

# Tree Tips

*Researching the World*

Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society

July 2008

Volume 24, Number 7

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Tree Tips: Please e-mail contributions to **Diane Sylvester, fjordhest@cox.net**  
Deadline: 3rd Sat. of the month

## Breaking the Code of WWII and Korean War Service Records

Just over 16 million Americans served in WWII and another 3 million in the Korean War. The veterans from these 2 wars undoubtedly had unique experiences during their service, but many share in common a "silent stoicism". This reserve inhibits recollection and reciting with loved ones this aspect of their life, and prevents this phase of their history from being passed down. For those who didn't return, over 800,000 from WWII and 54,000 from the Korean War, it's even more difficult to resurrect their stories.

Saturday, July 19th, William Beigel will share his techniques for researching and, more importantly, interpreting military service records for WWII and the Korean War. As an actively curious WWII hobbyist, Bill's passion for these veterans brings to life the story behind the records, bringing answers to people who have wondered, perhaps for decades, what happened to their loved ones. An occupation as a Municipal transport contract writer by day, combined with a natural eye for detail, gives Bill a unique perspective in deciphering the code of characteristic arcane military documents.

What might be glossed over by an amateur as an unimportant acronym, can be the key that unlocks an important aspect of a veteran's experience. And there's a "ticking time clock" element for those of us interested and want to be enlightened about our ancestors and relatives who served their country in these 2 Wars; fewer than 1/3 of the Americans who served in WWII are still alive and over 1,000 die each day.

William Beigel has been researching and interpreting military records from World War II and the Korean War for over 10 years. Mr. Beigel is a graduate of UCLA

with a BA in History and an MA in Geography.

*Join us on July 19 at the First Presbyterian Church, 21 E. Constance at State Street. Please park in the upper lot off of Constance. The meeting begins at 10:30 AM. Special interest groups start at 9:30 AM and are a great way to begin your morning. Coffee and refreshments will start at 10:00.*

## Events On July 19

You are welcome to the open specialty groups that meet at 9:30 AM, prior to the general meeting.

### **9:30 AM Computer Genealogy Interest Group**

The Computer Genealogy Interest Group will meet in June. For further information, call Merna McClenathen, 964-3005

### **9:30 AM German Ancestry Group** meets before the regular meeting. Call **Cari Thomas**, 965-5523, for further details.

### **9:30 AM Beginning Genealogy Group** meets before the regular meeting under the leadership of **Arlene Doty**.

### **10:00 AM Coffee and Refreshments** will be served at 10:00 AM. Check out the publications and creative gift ideas.

### **10:30 AM Meeting and Program** at First Presbyterian Church, 21 E. Constance

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## **Half and Half Book Buy Program**

**Finding Your Father's War**, by Gawne. New guide to researching & understanding WWII service in the US Army! Over 470 photos & charts to assist your record finding search. Cost: \$30; 1/2 cost: \$15. Needed: \$15.00.

**Genealogical Writing in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. By NEHGS. A complete guide to the "Register Format" preferred by NEHGS. Includes a section on using Microsoft® Word to write your genealogies & more! Cost: \$16; 1/2 cost: \$8. Needed: \$8.00.

**History of Hope Maine**, by Hardy. History from 1768 and marriage records from 1804. Family records and cemetery interments & deeds. Every name index with over 14,700 listings! Cost: \$58; 1/2 cost: \$29. Needed: \$29.00.

**History of Fayette Co. Alabama**, by Newell. From early settlement in 1819 to 1960. Items covered are wars, economics, religion, education & communication. Over 230 pages of family genealogies! Nice. Indexed. Cost: \$52; 1/2 cost: \$26. Needed: \$26.00.

**The East India Register & Directory 1830**, Archive CD Books. Did an ancestor live in India in 1830? Directory gives names occupations of civilians and possible military assignments and dates of residence. Cost: \$28; 1/2 cost: \$14. Needed: \$14.00.

**Returning Home: Transatlantic Migration for North America to Britain & Ireland 1858-1870**, CD by Eneclann. Did you "lose" an Irish immigrant in the 1860 or 1870 census? Over 42,700 names included here! Easily searchable. Given names & surnames; nationality (not all returned from USA) occupation, marriage, and sailing data. Cost: \$56; 1/2 cost: \$28. Needed: \$28.00.

**Pennsylvania Archives, Revolutionary War, Fifth Series Vols 1-8, Sixth Series. Vols 1-2.** Muster & general military rolls of those who served from PA, including War of 1812. Information my include dates of enlistment/discharge; age, birth-place & residence. Cost: \$98; 1/2 cost: \$49. Needed: \$49.00

Members pay 1/2 –  
Book Fund pays 1/2.

Please send contributions to:  
SBCGS, c/o Louise Matz,  
P.O. Box 6103, SB 93160

Suggestions welcomed!

### **SPECIAL THANKS TO MEMBERS WHO MADE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HALF & HALF BOOK BUY PROGRAM!**

Catherine Quinn Charles Huber

Dorothy Oksner

Gift of eleven CDs for British Research, from Judy Winkel !

### **British Seminar August 9, 2008**

The British Isles Family History Society-USA is presenting renowned British genealogist Michael Gandy in an afternoon seminar at the Santa Monica Public Library Saturday, August 9, from noon to 5 p.m. Mr. Gandy is also editor of the prestigious journal of the Society of Genealogists in London. (Jan Cloud says he's one of the best British Isles speakers that she's heard!) For a listing of his topics and a registration form, go to <<http://www.bifhsusa.org>> as reservations must be made in advance.

If you would like to carpool with other SBCGS members who are attending, contact Jan Cloud at 965-7423. It should be a wonderful afternoon!

### **Calendar**

#### ***Board Meeting***

Friday, July 18, 8:30 AM, at the Sahyun

#### ***General Meeting***

Saturday, July 19, 10:30 AM

#### ***Genealogy Adult Education Classes***

Begin on September 15

#### ***Honors Luncheon***

September 18, 2008

## **Dues are Due! by Kristin Ingalls Membership Chair**

Birthdays and membership renewals seem to come sooner and sooner every year. The birthdays I can ignore, but not my SBCGS membership. Personally, I can't think of money better spent. For a few dollars a month, I can get lost in the library—I know those ancestors in in there somewhere. When the books fail me, there is that computer room—full of CDs and, of course, Ancestry.

I love our monthly meetings. Have you ever notice how much positive energy a roomful of genealogists generates? If you tire of the yummy snacks, join one of the special interest circles, and find new ways to research, and even buy a book from the sales table. And, our speakers are just stellar!

Oh, I can't forget the bus trips, cemetery picnics, special luncheons, or Tree Tips and Ancestors West—some of my favorite reading material. I don't think my dues even cover the costs of printing and mailing those.

Where else can I get so much for so little?! How about you? Ready to renew?

### **Another Advantage of Membership**

The SBCGS computers now have three new genealogy sites available for research by members. They are: **GenCircles** (a new site for family trees); **Footnote** (genealogists, historians, Civil War re-enactors, Revolutionary War re-enactors, historical society members, railroad buffs, teachers, professors, students, and many more should find this collection of documents to be an excellent resource); and **Northern New York Newspapers** (the online collection currently consists of more than 1,082,000 pages from thirty-one newspapers in the counties of Oswego, Lewis, Jefferson, Essex, St. Lawrence, Franklin, and Clinton). To access any of these sites just click on FAVORITES & then GENEALOGY.

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## From the President's Desk

Dear Members and Friends,

The middle of the year once again, and the days will soon be getting shorter. Soon the winter holidays will be upon us and we'll say, "Where does time fly?" (answer below). It is the end of another fiscal year for the Society as well as my second year as President, so it is appropriate to review some of the significant happenings and to look forward to others in the coming year.

The Society turned 35 and we celebrated the anniversary in glorious fashion in November. Thank you Gary Shumaker and your committee for making such a splendid affair happen in such grand style!

Another "Picnic in the Cemetery" happened again, this time in October and at the Carpinteria Cemetery. Thank you Michel Nellis and Dorothy Oksner for organizing the event, and a big thanks to each of the notable "interred."

We had a full slate of Adult Ed classes throughout the year, led by Jan Cloud, Louise Matz, and Cari Thomas. Jim Friestad held several ad hoc PC-user classes at the Sahyun Library, and I did the same with Mac-users.

The Spring Seminar was well-attended and featured Dawn Thurston, who taught us how to write our family history in a form that others people will read. She was also one of guest speakers in a splendid cast for the general meetings throughout the year. Thank you Mary Hall for bringing these wonderful and varied speakers to us.

Thanks to many of you, we took more concrete steps toward long-term financial stability by your additions to the fall endowment. One of the highlights of that campaign was the addition of two life members and their leaves to the Society's tree. Our membership, moreover, remained around 500. That is truly significant in a community as small as Santa Barbara, in my opinion, and indicates the vibrancy and strength of our Society.

We took significant steps toward building an extension onto the Sahyun Library. First, the architect finished the preliminary plans, most of the required site investigations have been completed, and the plans are nearly through the City's approval process. Second, we have formed a Capital Campaign Committee to raise funds for construction, for new computer equipment, and for the endowment. The committee shared a draft of the Case for the Campaign with many of you, and I thank you for returning it promptly with your critical and thoughtful comments. They will be incorporated in final draft that we'll send to local foundations to seek support for the Campaign. Do look forward to the progress of the Campaign and events associated with it.

Look forward also to several social events coming up this year, notably the Honors Luncheon on September 18. Look forward to more instructive and intriguing speakers and programs at the General Meetings each third Saturday of the month.

Lastly, I hope each of you anticipates making great progress in your own genealogical research, because time is flying into another year. And, if you don't do it next year, then when?

See you in the Sahyun Library,  
Arthur Gibbs Sylvester, President

(Answer: Time generally flies to Omaha)

Save the Date  
September 18, 2008  
for a luncheon  
to honor  
Merna McClenathan  
and  
Louise and Gary Matz  
for their many  
contributions to SBCGS

## Society Interest Groups

### *Illinois Interest Group*

The Illinois Interest Group will meet November 3, 2008, at the Sahyun Library, 1:00 – 3:00 PM. For further information, please call Joan Jacobs (682-9524) or e-mail her at rsjacobs3@cox.net.

### *Civil War Research*

For help with Civil War Ancestor research, contact Bob Duncan at 684-5640 or nacnud34@cox.net.

### *Cornish Interest Group*

For information on the California Cornish Cousins, call 687-8257 or 687-5403. New members always welcomed.

### *American Scandinavian Foundation*

SBCGS members are invited to contact Evelyne Houdek if they have Scandinavian heritage or are interested in Scandinavia. (Evelyne Houdek, 684-7736, or gghoudek@aol.com)

### Library Note

#### • **SBCGS Sahyun Library Hours** **316 Castillo Street**

Phone: 805-884-9909

Sunday: 1–4 PM

Tuesday: 10 AM–3 PM

Thursday: 10 AM–3 PM

Friday: 10 AM–3 PM

#### • **LDS Library Hours** **2107 Santa Barbara St.**

Phone: 805-682-2092

Wednesday: 10 AM–6 PM

Thursday: 10 AM–6 PM

Friday: 9 AM–3 PM

Saturday: 9 AM–12 Noon

*Consider signing up to be a librarian or a substitute. Training is available. Contact Jim Friestad, ronjim@cox.net.*

**SB Co. Genealogical Society Web Page:**  
[www.cagenweb.com/santabarbara/sbcgs/](http://www.cagenweb.com/santabarbara/sbcgs/)  
**Library e-mail address:**  
[sbcgs@msn.com](mailto:sbcgs@msn.com)

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## Adult Education Fall Genealogical Classes

### English Research Class

This fall, Jan Cloud will again teach an Adult Ed class on "Researching Your English Family Roots." Many new sources are now available on the Internet, adding to, but not replacing the vast collection of English records available on loan from the LDS Family History Library in SLC. Learn about vital records (nation-wide indexes from 1837 to the present), church records, the censuses, probate and much more.

### Fall Genealogy Classes

Adult Ed classes for the Fall Quarter begin the week of September 15th and each of the classes below runs for 10 weeks. So, mark your September calendar now!

- **Researching Your English Family Roots**  
Monday, Sept. 15  
Sahyun Library, 316 Castillo St.  
10 a.m.-noon  
Instructor: Jan Cloud

- **Beginning/Intermediate Genealogical Research**  
Tuesday, Sept. 16  
Wake Center, Room 26  
5:15-7:15 p.m.  
Instructor: Louise Matz
- **Intermediate/Advanced Family History Research**  
Wednesday, Sept. 17  
Wake Center, Room 26  
10 a.m.- noon  
Instructor: Jan Cloud

### Call for Programs!

Do you have a genealogical or family research & history topic you'd like to see as a program? Have you seen a speaker at another conference or seminar that would provide a stimulating spark for the SBCGS membership? Would you like to informally gather and toss around monthly program topics and ideas? If so, please contact our Programs Chair, Mary E. Hall at [mehall2@cox.net](mailto:mehall2@cox.net) to help schedule stimulating and meaningful SBCGS programs.

### E-Mail Updates

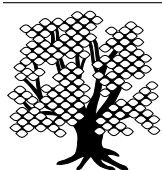
by Gary Shumaker



In order to keep everyone informed of general meetings, I am attempting to email all the people who have an Internet address. Unfortunately, I do not have the correct address for some people. I know this because your mail comes back to me as undeliverable. It is possible that you have changed your address since the membership list was printed.

If you would like to receive an email reminder of our meetings and have not received a reminder about any of our meetings this year, I would be glad to add you to our mailing list. So, if you want to be on the mailing list, please send me an email at: [shumakergary@hotmail.com](mailto:shumakergary@hotmail.com)

I hope you have a nice summer-Viva La Fiesta!



**Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society**

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