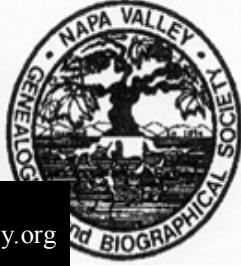


# NAPA VALLEY GENEALOGICAL & BIOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

Genealogical Library  
1701 Menlo Ave.  
Napa, CA 94558  
707-252-2252



# WINEPRESS

## HOURS

Tuesday 10-4 pm

Wed. & Thurs: 10-4pm

1st & 2nd Sat: 10-2pm

# NEWSLETTER

Web Site

[www.napavalleygenealogy.org](http://www.napavalleygenealogy.org)

Other Saturdays as staffing is available.

**PRESIDENT**

Dick Bruechert  
[kbruechert@aol.com](mailto:kbruechert@aol.com)

**VICE PRESIDENT**

**& VOLUNTEER CHAIR**

Vacant

**2ND VICE PRESIDENT**

**& LIBRARIAN**

Sandra Hoover  
[sandrahoover@comcast.net](mailto:sandrahoover@comcast.net)

**NEWSLETTER**

**EDITOR**

NVGBS Staff  
[nvgbs@earthlink.net](mailto:nvgbs@earthlink.net)

**Volume 37**

**No. 4**

**Jul, Aug 2011**

Visit our website at [www.napavalleygenealogy.org](http://www.napavalleygenealogy.org)

## CALENDAR

July 12, & 26, 2011, (2nd & 4th Tue.) **Family History Writing Group**, noon, at NVGBS Library, *No meetings in July*

July 9, 2011, (2nd Sat) **Genealogy Software Group**, *No meeting, off for Summer*

July 11, 2011, (2nd Mon) **BOARD MEETING**, 2pm NVGBS Library

July 21, 2011, NVGBS Program at 7:30p Senior Center.....

Aug 13, 2011 (2nd Sat) **Genealogy Software Group**, *No meeting, off for Summer*

Aug 8, 2011, (2nd Mon) **BOARD MEETING**, 2pm NVGBS Library

Aug 9, & 23, 2011 **Family History Writing Group**, noon, at NVGBS Library

Aug 18, 2011, NVGBS Wine Drawing and Social , 6:30p Senior Center

Aug 26, 2011, **WinePress deadline**, articles to Editor, email articles or drop off in editors box at library.

## Napa Valley Genealogy Society's UPCOMING PROGRAMS

### Mark your calendars

**July 21, 2011 Napa County Historical Society** Our speaker will be Jules Evans-White the Research and Volunteer coordinator at the Historical Society. She will be telling us all about the activities and work being done at the Historical Society. It should be an interesting program and we hope that you will be able to attend. Senior Center, Thursday, evening 7:30 PM 1500 Jefferson, Napa, CA

### **Aug 18, 2011 Annual Wine Drawing and Social**

August is the Napa Genealogy Society's annual Wine Drawing and Raffle. The festivities will begin at 7:00 PM and members are requested to bring an hors d'oeuvres or salad to share. The Society will provide pizza, dessert, and drinks for the event this year. This is a social event and should be a fun time for all.

Senior Center, Thursday, evening 7:00 PM 1500 Jefferson, Napa, CA

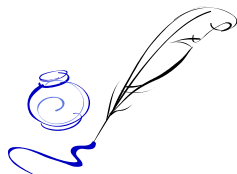
## A Message from our President

Our annual Wine Drawing Fund Raiser will be held on Thursday, August 18, 2011, at the Napa Senior Center. Members should have received their raffle tickets in the mail and we hope that you will be able to participate as this is our only fund raiser for the year. Raffle tickets are \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00, the same as last year. The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM at the Senior Center. We are asking members to bring a salad or hors d'oeuvres and the Society will provide pizza, drinks and a dessert. This should be another enjoyable social evening. The first prize is 50 bottles of Napa Valley Wines and there are several other prizes in the raffle. We will also be selling raffle tickets at the Wine Train Station and volunteers are needed for this. A sign-up sheet is available at the Library for working at the Wine Train Station. We hope you will be able to support our annual fund-raising effort.

We have some openings on the Board of Directors for Program Chairperson and Volunteer Chairperson. If anyone is interested in serving in one of these positions on the Board of Directors, please contact me or any member of the Board.

*Dick Bruechert,*

*NVGBS President*



### “ NOTICE “

NVGBS Library  
*Correction*

Our library will be getting new carpeting, sometime in July. The library will be closed for installation. A notice will be sent out to all members regarding the dates of closure.

If you are planning to visit the library in July call the library at 707-252-2252 to make sure it is open.

*Genealogy without documentation is Mythology*

## *Jabber from Janice*



### Blogging for Genealogy

Informative web log, aka blog, [ancestryinsider.blogspot.com](http://ancestryinsider.blogspot.com) is the "unofficial, unauthorized view of Ancestry.com and FamilySearch.org. The Ancestry Insider reports on, defends, and constructively criticizes these two websites and associated topics. The author attempts to fairly and evenly support both." (as per the site disclaimer). The author worked for both sites and now shares some insight. You may check in at the website or subscribe to get an e-mailed edition. The one I just perused contained examples of internet citation for documenting our research as well as a critical look at the Social Security Death Records. Both articles were quite helpful.

Another website that offers a variety of informative options is Lisa Louise Cooke's Genealogy Gems found at the [www.genealogygems.tv](http://www.genealogygems.tv) website. I have subscribed to her podcasts listening to them on my iPod for over a year. But, of course, just investigating Lisa's website is quite fun. Many of her offerings are free, such as her blog and the podcasts, but some require a "premium membership," which I have not investigated. She is a "local" from the Pleasanton area and is a popular speaker at conferences. I have heard some of her live conference podcasts (made me wish I was there!).

Happy hunting! Janice

[jancoxbrown@yahoo.com](mailto:jancoxbrown@yahoo.com)

**ATTENTION!!**  
**CHANGE IN MEMBERSHIP DUES**  
**EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY**

*The NVGBS board of directors decided to change the membership dues structure to July 1 to June 30.*

All members whose dues expired January through June 2011 will have a renewal date of July 1, **2012**.

**ALL JULY 2011 TO DECEMBER RENEWAL DATES ARE DUE**  
**JULY 1, 2011 AND EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2012.**

July renewal dates remain the same.

August renewal dates will be due July 1, 2011 at the rate of \$23.

September renewal dates will be due July 1, 2011 at the rate of \$21.

October renewal dates will be due July 1, 2011 at the rate of \$19.

November renewal dates will be due July 1, 2011 at the rate of \$17.

December renewal dates will be due July 1, 2011 at the rate of \$15.

New members joining after July 2011 will pay \$2 per month for single membership and \$3 per month for family membership until July 2012 when the dues will be \$25 per year for a single membership and \$40 for a family.

## MEMBERSHIP DUES

### Please see if your name is on this list

The library is changing its dues structure to make my job and the treasurer's job a little easier. It should also reduce the amount of paperwork and postage spent. Once June 2012 rolls around, dues should be received from everyone at one time. **All dues for the remaining of the year are due July 1, 2011.**

In the meantime, there are many members who owe for May and June at the rate of \$25, and as of June 27, I have not received a check (or cash) from the following:

Skip and Jean Keyser, Kay Arnold, Rose Clark, Kim Farmer, Betty Jean Harvego, Darlene Hoffmark, Cheri Kluever, Sharon Marangoni, James Moore, Paula Norton, Thomas Quinn, Patricia Renait, Diane Sarant, Judy Syllenskog, Arlene Stark-Pettet, Danda Winford, Janice Brown, Cheryl Jones, Loretta McDonald, Duane Murray, Mary and Sally Perkins, Jennifer Pina, Karen Scriven, and Jerome and Pat Miller.

### For the remainder of 2011

By now you have probably realized that all members are getting a discounted membership rate for one year. If you have a family membership and your math skills are good, please double the amount of your discount (see below) and subtract that from \$40 to establish your dues for this time period.

July – the usual \$25 or \$40 family rate: Barbara & Arthur Allen, Melcena Carrell, Joy Firtell, Anna Gentile, Nancy Gilien, Donald Houghton, Opal Meyers, Maxine Williams.

August, \$23 – Dorothy Breitenstein, L Burton & Nancy Mahoney, Kathleen Ransford, Patricia Salyer, Charles & Janet Shearer, Norma Tracy, Chris Burditt, Karen Burzdak, Eric Giboney, Lynne Harrington-Bullock, Joanna Mills, Louise Throop, Hope Turgeon.

September, \$21 – Carol Kilby, Michael Shaw, Sheridan & Jennifer Shields, Gwen Spuehler, Lois Watson, Tada Lyons Darsie, Madeline Vavricka.

October, \$19 – David & Anita Cummings, Constance Kay, Roberta & Glenn Mattila, Margaret Mckenzie, Barbara Lynn Smith, Phyllis Boyson, Jeanette Doxsee, Bente Shoar, Bob & Dorothy Streich.

November, \$17 – Joan Barber, Marilyn Buschini, Mike Hardester, Samuel & Cheryl Jones, Jeanine Layland, Barbara Miller, Norma Neil, Marjorie Norman, Jack Oliveres, David Page, Martah Ricii, Agatha Thomas, Dot Varland, Roy & Mignon Wagner, Marie Wood, Julie Yocum, DAR Library.

December – none

Please direct any specific questions to Karen Burzdak at [karenb@napanet.net](mailto:karenb@napanet.net) or call 707/326-0919.



## Overview of the “Oregon Trail”

The Oregon Trail is a 2,000-mile (3,200 km) historic east-west wagon route that connected the Missouri River to valleys in Oregon and locations in between. It flourished from the 1840s until the coming of the railroad at the end of the 1860s. The trip on foot took four to six months. It was the oldest of the northern commercial and emigrant trails and was originally discovered and used by fur trappers and traders in the fur trade from about 1811 to 1840. In its earliest days, much of the future Oregon Trail was not passable to wagons but was passable everywhere only to men walking or riding horses and leading mule trains. By 1836, when the first Oregon wagon trains were organized at Independence, Missouri, the trail had been improved so much that it was possible to take wagons to Fort Hall, Idaho. By 1843 a rough wagon trail had been cleared to The Dalles, Oregon, and by 1846 all the way around Mount Hood to the Willamette Valley in the state of Oregon. What became called the Oregon Trail was complete even as improved roads, "cutouts", ferries and bridges made the trip faster and safer almost every year.

After 1840 steam-powered riverboats and steamboats traversing up and down the Ohio, Mississippi and Missouri rivers sped settlement and development in the flat region from the Appalachian mountains to the American Rocky Mountains. The boats serviced the jumping off points for wagon trains that crossed the mountains headed to rich farmlands in Oregon and California. With disputes with Spain and Britain settled by 1848, the new lands proved highly attractive. Getting there by sea meant either a very long trip around South America or through Panama—both were expensive and dangerous and took longer than walking.

The eastern part of the Oregon Trail spanned part of the future state of Kansas and nearly all of what are now the states of Nebraska and Wyoming. The western half of the trail spanned most of the future states of Idaho and Oregon. From various "jumping off points" in Missouri, Iowa or Nebraska, the routes converged along the lower Platte River Valley, near Fort Kearny, Nebraska Territory. Small steamboats carrying fur traders navigated the Missouri River up to the Yellowstone River in Montana as early as 1832. Larger steamboats traveling much above St. Joseph were blocked until dredging opened a bigger channel in 1852.

Cont. on next pg.

## Overview of the “Oregon Trail” cont.

Oregon Trail travelers could purchase repairs, new supplies, fresh teams and help from fort-trading posts such as Fort Kearny and Fort Laramie. Jim Bridger's Fort Bridger and Hudson's Bay Company owned: Fort Hall and Fort Boise in Idaho; Fort Nez Perces (Fort Walla Walla) in Oregon and Fort Vancouver in Washington. Other supplies, fresh teams and repairs could often be obtained from temporary trading posts and ferries set up by entrepreneurs along the trail during the traveling season. From the early to mid 1830s, but especially after the organization of the first large wagon trains in Independence, Missouri in 1841 and through the epoch years 1846–1869 the Oregon Trail and its many offshoots was used by about 400,000 settlers, ranchers, farmers, miners, and businessmen and their families. The eastern half of the trail was also used by travelers on the California Trail (from 1843), Bozeman Trail (from 1863), and Mormon Trail (from 1847) which used many of the same eastern trails before turning off to their separate destinations.

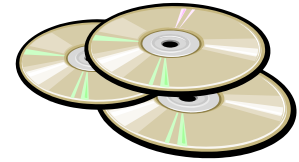
Once the first transcontinental railroad by the Union Pacific and the Central Pacific was completed in 1869, the use of this trail by long distance travelers fell off because the train took seven days and at \$69 was much cheaper. Travelers going to Oregon could take the train to California and catch a coastal steamer to Oregon. By 1883 the Northern Pacific Railroad had reached Portland, Oregon, and thereafter there were less and less wagon trains each year along the western trail. The legacy persisted as highways such as Interstate 80 followed the same course westward and passed through towns originally established to service the Oregon Trail.

To complete the journey in one traveling season most travelers left in April to May—as soon as there was enough grass for forage for the animals and the trails dried out. To meet the constant need for water, grass, and fuel for campfires the trail followed various rivers and streams across the continent. The network of trails required little initial preparation to be made passable for wagons. People using the trail traveled in wagons, pack trains, on horseback, on foot, and sometimes by raft or boat to establish new farms, lives, and businesses in the Oregon Country.

Source: Wikipedia.org

## **Volunteer Opportunities Abound**

- ◆ Staffing opportunity at the Library. 10 am-1 pm shift or 1 pm-4 pm shift once a month. Meet new people and learn about your library. Training provided. Call the library at 252-2252 and speak to the staff on duty.
- ◆ Volunteer your expertise in an area of your choice to help with questions or e-mail. Leave an e-mail for the Staff at [nvgbs@earthlink.net](mailto:nvgbs@earthlink.net)
- ◆ Help out at the Library with shelving or special projects. Call the Library (252-2252) and leave a message. Help is always needed.



## Publications of the Napa Valley Genealogical and Biographical Society

<b>Computer CD's</b> (in MS Word and RTF Formats)		
<b>Napa County Cemeteries</b>		
Volume 1 – <b>Lower Napa Co.</b> Cemeteries & Index: Napa Memorial Gardens, Tulocay (index only), Napa State Hospital, Stephen Broadhurst, Partrick, God's Acre, Indian Burial Grounds, Perry Burial Site, Wood Family Burial Grounds, Christian Brothers	One CD	\$25.00
Volume2 – <b>Middle Napa Co.</b> Cemeteries and Index: St. Helena Catholic, St. Helena Public, Monticello, Bradshaw, Grace Episcopal, Wragg Canyon, Wooden Valley, Capell Valley, Martinelli, Los Pasadas (does not include the Calif. Veterans' Home	One CD	\$25.00
Volume 3 – <b>Upper Napa Co.</b> , Cemeteries and Index: Pioneer, Bothe, Cyrus Family, Earl Wilms Property, Duvall, Biter Burial Ground, Lommel Road	One CD	\$25.00
All Volumes of Napa County Cemeteries and Indexes	One CD	\$60.00
<b>The Great Register of Napa County, 1880-1894:</b> substituting for the 1890 Census includes (when given) name, age, nativity, registration date, occupation, naturalization place and date, & residence	3 Vol- umes	\$35.00
<b>BOOKS -Soft cover</b>		
<b>Index of Births Registered in Napa Co. through 1905</b> – includes sex, year born, page number of the county recorders record book	53 pages	\$6.45
<b>Napa County Tax Assessment Records Index, 1884-1893</b> – includes name, rd. district, year and page # of book & microfilm pages (located at Society Library) Vol. 1 incl. A-Z, Vol. 2 incl.A-Leg, Vol. 3 incl Leg-Z	478 pages	\$52.00
<b>Cemetery Inscriptions, Napa County, St. Helena Public Cemetery, Vol. 1 Office Records</b>	184 pages	\$21.50
<b>Cemetery Inscriptions, Napa County, George Yount Cemetery, Yountville</b> incl. information from old Cemetery Assoc. ledger. Indexed.	56 pages	\$7.00
<b>Cemetery Inscriptions, Napa County: Stephen Broadhurst, Partrick and Redwood Cemeteries</b> , Indexed	20 pages	\$3.25
<b>Cemetery Inscriptions, Napa County, Pope Valley, Monticello, Wragg Canyon, Capell Valley and Wooden Valley Cemeteries</b> , Indexed	41 pages	\$5.40
<b>Cemetery Inscriptions, Napa County, Pioneer and Bothe Cemetery</b> , Calistoga, includes information from old Pioneer Cemetery ledger. Indexed.	30 pages	\$4.00
<b>Cemetery Inscriptions, Napa County, Holy Cross Cemetery</b> , St. Helena. Indexed	47 pages	\$6.00
<b>Cemetery Inscriptions, Napa County, Napa Valley Memorial Gardens</b> , Napa. Indexed	82 pages	\$10.00
<b>Funeral Home Records of W.F. Mercier Permelee of St. Helena, Napa County</b> , pages are copies of the original sheets c1920's. Indexed	219 pages	\$27.00

## Genealogy Resources

- ◆ Library of Virginia: Military Records and Resources—This site has a single purpose: allowing you to search military documents, including payrolls and pension records. Serving more as an informational hub than a database itself, this site prominently features useful search engines and collection guides to help in your genealogical research. [www.lva.virginia.gov](http://www.lva.virginia.gov)
- ◆ Louisiana State Archives: Genealogy and History Section—An utterly no-frills site, these archives are invaluable for those researching ancestors in Louisiana. This site requires no subscription or other forms of registration, allowing you to search immediately! [www.sos.louisiana.gov](http://www.sos.louisiana.gov)
- ◆ New York State Archives: Where History Goes on Record—This site focuses on military service persons, allowing you to search by regiment, specialty, and race. In addition to these searchable archives, the site provides countless pages of information on the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, World War I and more. [www.archives.nysed.gov](http://www.archives.nysed.gov)

### Call Before Visiting our Library

Sometimes we are short on library staffers. We recommend that you call the library before you visit to make sure a staffer is on duty. Library phone # 707-252-2252

## Napa Valley Genealogical & Biographical Society

1701 Menlo Ave. Napa, California 94558 707-252-2252

*Please return this with your dues payment by the 15th of the month.*

- |                                                    |                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single Membership-\$25.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life Membership, single – \$300.00                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family/Joint – \$40.00    | <input type="checkbox"/> Life Membership, Family/Joint – \$500.00                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Out of State – \$15.00    | <input type="checkbox"/> Junior – \$15.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Patron – \$75.00 |

### Check one box below:

- I am renewing my membership    I am a new member    I am a past member

**Include only changes/corrections in your address, email or telephone**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for your ongoing support. We appreciate our members.**



## Calendar of Upcoming Events of Interest

**Sept 7-10, 2011** **FGS 2011 Conference: Pathways to the Heartland** A Conference for the Nation's Genealogists with local host The Illinois State Genealogical Society. Will be held at the Prairie Capital Convention Center, Springfield, Illinois. For more information go to [www.fgs.org/2011conference](http://www.fgs.org/2011conference).

To learn more about Springfield, Illinois go to [<visit-springfieldillinois.com>](http://visit-springfieldillinois.com)

**Oct 7-8, 2011** **Northern California Family History Expo:** Held at the San Mateo County Event Center, 2495 S. Delaware Street San Mateo, California. For more information go to <http://fhexpos.com>

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Napa Valley Genealogical and Biographical Society  
1701 Menlo Ave.  
Napa, CA 94558