**September 2011, Vol. 5, No. 9**

**Holiday Hours**

**Library Closed Labor Day Weekend**

The California Genealogical Society Library will be closed Saturday, September 3, 2011, for the holiday weekend. The next **First Saturday Free** will be October 1, 2011.

**A Day to Discover and Celebrate Your Family History**

**Saturday, November 5, 2011, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Hyatt Regency, 5 Embarcadero Center, San Francisco, CA 94111**

Have you registered yet for [Ancestry Day in San Francisco](#)? The "early bird" price ($42) ends October 5, 2011 when the price goes up to $52.

We're hoping to make this San Francisco's largest-ever genealogy event so please help us spread the word. [Download the event flier](#) and share it with your local library, civic group, family and friends.

[Visit our event page](#) and learn more! [Register online](#).

**Last Chance to Register! Classes Begin September 15, 2011**

**Two Sessions: Thursday Afternoons or Tuesday Evenings**

**Oakland Regional Family History Center, 4766 Lincoln Avenue, Oakland, CA**

In celebration of October Family History Month, the Oakland Regional Family History Center (ORFHC) and the California Genealogical Society (CGS) present the fourth annual **Fall Beginning Genealogy Research Series**. Six 1-1/2 hour sessions will teach you the basics. Enrolled students may attend classes on Thursday afternoons (1:00-2:30 p.m.) or Tuesday evenings (7:00-8:30 p.m.)

[Download the class schedule](#) and information flier. [Register online](#).

**September Membership Meeting: Putting Flesh on the Bones with Ron Arons**

**Saturday, September 10, 2011, 1:00 p.m.**

**CGS Library, 2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland, California 94612**

Why limit yourself to simply expanding your family tree by looking for names, dates and places? Beyond the Who, When, and Where, it is possible to explore the far more interesting question: WHY? Learn how to put flesh on your ancestors’ bones from our September speaker, Ron Arons.

Ron's presentation will follow a short membership meeting at 1:00 p.m. [Learn more at the blog](#).
Chasing Your Civil War Ancestors with Jeffrey Vaillant

Saturday, September 17, 2011, 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
CGS Library, 2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland, California 94612

How does one find that Civil War ancestor? What are the steps to take? Where is the information to be found? Come to this class by Jeff Vaillant and find out the answers to these questions and more.

Register online.

Creating Genealogy Timelines with Lavinia Schwarz

Saturday, September 24, 2011, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
CGS Library, 2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland, California 94612

Timelines are a terrific tool for family research. A personal timeline keeps chronological track of the data we find while placing our ancestor in historical and social context. Learn how charting the migrations and life choices of her ancestors has helped Lavinia Schwarz further her genealogy research.

Register online.

Book Repair Workshop Returns!

Saturday, October 8, 2011, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
CGS Library, 2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland, California 94612

Book Repair Committee Chairman Bill O'Neil is back with this popular class. Learn repair techniques by building your own book.

The workshop is limited to ten enrollees. The fee is $25.00 for materials. Reservations are required. Walk-ins not permitted. Register online.

Family History Day at the State Archives

Saturday, October 15, 2011, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
California State Archives, 1020 'O' Street, 4th Floor, Sacramento, CA

President Steve Harris will be heading up a delegation representing CGS at the 13th annual Family History Day.

Learn more.

Identifying and Following up on Clues Your German Ancestor Left Behind

Saturday, October 22, 2011, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
CGS Library, 2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland, California 94612

After rave reviews following her January presentation, Shirley Riemer is returning to CGS. This time Shirley will describe her two-step process for German ancestral research. Limited to forty participants.

Register online.
What Happens to Your Research After You're Gone? with Patricia Burrows

Saturday, October 27, 2011, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
CGS Library, 2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland, California 94612

Legacy Planning usually refers to your will, trusts and medical directives. Have you thought about what is going to happen to your family history research? Patricia Burrow will share some of the things we can do to ensure our family history research is preserved for future generations.

Register online.

In Memoriam

Leroy Edward (Lee) Riordan (1927 - 2011)

Lee Riordan died July 2, 2011, in Monterey. A third generation Californian, Mr. Riordan was a WWII veteran, a U.C. Berkeley alum and the former City Manager of San Leandro. He had been a member of the California Genealogical Society since 2008. His obituary appeared in The Monterey Herald on July 17, 2011.

Judith Stitt Mollica (1941 - 2011)

The society learned of the death of Judy Mollica of Walnut Creek on Saturday, July 20, 2011. Judy was an active volunteer who helped with data entry for membership when the library was located on Telegraph Avenue. She had been a member of the California Genealogical Society since 2002. A memorial will be held in the coming months.

Can You Help?

Volunteers Needed to Serve on the Board of Directors

The 2011 Nominating Committee has been appointed and is seeking nominees for openings on the board of directors. They welcome your suggestions of candidates to serve.

Qualifications: Nominees must be members of the California Genealogical Society.

Time Commitment: The Board of Directors meets monthly on the third Wednesday of every month, at 12 noon.

Please email committee chair Jane Lindsey with your suggestions.

Our Newest Publication

Raking the Ashes: Genealogical Strategies for Pre-1906 San Francisco Research

The Publication/Marketing Committee has created a book site to promote the second edition of Nancy Peterson's guide to circumventing the enormous record loss in the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire.

Visit Raking the Ashes to learn more.
Coming in November

**Save the Dates!**

11/5  Ancestry Day in San Francisco, Hyatt Regency, 5 Embarcadero
11/12 November Membership Meeting: *More Gadgets and Gizmos*, Steve Danko
11/15 RootsMagic Special Interest Group meeting

**Editor's Picks: Suggested Links From the Blogosphere**

- [Evidence](#) by Judy Wilkenfeld
- [Don't Forget the Library of Congress](#) by James Tanner
- "The Help" From My Family Stories by Angela Y. Walton-Raji
- [Using LibraryThing for Genealogy](#) by The Professional Descendant
- [Gold Rush by Sea - Researching Your Ancestor](#) by Kathleen Brandt
- [Innies and Outies](#) by David S. Ferriero, Archivist of the United States
- [Some Thoughts - and Resources - on Scottish Research](#) by Carolyn L. Barkley
- [All I Really Needed to Know about Genealogy I Learned in Kindergarten](#) by Elizabeth O'Neal

**California Ancestors: From Here, There, and Everywhere!**

- [Photo Tributes to the CGS Family](#) by Lorna Wallace

This month, member Anita Wills honors her maternal great-uncle, William Chester Ruth.
William Chester Ruth (1882-1971) was an African-American inventor and community leader in Coatesville, Pennsylvania. He was the son of Samuel Ruth, a prominent farmer and minister in Chester County, Pennsylvania, and the grandson of a white man, Robert Ruth, and a slave woman, Leah Ruth Warner. William opened a machine shop in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania in 1923 where he did metal work and repairs, primarily for Pennsylvania German farmers. Mr. Ruth designed and patented many agricultural devices, most notably his 1928 baler feeder. He also applied his talents to designing and building military equipment. By October of 1950, Ruth was a millionaire, and one of the African Americans featured in Ebony Magazine. He invented a part for the Trident Missile and held the patent on the device for many years. An esteemed community member, he was spiritual leader at the Church of Christ in Ercildoun, where he lived. Great-uncle William was a man who was way ahead of his time!

- Anita L. Wills

Call For Submissions - Are you member with a great family photo to share? If you would like to pay tribute to your ancestor in a future edition of the eNews, please email Lorna Wallace and send your image with a brief narrative.

Did you miss these posts in the California Genealogical Society & Library blog?

Wordless Wednesday

A Genealogy Society First: It's A Girl!

San Francisco Bay Area Genealogy Calendar: September 2011
Published
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