



*East Bay Genealogical Society*

# *The Live Oak*

November/December 2010

Oakland, California

## **NOVEMBER MEETING**

Wednesday, November 10 – 10 a.m. in the Oakland Family History Center Library meeting room

### **1906 SAN FRANCISCO EARTHQUAKE AND FIRE**

Our speaker will be Richard Torney. He is a 4<sup>th</sup> generation San Francisco native and resident of Marin County. He serves as Historian for the Moya Library/Ross Historical Society and is a member of the Advisory Board of the Marin History Museum.

His great grandfather's son "Ned" was 26 years old at the time of the 1906 earthquake. He went around the city the day of the catastrophe and in the following days taking snapshots of the devastation, the raging fire, and of scenes showing some of the city's displaced residents.

Mr. Torney will be sharing these photos with us, along with many original documents found in Torney family collections.

## **DECEMBER MEETING**

Wednesday, December 8 – 10 a.m. in the Oakland Family History Center Library meeting room

### **ANNUAL COOKIE EXCHANGE AND OPEN DISCUSSION**

Grease your cookie sheet, get out that favorite recipe and whip up some of your tasty cookies.

Be prepared to share family holiday traditions, your favorite Christmas, or other family tales relating to the holiday season.

We are looking forward, also, to a visit from our member, John Fripp, from Australia who hopes to be present at this meeting.

***WARM HOLIDAY GREETINGS TO ALL!!  
WE WISH EVERYONE A HAPPY NEW YEAR!!***

We were pleased to welcome several guests at both our September and October meetings.

In September Chris Greene gave us many pointers and strategies to separate the myth from the fact in our family stories and legends. It was a most enjoyable program.

In October Terri Lipscomb, Supervisor at the Alameda County Clerk/Recorder's Office, bravely faced a barrage of questions with regard to obtaining copies of records from the Recorder's Office.

Enactment of recent laws makes it impossible for researchers to search their records or indexes. The staff will search a five-year period at request, with payment for the record. Should it be found, consider yourself fortunate – if not, kiss your \$\$ good-bye. Bottom line: **DO YOUR HOMEWORK WELL!** You may request a copy of a record for a close relative; i.e., parent or sibling only, and I think grandparents (my notes are sketchy!). Copies of a record other than a close relative are redacted; i.e., signatures and social security numbers are blacked out. The present cost of a birth record is \$19, death record \$14 and marriage record \$16.

There are record indexes that are searchable on a computer in the lobby that you may use, and they are adding new records to this database on a regular basis. At the present time, this "public index" includes: births – 1940 to date, deaths – 1940 to date, marriages – 1971 to date. There are no restrictions for searching the following records of registrants for: Fictitious Business Names, Process Servers, Professional Photo Copiers, Notary Public, Bail Licenses. There are no restrictions for searching land records, grantee and grantor indexes, and copies are fairly inexpensive. I have often found wills and/or death certificates imbedded in land records due to probates.

**EBGS NEWS** We are looking forward to our upcoming "Genealogy in the Library" program at the Alameda Main Library on November 6. The library is located on the corner of Lincoln Avenue and Oak Street in Alameda. Program runs from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and is basically for beginners with an emphasis on resources available in Bay Area libraries and archives and using the internet to do research...and it is FREE.

We would like very much to schedule a research trip to an archive or library in the general Bay Area sometime early next year. Now is the time to offer your suggestions. Where would you prefer to visit to research? Please contact Sally Stevens, John Wheat, or this editor and let your wishes be known!

### **NEW BOOKS IN EBGs LIBRARY**

*Cassell's New German and English Dictionary*: with a phonetic key to pronunciation.

Bruel, Karl PF364O, B7, 1939

### **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Starr Brown, 414 Baywood Road, Alameda, CA 94502, email: [lynns@comcast.net](mailto:lynns@comcast.net)

Lorraine Birge, 39 Cathy Lane, Oakland, CA 94619

Diana Demeter, 4930 Cochrane Avenue, Oakland, CA 94618, 510-420-1435, [DDCOCHRANE@aol.com](mailto:DDCOCHRANE@aol.com)

**Please make the following corrections to your recent roster:** Joyce Schleicher's address: 4345 Detroit Avenue, Oakland, CA 94619 and Ann Claesgens' email: [aclaesgens@aol.com](mailto:aclaesgens@aol.com)

**OAKLAND FAMILY HISTORY CENTER LIBRARY** The new computers and high-speed internet service have been installed and the library is looking fabulous. Come see for yourself.

**Through their Portal you may access:** Ancestry.com, Heritage Quest Online, FindMyPast.com (UK), Footnote.com, The Genealogist (English research site), GenLine.com, Godfrey Memorial Library, Historic Map Works Library Edition, NewEnglandAncestors.org (New England Historic Genealogical Society), Vitalrecordsworldwide.com and World Vital Records.com, 19<sup>th</sup> Century British Library Newspapers Digital Archives, and Alexander Street Press – The American Civil War (Research databases, letters and diaries, images, photographs, posters). All these sites and databases are available FREE in their library.

And...here is what else is happening at the Oakland Family History Center....

**“Swedish Genealogy in a Digital World – Using Genline”** – Presented by Kathy Meade from Genline. Thursday, November 11, 1-3 p.m. Class is FREE. Reservations are requested. Call 510-531-3905.

Coming soon: **Winter 2011 Intermediate Genealogy Series.** Check their website for dates and times and to register – [fhcoakland@yahoo.com](mailto:fhcoakland@yahoo.com).

**MacGen Group Workshop** – 7 p.m. Wednesday, November 10 and Wednesday, December 8

### **UPCOMING EVENTS FOR GENEALOGISTS**

#### **Santa Clara County Historical & Genealogical Society presents Beginner’s Seminar, Fall 2010 Session.**

Held on Saturdays, 1-4 p.m. in the Redwood Room, 1st floor of the Santa Clara Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Road, Santa Clara, CA. Classes are FREE. Please register ahead between October 4 and November 4. Email: [office@scchgs.org](mailto:office@scchgs.org) or by phone: 408-615-2986.

**Part I: November 6, 2010 - The Basics** – getting started, organizing your information, using forms and documenting your sources.

**Part II: November 13, 2010 – Census Records/Internet Research**

**San Mateo County Genealogical Society Fall 2010 Seminar: Using & Interpreting Records. Four lectures presented by Michael John Neil.** Saturday, November 6, 2010, 9 a.m. – 3:15 p.m., Menlo Park LDA Church, 1105 Valparaiso, Menlo Park, CA.

Registration deadline: October 24, 2010, late registration fee \$40. Make check payable to: SMCGS Seminar, mail to: Patrick Gilbride, 153 Occidental Avenue, Burlingame, CA 94010-5219

#### **Clark County Nevada Genealogical Society presents 2011 Spring Family History Seminar.**

March 26, 2011, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Fulton Building, UNLV Campus, 801 E. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas. Cost is \$40, register by March 17, 2011. Free parking. For directions or more information:

<http://sfbevents.univ.edu/contact/directions.shtml>

Topics: The Many Facets of the National Archives Website, Researching Women, Sources for Documenting U.S. Military Service.

Ed. Note: Clark County, NV and Clark County Nevada Genealogical Society have very nice websites with many links.

\*\*\*\*\* *A filing cabinet is a place where you lose things – systematically* \*\*\*\*\*

## GHOST TOWNS OF CALIFORNIA

While searching the shelves of my local library for a particular book, I ran across a book that piqued my interest, "Ghost Towns of California" by Donald C. Miller. Browsing through Miller's book made me wonder how many researchers out there might have ancestors who came to California during the Gold Rush Era to seek their fortune or for other reasons might have spent some time in some of California's ghost towns. If you have an ancestor that falls into this category, you might want to research some of the information available on ghost towns to add some background and interest to your family history. Hopefully, the following information might help you. I have only scratched the surface, there is a lot of material available on California ghost towns!

"Ghost Towns of California" by Donald C. Miller includes over 1,100 towns. They are described alphabetically in the book and there are also several pages of index. Some of the descriptions are very brief; but, I suppose the existence of some of these towns was also very brief. Miller has concentrated his efforts almost entirely on mining towns and camps. Not all of these are "ghosts" today. Several of them are still alive and some are thriving and are presently the county seat of their county. Placerville (old Hangtown) is a good example.

"Ghost Towns of the Santa Cruz Mountains" by John V. Young is an interesting read. Young not only tells of some of the hamlets that were once populated in the Santa Cruz Mountains, but he tells several stories of the inhabitants as well. I was pleasantly surprised and pleased to find a chapter on Patchen. One of my great grandfather's brothers, Charles L. A. Scott, lived there for a while and died there in 1907. He had been the first postmaster of Patchen. In Young's book he mentions the post office in Patchen being run by Mr. and Mrs. L. N. Scott. Those initials would have referred to Charles' wife, Louisa Nutter Scott. It is possible they had both been postmaster at one time, or Louisa might have assumed the responsibility after her husband's death.

There is a website, **California Ghost Town Books.com** where you will find over thirty listings. This is primarily a site selling books, but you might just find one on the list that interests you or suits your research needs.

**Wikipedia.com** has an extensive list of ghost towns in California listed alphabetically and then again by county. This site offers a nice description and history of the ghost towns they list.

I googled "Harmony, California" and was surprised to find quite an interesting history of this little hamlet, which had not shown up on Wikipedia's site. Harmony is where, several years ago, my husband and I were among only ten guests witnessing a marriage ceremony in a quaint, tiny chapel. The little town presently has perhaps 20 inhabitants, counting cats and dogs. It is only a few miles outside of Cambria, CA and near San Simeon, CA.

Search **Ghost Towns and Historic Towns of California.com** and you will discover Robert C. Jones's site for his books and pamphlets on ghost towns of California and Nevada. At the top of the page you will see a notation for a new site - click on that and it will take you to a site where you can view the entire text of his pamphlet, "Ghost Towns (and Historic Towns) in California: Bodie, Bay Area, Mojave". His books and pamphlets are inexpensive and you can download an order list/form if you desire.

Browse your local library's catalog, use Google, Wikipedia and other websites to seek out information on your ancestor's who might have spent some time in one of these ghost towns. You might be rewarded with some good reading, interesting information, and stories to incorporate into your family history.

## A continuation of engagement and marriage announcements from local newspapers (1985 through 2010)

GROOM'S NAME	BRIDE'S NAME	EVENT	DATE	PLACE
DEARING, Chandler	DRIECO, Carolyn	marriage	July, 1993	Alameda Co, CA
DeBELLOTTE, Thirkell	BLAKE, Carolee Louise	marriage	May, 1992	Alameda Co, CA
DeCELLE, Aaron	POSS, Keely Jean	marriage	September, 1996	Sand Point, ID
DeCELLE, Walter Lewis	CREAGER, Susan Diane	marriage	June, 1992	Alameda Co, CA
DeCELLE, Walter Lewis	CREAGER, Susan Diane	marriage	June, 1993	Alameda Co, CA
DeCLEREQ, Paul James	MURRAY, Laura Lynn	engagement	December, 1990	Alameda Co, CA
DeCLEREQ, Paul James	MURRAY, Laura Lynn	marriage	May, 1991	Tahoe City, CA
DeCOSTA, Robert	BROWN, Patricia	marriage	April, 1990	Bullhead City, AR
DEGEMANN, Gerhard Wilhelm	COUTURIER, Jean	marriage	September, 1984	Alameda Co, CA
DeJESUS, Richard	JACKSON, Beckie	marriage	November, 1991	Alameda Co, CA
DeJESUS, Rick Jr.	JACKSON, Beckie	engagement	April, 1990	Alameda Co, CA
DeJESUS, Rick, Jr.	JACKSON, Beckie	engagement	April, 1991	Alameda Co, CA
DEL PIN, Facundo	MEYSKENS, Desiree	marriage	September, 2008	Alameda Co, CA
DeLaCRUZ, Eldon Dizon	SALVADOR, Bethsalda Cruz	marriage	February, 1989	Santa Clara Co. CA
DELACRUZ, Vince	MAR, Venus	marriage	August, 2008	Alameda Co, CA
deLANDA, Mike	BORGEN, Bertha	marriage	April, 1988	Alameda Co, CA
DELBRIDGE, Lance E.	JONES, Lauren L.	engagement	December, 1990	Alameda Co, CA
DELBRIDGE, Lance Edward	IZARD, Donna	engagement	December, 1993	Alameda Co, CA
DELGUIDICE, Michael	MORENO, Annette	marriage	August, 1992	Alameda Co, CA
DELISLE, Randall	MORING, Tami	marriage	August, 1988	Alameda Co, CA
DENNEY, Robert	GHERA, Kellie	engagement	June, 1992	Alameda Co, CA
DENNIS, Larry	WEST, Pamela	marriage	November, 1989	Alameda Co, CA
DERBY, Doug	FRAKES, Julie	engagement	August, 1990	Alameda Co, CA
DERICKSON, Mark	HART, Dina	engagement	February, 1986	San Francisco, CA
DeROCHE, David Nelson	BROWNSON, Nancy Ruth	marriage	May, 1989	Contra Costa Co, CA
DEROSE, John	AMARAL, Dawn	engagement	January, 1988	Alameda Co, CA
DeSEGUIRANT, David John	NORRELL, Malea Renee	marriage	August, 1991	Alameda Co, CA
DeSHEA, Wayne	SALAZAR, Cherilyn Ann	engagement	December, 1991	Alameda Co, CA
DETERS, David	LONBARDI, Patricia Jean	engagement	October, 1991	New Knoxville, OH
DETURCK, Richard Raymond	HOTTI, Kristin Leslie	marriage	August, 1991	Alameda Co, CA
DEUEL, Jefferey M.	YAGER, Gretchen A.	engagement	June, 1991	Alameda Co, CA
DeVETTER, Douglas	HILL, Rebecca	engagement	May, 1988	Alameda Co, CA
DeVETTER, Douglas Paul	HILL, Renee Rosanne	marriage	August, 1989	Alameda Co, CA
DeVORE, Gary M.	WOOLEY, Lizabeth A.	marriage	July, 1990	Alameda Co, CA
DeWINDT, Paul	WANDEN BOSCH, Kerri	engagement	February, 1994	Grand Rapids, MI
DEWLANEY, William C.	HUNTER, Linda	marriage	April, 1990	Alameda Co, CA
DIAMOND, Laurence	KNITTEL, Lisa	engagement	July, 1987	Alameda Co, CA
DIAMOND, Stevan Robert	DIAZ, Cynthia Marie	marriage	August, 1987	Alameda Co, CA
DIAZ, Joseph Edward III	GARCIA, Dorsi Lynn	marriage	July, 1989	San Jose, CA
DIAZ, Loren	WATSON, Jacqui	engagement	August, 1989	Alameda Co, CA
DICKENSON, Brian	LaCHAPELLE, Samantha	marriage	December, 1992	Alameda Co, CA
DICKENSON, Daniel	TAVARES, Marie	marriage	April, 1988	Alameda Co, CA
DICKINSON, Bryan	LaCHAPELLE, Samantha	engagement	December, 1992	Alameda Co, CA
DICKINSON, Michael	KOHLER, Kathy Ann	engagement	May, 1991	Alameda Co, CA
DICOIO, Steven Angelo	CAPLINGER, Kelly Ann	engagement	May, 1988	Alameda Co, CA
DIETZ, Christopher David	VAUGHN, Shauna Ellen	marriage	August, 1993	Monterey, CA
DiFABIO, Dennis Michael	JOHNSTON, Cynthia Renee	marriage	January, 1985	Alameda Co, CA
DIFABIO, Dennis Michael	JOHNSTON, Cynthia Renee	engagement	August, 1984	Alameda Co, CA

DiFABIO, Ronald Frank	LARSEN, Robin Annette	marriage	August, 1988	Alameda Co, CA
DiFABLO, Gary Anthony	WALL, Denise Renee	marriage	October, 1984	Tracy, CA
DILK, Jim	HEISLER, Terri	engagement	January, 1989	Alameda Co, CA
D'INDIA, Phillip	MENDONCA, Toni	marriage	October, 1990	Alameda Co, CA
DISALVO, John A.	GOGUEN, Cindy A.	marriage	June, 1988	Alameda Co, CA
DIVEN, Julian Miles	BULLOCK, Gayle Lynn	engagement	November, 1992	San Jose, CA
DIVEN, Julian Miles	BULLOCK, Gayle Lynn	marriage	May, 1993	Santa Clara Co. CA
DIVEN, Julian Miles	BULLOCK, Gayle Lynn	engagement	May, 1992	Alameda Co, CA
DOHMANN, Chris H.	HOFFMAN, Kelly Marie	engagement	December, 1988	Alameda Co, CA
DOHMANN, Chris Henry	HOFFMAN, Kelly Marie	engagement	February, 1989	Alameda Co, CA
DOLLISON, Steven Ray	TEITMEIER, Linda Marie	marriage	June, 1990	Alameda Co, CA
DOMINGUES, Joseph Lawrence	PARKER, Julie Ann	marriage	July, 1991	Alameda Co, CA
DONAHUE, Keith David	NISH, Gayle Laverne	engagement	April, 1985	Alameda Co, CA
DONAT, Myles F.	FLORES, Catherine A.L.	engagement	April, 1991	Alameda Co, CA
DONES, Joseph Michael	DA BRANCA, Lisa Marie	engagement	December, 1988	Alameda Co, CA
DONLEY, Robert L. III	SELF, Deborah Anne	engagement	December, 1991	Alameda Co, CA
DORROUGH, Gary	JOHNSON, Chris	marriage	January, 1988	Alameda Co, CA
DORTCH, Michael	McBRIDE, Monica	marriage	December, 2004	Contra Costa Co, CA
DORTCH, Marshall	NORTON-McBRIDE, Monica	engagement	February, 2004	Contra Costa Co, CA
DOSA, Andrew Alexander	HEMPY, Lisa Ann	marriage	January, 1985	Alameda Co, CA
DOSS, David Eric	ESTEY, Rochelle LeJeune	engagement	April, 1994	Alameda Co, CA
DOUGHERTY, William	WEBER, Andrea	engagement	April, 2000	Alameda Co, CA
DOUMITT, Anthony	MARZOCCO, Angela Marie	marriage	September, 1991	Alameda Co, CA
DOUMITT, Tony	MARZOCCO, Angela Marie	engagement	February, 1991	Alameda Co, CA
DOZIER, Michael	LaCOM, Karen	marriage	July, 1988	Alameda Co, CA
DRAGOVICH, Michael	FULLERTON, Sarah	engagement	December, 2008	Laguna Beach, CA
DRIOANE, Christopher	GRISWELL, Laura Jean	marriage	September, 1989	Alameda Co, CA
DROLET, Richard L.	SMITH, Kristen Helen	marriage	April, 1988	Alameda Co, CA
DUARTE, Dennis Jay	SIMONSEN, Teresa Ann	marriage	August, 1992	Alameda Co, CA
DULLE, Michael Peter Matthew	PIRAK, Paula Jane	marriage	February, 1991	Las Vegas, NV
DUNDON, Christopher P.	MARTIN, Marianne	marriage	March, 1990	Alameda Co, CA
DUNEO, David Edward	DERIEG, Joanne Kathleen	engagement	August, 1988	Alameda Co, CA
DUNLAP, Craig Albert	HANLON, Lynette Maria	engagement	May, 1992	
DURAN, Christopher Todd	GABRIELLE, Sophia	engagement	September, 1996	Alameda Co, CA
DURAN, Christopher Todd	GONZALEZ, Sophia Gabrielle	marriage	September, 1997	Alameda Co, CA
DURAN, Gary	BELEN, Mia Lou	engagement	November, 1992	Alameda Co, CA
DURBROW, Ribert T. Jr	SORENSEN, Karen Anne	marriage	June, 1989	Fresno, CA
DUTCHOVER, Brian David	WALTER, Amy Kathryn	engagement	February, 2003	Alameda Co, CA
DWYER, Daniel William	PICINICH, Christine Marie	marriage	January, 1993	San Francisco, CA
DYE, Kenneth Eugene Jr.	ANTRIM, Catherine Chavonne	marriage	March, 1988	Houston, TX
DYOYUSM Nucgaek	LOFTIS-KENNEDY, Alice	marriage	April, 1993	Alameda Co, CA
EAGLIN, Gregory	DURAN, Carmen	engagement	July, 1992	Alameda Co, CA

**MY HOME MERIT BADGE****by Ann Henning**

The following tidbits done for a merit badge during my childhood gave me a few clues about some of my relatives; such as, learning that my grandfather had come to the United States when he was about 18 years old. In connection with earning the My Home merit badge from Girl Scouts of America, Troop No. 2335, I asked relatives what they liked and how they lived at my age (age 11, 1972). Here are their responses:

At your age I lived on a block that had many boys and girls the same age. In the summer we would take the ferry to San Francisco and then take another ferry to San Rafael. From that point we hiked to Stinson Beach, Mt. Tamalpais, or any other spot we had decided upon. We always were very happy when the circus came to town, as it was always preceded by a spectacular parade downtown with all the wild animals and performers participating. It was very exciting.

We had no refrigerator in those days, but we had an icebox. The ice was delivered by truck by an iceman. When he delivered the ice, he always was trailed by a contingent of children. He would always chip a small piece of ice from a big block of ice and give us all some. This may not seem like a treat to you, but for us it was something special. Although we did not have the conveniences you have now, we had a very happy childhood.

Love, Ellie xxxooo (From Eleanor Casazza)

When I was your age we lived on a street where there were many children, more or less the same age. We had lots of fun playing Kick the Can and One Foot off the Gutter during the long summer evenings. (No Daylight Saving(s) Time)

The families visited often after dinner and during the winter we would play games then have hot chocolate and cookies. Sometimes we would roast chestnuts and everyone would sit around the table, peeling and eating. Sometimes my mother would make taffy for us and we children would enjoy forming different shapes with it.

We lived near a French Bakery and every evening I would be sent to buy a hot loaf of bread, it was only nine cents. I remember going to the butcher shop and the whole animal (minus head), hide and all would be hanging from a rack. The butcher always gave us a hot dog or piece of bologna. I hope this will be some help to you.

Love, Dudee (From Edna Porter)

(I'm not sure which bakery she is talking about, as there were two Italian bakeries – Liberty and Colombo nearby. Perhaps a member of EBGGS can help me figure this one out; Edna lived around 43<sup>rd</sup> St. in Oakland)

At your age I liked to play kick-the-can and hide-and-go-seek. I enjoyed walking down to First and Broadway and taking the nickel ferry to San Francisco. I lived in a large two-story house, and I had only a wood and coal stove to heat this large two-story house.

Love, Uncle Bob (Robert Delucchi, uncle)

At your age I liked to go fishing and would have liked to learn how to swim. I lived in Germany for 18 years. We had to build fires to heat our house. For stoves we also had fires. When we built the fires we'd have to pack in wood. To get water we had to go about a block and a half, and carry it back in buckets.

Love, Pops (Bruno Henning, grandfather)