



# SCGS

## Sonoma County Genealogical Society

### May 2005 Newsletter

#### *Mining for Gold Online: Catalogues, Archives, Websites and Methodologies*

By Anthony Hoskins, April 2004

*The following is an excerpt from a lecture given at the Newberry Library in April 2004:*

The Internet has revolutionized genealogical research. Although cliché, this is nonetheless true. The good news is that one can now make stupendous leaps forward in one's research via the Internet, but the bad news is that the sheer volume of data "out there" makes it more than ever incumbent on researchers to scrupulously track down the origins, wherever they may be, of any information gathered online, and also to learn the most valuable and useful means to find other needed data.

Broadly, some of the most important uses (with examples) of the Internet for genealogical research involve:

#### **Locating Primary Evidence**

Search engines; vital records sites, Social Security information, Family History Library catalogue

---

**Workshops Offered at the National Archives:** Rose Mary Kennedy, Genealogy Specialist, will offer a series of workshops at the San Bruno National Archives.

They will be held Fridays, 9 A. M. to 12, or 1 P. M., as follows:

July 15, Military- Part 1, Revolutionary War to Civil War

August 19, Military Part 2, Spanish American to Viet-Nam

Sept. 23, Census Records Research.

All workshops will be held at NARA-Pacific Region (San Bruno), 1000 Commodore Drive., San Bruno, CA, 94066. To register and reserve a space, contact Rose Mary Kennedy, (650) 238-3485, or 238-3488. Fees are \$15.00 payable at the door.

---

#### *Research Policy Statement*

Research Policy Statement: SGGGS will do limited research 'lookups' for a \$5.00 fee, which includes an SASE, postage & handling, and up to 5 pages copied. Additional charges will be made for research of more than one hour or more than 5 copied pages.

**Visit Our Web Site at <http://www.scgs.org>**

The Sonoma County Genealogical Society is a Nonprofit Organization which Encourages Interest in Genealogy and Family History

Volume 15, Number 5

#### **Genealogical Networking**

Discussion groups, bulletin boards, GenWeb links

#### **Major tools**

Library catalogues, IGI and Ancestral File, GenWeb

#### **Transcriptions & "virtual" documents**

Archival union catalogues (Britain's Access to Archives: a2a), Heritage Quest Online and Ancestry.com [subscription versions] (federal census)

Digitized historical "virtual" documents (i.e. Public Records Office)

These are just some of the ways that you can direct your searches on the internet. Happy hunting!

*May 28th Meeting*

*Investigative Techniques for Genealogy*

*Speaker:  
Ray Owen*

*1 p.m. to 3 p.m.*

*Lark Hall  
Santa Rosa  
Junior College*

*See page three of  
this newsletter  
or the SCGS web  
site for more  
details.*

*Don't forget to come  
early with your  
genealogy questions  
to "Tony's Genealogy  
Discussion Group":  
12:00 Noon to 1:00  
p.m., before the regular  
meeting at Lark Hall*

# 2005 Genealogy Conferences

---

Information collected and compiled by Leola Russell, April 2005

## Officers

President  
Tony Hoskins  
537-8901  
hoskins@sonoma.lib.ca.us

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Audrey Herman  
539-4031  
audreyrae@earthlink.net

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Annie Conley  
894-0762  
anniec@sonic.net

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President  
Muriel Morrow  
539-4727  
squid@sonic.net

Corresponding Sec.  
Evelyn Ross  
539-0926  
joneve@sbcglobal.net

Recording Sec.  
Audrey Phillips  
763-4492  
phillips@comcast.net

Treasurer  
Lois Nimmo  
537-1684  
loisnim@aol.com

Rep.-at-Large  
Jeremy Nichols  
585-6086  
JeremyNichols@sprintmail.com

Rep.-at-Large  
Jo Russell  
528-1127  
jrusell@earthlink.net

Rep.-at-Large  
Ray Owen  
578-0243  
raylowen@yahoo.com

Projects Committee  
Carmen Finley  
544-2072  
finleyc@sonoma.edu

National Genealogy Conferences provide opportunities to improve research skills, and examine a variety of books and the latest software available for genealogists. Plan to attend one or both of these conference.

## 2005 NGS Conference Tennessee Crossroads 1 - 4 June 2005 Nashville Center Nashville, Tennessee

The 2005 NGS Conference brings together genealogists and family historians who have a common desire to learn more about how to find those tidbits of history which refer to their ancestors.

The overall program is designed to focus attention on success, teaching methodology and how to overcome adversity, while experiencing the marvels of your family history. You will find the tools to speed your research both in the sessions and in the Exhibit Hall. Workshops let you experience many of the tools personally. It is hard to express the sheer multitude of opportunities available in Nashville. Not only will you be able to take advantage of the fantastic program; there are also libraries, museums, and repositories available for personal research. Both professionals and individuals new to genealogy will benefit from the networking that goes on throughout the conference.

Genealogists from around the country will gather in the Nashville Convention Center, where they will polish their genealogical skills. Family historians who are just beginning their ancestral quest will have the opportunity to learn the basics. More seasoned pros can learn from some of the masters. All will have an opportunity to place things in perspective

with presentations that will help place their ancestors into their historical context.

For conference brochure and registration information visit: [www.ngsgenealogy.org/](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/)

## FGS/UGA Conference: Reminders of the Past, Visions for the Future 7-10 September 2005 Salt Lake City

The Federation of Genealogical Societies and The Utah Genealogical Association are pleased to announce the FGS/UGA Conference to be held 7-10 September 2005 in Salt Lake City, Utah. This conference will be this year's premier genealogical event west of the Mississippi River. Classes start on Wednesday with a Special Interest Day which provides sessions for everyone including tracks offering Society Management, the Association of Professional Genealogists' Professional Management Conference, LDS Family History Centers, and Family History Library resources. Numerous topics for all skill levels are presented throughout the week, ending with sessions on Saturday afternoon. Meals become events with renowned speakers and a variety of topics, so check out the offerings for lunch and dinner. This year's program provides an opportunity to expand your knowledge and to learn about new sources, resources, techniques, and practical approaches that will help you trace your family history and solve research problems.

Salt Lake City, Utah, is an ideal location for FGS's 2005 conference. It is the home of the world's largest genealogical library which will remain open for extended hours during the conference to facilitate attendees' needs.

---

*Continued on page 3*

# May Meeting: Investigative Techniques for Genealogy

By Audrey Herman, April 2005



Has your research hit a brick wall? Are you wondering which record at the courthouse will contain the information you are seeking? Bring your question to the meeting on May 28, 2005. Ray Owen, a retired federal investigator, will demonstrate an investigator's techniques to solve your problems. The following are some useful sources for your search:

Culligan, Joseph, *You Can Find Anybody*, Jodere Group, 2000.  
363.2336 Santa Rosa, Cloverdale, Sebastopol, Willits, Windsor

*Directory Of State Court Clerks and County Courthouses*, Want Co., 2002.  
347.731 Santa Rosa

Johnson, Richard S, *Find Anyone Fast*, ME Pub., 2001.  
363.2336 Annex, Santa Rosa, Healdsburg, Northwest, Petaluma, Rincon Valley, Rohnert Park, Windsor

*The Librarian's Guide To Public Records: The Complete State, County, and Courthouse Locator*, BRE Publications, 2000.  
350.714 Guerneville, Healdsburg, Lakeport, Northwest, Petaluma, Rohnert Park, Sebastopol, Sonoma, Windsor

Parco, Vincent, *Researching Public Records: How to Get Anything on Anybody*. Carol Pub., 1994.  
027.50973 Guerneville, Healdsburg, Petaluma, Rincon Valley, Sonoma, Willits

*Continued from page 2*

Salt Lake City has a modern international airport and three conference hotels, the Marriott, the Plaza, and the Prime are across the streets from the Salt Palace. All provide shuttle service from the airport.

The Federation is celebrating our 29th anniversary this year and now serves close to 600 member societies. These societies represent over 500,000 genealogists across North America. Delegates from these societies are strongly encouraged to attend the conference, to share successes and concerns about their societies and to take new information back to share with their members.

One of the exciting things about attending a national genealogical conference is the opportunity for

networking with other individuals who share your passion for this subject. You will have the chance to learn from the nation's expert genealogists. You will also have the opportunity to visit over 150 genealogical exhibitor booths to preview new publications, purchase genealogical items, and learn about the latest technological advances in this ever-changing field. We look forward to seeing you there!

Check the FGS web page at [www.fgs.org/](http://www.fgs.org/) for the brochure containing class descriptions and a registration form.

## Sonoma County Genealogical Society

Web site:  
<http://www.scgs.org>

Webmaster  
Spence Burton  
[webmaster@scgs.org](mailto:webmaster@scgs.org)

Newsletter Editor  
Michelle Denham  
[mdenham@sonic.net](mailto:mdenham@sonic.net)

Ass't. Editor  
Carol Tisnado  
[CarolTis@earthlink.net](mailto:CarolTis@earthlink.net)

Final Proof Reader  
Karen Hendricks  
[kchen@humboldt1.com](mailto:kchen@humboldt1.com)

Searcher Editor  
Elva Zimmerman

Library Coordinator  
Audrey Herman  
539-4031  
[audreyrae@earthlink.net](mailto:audreyrae@earthlink.net)

Registrar  
George Margeson  
528-4614  
[margesong@cs.com](mailto:margesong@cs.com)

Publications Sales  
Lois Nimmo  
537-1684  
[jloisnim@aol.net](mailto:jloisnim@aol.net)

Publications Exchange  
Carol Tisnado  
[CarolTis@earthlink.net](mailto:CarolTis@earthlink.net)

Seminar  
Lois Nimmo  
537-1684  
[loisnim@aol.com](mailto:loisnim@aol.com)



Made with a Mac

## Coming Events

**May 13-14, 2005:** Southern California Genealogical Society Jamboree and Resource Expo, 2005. To be held at the Burbank Hilton in Burbank, CA. With guest speakers and exhibitors with the latest books. For information see <http://www.scsgenealogy.com>.

**May 28:** *Investigative Techniques for Genealogy* presented by Ray Owen

Several members have expressed an interest in having a program discussing how to get started in genealogical research in other countries. The best way to do this would be a panel of experts in various countries. In order to put together a panel, I need to know in which countries people are interested. Please send an e-mail message to Audrey at [AudreyRae@earthlink.net](mailto:AudreyRae@earthlink.net) listing the countries you would like to have represented, and I will try to put something together for a future meeting.

**September 7-10, 2005:** FGS, The Federation of Genealogical Societies will be hosting a conference in the fall, "Reminders of the Past: Visions for the Future", at Salt Lake City, Utah. Flyers are available at the Library Annex.

---

### Special Interest Groups



**British Group** Will not meet in the month of May. The next meeting will be on Saturday June 11, 2005 at 9:30 a.m. in the Public Library Annex, 3rd and E Streets in Santa Rosa. Tony Hoskins will be able to join us for at least part of the time, so bring your questions about using resources there for British research. For more information, contact Susan Simons: e-mail, [susans@sbcglobal.net](mailto:susans@sbcglobal.net) or phone 527-7191.



**German Group** Saturday, May 7, 2005, at 10 a.m. at the home of Helen Strickley, 8836 Hood Mountain Circle, Santa Rosa, phone 833-2826. As this will be our last meeting prior to summer, we will discuss upcoming research trips as well as having a general help session and discussion on topics of interest to those present. For information contact Jim Cochran at 526-7331 or [cougars@sonic.net](mailto:cougars@sonic.net).



**Italian Interest Group** Meets bi-monthly. The next meeting of the will be on May 21st at 10 a.m. at the home of Ines Williams. All are welcome. For more information contact Inese Williams at [inesw@comcast.net](mailto:inesw@comcast.net).



**Computer Interest Group** The next meeting will be May 21. Location to be determined. For more information, contact Maggi Andrews at 538-1775.

Newsletter Published Monthly (with the exception of July, August and December by the Sonoma County Genealogical Society  
P.O. Box 2273  
Santa Rosa, CA 95405-0273  
Dues:  
\$20 per year individual or family (one household)  
\$25 contributing (\$5 to book fund)  
\$200 lifetime

Sonoma County  
Genealogical Society  
P.O. Box 2273  
Santa Rosa, CA  
95405-0273

### Non-profit Mail

NON-PROFIT ORG US POSTAGE PAID Permit No. 425 Santa Rosa, CA
---

*May 28th  
Meeting*

*Investigative  
Techniques for  
Genealogy*

*Speaker:  
Ray Owen*

*1 p.m. to 3 p.m.*

*Lark Hall  
Santa Rosa  
Junior College*