



The Digger

Mt. Diablo Genealogical Society

February 2021



A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

Dear Seekers for Ancestors,

After having lived in Southern California for about 40 years, only a few miles from Burbank, where one of the largest genealogy convention, **Southern California Jamboree**, was held and I never took advantage of that three day event. Of course, that was before I had the time or inclination to get into Genealogy. Now that we are forced to do everything online, we can access these major genealogical events from our homes for free and without having to drive anywhere. I am looking forward to “attending” the **RootsTech** conference on February 25, 26th and 27th. For details see last month’s Digger or go to rootstech.org.

Signing up is easy and you can pick and choose what you want to watch. Happy viewing!

Margaret Ready, President

(see page 2 for link to sign up for RootsTech)

2021 UPCOMING ZOOM MEETINGS:

Watch for your email with the link to join the Zoom meeting.

February 19, 2021 Kathryn Marshall

“Internet Archive and the Wayback Machine”



The Internet Archive is a non-profit online library of millions of free books, movies, music, software, websites and more. As of January 2021, it holds over 28 million books and texts, 8.4 million movies, videos and tv shows, and much more. The Wayback Machine is a service of the Internet Archive that allows archives of the world wide web to be searched and accessed; it contains hundreds of billions of web captures. Come learn what the Internet Archive and Wayback Machine are, how you can use them in your genealogy research, and how they will help you. If you haven't used them before, you'll be glad about what this lecture will teach you!



Kathryn Marshall holds a PhD in Psychology from UC Berkeley, where for eight years she taught about the relationship of beliefs, attitudes and behavior. Kathryn is a frequent speaker at conferences and county historical society workshops. She served at the Lodi Family History Center for 16 years, 14 years as its Director. Kathryn’s curriculum augmentation book, *Discovery of California Gold*, is distributed to elementary school teachers throughout the state. She has written biographical sketches of pioneers and interpretive panels for museum exhibits, edited historical reference books, and published maps of the transportation networks between the Great Salt Lake Basin and California. After years of painstaking research, Kathryn is writing a history of the first shipload of American families to reach California after the Bear Flag Revolt. These fleeing refugees became the surprising transformers of Yerba Buena into the vibrant city of San Francisco.

March 19, 2021 Janice Sellers

“Irish Research Online”

Spotlighting Other Societies

Contra Costa County Genealogical Society Zoom Meeting & Time: 6:30 – 8 p.m. 2nd Thursday

11 FEB 2021 Nancy Lee “Think Like an Archivist & Archive Genealogy”

11 MAR 2021 Dr. Jan Joyce “Creative Hypothesis Development for Complex Genealogy Problems”

8 APR 2021 Mark McLaren “Review of DNA Testing Company Differences & Tools”

13 MAY 2021 Business Meeting & Show & Tell

10 JUN 2021 Madeline Yanov “Coming to America: The Ellis Island Experience”

To Register go to CCCGS Events Page

If you are interested go to CCCGS Events page <https://cccg.net/eventListings.php?nm=47>

San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society Zoom Meeting Tues. 10-12

16 FEB 2021 Kathryn Marshall “Researching the War of 1812 Records”

If you would like to be a guest at this Zoom meeting please email President, [Steve Watty](mailto:Steve.Watty@srvgensoc.org) at president@srvgensoc.org <president@srvgensoc.org>

Genealogy Society of Vallejo-Benicia Zoom Meetings held Thurs. 1:30 p.m.

4 FEB 2021 Jim Kern “Vallejo Neighborhoods”

Please contact us at 707-334-0675 or President@gsvb.org if you are interested in attending our ZOOM meeting.

Livermore-Amador Genealogy Society Zoom Meetings Monday at 7:00 p.m.

8 MAR 2021 Susan G Johnston “The Records Behind the WWI Draft Registration”

12 APR 2021 Gena Philibert-Ortega “10 Databases You Didn’t Know Were on Ancestry.com”

10 MAY 2021 TBA

14 JUN 2021 Ralph Severson “Family Search Sources”

Guests contact [Tom Mathews](mailto:Tom.Mathews@l-ag.org) at program@L-AGS.org

Solano County Genealogical Society Zoom Meetings Sat. at 11:00 a.m.

6 Mar 2021 Brooke Schreier Ganz: “Reclaim the Records”

3 Apr 2021 Stephanie West “Splitville: Divorce Records and All the Hidden Gold Within”

Non-Members – can join us by contacting the society at scgs@scgsca.org no later than 4 pm the day prior to the event.



This year’s board members have agreed to continue their service into 2021. The board also agreed to extend all 2020 memberships through 2021.

Current (2020) Members do not have to pay dues for the coming year!



Don’t miss out on RootsTech 2021, February 25-27.

This year it’s **FREE** and conveniently available on your computer!

To register go to: <https://www.rootstech.org/?lang=eng/>

Other News & Online Resources:

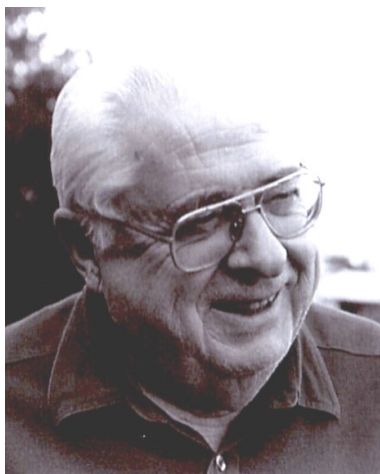
Bay Area Genealogy Calendar <https://www.library.ca.gov/sutro/genealogy/calendar/>

California Genealogical Society <https://www.californiaancestors.org/>

In Memory of a MDGS Past President

John Bedecarre

June 5, 1922 ~ January 13, 2021



John was a leader of the Mt. Diablo Genealogical Society and traveled the country and world with Cathy in quest of more information on their family ancestry while helping so many others do the same. He was so proud of the 900-page family history he published in 2014 with the assistance of genealogist John Maestri. The book is now in genealogy libraries and history centers around the United States.

The Greatest Generation has lost an everyday hero. To honor John, register and vote!

The family says donations in John Bedecarre's name can be made to MDUSD Education Foundation (mdedf.org/donate) or St. Agnes Church Social Justice Committee, 3966 Chestnut Ave., Concord 94519. Due to COVID-19 restrictions a private family interment will be at Holy Cross Cemetery in Colma. There will be a Celebration of Life post pandemic restrictions. You are invited to visit the memorial website www.kudoboard.com/boards/LRA6TsrL.

For the full obituary go to <https://www.ouimetbrothers.com/tributes/John-Bedecarre>



8TH GRADE TEST

Remember when grandparents and great-grandparents stated that they only had an 8th grade education? Well, check this out. Could any of us have passed the 8th grade in 1895?

This is the eighth-grade final exam from 1895 in Salina, Kansas. It was taken from the original document on file at the Smokey Valley Genealogical Society and Library in Salina, and reprinted by the Salina Journal.

8th Grade Final Exam: Salina, KS - 1895

Grammar (Time, one hour)

1. Give nine rules for the use of capital letters.
2. Name the parts of speech and define those that have no modifications.
3. Define verse, stanza and paragraph.
4. What are the principal parts of a verb? Give principal parts of 'lie,' 'play,' and 'run'.
5. Define case; illustrate each case.
- 6 What is punctuation? Give rules for principal marks of punctuation.
- 7 - 10. Write a composition of about 150 words and show therein that you understand the practical use of the rules of grammar.

Arithmetic (Time, 1 hour 15 minutes)

1. Name and define the Fundamental Rules of Arithmetic.
2. A wagon box is 2 ft. Deep, 10 feet long, and 3 ft. Wide. How many bushels of wheat will it hold?
3. If a load of wheat weighs 3,942 lbs., what is it worth at 50cts/bushel, deducting 1,050 lbs. For tare?
4. District No 33 has a valuation of \$35,000. What is the necessary levy to carry on a school seven months at \$50 per month, and have \$104 for incidentals?

Continued

8TH GRADE TEST *Continued*

5. Find the cost of 6,720 lbs. Coal at \$6.00 per ton.
6. Find the interest of \$512.60 for 8 months and 18 days at 7 percent.
7. What is the cost of 40 boards 12 inches wide and 16 ft.. Long at \$20 per metre?
8. Find bank discount on \$300 for 90 days (no grace) at 10 percent.
9. What is the cost of a square farm at \$15 per acre, the distance of which is 640 rods?
10. Write a Bank Check, a Promissory Note, and a Receipt.

U.S. History (Time, 45 minutes)

- 1 Give the epochs into which U.S. History is divided.
2. Give an account of the discovery of America by Columbus.
3. Relate the causes and results of the Revolutionary War.
4. Show the territorial growth of the United States.
5. Tell what you can of the history of Kansas.
6. Describe three of the most prominent battles of the Rebellion.
7. Who were the following: Morse, Whitney, Fulton , Bell , Lincoln , Penn, and Howe?
8. Name events connected with the following dates: 1607, 1620, 1800, 1849, 1865.

Orthography (Time, one hour)

[Do we even know what this is??]

1. What is meant by the following: alphabet, phonetic, orthography, etymology, syllabication?
- 2.. What are elementary sounds? How classified?
3. What are the following, and give examples of each: trigraph, subvocals, diphthong, cognate letters, linguals.
4. Give four substitutes for caret 'u.' (HUH?)
5. Give two rules for spelling words with final 'e.' Name two exceptions under each rule.
6. Give two uses of silent letters in spelling. Illustrate each.
7. Define the following prefixes and use in connection with a word: bi, dis-mis, pre, semi, post, non, inter, mono, sup.
8. Mark diacritically and divide into syllables the following, and name the sign that indicates the sound: card, ball, mercy, sir, odd, cell, rise, blood, fare, last.
9. Use the following correctly in sentences: cite, site, sight, fane, fain, feign, vane , vain, vein, raze, raise, rays.
10. Write 10 words frequently mispronounced and indicate pronunciation by use of diacritical marks and by syllabication.

Geography (Time, one hour)

- 1 What is climate? Upon what does climate depend?
2. How do you account for the extremes of climate in Kansas ?
3. Of what use are rivers? Of what use is the ocean?
4. Describe the mountains of North America
5. Name and describe the following: Monrovia , Odessa , Denver ,Manitoba , Hecla , Yukon , St. Helena, Juan Fernandez, Aspinwall and Orinoco.
6. Name and locate the principal trade centers of the U.S. Name all the republics of Europe and give the capital of each.
8. Why is the Atlantic Coast colder than the Pacific in the same latitude?
9. Describe the process by which the water of the ocean returns to the sources of rivers.
10. Describe the movements of the earth. Give the inclination of the earth.

Notice that the exam took FIVE HOURS to complete.

Gives the saying 'he only had an 8th grade education' a whole new meaning, doesn't it?!

Also shows you how poor our education system has become and,

NO, I don't have the answers!

