

HEIR LINES

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION



GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
OF
SISKIYOU COUNTY

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See Us on Facebook:
Yreka Genealogy Society of Siskiyou County



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THANK YOU to our members who have chosen to shop with Amazon Smile.

NO COST TO YOU!

PRESIDENTS CORNER

By Pat Williams

As I sit waiting for the evacuation call and see many boxes of genealogical stuff around, I wonder if anyone thinks there is a better way to keep stuff safe. I know others were evacuated earlier this summer. I hope everyone is safe and stuff not damaged.

Do you search on [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) the same old way time after time? If you attended the class presented by Pat Healy, I'm sure you learned lots of effective ways to research Ancestry. I know I did.

There will be new program ideas coming up this year, including a partnership with Northern California and Southern Oregon Genealogy Societies, to make professional speakers available to our members. You might want to brush up on your ZOOM skills, so you won't miss anything. We can help with that. Plan on attending GSSC on November 19th for one-on-one ZOOM instruction. Come anytime between 10 – 3.

And finally, we have many "Obits" that need to be prepared for digitization. Please come help on Tuesdays. We have a weekly work party from about 10am until 2pm.

Hope to see you all this Fall.

Pat Williams President

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

HEIR LINES EDITOR. THIS CAN BE DONE AT HOME

BOARD MEMBERS.

GREETERS. SOCIALIZE WITH FELLOW GENEALOGIST.

CEMETERY CANVASSERS.

INDEXERS.

PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Your genealogy society has planned some great programs for the coming year 2023. You don't want to miss any of them so mark your calendar. Remember we would be happy to plan a program for any special area of research you would like to explore.

Soon we will be offering ZOOM classes in partnership with several genealogy Societies in So. Oregon and No. California. Brush up on your ZOOM you don't want to miss these.

The holidays are coming! We will be taking a break from regular classes but still open for research.

A B C OF ZOOM FREE NOV. 19 ROOM 9

Come into the research center
and learn how to use ZOOM.

IT'S REALY EASY!

GENERAL MEETING AND CHRISTMAS POTLUCK

DEC. 10TH 11:30am

GSSC RM 9

GENEALOGY SOCIETY OF SISKIYOU COUNTY
321 N. GOLD ST.
P.O. BOX 1405
YREKA, CA. 96097

REMEMBER GIVING TUESDAY NOV. 29TH 2022

Donate online at www.northstategives.org/gssc between 6am and 8pm PST Nov. 30th. Or go to www.siskiyougenealogy.org click on North State Giving Tuesday. Follow the directions to complete your donation. If you prefer mail your check to the above P.O. Box.

We will be open in Yreka Nov. 29th from 9am to 5pm. We will be glad to accept in person donations at this time. Come in and enjoy coffee and pastry between 9am - 11am. Noon to about 2pm we will have a hot chili lunch.



WHATS IN YOUR RESEARCH LIBRARY

Have you checked out our online catalog at www.siskiyougenealogy.org ? Just click on New Online Catalog. In the search box type in what you are looking for. Remember we will be happy to check any of our books for your ancestor. Just let us know what books you are interested in and for a small fee we will look for you.

Need help with your research? We have several great researchers ready to help. For a great bargain, \$15.00 an hour, we can help complete your research.

NEW IN THE LIBRARY

Information supplied by Kathy Graves

FAMILY GENEALOGIES COLLECTION 920 FAM

Bruce Parker, Sawyers Bar

by Lydia Head

Samuel Gerald Potter

The Crary Family

Simpson Family

Pitman Story

Maddox Letter

John Dexter

First Families of the Pacific States.

REMEMBER YOUR LIBRARY IS A FAMILYSEARCH AFFILIATE

This means that files which could only be viewed in the Salt Lake FamilySearch Library or family History Center can now also be viewed in the GSSC Research Library.

GENEALOGY SOCIETY OPEN SATURDAYS

10AM – 3PM

Room 8 & 9 gold St. School

Closed Nov. 26th and Dec. 24th- Dec. 31

We will reopen Jan. 7th

Thoughts of Edward Lee Greene While Walking on China Hill

By Michael Grifantini

With each year and each season, I look forward to the changes and what might be in store. I have certain places to see and certain things to do that help me appreciate the change in the seasons. For example, I look forward to seeing the spectacular fall colors of the scattered aspen along the Little Shasta River, a few fresh sprigs of ich-nich (Indian celery) that pop up in the dry canyons each early Spring and the prolific or scant (depending upon winter moisture level) flowering on China Hill next to Yreka. I go to China Hill to see some old friends and to think about some old history.

If the winter was moist, many flowers spring up on China Hill (I call it Phlox Hill), but the one I am looking for is the Yreka Phlox--perhaps the plant icon for Yreka. It grows as a bristly and scant perennial plant, with colorful flowers, no more than 6 inches off the ground. It is a testament to biological toughness, being able to live in such a harsh location.

When I gaze at these very early-season plants, my mind drifts to the person that first described the plants to science (the so-called "discoverer" of the species), famous botanist Edward Lee Greene. He led a fascinating life, only a small part right here in Siskiyou. As a young Episcopal minister, he lived in Yreka between April 1876 and January 1877 and during that time ministered to scattered flocks of Episcopalians in the Shasta and Scott Valleys and Yreka (according to Church records).

His letters from this time suggest that Greene was quite conflicted in his life's calling. He wrote to one of his many correspondents that he was excited to be going to Yreka, as it was in an area that few trained botanists had ever spend time within but was suspected to be biological diverse. He added that he would spend a short time when he got to Yreka putting together all of his required sermons, so that he would have plenty of free time to look for plants!

While here in Yreka, the historian Harry L. Wells documented two events Greene participated in. He gave a prayer at the city's U.S. Centennial celebration and 9 days later, hiked to the top of Goosenest Mountain, with several other city residents. No doubt, he was looking downward as he was involved in both events, wondering which plants he might see.

On another of his local outings he found and sent off samples of what we now call Yreka Phlox. He also found many other species not previously known to science, many on the dry, rocky magnesium and iron rich areas (known as serpentine or ultra-mafic formations) common in central Siskiyou County.

Greene left his Yreka parish as plans were being made to construct current-day St. Marks Church, in downtown Yreka (in Greene's day town services were held in the Court House). He went on to bigger and better things, both from a church and botanical perspective. He ministered in the Bay Area and traveled widely throughout the southwest, sending thousands of dried and pressed plants to experts and museums. Ultimately, he moved back East and ended up with close professional ties to both the Smithsonian Institute and Notre Dame University. His library of books pertaining to Western plants and botanists, bequeathed to Notre Dame, is considered to be outstanding.

He had a reputation for being strong-willed and determined in his views of both religion and botany and seemed to relish controversy. From a scientific standpoint, he fought in a civil war between plant loving scientists. Science has always been torn between people that diverged into two camps--“lumpers” and “splitters”. “Lumpers” tend to believe that all species have genetic and appearance variation and within a small area the same species might vary in appearance, color, etc. Regardless, they say, all should be considered the same species. On the other hand, “Splitters” tend to think that evolution works by making small genetic and appearance changes, therefore small differences might be indications that a species has split into one or more new species. Greene fell in the “splitter” camp and believed that some of the plants he found, which varied slightly from others in a nearby location, might be a new species. Now, more than 100-years after his death, many of his judgements regarding this issue are supported by modern botanists—which suggests that his scientific judgement was sound.

Controversy in his life extended into his religious life, as he converted from Episcopalian to Catholic while living in the Bay Area and while being an Episcopal Minister of a large church!

Greene died as a pauper in 1915, rich in accomplishments if not in money. I think about him, as I sit on China Hill on a cold but sunny Spring day and ponder his life of religion and science. Did he see any conflict between the two? If so, was he able to reconcile his struggles? Perhaps the inscription on his headstone gives insight into these questions:

“A man whom nature in all her phases attracted and engaged and for whom she opened a door leading into the house of God.”



A Missing Harding*.

John Brock-Utne MD, PhD

*A Harding is a person from Hardanger county in Norway.

Andreas Lind Brock Utne was born in Utne, Kvinnherad, Hardanger on September 1st. 1871 to Jacob Utne (21 July 1838 - 9 May 1874, a ship's owner/captain who went down with his ship in Skagerak (the name of the sea between the tip of Denmark and Norway). He managed to save all his mates. The Danes were so impressed by this heroic deed that they erected a statue to his memory where the survivors were found. Andreas's mother was Anna Marthe Adler Brock (21 Nov 1845 - 17 Nov 1909), a trained midwife and later a school teacher. After they got married on the 24 August 1866 in Utne Hotel, Utne, they and their children took the name Brock Utne. (Note that the name Brock Utne changed to Brock-Utne in 1960). Of some interest is that Utne Hotel is the oldest hotel in Norway and is from 1722. The hotel was started by the Utne family.

After Jacob died in 1874 Martha was left with 4 small boys and settled in Bergen where she became a teacher to care for herself and her children. It could not have been easy to and shows the tenacity and strength of Martha.

Andy became a blacksmith and emigrated to USA when he was, 18 years old. He arrived New York from Liverpool, England via Queenstown (now called Dun Laoghaire), Ireland on the 25 March 1889. The ship was called *City of Chicago*.

After leaving Utne he never communicated, as far as we know, with the family back in Norway. Nobody knew where he went to in the US and even knew if he had arrived. There was a rumor that he went to Red Bluff in California.

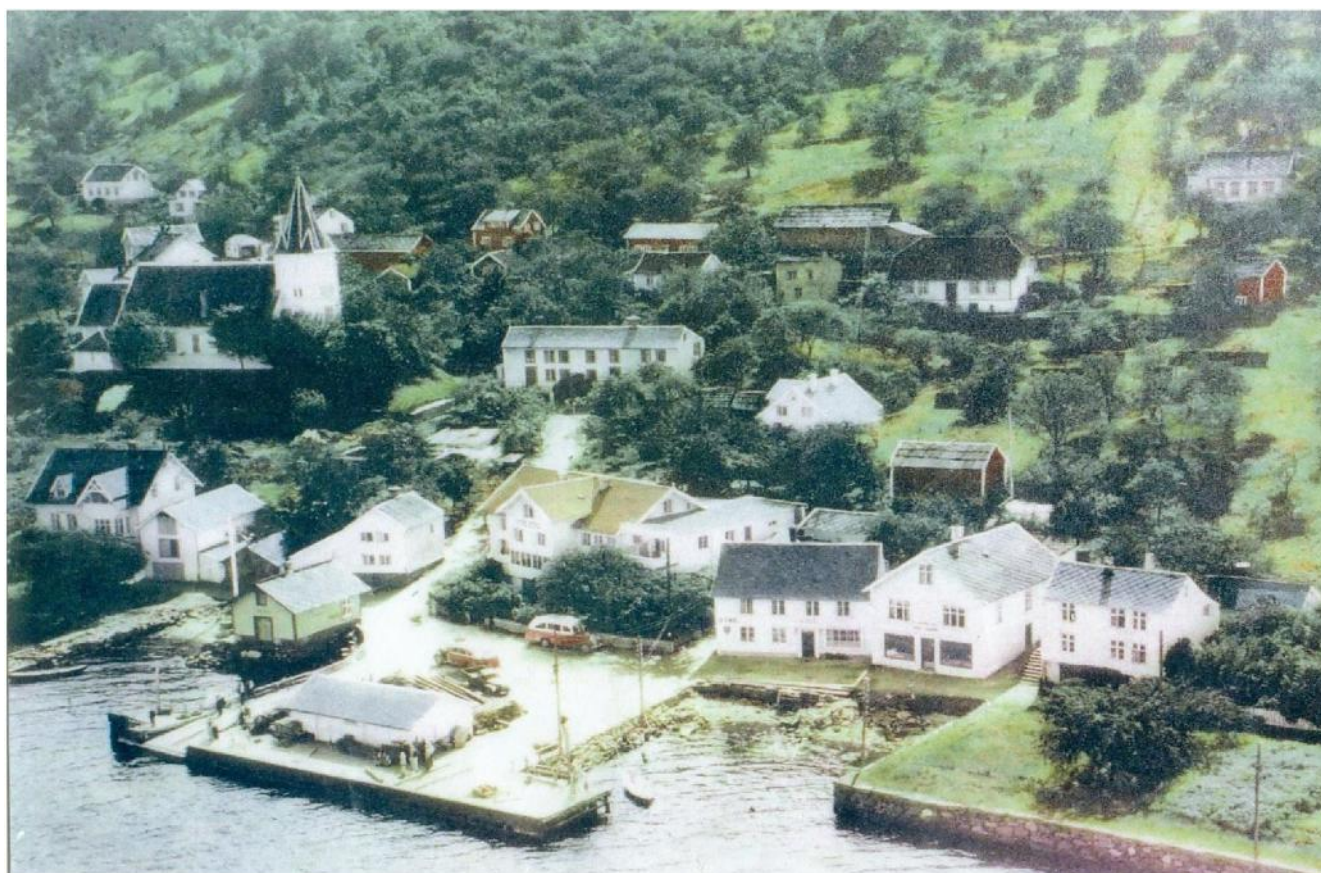
Andreas's mother Anna Brock was heartbroken when Andreas left Utne for the US. His chest with all his personal items like clothes etc. are still in the family home (see picture of the house in the following pictures) in the attic and untouched. Anna declared that no one was to touch the chest until Andreas returned. As children roaming through the old house this one thing we did not dare to touch.

Dr. and Mrs. Jon Geir Hoeyersten, who now owns the old Brock-Utne family house (also known as the Brock or Jacob house), is keeping an eye on the chest. On another note, Jon Geir and Inger have done a phenomenal job in restoring and getting the house back to the time when it was originally built, namely in 1620. The time of Mayflower. The house is mentioned in several books on wooden houses of the world, like: *Wooden houses by Judith Miller* (ISBN 1 900518 33 3)

Since I now live in California, I decided to attempt to find Andreas. But Red Bluff Historical Society could not find any record of him. By chance I got in contact with Jennifer Bryan of Siskiyou County Historical Society in Northern California. Together we have managed to trace him.

Andreas made his way to Yreka in Northern California in the summer of 1889. Here he worked most likely as miner before he got a job as a blacksmith. The shop where he worked in was on the corner of Main and Miner street. He called himself Andy Utne.

The next two pictures show Utne in about 1930 (top). In the middle you can see Utne Hotel. Just to the right is the post office, beside that is one of two general stores, the other and most popular was the small light green house just opposite to the hotel. Up the hill behind the hotel is a long white house. This is the family home known as either Brock huset or Jacob huset. Utne was isolated, as there was no road out to the rest of Norway, until about 1970. The ferry boat arrived with all essentials. A new larger and modern ferry quay was suggested in about 1960. Our family protested, they wanted the new proposed quay to be put about 4000 feet to the east of the center of Utne. But as you can see in the 2nd picture below “the power that be” ignored our plea. A real shame as it has ruined the charm and peace of the place. As so many other old places not only in Norway, but around the world.





Initially Andy worked with a Mr. P. O. LeMay who was a large man and was most likely to be found asleep in the shop according to Waldo J. Smith in his article entitled: *Yreka in the Good Old Days of 1906*. Andy became a US citizen on 3 February 1898 and according to the record voted Republican.

Andy lived in a small village called Hornbrook, not far from Yreka. We do not know where he lived in the town. Unfortunately, only a few houses are left after a wildfire in 2018 destroyed 100 housing structures.

Was he married? Searching the Genealogical Society of marriages in Siskiyou County from 1852 - 1910 again with the help of Jennifer Bryan, one could not find any listing of Brock Utne or Utne being married. Furthermore, there were **no** Voting rights for woman. Hence there was no need to have a woman registration. Registration of woman was only required after 1920 as that year woman were given the right to vote. Hence, a woman who could have married Andy before 1920, but there would have been no record. Based on the above it is most likely to conclude that he was not married. Interestingly there are many Utne's in California.

Hornbrook is near the Klamath River. A lot of mining was done at that time. If Andy had a mine, I have not been able to find out from the Mining Claim Index book in the Country Recorder's office in the Yreka Old Courthouse. But then again one needed a lot of money to tunnel a mine.

Andy was put to rest in Evergreen Cemetery located in Yreka, 853 Evergreen Lane, Yreka on the 2nd of January 1933. You will note that in the US he was recorded as being born in 1872. For those interested, his burial location is Eagles Section, Block 10, lot 7. Sp 2. (Memorial ID is 17058719). When entering the Cemetery, the section where Andy is buried is on your right. His burial is at the top of that section along the top fence. Note that metal markers are often dislodged while the Grounds Keeper blow leaves or weed killers. Occasionally, wild deer rub their antlers on the metal markers causing them to move.

Should you find yourself there you may have to dig through leaves to uncover Andy's marker, but it is there. A big thanks to our son Arne Brock-Utne who found this gravesite on the internet. Should you venture up the Cemetery then Andy's burials are near Alvin Rubenking, Andrew Thrase and Snow Unk.

Hold Funeral for Andy Utne

Friends paid their last tribute to the memory of Andy Utne at the funeral service which was conducted Wednesday morning from the Kunz and Bills chapel with Rev. Charles D. Miller officiating.

Mr. Utne passed away at the Siskiyou county general hospital Friday at the age of 61 years.

The body of the deceased was laid to rest in the Evergreen cemetery.



As mentioned, Andreas's mum (Anna Marthe) had four sons. Andreas was the 3rd and according to my father Lyvin Brock-Utne, (1907 -1984) the favorite. The other three sons were:

1. Jacob Johannes Brock Utne 18 July 1867 - 9 Feb 1954. A famous Norwegian lawyer. Married. No children.

2. Gerhard Christopher Brock Utne 13 Aug 1868 - 1 Jan 1934. Ships engineer. Officer in the Norwegian Navy, later head of Oslo Fire brigade. Married. Four boys. (He is the grandfather to: Birgit Garbo Brock-Utne, Ingeleiv Moldestad, Dag Brendel and Elin Leer and myself).

3. Albert Mathias Brock Utne 19 Dec 1872 - 16 May 1925. Studied Religious studies and Sociology both in Berlin and London. Married. No children.

I hope your readership will enjoy this story as much I have had in finding my long lost relative.

John Brock-Utne

*John G. Brock-Utne MD, PhD
Professor of Anesthesia, Emeritus
Stanford University Medical Center
Department of Anesthesiology, Peri-operative & Pain Medicine*

INFORMATION PAGE



PURPOSE OF GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

To stimulate public interest in family history. To collect, preserve and publish genealogical historical matters relating to American families and places. To provide educational service to the communities in Siskiyou County. To establish and maintain for the use of members and others a library of American genealogy, local history and biography including a surname file. To hold meetings for instructions and increased effectiveness of its members.

ADDRESS:

Genealogical Society of Siskiyou County
Physical: 321 N. Gold Street, Yreka, CA
Mailing: PO Box 1405, Yreka, CA 96097
Phone: 530-842-0277
E-MAIL: gssci@att.net

WEBSITE:

<http://sisiyougenealogy.org>

REGULAR MEETINGS:

(Held quarterly, at the above address, March, June and September, the last Saturday of the month, however December is the second Saturday. Alternate dates may be scheduled due to holiday conflicts through the year.)

MEMBERSHIP FEES:

\$25.00 Individual
\$30.00 Family (same address)
Membership July 1st to June 30th.

NON-MEMBER FEES:

\$5.00 per day per person (facility use)

OFFICERS:

President: Pat Williams
Vice President: Mike Grifantini
Secretary: Jennifer Bryan
Treasurer: Pat Healy

COMMITTEES:

Projects: Patricia Healy
Research: Jennifer Bryan/Patricia Healy
Library: Gail Platt
Web Site: Jennifer Bryan

HEIR LINES:

Quarterly Publication (fiscal year)
October, January, April, July

ADS PRICE SCHEDULE:

Business Card	\$5.00
Quarter Page	\$10.00
Third Page	\$14.00
Half Page	\$18.00
Full Page	\$35.00

DEADLINES:

For Ads, Article's, 1st of the publication month.

GSSC will NOT endorse or accept commercial, Political or religious ads.

APPOINTED POSITIONS:

Editor of Heirlines: OPEN
Rose Hicks Brown Endowment Fund: Patricia Healy
Membership: Patricia Healy
Social Media: Carolyn Anderson

RESEARCH REQUESTS:

Send to GSSC (gssci@att.net)
Cost: \$15.00 per hour / 1hr. minimum
Reimbursement required for cost of Vital Records and Photos of Grave sites (within siskiyou County). Enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope.

QUERIES:

Send to gssci@att.net

PUBLICATION ORDER FORM

- [**Evergreen Cemetery** \$15.00
Evergreen Cemetery is in Yreka, CA

 - [**Winema (Weed) Cemetery** \$15.00

 - [**100 Years and Going Strong** – by Rose L. Hicks Brown \$17.00
- Note: Shipping and Handling on the **above** books: \$6.00 per book.*
- [**Siskiyou County Marriages 1852 – 1910** \$35.00
This is a new reprint of a book put out by our Society many years ago.
Includes a bride's index.

 - [**Cowboy Poetry and Barn Sour Verse** \$10.00
Written by V. June (Blevins) Collins

 - [**First Family of the Pacific States Vol 1 A – E** \$40.00
 -][**First Family of the Pacific States Vol 2 F – M** \$40.00
 -][**First Family of the Pacific States Vol 3 N – Z** \$40.00
 -][**Henley - Hornbrook Cemetery, Siskiyou County, CA** \$20.00

Save \$20 off First Family books when purchasing all three!

*Note: Shipping and Handling on the **above** five (5) books only: \$8.00 per book.
We now have Pay Pal on our website! Check it out! www.siskiyougenealogy.org
Membership can also be paid on Pay Pal.*

Membership Year begins July 1st

New Member Renewal

Membership Dues

Individual \$25.00 Family \$30.00

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