



# Tree Tips

*Researching the World*

Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society

March 2008

Volume 24, Number 3

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## For Information, Call:

President:

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Head Librarian:

**Don Gill, 967-7236**

Librarian Scheduling:

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Ancestors' West:

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Adult Ed Genealogy Classes:

**Jan Cloud, 965-7423**

**Louise Matz, 967-7353**

**Cari Thomas, 965-5523**

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Vice President, Programs:

**Mary Hall, 687-7403**

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**Gary Shumaker, 687-0065**

Tree Tips: Please e-mail contributions to **Diane Sylvester,**

**fjordhest@cox.net**

**Deadline:** 3rd Sat. of the month

## Focusing Your Research

Our March 15 program speaker, Cafi Cohen, asks "Are you the genealogical equivalent of a quilt maker who collects scraps of material but never makes the quilt?"

While finding and collecting those "scraps" is exciting, sometimes challenging, and always rewarding, sooner or later we decide we want to create something lasting and transferable with our treasures of information and knowledge. But the idea of creating a family history project can quickly become quite daunting.

The key to not becoming overwhelmed by the prospect of actually producing that quilt is in "focusing your research" – past and future. Our March program will help you decide how to limit your research, determine the best "product" type (hint: it may not be a book!) and offer useful tips to help complete your project.

Cafi Cohen is the Education Chairperson of San Luis Obispo County Genealogical Society. She teaches a wide variety of genealogical research techniques, including Internet search strategies, and first spoke to our society in September 2001 on the tracing the female lines of your family tree. She returns to Santa Barbara, with her business partner Cheryl Storton, SLOGGS Programs Chair (and also an insightful and enthusiastic genealogist). They will offer project ideas, examples of completed genealogy "products", and the Top Ten Countdown: "10 Ways to Accomplish Nothing," guaranteed to change why and how you research.

Members are encouraged to bring examples of your current projects for display before and after the meeting, to obtain helpful hints and offer encouragement to fellow family historians. Project

displays can be books, charts, family group sheets, video displays, scrapbooks, photo albums, or even quilts!

This program, combined with our March 29 Seminar "How to Breathe Life into Your Family History," is certain to provide practical inspiration and generate action!

*Join us on March 15, 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 March 15

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** will meet before the January meeting. For further information, call **Merna McClen-athen, 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. Enjoy good conversation, great refreshments, and peruse the publications and creative gift ideas.

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

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

Passengers from Ireland-Arriving between 1811-1817, by Schlegel. Over 7,300 immigrants listed here taken from an Irish-American periodical and two NY Irish newspapers. Gives Irish county of residence Indexed. Cost: \$22; 1/2 cost: \$11. Needed: \$11.00.

**Irish Famine Immigrants in the State of Vermont-Gravestone Inscriptions**, Murphy. Included are inscriptions from Quebec, & nearby NY & NH. Information includes POB, DOB, age, DOD, name of spouse & inscriptions. Brief sketches of parish churches, also surname indexed. Cost: \$50; 1/2 cost: \$25. Needed: \$25.00.

**The WPA Guide to 1930's Alabama**, by Jackson. A unique snapshot of Alabama's life & culture in the 1930's. It dispels the myths of cotton fields, magnolias and plantation houses and shows AL as vibrant modern state. With many photos. Cost: \$26; 1/2 cost: \$13. Needed: \$13.00.

**Chickasaw Annuity Rolls of 1857-60, & Chicksaw District "1855" Choctaw Roll**, by Armstrong. Each entry shows the recipient's name, number of men, women & children in each household and amount of money received per person & per household for years listed. Every-name index. Cost: \$20; 1/2 cost: \$10. Needed: \$10.00.

**Place Names of New Mexico**, Revised, by Julyan. Explains more than 7,000 names of towns, counties post offices, abandoned settlements & geographical features relevant to NM history. Cost: \$22; 1/2 cost: \$11. Needed: \$11.00.

**Combined History of Edwards, Lawrence & Wabash Counties IL**, 1883 McDonough Reprint. Includes biographical sketches of prominent men and pioneers, with portraits and illustrations. Histories of the counties; names many individuals. Township & patrons lists give maiden names! Cost: \$46; 1/2 cost: \$23. Needed: \$23.00.

**The Statistical Survey of Co. Cavan, 1802**. CD by Archive Ireland. Fully searchable CD, learn much about pre-famine Cavan Co. Cost: \$24; 1/2 cost: \$12. Needed: \$12.00.

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

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

*Happy St. Patrick's Day!!*

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

Dorcas Robson      Robert Duarte  
James North      Gail Miller  
Marje Friestad      Eleanor Ward  
Art Sylvester

### ***Membership***

Below is the information on our newest members.

#### **Friend:**

Bill Steinkellner  
745 San Ysidro Rd  
Santa Barbara, CA 93108-1328  
(805) 451-4570  
billsteinkellner@yahoo.com

#### **Family:**

James & Judith Mellinger  
695 16 St. SW  
Rochester, MN 55902-2123  
(507) 261-1701  
jfmellinger@msn.com

#### **Individual:**

Charlotte Abkin  
633 Avenida Pequena  
Santa Barbara, CA 93111-1413  
(805) 964-6436

Connie Burns  
5410 San Patricio Dr.  
Santa Barbara, CA 93111-1455  
(805) 967-6166  
rburns@aol.com

Kim Fults  
1334 Camino Trillado  
Carpinteria, CA 93013-1539  
(805) 684-9996  
kim.e.fults@gte.net

Patricia Kruse  
1510 Las Positas Rd  
Santa Barbara, CA 93105-4168  
(805) 687-6886  
patriciakruse@g-mail.com

Clarence Levan  
227 E. Anapamu St, Apt. 221  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101-2205  
(805) 730-7314

Hideko Malis  
220 W. Canon Perdido St  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101-3725  
(805) 962-9155  
cbccms@aol.com

Frances A. Morino  
15 Solana Ct  
Santa Barbara, CA 93109-1046  
(805) 689-8490  
fammwr@gmail.com

Judy Sahn  
P.O. Box 3793  
Santa Barbara, CA 93130-3793  
(805) 448-1079  
Thank you to Judy for her generous \$140 donation to the library book fund.

Leslie Steinmetz  
2801 Ben Lomond Dr  
Santa Barbara, CA 93105-2204  
(805) 687-5031  
Thank you to Leslie for her \$20 donation to the library book fund.

Jeanne Warden  
3759 Center Ave  
Santa Barbara, CA 93105-2414  
(805) 687-3827

#### **Changes:**

Member Carmen Parker has relocated to Atlanta, Georgia

Member Bonnie Poucher name has been changed to Bonnie L. Gaines

**Note: All the individual & family memberships are now 1/2 price.**

#### *In Memory*

We regret the loss of Life Member, **Ruth Morrow**, who passed away on February 5, 2008, and extend our sympathies to her family and friends.

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## From the President's Desk

Two schools of thought:

Genealogy is many things. Each of us has our own approach to, and perception of, the hobby, based on various personal factors.

Having said that, however, two broad schools of thought seem to prevail in genealogy. The first I'll call the "Scholarly" approach. This is the way most genealogists regard their hobby. It stems from the examples we have in the various genealogical journals, such as the *New England Historic & Genealogical Society Register*, which has some of the most stringent publication guidelines in the business. Most of us believe our research is not sufficiently scholarly, detailed, or interesting for publication in such a journal – and so we don't publish. To be sure, many of those journals feature articles about families or individuals that are of interest to a broad spectrum of readers, such as *Mayflower* descendants and the old New England "gentry".

The "Scholarly" approach does require a degree of rigor, commitment, organization, patience, and time that not all of us possess. Even so, it is possible to do some very nice work that simply lacks a "scholarly" focus or an appropriate venue for publication, and many of you can be justifiably proud of your work. You are happy with what you have done, you have learned what you set out to learn – and then some – and you've had a lot of fun doing it.

The other approach, which I'll call "Hobby," is just that – a hobby, pure and simple. We are in it for the chase, perhaps, to fill in all the blanks as we would a crossword puzzle, to find our how far back we can push our ancestry, to learn if we are related to Daniel Boone, if we can establish Native American ancestry, or if we have some "shady" characters in our ancestry.

The "Hobby" approach requires much less discipline and commitment, although perhaps no less time, energy, and organization. We may assemble our information on a compact disk that we'll pass on to interested family, we may produce a loose leaf binder with

charts, photos, and anecdotes, or we may produce a scrap book that our children may look at longer and more frequently than a journal article in the *NEHGS Register*.

These two approaches are not sharply divided, but in fact, overlap considerably. Neither approach is "better" than the other – they are just different and bring much pleasure to the doer. It is up to the individual to decide which suits best. Genealogy is a hobby for most of us, after all, not a profession, and we're in it for enjoyment and self fulfillment. It is entirely up to you how you arrive at these goals.

Arthur Gibbs Sylvester  
President

### **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–8 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.*

## **Announcements**

• **Wanted: Stories from your family** for use in a doctoral dissertation on Family Folklore. Stories must have been passed down over at least 2 generations (your grandparents to you, you to your grandchildren, etc.), they must be (North) American in origin (no stories from "the old country," but immigration stories are great!), and must be from your own family (not a friend's). Stories also should have had an impact or effect (however slight) on you or your family (this might be as simple as "inspired me to pursue family history"). They need not be true (may be proven false or not able to be proved at all - many fictional family stories have had impact on future generations!). If you have proved them true or false, that added detail is also welcome. Stories may be of any length, but must be submitted through a website submission form in order to have all the necessary data to do the analysis. To read more about the project and submit your story, please go to <<http://www.circlemending.org/familystory.html>>. \$1 will be donated for each story received that meets the criteria just stated (just enter the society identification in the appropriate spot on the website submission form). The collecting process will be completed by the end of March 2008. Thank you for your participation. Submitted by Jean Wilcox Hibben, MA, CGsm; Member, Association of Professional Genealogists & Genealogical Speakers Guild; President, Corona (CA) Genealogical Society

• **Conejo Valley Genealogical Society Annual Seminar**  
Featuring Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak  
Saturday, May 10, 2008  
Ascension Lutheran Church  
1600 E. Hillcrest Dr.  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362  
e-mail: cvgs2008seminar@aol.com

## **Society Interest Groups**

### **Illinois Interest Group**

The Illinois Interest Group will meet May 5, 2008, 1:00 – 3:00 PM, Sahyun Library. Louise Matz, of the Book Buy Committee, will discuss the criteria used to select genealogical research books and CDs for our library. Please join us for an informative afternoon. For further information, call Joan Jacobs (682-9524) or e-mail her at rsjacobs3@cox.net

### **Civil War Research**

For help with Civil War Ancestor re-

search, 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)

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LOS ANGELES CENTRAL  
PUBLIC LIBRARY  
Society Van Trip



You are cordially invited to join a group of fellow society members as they set out to discover some of the many special collections at the Los Angeles Public Library. This charming architectural masterpiece contains the largest genealogical holdings in Southern California: county/state histories, family histories, and heraldry.

On Wednesday morning, March 19, at 8:00 a.m. we will take a van from the parking lot of Vons in Goleta to the library. With any kind of luck, we should be back to the parking lot on north Fairview by six that evening. The society charges \$20.00 for this trip. If you are interested, call Gary Shumaker at 6870065 for more information. There is room for ten people in the van: it might be a good idea to reserve your seat as soon as possible.

June 21<sup>st</sup> Program: Scoundrels,  
Skeletons and Black Sheep

A clear theme is developing for our member contribution program on June 21<sup>st</sup>, and that's the colorful ancestors that we have discovered hidden in our family trees. If you've uncovered a charming scoundrel, a skeleton that wants out of the closet, or one of those fascinating black sheep (there's at least one in most flocks and they always stand out!), consider sharing your story with the society. The techniques you used to lure them out will be as interesting as the characters and their deeds themselves. Contact Programs Chair, Mary E. Hall at [mehall2@cox.net](mailto:mehall2@cox.net) for more information and to arrange to present your discovery in our June program.

**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.

**How to Breathe Life  
into Your Family History  
Annual Seminar  
Saturday, March 29**

Don't miss out on this daylong seminar. **Dawn Thurston** returns to Santa Barbara to present four talks: How to Turn Genealogy Data into a Fascinating Family History; How to Breathe Life into Your Ancestors; How to Re-Create Your Ancestors' World; How to Write a Page-Turner.

What participants say about Dawn:

*"Inspirational!"*

*"Wonderful, creative teaching methods."*

*"So motivating—I actually started writing because of Dawn."*

More details in the enclosed flyer.

**Calendar**

***Board Meeting***

Friday, Mar. 7, 8:30 AM, at the Sahyun.

***General Meeting***

Saturday, Mar. 15, 10:30 AM

***Society Van Trip***

Wednesday, March 19, 8:00 AM.

***Seminar***

Saturday, March 29, 2008



**Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society**

**P.O. Box 1303  
Goleta, CA 93116-1303**

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