

Post Office Box 7385
Auburn, California 95604

October 2009

Vol. 30 No. 8

GENERAL MEETINGS

General meetings are held the fourth Thursday of the month in the Beecher Room of the Auburn Library, 350 Nevada Street at 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Doors will be open at 6:30 PM.

**October Evening Meeting
Thursday, October 22, 2009**

Roots & Quilts
Carol Gebel



Will Carol cover the proper use of quilts, preservation and proper display?

Day Study Group Meeting

Our next meeting is
Monday, November 9, 2009
10:00 am to 12:00 noon
Beecher Room, Auburn Library

[Barbara Leak](#) leads the study group. Visitors are welcome.

Family Tree Maker User Group

Thursday, November 12, 2009
10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon
LDS Stake Building, 1255 Bell Road, Auburn

Family Tree Maker 2010 and Q&A

The FTM User Group meetings will continue our look at the recently released update of Family Tree Maker 2010 and time for questions and answers.

Special in-depth topics can be scheduled. Please e-mail our group leader [Jerry Unruh](#) with any requests.

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THANKS to those who prepared the newsletter for mailing in June: John Knox, Suzanne Vander Linden, Carmel Barry-Schweyer, Audrey Meyers, Bev Russell and Mary Ann Unruh.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I get closer to retirement (December 30 – 10 days that I actually have to show up), I am finding out that it looks like everyone has been right about having less time then when

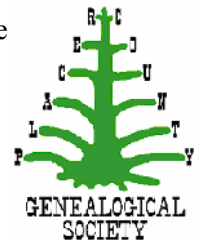
working. I have been spending a lot more time digging for my roots.



I have moved on to using the latest Family Tree Maker, version 2010. My backup of version 16 was about 11 MB. I have been adding census records and other documentation, mostly from Ancestry and I will be adding additional pictures. At this time my backup of 2010 is about 155 MB. This is something that really isn't advisable with version 16 and earlier. The cost of storage has gone down dramatically. You can now get an external USB Terabyte drive for under eighty dollars. You can store a very large number of pictures as well as multiple versions of all your data files on a drive of this size. Similar price drops are also showing up for computers. Dick Eastman recently wrote an article about replacing a friends computer for less than repairing their older computer – around \$300. Although not a top of the line computer it was more than the user needed.



PLACER TRAILS is a publication of the Placer County Genealogical Society
 P.O. Box 7385, Auburn, CA 95604
 VOICE MAIL (866) 894-2076



OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

- President.....Jerry Unruh
- Vice President.....John Knox
- Past President.....Barbara Leak
- Recording Secretary.....Bob Baker
- Corresponding Secretary.....Bev Russell
- Treasurer.....Jacqui Marcella
- Registrar.....John Marcella
- Director.....Audrey Meyers
- Director.....Carmel Barry-Schweyer

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- Field Trip/Car Pools.....Vacant
- Historian.....Donna Manley
- Hospitality.....Mary Ann Unruh
- Librarian.....Barbara Leak
- Programs.....Joyce House
- Research.....Research Committee
- New Member Mailings.....Bev Russell
- Sales.....Vacant
- Study Group.....Barbara Leak
- Door Prizes.....Vacant
- Family Tree Maker Group.....Jerry Unruh
- PCGS Web Master.....Jerry Unruh
-website@pcgs.pcgene.com
- PCGS Web Site.....<http://pcgs.pcgene.com/>



Mark Your Calendars

We have established our meeting schedule for next year. These are your meetings and we would like your suggestions for programs or topics. You may contact any of the board members to make suggestions for the meetings. Your suggestions would be greatly appreciated. You may speak to Joyce House for the General Meeting, Barbara Leak for the Day Study Group, and Jerry Unruh for the FTM User Group.

How to Begin Seminar

Saturday, March 20, 2010 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM Auburn-Placer County Library

General Meeting 4th Thursday 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM, except November & December Auburn-Placer County Library

January 28, 2010

February 25, 2010

March 25, 2010

April 22, 2010

May 27, 2010

June 24, 2010

July 22, 2010

August 26, 2010

September 23, 2010

October 28, 2010

November 22, 2010 * Monday preceding Thanksgiving

Day Study Group 2nd Monday 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, except July, August, & December Auburn-Placer County Library

January 11, 2010

February 8, 2010

March 8, 2010

April 12, 2010

May 10, 2010

June 14, 2010

September 13, 2010

October 11, 2010

November 8, 2010

Board Meeting Wednesday week prior to General Meeting except July, August & December Carnegie Library

January 20, 2010

February 17, 2010

March 17, 2010

April 14, 2010

May 19, 2010

June 16, 2010

September 15, 2010

October 20, 2010

November 17, 2010

Family Tree Maker User Group 2nd Thursday 10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon LDS Church, Bell Road

January 14, 2010

February 11, 2010

March 11, 2010

April 8, 2010

May 13, 2010

June 10, 2010

July 08, 2010

August 12, 2010

September 9, 2010

October 14, 2010

November 11, 2010

December 9, 2010

Sacramento Historic City Cemetery Fundraiser

On Thursday, October 1st, the Old City Cemetery Committee held a fundraiser to benefit the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery. The benefit included hors d'oeuvres, wine and hearses. You could have been among the first to see the grand opening of the California Auto Museum's new exhibit: Hearses: The Last Ride. The guest speaker for the event was Douglas Keister, a cemetery symbolism expert and author of four books on cemeteries. As part of the announcement for the benefit the Sacramento Bee published Dixie Reid's interview with Douglas Keister. It contains information that a lot of us may have forgotten or not even thought about.

What is your fascination with cemeteries?

Before there were cemeteries, people were buried where they fell, except for royalty and the well-to-do who were buried inside churches. I talk about cemeteries as a kind of architectural wonderland, a place to make your last statement.

Your topic for the fundraiser is symbolism on tombstones. Why that subject?

Because of "The Da Vinci Code" and Dan Brown's other books – "The Lost Symbol" is the new one – there has been a tremendous interest in cemeteries. There is no better place to look for (symbols) of secret societies. People don't realize how big secret societies were 100 years ago. Dan Brown talks about the Templars. Their symbol is a Maltese cross. The Masons' symbol is a compass and square. The predominant symbol of the Improved Order of Red Men, who professed to follow Native American ways except that Native Americans couldn't join, was a tomahawk. Cemeteries are a great place to find secret symbols in a condensed area.

What's the difference between tombstone motifs and symbols?

A symbol signifies belief or membership. It rarely says the name of the secret society. It's often an acronym. A motif is decorative. If you see a lamb, it's generally a child's grave, but not always. It (represents) innocence. A broken flower bud is usually a very young person. A rose is almost always for a woman. Angels are another motif.

Sacramento's old City Cemetery dates back to the Gold Rush. Is it rich in symbols and motifs?

It has a lot of them. The older the tombstone, the more the symbol means. Nowadays, people put roses on a tombstone and won't think about what it means. On the older ones, a rose does mean a woman, and a calla lily means marriage, and ivy means immortality. A pine cone means immortality, because it's evergreen, and incorruptibility, because of the sap. Have you ever tried to get pine sap out of someone's hair? It's incorruptible.

Donna Manley, Historian for the PCGS

Meet your fellow members...



I came into this world in a tiny hospital at the foot of Pikes Peak in Colorado. It was not a good time to be born as we were already into the big depression. We were lucky though---both my parents had jobs---not for long though. When I was six months old we made a train trip to Pryor, Oklahoma where my parents had families. We lived with my grandmother until my father was able to buy a lot and build a house of his own. My father managed to get a job with the county giving out "commodities" to those not as fortunate as we. We were poor, but didn't really know it, since everyone was in the same condition. We made it through the depression years because we grew our own vegetables, and our own meat.

Shortly before my eleventh birthday, there was a tornado in our town. There were not many tornados at that time, not like it is now. Many people were killed, and many more injured. The injured couldn't get to doctors and hospitals because of debris and water in the streets. There were mass funerals and burials. The whole area was like an atom bomb had been dropped. I watched in horror as one of my young friends was pulled out of a flooded stream. He had died of a broken neck. This is the main incident that affected my life then, and it still does. I no longer live in Oklahoma.

Upon graduation from high school, I attended the nursing program at Hillcrest Memorial Hospital in Tulsa. Before completion however, I, along with three friends, joined the army. After basic training at Fort Lee, Virginia, I was assigned to Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. I spent several years there, then applied to the Medical Specialist Advanced Course at Letterman General Hospital in San Francisco. This course was to be for two years, but was cut short because of the Berlin Crisis. Several of my classmates were sent there. Some never came back.....

During the following years I spent two tours in Japan and one in Germany. This was during the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and the Berlin Crisis. The nurses I worked with in Germany convinced me to come to California after being discharged from the army, and apply to take the nursing exam which I did and passed the test.

I applied then, as an RN to the county hospital on Elm street, here in Auburn. I remained there until that hospital closed in 1975 at which time I applied and was accepted at Auburn Faith Hospital. While employed there, I took classes through Chapman University in Orange County, and obtained a BS degree in Health Science.

I retired from Auburn Faith in 1991. Since then, I have moved away twice, once back to Oklahoma, and once to Southern California. I will probably remain here in this area now.

Donna Manley

Pam Dallas Our August Speaker



Pam spoke on *Court is Now in Session: Law Libraries are for Genealogists*

Family History Day at the Archives



Toni Mann Our September Speaker



Toni spoke on *Show off your Stuff: Displaying Family Heirlooms*

Mailing List: CA-PCGS

We have a mailing list at [RootsWeb](#) for PCGS. Announcements of meetings and other information of interest to PCGS members will be made available through this mailing list. It is also a place to gloat about your recent finds and general discussion among our members. If you have trouble subscribing please e-mail at the address below.

CA-PCGS is a mailing list for the members of the Placer County (California) Genealogical Society (PCGS) to discuss the activities of the Society. If you are a member of the Society you can subscribe by sending "subscribe" to <mailto:ca-pcgs-l-request@rootsweb.com> (mail mode) or <mailto:ca-pcgs-d-request@rootsweb.com> (digest mode). To switch from one mode to the other, you should unsubscribe from one and then subscribe to the other. There is no "no mail" mode -- if you want messages to stop, you should simply unsubscribe. You may also search or browse the archives or subscribe at http://lists.rootsweb.com/index/other/Genealogical_Societies/CA-PCGS.html. If you have trouble subscribing or unsubscribing please send an e-mail to maillist@pcgs.pcgene.com

Please feel free to communicate with other members and the PCGS board through the mail list on any topic of interest to the PCGS.

PCGS Voice Mail (866) 894-2076

Don Cortez of Three Ring Service has graciously donated a voice mail telephone number for Placer County Genealogical Society. The answering message will announce basic information and the upcoming PCGS meetings. Callers can leave messages for board members, chairpersons and the research committee. Thank You, Don Cortez.

Upcoming Meetings

General Meetings

November 23 – *Analyzing Handwriting with Leslie Nye* (Monday preceding Thanksgiving)

Day Study Group

No meeting in December

January 11, 2010

Family Tree Maker User Group

December 10, 2009 – *Family Tree Maker 2010 and Q&A*

January 14, 2010 – *Family Tree Maker 2010 and Q&A*

Any changes to the above scheduled meetings will be listed on our web site <http://pcgs.pcgene.com>

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

General Meeting (Fourth Thursday of the Month) – October 22, 2009, *Roots & Quilts* with **Carol Gebel**

Day Study Group Meeting (Second Monday of the Month) – November 9, 2009 – [Barbara Leak](#) leads the Day Study Group.

Family Tree Maker User's Group (Second Thursday of the Month) – November 12, 2009 – *Family Tree Maker 2010* with [Jerry Unruh](#).

Placer County Genealogical Society Board Meetings (Wednesday prior to General Meeting) – 10:00 a.m. at the Carnegie Library on Almond Street in Auburn. All members are welcome to attend, but please let a board member know due to space restrictions and to confirm date and time.

For Updates on Meetings and Other Events:

Check our web site

pcgs.pcgenes.com

or

PCGS Voice Mail (866) 894-2076

Next Newsletter DEADLINE is:

November 1, 2009

Email: placertrails@pcgs.pcgenes.com

