

# THE LIVE OAK

EAST BAY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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March/April 2014

Oakland, California

## MARCH MEETING

Wednesday, March 12, 2014 at 10 a.m. - Oakland Family History Library Meeting Room

### **THE WITCHES OF SALEM, MA - Speaker: Gay Scott**

Gay is a member of the Mt. Diablo Chapter DAR, Bradstreet Chapter Colonial Dames of the Seventeenth Century, and Associated Daughters of Early American Witches.

She will discuss the witchcraft crises of 1692. We have received several phone calls from non-members asking about this program. It certainly has created a lot of interest and we are really looking forward to her presentation.



## APRIL MEETING

Wednesday, April 9, 2014 at 10 a.m. - Oakland Family History Library Meeting Room

### **WHAT DO ALIEN ABDUCTION, SLAVERY AND A PLAGUE HAVE TO DO WITH EARLY NEW ENGLAND? - Speaker: Roger Howland**

We are fortunate to have such gifted and talented speaker at our podium. Roger has a B.A. from U.C. Berkeley and an M.S. from S.F. State. He recently retired from the faculty of U.C. San Francisco.

Roger is a volunteer historian/researcher at the Society of Mayflower Descendants Library and presently the President of Lakeside Speakeasy, a local Toastmasters Club.

This is going to be a most interesting and exciting program, unveiling fascinating little known facts about living conditions and the inhabitants of early New England.

**Looking Back at January:** Teresa Costa Fraser presented a marvelous program on using maps in genealogical research. Who knew how many varieties of maps were available? And...now we know where to look for them. She cautioned us to pay particular attention to dates and place names as we research our ancestor's records; to become familiar with specific locations in the time period we are researching; and to search for books and online sources of places.

**Looking Back at February:** Myrtle Savage, the researcher from the Oakland Mayflower Descendant's Library, shared her knowledge of the library with us. If you had early ancestors in the colonies or in New England, you may be pleasantly surprised at what you might find at the Mayflower Library.

The library is located in the basement of the Franklin Building on the corner of 14th and Franklin Streets in Oakland. It is open on Mondays from 9 am. to 4 p.m. It is within walking distance of the 12th Street BART station and there is also a public parking lot across the street

**EBGS NEWS:** Within a few days of donating our last group of newspaper obituaries to the Oakland Family History Library with the hopes that they might be filmed sometime, Ralph Seversen called to announce that he had had a surprise visit from someone from Salt Lake City that could make this happen! Voile...they are being filmed at this moment. We are rapidly gluing up the biographical files to accompany them in order to have them filmed also. Carolyn Storm is happy to get the multitude of cards out of her home and will welcome the return of the eight file drawers now missing from her little black chest that grandpa built.

Thanks to Lynne Bajuk for her determination in getting flyers to so many East Bay libraries and other venues announcing our meeting topics. We have been pleased to see many new faces over the past few months.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** Oakland FHC offers the following free classes/workshops on an ongoing basis. All interested are welcome to attend.

**MAC GEN Genealogy** meetings - website for more information on this group [www.macgen.org](http://www.macgen.org)  
2nd Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.  
4th Saturday of each month at 1:30 p.m.

**African-American Workshop:** 4th Thursday of each month at 6 p.m.

The following classes are free, though there may be a nominal charge for handouts.  
Please make reservations by phone or email: 510-531-3905 / email: [fhcoakland@gmail.com](mailto:fhcoakland@gmail.com)

<b>Intro to French Canadian Research</b> /Jane Lindsey	Tuesday, March 5 - 1 p.m.
<b>Intro to Family Tree</b> /Ralph Seversen	Wednesday, March 13 - 7 p.m.
<b>Crossing the Pond</b> /Robert Jackson	
<b>Help with German Research</b>	Wednesday, March 27 - 1 p.m.
<b>Using the Online Newspaper Resources of the Oakland FHC</b> /Janice Sellars	Friday, March 29 - 10:30 a.m.
<b>Intro to Ancestral Quest</b> /staff	Tuesday, May 7 - 6 p.m.
<b>Ancestral Quest Workshops</b>	Saturday, May 11 - 1:30 p.m.
	Tuesdays May 14 & 28 - 6 p.m.
<b>Intro to PAF (hands on)</b> /Ken Miller Asst. Dir	Tuesday May 14 - 10:30 a.m.
Class limited to 6 students - Please bring flash drive if you have one	
<b>Intro to RootsMagic (hands on)</b>	Friday, May 17 - 10:30 a.m.
Please bring flash drive if you have one	
<b>Using Finding Aids for Jewish Research to Help Research Non-Jewish Ancestors</b> /Janice Sellars	Saturday, May 18, 1:30 p.m.
<b>Documentation in PAF</b> /Ken Miller	Tuesday, May 21 - 1:30 p.m.
<b>Documentation in RootsMagic</b> /Ken Miller	Friday, May 24 - 1:30 p.m.

The following series of classes cost a fee and there may be a nominal charge for handouts. Call 510-531-3905 for reservations and more information.

**CGS Intermediate Series**

Tuesdays, March 5, 12, 19 & 26 - 1:30 a.m.

**AASGSNC Beyond the Census**

Tuesday, March 19 - 6:30 p.m.

**What's in a Name?...Trouble!** - Speaker, Ron Arons, an expert on Jewish criminals and Jewish genealogy. Tuesday, March 18, 2014 - 6 p.m. Margie Edinger Community Room, 1st Floor, Santa Clara Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Road, Santa Clara, CA. Presented by the Santa Clara County Historical & Genealogical Society. Free and open to the public. [www.scchgs.org](http://www.scchgs.org) for more information.

**Sacramento Genealogical Society - Spring Seminar:** Saturday, April 5, 2014. Speaker: Geoff Rasmussen, "Legacy Family Tree Genealogy Software and Webinars. [www.rootcellar.com](http://www.rootcellar.com) for more information and reservation form.

**Family History Expo - Sacramento, Ca:** May 2 & 3, 2014. Research and technology classes and more. See [familyhistoryexpos.com](http://familyhistoryexpos.com) for more information and registration forms.

**Exploring Mountain View Cemetery:** Saturday, April 4, 2014 - 10 a.m. A docent-led tour highlighting the people, architecture, beauty and history of Mt. View Cemetery, Oakland, CA. Tour is free. Call 510-658-2588 for further information.

**ITEMS OF INTEREST:**

**Mayflower Descendants Library:** They have much to offer in the way of early Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Connecticut records, just to name a few. You might be interested in the 53 volume *Barbour Collection of Town Vital Records for Connecticut*. It deals with early records and is alphabetical by town and surname. There are also several volumes of Connecticut county histories, family histories and genealogies, and early Connecticut marriage and probate records.

**Were Your Ancestors Among the Miners in Early Colorado?** The West Custer County Library in Westcliffe, CO could aid your search. Their website offers links to the Colorado Historical Newspaper Project, Colorado Historical Society and Colorado State Archives....on the list of "Best State Archives" in 2013 in Family Tree Magazine. ( I found their researchers very helpful. They emailed burial information and items from historic newspapers. Ed.) You might also want to Google and browse *The Center for Colorado and the West at Auraria Library in Denver*.

**USCIS.gov** is the U. S. Citizenship and Immigration Services website. Scroll down to USCIS-Homepage (NOT wow.com) and click. The next page will list many choices at the right margin. Click *history and genealogy*. This is a fee service, but browsing is free and it appears you may search for free. It offers FAQs and several links to aid you.

**[www.canadiana.ca/en/home](http://www.canadiana.ca/en/home)** A website dedicated to building Canada's digital preservation and providing access to Canadian documentary heritage, Included are books, periodicals, images and nationally significant archival materials. This appears to be a very important database of Canadian history. If you have Canadian roots, this could be an excellent resource. (via Santa Clara Co. Hist. & Gen. Soc newsletter, Sept. 2013, edited)

**California Birth Index 1905-1995:** <http://cabi.mirrorz.com> Takes you to a page within the SF Genealogy website. Access is free! Many search options make this an excellent source.

**Downey, CA Cemetery Online:** <http://www.downeyca.org/services/online/cdrecords.asp>  
Downey is located in Los Angeles County about 13 miles southeast of downtown L.A. The city of Downey has made the Downey Cemetery District database containing birth and death information available on its website. Searchable by first or last name. The database comprises about 6,000 records. (NEHGS Weekly Genealogists, Vol.16, No. 28, July 10, 2013 vis Monterey County Gen. Soc newsletter Sept/Oct 2013)

**Researching in the Bay Area by Public Transit:** Janice Sellars has written an extensive and useful article printed in the January/February 2014 California State Genealogical Alliance newsletter on how to get to many archives, societies and libraries in the Bay Area via public transit. This is a lengthy article and includes a description of each venues holdings. I can only imagine the time it took Janice to research the information. Kudos to you, Janice! I will bring the newsletter to the March meeting to share with anyone who might be interested....or if you like, I can bring you a copy. Email me at: [c-kstorm@juno.com](mailto:c-kstorm@juno.com)

### MIDWEST GENEALOGY CENTER

As the editor of this newsletter, I recently received an email from these folks. They kindly informed me that my last *Live Oak* posted on our website carried an ad for pdf formatting in the upper left-hand corner of each page! Oops! Sometimes a little knowledge can be a dangerous thing - and when it comes to computers - I am no expert. My apologies to everyone who also received the newsletter with this faux faux.

I had never heard of this library, but they claim to have a link to our newsletters and website in their database. Who knew...? But also - what a pleasant surprise! We certainly appreciate their interest. So with that in mind, I decided to learn a little more about the Midwest Genealogy Center located at the Mid-Continent Public Library in Independence, MO.

The collection began with a small donation of books from a local DAR chapter. Later the Missouri State Genealogical Association, the Heart of America Genealogical Society and the Gann Historical Society added their libraries to the collection, and the collection continues to grow. They have historical local newspapers and some Kentucky records and newspapers.

Their website <http://www.mypcl.org/genealogy> lists microfilm and microfiche collections, reference books and genealogy circulating collections. Inter-library loan is available for the circulating collection. They have a generous research policy and some databases are searchable online. It would be a marvelous place to visit while on vacation - but in the meantime, check out their website to see if they have anything of special interest to you.

*A FAMILY TREE CAN WITHER IF NOBODY TENDS ITS ROOTS!*

## FINDING MAPS FOR YOUR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

Here are some suggestions taken from Teresa Costa Fraser's handout at the January meeting (along with a few suggestions of my own) as to what type of maps to look for and where you might locate them.

### Place Name Resources - Information about Places:

A geographical dictionary, Wikipedia, Familysearch Wiki, the *Redbook* by Ancestry Publishing, your local public library and college and university library catalogs, Google books.com, WorldCat.com.

### Major Online Map Sources:

Perry-Castaneda Library Map Collection - <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps>  
Topographic and Military Maps

David Rumsey Map Collection - <http://www.davidrumsey.com/about/david-rumsey>

Library of Congress Geography & Map Division - <http://www.loc.gov/rr/geogmap/>  
The American Memory format - <http://memory.loc.gov/ammen/gmdhtml/gmdhome.html>

U.S. Department of Interior, U.S. Geological Survey  
Topographic Mapping - <http://egsc.usgs.gov/isb/pubs/booklets/topo/topo/html>  
User's Guide to Topographic Maps - <http://nationalmap.gov/ustopo/quickenstart.pdf>  
Topographic Map Symbols - <http://egsc.usgs.gov/isb/pubs/booklets/symbols/topo>

### Fire Insurance Maps

Sacramento Public Library - <http://www.saclibrary.org> Need Sacramento Pub Lib card - available to all residents of CA

Earth Sciences Map Library at U.C. Berkeley -  
<http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/EART/sanborn.maps>

Library of Congress - <http://www.loc.gov/rr/geogmap/sanborn>  
1905 San Francisco Sanborn Maps - <http://www.davidrumsey.com>

### MONDAY'S CHILD

Monday's child is fair of face.  
Tuesday's child is full of grace.  
Wednesday's child is full of woe.  
Thursday's child has far to go.  
Friday's child is loving and giving.  
Saturday's child must work for a living.  
But the child that's born on the Sabbath day,  
Is fair and wise and good and gay

Remember this nursery rhyme? Take a look at the 100-year calendar on the last page of this newsletter. On what day of the week were some of your ancestors born? ...and, yes, you may have to use a magnifying glass!

## KINGS COUNTY, CALIFORNIA - A Thumbnail Sketch

A county located in California's agriculturally rich Central Valley. Inhabited by native Indian tribes for many years before Spanish expeditions, miners and cattlemen, and the Southern Pacific Railroad arrived.

The county was established in 1893 when a portion of Tulare County was divided to form the new county. In 1909, 208 square miles of Fresno County territory were added to the northwest portion of Kings County.

The county is a rich oil and agricultural area and home to Lemoore Naval Air Station. Tulare Lake, once the largest body of fresh water west of the Great Lakes, was reclaimed by settlers for agricultural use. The county seat is Hanford. The population was estimated as 152,007 in January, 2013.

County clerk/recorder's Office      vital records  
1400 West Lacey Blvd  
Hanford, CA 93230  
559-582-3211 ext 2470

County Courthouse      civil and other court records, probate records, land records  
1426 South Drive  
Hanford, CA 93230  
559-582-1010

Hanford Carnegie Museum  
109 East 8th Street  
Hanford, CA 93230

Hanford Public Library      City directories, historical files, newspaper holdings, Kings  
401 North Douty Street      County obituaries, genealogy room  
Hanford, CA 93230  
559-582-0261

Want to learn more?

*Kings County (Images of America: CA)* by Robin Michael Roberts

*Kings County (CA) (Postcard History Series)* by Michael J. Semas

*History of Tulare and Kings Counties, CA - with biographical sketches* by Eugene L. Menefee

Please help your editor by contributing a short story of one of your ancestors. Famous, infamous or just ordinary folk. Do you have a brick wall problem that you would like to write about? Maybe someone out there can offer some suggestions to help you. EBGS members or non-members: Want to submit an inquiry via this newsletter? Please be my guest!

Filling these eight pages is not an easy task - and frankly, I am getting a little "long in the tooth" for the entire job. Contact me at: [c-kstorm@juno.com](mailto:c-kstorm@juno.com)



### MEETINGS

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday each month – 10 am  
Family History Center Library  
4766 Lincoln Avenue, Oakland, CA

**Visitors welcome!** Typically a speaker discusses genealogical record sources, research techniques, research tips. Occasionally, working meetings are held at sites of genealogical interest.

### MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to all...

Individual/Organization - \$18.00

Family - \$25.00

Foreign - \$20.00

Request an application by writing to: P. O. Box 1648, Alameda, CA 94501  
or download from our website.

### BOARD MEMBERS

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**EAST BAY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY IS A**

**NON-PROFIT CORPORATION**

**EST. 1979**

# EBGS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Mail to: EBGS, P. O. Box 1648 Alameda, CA 94501

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss \_\_\_\_\_

Street/Apt .#/P.O.Box \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Amt. Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ (\$18 Individual/\$7.50 Each Additional Family Member  
(Please note - Dues have been raised to \$18)

May we hear from you by July 1, 2013

Thank you for your support.

Office use

only: Date \_\_\_\_\_ Amt \_\_\_\_\_ Ch# \_\_\_\_\_

## ANNUAL ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON – MAY 14, 2014

Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant, 1148 Ballena Blvd.  
Alameda, CA

Directions will be printed in May/June LIVE OAK. Time is NOON

Terriyaki Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ Shrimp Louie \_\_\_\_\_ Cesar Salad w/chicken \_\_\_\_\_

Salads served with a cup of clam chowder. Terriyaki Chicken served with choice of clam chowder or tossed green salad w/zesty Italian dressing, garlic mashed potatoes, fresh steamed vegetables. Meals include roll and butter, coffee or tea, and ice cream or sherbet for dessert. Tax and tip are included. Cost: \$23.50 per person

Mail your check and this form to:

EBGS c/o Joyce Schleicher, 4345 Detroit Avenue, Oakland, CA 94614

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Amt. Enc \_\_\_\_\_ No. Persons \_\_\_\_\_

We look forward to seeing many of you there. Guests are certainly welcome!