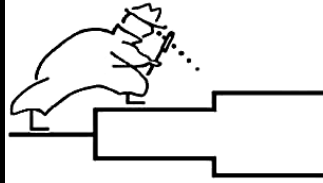




Genealogical
Association of
Sacramento

THE
LAMPLIGHTER



GAS
April 2007

Helping you step toward your ancestors

Web Address
<http://home.surewest.net/bbetts/gas.htm>

GAS Meeting Wednesday, April 18, 2007

will be held at **Belle Coolidge Library**

1:00 pm

Larry Daniels will speak about Railroads and Their History

MEMBERS:

The Lamplighter Editor would like to be replaced before or after the June, 2007 issue
Please contact a Co-President (Esther or Ralph) if you can help

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At the April 18th meeting we will discuss and vote on raising the cost or possibly discontinuing the Sutro State Library/ National Archives bus trips. The board has suggested an increase to \$35 for members and \$40 for non-members. The price of the bus keeps going higher because of the rising prices of gas.

Although these trips are a service we do for the genealogy community, we can not continue to lose money as we did on the trip last month.

As most of you know, Sutro library has very few California resources. These are found here in Sacramento at the California State Library in the California room. Sutro's information is worldwide with a strong emphasis on the rest of the United States. They have all the census records along with census index books. Records on microfilm are available, but may be out on loan. There are many family histories and county histories.

If you have your handouts from our January speaker, Martha Whittaker, of Sutro Library you will be able to review what is there.

Esther McAllister,
Co-President

SILENT AUCTION

A lovely framed Family Register has been given to GAS. The Board considered it such a great gift, the members decided to offer it at a SILENT AUCTION at our meeting on Wednesday, April 18, at Belle Coolidge Library. The framed register will be on display and if you wish to bid on it, write your name on the sheet of paper and the amount you would bid. The highest bid takes the Family Register home.

Beverly Buel, Ways and Means

Family History Center at 2745 Eastern Ave.

The Library is now scheduled to be open the third and fourth Saturdays of the month from 9 am to noon.

About the Genealogical Association of Sacramento (GAS)

Mail: PO Box 292145, Sacramento, CA 95829-2145 Web: <http://home.surewest.net/bbetts/gas.htm>

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Meetings

We meet the third Wednesday of each month (except July, August and December) at 1:00 pm, Belle Cooledge Library, 5600 South Land Park Drive, Sacramento. We offer assistance in genealogical research, and support members in tracing their family trees. Activities include guest speakers, seminars, and field trips to library or archive holdings.

Dues are \$20 per person or \$25 per couple from July 1 to June 30.

Salt Lake Trip

Once a year GAS coordinates a trip to Salt Lake City so that participants can research at the LDS Family History Library. Individuals must arrange their own transportation, but hotels are secured at a discount for the group.

Library Collection

The GAS collection of genealogical books and periodicals is held on the fourth floor of the Sacramento Central Library, 828 I Street, Sacramento, CA. The collection can be accessed during regular library hours, currently 12-5 on Sunday; closed on Monday; 10-6 Friday; 10-8 on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday; and 10-5 on Saturday. Donations of books are accepted.

Genealogy Gems: News from the Fort Wayne Library, No. 37, March 31, 2007

Catholic Church Histories

by Don Litzer

Church histories of congregations can include names of members, photographs, and occasionally even sacramental recipients. However, if a denomination is known, but a specific congregation is not, try researching church histories covering a broader geographic area. Such histories exist more often for denominations with a well-developed institutional hierarchy and organizational structure. It is therefore unsurprising that many such histories exist for the Roman Catholic Church.

The Roman Catholic hierarchy generally places individual congregations, or parishes, under the authority of a bishop or archbishop, whose territory is, respectively, a diocese or archdiocese. Histories can be found for dioceses or archdioceses, or for temporal jurisdictions such as states, with which church districts often share boundaries.

Many Catholic histories, especially older ones, are collections of individual parish histories, such as Harry H. Heming's "The Catholic Church in Wisconsin" (977.5 H372CAT). Photographs of church structures and pastors, dates of pastoral changes and new building construction, and listings of affiliated organizations (Knights of Columbus, rosary societies, etc.) can be found. Descriptions of other Catholic institutions such as schools, hospitals, sanatoria, and orphanages are also featured. Another work, "Catholicity in the Carolinas and Georgia" by J. J. O'Connell (975 Oc5C), while written as a narrative, shares with the Heming book a geographical arrangement, allowing for systematic perusal by researchers.

Catholic histories can indicate whether congregations were missions of established parishes before becoming full parishes themselves—possibly providing clues to early record availability and location. They can also help identify national parishes, a phenomenon especially prevalent in the nineteenth century, whereby Catholics affiliated with others of like ethnicity at the parish level to maintain language, ethnic identity and traditions. Roger Fortin's "Faith and Action: A History of the Catholic Archdiocese of Cincinnati, 1821-1996" (977.102 C49FOR) highlights specific Irish and German Catholic parishes. "Highways of Destiny: A History of the Diocese of Pembroke, Ottawa Valley, Canada" (971.301 R29O) by William C. O'Dwyer prominently notes ethnic intermingling and definition, principally among French, Irish, and Polish Catholics.

Some works, such as "Alaskana Catholica: A History of the Catholic Church in Alaska" by Louis L. Renner (979.8 R295AC), are simply remarkable history—in this case, an exhaustive work recounting a missionary undertaking as vast and unique as the state itself.

Browsing the Genealogy Center's shelves by geographic area, or searching the library catalog with keywords such as "(diocese name) diocese" or "catholic church (state name)" can identify Catholic church histories that may prove useful for your research project, whether you're a beginner or an experienced researcher.

MISSOURI by Nancy Phillips, April 2007

Missouri's recorded history begins in the latter half of the 17th century when French explorers Marquette and Joliet descended the Mississippi River, followed by Robert Cavellier, sieur de La Salle, who claimed the whole area drained by the Mississippi for France, calling the territory Louisiana. When the French explorers arrived the area was inhabited by Native Americans of the Osage and the Missouri groups, and by the end of the 17th century trade between the French and Native Americans flourished

In the early 18th century, the French worked the area's lead mines and made numerous trips through Missouri in search of furs. Trade down the Mississippi prompted the settlement of Ste. Genevieve about 1735 and the founding of St. Louis in 1764. In 1762, France secretly ceded the territory west of the Mississippi to Spain. In 1800 the Louisiana Territory (including the Missouri area) was ceded back to France, but in 1803 it passed to the United States as part of the Louisiana purchase. French influence remained dominant, even though by this time Americans had filtered into the territory. By the time of the Lewis and Clark expedition (1803-06), St. Louis was already known as the gateway to the West.

The coming of the steamboat increased traffic and trade on the Mississippi and settlement continued. Planters from the South had introduced slavery into the territory, but plantations were restricted to a small area. The question of admitting the Missouri Territory as a state became a burning national issue because it involved the question of slave and free states. The dispute was resolved by the Missouri Compromise, which in 1821 admitted Missouri to the Union as a slave state, but excluded slavery from the lands of the Louisiana Purchase north of a certain latitude. Most of Missouri laid north of this latitude line except for the southeastern portion, known as the "bootheel".

Settlement of Missouri quickened, spreading in the 1820's over the river valleys into central Missouri and by the 1830s into western Missouri. The boundaries of the state were formed after Native Americans gave up their claim to Platte County in 1836. Mormon immigrants came to settle Missouri in the 1830s, but their growing numbers made them unwelcome and they were driven from the state by 1839. German immigrants, however, were cordially received during the 1840s and 50s, settling primarily in the St. Louis area. During the Civil War most Missourians remained loyal to the federal government. Missouri sent more men to war, in proportion to its population, than any other state. The total number of Missouri Volunteers who served was 199,111.

Census Records

Federal censuses are available beginning in 1830. A State/Territorial census was taken in 1876.

Useful Addresses

Missouri Bureau of Vital Records

P.O. Box 570

Jefferson City, Mo 65102

Tel.: 573-751-6387 www.dhss.mo.gov

In the State of Missouri, vital records are not open to the general public after 1955 and certified copies can only be obtained by the individual, guardian or other legal party.

Missouri State Archives

600 West Main Street

Jefferson City, MO 65102

Tel.: 573-751-3280 www.sos.mo.gov/archives

There are two on-line databases available on this site. One is the Missouri Birth and Death Index Pre-1910 and the other, Missouri Death Certificate Database, 1910-1955. Images may be viewed on-line or photocopies requested.

St. Louis Public Library

1301 Olive Street

St. Louis, MO 63103 www.slpl.org

The highlight of this site is the St. Louis Obituary Index. This index of names was obtained from both the death notice and the burial permits listings, as well as obituary articles, found in the St. Louis Post Dispatch. The index is a work in progress. Currently it covers the years 1880-1927, 1942-1945, and 1992 to March 2006. The library will make copies for 15 cents/page plus mailing.

Mid-Continent Public Library

15616 East 24 Highway

Independence, MO 64050 www.mcpl.lib.mo.gov

Most libraries will not loan their genealogy books. This library is an exception. Over 10,000 circulating genealogy titles are available from its "Genealogy in the Heartland" collection. An online catalog provides access to the collection. Books are available on interlibrary loan through Sacramento Public Library. The website also has some excellent resources on Missouri genealogy.

(Missouri - continued on p. 4)

Bibliography

The following titles and web sites will prove useful in researching your Missouri ancestors. All books are available at the GAS library, 828 I Street, Sacramento on the 4th floor.

- Divorces, separations and annulments in Missouri, 1769 to 1850 (Available soon)
- Genealogical records: inscriptions personally transcribed from the tombstones ... in St. Charles, Montgomery, Warren, Lincoln and St. Louis counties (GENE 929.509778 M141 1970)
- German speaking people west of the Catawba River in NC, 1750-1800 and some émigrés participation in the early settlement of SE Missouri (GENE 929.3756 E11 1994)
- Grand Army of the Republic, Missouri Division, index to death rolls, 1882-1940 (Available soon)
- History of the pioneer families of Missouri (GENE 929.3778 B915 1992)
- Index to Missouri military pensioners, 1881 (Available soon)
- Kentuckians in Missouri: including many who migrated by way of Ohio, Indiana or Illinois (GENE 929.3778 S766 1983)
- Missouri cemetery inscription sources (GENE 929.50778 K87 1995)
- Missouri genealogical gleanings : 1840 and beyond (GENE 929.3778 E21m 1994)
- Missouri genealogical records & abstracts (GENE 929.3778 E21m 1990)
- Missouri marriages before 1840 (GENE 929.3778 O73 1982)
- Union burials : Missouri units (Available soon)
- Atchison County deaths from area newspapers, 1878-1888 (Available soon)
- Buchanan County index to wills (Available soon)
- Buchanan County probate index, 1839-1912 (Available soon)
- Christian County 1900 federal census (GENE 929.377879 C555 1900a)
- 1880 federal census of Christian County (GENE 929.377879 C555 1880a)
- Christian County marriages (GENE 929.377879 C555 1988)
- Christian County 1910 federal census (GENE 929.377879 C555 1910a)
- Christian County 1860 federal census (GENE 929.377879 C555 1860a)
- History & families, Christian County (GENE 977.8 H673 1998)
- Christian County 1870 federal census (GENE 929.377879 C555 1870a)
- DeKalb County marriages, 1845-1880 (Available soon)
- DeKalb County death notices from area newspapers (Available soon)
- Gentry County probate index, 1885-1902 (Available soon)
- Gentry County deaths notices from area newspapers. (Available soon)
- Gentry County deaths, 1868-1910 (Available soon)
- Holt County marriages (Available soon)
- Holt County death notices from area newspapers (Available soon)
- Lewis County index to Circuit Court records, 1833-1851 (GENE 929.3778 E21 1994)
- Moniteau County family history book (Available soon)
- Cemetery inscriptions of Scotland County (GENE 929.509778 D644 1971)
- St. Charles County marriages, 1844 to 1853 (GENE 929.377839 O52 1968)
- Stone County 1900 federal census (GENE 929.377879 S877 1900a)
- Stone County 1880 federal census (GENE 929.377839 S877 1880a)
- Taney County marriages 1900-1904 (GENE 929.377879 T1642 1987)
- Taney County 1850 census (GENE 929.377879 T164 1850a)
- Taney County 1910 federal census (GENE 929.377879 T164 1910a)
- Taney County 1860 federal census (GENE 929.377879 T164 1860a)
- Taney County 1870 federal census (GENE 929.377879 T164 1870a)
- Taney County 1880 federal census (GENE 929.377879 T164 1880a)
- Taney County 1900 federal census (GENE 929.377879 T164 1900a)
- Taney County marriages, 1905-1913 (GENE 929.377879 T1642 1990)

To be continued in the May newsletter.

News from Sacramento Public Library

The Sacramento Room at the Central Library has instituted new hours for researchers. The Room is now open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Sundays from 1-5. On Thursdays hours will extend from 1-8.

Upcoming in September will be four genealogy seminars on Sundays sponsored by the Friends of the Central Library. Watch for more details.

New database available at all Sacramento Public Library branches that may be of interest to genealogists. This is the Access Newspaper Archive. It offers online access to full-page historical newspapers from across the US along with papers in the United Kingdom, Canada, Jamaica and other countries. Unfortunately the agreement between the company & the library excludes California.

The following news release was published on March 12, 2007:

Free Online Genealogy Database Hits 150 Million Names, Adds Ability to View Names in Family Tree Format

SALT LAKE CITY - FamilySearch announced today that its Pedigree Resource File (PRF) database launched in 1999 has reached over 150 million searchable names. Along with the milestone achievement, a new feature has been added that allows users to view genealogical and extended information for deceased individuals in a familiar pedigree (family tree) format. Users can search or contribute their personal genealogies to the free database at <http://www.familysearch.org>.

The PRF database is a popular destination for family historians seeking to find missing branches of their family tree and then preserve or share family histories online. The database is different from other indexes on the site because it is submitter-generated. People from around the world can submit their genealogies online at FamilySearch.org. Using a genealogy software program (such as the free Personal Ancestral File program found at FamilySearch.org), users can easily donate a copy of their personal family histories to the Pedigree Resource File. Details can be found online by clicking the Share tab on FamilySearch.org. Since its launch in 1999, the database has grown at a rate of about 19 million names a year. Today, it boasts over 150 million searchable names. To respect privacy, only information about deceased individuals is displayed online.

"Our commitment is to make the user's experience as easy and rewarding as possible," said Steve Anderson, marketing manager for FamilySearch. "We also wanted to display search results for an individual in the more familiar context of a family tree. This new feature allows them to do just that." Before the addition, users were only able to see the person they searched and that individual's parents. If additional generations or vital information existed, it was not obvious. By using the pedigree view and checking the "show all events" box, users can now view extended generations and other vital information for an individual if it exists in the database.

The Pedigree Resource File can be found on the advanced search page on FamilySearch.org:

http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Search/frameset_search.asp

FamilySearch is the public channel of the Genealogical Society of Utah (GSU), a nonprofit organization sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. FamilySearch maintains the world's largest repository of genealogical resources accessed through FamilySearch.org, the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, and over 4,500 family history centers in 70 countries.

Genealogy Tip of the Day: Illuminating Inscriptions

Shaving cream has long been suggested by many genealogists as a method for highlighting inscriptions on difficult to read tombstones. Cemetery preservations now caution against its use, however, due to the fact that shaving cream is acidic and over time can cause the same damage to fragile tombstones as acid rain. One interesting alternative to worn, faded, and hard to read tombstone inscriptions is to use a **black light bulb** (75 watt or higher) to illuminate the inscription. While an extension cord may be a problem in many cemeteries, you can find portable, battery-operated black light units in many party or novelty stores. They are especially popular around Halloween! Cast the light directly on the tombstone and the words just seem to pop right out at you.

Black light works especially well when it is dark, but lights in the cemetery at night may cause the police to come investigating (not to mention that cemeteries at night may not be the safest place unless you are with a group). Plus, many large cemeteries actually close from dusk to dawn. As an alternative, bring a large, dark blanket with you to the cemetery and use it as a drape over both you and the tombstone while using the black light. This should create enough darkness for a very "illuminating inscription."

Calendar of Events

- April 18 -- GAS Meeting - Larry Daniels - Railroads and Their History
- April 21 -- Placer County Genealogical Society - free seminar on beginning genealogy at the Beecher Room of the Auburn Library located at 350 Nevada St., in Auburn from 9:00AM to 3:00PM. Registration at the door begins at 8:30AM
- April 22 to 29 -- Salt Lake Genealogy Trip - Contact: Dona VanLone at donnavl@acsalaska.net or Ralpa Crouse at (916) 689-4524
- May 16 -- Barbara Leak - Finding Both Halves of Military Bounty-Land Records
- June 8 to 10 -- Southern California Genealogy Jamboree in Burbank, California
- June 20 -- Donald Calavan-MacRae, PhD - Science of Names
- October 24 -- (tentative) -- GAS Bus trip to Sutro Library (depends upon vote to raise trip fees)

Discovering the maiden name of a female ancestor can sometimes be difficult, but can lead to a whole new branch of your family tree. New surnames, new families, new connections. Here are ten of the records and resources where you'll most commonly find a mention of a female's maiden name.

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1) Marriage Records | 4) Land Records | 7) Newspaper Records | 10) Naming Patterns |
| 2) Cemetery Records | 5) Church Records | 8) Death Records | |
| 3) Census Records | 6) Probate Records & Wills | 9) Military Records | |

Fill out and keep this receipt as a record of payment of 2006 – 2007 Dues

The membership year in GAS is from July 1 to June 30. Use the form printed below to **join** or to **renew** your membership. If you are a current member and fail to renew, you will not receive a newsletter after September 2006.

GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF SACRAMENTO (GAS)

I paid \$ _____ for dues. I contributed an additional \$ _____ for purchase of books.

By check number: _____ dated: _____

Cut the form below this line and return with your payment

Membership: Genealogical Association of Sacramento 2007-2008

Choose One: New _____ Renewal _____ Total Amount enclosed \$ _____

Cash Donation for Library books: \$ _____ Amount for DUES: \$ _____

Annual dues are \$20 per person or \$25 per couple

Gifts are greatly appreciated and tax deductible to the extent permitted by law

NAME: _____
FIRST MAIDEN or MIDDLE LAST

ADDRESS: _____
STREET CITY STATE ZIP

E-Mail Address: _____ Telephone: _____

I want to be called before each meeting: Yes _____ No _____

Return this form and the dues to: GAS Membership
PO Box 292145, Sacramento, CA 95829-2145