



CaliforniaAncestors.org

California Genealogical Society & Library



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Editor's Note

A Community of Members

We invite you to our quarterly Membership Meeting on Saturday, April 12th. It will be a wonderful time to visit with others -- to meet old friends and to make new ones. Whether you're a regular library visitor, an occasional class attendee, or an active volunteer, we look forward to seeing each and every one of you. Your participation is what makes our community thrive.

The meeting, themed "Finding, Keeping, Sharing Family Photos," begins at noon with a "Bring Your Own" lunch social hour. The discussion about photos will follow, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Be sure to bring your photos (and package with care, especially if they're irreplaceable) and be ready to share your experiences.

See you at the library!

April and May Classes

California Genealogical Society & Library 2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland



Are you new to genealogy or the California Genealogy Society? Take one of our intro classes -- they're **free** to members and non-members -- and learn more about researching family history and making the most of our library's resources.

4/5: [Beginning Genealogy](#) with Dick Rees, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

5/3: [Beginning Genealogy](#) with Diana Wild, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

The 4/26 class, [Seeking City Slickers in Lesser-Known Records](#) with Susan Goss Johnston, is sold out, but it's still worth signing up on the waiting list. When registered attendees cancel, we contact those on that list to fill the open spots.

Featured Library Resource

Hidden Treasures in Our Map Collection



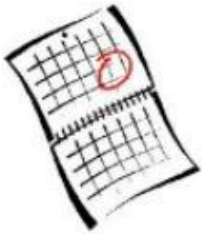
Cartographic materials (maps and atlases) are collected in concert with the rest of our library's collection. Although our map collection is much smaller and less developed than the book and periodical collections, it still contains items of interest to family historians.

Our new Map Librarian, Philip Hoehn, has created a *Guide to Map Call Numbers*. You'll find it on top of the map case. (If you're not sure where that is, ask one of the volunteers at the front desk.)

Philip is also cataloging these materials. You'll soon be able to search for them in the online catalog. Until then, browse through the map case, using the new guide. Who knows what you'll find!

Special Interest Group Meetings and More

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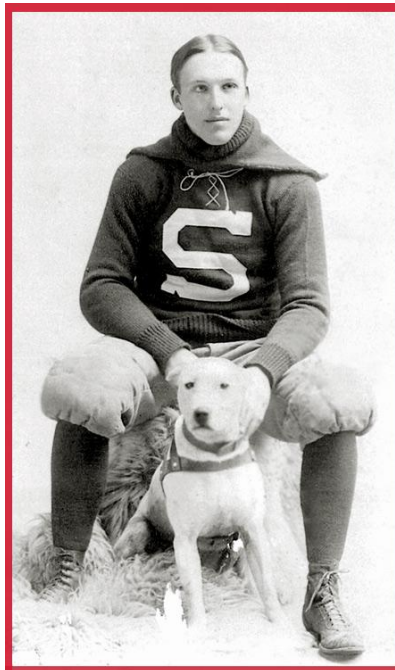


- 4/8: Book Repair Committee, 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- 4/12: Stephen Harris City Directory Library, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- 4/15: RootsMagic Special Interest Group; "Sentence & Source Templates"; 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- 4/19: San Francisco Special Interest Group; "What Record Are You Looking For, and How Do You Find It?"; 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Ancestor Tribute: They Came from Everywhere!

Herbert Straight: Coast to Coast

By Mary Hunt, member since 2009



Herbert Randall Straight

Herbert Randall Straight, born 30 September 1874 in Warren County, Pennsylvania, was the son of Russell James Straight and Sylvania Augusta Shirley. When Herbert was two, his mother died, and he and his sister Edith were sent to live with different relatives. After two years apart, they were reunited and lived with their maternal grandparents, Alfred and Jane M. Shirley, in Niagara Falls, New York. They visited their father in the oil fields of McKean County, Pennsylvania, during the summers.

Herbert attended a high school military academy in upstate New York, and then went to the relatively new Stanford University in Palo Alto, California, from 1893-1897. Edith and his childhood sweetheart Katharine "Kitty" Lois Haskell also attended Stanford during those years. Herbert played varsity football at Stanford, and during his senior year, the team won the Pacific Coast Championship.

After graduation, Herbert returned to Pennsylvania and worked for his father in the family oil business. Herbert married Kitty in 1901 in London, England. They had three children, Lois Haskell Straight, Harriet Randall Straight (my grandmother) and Russell James Straight.

From 1912 until he retired in 1946, Herbert worked in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, for Cities Service, a huge energy company. In 1915, he sited a well which by 1918 was producing 7% of the world's petroleum supply. A few years before retiring, the company named a compressor station near Guymon, Oklahoma, the H.R. Straight Station, in his honor. Herbert Straight died a year before I was born, on 4 May 1963 in Bartlesville, Oklahoma. *(Photo edited by Lorna Wallace.)*

Share your family photo! Send it to [Lorna Wallace](#), along with a short summary about why the ancestor featured is important to you. Photos should be in .jpg format with a file size over 100 kb; photos and text may be edited for space.

Monthly Poll

What Do You Think?



We want to know your thoughts about genealogy-related activities and interests. Vote in our new monthly poll and tell us what's important (or not!) to you.

This month's poll: [Do you attend genealogy conferences outside the Bay Area?](#)

Connect with Us



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