



SCGS

Sonoma County Genealogical Society September 2005 Newsletter

President's Letter

By Anthony Hoskins, July 2005

To most of us, regardless of age, September means "Back to School". So, why not take this opportunity to remind ourselves of the basics of genealogical research? It's odd how these facts can elude the best of us at times!

Genealogy's "Back to School Basics"

Start "At Home"

- Make a simple chart – you, your parents, grandparents, great-grandparents. Get birth, marriage, death certificates.
- Family Bibles, church, synagogue records.
- Letters, photographs.
- Ask family members. Where people lived, when, did they move during their lives, when born, married, died?
- Record family stories.

Record-Keeping

- Pedigree charts. Family group records. Always note source of information.

Preparation

- Learn the basics. Read good "how-to" books.
- Choose your project. Be specific in your first search. Do not be vague or indefinite. Whom do you want to research and what do you want to learn?

Find the Records

- Vital records. Death certificates are often the first document to acquire. They can tell not only death information, but also birth date, birthplace and both parents' names. (See *The International Vital Records Handbook*).
- Federal census (1790-1930). The bedrock of American genealogical research. On film or (increasingly) online (see *HeritageQuest* database).
- Courthouse records. Probate, tax, land, voter registration. (See *The Handy Book for Genealogists* and the *County Courthouse Book*).

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*September 24th
Meeting*

*Researching the
Genealogical
Records of the
Sacramento
City & County
Archives*

*Speakers:
Pat Johnson &
Dylan
McDonald*

1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

*Lark Hall
Santa Rosa
Junior College*

Wanted: Volunteer to organize and create a table of contents for 16 boxes of registers for various Petaluma schools so that we can add the information to the catalog and into the Library Archives.

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

What's New at the Library

By Maggi Andrews, February 2005

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- 929.3797 M *Mountain View Cemetery ... Walla Walla, WA*
- 929.3797 P *Pueblo De Sonoma Court Records: Expedients 1841-1849*
- 929.418 A *The Annapolis Voice [Newsletter Of The Annapolis Literary Society]*
- 979.4 J *The Old Missions of California*, by James
- 979.41 T *Coleman Talbot's Ancestry and His Family*, by Talbot
- 979.418 C *Map of College Addition to Santa Rosa [1892]*
- 979.418 C *Draining and Filling the Laguna De Santa Rosa*, by Cummings
- 979.418 C *Laguna De Santa Rosa: Index of the Microfilm Files of the Sebastopol Times, 1895-1965*, by Cummings
- 979.418 E *Pine Flat: Sonoma County, California*, by Evans
- 979.418 S *The Workingmen's Party of California: Its Activities and Influence in Sonoma County*, by Silva
- 979.418 T *Take a Walk in the Old Downtown [Windsor]*
- 979.462 M *Marin County Reflections/Marin Independent Journal*
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Correction: In June's newsletter, new member Carolyn Moller was stated as researching MULLEN, which is incorrect. The correct name is MULLAN. The editor sincerely apologizes to Carolyn Moller and all members for any confusion and inconvenience this may have caused.

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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Libraries

- Compiled family histories, local histories, local records, city directories, newspapers, etc. (Visit the History and Genealogy Library, Sonoma County Library, 3rd and E Streets 707/545-0831, ext. 562 and the LDS Family History Center Library, 1725 Peterson Lane, 707-525-0399. Open Wed-Sat, 1-6).

Education

- National Genealogical Society online course, Introduction to Genealogy and American Genealogy: A Basic Course (home study).

Other

- Join genealogical societies, broaden your historical knowledge by further research and reading, attend genealogical and historical meetings, use your local libraries!
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Chanate Historic Cemetery

By Jeremy Nichols, June 2005

One of the people buried in the Chanate Historic Cemetery (the old county cemetery that was attached to the county farm and hospital) is Samuel A. GIBSON. Born about 1843 in Jackson County, Missouri, GIBSON died at the Sonoma County hospital in 1927. A family member in Ukiah believes Samuel to have been a Confederate veteran of the Civil War. Samuel was said to have left northern California, to which his family had moved in the late 1850s, and returned to Missouri when the war started. Samuel may have served in Perkins' Battalion. If I can prove this military service, the Veterans Administration will provide a stone for the

otherwise unmarked grave. I would like to contact anyone researching GIBSON in California or Missouri in case a connection can be developed.

Also at the cemetery is the monument newly erected at the Chanate Historic Cemetery, formerly called the Old County Cemetery. A kiosk or signboard is being designed by the Sonoma County Architect's office. It will hold a list of burials in the cemetery along with a map of the graves, photos, volunteer opportunities, etc. The cemetery and the new monument will be dedicated at a ceremony scheduled for Saturday, October 1, 2005 at 10:00 A.M.

Membership Information

The annual dues will be raised to \$25.00 per year from \$20.00 per year, starting this year. It has been more than ten years since the last raise in dues. This increase will help offset publication costs, as well as other costs for the SCGS, a non-profit organization.

When renewing your membership, please be sure to update all of your information, including your email address. The newsletter will be going online this fall, and an email with a link to the newsletter

will be sent to members. The newsletter will be available in PDF format at www.scgs.org. Please note that this change is still under discussion and will not be finalized until the September 2005 board meeting. Hard copies (paper copies) of the newsletter will still be available, but there will be fewer.

To update your contact information or renew your membership, please contact Annie at anniec@sonic.net.

Special Interest Groups



British Group For more information, contact Susan Simons: e-mail, susans@sbcglobal.net or phone 527-7191.



German Group Will not meet until September.. For information contact Jim Cochran at 526-7331 or cougars@sonic.net.



Italian Interest Group We meet bimonthly. The next meeting of the will be on September 17, 2005 at 10 A.M. at the home of Ines Williams. All are welcome. For more information contact Inese Williams at inesw@comcast.net.



Computer Interest Group Will not meet until September. For more information, contact Maggi Andrews at 538-1775.

Sonoma County Genealogical Society

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Made with a Mac

Coming Events

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 listing the countries you would like to have represented, and I will try to put something together for a future meeting.

August 13, 2005: Dedication Ceremony for the grave of Eugene Pierrot, 10 a.m. at Odd Fellows' Cemetery on Franklin Avenue, Santa Rosa. For information on Eugene Pierrot, please read the article "Who Was Eugene Perrot and Why Did He Paint this Picture?" by Jeremy Nichols, in *Sonoma Medicine*. The article can be found at <http://www.scma.org/magazine/scp/sp05/nichols.html>.

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.

September 17, 2005: Researching the Genealogical Records of the Sacramento City and County Archives, by Pat Johnson and Dylan McDonald.

October 1, 2005: Dedication Ceremony for the Chanate Historic Cemetery (formerly Old County Cemetery) and its new monument, 10 a.m. at Chanate Road, across from Sutter Medical Center.

October 15, 2005: "Digging for you Roots", seminar sponsored by the Concord-Walnut Creek Family History Center, 1590 Denkinger Rd., Concord, CA.

October 22, 2005: The Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County will present a seminar featuring Hank Jones. See GSSC web page at <http://www.cagenweb.com/lr/stanislaus/gssc.html>

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:

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

September. 23, Census Records Research.

All workshops will be held at NARA-Pacific Region (San Bruno), 1000 Commodore Dr., 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.

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Society

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Dues:

\$20 per year individual or family (one household)

\$25 contributing (\$5 to book fund)

\$200 lifetime

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Non-profit Mail

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