Co, CA
ALTADONNA, Anthony V.	BRIDGES, Debbie	mar	April, 1988	Alameda Co, CA
AMARAL, John	OLSON, Anglea	eng	Aug , 1989	Alameda Co, CA
AMARAL, John	OLSON, Angela	eng	July, 1989	Alameda Co, CA
AMARAL, Kenneth Michael	REYNOSO, Sara	eng	February, 1991	Alameda Co, CA
AMBROSE, William R.	CONNELLY, Karen L.	mar	Sept, 1988	Alameda Co, CA
ANDERLly, Steve	FERGUSON, Lori	mar	July, 1993	Alameda Co, CA
ANDERSON, David C.	HENINGER, Lisa Karen	mar	December, 1990	Alameda Co, CA
ANDERSON, David C.	HENINGER, Lisa K	eng	January, 1990	Alameda Co, CA
ANDERSON, David Paul	RABBIOSI, Constance M.	eng	April, 1988	Alameda Co, CA
ANDERSON, Frank George	GRACE, Linda Joanne	eng	December, 1991	Alameda Co, CA
ANDERSON, Frank George	GRACE, Linda Joanne	mar	May, 1992	Moss Beach, CA
ANDERSON, Parke G.	MILLER, Donna L.	eng	June, 1996	Alameda Co, CA
ANDERSON, Paul R.	ACUNA, Robin Christine	mar	Sept, 2000	Angel Is., S.F., CA
ANDERSON, Steven	BINGAMAN, Kathleen	mar	October, 1991	Alameda Co, CA
ANDREWS, Steven Wayne	HUNDLEY, Venus Ann	mar	July, 1987	El Dorado Co, CA
ANDREWS, Steven Wayne	HUNDLEY, Venus Anne	eng	December, 1986	Alameda Co, CA
ANGUS, Hal	MURDOCK, Jan	mar	Sept, 1987	Alameda Co, CA
ANTHONY, Thomas D.	FERRELL, Donna L.	mar	May, 1993	Alameda Co, CA
ANTONE, Timothy	COGGIN, Cynthia	eng	October, 1992	Alameda Co, CA
ANTONE, Timothy James	COGGIN, Cynthia	mar	June, 1994	Alameda Co, CA
APEL, Michael	BARRANTES, Julie	eng	February, 1986	Alameda Co, CA
APPEZZATO, Joshua Anthony	PANDOLFO, Christine M.	eng	May, 2008	Alameda Co, CA
APPLETON, Jeffery Steven	PUSATERI, Lisa Marie	mar	October, 1993	Alameda Co, CA
APPLETON, Jeffrey S.	PUSATERI, Lisa	eng	April, 1993	San Jose, CA
AQUINO, Jeff P.	MALLARI, Arlene R.	eng	November, 1993	Alameda Co, CA
ARBURN, Jeffery Joseph	HELBERT, Seanne Lenore	mar	October, 1985	Alameda Co, CA
ARCHBOLD, Richard	WEBB, Rhonda	mar	March, 1988	San Joaquin Co, CA
ARCHIBALD, David Allen	BERTOLINO, Nancy C.	mar	August, 1985	Alameda Co, CA
ARFSTEN, Larry	STACK, Victoria "Tori"	mar	July, 1992	Alameda Co, CA
ARGIROS, Van	LUNNY, Cathy	eng	July, 1990	Alameda Co, CA
ARHONTES, Steven Michael	WENSLER, Karen Ann	mar	Sept , 1987	Alameda Co, CA
ARMIENTI, Michale David	CROOKE, Pamela Anne	mar	Sept, 1988	Alameda Co, CA
ARNERICH, Ken	GORDILLO, Colleen	eng	July, 1986	Alameda Co, CA
ARNERICH, Ron	LAWRENCE, Pam	mar	November, 1984	Alameda Co, CA
ARNOLD, John Weston	READ, Linda Elaine	mar		Alameda Co, CA
ARRIOLA, Aurelio Raymond	FLOWER, Celina Mia	eng	November, 1987	Alameda Co, CA
ARRUDA, Joseph Michael	BARRETO, Teresa Marie	eng	January, 1988	Alameda Co, CA
ARTHUR, Daniel Edward	WOLFE, Sally Jeanne	mar	June, 1990	Alameda Co, CA
ARZAGA, Richard P.	BUTZBACK, Judith A	eng	June, 1990	Alameda Co, CA
ARZAGA, Richard Patrick	BUTZBACH, Judith Ann	mar	Sept, 1990	Alameda Co, CA

ATTLES, Alvin Austin III	HOWELL, Lisa Pervine	eng	June, 1993	Alameda Co, CA
AUSTIN, Michael A.	MOMBAY, Lizette	mar	November, 1991	Alameda Co, CA
AVILA, Gilbert S.	MINER, Vicki M.	mar	August, 1993	So. Lake Tahoe, CA
AZEVEDO, Mario	MENDONCA, Georgina	mar	February, 198	Alameda Co, CA

### WHAT AILED OUR ANCESTORS?

Have you ever read an old obituary and wondered just what they were talking about? [or an early death certificate? Ed.] Here is a list of old terms to help you.

- Apoplexy, Paralytic Stroke:** rupture of a blood vessel in the brain; stroke, cerebral hemorrhage, cerebral thrombosis
- Army Disease:** drug addiction acquired during the Civil War
- Bilious Fever:** severe stomach disorder (ptomaine or botulism)
- Bloody Flux:** dysentery, severe diarrhea
- Bright's Disease:** chronic nephritis, kidney failure
- .Catarrh:** inflammation of the mucous membranes in the throat or nose, term applied to any nasal disorder, cold, sinus problems, or allergies
- Childbed Fever:** septicemia (blood poison) caused by contagion, usually fatal
- Consumption, White Plague, Lung Sickness:** tuberculosis, emphysema, lung cancer, black lung and smoker's cough were also diagnosed as "TB", there being a regular and galloping variety
- Corpulence:** obesity
- Delirium:** extreme weakness: leukemia, anemia, vitamin deficiency
- Dolors, Melancholy:** chronic depression
- Domestic Illness:** in a female – incontinence, in a male – kidney or heart failure, considered an inevitable aspect of the aging process
- Dropsy:** edema, fluid accumulation in the organs that the heart is unable to pump out
- Dyspepsia:** acid indigestion, heartburn, ulcers
- Falling Sickness:** epilepsy
- French Pox:** venereal disease – the treatment, blue mass (mercury) would kill the patient if the disease did not
- Lead Poisoning:** bullet through the abdomen
- Lumbago:** lower back pain
- Mania:** insanity, bipolar disorder, manic depression
- Quinsy:** laryngitis, tonsillitis, strep throat
- Screws:** rheumatism
- Softening of the Brain:** delusions, coma, irrational speech/actions, forgetfulness, possibly Alzheimer, unknown until recent years.
- Swamp Fever, Yellow Fever:** term used for a number of diseases, mainly malaria; caused by mosquitoes
- St. Anthony's Fire:** inflamed skin condition – possibly shingles or psoriasis
- Summer Complaint:** diarrhea from drinking spoiled milk or eating unripe fruit
- Texas Fever:** tick fever, term was also applied to the urge to move westward
- Vapors:** dizziness, fainting, lightheadedness; frequently caused by a too-tightly laced corset

In reading the above notes on medical terms of the past, think about making a list of what your ancestors died from. It may very well help you in your own health history and the health of your children. Many diseases are inherited just like our blue or brown eyes.

We are the sum total of all our ancestors.

Originally printed in the March, 1997 *Winepress*, newsletter of the Napa Valley Biographical and Genealogical Society