

# STANISLAUS



# RESEARCHER



## Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County

August 2024

Volume 46 Number 7

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Presidents Message                | 1 |
| August Program Grizzlies and Gold | 1 |
| Library Help is Still Needed      | 3 |
| GSSC Writing Group                | 3 |
| Family Search Resources Expanded  | 3 |
| Remember Purple Heart Day         | 4 |

### August Program

15 Aug 24 7:00 PM Talitha Agan speaking on her book Grizzlies and Gold. A nonfiction work which tells how the California grizzly bear was hunted to extinction.

### Presidents Message

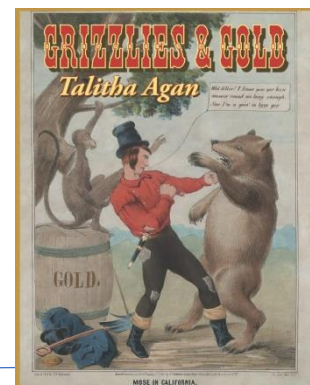
by Vicky Wolff

I am so tired of this extreme heat! However, I just came home from a Family Reunion in North Lake Tahoe, where it was much cooler! We had a fabulous time at the reunion! It was a cousins reunion, as all our parents are gone. It has been my goal to get my families together, so everyone can get to know each other better and stay connected, and you know it is working. They all want to get together every year, so this is what we are doing. I always give time for a talk on our genealogy. I have given all the genealogy from our immigrant ancestors down to us, and next year I will do the genealogy from our great grandparents and all their siblings down to us and forward. Fortonitly, most of my family members are very interested in where we came from and the stories I tell about them. I hope you all have family reunions to celebrate your families. Everyone received a binder full of stories of our ancestors lives and were very grateful. I am looking forward to next years reunion and seeing my cousins once again. I hope your summer has been good and I look forward to seeing you all again at our next meeting.

### August Program

by Karen Souza

Dr. Talitha Agan, Modesto Junior College history professor, reports on her book Grizzlies & Gold. One hundred years ago, in August 1922, the last California grizzly bear was shot. This book seeks to shed light on the most destructive part of this decimation—the California Gold Rush. The years 1848 to 1859 represent the era in California’s history when grizzlies were confronted by massive amounts of people. Still numerous at this time, the bear had to deal with the harsh actions of California’s newest inhabitants. As the slowest reproducing large predator in California, it was easily eradicated, and by the 1860s the grizzly’s population began diminishing, becoming extinct in certain counties as early as the 1870s. Thus the 1850s are the best time to fully understand the grizzly and its last stand in defending itself from death. A focus on California newspaper articles on the bear from 1848 to 1859 assists in shaping the Gold Rush context. Research on grizzly hunters, including the famous Grizzly Adams, and the grizzly bear and Spanish bullfights are included.



August 2024

# Photos from our June General Meeting

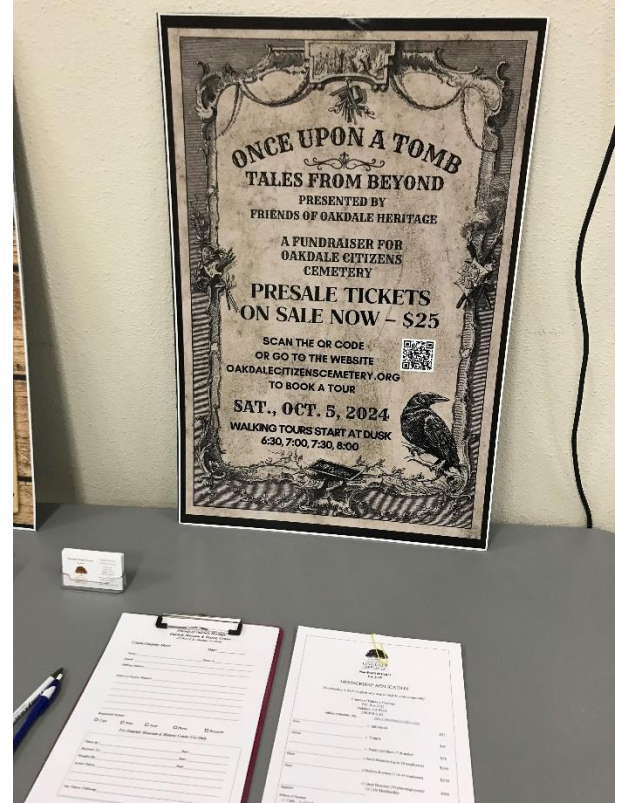
by Heidi Arno

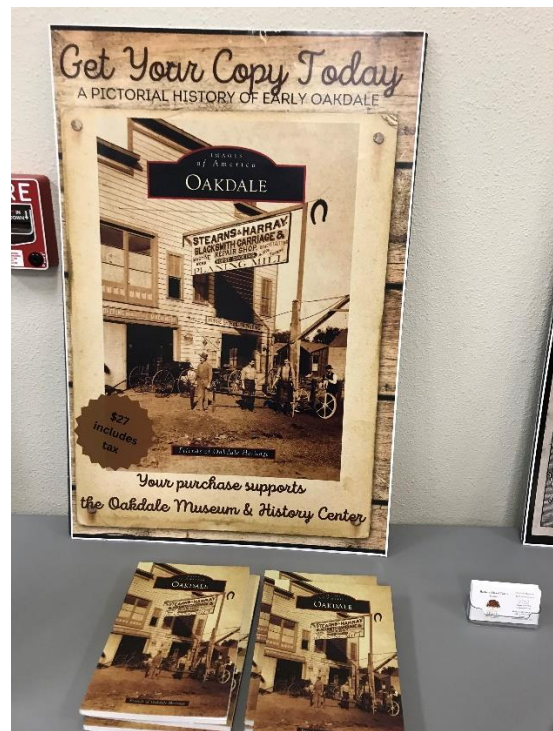
From our Ice Cream Social and Presentation by

Barbara Torres  
Friends of Oakdale Heritage  
PO Box 2212  
Oakdale, CA 95361  
(209) 840-1411 Cell

~~~~~  
Oakdale Museum & History Center  
212 West F St.  
Oakdale, CA 95361

Vol46 No7





**YES**, Jackie Niemeyer could still use some help at our Main Library– A great way to assist your genealogical society. Contact her and ask how? [Jackie.niemeyer@prodigy.net](mailto:Jackie.niemeyer@prodigy.net) to track update information go to [https://www.stanislauslibrary.org/about\\_friends\\_modesto.shtm](https://www.stanislauslibrary.org/about_friends_modesto.shtm)

**GSSC Writing Group**

by Joann MacDonald

8 August 2024 at her home. Please contact Joann if you intend to attend. The group has a great deal of experience writing about genealogy and can assist you. New members are always welcome. Never written before, no matter, they are here to assist. (209) 521-2140 or [jmastergardner@aol.com](mailto:jmastergardner@aol.com)



Check for your ancestors in the 5.8 million newly indexed family history records across 27 countries. These records include over 3 million records from Find-A-Grave Index; 1 million records from Sri Lanka; and thousands of records from Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ireland, Mexico, Peru, United States Uruguay, Venezuela, and Zimbabwe.

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/united-states/>

### Remember Purple Heart Day on Aug. 7

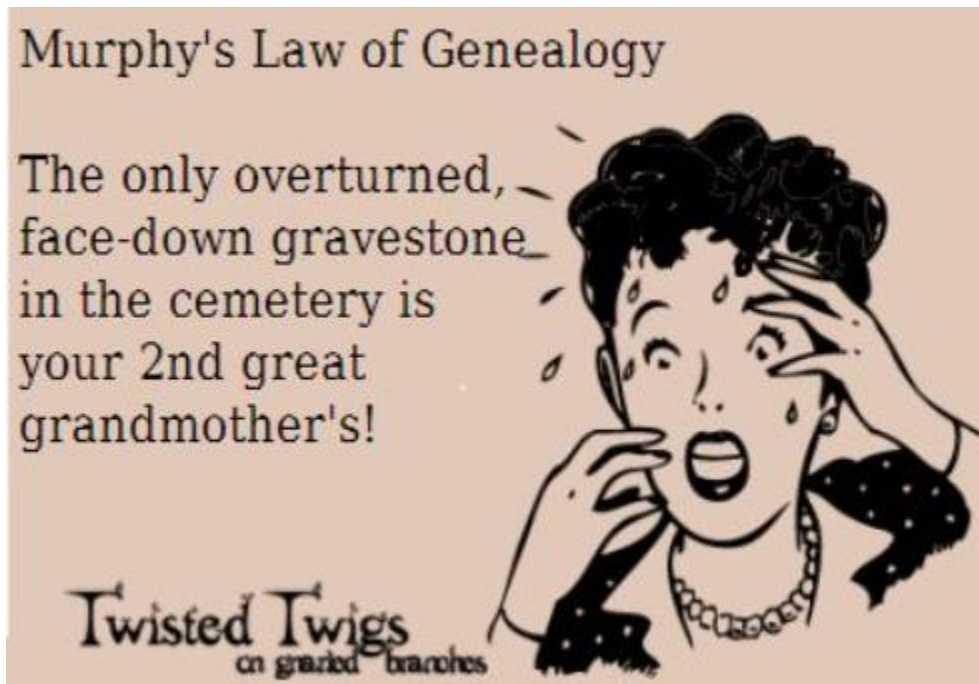
Celebrated on each August 7, National Purple Heart Day offers Americans a special opportunity to say “Thank You” to the nearly two million brave men and women who fought for our nation’s freedom, and bear the physical scars of war.

To salute these brave Americans service and sacrifice, the National Purple Heart Honor Mission hosts a national tribute ceremony each August 7. The event offers Purple Heart recipients the chance to gather together to share personal narratives about the true cost of freedom and what it takes to protect our great nation.

Nearly two million Americans have been awarded the Purple Heart. Unfortunately, there is no publicly available master database of all those who have been wounded or killed in action while protecting our nation and the freedoms we cherish. To help ensure all our Purple Heart heroes are memorialized for generations to come, the Honor Mission and the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor are building the Roll of Honor, the nation’s foremost repository of Purple Heart recipients and their stories. The National Purple Heart Honor Mission is an approved 501(c)3 non-profit organization, which supports a variety of programs to promote the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor, pay tribute to our Purple Heart recipients, and educate all Americans about our combat-wounded veterans to ensure those who sacrificed for freedom are never forgotten.

<https://www.purpleheartmission.org/national-purple-heart-day>

<https://www.purpleheartmission.org/roll-of-honor>



Membership Information Dues: Single membership, \$25.00 per year Family membership, \$35.00 per year

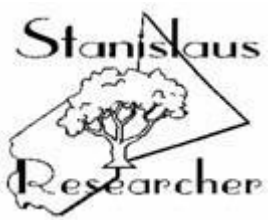
|                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Address changes: | Send address, email and phone number changes to Joyce Hickman at: GSSC, P. O. Box 1352, Modesto, CA 95353-1352<br>Email: <a href="mailto:gssc-founded1968@gmail.com">gssc-founded1968@gmail.com</a> Telephone: 209-422-3653 (Joyce Hickman)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| GSSC web page:   | <b>Stanislaus Researcher</b> Published 10 times per year by Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County, P. O. Box 1352, Modesto, CA 95353-1352. Delivered via email. Submit articles for publication to the editor via email: <a href="mailto:lruddick@ix.netcom.com">lruddick@ix.netcom.com</a> by the 15th of each month. The newsletter is posted at this website <a href="http://stanislausgenealogy.org">http://stanislausgenealogy.org</a> along with other interesting society-related items. |
| General meeting: | 7:00 p.m. on the 3rd <b>Thursday</b> of each month, except July and December at the Trinity Presbyterian Church, Telle Center, at 1600 Carver Rd., Modesto, CA.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Board meeting:   | 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Monday of each month Ridgeway's Restaurant, 2401 E Orangeburg Ave, Modesto, CA                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

| 2024 Officers       |                      | 2024 Standing Committee Chairs  |                       |
|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| President           | Vicky Wolff          | Acquisitions:                   | Vacant                |
| 1st Vice President  | Karen Souza          | Audit:                          | Board of Directors    |
| 2nd Vice President  | Jackie Niemeyer      | Budget:                         | Roxie Ferrari         |
| Secretary           | Pam Atherstone       | Historian                       | Judy Byrne            |
| Treasurer           | Roxie Ferrari        | Membership                      | Joyce Hickman         |
| Director at Large 1 | Joyce Hickman        | Newsletter & Webpage            | Lewis & Logan Ruddick |
| Director at Large 2 | Amy Mowery           | Publicity                       | Tom Byrne             |
| Director at Large 3 | Joann McDonald       | Queries                         | Colleen Norby         |
| Director at Large 4 | Martha Carter Bhatti | Registrar                       | Marge Scheuber        |
| Director at Large 5 | Marge Scheuber       | Seminar:                        | Vacant                |
| Past President      | David Wolff          | Research Trips                  | Heidi Arno            |
|                     |                      | Mentor                          | Joann McDonald        |
|                     |                      | Resources                       | Vicky Wolff           |
|                     |                      | Acquisitions:                   | Vacant                |
|                     |                      | Special Collections & Workshops | Jackie Niemeyer       |
|                     |                      | Social Media                    | Pam Atherstone        |
|                     |                      | Sunshine                        | Martha Carter Bhatti  |

Updated July 28, 2024.

We have 61 members for 2024

[website GSSC](http://www.gssc.org)



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