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.

March Evening Meeting
Thursday, March 22, 2012

Getting Ready for the 1940 Census  
Researching without a Name Index  
Stephen Morse

Stephen Morse is the creator of the One-Step Website for which he’s received both the Lifetime Achievement and the Outstanding Contribution Award from the IAJGS, Award of Merit from the National Genealogical Society, first ever Excellence Award from the Association of Professional Genealogists, and two awards that he cannot pronounce from Polish genealogical societies. Morse is a computer professional with a doctorate in electrical engineering. He’s held various research, development and teaching positions, authored numerous technical papers, written four textbooks, and holds four patents. He’s best known as the architect of the Intel 8086, which sparked the PC revolution 30 years ago.

Family Tree Maker User Group
Thursday, April 12, 2012
10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon  
LDS Stake Building, 1255 Bell Road, Auburn

Family Tree Maker 2012

The FTM User Group meeting will look at Family Tree Maker 2012 with time for questions and answers on any version. Special in-depth topics can be scheduled. Please e-mail our group leader Jerry Unruh with any requests.

Day Study Group Meeting
Monday, April 9, 2012  
10:00 am to 12:00 noon  
Beecher Room, Auburn Library

At the April meeting Jerry Unruh will do a presentation on Find A Grave. This will be cover an introduction to Find A Grave, it's uses as a user and a contributor, and some of it's pitfalls. Barbara Leak leads the study group. Visitors are welcome. Requests for specific topics are appreciated.

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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Well Coffee Bob Baker is happy, we have volunteers to take care of Hospitality. Donna and Steve Coffman indicated at the last meeting that Hospitality was a job that they could do. They came prepared with a sign up sheet. I indicated that I really enjoyed the homemade cookies that are provided by some of our members. So between Coffee Bob and Cookie Jerry there are at least two happy people.

April 2 is just around the corner. PCGS has signed up as one of the genealogical societies to help with the indexing of the 1940 Census. The March Day Study Group topic was on indexing.

We have joined forces with genealogy societies and organizations around the country as part of the 1940 U.S. Census Community Project. The initiative aims to publish a free, online searchable name index of the 1940 U.S. Federal Census after images of the census are released to the public in April 2012. This online index will be free forever, offering family history researchers a rich genealogical data set for their ongoing use. Three leading genealogy organizations, Archives.com, FamilySearch International, and findmypast.com, launched the initiative at the end of last year, and the project is already engaging volunteers to help provide this invaluable resource to family historians around the world as soon as possible.

The index created by the project will allow the public to easily search every person found in the census and view digital images of the original census pages where he or she is listed. The highly anticipated 1940 U.S. Census is expected to be the most popular U.S. record collection released to date.
Helena (Siebert) Unruh

Helena Siebert is my great grandmother. My great grandmother went by Lena and that is what is on her tombstone.

Lena is buried in the New Hopedale Mennonite Memorial Cemetery in Meno, Oklahoma, along with her husband, my great grandfather Peter D. Unruh. The New Hopedale cemetery is one of the projects that I am working on and I have written about it before. I have indicated that most of the people in the cemetery are related one way or another even if it is somewhat distantly.

I have recently run into a problem with Lena. There are two “Lena Unruh”s in the cemetery. About ten years ago the Major County Genealogical Society and Reeta Martin surveyed the cemetery and the information is available on the Oklahoma Cemeteries web site (www.okcemeteries.net). A small snippet from the web page shows both of the burials. My Lena is the first one.

I have made several trips to the cemetery and have pictures of all the tombstones as of the last time I was there. (There have been additional burials since my last visit.) So far there doesn't appear to be a problem but we'll come back to review this a little later.

I have been doing work with Find A Grave recently. I will be doing a presentation on Find A Grave at the April Day Study Group. I appreciate all the work that Find A Grave volunteers do and I have been able to find additional information from their contributions. I believe I mentioned it at a meeting that an obit was contributed by Emily Jordan for my great grandfather, Peter D. Unruh.

“MilleBelle” is currently maintaining the memorial for both Lena and Peter D. Unruh. I may attempt to have the memorials transferred to me at a later date but at this time I have to try to work with MilleBelle for corrections and additions to the memorials.

The above is a screen print shows my Lena Unruh – do you see the problem? MilleBelle has mixed up the two “Lena Unruh”s. The italicized Gatlin indicates that is Lena's maiden name. I have emailed MilleBelle but have yet to receive a response. In looking I found that nobody else had entered the other Lena Unruh so I went ahead and entered her memorial.

The picture of the tombstone is not the best, it is pretty weathered and the colors make it hard to read; however, you may note some other inconsistencies. First you will see
quite a few more links available. This is because I am the person who manages/maintains this memorial. I am related to this Lena Unruh but distantly – if there is room in the newsletter I will add a diagram that indicates my relationship with Lena. Starting at the top of the picture you might note her name “Helena 'Lena' Unruh Unruh”. The manner in which Find A Grave formats the name indicates that I have determined that her name was “Helena Unruh”, her nickname or the name she went by was “Lena” and her maiden name was “Unruh” – the same as her married name. No wonder there is some confusion.

What happened to the “Gatlin” maiden name? Well the first mistake was made by Reeta Martin. The tombstone actually has “GATTIN” not “GATLIN”. I had to do some funny manipulation with the picture to be able to read it but I wanted to verify the information that I had from other sources.

It appears that MilleBelle borrowed some of Reeta Martin's work to do some of the work for Lena Unruh (my great grandmother). There may have a slip of which line was being input or just trying to add additional information from other sources (as I tried to do with the other Lena). It does look like MilleBelle has just the most basic amount of information but at least added the link between Peter and Lena. MilleBelle apparently read down a line and put “Gatlin” in as Lena's maiden name. At this time we now have a couple of accumulated errors.

What did I do wrong or did I make an error? I included the inscription on the tombstone for Lena Unruh “LENA GATTIN VON T. C. UNRUH”. Note that the inscription is in all capitals. How would you interpret the inscription?

On the next line of the memorial inscription I have provided a translation “(Lena wife of T.C. Unruh)”. The community was German speaking and many of the inscriptions on the tombstones in the cemetery are in German. (My father didn't speak English until he started school.) Lena was the first wife of three for Tobias. Tobias and Lena had four children, two of which died in infancy. Tobias and Elizabeth Koehn had five children. Tobias and Lydia Buller had three children. Lena is buried in Meno, Oklahoma, Elizabeth is buried in Coy, Oklahoma, and Lydia and Tobias are buried in Goltry, Oklahoma.

Although I have used Find A Grave and found quite a bit of new information, I typically treat the information as suggestions and try to confirm what I find with other resources. In general the volunteers do their best to provide accurate information. However, errors can be made and in some cases even when the volunteer does not make any errors, omissions and questions can still arise. It is our job to try to confirm as much as possible without adding confusion or errors. I find that this does take time to expand and confirm the information that is found in my research.

When you are lucky, the Find A Grave contributor is a relative. I have had several email exchanges with newly found relatives. They were able to provide additional information they were unable to add to Find A Grave.

With my family, it seems that due to intermarriages that I am usually related to other family members in more than one way. The following diagram indicates how I am related to Lena Unruh (not my great grandmother Lena). This is currently the closest relationship to Lena based on the current information that I have. As I continue with my research I would not be surprised to find a closer relationship.

**Membership Renewals**

It is that time of the year to make sure your membership in PCGS is up to date. If you haven't renewed, this will be the last newsletter that you receive. We ask that you fill out a renewal form. We find that email addresses change as well as other items. Renewal forms are usually available at the general meeting if you forget to print one out (if you get the electronic edition of the newsletter) or don't want to destroy your newsletter (if you get the mailed version).
Mom passed away February 8, 2012 in Auburn, California after a short illness. She was born March 1, 1920 at home in Ophir, California to James Monroe Vaughn (1868-1928) and Hilda Evelyn (Johnson) Vaughn (1888-1974); both were also born near Auburn.

Drusilla grew up on Millertown Road, and her family operated the Crystal Springs Swimming Baths (1911-1934). Patrons enjoyed driving their Model T cars for a day of swimming and picnicking, and spent the evening dancing and enjoying a midnight supper. Dru attended Ophir Grammar School, Placer High School, and Placer Junior College.

She married Robert Lee Holmes (1915-1992) on June 2, 1940 in Gardnerville, Nevada; they were married for 52 years. Robert and Dru were fruit ranchers raising pears, apples and cherries. After Pear Decline decimated the orchards in Placer County, they were original founders of the 49er Fruit Trail. They started selling cherries, peaches, figs, apples, and vegetables from the home farm. There were always free kittens every summer at the fruit stand.

Dru and Robert enjoyed fishing and camping in the Sierras, and going on trips to see the National Parks, and their children in North Carolina and Arizona. She was also one of the original members of the Placer County Genealogy Society, and loved reading about local history and telling about her family history.

Dru will be greatly missed by her daughters, Bobette Dee McClellan of Auburn, Charlane (Carl) Rhoades of Chino Valley, Arizona; and son, Dan Holmes of Auburn; and nine grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren.

A private burial was held February 10, 2012 at the New Auburn Cemetery. A Remembrance Celebration will be held for family and friends at a later date.

Bobette McClellan

**Mailing List: CA-PCGS**

We have a mailing list at [RootsWeb](http://www.rootsweb.com) 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](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.pcgenes.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.

**New Hospitality Chairpersons**

Who do we thank? Donna and Steve!
February 2012 General Meeting

Pam Dallas was our speaker for our February meeting. It was good to have Pam speak to us again. Pam is a dynamic speaker who is always entertaining. Pam is always in a good mood and even takes our Presidents kidding in a reasonable fashion.

Pam spoke on the usefulness of the SSDI.

Some people who had not been around for a couple of years showed up for the meeting. We should have a contest and see who can remember who this is. Hint – she is a past president. Our current president, Jerry Unruh, will give one of his door prize tickets to the first email he receives with the correct answer. We collected current year dues that evening too.

We made Pam pay her dues before we would let her speak also.

There were discussions about the Mac version of Family Tree Maker during the break.
Two Newsletter Delivery Options Available

Individual and family memberships pay the same dues rate. However, we have two new dues rates based on how you receive your Placer Trails newsletter.

1) For $10 per year, you can access the newsletter electronically on the Internet; a paper copy will not be mailed to you.

2) For $15 per year, you can access the newsletter electronically and also continue to receive a printed, paper copy of the newsletter in the mail.

A notice will be sent out on the newsletter mailing list when each new issue of the newsletter is published. The notice will include a link to the newsletter file, which you can download or view online. The electronic version of the newsletter is published in PDF format and can be viewed using the free Adobe Acrobat Reader. If you prefer to read your newsletter on paper, but want to take advantage of the lower dues rate, you can print out the newsletter from your computer at home.

The bylaws amendment, as adopted by the membership on October 27, 2005, changes only ARTICLE 3, SECTION 4, PARAGRAPH (b), which now reads as follows:

The annual dues payable to the corporation by members shall be on a calendar year basis and shall be due on the first day of January in such amounts as follows:

(1) Electronic rate: $10.00 per individual or family. This rate shall entitle members to receive electronic only access to and/or delivery of the corporation’s newsletter and meeting notices.

(2) Mail rate: $15.00 per individual or family. This rate shall entitle members to receive by postal mail delivery printed copies of the corporation’s newsletter and meeting notices.

With the electronic rate it is important that you keep the registrar updated with your e-mail address.

Dues are due on January 1.

PLACER COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

Make checks payable to Placer County Genealogical Society
PO Box 7385, Auburn, CA 95604

Name: ____________________________________________________________________________

First Middle Last

Spouse’s Name ______________________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________________

Street ______________________________________________________________________________

City State Zip Code ____________________________________________________________________

Telephone: __________________________________________________________________________

(Please include Area Code) __________________________________________________________________________

E-Mail: ______________________________________________________________________________

(Please include Spouse’s e-mail for family membership) __________________________________________________________________________

Electronic Rate Membership: $10.00 $__________

Mail Rate Membership: $15.00 $__________

Book Fund Contribution: $______________

Total Enclosed: $______________

Electronic Rate: This rate shall entitle members to receive electronic only access to and/or delivery of the corporation's newsletter and meeting notices. Mail rate: This rate shall entitle members to receive by postal mail delivery printed copies of the corporation's newsletter and meeting notices. Note: At this time a family membership is defined as two or more persons residing at a single mailing address. You are encouraged to register a family membership. Family memberships are entitled to one vote per family member in attendance at meetings, not to exceed two votes per family. (File Version: November 2010)
UPCOMING MEETINGS:

General Meetings (Fourth Thursday of the Month) – March 22, 2011, *Social Security Records Benefits Genealogists* with Pam Dallas


Family Tree Maker User’s Group (Second Thursday of the Month) – April 12, 2012 – *Family Tree Maker 2012 & Questions and Answers* 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:
April 1, 2012
Email: placertrails@pcgs.pcgenes.com