

PLACER



TRAILS

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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.

**September Evening Meeting
Thursday, September 23, 2010**

***Grand Army of the Republic*
Pamela Dallas**

Pamela lectures nationally and locally on a wide range of topics. He speaks frequently at local societies and presents full-day workshops and classes. A member of the Association of Professional Genealogists and the Genealogical Speakers Guild, she also serves on the board of many societies. She is currently the educational chair of the Roseville Genealogical Society, Vice President of the Genealogical & Historical Council of Sacramento Valley and the Sacramento Area District Director of the California State Genealogical Alliance.

Family Tree Maker User Group

Thursday, October 14, 2010
10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon
LDS Stake Building, 1255 Bell Road, Auburn

The New Family Tree Maker 2011 Q&A

The FTM User Group meetings will continue our look at the newly released Family Tree Maker 2011 with time for questions and answers. We had a brief look at version 2011 which was just shipped earlier this month.

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

Day Study Group Meeting

Monday, October 11, 2010
10:00 am to 12:00 noon
Beecher Room, Auburn Library

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

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THANKS to those who helped your editor prepare the newsletter for mailing in June: John & Jacqui Marcella, Audrey Meyers, Bob Baker, Bev Russell, Suzan Vander Linden, and John & "Fred" Knox.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The summer vacation is over and the grand kids are back in school. It means a little more trouble finding a sitter. It is also time for me to try to get back busy. I am still recovering from Mary Ann's

passing. My daughter has been providing a lot of assistance to me during the past few months.

Family Tree Maker for the Apple Macintosh hasn't been released yet but Ancestry did release version 2011 for the PC. It arrived just before this month's FTM User Group meeting so I haven't had a chance to explore all the new features yet but there are some definite improvements.

Joyce House has been our program chairperson for over five years and would like to take leave of the position. It is also time for our annual election of officers. Our current officers and chairpersons have held the positions for quite a while just as Joyce has been doing. As Joyce stated for the program chairperson, most of the positions require very little time and the current people are more than willing to assist. I believe that some of the most difficult positions will continue with the the current personnel – Day Study Group, FTM Group, Newsletter, and Web Master. Our elections take place at the November meeting. Even if you don't think you may be interested, talk to some of the current personnel and find our how little work is actually involved.

Please take time to carefully read Barbara's Library article. It is very pertinent to our genealogical hobby. Some people seem to have a belief that anything that is found on the Internet is up for grabs. Although facts can't be copyrighted, only the presentation of those facts, we are supposed to leave enough tracks so that others can follow our research. A large number of people include errors in there data as proof of their work.

PLACER TRAILS is a publication of the Placer County Genealogical Society
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OFF THE SHELF **Library News**

By
[Barbara Leak, PCGS Librarian](#)

Kidnapped Data and Stolen Efforts

In my recent conversations with other genealogists, some issues regarding online data have come up. The Internet has created an easy and inexpensive means of publishing data in a way that reaches a world-wide audience. Genealogists have been quick to take advantage of it. However, along with this boon has come a wave of amateur hobbyists who are eagerly, ignorantly, and indiscriminately disseminating kidnapped data and stolen efforts.

At one of our study group meetings, someone asked how reliable are the family trees online at websites such as RootsWeb and Ancestry.com. A quick look at a well-known family tree answers the question.

Search for the name “Frodo Baggins” on the Public Member Trees at Ancestry.com and you will get four hits where people have uploaded the family tree of this famous Hobbit. The World Connect Project at RootsWeb produces two hits. Frodo’s relative, Bilbo Baggins—of *Lord of the Rings* fame—is found twice on Ancestry.com and three times on RootsWeb. Both Ancestry.com and RootsWeb provide ability to include source citations, yet none of these trees are sourced. Have the submitters conducted original research in the record archives of Middle Earth? Or is the information plagiarized straight from the *fictional writings* of J.R.R. Tolkien?

Plagiarism is the act of passing off as one’s own the ideas, words or product of another. It applies not just to creative expression, but also to research data. The word is derived from a Latin verb meaning “to kidnap.” When you plagiarize, you are kidnapping and stealing someone else’s hard work and intellectual property. Unlike copyright, which is a legal issue that protects publication rights, plagiarism is an issue of ethics, an act of academic and public dishonesty.

When you submit or upload a family tree to an electronic database, such as the Public Member Trees at Ancestry.com or the World Connect Project at RootsWeb, and you do so with no source citations and your name as the submitter, you are implying that the information is the result of *your research*. If you have, in fact, “kidnapped” the information from the research of another, you are guilty of plagiarism. So whether you are uploading a family tree

from some work of fiction or from the carefully researched work of another genealogist, at least be honest enough to give credit where credit is due and acknowledge the creator of the fiction or the discoverer of the facts.

Genealogy plagiarism occurs online in places other than family trees. Find a Grave is a graves registration website with gravestone data and photos contributed by volunteers. Seven thousand five hundred and ninety-nine (7,599) graves in the Old Auburn Cemetery are registered. Long-time PCGS members and cemetery experts Jim and Melinda Landrith spent five and a half years transcribing data from the gravestones and burial books of this cemetery. Their self-published book can be found in the Auburn Library and other library collections. What took the Landriths *five and a half long years* to produce has been replicated online by a Find a Grave volunteer in a *mere nine months*. The Landrith’s acknowledge that their book contains some errors, including typos. Interestingly, the exact same errors appear on Find a Grave.

On her member profile page, the person who submitted the Old Auburn Cemetery data to Find a Grave writes that she is “working on a project to record the Old Auburn Cemetery.” She acknowledges that the “real cornerstone” on which her work stands is “the collection of data at the Auburn Library,” yet she fails to identify who compiled that data. She is working on adding photos of the gravestones and grants permission to use her pictures on other websites, requesting “*just give credit where credit is due.*” Yet she apparently fails to honor her own request and give credit to the Landriths for researching and compiling the data that she has contributed to Find a Grave under her own name—as if she did all the work transcribing the stones.

Genealogy is a sharing endeavor. Contributors to Find a Grave, online family trees, and other submitter-based websites are well-intentioned. They are motivated by a desire to make information more available to others. But the users of that information deserve not to be misled regarding its factualness and origin. And the original researchers, compilers, transcribers, and translators who put in long hours—sometimes long years—of work deserve not to have their data kidnapped and their efforts stolen. Please cite your sources.

Unknown, Close-By Relatives

My mother, Neva Louise (Lattin) Keith spent 34 years living and teaching in Selma and Hanford, CA. She passed away while living with her daughter, in Meadow Vista, Ca., at the age of 77. She was happy to start a new chapter in her life. That chapter was short lived—just three months long.



The very small town of Guernsey, ten miles south of Hanford, was founded and named by John Travis Guernsey. He came west, from New York, to find his fortune. Neva's grandmother and great aunt were Guernsey sisters. Amy Rosalia Lattin and Mary Thomas lived next door to one another, in Rock Rapids, IA. They both had large families.

Neva's mother, Louise Bertina (Hansen) Lattin was born in Minn. to Norwegian immigrants. She married Perry Ernest Lattin, third born son of Charles and Rosalia Lattin. Neva was born Jan. 7, 1903, in South Sioux City, Neb. An only child, she was raised by her mother, after the divorce, in June of 1906. Neva knew her great aunt Mary because she lived nearby. Her grandfather visited once in awhile and

gave her mom money. Neva's father never came to visit her until she graduated from Sioux City High School. By that time Neva and her mother had moved across the river into Sioux City, IA. Neva worked as a live-in nanny, caring for seven children, while attending high school. Her mother was a domestic all of her working life.

Neva taught in one-room schoolhouses, out on the prairie. Most of her students were from the large families living on dairy farms. She stayed with a family and helped with the children and cooked for the threshing crew that came through in the summer. She met my dad, William Haskell Keith, who worked on that crew. I think they corresponded for a whole year before they saw each other again. They married on June 16, 1926 and took the train to Los Angeles, Ca., to start their new life. They lost a home during the depression and lived in a shed for seven years while they built a house, on the front of a narrow lot, in South Gate, CA. After being childless for fifteen years, two babies were born within eighteen months. The house Haskell and Neva built was only a one bedroom.

Neva didn't have a California teaching credential, so she worked in factories. A few years and two kids later the Keiths went on a vacation to Shaver Lake, above Fresno. Neva learned there was an opening, for a teacher, at a one-room schoolhouse, in Oakhurst, CA. She learned that she could teach on a temporary credential, if she attended a six-week college course every summer.

After two years, in Oakhurst, we moved to Selma. After thirteen years of teaching first and second grade, and the son and daughter on their own, Neva and Haskell moved to Hanford, CA. Neva taught there for eight years, before retiring in 1967.

All those years and never hearing from or seeing a Lattin relative didn't seem to matter to Neva. Her mother died in 1951, in Dakota City, NB. I don't think she had seen her since her marriage, in 1926. Little did she know that one of her first cousins and his two sons lived just twenty miles away, in Visalia, CA. Dale Thomas, Neva's second cousin, became a teacher also. He taught his first few years in Visalia and then moved up the hill to Porterville, CA. He taught there for over 30 years.

After my husband Bob started doing genealogy research, we found Lattins all over California. One of Neva's Great Uncles is buried in Modesto, CA and one in Eureka, CA. He has not really dug into the families yet, but I think Neva would have been flabbergasted at how much family she had close by and never knew it.

Neva would have been so happy to know that some of her closest relatives, not only had the same profession, but also

lived within shouting distance. We were very surprised to see how much he looks like my brother, Warren Keith. Sadly, my brother had passed away in 2003. Dale is almost my age and is retired. He has traveled down to Los Angeles to use the genealogy computers, at the LDS Church.

Submitted by, Marilyn (Keith) Baker PCGS member

In Memorium

Lloyd Lee Bissing 3/3/1927 - 6/9/2010



Lloyd Lee Bissing passed away peacefully at home on June 9, 2010 after a short illness with his family at his side.

Lloyd was born on March 3, 1927 to

Pauline (Weingardt) and Robert Bissing in Aurora, Illinois. He moved with his family to Kansas City and Hays, Kansas where he grew up and his grandfather had been a Renaissance man helping to set up the town after arriving in the states in the mid 1800's. Lloyd entered the US Navy at age 17 and toured the Pacific as a gunner on a destroyer. At the end of the war he needed a job and found a fun job teaching ballroom dancing for Williams studios near Hollywood where his mother had moved. He admitted the dancing was the best time of his life. He was always a much sought out partner at any dance before he passed away.

He met his first wife, Marilyn Hoover of Green River, Wyoming at the dance studio. They soon married and had a family of a daughter and twin sons. She passed away in May of 1982. He met Joan (Meyer) Maples who is a nurse who had cared for his first wife and became widowed. After a short courtship they married in 1983. He was a true gentleman and romantic his entire life.

Lloyd left the dance business, attended college, worked for Avon, Robert Shaw Industries, and eventually the longest part of his career at Northrop-Rockwell as an Aerospace Engineer for the booster rocket that sent the men to the moon. He spent many long hours at the launch site. He was director of Engineering when he retired in 1988.

He and his wife Joan decided to retire to the Sierra Foothills, built their home in 1989. Lloyd became a productive and respected member of the community at Auburn Valley serving as President to the Community for 4 years where they lived. He also enjoyed tracking the

stock market, golf and golf trips, dancing and his family and grandchildren.

Preceding him in death are his parents, sisters Theresa Bissing, Rosemarie Thorne, Charlotte Carter and brother Walter Bissing.

He was well loved and will be dearly missed by his wife Joan, daughter Hilary Bissing of Costa Mesa, CA., son Adam (wife Lurae) of Sacramento, CA. and his twin Justin (wife Rebeca) and twin grandsons Christopher and Daniel, Brandon Bissing all of Colorado Springs, CA., stepsons, Kurt (Leslie) Maples and children, Cassidy and Leilani, and Jon Maples, all of Orange Co., CA., sister Dorothy Riede of Citrus Heights and step mother Geneva Hinkle of Kansas, nieces and nephews.

Memorial service to be announced. Memorials appreciated to Sutter Auburn Faith Hospice of Auburn, CA. the Auburn Faith Hospital Foundation or the Alzheimer's Association . Sierra Foothills Mortuary in charge of the cremation. The family wishes to thank Sutter Auburn Faith Hospital and the Auburn Faith Hospice for their superb care and support.

Published in Gold Country Media Newspapers

Upcoming General Meetings

October 28, 2010 – Glenda Lloyd – *This Ol' House -- Documenting Where Your Family Lived*

Glenda Gardner Lloyd is a 4th generation Californian. She grew up on a cattle ranch in northeastern California and attended a one-room country school. She received her BA from the University of California, Santa Barbara and her MA from California State University, Sacramento. She taught elementary school and worked as a reading specialist for 38 years. Glenda helped organize and served as the first president of Root Cellar, Sacramento Genealogical Society. She has taught genealogy classes through San Juan Adult Education for the past 25 years. She participates in local seminars for the California State Archives, the Regional Family History Center, the Sacramento City Library, and does workshops for many local societies. She has lectured for the Salt Lake Institute. Genealogy is her hobby and her passion which she hopes to share with all of you.

November 22, 2010 – *Member Sharing*

Bring an item you have from an ancestor and talk about it. Or if you don't have an item you can share a story about your research successes or talk about your ancestor.

June General Meeting

Migration Routes

Barbara Leak



Barbara filled in with a presentation on *Migration Routes* after our scheduled speaker was admitted to the hospital.

July General Meeting

Searching for Soldier Ancestors

Barbara Leak was our speaker in July. After filling in June, Barbara was previously scheduled to speak in July.



Those at the back table.



Bob Baker showing his appreciation for the real coffee provided by Donna and Ron Young at the June Meeting.



Break time at the July meeting.



August General Meeting*Eastern States Research*

Kay Allen



Our June speaker was rescheduled for August. Kay spoke on researching in the Eastern states.

**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.pcgens.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.

Internet Search Tips

When you find data on the Internet, add the page to your Favorites / Bookmarks. However, web sites and pages come and go or are changed on a regular basis. You should copy and paste the information you find into either your genealogy program or a word processing file. Text data is easy to copy and paste, but sometimes with pictures/images you will find that you end up copying the URL and inserting that into your program or document. Storage should not be a problem, 2 terabyte external drives are currently just over \$100 and unlimited off site Internet based backup is under \$5 per month. Another tip next month.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

General Meeting (Fourth Thursday of the Month) – September 23, 2010, *Grand Army of the Republic* with **Pamela Dallas**

Day Study Group Meeting (Second Monday of the Month) – October 13, 2010, – [Barbara Leak](#) leads the Day Study Group.

Family Tree Maker User's Group (Second Thursday of the Month) – October 14, 2010 – *Introducing Family Tree Maker 2011* 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:

October 1, 2010

Email: placertrails@pcgs.pcgenes.com

