



SCGS

Sonoma County Genealogical Society October 2006 Newsletter

Presidents Letter

By Audrey Herman, September 2006

October is Family History Month. Instead of our regular meeting, we will have a Family History Fair on Saturday, October 28, 2006. In the morning, we will meet at the LDS Church, 5301 Badger Road. In the afternoon, we will meet at Rincon Valley Library, 6959 Montecito Boulevard.

The morning session will be divided into two parts. From 9:15-10:30 you may choose to attend one of these topics:

1. Beginner research and organization
2. New England Records
3. A story only you can tell: writing your personal history

From 10:45-12:00, you may choose to attend one of these topics:

1. Where did that come from?
Recording your sources
2. British research
3. Long distance research and visiting archives

The afternoon will have three sessions devoted to using your computer for genealogy:

1:15-2:00 Family History Center and how to use familysearch.org, and ancestry.com.

2:15-3:00 Sonoma County Library Annex and how to use HeritageQuest

3:15-4:00 Web-sites worth surfing.

We hope you will spend the entire day with us, but you are welcome to come to any one of the programs that interests you.

The November meeting will be held one week earlier than our usual time. We will meet Saturday, November 18 at the Finley Center. Tony Hoskins will do his question and answer program at noon, and the regular program will follow at one o'clock.

*October 28th
Meeting*

*Family
History Fair*

9:00-12:00

*LDS Church
5301 Badger Rd
Santa Rosa*

1:15-4:00

*Rincon Valley
Library, 6959
Montecito Blvd.*

*Please see article
to the left for
details*

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 16, Number 8

November 18, 2006 Meeting: My Checkered Life: Luzena Stanley Wilson in Early California

By Lorel Kapke, August 2006

Enjoy a historic stroll through 19th century America with author Fern Henry as she introduces her highly-readable book, *My Checkered Life: Luzena Stanley Wilson in Early California*. Luzena was a gutsy pioneer who came to California in the Gold Rush and later wrote a memoir. Her stories take us through her family's dramatic ups and downs and follow their search for a stable life from Sacramento to Nevada City to Vacaville to San Francisco.

Reprinting Luzena's classic memoir as the basis for her book, Fern broadened the narrative scope by adding period engravings, rare photographs, and maps to her extensively researched new material. This diligent and creative historical detective work filled in the gaps in the tale of this memorable American woman and her family. Luzena is often cited and quoted in documentaries and anthologies about the West. (Luzena will be one of seven '49ers featured in an upcoming episode of PBS' *American Experience* in early 2007.) However, Fern is the first to fact-check Luzena's memoir and uncover fresh details, using both genealogical and historical research techniques.

Books will be available for purchase (and signing) in both hard and soft cover editions.

November Meeting Date Change

The November meeting is scheduled for the 18th, the third week in November, due to the Thanksgiving Holiday weekend.

In Memoriam

Virginia Murphree "passed away in Santa Rosa on Wednesday, September 13, 2006 after a short battle with cancer....Her passion was working on family history at the Sonoma County Genealogy Society."

She was a volunteer on several committees, a past Volunteer of the Year, and the smiling face behind the 'Free Exchanges' table.

Contributions can be made to the American Cancer Society, 1451 Guerneville Rd, Ste 220, Santa Rosa 95403.

From the Archives of Genealogy Jack

By Ray Owens

Dear Jack,

Help! I'm trying to corroborate participation of an ancestor in the Idaho gold rush of the 1860's. According to a 1912 obituary, he "prospected and mined" in Idaho from 1864 to 1868, after which he settled in Colorado. I've determined he was most likely in Boise County; however, I've now exhausted all research material available through the inter-library loan system, microfilms and correspondence. I can't go to Idaho, so do you have any suggestions?

Jack's at his annual reunion of Army buddies in Bend, Oregon, so I'll try to help. If the available research materials are exhausted and you can't go to Idaho, it is suggested you hire an Idaho researcher. Those who specialize in regional research often have sources not apparent to those afar. A letter to the Idaho Historical Society will produce a list. Contact at least two, state your problem, provide a summary of your research to date, and candidly ask if they can significantly add to it. Ask for the hourly rate and any minimum. It's your "bucks", and you probably have none to waste! Strange, soon after his return last year from Bend, I read in the business page that beer sales had dropped dramatically in the area. Jack claimed it was a coincidence. Hmmmmm!!

Good luck!

Welcome New Members 

BAILEY, Kerri: Researching BRYAN in NC & GA 1750–1870; BAILEY in GA before 1850; SINGLETON in UK before 1872

VILLA, Gwen

YOUNG, Helen

Special Interest Groups



British Interest Group The next meeting will be Tuesday, November 14 at 1:30 P.M. at the home of Marie Nottingham 4496 Sonoma Mountain Road



German Interest Group The next meeting will be held on Saturday, November 4, 2006. The meeting will begin at 10 am. The meeting location has not been determined yet (as of 9-18-06). Call Jim Cochran at 526-7331 for more details.



Italian Interest Group There will be no meetings of the Italian Interest Group until after the first of the year. For more information, e-mail Ines Williams at inesw@comcast.net.



Computer Interest Group The next meeting may be on November 25, 2006, 1 pm, at the Sonoma County Library Annex located at Third & 'E' Streets in Santa Rosa. There is parking across the street (25 cents for 20 mins.) as well as parking on the street. November 25th is the Saturday after Thanksgiving, so there may not be enough interest. Please e-mail Maggi Andrews at mizgriz@sbcglobal.net if you want to get together.

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Research Policy Statement: SCGS 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.

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