

California Genealogical Society and Library eNews

February 2009, Vol. 3, No. 2

Intermediate Genealogy - A Slight Change in Schedule

Response to the Classes Has Been Overwhelming!

Due to a family emergency, the Land Record class being taught by Lavinia Schwarz has been rescheduled.

The *revised* schedule for remaining **Intermediate Series** of genealogy classes is as follows:

February 7 & 10 - Reading and Transcribing Colonial Handwriting

February 14 & 17 - **No classes**

February 21 & 24 - Newspaper Research

February 28 and March 3 - Land Records and Maps

March 7 & 10 - **No classes**

March 14 & 17 - Immigration, Passenger Lists, Naturalizations and Passports

March 21 and 24 - People-Finders, Continuing Education and Giving Back

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

NOTE: *Due to the overwhelming response to the Intermediate Series, classes are now closed and we are unable to accommodate walk-ins. There is a waiting list for the next series of classes scheduled to begin in late spring. Please call 510-531-3905 or [e-mail](#) the [Oakland Regional Family History Center](#) to add your name to the list.*

Scots-Irish Research Seminar - *Last chance to sign up!*

Individual Research Consultations Available for Participants



The California Genealogical Society and Library and the [Ulster Historical Foundation](#) present a full day [Scots-Irish Family History Research Seminar](#) on Saturday, March 7, 2009, at the **new** [Oakland Airport Holiday Inn and Suites](#), 77 Hegenberger Road, Oakland, California. *Please note that there is limited seating at this venue.*

Fintan Mullan, Executive Director of the Ulster Historical Foundation and **Dr. Brian Trainor**, former Director of the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) and former Research Director of the Ulster Historical Foundation are coming all the way from Belfast, Northern Ireland, to give several lectures on all aspects of Scots-Irish research.

Program schedule:

- Registration with coffee and book sales
- Welcome and introductions
- "Introduction to Scots-Irish Family Research"
- "18th C. Emigration from the North of Ireland to North America"
- "Records Relating to the Different Churches"

Lunch, break and book sales

- "Scots Irish Research - Not Always at the Bottom of the Pile"
- "Using Gravestone Inscriptions in Ulster"
- "Researching the Farming Community in Ireland"
- "The Ulster Plantation: Sources for 17th C. Families"

Q & A

Mr. Mullen and Dr. Trainor are bringing an excellent selection of books with them for sale at the event. Their complete catalog can be viewed at the [Ulster Historical Foundation Bookstore website](#).

Individual Research consultations with Dr. Trainor and Mr. Mullan are available on Friday, March 6, 2009, **only for those attending the seminar** and must be arranged in advance. There may be a few time slots available on the day of the event. The fee is \$20 for a 20 minute appointment. Payment is due at the time of the consultation. Please [e-mail Shirley Hoye](#) for full details if you are interested in scheduling a research consultation.

Please support CGS and the society's programs. [Download the program registration flier](#) and send in your check today.

March Membership Meeting - Author Frances Dinkelspiel

Saturday, March 14, 2008, 1:00 p.m.

CGS Library, 2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland, California



Ralph Granich Photography

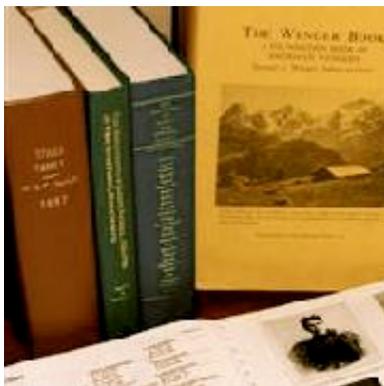
The California Genealogical Society is pleased to have local Bay Area author [Frances Dinkelspiel](#) as the guest speaker at our March membership meeting. Frances' book, [Towers of Gold: How One Jewish Immigrant Named Isaias Hellman Created California](#) has been getting rave reviews since the book was released last November.

Frances will share some of the backstory about how she learned about her great-great-grandfather and the eight years she spent researching and writing the book. It's fitting that Frances lecture at the CGS Library because a bit of her research was done here - a small bit when compared to the time she spent at the California Historical Society reviewing over forty cartons of her ancestor's papers.

Please note that the short membership meeting starts promptly at 1:00 p.m. Frances' talk follows at 1:20 p.m. She will be available afterward to autograph and sell books.

Book Donations to the CGS Library

Wanted: Town and County Histories of the Western States



CGS Librarians Laura Spurrier and Barbara Hill are requesting member donations to help round out the book collection and fill in some spaces on the book shelves.

They are specifically seeking county or town histories or genealogies for any of the states west of the Mississippi with emphasis on the states through which migrants to California passed, either in a single generation or in stages. For instance, the CGS Library has little on Texas or Colorado and most of the deep south is under-represented. The library has respectable holdings on Virginia, Georgia and North Carolina, but very little for the other southern states. Laura feels that it is important to improve the collection since it is known that Confederate soldiers migrated west after the Civil War and that many of them ended up in California.

If you have a suitable book for donation to the library, please call 510-

663-1358 or [e-mail the society](#).

Ninth Annual Tour to Salt Lake City - Deadline Approaching

March 29, 2009 - April 5, 2009



The dates have been set for the [ninth annual California Genealogical Society Salt Lake City Research Tour](#). As in previous years, the tour will run from Sunday to Sunday, March 29, 2009 to April 5, 2009. CGS President Jane Lindsey and CGS Research Director Nancy Peterson return as volunteer leaders of this very popular trip to the [Family History Library](#).

The tour package includes:

- * Hotel room (7 nights, double occupancy)
- * Shuttle service to and from the airport
- * Three group dinners (Sunday, Wednesday and Saturday)
- * Orientation meeting and several lectures
- * Optional assistance at CGS prior to the trip
- * Computer assistance
- * Hotel shuttle to library, if needed
- * Continental breakfast included

Accommodations will be at the [Shilo Inn](#), located three blocks from the Family History Library. The Shilo provides free high-speed internet access in every room.

The cost is \$680 (airfare not included.) The \$200 deposit to hold one space is **due no later than Thursday, February 12, 2009**. The Shilo Inn requires confirmation of the number of rooms needed by this date. [Download the tour flier and registration form](#) for full details.

Beyond the Bay in 2009

Expanding "Member Coffees" to Include a Speaker

Plans are progressing for three "**CGS On the Road**" events in 2009.

A meeting will be held on **Monday, June 15, 2009** at a Santa Clara library. Details are still being worked out.

Plans are also moving forward for meetings in Santa Rosa and in the San Joaquin area. [E-mail Jane Lindsey](#) or call the society at 510-663-1358 if you would like to help plan an event in your area.

Fort Wayne, Indiana Tour August 16, 2009. Sign Up Now!

Allen County Public Library - August 16-23, 2009



The fourth [CGS Research Tour to the Allen County Public Library](#) in Fort Wayne, Indiana, is being planned for August 16-23, 2009. Join CGS President Jane Lindsey for a week-long trip to the best public genealogy library in the United States.

Whether you have visited before or this is your first time, you will benefit from Jane's individualized attention to your research goals. Pre-planning meetings can be arranged by phone or in person prior to the trip.

Space is limited to the first fifteen participants who send in their \$200 deposit. Several people have already contacted Jane to express interest, so please [download the tour brochure](#) from the society website and send in your deposit today. All deposits must be received by June 15, 2009 to reserve a space.

Suggested Links from the Blogosphere

[Tune Up Your Browser](#) by Denise Olson

[What Happens To My Research When I Am Gone?](#) by Sheri Beffort Fenley

[Take Some Time for Relaxation - Genealogical Fiction](#) by Carolyn L. Barkley

[Dream Place: Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley](#) by Paula Stuart-Warren

[The Lincoln Inaugural Bible, Chapter and Verse](#) from the Library of Congress Blog - (Thanks to [Jennifer Jones Regan](#) for this link.)

[Ellis Island Hospital Documentary Airs in February](#) by Diana Haddad

[WDYTYA: Impact on Genealogy American Style](#) by Schelly Talalay Dardashti - Schelly has some inside information on the upcoming NBC television series *Who Do You Think You Are* which premieres on April 20, 2009.

[February 2009 San Francisco Bay Area Genealogy Calendar](#) - a monthly feature by Steve Danko at [Steve's Genealogy Blog](#).

CGS Ancestors

Photo Tributes to the CGS Family

This month's CGS Ancestor Photo was submitted by **Sally Houston**:



The first professional photo is of Clara (Towle) Thomas and her first six grandchildren. Her two sons, twins, moved from Illinois about 1909-1911, married their Illinois sweethearts, and started their families in Richmond, California. One twin, Charles E. Thomas, had three children,

the other, H. Claud Thomas, had seven, the first three of whom are in this photo, taken about 1914, in Richmond.



The second photo, circa 1917, is of Claud and wife Ethel's first five children; my mother was the baby. Charlie and family remained in Richmond, but after Ethel's death, Claud moved to Oregon about 1930, and parents Clara and Walter Thomas went with them. I do have other photos of the family in Richmond, including lots of the usual snapshot types, showing the twin fathers, The way to tell them apart seems to be by the family members grouped around them since they dressed alike (or at least it looks like it in black and white.) The formality of suits and ties in casual situations makes it difficult to be sure.

Special Announcement!

Cathy H. Paris, newly elected to the CGS Board of Directors, has joined the staff of the *CGS e-News*. Cathy will oversee the **CGS Ancestors** feature. If you would like to see your CGS Ancestor pictured in a future edition of the *CGS e-News*, please [e-mail](#) your image to Cathy and include a brief description.

Did you miss these posts in the CGSL blog?

[CGSL Blog Resolutions?](#)

[CGSL Blog 2008 in Review](#)

[Penelope's Report on the North Star Workshop](#)

[What You Missed: The January Annual Business Meeting](#)

[San Francisco Halsted Mortuary Records Database and Index Now Online](#)



California Genealogical Society and Library
A Northern California Genealogy Resource
Oakland, CA 94612-3031

Founded February 12, 1898 in San Francisco, CGS, a non-profit, all-volunteer organization that seeks to aid, educate and encourage research in family history, is presently located in Oakland, California. The society maintains a library, gathers and preserves vital records and disseminates information through publications, meetings, seminars, workshops, its [website](#), [blog](#) and [online catalog](#).

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