Holiday Hours

Library Closed For the Fourth of July Weekend

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the California Genealogical Society Library will be closed on both Friday and Saturday, July 2-3, 2010, for the Independence Day weekend. The next First Saturday Free will be August 7, 2010.

Extended Summer Hours

Library Open Thursdays Until 8:30 p.m. in July and August

Starting July 8, 2010 and continuing every Thursday through August, the CGS Library will be open from 9:00 a.m. until 8:30 p.m. In addition, informal evening discussions are planned from 6:30 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. Participants of all levels of research experience are welcome to network and join the conversation. For the full schedule and list of topics, read more at the blog.

July Membership Meeting: The California Newspaper Project

Saturday, July 10, 2010, 1:00 p.m.
CGS Library, 2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland, California

CGS member Dr. Henry Snyder will discuss inventorying, preserving, filming and digitizing California's newspapers. Since 1990 he has been the director of the California Newspaper Project, which preserves and indexes the state's newspapers published between 1846 and 1922, as an important record of local history in the Golden State. The program is part of the United States Newspaper Program, which seeks to preserve the country's journalistic history.

Read more at the blog.

Are Your Books in Our Library?

Seeking Our Member Authors, Past and Present

Kathy Watson, Chair of the Website Committee, has begun a project to identify the works in our collection which have been authored by members of the California Genealogical Society. She is creating a database with plans to feature a list of our member-authors and their book titles in the society's Surpass online catalog.

If your published genealogical work is already on our shelves, please email Kathy Watson with your name and the title of your book. Please indicate [CGS Member Author] in the subject line.
For information about the types of book donations accepted by the CGS Library Committee, please refer to our Book Donation Policy.

Internet Research Workshop with Nancy Peterson and Ron Filion

Saturday, July 17, 2010, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
CGS Library, 2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland, California

Join Ron Filion of SFgenealogy.com and Nancy Peterson, author of Raking the Ashes, for some hands-on internet genealogical research. Groups will be given case studies to research and solve. Come and hone your internet research skills! Class will be limited to 15 participants. Learn more at the blog.

Register online.

Hard Drive Organization - Making Use of Your Computer File Folders

Encore Presentation: Saturday, July 31, 2010, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
CGS Library, 2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland, California

Tim Cox is back with a second opportunity to learn his management method for digital files. He will demonstrate how to name files for easy identification, how to organize folders that make it easy to find them, and how to properly identify scanned photographs. Learn more at the blog.

Register online.

Workshop: Using Microsoft PowerPoint 2007 for Your Genealogy Presentations

Saturday, August 7, 2010, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
CGS Library, 2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland, California

PowerPoint 2007 is a powerful tool that allows you to create professional looking presentations and have fun doing it! Let Kathy Watson show you how in this workshop designed for beginners to intermediate users.

Register online.

Workshop: How To Conduct Oral Histories

Saturday, August 14, 2010, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
CGS Library, 2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland, California

Nancy Thompson will conduct a three-hour interactive workshop on how to conduct oral histories. Discussion topics will include interviewing techniques, transcribing and editing tips, using photographs and other family memorabilia, and more.

Register online.

Coming in September

Save These Dates!
9/1: Book Launch - Celebrate Our New Publications!


9/25: Working with Footnotes and Indexing with Jane Hufft and Matt Berry.

In Memoriam

James M. Hotchkiss, Jr. (1927-2009)

The society learned of the death of member and Oakland native, James Hotchkiss Jr., at his home in Lafayette on December 31, 2009 at the age of 82. His obituary was published in the Contra Costa Times in January. Mr. Hotchkiss joined the California Genealogical Society in 1990.

Editor's Picks: Suggested Links From the Blogosphere

Changes to FamilySearch.org by James Tanner

The Joy of Office Supplies (for Genealogists) by Carolyn L. Barkley

Topics in Research-Was Iva May Insane? Part One by Jennifer Jones Regan

Golden Voices: Life Stories of San Francisco Seniors by SFPL_6th_Floor_Blogger

UCBerkeley: Magnes Museum Jewish Collection Acquired by Schelly Talalay Dardashti

Researching a photo album: (1) A Digital Photographic and Scanned Record & Researching a photo album: (2) Documenting the Album and Photographs by Brett Payne

Researching Roman Catholic Church Records in the U.S. Today, Part I by Deborah Large Fox

California Ancestors: Diverse Heritage, Shared History

Photo Tributes to the CGS Family
Edited by Cathy H. Paris

This month's ancestor photo was submitted by Kathryn Doyle.
I discovered my gg-grandmother, Mary Ann "Mollie" Briggs (1848-1880), on the very first census record I ever found, using Soundex film in the "old days" before census images came online. She became lost from our family in just two generations - my grandmother didn't know even the first names of either of her father's parents - only where they had lived. The "Health" column on the 1880 census form told me why: "Mary A. Briggs," wife of William, had "Typhoid fever." I later learned she died just six weeks later, leaving four children under the age of ten.

Through the power of the Internet and with the help of a Rootsweb Mail list, I connected with a cousin in Florida who informed me that Mary Ann was the daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Ross Glant of McVeytown, Mifflin County, Pennsylvania. She is buried there in the GLANT family plot at Mattawana Cemetery.

Like pieces of a puzzle, an unidentified tintype in Pennsylvania and a labeled (but forgotten) portrait in Texas came together to bring Mollie Briggs back to her family. Now the closing words of her obituary are true again: "Dear sister, thou art gone but not forgotten."

The portrait above is an enhanced and restored image scanned from the tintype.

- Kathryn Doyle

Call For Submissions- Do you have a great family photo that is scanned and ready to be shared? Do you have a wonderful family story and a photo to go with it? If you would like to pay tribute to your ancestor in a future edition of the eNews, please email Cathy Paris and send your image with a brief narrative.
Did you miss these posts in the California Genealogical Society & Library blog?

Book Donation Policy

Member Spotlight: Cath Madden Trindle

Well-Represented at the SCGS Jamboree

The California Nugget, Volume II, Issue 1

Wordless Wednesday: Exhibit Hall Table at Jamboree

Kathryn Doyle, eNews Editor
email me