



eNEWS JUNE 2017

The monthly eNewsletter (eNews) for the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society (RVGS) and Jackson County Genealogy Library (JCGL) has three sections:

- (1) [Classes and Events both at the library and elsewhere](#)
- (2) [RVGS News of member and society activities](#)
- (3) [JCGL News about our book collection and internet resources](#)

Jackson County Genealogy Library Classes and Events



TO REGISTER IN ADVANCE:

By email: reception.JCGL@gmail.com. By telephone: 541-512-2340. Or stop by the library to register. **Library is open Monday-Saturday, 10 am to 4 pm, open until 9 pm Tuesday.**

Thursday, June 8, 1:30-3 pm.

Irish Interest Group. Bruce McGarvey facilitates this interest group concentrating on Irish history, culture and researching Irish ancestors. Free for members, \$5 for non-members. Register in advance.

Saturday, June 10, 10:30 am-12:30 pm.

Brick Wall Roundtable. Andrea Patterson and Ros Owens will facilitate participant's questions and stumbling blocks in their research with suggestions on how they can break through their brick walls. Free. Register in advance.

Monday, June 12, 9:30 am-noon.

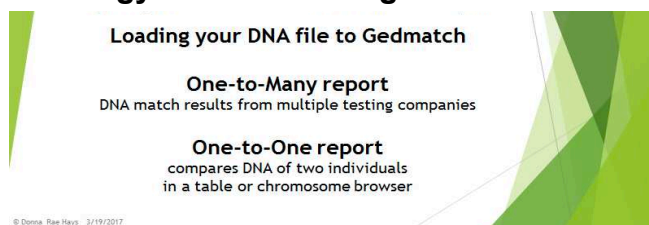
RVGS Board Meeting. Anne Billeter, President.

Monday, June 12, 1-3 pm. DNA Advanced Interest Group. Lorita Cushman facilitates this group who have had their DNA tested and are interested in sharing information about DNA and related topics. Free for members, \$5 for non-members. Register in advance.

Tuesday, June 13, 1:30-3 pm. FTM for PC and Mac users. This group combines the two previous Family Tree Maker user groups into one group to discuss the FTM program and share ideas with each other. Free for members, \$5 for non-members.

Tuesday, June 13, 3:30-5 pm. German Interest Group. Mary Robsman moderates this group of those who are interested in German genealogy, research and culture. Mary will share some of what she found pertaining to Germany at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Free for members, \$5 for non-members. Register in advance.

Wednesday, June 14, 10:30 am-12:30 pm. Genetic Genealogy: Understanding Gedmatch.com. Donna Rae Hays will teach this class designed to help you understand and clarify what Gedmatch.com offers, using tools at Gedmatch.com after you've uploaded your autosomal DNA data, and interpreting the reports. \$10 for members, \$20 for non-members. Register in advance.



Tuesday, June 20, 1:30-3 pm. Program for Public and General Membership Meeting. Please join us for a fun general meeting, especially interesting for fans of JPR radio and the "As It Was" history segments told by the charming Shirley Patton. Not only will Shirley be with us, but the whole "As It Was" crew: Kernan Turner, Alice Mullaly, and Raymond Scully will come to tell us about the history of the show, how we too can write some of those lovely stories, and, perhaps, to tell us some of those stories themselves. Free attendance for everyone.



Monday, June 26, 1-3 p.m. DNA Interest Group (new to subject). Lorita Cushman facilitates this interest group of those who have not yet had their DNA tested or who are beginners. Free for members, \$5 for non-members. Register in advance.

Tuesday, June 27, 1:30-2:30 pm. Quilt and Genealogy Talk. The Furry Double Wedding Ring Quilt. Speaker, Anne Billeter. Who made this Phoenix pioneer family quilt, where has it been and how and why did it return to Jackson County? Free for everyone. Also, raffle drawing for the "Grandmother's Flower Garden" quilt will be at the talk.



A Peek into July

Tuesday, July 4. Library is closed for Independence Day.



LOCAL EVENTS

History Hunt

The Jackson County Heritage Association's fact-finding hunt continues this month. Learn local history and be eligible to win a valuable raffle basket. Do you know the answer to the RVGS question? See the answer posted at the library. Entry form and map are at the reception desk. June 30 is the last day for the hunt. A fun and educational activity for you and the family on a summer day.

Haunted History

Friday, June 2, 7:00, 7:15, 7:30 & 7:45. One-hour walking tour.

Costumed docents tell of Jacksonville's pioneer past that led to ghosts and spirits now inhabiting its saloons, old Chinatown, and "Britt Hill." Tour limited to 15 people. Call for reservations 541-245-3650. Cost is \$5.

Windows in Time:

(Pioneer rancher) *Michael Hanley and His Friends: 1852-1885*,
Speaker, Larry Mullaly.

Wednesday, June 7, 2017, 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm, Medford Library.

Wednesday, June 14, 2017, 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm, Ashland Library.

Grants Pass Genealogical Society

Thursday, June 13, 1:30 pm., meeting at the LDS Church, 1969 Williams Hwy, Grants Pass.

"Understanding the Terms that Define Relationships." Garnet Rigby-Wharton, a frequent speaker in Grants Pass, will discuss the titles given to relatives and explain the different types of cousins we have and how to tell them apart. A short quiz follows the presentation. For more information go to www.gpgs.org This is the last regular meeting until September.

1932 Living History

Saturday, June 24, at 12 pm, 1:30 pm, and 3 pm, visitors are invited to time travel to Depression Era Jacksonville and interact with Beekman family members, relatives and friends. Cornelius Beekman is the most prominent and wealthiest of Jacksonville's pioneers. His family is now closing up their 1873 Jacksonville home, going through family belongings, commenting on current affairs, and sharing memories of life in the late 1800s. The Beekman home is at 470 E. California Street, Jacksonville. Admission: \$8, adults; \$5, seniors/students. For information call 541-245-3650 or email info@historicjacksonville.org.

NATIONAL CONFERENCES

Have family in the Midwest? Pennsylvania relatives? Plan a trip and include a national genealogy conference!



INTERNATIONAL GERMAN
Genealogy Partnership

July 28-30. IGGP Conference is at the Minneapolis Marriot Northwest Hotel in Minnesota. Its theme is "Connections: International, Cultural, Personal." For information visit www.IGGPartner.org



August 30-September 2. FGS 2017 National Conference is in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Its theme is “Building Bridges to the Past.” For information visit www.fgsconference.org

RVGS News

NEW MEMBERS

Halvorsen, Barbara	Arroyo, Sara G. &	Schoonover, Hugh & Susan
Lowden, Curt	Eubanks, Willetta J.	Green, Jeannie
Paul, Rita	Thompson, Torrence	Hubbard, Sherry
Browne, Cheri	Sexton, Bob	Alison, Sandie
Thomas, Debra & Ober, Gary	Rutledge, Ray & Cheryl	Hager, Virginia & Gary
Miles, Linda	Davidson, Robert V.	Foster, Terry
Shoemaker, Susan W.	Fon, Tatiana	Hayes, Rosalie J.
Maloney, Myrna L.	Sturdevent, Evern D.	Szoyka, Mary
Reeds, Alexandria	Boaz, Phillip	
Sleppy, Cynthia	Center, Harold & Jeannette	

REPORT by Anne Billeter, President

Board Action: Voted to continue the Scholarship program grant of \$1,500 for the 2017-2018 school year.

In Progress: Construction has begun in the Meeting Room and Reading Room to prepare for the installation of an acoustic quality accordion door.

Some Recent Statistics:

Annual Fund Drive has reached \$9,850 towards our \$15,000 goal.

Membership is 780.

95 volunteers reported 1,248 volunteer hours in April.

\$190 was received for research.

VIDEOTAPING JCGL PUBLIC PROGRAMS

The Rogue Valley Genealogical Society Board has approved an informal partnership with Southern Oregon University faculty member, Maureen Flanagan Battistella, to videotape and produce digital video for RVGS history and quilt lectures. The Board feels that this partnership and video documentation initiative is an important step in preserving our local heritage and the research that our historians have put into their presentations.

Maureen said the video opening and closing will be customized for RVGS and give viewers the opportunity to learn more about the society and visit the library. While it may take about 6 months to edit and produce the video, when the video is completed, it will be posted to YouTube, broadcast on local community television (Rogue Valley Community Television, RVTV), and also cataloged and indexed through the Southern Oregon University’s digital portal at Hannon Library (Southern Oregon Digital Archives, SODA.) Two DVDs of the video will also be given to the RVGS library for reference and circulation.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Annual Fund Drive Continues

In place of a variety of rummage and bake sales, RVGS holds one main fund raiser each year, our Annual Fund Drive. This year, our budgeted goal is \$15,000. Your generous contribution to the Annual Fund will allow RVGS to keep our membership dues low and assist in covering operating expenses. Membership dues only cover about one-third of our operating expenses. The remaining expenses are covered by monies raised through our Annual Fund Drive and other donations. As an all-volunteer organization, all donations are put into the operation and improvement of the library. No funds are received from any government sources. It is because of YOU that the library has grown to be the largest privately-owned genealogical library between Portland and Sacramento. We hope you will consider making a generous donation(s) to the RVGS Annual Fund campaign this year.

Contributions can be made in two ways, 1) go to www.rvgsociety.org/Donate.html to make a donation online or click on the **Donate Now** link on our Facebook page, or 2) you can drop off a donation or mail a donation to the library at 3405 S. Pacific Hwy, Medford.

All donations are tax deductible as RVGS is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, #93-0684590. If you take Required Minimum Distributions, you can donate all or any part of the distribution directly; send your request to the administrator of your fund. In addition, if you donate a matching amount to the Oregon Cultural Trust, you can receive a tax credit for the ENTIRE amount of your donation (maximum \$1,000 for couple; \$500 single). Just go to www.culturaltrust.org/donate for more details.

A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR ANNUAL FUND DRIVE CONTRIBUTORS!

Vern & Marti Arnold, Karen Asche, Marilyn & Albert Ayres, Colista Bailey, Carolyn Beron, Anne Billeter, Larry & Linda Blower, Diane Brenner, Donna Brewer, Glenn Briggs, Phillip Brobst, Warren & Charleen Brown, Vicki Bryden, Alan Buchta, William & Mary Carlson, Kendall Clarke, Melissa Clarke, Sheila Couey, Carolyn Craig, Carita Culmer, Pam D'Allura, DAR – Crater Lake Chapter, Cara Davis-Jacobson, Chuck & Colleen Eccleston, John & Lorraine Ferrell, Sarah Forbes, Marie & Bryan Jenkins, Michelle Johnson, Elizabeth Kelly, Sheila Kimball, Mary Kwart, Norbert Leiberg, Lynn Leissler, Jim Maize, Patsy Marcy, Vicky & John McGee, Judith Meuser, Barbara Middaugh, Alice & Larry Mullaly, Helaine Noble, Kathie Ordal, Jack & Andrea Patterson, Susan Perham, Wendy & Harry Purslow, Darlyne Reising, Roger Roberts, Dianna Ross, Denise Salthouse, Shirley Shelton, Barbara Shrewsberry, Edna Sims, Doris Sjolund, Vanya Sloan, Pat & Paul Stancel, Chloe Sternola, Janie Stewart, Shirley Stuelpnagel, Linda & Robert Turner, Judith Vaughn, Ruth Wade, Bill Walker, Leona Wobbe, Carol Wolf

REPORT ON FGS [Federation of Genealogical Societies] CONFERENCE

submitted by Andrea Patterson, RVGS Board member and FGS delegate

Judy Russell, JD, CG, CGL, as most of you know, is a fierce advocate for the preservation of records. She spoke recently at the National Genealogy Society [NGS] Conference in Raleigh, North Carolina on "Preserving the past, protecting the future."

Judy provided many examples of what is happening around the country that is hindering access to records researchers have depended on because of the Freedom of Information Act. For example, in some states vital records access has been limited to 125 years, and 100 years after dates of marriages. In Virginia it was only "close relatives" who could access records and now, thanks to FGS that has been changed. However, a great-grandchild restriction law may be surfacing. A new law in North Carolina may be passed that allows only residents of the state to access vital records.

Privacy and state office budget constraints are given as reasons for many changes in the laws. Genealogists share the same vulnerabilities to identity theft and privacy concerns. The genealogy community also supports measures that protect us from identity theft. Common sense needs to be applied to these restrictions.

“The Records Preservation & Access Committee (RPAC) and all state genealogical societies need to continue to support open records in states where the records are open and to advocate lowering the embargo periods for birth, marriage, divorce and death records in other states where possible.”¹ What can we do as members of Rogue Valley Genealogical Society? We can continue our membership to the Federation of Genealogical Societies which acts, in part, as lobbyists for all researchers throughout the U.S. The FGS also provided RVGS with reviews of our websites and by-laws and other society help. This is not a call to action for Oregon as our restrictions of records have remained stable and there is no current legislation to implement changes. [Birth records for 100 years, Death records for 50 years, Marriage and Divorce records for 50 years.] This is information about a national issue and our state’s leadership in supporting those states who are experiencing restrictive changes.

It never hurts to let our leaders know we appreciate their service.

* State Registrar at [Oregon Center for Health Statistics](#), Suite 205, State Office Building, 800 N.E. Oregon St., Portland, OR 97232; 971-673-1190.

* Secretary of Oregon State, Dennis Richardson, oversees these offices. 136 State Capitol, Salem 97310-0722 Phone: 503-986-1523. General Email: Oregon.sos@state.or.us

* The State Historical Records Advisory Board [SHRAB] promotes and supports the identification of, preservation of, and access to all historical records in Oregon. Established in 1934, it is a key watchdog. Seven Members represent Archivists, Librarians, and Heritage Organizations. A good contact for a support letter or email would be: Mary Beth Herkert, State Archivist and SHRAB Coordinator, Oregon State Archives, 800 Summer St. NE, Salem 97310. Phone: 503-373-0701. Email: archives.info@sate.or.us

¹ Records Preservation & Access Committee. “We Really Need to Talk!” April 2, 2017 handout at NGS Conference, Raleigh, NC. [This committee is made up of representatives of FGS, NGS and the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies.]

TRIP TO FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY (FHL).

Our RVGS group returned from FHL in Salt Lake City with some research information to share:

* Ruth Wade has a Finnish instructor’s permission to share his handout: Finnish research on the internet, where to find church records and immigration, and common genealogical terms. Ruth will put a copy in the white “10-CENT TIP OF THE WEEK” binder.

* At the German Interest Group meeting June 13 Mary Robsman will talk about her German-related research and documents found on level B-1 at FHL.

* Betty Miller has a “Family History Library Self-Guided Tour” handout (and information about the Plaza Hotel adjacent to FHL, historic sites around Temple Square, and places to eat.) The RVGS group of researchers thanks Betty Miller for organizing the trip and our group dinner at the former Hotel Utah with its lovely view.



Souvenir photo taken IN THE LOBBY at FHL.

JCGL News

SPOTLIGHT ON ROGUE VALLEY PIONEERS

Volunteer Dorothy Cotton wrote the following story about the pioneer life of widow Amelia Ferns (1859-1937) based on information from the following sources: "County Byways," *Table Rock Sentinel*, Summer 1992, p. 46; "Interesting History of Fern Valley," *Medford Mail Tribune*, January 6, 1931; and The Carver-Ferns Families records in the Phoenix Historical Society archives.

William Thomas Ferns, his wife Amelia, and their children Mark, William, Lovell, Charles, Jenny, Eliza and Archie came to Oregon from Iowa by train in 1898. They had purchased the property on the East side of Phoenix (over 1000 acres) from Amelia's late grandfather Ebenezer Carver. The land was planted in wheat, the main commercial crop at the time, and Carver had set out a small orchard. To this, the Ferns added large plantings of corn and alfalfa.

One year later, Amelia's husband died and left her (age 40) with 7 children ages 2 to 15 years of age to raise and run the farm. The task wasn't an easy one. She had to be sure the farm produced enough each year to support the family and pay the taxes. She traded wheat for flour. There were chickens to feed and cows to milk. Eight to 10 hogs were butchered and cured every year. When the orchard boom hit, Amelia planted one of the first commercial orchards in the valley.

Life was hard. However, through hard work, perseverance, and the help of her children, Amelia managed to raise her family and keep the farm. The farm was later passed on to her children. The area is now known as Fern Valley.



Amelia Carver Ferns and her children.

PROMOTED TO GENEALOGY RESEARCH SPECIALIST

Chuck Eccleston reports Easter Seals trainee Stan Littrell recently received a well earned promotion to the title of Genealogy Research Specialist based on his impressive accomplishments in genealogy research. Employing computer technology designed for use by the blind, Littrell has amassed a substantial collection of family records using the programs available at the JCGL

In addition to his own family records which now approach 800 individuals, he has compiled the records of Stan Moore, owner and operator of a Medford bicycle shop. Moore is also blind and can now access his own family records using Ancestral Quest software.

Stan Littrell has occasionally assisted other curious family history seekers. However, he is now pursuing the use of podcast technology applications at the library. Littrell, with his BA degree in Speech and Communications from San Francisco State University, and past radio broadcast experience, is anxious to apply his newly learned genealogy knowledge to the promotion of the library and society in the areas of education, training, public awareness, and general marketing.

STORIES OF SOUTHERN OREGON Project

Southern Oregon University (SOU) is pleased to announce STORIES OF SOUTHERN OREGON, the newest of Hannon Library's Southern Oregon Digital Archives (SODA.) In 2016, the STORIES project collected more than 200 historic photos and videotaped interviews of more than 30 farm and ranch families and helper agencies in Southern Oregon. Included are the stories of four family properties designated as Century Farms: Carpenter, Parsons, Birdseye, and Nealon. The STORIES project focuses on multigenerational farms and ranches and examines how and why agricultural lands stay in the family. All of the stories are poignant and meaningful to those families telling stories, and those who hear them.

In 2017 SOU was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities grant in the Common Heritage program to document Southern Oregon's work life in the fields, forests, mills, and mines. This STORIES project, essentially phase II, launched on May 11 and May 13 in Eagle Point. More than a dozen **Story Days** are planned for Jackson and Josephine counties in June and July. For example, the STORIES crew will be at:

- * the McKee Bridge Centennial Celebration on June 10 at 10 am,
- * the Grant Pass Public Library on

June 15 at 2 pm, and
* the SmokeJump Base in Cave Junction on June 17 at 10 am.

For more information call 541-552-0743 or visit the website www.StoriesOfSouthernOregon.com

Thanks to a partnership with the Oregon State University (OSU) Extension Service, collected stories will be displayed at the 4-H exhibits at county and harvest fairs late summer and early fall. Visit the collection at <http://soda.sou.edu>. Some content is now loaded and more is forthcoming.

NEW ADDITIONS TO JCGL

IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION

325 Bur

Burgert, Annette K.

Emigrants from Eppingen to America in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries

325 Dic

Dickson, R. J.

Ulster Emigration to Colonial America, 1718-1775

Circ 325 Lax

Laxton, Edward

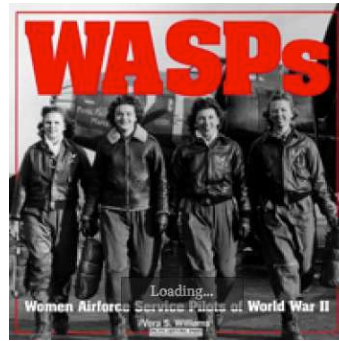
Famine Ships: The Irish Exodus to America, 1846-51



Postcard by Jeff LaLande, exhibits and more.

MILITARY

355.16 B352 Wil
Williams, Vera S.
WASPS: Women Airforce Service Pilots of World War II



COSTUME

391 Bra
Braun and Schneider
Historic Costume in pictures: over 1450 costumes on 125 plates

COLLECTIVE BIOGRAPHY

Circ 920 B352 Cli
Clifford, Mary Louise
Women Who Kept the Lights: An Illustrated History of female Lighthouse Keepers

Circ 920 Eva
Evans, Elizabeth
Weathering the Storm: Women of the American Revolution

920 Pea 2016
Peace Corps Community Directory 2016: Celebrating the Living Legacy of Peace Corps

FAMILY HISTORIES

Circ 929.2 Birdseye
Birdseye, Nita
Nita: My Story

IRELAND

Circ 941.5 A101 Dal
Daly, Marie E.
Genealogist's Handbook for Irish Research

Circ 941.5 H388 Mac
Macmillan Atlas of Irish History

Circ 941.5 H388 Lee
Lee, Grace Lawless
Huguenot Settlements in Ireland

941.5 N120 Gre
Grehan, Ida
Dictionary of Irish Family Names

GREAT BRITAIN

942 G242 Visit v. 15
Visitation of England and Wales, Volume 15, 1908

SWITZERLAND

949 E432 Bur
Burgert, Annette K.
Century of emigration from Affoltern am Albis, Canton Zurich, Switzerland

NATIVE AMERICANS

970.004 A101 Rei
Reintjes, Afton E.
How to Research "A Little Bit of Indian"

970.004 A713 Ame
American Indians: A Select Catalog of National Archives Microfilm Publications

970.004 G932 Mar
Marquis, Arnold
*Guide to America's Indians: Ceremonials,
Reservations and Museums*

Circ 970.3 I521 Fra
Frazier, Kendrick
People of Chaco: A Canyon and its culture

970.3 I521 Hoe
Hoebel, E. Adamson
Cheyennes: Indians of the Great Plains

UNITED STATE – HISTORY - WAR OF 1812

Circ 973.5 H388 Hic
Hickey, Donald R.
War of 1812: A Forgotten Conflict

NEW YORK

974.722 G242 Ber
Bergen, Teunis G.
Early Settlers of Kings County, Long Island

MARYLAND

975.26 C721 Ped
Peden, Henry C. Jr.
Methodist Records of Baltimore City, Maryland
v. 1, 1799-1829
v. 2, 1830-1889

NORTH CAROLINA

975.68 H388 Old v.1
Old Buncombe County Heritage, North Carolina

GEORGIA

975.8 A101 Dav v.2
Davis, Robert Scott Jr.
Researcher's Library of Georgia History, Genealogy, and Records Sources, volume 2

THE SOUTHEAST

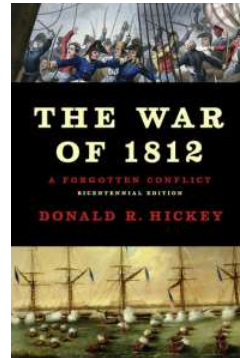
Circ 976 P273 Sou v. 8 #2
Southern Roots & Shoots

TENNESSEE

976.879 H388 His
History of Marion County, Tennessee, volume 1

ILLINOIS

977.31 A101 Szu
Szucs, Loretto Dennis
Chicago and Cook County: A Guide to Research



975.24 G242 Jou
Jourdan, Elise Greenup
Early Families of Southern Maryland
v.1, v.2, v.3

THE WEST

Circ 978 H388 Far

Farnham, Thomas J.

1839 Wagon Train Journal: Travels in the Great Western Prairies, the Anahuac and Rocky Mountains and in the Oregon Territory

KANSAS

978.163 B352 Ber

Berrett, Howard D.

Who's Who in Topeka [1905]

NORTH DAKOTA

978.461 G242 Peo

People of Bottineau County [North Dakota]

CALIFORNIA

979.412 I521

Tho

Thompson, Lucy

To the American Indian: Reminiscences of a Yurok Woman

979.493 H388 Gay

Gaye, Laura B.

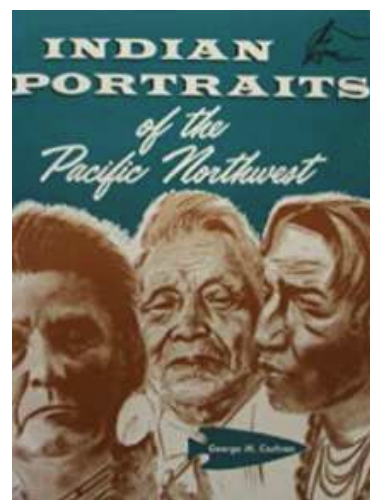
Last of the Old West, A Book of Sketches: About the Calabasas Area

OREGON

979.5004 B352 Coc

Cochran, George M.

Indian Portraits of the Pacific Northwest: Thirty of the Principal Tribes



MAGAZINES RECENTLY RECEIVED

The most recent issue is shelved in the wire rack at the end of the 929.2 book stack. Newsletters recently received are shelved in the neighboring wire rack.

Circ 929.05 NGSQ

National Genealogical Society Quarterly, v 105 #1, March 2017.

Circ 979.4 P273 Cal Nug 2016

The California Nugget, v VIII #1, Spring 2016.

Circ 979.4 P273 Cal Nug 2016

The California Nugget, v VIII #2, Fall 2016.

Circ 979.421 P273 Hei

Heir Lines, Genealogical Society of Siskiyou County, v 41 #3, April 2017.

Circ 979.421 P273 Red

Redwood Researcher, Humboldt County, v 49 #4, May 2017.