

# The Jotted Line

December 2019



Season's Greetings and Happy Holidays! The FCGS Board and volunteers at the Heritage Center hope you had a lovely Thanksgiving. It seems as genealogists, the holidays are a time of nostalgia -remembering and honoring our ancestors and our family traditions. From whatever part of the world our ancestors came from, they all brought pieces of their cultural, religious, and political beliefs with them. We lose that immigrant identity through the generations. One of the last things we lose is our food and holiday traditions. For Thanksgiving, I made my great-grandma Cora's venison mincemeat pie and persimmon pudding. I'm sure the recipes are older than hers, but she's the one that passed them down to my mother. I used my mother's rolling pin and dishes for the pie. I get a little teary-eyed seeing my mother's writing. I honor them and keep them alive by baking those family recipes. Our holidays are filled with those traditions.

We tend to lose the whys behind our family traditions and recipes. Through research, we find clues or answers to those questions. For my family, I know that my great-grandmother Cora's maternal side was early settlers of New England. Mincemeat pies are an English tradition but were also the most popular pie during the nineteenth and early twentieth century in the United States. I can envision the whys of her mother making this dish, a connection to her own heritage (New Englanders and English). That same great grandmother was raised in Iowa, and her mother in Indiana, both states with our native American persimmons (smaller than the common Japanese Hichaya). After arriving by train in California they found persimmons were still available for the recipes. A different kind of persimmon but an adaptation that easily kept the family recipe alive. Their lives left behind were not totally discarded; they could bring something from home with them. Old family recipes are the epitome of comfort food.

I hope this year you share with loved ones the reasons behind your family traditions. Share with them stories of your past holidays besides the ancestors stories you have researched. Remember, we will be the generation that descendants will research in years to come. Leave them a trail... gingerbread trail in my case. Yum and happy eating.

## FCGS BOARD

CONTACT 600-6230 OR  
INFOFCGS@GMAIL.COM

President—

Myrna Ceccarelli—

559-222-3166

myrnaceccarelli@gmail.com

Vice-President—

Corky Peterson

Recording Secretary—

Becki Watters

Corresponding Secretary—

Donna Hadrian

Treasurer— Donna Long

Librarian —Kathleen

Coleman

Assistant Librarian—

**open**

Membership— Jim &  
Catherine Guild

Jotted Line Editor—

Kelsey Stewart

Member-at-Large—  
Cat Hadrian

Webmaster— **open**

**UPCOMING  
MEETINGS**

Meetings are held at the Woodward Park Regional Library— 944 E. Perrin, Fresno.

**Meet and Greet—  
6:15  
General Meetings  
start at 6:45**

**Sat Dec 7th —  
Christmas Party  
Lunch Potluck**

**Sat Jan 4th —  
Annual Meeting and  
Lunch—11:30AM  
Info on Facial  
Recognition program  
for photos**

**Tue Feb 11th —**



**DECEMBER MEETING— NO REGULAR MEETING**



**Annual  
Christmas  
Potluck**

**Saturday, December 7, 2019**

**11:30 AM –1 PM**

**at the**

**Woodward Park Library**

**944 E Perrin, Fresno**



**Bring your favorite dish or dessert to share,  
we'll provide ham and drinks.**

**We will have a stocking and 2 DNA tests to give  
away! Extra entries if you bring a gift for ARF.**

If you would like to bring a “present” we are collecting items for ARF (Animal Rescue Foundation)

They are looking for: Leashes, Collars (x-s- med), Dog Shampoo, Poop Scoop/Rake, Canned Dog Food, Frontline Flea/Tick Drops, Dog Toys, Dish Soap, Hand Soap, Hand Sanitizer ,Towels and Rags, Blankets,

Office supplies: Legal Sized Envelopes, Black Sharpies, Manilla Folders, Stamps, Plain White Printer Paper.

# Annual Meeting & Election of Officers

Saturday, January 4, 2019

11:30 AM –1 PM

at the

Woodward Park Library

944 E Perrin, Fresno

We will be electing our officers for 2020.

Program: by Corky Peterson on Facial Recognition for Photographs

There will be a catered lunch, **Please RSVP with your meal choice by December 15th**.

The meal is \$16 and includes:

Your choice of Tri-Tip or Grilled Chicken

Rice Pilaf, Vegetable Medley, Green Salad, Rolls, and Drink.

You can RSVP and pay through Eventbrite at the link below, email us at [Infofcgs@gmail.com](mailto:Infofcgs@gmail.com) or you can RSVP at the Christmas party.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fresno-county-genealogical-societys-annual-meeting-tickets-83577688115>

## Proposed 2020 Board Members

### President–

Myrna Ceccarelli

### 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President–

Corky Peterson

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President–

still needs a volunteer

### Recording Secretary–

Becki Watters

### Corresponding Secretary–

Donna Hadrian

### Treasurer– Donna Long

### Librarian–

Kathleen Coleman

### Registrar–

Catherine & Jim Guild

## HERITAGE CENTER

2420 Mariposa Street, Fresno—  
2nd Floor— 559-600-6230

Our Library is open 7 days a  
week!

MON— THUR 10 AM— 7pm

FRI & SAT 10 AM—5 PM

SUN Noon—5 PM.

**Library is CLOSED Christ-  
mas EVE & Day and New  
Year's Eve and Day**

Parking is metered MON-FRI  
(meters are \$1.50 an hour)

**FREE on the WEEKENDS!**

## HERITAGE CENTER NEWS

### **BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS BECAUSE NOT EVERYTHING IS ON THE INTERNET!**

We had someone from out of town come  
in the Heritage Center this month who  
was so excited because we had the book

they had been looking for! It helped establish a connection to a  
family 2 or 3 generations back.

How did they do it? They used [www.worldcat.org](http://www.worldcat.org)

Look up a book in worldcat then click on Libraries who own  
this title and a list of owning institutions comes up. It is a great  
way to see what is out there. My best suggestion if you are fish-  
ing for titles, is to use keywords first to broadly see what is  
available then narrow it down. You can also use the catalog at  
[FamilySearch](#) to see what might be available and they have a  
link for view this catalog record in worldcat.



Do you enjoy books, reading, scanning, or just holding a copy  
of an old book. If so your Society needs you. We need an  
assistant librarian to assist Kathleen Coleman at the  
downtown library. Just let Kathleen know the hours you  
would be available and she will show you the ropes. Call  
Kathleen and let her know you are ready to help.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 2020 SPEAKERS!!!

Corky Peterson has been investigating speakers for 2020 on such topics as DNA, finding female ancestors, facial recognition, GEDMatch, DNA, genealogy and proof standards. Do you have any suggestions? Contact any board member. Email: [Infofcgs@gmail.com](mailto:Infofcgs@gmail.com)

The First meeting of the **Fresno/Clovis Hands-On Genealogy Research Group** has been scheduled for Thursday Dec 5 at the West Stake Family History Center. This group is designed to provide hands-on guidance with family history research and is an opportunity for us all to learn from each other.

Jim Heddell is heading up this group.

The link to sign up is: [Fresno/Clovis Hands-On Genealogy Research Group](#)

**CHRISTMAS SHOPPING IS  
COMING DON'T FORGET TO  
USE AMAZON SMILE!**

[smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

**LOOK FOR FRESNO COUNTY  
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**



**THINKING OF GETTING  
A FLIP PAL? USE THIS  
LINK**

<https://flip-pal.com/r/FCGS/>

**FlipPal**  
mobile scanner





## MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS START NEXT MONTH!

## MEMBERSHIP CORNER

We have a new family membership! Welcome, Randall & LeeAnne Bunn. We look forward to seeing you at our meetings and at the Heritage Center.

It is time to renew yearly membership for the 1/1/2020 year. The dues are \$30 for Individual and \$35 for family. We will send an email with the revised membership form to you. We hope you will use it to tell us about your areas of research and ways that you can volunteer to help the Fresno County Genealogical Society

You can use the form attached to the email to renew!

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## GIFT IDEAS FOR GENEALOGISTS

### Watch for Black Friday Deals!!!

Gift subscriptions to Legacyfamilytree webinars-  
<https://familytreewebinars.com/> 50% off Black Friday deal

Software– [RootsMagic](#) & [Legacy Family Tree](#) are having specials!

Gift subscription to Lisa Louise Cook's [Genealogy Gems](#)

DNA Kits– [AncestryDNA](#), [FamilyTreeDNA](#), [23& Me](#),  
[MyHeritageDNA](#)

Membership to a Genealogical or Historical society where your family is from.

Cemetery Kit– a good list can be found [here](#)

Archival Supplies– [Archival Methods](#) or [Gaylord Archival](#)

Gift cards for Shutterfly– make a family history picture book

Genealogist shirts, mugs and more. Look at Amazon or Etsy for ideas! Just search for Genealogy gifts.

## Breaking Brick Walls...Wrap-Up!

We hope you had as much fun as we did at the Brick Wall Busting meeting. We are looking forward to doing it again in 2020!

We wanted to make sure you had all the wonderful website we talked about too.

Corky mentioned Debbie Duay's site you can find it here

<http://www.learnwebskills.com/lineage/index.htm>

She has links to digitized vital records, county histories and even bible records. I find it very easy to use, just go to the state and see what they have

Bob mentioned— [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)

Some hidden treasures in FamilySearch

The Research Wiki— [https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Main\\_Page](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Main_Page) search your state or topic and they'll show you what is available. Be sure to look at online records!

Guided Research for Vital Records— This one will actually walk you through where to find vital records for all over the world. Very cool site: [https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Category:Guided\\_Research](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Category:Guided_Research)

You can do Genealogy on Facebook! — Social media research support sites provided by FamilySearch List of all the (Groups listed by location) [https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/FamilySearch\\_Genealogy\\_Research\\_Groups](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/FamilySearch_Genealogy_Research_Groups)

Melissa mentioned- Gold Mining Records

<https://genealogy.stackexchange.com/questions/12014/records-of-miners-in-the-california-gold-rush>

another post -- <http://sherifenley.blogspot.com/2013/09/california-mining-claims.html>

The Legal Genealogist post- <https://www.legalgenealogist.com/2013/06/25/mining-the-1872-act-records/>

-See more on Heritage Center page!



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