

MARIN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

July 2017

SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Mailing Address: Post Office Box 1511, Novato, CA 94948-1511
Meetings: LDS Church, 220 North San Pedro Road, San Rafael
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MARK YOUR CALENDAR 2017

July 19: Writing Group 10:30 a.m.
July 27: MCGS General Meeting 7:00 p.m.
August 5: MCGS Breakfast, Star Restaurant, 9 a.m.
August is our MCGS Vacation!
September 21: DNA Group 7:00 p.m.

Writing Group Meeting July 19, 2017, 10:30 a.m. FHC LDS Church, San Rafael

Some people come early to work on their genealogy at the Family History Center. Bring your writings to share. Haven't yet written anything? Start TODAY! Not sure how you want to write your story? We will discuss different possibilities. For details, see the website or contact [Susan Trumbull](#) or [Shirley Hudson](#).

DNA Group News

There will be no DNA Group meeting during July or August. At our next meeting on September 21st, we will have a Q & A session and then discuss our topic, *"Introduction to Using GEDmatch."* In the meanwhile, please visit the [DNA Group Page](#) to peruse some immensely useful resources!

MCGS General Meeting July 27, 2017, 7:00 p.m. FHC LDS Church, San Rafael Topic: Erin Lacey presents *"Blogging Your Genealogy"*

Creating a blog can help break down brick walls and lay down some serious cousin bait at the same time. Please visit [this page](#) on the MCGS site!

Saturday Breakfast, August 5, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

MCGS members and all beginners are invited for breakfast at 9:00 on the first Saturday each month at **Star Restaurant**, 1700 Novato Boulevard, Novato.

"Beginning Genealogy with Jeff (Jeffrey Vaillant)" at San Rafael Public Library Meeting Room, every 2nd Tuesday, from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Please visit [SRPL Events page](#) for details!

UPCOMING EVENTS

The San Francisco Bay Area Genealogy Calendar blog, at <http://sfbagenealogy.blogspot.com/>, is a comprehensive listing of genealogical happenings throughout the Bay Area – a very useful resource!

East Bay Genealogical Society Meeting

EBGS holds their regular meeting the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Oakland FamilySearch Library, 4666 Lincoln Avenue, Oakland. Their next meeting will take place on Wednesday, August 9, 2017. Visit the [EBGS](#) site for more info!

Sonoma County Genealogical Society

The [SCGS](#) will meet on Saturday, July 15, 2017, at the Santa Rosa Finley Center, Cypress Room, 2060 West College Avenue, Santa Rosa. The program will begin with a Potluck at Noon, followed by a live webinar from Thomas MacEntee entitled *"What's Been Done—Using Someone Else's Genealogy Research"* from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society (SFBAJGS) invites you to *"Bring Your Own Brick Wall"* on Sunday, July 16, 2017, 1:00 p.m., when they meet at Oakland FamilySearch Library, 4766 Lincoln Avenue, Oakland. For other news from SFBAJGS, visit their website, <http://www.jewishgen.org/sfbajgs/>.

California Genealogical Society (CGS)

Caribbean Cruise with “The Genealogy Guys”

This 7-day genealogy cruise, from February 11-18, 2018, is a first for CGS and will include visits to three islands. For details, please see the California Genealogical Society website:

<http://www.californiaancestors.org/>

Marin Mystery Location: Can you identify this Marin location? How closely can you guess the year of the photograph? **The answers are on the last page.** (Photo courtesy of Anne T. Kent California Room, Marin County Free Library.)



OTHER NEWS

**FamilySearch to Discontinue
Microfilm Distribution**

The FamilySearch Library in Salt Lake City has been long in the process of digitizing the bulk of their resource media, in order to preserve the information they contain and to make those resources more widely accessible online. Many of us have benefitted already from these efforts by FamilySearch. Microfilm distribution orders can still be made until August 31st, after which microfilms not yet digitized may be viewed at Family History centers that continue to maintain microfilm collections. FamilySearch hopes to complete their digitization of microfilms in 2020. Please read the article “[Family History Microfilm Discontinuation](#)” on the LDS website!

The National Library of Wales has launched a new website, [Welsh Journals Online](#)! It contains over 1.2 million digitized pages from over 450 Welsh journals from the years 1735-2007. The journals

are in Welsh and English language and are available free to search or browse with remote access. You can check the box to limit your search to either Welsh language or English language only publications. You can browse by year, decades, title and editions. The titles range from academic and scientific publications to literary and popular magazines.

Meet the Member – VICKIE SETTLE!



My name is Vickie Lynn Flieger Settle. My maiden name was Flieger, a German name--a name I never liked as I was growing up because it was always mispronounced and misspelled.

I was born in late June, 1946 in Greeley, Colorado, I'm sure exactly 9 ½ months after my father returned from India, where he had been serving for 1 ½ years during World War II. My mother, Shirley Mae Hill, was born in Evans, Colorado, just outside of Greeley, and my father, Robert Sterling Flieger, was born in Denver. Both sides of my family had been in Colorado for 2 – 3 generations before I was born.

I am a relative newcomer to Genealogy, compared to the people I see and hear from at the MCGS meetings. In 1987, I attended a four-evening class in genealogy at Santa Rosa Junior College in Sonoma County and came away with a thick folder of materials, but there was not today's Internet to use for research, so all my notes and resources were on how to research ancestors at libraries. At that time, the only family history materials I had were 3 pages of hand-written and typed notes about my paternal grandparents' families that I had been given by my paternal grandmother, Julia Harriet Schwieso. As many before me have regretted, I wish I would have asked for more about the family histories of both of my

grandmothers and the one grandfather I knew, but I believe my paternal grandmother, who died in 1986, did give me what she had because she knew I was interested in genealogy, even that long ago. After those first classes, kids and work and life took over and I didn't do much genealogy work for years and years.

I moved from Sonoma County to Marin in late 2011 and joined MCGS in April 2015 when I decided to renew my research in my family history. Initially, my interest was to learn more about my maternal great-grandmother, Lillian Burgess. Her sad story is one I feel I've always known about, though I can't really remember when I first heard it, I'm sure from my own mother. Lillian was married at age 17 to a man 9 years older, my great-grandfather Simon Hill. She had a son in 1896 at age 19, my maternal grandfather, Elbert Ray Hill. She ran away with another man some time after that, was divorced in 1902 and committed suicide in 1905. I don't know the exact sequence of all those events, except for her birth year, her marriage and birth of my grandfather, but apparently Simon Hill refused to take her back as his wife at some point. I do know she is buried in the Burgess family plot in Loveland, Colorado. As a psychotherapist, I am interested in the psychological effects of that family story on subsequent generations, about which I do plan to write.

I have not been able to find out much more than those basic facts about that great-grandmother, but my research since has taken me on some intriguing journeys into the world of genealogy, frankly an obsessive interest, as I keep "chasing after the bright shiny objects" I discover online about my family history. (I believe I owe Jeff Vaillant - SCGS & MCGS - credit for that great way of describing the hours I find myself spending on my computer!).

I have found a long-ago grandfather, John Henry (Johann Heinrich) Fliieger Sr., who came from Germany to fight for the British in the Revolutionary War. In 1783, he went to Nova Scotia, fathered subsequent Fliieger grandfathers until my great-grandfather, Sterling Neil Fliieger, somehow got himself to Colorado and married Florence Millikin, whose father was Robert Millikin, the first mayor of Golden, Colorado.

I have another long-ago grandfather, John Christian Burgess, Sr., who was reportedly another hired (conscripted?) Hessian soldier with the British Army in the Revolutionary War, but who deserted

and, after hiding out for a while, joined a Rhode Island regiment to fight for the Revolutionary cause. My grandmother's handwritten notes included the story of an English Baron, Thomas Archer, who had a daughter who married a man named Faulkner, who then had a daughter, who married John Henry Fliieger, Sr. in Nova Scotia. I have not been able to trace any of the information about such a Baron Archer, so it seems that, alas, I am probably not related to English nobility after all. Rats!

There are other long-ago family members I have found, though I know I am in early stages yet because I am still making sure I can verify what I find. I have been able to go back 6-7 generations on a few family lines. I also have, at this point, 14 Ancestry DNA circles, so I'm needing to/having to/trying to understand DNA and how to use it in my genealogy research.

Happy hunting! See you at a meeting!

NEW MEMBER!

We welcome our new member, Angela Vazquez from Shawnee, Kansas!!

BLOG SPOT

Lisa Louise Cooke has recently posted on her blog, Genealogy Gems, an immensely useful article on [3 Top Uses for the New MyHeritage Collection Catalog!](#) In addition, Lisa's posting for June 30th provides details about some [New Digital Archives for Genealogy](#). The Genealogy Gems blog is frequently updated and is always worth a look!

In Randy Seaver's blog *Genea-Musings*, he recently offered a detailed response to anyone who has ever wondered what is the best way to [Save Your Genealogy Work](#). Even for those of us who already have a system, he has some enlightening suggestions!

Randy Seaver has also posted the latest news about the upcoming [Family Tree Maker 2017!](#)

Family History Fanatics has posted a "Beginner Basics" article with advice about the first four questions that should be answered at the start of family-history research, in order to [Discover What Has Been Done](#) already by others. You don't have to be a beginner to pick up some useful tips from this article!

MORE BLOGS

Dick Eastman's Daily Online Genealogy Newsletter has a recent posting about [using the Internet Archive](#), also known as the WayBack Machine, to find books on Genealogy, Family History, and Local History books -- an essential research tool!

Calling all fellow fans of Historical Fiction! Kitty Cooper has posted some ideas for [Summer Reading](#) for those of us who love to explore our ancestors' worlds through fiction, particularly if your family has a Norwegian background! This blog posting includes a short review of a nonfiction book about Scandinavian DNA that she recommends!

Speaking of DNA, Kitty Cooper has also recently posted about [Using Ancestry DNA Hints](#) to Prove and Disprove Ancestors!

Another excellent blog posting about using DNA for genealogy has been written by Amy Johnson Crow, in which she recounts some [Tips from Blaine Bettinger](#), the Genetic Genealogist. Along with Blaine's list of tips, Amy includes a video interview with Blaine!

Historiography is "the study of historical writing," and serious genealogists engage in quite a bit of historiographical work. For Independence Day, J. L. Bell posted a thought-provoking piece on [The Declaration as Historiography](#) on his scholarly--yet highly readable--blog, *Boston 1775*.

Are you struggling with research for your Irish Genealogy? Donna Moughty's blog, *Donna's Irish Genealogy Resources* can help! Her answer to frustrations caused by fires that destroyed Irish records, most notably census records, is to search [Irish Census Substitutes](#)--the subject of one of her recent postings. Her entire blog is worth a look!

Genealogy blog "junkies" can find many more resources, including newsgroups, media reports, search engines, and webcasts, both audio and video, at the [Blogs for Genealogy](#) page on Cyndi's List!

Another useful blog-search resource is [Genealogy Blog Finder](#), which has an immensely useful search function that can help you locate blogs by subject, region, or even surnames!

Solution to the July 2017 Mystery Location:

San Francisco ferries seen here circa 1894, docked in Sausalito, Marin County, with commuters and excursionists alike. Travel time was approximately 30 minutes from San Francisco. From there, passengers could board the North Pacific Coast Railroad as seen in photograph. The NPCRR was a narrow gauge railroad which served Marin County towns before traveling north to Cazadero, California. In addition to passengers, the NPCRR also carried redwood lumber, local dairy and agricultural products, and express mail. The railroad became the North Shore Railroad in 1902, then the Northwestern Pacific Railroad in 1908. Each change in ownership greatly expanded the railroads' footprint in Northern California.

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Genealogy is the art
of immortalising
everyday people.

