

# Ancestors West



SANTA BARBARA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

[www.cagenweb.com/santabarbara/sbcgs](http://www.cagenweb.com/santabarbara/sbcgs)

FALL 2003/WINTER 2004

Volume 30, Number 1

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# SANTA BARBARA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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*Ancestors West* is published quarterly in fall, winter, spring and summer. As available, current and back issues are \$6 each including postage. Library subscription to *Ancestors West* is \$20 per year. *Ancestors West* is indexed in the PERiodical Source Index (PERSI), published by the Allen County Public Library, Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

Articles of family history or of historical nature are welcomed and utilized as space permits. If materials are to be returned, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Be sure to add your name to copy being submitted.

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Established in 1972, the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society became incorporated as a nonprofit 501(C)(3) organization in 1986. Its aim is to promote genealogy by providing assistance and educational opportunities for those who are interested in pursuing their family history.

**Library:** Sahyun Library at the SBCGS facility, 316 Castillo St., Santa Barbara.  
Hours: Sunday 1-4 P.M.; Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10 A.M. -3 P.M.  
Phone number: (805) 884-9909

**Membership:** Benefits include *Tree Tips* (monthly newsletter) and *Ancestors West* (quarterly).

Dues are payable annually beginning on July 1st of each year:  
Active (individual) - \$30; Family (husband & wife) - \$45; Friend - \$40;  
Donor - \$60; Patron - \$125; Life - \$1000

**Meetings:** First Presbyterian Church, 21 E. Constance Ave. at State St., Santa Barbara, California  
Regular monthly meetings are held on the third Saturday of each month except August. Meetings begin at 10:30 A.M. and are preceded at 9:30 A.M. by sessions for Beginners, Help Wanted, and Computer Help

**Board of Directors effective July 18, 2003:**

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## From the President's Desk



In the summer 2003 issue of *Ancestors West*, I read with interest Gaye O'Callahan's article "Santa Barbara Sleuthing." The thing that caught my eye was the information she provided regarding Sanborn Maps, especially the viewing "on line" part. Since I had gotten a Los Angeles Public Library Card last fall, I thought I would pay the LAPL an electronic visit, and am I glad I did.

My family has lived in the Los Angeles area since the early 1900s, specifically in the Bunker Hill area on 1<sup>st</sup> and Flower. I have several old photos of family members posing in front of the house and one of my great aunt standing on the front porch but none taken inside, giving me some idea of the interior layout. From the various pictures it is possible to tentatively piece together what structures were on the surrounding lots and in general what the neighborhood looked like in 1904. Because the Los Angeles Music Center occupies the spot now, it is almost impossible to figure out where on those old blocks the house would have stood or how close it was to the streetcar that came near their house.

What I did discover from the Sanborn Maps was a neighborhood full of apartments, flats, hotels and businesses. The neighborhood of my family looked as though it was probably a very busy and interesting place to live.

While I was at it, I thought I would look further south to the city of Inglewood in the 1920 to 1930 time frames. This was where my family moved onto four lots at the corner of what would later become La Brea and Centinela Avenues. On these lots my great grandmother ran her own chicken and turkey ranch on the uphill side of the lot, and my father and his uncle opened a gasoline station down on the southwest corner of the property. Sure enough, I was able to view the property in 1923 and 1935 on two separate maps (complete

with the chicken house/barn). These maps showed the property before and after the gas station was built as well as two competing stations right across the street from my Dad's.

All of this simply added to my understanding of where my family lived and in my mind's eye what their neighborhood looked like. This is information that I never would have had if it hadn't been for the Sanborn Maps. Thank you, Gaye, for sharing this truly special resource that is as close as the LAPL online.

<http://www.lapl.org/>

*Michol Colgan*, President

## From the Editor

This issue is jam-packed with articles from our own members who have generously contributed their expertise and knowledge. You don't know how pleased and proud I am of all of you.

We begin with Emily Aasted's listing of Irish genealogical resources from a pamphlet she got when in Ireland last year. John Fritsche's article follows which all started with a postcard he found showing a banana farm on Mountain Drive. John exhibits his masterful detective work in this one.

Chuck Libbert has Dutch ancestors and tells you how to research them. Richard Dittman, from Wisconsin, has found his ancestor in Santa Barbara, perhaps the first German to settle here. B. Jo Dake went to Salt Lake City to find her ancestor in the FHL.

I twisted the arms of my "cousin," Bill Davidson in Canada, to explain the intricacies of building his own web site, and new member, Dr. Bill Meller, to tell us about his trip to an archive in Hungary to find his grandfather's birth record.

Member Frank LaBouvé found his Civil War Vet in a National Cemetery in Illinois, and Valerie Ingram found her half-siblings in Ukraine in a very heart-warming story brought to our attention by member Louise Swain.

Congratulations and thanks to all of you.

*Dorothy Okşner*, Editor

## IRISH GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

Compiled by Emily Aasted, SBCGS Member  
eaasted@prodigy.net

The Irish Family History Foundation (IFHF), established in 1990, is an all island network of 33 county-based family history research centers that are situated throughout the island of Ireland. It aims to provide a comprehensive family history research service involving the participation and cooperation of local communities and the major churches. Each center is responsible for the collection of primary genealogical records and indexing these records onto a computerized database for a specified catchment area. The records include church records, civil records, census returns, Griffith's Valuation, tithe applotments, and graveyard inscriptions. Contact the center for help, because the computer databases can only be accessed by the trained researchers based at each center. These centers are:

### Ulster Historical Foundation:

Balmoral Buildings, 12 College Square East, Belfast BT1 6DD  
Tel +44 (0) 28 9033 2288  
Fax +44 (0) 28 9023 9885  
E-Mail [enquiry@uhf.org.uk](mailto:enquiry@uhf.org.uk)  
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### Armagh Ancestry

38a English Street, Armagh BT61 7BA  
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Web: [www.armagh.gov.uk](http://www.armagh.gov.uk)

### Carlow Genealogy Project

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Tel +353 (0) 59 9130850  
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### Co. Cavan Genealogical Research Centre

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### Clare Heritage & Genealogical Centre

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Fax +353 (0) 65 6837540  
E-mail: [clareheritage@eircom.net](mailto:clareheritage@eircom.net)  
Web: [www.clareroots.com](http://www.clareroots.com)

### Cork City Ancestral Project

No research at present, for information contact:  
c/o Cork County Library, Farranlea Road, Cork  
Tel +353 (0) 21 4346435  
Fax +353 (0) 21 4343254  
E-mail: [corkancestry@ireland.com](mailto:corkancestry@ireland.com)

### Mallow Heritage Centre

27/28 Bank Place, Mallow, Co. Cork  
Tel +353 (0) 22 50302  
Fax +353 (0) 22 20276  
E-mail: [mallowhc@eircom.net](mailto:mallowhc@eircom.net)  
Web: [www.irishroots.net](http://www.irishroots.net)

### Derry Genealogy Centre

Heritage Library, 14 Bishop Street  
Derry BT48 6PW  
Tel +44 (0) 28 7126 9792  
Fax +44 (0) 28 7136 0921  
E-mail: [niancestors@btclick.com](mailto:niancestors@btclick.com)  
Web: [www.irishroots.net](http://www.irishroots.net)

### Donegal Ancestry Centre

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Tel +353 (0) 74 9151266  
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### Fingal Genealogy

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Tel +353 (0) 1 8400080  
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E-mail: [swordsheritage@eircom.net](mailto:swordsheritage@eircom.net)

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Irish Genealogy Ltd., 7-9 Merrion Row, Dublin 2  
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Web: [www.irishgenealogy.ie](http://www.irishgenealogy.ie)

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E-mail: [capinfo@iol.ie](mailto:capinfo@iol.ie)  
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Irish Midlands Ancestry  
Bury Quay, Tullamore, Co. Offaly  
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E-mail: [ohas@iol.ie](mailto:ohas@iol.ie)  
Web: [www.irishmidlandsancestry.com](http://www.irishmidlandsancestry.com)

Leitrim Genealogy Centre  
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Fax +353 (0) 71 9644425  
E-mail: [leitrimgenealogy@eircom.net](mailto:leitrimgenealogy@eircom.net)  
Web: [www.irishroots.net](http://www.irishroots.net)

Limerick Ancestry  
The Granary, Michael Street, Limerick City  
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Fax +353 (0) 61 312985  
Web: [www.limerickancestry.com](http://www.limerickancestry.com)

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Louth County Library  
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Fax +353 (0) 42 9337635  
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Web: [www.mayo.irish-roots.net](http://www.mayo.irish-roots.net)

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County Sligo Heritage & Genealogy Centre  
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Web: [www.sligoroots.com](http://www.sligoroots.com)

Tipperary North Family Research Centre  
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E-mail: [tippnorthgenealogy@eircom.net](mailto:tippnorthgenealogy@eircom.net)  
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Bru Boru Cultural Centre  
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Fax: +353 (0) 62 62700  
E-mail: [bruboru@comhaltas.com](mailto:bruboru@comhaltas.com)  
Web: [www.comhaltas.com](http://www.comhaltas.com)

Waterford Heritage Services  
Jenkins Lane, Waterford, Co. Waterford  
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Web: [www.waterford-heritage.ie](http://www.waterford-heritage.ie)

Dun Na Si Heritage Centre  
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Wicklow Family History Centre  
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Tel +353 (0) 404 20126  
Fax +353 (0) 404 61612  
E-mail: [wfh@eircom.net](mailto:wfh@eircom.net)

The foregoing addresses were published in a pamphlet entitled "*Irish Genealogy Your Link, Your Roots...*," by the Irish Genealogy Ltd., 7-9 Merrion Row, Dublin 2.  
Tel +353 (0) 1 6617330/6617334,  
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E-mail [info@irishgenealogy.ie](mailto:info@irishgenealogy.ie)  
Web: [www.irishgenealogy.ie](http://www.irishgenealogy.ie).

\* \* \* \*

## NATIONAL ARCHIVES ORDER FORMS ONLINE

To order NATF forms from the National Archives, go to [http://www.archives.gov/global\\_pages/inquire\\_form.html](http://www.archives.gov/global_pages/inquire_form.html)

The following forms are available:

Ship Passenger Arrival Records	(NATF 81)
Federal Census Records	(NATF 82)
Eastern Cherokee Applications	(NATF 83)
Land Entry Files	(NATF 84)
Military Pension/Bounty Land Warrant Applications	(NATF 85)
Military Service Records	(NATF 86)
Request Pertaining to Military Records (SF 180)	

**Note:** NATF 80 is no longer used. Use NATF 85 for military pension and bounty land warrant applications, and NATF 86 for military service records for Army veterans discharged before 1912.

\* \* \* \*

## FREE TRANSCRIPTION SERVICE FOR 70 LANGUAGES

This service is free for genealogical purposes only. Documents to be translated can be faxed or mailed to France, or scanned and attached as a jpeg or gif on their web page at <http://e-transcriptum.net/>.

Turn-around time is from one to five weeks.

[I will be sending in several birth and death records from Poland in old Russian handwriting for translation and will report the results in the next *Ancestors West*. -Ed.]



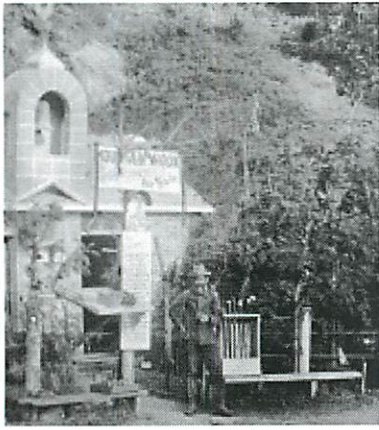


FIGURE 1. POSTCARD OF WILLIAM F. FERL CA. 1900



FIGURE 2. POSTCARD OF MRS. ORRISS STANDING ON FAR RIGHT CA. 1910

## BANANAS AND LEMONADE IN SANTA BARBARA'S OLDEN DAYS

By John Fritsche, SBCGS Member

Long before the La Conchita banana farm appeared along Highway 101, Santa Barbara had banana farms. In the Thompson and West 1883 *History of Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties, California*, there is a reference to a banana plantation of a Colonel Dinsmore of Montecito. But, more famous than this plantation was one on Mountain Drive that became a tourist attraction.<sup>1</sup>

As the Arlington and Potter Hotels began to attract wealthy tourists to Santa Barbara in the late 1890s and early 1900s, the need for a buggy road to showcase the area became evident. The exact date of the origin of Mountain Drive is unknown, but it was not just the Mountain Drive we know today for it included Hope Ranch and the Mesa in its wanderings for the tourist.<sup>2</sup>

But for our purposes we want to concentrate on the segment from the Mission to Coyote Road and Sycamore Canyon in Montecito, for this was a one-way horse and buggy dirt road that extended some five miles east from the Mission to "Mountain Nook," and what has to be the first drive-in lemonade and refreshment stand in Santa Barbara. It also allowed the Eastern tourist a chance to see and pick bananas, a first for many, you can be sure.<sup>3</sup>

This unique spot in the history of Santa Barbara was owned by William Fredrick Ferl (1835-1906) and Anna R. Ferl (1843-1905) who had

emigrated as husband and wife from Prussia. William called himself a farmer, yet in one Montecito City Directory he is listed as a "horticulturist." He was naturalized in 1871 and applied for a land grant in four contiguous sections in the Montecito hills. He was granted 160 acres when his Preemptive Land Patent #350 was finalized in May of 1878. Because his application was considered to be a preemptive application, it was held in abeyance for 60 days in case someone wished to appeal it. He was granted the 160 acres he had filed on and was charged \$200 or \$1.25 per acre. In the application he stated that he "moved onto the land in December 1869 and over the years constructed a barn, corral, fences and laid water pipes." He also said he was a farmer and grew beans. He later planted a banana farm on the upper portion of his holdings. There he erected their home and a small stone building to sell lemonade and other refreshments to the thirsty tourists. He also skinned rattlesnakes and placed their hides on walking sticks, which he sold to tourists. Look carefully at Figure 1 and you will see the walking sticks for sale in an upright box next to William Ferl.<sup>4</sup>

Obtaining water for the farm was a complex issue and an 1892 deed was found showing the Ferls owned an undivided two-ninths of a mountain water tunnel that extended into the mountain for about 1000 feet. This tunnel, still in use, is above where Sycamore Creek crosses under

Mountain Drive. The tunnel used a 2-inch water pipe to transport the water down the canyon and to the Ferls' property. In 1892 the Ferls obtained the right for the pipe to cross over an adjacent property owner's land. An 1897 deed mentions two other water tunnels but does not give their location.<sup>5</sup>

In 1896 William completed a will prior to his wife's death that left her only with property held as community property, disinherited his son Fredrick William, and left everything else to his beloved daughter, Anna Rebecca Ferl.<sup>6</sup>

In 1897 in reciprocal deeds, William and Anna Ferl split their land into two approximately equal holdings, which they then held in their individual names.<sup>7</sup>

William and Anna's life was not an easy one, and in 1905 Anna committed suicide and left a will revealing her ill health and family discord. She left everything she had to her son and nothing to her husband and her daughter, Anna Rebecca Ferl.<sup>8</sup>

On March 29, 1906 William Ferl was found dead at his farm even though he had been warned by a doctor not to return to the farm. His holdings must have been large for his probated will estimated his estate at \$6,250, which was a princely amount in 1906.<sup>9</sup>



HEAD STONE AT SANTA BARBARA CEMETERY

Shortly after his death, the Herbert Mayo Orriss family from England/Maine bought from the daughter, Anna R. Ferl (now married by that time to a Carl F. Meyer), that 10-acre part of the Ferls' farm that contained the lemonade stand. The ten acres of land was sold for \$2,000. Herbert and Emily Orriss ran the stand for a number of years until the auto decreased the need for a thirst

quenching drink after a long dusty buggy ride. Mrs. Emily Orriss is shown in Figure 2 standing in almost the same position of that of Mr. Ferl in Figure 1.<sup>10</sup>

Eventually Coyote Road was realigned, and the former Ferl farm split into many parcels. Today the short road known as Banana Road is located on a portion of what was the Ferl farm.<sup>11</sup>

If you are interested in locating the spot on Mountain Drive where the stand stood, simply drive up Sycamore Canyon Road to Coyote Road. Travel up Coyote Road until it meets Mountain Drive. Turn left to the west and travel a short distance to where the Southern California Edison high-tension power lines cross the road. There is a garage-like structure on the exact spot where the refreshment stand stood. The Coyote Fire (September 22-October 1, 1964) burned through this area and destroyed the Orriss' home. The fire originated on what was part of the old Ferl farm as it started from a faulty auto exhaust system just below Mountain Drive.<sup>12</sup>

William Fredrick Ferl also had a brother, Edward, who came to this county and worked as a carpenter in Santa Barbara. Edward was born in November 1840 and came to this country in 1864. Edward and his wife Anna (another Anna) eventually had eight children, only four of whom lived to adulthood. Edward and Anna suffered the loss of three of their children in less than two months in 1888. One child went on to be the first mail deliveryman in Montecito.<sup>13</sup>

Anna Rebecca Ferl, the beloved daughter of William Ferl, married Carl F. Meyer in 1906. Carl became a meat cutter, and eventually the family owned a grocery store at 736 West Pedregosa Street, which no longer exists. They continued at this location until about 1933 when they are no longer found in subsequent city directories.<sup>14</sup>

Fredrick William Ferl, the son of William and Anna Ferl, died at the age of 36 leaving a wife and two children, Alfred and Rudolph. His wife, Anna, was 95 years of age when she passed away in Santa Barbara.<sup>15</sup>

I am unaware of any Ferls in the Santa Barbara area today. If there are descendants that are here



who would like copies of deeds, etc. that I located in researching this line, please contact me through the Santa Barbara Genealogical Society. This article was written to explore some of the lives of individuals I found in postcards of Santa Barbara.

My thanks go to Jan Cloud and Cari Thomas for their assistance in providing the census data.

## ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup> Banana plantation is mentioned in *History of Santa Barbara County California, with Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of Prominent Men and Pioneers*, Published by Thompson & West, Oakland, California, 1883. page 264.

<sup>2</sup> The Arlington Hotel was first built in 1876, and went through three major building phases. It was destroyed in the 1925 earthquake. The Potter Hotel opened in 1903 and was destroyed in 1921 in a fire. Arlington data is from David F. Myrick's book *Montecito and Santa Barbara-From Farms to Estates*, Volume 1, page 18, Pentrex Media Group, 2001. The Potter account is in the same book, page 147. Mention of Mountain Boulevard and Mountain Drive are in various books, news articles and found on numerous postcards.

<sup>3</sup> Mountain Drive is referred to as a one-way drive in the Myrick's *Montecito and Santa Barbara*, Volume 2, page 165. See also News-Press article Santa Barbara Yesterday "Banana Farm in the Hills" dated July 14, 1968 by Walker A. Tompkins.

<sup>4</sup> William Ferl's birth and death dates are from the Santa Barbara Cemetery headstone, his facts from 1900 census data, his passing from a newspaper in the *Independent* newspaper dated March 31, 1906. Mrs. Ferl's information is from the 1900 census and from an article about her death in the *Independent* dated June 10, 1905. Her death certificate was also located in county records.

The reference to being a "horticulturalist" was found in the 1897 Montecito City Directory. His naturalization data is from the 1896 Great Register, Santa Barbara County, California.

The land grant application is cited at <ftp://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/ca/santabarbara/and/sbarbara.txt>, which is a BLM listing.

Cited 75 acres is from the Burton 1899 property map for Montecito. This large map is located in the Montecito History Committee holdings.

Reference to the rattlesnake walking sticks was found in the David F. Myrick's *Montecito and Santa Barbara*, Volume 1, page 165.

<sup>5</sup> The Water deed is recorded in Santa Barbara County Recorder's Office.

The right to lay a water pipe across adjacent land owned by Whalley is recorded in Santa Barbara County Recorder's Office in Volume 42 of Deeds, starting at page 41.

Reference to the two other water tunnels is recorded in deeds in the Santa Barbara County Recorder's Office Book 60 of Deeds, starting at page 177.

<sup>6</sup> William Ferl's original will is in the possession of the Santa Barbara Historical Society. There is a 6326 number on the will, but I do not know its significance.

<sup>7</sup> Splitting of the property is found in two deeds located in the Santa Barbara Recorder's Office Book 60 of Deeds, starting at page 177.

<sup>8</sup> Her death and will were published in the *Independent* newspaper on June 10, 1905 and June 14, 1905, respectively.

<sup>9</sup> The *Independent* recorded his passing in an article on March 31, 1906 and his wealth was noted in a Probate article dated April 5, 1906.

<sup>10</sup> Purchase of the 10 acres, which included the lemonade stand, is recorded in the Book of Deeds 115, starting at page 318 located in the Santa Barbara Recorder's Office.

<sup>11</sup> Various maps show the realignment of the road.

<sup>12</sup> Part of the original sandstone building stands at 100 W. Mountain Dr.

<sup>13</sup> The Ferl brother's information came from 1900 Census. They stated they had eight children, of whom only four were living in 1900. Three children were found to have died in the short time span in the RootsWeb.com site for Pre-1905 California deaths, [www.rootsweb.com/~cabf1905/Santa-Barbara/StaBarbCoIndx.htm](http://www.rootsweb.com/~cabf1905/Santa-Barbara/StaBarbCoIndx.htm). The mailman statement came from David F. Myrick's book *Montecito and Santa Barbara*, Volume 2, page 501.

<sup>14</sup> The marriage of Anna to Carl Meyer is from a marriage record at the Santa Barbara County Recorder's Office. I did not pay for a copy and hence do not have a reference number. I tracked the family using City Directories up until 1933 when they are no longer found.

<sup>15</sup> Frederick William Ferl's death is recorded in an article in the *Independent* on May 7, 1911. His wife's death information came from Santa Barbara Cemetery records and a *News-Press* article dated July 10, 1967.

## RESEARCHING MY DUTCH HERITAGE

*By Chuck Libbert, SBCGS Member  
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75 years ago

Dec. 28, 1830 — The mountain boulevard was thronged with vehicles Christmas afternoon. Many people were anxious to secure another view of that beautiful driveway. The road is in the best condition possible since the rain, and yesterday being almost a perfect day the scenery was something magnificent. After winding around the drive for an hour or more, thirsty pleasure seekers came in contact with "Mountain Nook," where soft drinks and fruit can be secured in large or small quantities. This little place is surrounded by banana trees which seem to thrive well and on which can be seen bunches of this delicate fruit. Leaving this, a short drive brings you into the Montecito Valley and the beach boulevard.

FROM SANTA BARBARA NEWS PRESS, DEC. 28, 1974



My mother was born in the United States, but for her whole life she considered herself Dutch. When she visited Holland, she could converse quite comfortably. Both of her parents were born in Holland. My paternal grandfather was born in Holland, but my paternal grandmother had a line in the United States back to Nieu Amsterdam. This led to some interesting experiences for me growing up in a "Dutch" house. What we ate would drive a nutritionist crazy. Two of my mother's favorite dishes were called "saucynen broodjes" (pigs in a blanket) and "sla" (Dutch lettuce). Pigs were large hunks of sausage wrapped in dough and baked. "These won't be good, the sausage does not have enough grease; I had to add more lard," my mother would say.

I was born and grew up in the very small town of Newark, Wayne County, New York. The 1840 federal census listed no Dutch in Newark. By 1870 there were more than 100 Dutch families living there. Why did they come so fast? Most who came were farmers, the rest laborers. The farming was very similar to what they knew in the old country. They could be successful using the techniques they learned in Holland. When they arrived they "worked on shares," in other words, they were tenant farmers. My maternal grandfather did just that. He apparently was not a very good farmer for they moved often, eventually tending the stock for a state farm. All the paternal side ended up owning their own farms.

My life revolved around Dutch culture. It was very possible for a Dutch immigrant to be very successful in Newark and not speak English. The Dutch had their stores where the clerks either were Dutch or spoke Dutch. Van Horn's Grocery was our every Saturday stop for grocery shopping. As a young boy I could not understand anything being said there as only Dutch was being spoken. After the sun went down, the village of about 9,000

thronged with Dutch farmers, shopping and talking with their friends, always in Dutch. (I learned to swear well in Dutch, but little else.) I saw this same scene repeated in several small towns when I visited Holland. My parents were more interested that I learn English well, rather than speak Dutch, a decision I came to regret when I became interested in genealogy.

Sunday church was another interesting experience. The church was Dutch Reformed. At that time, the service lasted two hours and the sermon was in Dutch, tough going for a young boy who didn't speak Dutch.



MY MATERNAL GREAT GRAND PARENTS  
MARINUS DE PUYT (DU PUIT) AND WILHEMINA WALRAVEN

My maternal grandmother and her family were born in Goes (pronounced "goose") in Zeeland in the southernmost part of Holland. My maternal grandfather was also born in Goes, and his family was born in Rilland, Zeeland, Holland just a few

miles away. Visiting this area was very interesting for me as it was very close to my stereotype of a medieval European village with the main square dominated by the church. They have both grown from the villages I saw in the early sixties into major centers.

I certainly must be one of the very few people to start my genealogy in Salt Lake City. In the late 1980's I was a member of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Our annual meeting was in Salt Lake City. As one of the perks, if we would send the Family History Library (FHL) what we knew about our family history, they would plan a session to get us started in genealogy. I quickly talked to my mother and aunt to try to make sense out of the family stories and I sent the FHL what I had found out. I get a large chuckle today looking back at the pile of misinformation I had. I met with a single person who had all the information I had sent. She made it very clear that if I were going to accomplish much, I had to learn to read Dutch. It was enough to get me hooked on genealogy, but I learned that the story that all Dutch records were destroyed during World War II was not true. Also about 60 per cent of what I had was wrong. Even my mother's birth date was a day off. She celebrated her actual date of birth. The records show a day later when her parents registered her birth.

I purchased several English-Dutch dictionaries and quickly learned that this was not the way to go. There were too many words that did not apply to genealogy. After a long time I came up with a list of about two hundred words that I could use. If I had waited a few years (1989), I could have purchased an excellent word list from FHL for \$1.25. If you are going to have to research in a foreign language, check out the FHL guides. They have many languages available and are excellent sources of the language needed for genealogy.

Here are some necessary words to get started:

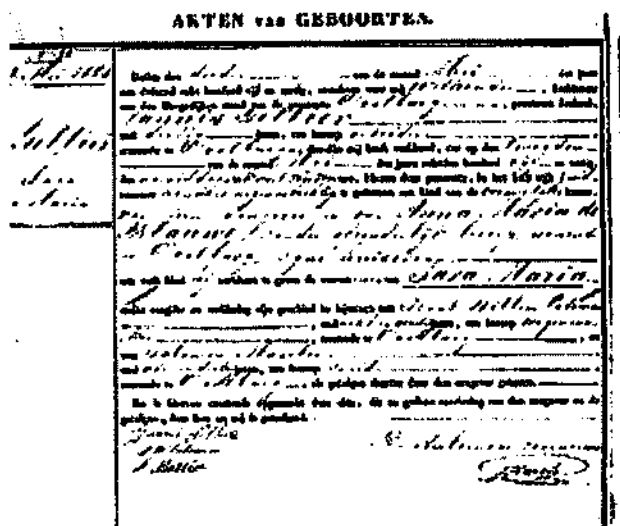
#### Civil Registration

Tienjarige tafels	Ten-year index
Geboorten	births
Huwelijken	marriages
Overlijden	deaths

*(Continued on the following page)*

## Church records

Dopen                      Baptism  
Trowen                    Marriage  
Missen                    Mass said for. . .  
This is my maternal grandmother's



birth record from the civil registration in Goes. You really don't need to know how to read Dutch to get some of the information. One common error made with birth registrations is that people use the registration date. This is not the same as the birth date. The Dutch have two days to register births so that date may be slightly off. The real birth date may often be found near the bottom of the document.

The Dutch language can be very confusing to English speakers. In an effort to simplify the language, in 1947 the Dutch Government changed the official spelling of many words. Thus, if you are using a modern dictionary, many words will be spelled differently than those used in old genealogies. The Dutch language will not be standard for the years 1600–1800. Knowledge of French, German, Latin and Danish will be helpful.

One of the best places to start Dutch genealogy is at the Family History Library (FHL) in Salt Lake City. There are two main types of records there and they can be ordered for delivery to the FHL here. The two types of records are civil registration and church records. Some of these records are illegible because of age and very poor handwriting. Do not expect any pristine copies.

Civil registration began in Holland in 1811 with a few places starting in 1795. The early records, until 1814, are in French and after that in Dutch. The Dutch Civil Registers are an excellent source of accurate information on names, dates and places of birth, marriage, death and divorce. The records are made in duplicate. One copy stays in the municipal hall and the other is sent to the clerk of the court. You must know the town and province where your ancestor came from. Then you can access ten-year indexes to get information.

To find information before 1811 you need to go to the church records. Holland was split between the Catholics and the Protestants. The Catholic records are in Latin. In some early church records they recorded the feast day rather than the date of the record. There is a book available to convert these dates. The church records generally begin in 1563, although some go back to 1542 in the Catholic Church. In many areas of Holland the baptism was a family event and the record will name all those in attendance and sometimes relationships.

The Protestant records are generally in Dutch and a very few are in Latin with some variations in the Dutch. The records start in 1572 in the Dutch Reformed Churches with most areas available after 1650.

If you chose to use the FHL, it is quite easy. Let us say I want to find the birth record of my maternal grandfather, Antoni De Puit, who was born in Rilland in 1860. Go to the FHL web site and click on library. Next click on "library catalog." Do a place search for Rilland. This gets you a list of topics the FHL has; they include church records, civil registration, court records, guardianship and population. I do not know what church he belonged to so I select civil records. This gives me the title Registers van de Burgerlijke (civil) 1806–1940. I click on this title, which takes me to that page. Next I click on "view film notes" and I get a whole bunch of topics in Dutch. I find Tienjarige tafels (index) 1843–1882 Geboorten (births) FHL INTL Film 244563. I dutifully trot over to the local FHC and order this film. When it arrives, I eagerly start to search. Very soon I come across the note

(in Dutch) that the records for Rilland 1860 have been lost. Maybe another day.

Certainly the FHL is a wonderful source, but it has some shortcomings in Dutch genealogy. Suppose you know when and where your ancestors died and how old they were. At the FHL you are left to guess about where they were born. If your ancestors were from Zeeland, and you wish to have a very pleasant trip, you have an alternative. There are excellent libraries available to you in Holland.

In many provinces in Holland there are a series of Rijksarchief (archives). The one in Zeeland is at St. Pietersstraat 38 4311 EW, Middleburg. The national archive (Algemeen Rijksarchief) is located in Gravenhage. Their indexes are much more complete than those at the FHL. There is also the Stichting Genealogisch Centrum Zeeland in Goes. This library specializes in data from Zeeland. It is as complete as you can get.

If you research long enough you will finally run up against the patronymic naming system. In this system you have your given name as your first name and your father's given name as your last name. This system is supposed to be very logical. The best advice I have heard is you must think Dutch and not English. There are many books available if you really want to learn. In Dutch names *szon*, *sen*, *se*, all mean son of. Very often people changing from the patronymic to the English system will use several different names. I once got very lucky and found a record that stated the person was also known by this different name. The names were totally dissimilar to me, but made sense to the Dutch. The way children are named is frequently important in Dutch genealogy. Until recently children's names followed a pattern. The first son was named after the father's father; second son was named after the mother's father and so on. The daughters' names were the same except the mother came first.

I am not very excited about using the Internet. I have found too many errors and too much commercialism. There are many sites about Dutch genealogy. Some are just another name for American commercial sites. One I can recommend is

geneaknowhow.net.

You have learned a lot about your people after they got off the boat; now what are you going to do about researching where they came from? Several choices are open to you. The first is to simply stop your research on that line in the old country. This doesn't seem to be a real choice.

The second choice is to do linear research. That is, expand your research to siblings, in-laws, cousins and other relatives. This choice has merit. It will allow you to spend more research time in developing the culture of your families. As I have grown in genealogy, I have become more interested in how my relatives lived and their way of life than filling in birth dates, marriages and deaths. Family stories are important in genealogy. The lines on the paper can become real people.

A third choice is to use the Internet. As I said earlier, I do not like most of the material available there. I think genealogy is a very personal hobby. It is who you are. I am obsessed with accuracy. The data available there may or may not be accurate. We all make mistakes, but to perpetuate the errors on the Internet is wrong in my mind. How many times have you found items you knew were wrong? How many times have you seen the Internet cited as the source?

The fourth choice is to use a pro. We have all hired someone to research an area we could not get to. I hired one to research a record I knew was in a small library in Palmyra, New York. This library was open for three hours a week. It was cheaper and easier for me to hire it researched. Words of caution: if you are going to be looking for foreign records, try a Salt Lake researcher first. European researchers charge double what Americans charge. When I get the report and open the envelope, I do not get the thrill that I get from finding the information myself.

The last choice is to do it yourself. When I was first considering doing Dutch research, a friend encouraged me to do it. It can be done without knowing the language, but it is much harder. Get a good word list and a guide to the area you are researching from FHL and jump in. It is much easier than you think.

[See page 42 for more on Dutch Naming Patterns. -Ed.]



## USING TAX LISTS FOR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

JESSIE M. JONES GENEALOGY HINTS

Genealogists are willing to research all types of records for data that will prove relationships and connect one generation to another. Tax lists can be one of the most valuable sources of genealogical data. Tax lists are of various types: censuses, land tax lists, military lists, personal property, poll lists, quitrents, rent rolls, tithables.

Tax Lists usually name the Heads of Household, other males over 16, as well as the value of cattle, slaves, horses, personal property, land taxes and any notes of interest. By using tax records it is possible to trace family migrations and its taxable property, and to prove parentage in the absence of other records. Tax lists place individuals at a specific place at a given time. They indicate the relationship of individuals in a household and their approximate ages. Tax lists can be used to design fairly accurate censuses of the area you're researching. Searching a series of annual tax lists can locate sons coming of age. Poll taxes can be combined with property tax lists as a substitute census.

Tax lists can be used to determine parentage, births, deaths, dates of indentured servitude, slavery, manumission and racial status. An important use of tax lists is that they can be used in conjunction with other records to help determine parentage of a female, a date of marriage, migration routes and in checking out family tradition.

Where can tax records be found? Few of these records remain in county courthouses. Many have become lost or destroyed. State archives have most of the surviving original copies of tax records. Microfilmed copies can be obtained from the state archives, private film companies or the Family History Library. Some books on early Virginia and North Carolina tax lists have been published and may be purchased from genealogical book publishing companies.

Tax lists should be considered one of the most valuable but scarcely recognized sources of genea-

logical and historical information. Check the tax lists for leads on your early United States ancestor and unpuzzle your family traditions. Use them to unlock valuable information

*From Napa Valley G & B Society (CA) 4-1998*

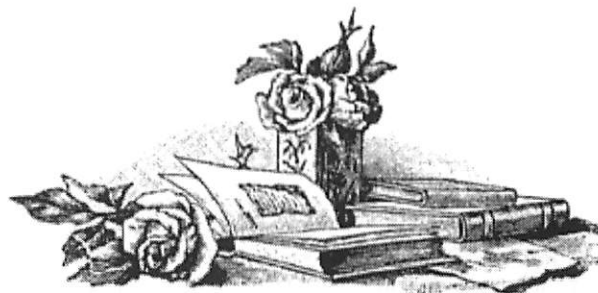
\* \* \* \*

## POOR CHILDREN RECORDS

Prior to the laws that gave our country free public education, the bill for schooling their children was paid by the parents. If the parents were unable to pay, the county would take care of the fee. This was noted in the local township tax records. The list is usually found after the tax assessments. All children between the ages of 5 and 12 whose parents were unable to pay are listed. Many times the father's name and the exact age of each child is noted.

This is a wealth of information. Census records of the day listed only the head of the household and age ranges of males and females. These Poor Children records provide a unique opportunity to establish families prior to 1850 with primary source material. Most probably being listed as poor children brought a certain degree of shame at the time; however, they were redeemed by providing priceless information to their descendants.

*From Tuolumne County (CA) Genealogical Society's Golden Roots of the Mother Lode, V18 N3&4/1998 and V19 N1&2 1999.*





CARL DITTMANN - 1891

## USING BIRTH DATES FROM CENSUSES IN THE SEARCH FOR CARL DITTMANN

By Richard H. Dittman, SBCGS Member  
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My great grandfather Carl Dittmann emigrated from the Prussian province of Pomerania, arrived in Monterey in 1844, and spent the rest of his life in California. He can be found in every federal census from 1850 to 1900, with of course the exception of 1890. The San Francisco Public Library reference books for the 1850, 1860, and 1870 censuses list him under the anglicized name of Charles Dittman.

The on-line sources for the 1880 census are not always accurate. A search on [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) with soundex for Charles Dittman in Santa Barbara produced no results. He should have been found, because my grandfather was born there in 1878 on the corner of State and Gutierrez streets. So I tried varying the first letter of the surname, such as Bittman or Pittman, inasmuch as soundex searches look for

similarly sounding names with the same first letter. Still no results. Finally I searched for any Charles living in Santa Barbara County, who was born in Germany. Success! I found Charles *Dilman* in a list of five entries. The last name had been misspelled in the index for the 1880 census.

Not only were there variations in the spelling of the name Dittman in the five censuses, also Carl's ages were not consistent (and not because of different enumeration dates). Carl had always celebrated his birthday in November, but the censuses were never that late in the year. Perhaps he was forgetful about the year. After all, in the nineteenth century there were few application forms to be completed. For many people the only form that required a birth date was a marriage license. The following table for Carl Dittmann shows the census year, the recorded age, and the calculated year of birth by subtracting his age from the census year.

CENSUS	AGE	BIRTH
1850	25	<1825>
1860	36	<1824>
1870	46	<1824>
1880	57	<1823>
1900	79	<1821>

The 1900 census gives his birth as November 1822, which is inconsistent with the age that he reported. More information is needed to determine the correct year of birth.

Carl dictated his biography for an agent of Bancroft, who was compiling histories for his encyclopedia. A copy of the manuscript is located in the Gledhill Library of the Santa Barbara Historical Society. He states in the second sentence of his narrative, "My native place is Ueckermünde, about 30 miles from Berlin, Prussia." So naturally the first attempt to find more information was to write to the Lutheran parish in Ueckermünde. There was no Dittmann in their records. Later on-line searches yielded only one match for a Carl

Dittmann born in all of Pomerania in the years 1818-1828. His birthday was in February 1822. I rejected him, because of the birth month.

I was stuck, but my big break came in the FALL 2002/WINTER 2003 issue of *Ancestors West*. Jim Norris wrote an article on sailors arriving in California before 1850. Carl Dittmann arrived in 1844 and is the only Prussian sailor in the article or its continuation, so he may be the first German settler in Santa Barbara. Mr. Norris graciously sent me his file, which contained an unverified note that perhaps Carl's second name was August. That fact was unknown in our family.

The next on-line search was for any Carl August Dittmann born during the period 1818-1828 in all the Kingdom of Prussia, which was the northern and central parts of present-day Germany. Only one match occurred – a male born on November 7, 1825 in Berlin in the Province of Brandenburg. Aha, maybe in his narrative Carl meant that he sailed from Ueckermünde, but was born in Berlin.

Carl told the family that he had two siblings, a sister named Wilhelmina and a brother named Conrad. No doubt about Wilhelmina, because that was the name of his next-to-last child. The family archives contain a photograph of a woman taken in Berlin in 1881 with the name Wilhelmina written on the back. Further research revealed that the Carl August born in Berlin in 1825 had a sister Wilhelmina Louisa born in Berlin on March 27, 1819. No Conrad has been found, but a brother Carl Julius born on January 15, 1823 in Berlin was found. All three siblings have the same parents, but were baptized in two churches separated by less than a kilometer.

Carl August Dittmann's probable birth date has been established and in the search his sister, another brother, and parents have been identified. Unanswered is the question whether or not he was the first German settler in Santa Barbara.

## UPDATE TO EARLY SANTA BARBARA MARINERS AND VISITORS

PRINTED IN ANCESTORS WEST SUMMER 2003

*By Jim Norris, SBCGS Member*

Statehood in 1850 did not establish the American/Anglo influence on coastal Alta California. It was well established by intermarriage well before 1850. The Summer 2003 issue of *Ancestors West* bears this out if you compare the 1858-78 listing of St. Vincent's students with the progeny of the listing of early Santa Barbara Mariners and visitors to wit:

1870 LOUISA BRANCH - 11th child of Francis and Maria M. Carlon (Goycoechia) Branch, m. 1835 Mission Santa Barbara.

1859 EDWIGES (also Eduviges) BURKE - 6th child of James and Maria J. (Boronda) Cota Burke, m. 1828 Mission San Carlos Borromeo de Carmelo. Edwiges became Sister Mary Emmanuel Charity.

1869 MARY, ROSA AND SUSAN DEN - 8th, 11th and 12th children of Nicholas and Rafaela (Hill) Den, m. 1843 Mission Santa Inez.

1861 JANE DITTMAN - 2nd child of Carl and Francisca C. (Mendines) Dittman, m. 1849. (See adjoining article.)

1858 HELENA, MARIA A., LUCRETIA (1862) and ADELAIDA HILL - 11th, 12th, 13th and 16th children of Daniel and Rafaela (Ortega) Hill, m. 1825 Mission San Buenaventura.

1866 JOSEFA KAYS - 6th child of John and Maria J. (Burke) Kays, m. 1847 Mission Santa Barbara.

1858 MARIA A. LATAILLADE - 1st child of Cesario and Maria A. (De la Guerra) Casarin Ord, m. 1854 Mission Santa Barbara.

1858 FLORA and ROSA SPARKS - 2nd and 4th children of Isaac and Maria (Eays) Sparks (did not marry).

1865 ELLEN and MARTHA (1867) STREETER - 2nd and 3rd children of David and Francisca (Valdez) Streeter.

## CAN'T YOU JUST E-MAIL THE INFO?

By B. Jo Dake, SBCGS Member  
bjodake@cox.net

Genealogy can be so frustrating. Sure, I know where each of my parents was born, and when as well as where they were married, plus when and where they died, the same for all four grandparents. The wicket gets stickier for my great grandparents; seven of the eight have pretty well complied with my quest for vital statistics, but that one great grandfather wasn't well-enough known, or wealthy or infamous enough to have made a mark on his community, and he persists in eluding me. Eleven out of the sixteen great-great grandparents have been fairly cooperative in yielding their information, but the others have grimly dug in their heels, refusing to yield even a tantalizing morsel.

My antecedents passed on that trait of stubbornness to me, and so the battle of extraction began, first with classes in genealogy leading to research techniques, including the wealth available in census records. Next came short genealogy conferences, gold mines of information and methods of research, with incredibly knowledgeable participants willingly sharing their expertise.

Salt Lake City with its Mormon heritage and enormous library is the Mecca of genealogy. The library contains thousands of reels of microfilmed records from around the world, plus thousands of volumes of books of records, history and biographies that are not available (in one location) anywhere else. Last fall, when my genealogy teacher brought a flyer to class for the Salt Lake Institute Conference, I knew that Mecca was beckoning. They were offering a course in Mid-Atlantic Research, the very area where all my father's ancestors came from.

Fast forward to the week of January 12-16, and there I was in class daily between 8:00 A.M. to 9:30 P.M., with few breaks. In between sessions a fast, really cold walk got me to the Library in less than 10 minutes, and a little research based on class suggestions could be indulged. Lunch consisted of

a piece of fruit snatched from the breakfast buffet, and supper was from the salad bar at a fast food place on the way to the library.

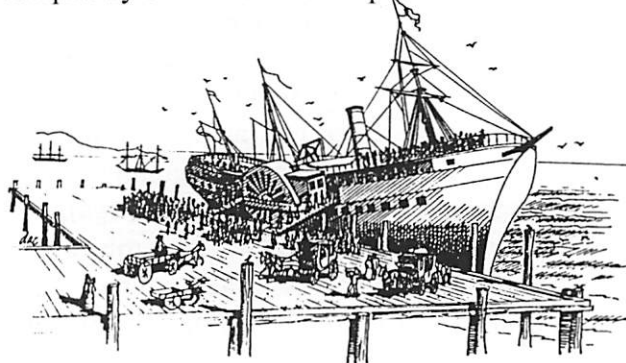
A breakthrough came when I followed the suggestion to look for the Revolutionary War pension application files. By golly, there was old William Roberts, Sr., father of my great-great grandfather. With the new technology of reading the microfilm records on a reader hooked up to a computer/CD burner, instead of copying each page of the document to a sheet of paper, I was able to burn a CD containing all the papers in one easily transported disc. I found that William Roberts not only was a veteran, but also had exercised his right to obtain bounty land in Maryland. He received a pension years later, of which his widow later received half, and his daughter-in-law, my great-great grandmother, received the handsome sum of \$9.89 (worth about \$200 in 2002) that was still unpaid upon the death of the widow.

While new Internet technology combined with dogged sleuthing can produce results that are amazing, I can't help but dream of receiving e-mail from one of the ancestors, saying, "Here I am! It's so nice to meet you finally."

\* \* \* \*

### PASSENGERS BOUND FOR THE GOLD FIELDS 1848-1873 WEBSITE

This site contains passenger lists for ships traveling to California between 1848 and 1873. The lists are transcribed from microfilm of the *New York Daily Times*, the *New Orleans Times Picayune*, and the *Boston Daily Evening Transcript*. It is completely searchable. [www.pt5dome.com](http://www.pt5dome.com)



## HOW I BUILT MY FAMILY WEBSITE

By William Davidson  
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<http://www.williamdavidson.com/>

When I was invited to submit an article to this journal, I had no idea what I would write about. Since most submissions tend to document the search for an individual or family, I decided to discuss my website.

The genesis of the website started one day in my early teens while I was helping my dad. I asked him where he was born. His first answer was Scotland; however, I wanted to know where exactly. It turned out to be a small town in Ayrshire called Dalmellington. The family decided to leave the coal mines behind and come to Canada in 1920.

That was it until I got married and had my own kids. One son developed Muscular Sclerosis at age 30. He called one day and asked if I knew if anyone in the family had a history of the disease. This was to kick start my genealogy interest. I bought a commercial program and started entering the family that I knew and before long I had more than a hundred names. The question then was, "What will I do with them all?" I could view them on my computer; I could send listings to interested relatives, but that did not seem enough. Those of us keeping these records would like to see a future use for our efforts.

Since I have been using the Internet to look for relatives and connections, I could now use it to display my database for others to see and maybe find a connection to their relatives. How would I go about doing it? My genealogy program can generate the web cards for each family, but by what method would I get them on the net, and who would host my website? The first try was to use the storage area provided by my Internet service provider (ISP). This was fine in the beginning when my database was small (less than 5 megs). As a Mac user I would try a file transfer protocol (FTP) program called Fetch. As time went by I decided I would like to add other information to the "home page" such as a picture and other links.

I left Fetch behind and switched to Adobe GoLive which allowed me to modify the website. I then got my own "domain name" ([www.wiliamdavidson.com](http://www.wiliamdavidson.com)) for my genealogy website. For those of you with programs that are not capable of building websites, there are some shareware programs available that will convert a GEDCOM file (all genealogy programs should be able to generate GEDCOMs) to a web-based format. There are other options for website support; for example, "rootsweb" will host it.

The first upload to the site was simple; from then on it got a little more complicated. One of the difficulties with a genealogy website is that we are always finding new people; the database gets larger and we need to update the website. How to do the update for the new people while keeping all the links between the original individuals working correctly is a problem. It is possible to change one card but this requires you to search the database for this person, make the change and upload the new card. However, multiple new people will affect more than just one or two cards and affect the whole website. As a result, I usually upload a complete database every couple of months adding a few hundred additional relatives. My database is now over 30,000 individuals (more like a small city) and using DSL it takes 2 1/2 hours to complete the upload.

Now it's just a matter of time before new and distant relatives find you. The database will probably expand on a regular basis beyond blood relatives to include many more from marriages. Of my 30,000 plus database only 6,000 are blood relatives. Hopefully most of the new data will be sent to you in GEDCOM format, saving you a lot of typing.

An important aspect of maintaining a website are the restrictions placed on you by those giving you the data which you should abide by. These restrictions may include but not be limited to, not publishing a certain family group for commercial use, insuring privacy of the living, sharing family notes only with other family members, etc. Also, you have no way of knowing how other distant relatives may react when they find their family



names in your website on the Internet. I had one relative (by marriage) who sent me a GEDCOM for her family including all her siblings. A few months later one of her sisters demanded I remove her data, which I did. She then proceeded to tell me what she thought of her sister (they don't talk or visit). I've only had three similar problems like this requiring a polite "Yes, I will remove your data, and thank you." My point here is, you must honor these requests placed on you when you are given other family files to include on the website; otherwise, it won't take long before no one will add to your website.

For those of you who want to share your data with family or friends but don't have a genealogy program or website, use a feature in some genealogy programs where you can build all or part of your data in browser format. You can then e-mail the file (or burn it to disk) and the person at the other end can use their web browser to view the family file.

I am not a purist when it comes to other peoples' research. Often I have no idea who they have included in offered data; this is their research and I take it as offered. I should be more diligent in recording who gave me what, for later family referrals; however, I am presently relying on my memory. I average at least one e-mail a week asking about a name or family on my website, and it is a pleasure to be able to put them in contact with their direct line while adding to the database. A couple of my main names have more than twenty researchers working as a group, and I seem to have become the local clearinghouse. You will find some people are a bit shy in approaching newfound relatives either with information or requests so I play a part here as well. No matter how you do it, share with the group, not just names and dates. You may be surprised what comes out of the woodwork, like letters and wills (not available on the net) where you may find another ancestor or two.

## LAST-MINUTE ESTATE PLANNING

*Thanks to: Scott Johnson SJohnson@GOV.NU.CA*

On June 8, 1948, Cecil George Harris, a Saskatchewan (Canada) farmer, was repairing his tractor when he inadvertently put the vehicle into reverse, pinning his left leg underneath one of the rear wheels.

Believing no one would come to his rescue, he used his jackknife to scratch onto the tractor's fender:

"In case I die in this mess, I leave all to the wife.  
Cecil Geo. Harris."

Although his neighbours eventually found him 10 hours later, Harris died of his injuries two days later. Soon after, the etched fender was admitted to probate as a valid holograph will. The fender and knife remained "on file" at the local Kerrobet Courthouse until it closed in 1996. The fender and knife are now on permanent display in the University of Saskatchewan's Law Library.

*Previously published in RootsWebReview: Vol. 7, No. 3, 21 January 2004.*

\* \* \* \*

*(HOLOCAUST DATABASE continued from page 24)*

have two different sounds, it is double coded under the two different codes.

- A letter or combination of letters maps into ten possible codes rather than seven.

The Holocaust Database is a major resource for Jewish genealogists researching family trees within the past century. To access this valuable online resource, go to <http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Holocaust/>.

The above is only one example of the many powerful resources on JewishGen. To find even more, go to <http://www.jewishgen.org>.

*Submitted by Cari Thomas, SBCGS Member*

## A FAMILY MYSTERY SOLVED

By Frank LaBouvé, SBCGS Member  
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I spent my freshman year in high school in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, while living with my grandparents Louis and Emma Graef. That year the State of Wisconsin asked the schools to survey their students to see if any had ancestors who served in the Civil War. Thankfully, this started a conversation with my grandparents that would serve me well in later years when I finally got interested in genealogy and long after my grandparents' information was in the grave.

It seems that my grandfather's mother had told him that her father died while serving in the Civil War, and to the best of his recollection, their family name was "Rupgrund." I dutifully reported to the school that my great-great-grandfather Rupgrund had indeed died during the Civil War. Little did I know how vital that one clue would be in my later search.

In fact, it wasn't until I was in my 60's that I began to seriously research my family heritage. I returned to Sheboygan from my home in Santa Barbara and spent some time in the Sheboygan Historical Research Center. There, I found another possible clue: a brief entry on a note card filed under the name of Louis Raabgrund. The note read, "Died in Hospital #2 at Paducah, Kentucky, on October 4, 1863." Although the spelling was off a bit, his given name was the same as my grandfather's, so it seemed a likely prospect.

Some years later, on a whim, I contacted various genealogy groups around Kentucky to see if anyone knew of a Civil War hospital near Paducah, but I had no luck. It later dawned on me that, without refrigeration and during a war, he was

most likely buried nearby. So, I drew a 50-mile circle around Paducah and began looking for a National Cemetery. I found one at the southern tip

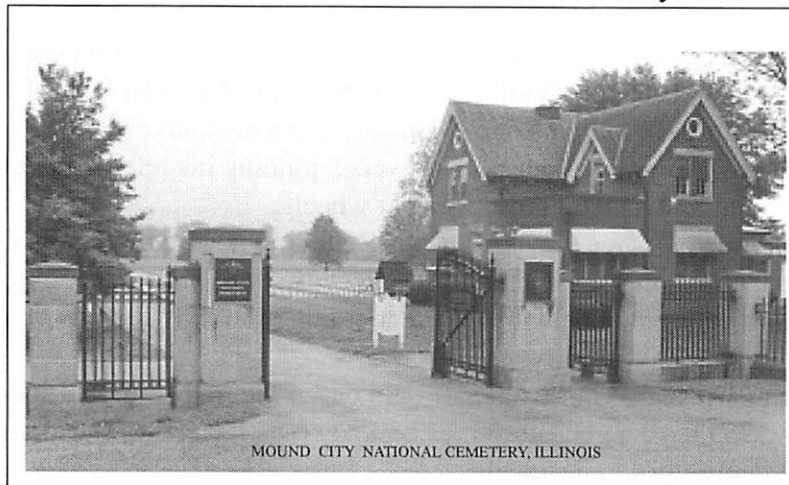
of Illinois in Mound City.

I then set out to find information on Civil War burials. Many phone calls later I learned that the Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in St. Louis held the National database for Civil War burials.

I connected with a very helpful woman there who asked for my relative's last name. I could hear the clicking of computer keys in the background and within seconds she said, "Louis Raabgrund is buried at Mound City National Cemetery, Section D, Grave 2791."

Two family mysteries were now solved: the correct spelling of my great-great-grandfather's name and his final resting place. I later acquired his Pension Records from the National Archives.

(FAMILY MYSTERY Continued on page 30)



## LIBRARY OF CONGRESS "LESSONS OF WAR" ONLINE

A new collection of 18 fully digitized collections of materials submitted by veterans and civilians is now available for the first time on the Library of Congress Web site as of February 16, 2004 at [www.loc.gov/folklife/vets/stories/](http://www.loc.gov/folklife/vets/stories/).

This is the third set of individual stories — comprising interviews, letters, photographs and written memoirs — to be featured on the site, which

is titled "Experiencing War: Stories from the Veterans History Project." Last year, 44 stories on the themes of Courage, Patriotism and Community, Sweethearts, Family Ties and Buddies debuted. "Lessons of War," the latest addition of stories, complements the growing online collection.

This third presentation of personal narratives includes moving tales that span the themes of "mission," "life-altering experiences" and "hurry up and wait." The digitized materials are part of the continuing effort by the Library to make its collections accessible online. The Veterans History Project of the American Folklife Center plans to make other stories from the 13,000 submissions the project has received available in the future.

We encourage everyone to visit the Veterans History Project site and learn about "lessons of war" and to ask a veteran or civilian supporter, "What did you do during the war?" said Peggy Bulger, director of the American Folklife Center.

One of the featured veterans, Rafael Hirtz, was the son of a wealthy businessman with contacts all over the world. When Hirtz attended the Berlin Olympics in 1936 as a teenager, he could sense the storm that was brewing in Europe. After the United States entered World War II, he dropped out of college, so eager to serve against Hitler that he took on the dangerous job of spying for the newly formed Office of Strategic Services.

In 1942 a young Oregonian, Jeanne Holm, was determined to serve in World War II. Holm was among the first women to enlist in the military — the beginning of a life-altering experience for her. Starting out as an Army truck driver, Holm

soon became an officer and a leader. At war's end her patriotic impulse developed into an Air Force career of more than 30 years. Holm wrote three books on women in the military, stories in which she played a major role thanks to her advocacy while on active duty and during her retirement. General Holm serves on the Veterans History Project Five Star Advisory Council.

Veterans from World War I, World War II, and the Korean, Vietnam and Persian Gulf wars, and the civilians who supported them, are coming forward to record their personal stories and contribute personal documents for a growing archives at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress. The goal is to collect, preserve and share with future generations the stories of all American war veterans.

Authorized by legislation passed in 2000, the project is being carried out in the way that Congress envisioned: with grandchildren interviewing grandparents, veterans interviewing each other, and students conducting interviews as part of classroom assignments. This program is the only nationwide oral history and documentation effort that relies on volunteers rather than professional oral historians to collect stories and artifacts. AARP is the founding sponsor of the project, with more than 900 other organizations also participating.

The American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress was created in 1976 to document, preserve and present all aspects of traditional culture and life in America. With more than 2 million items, it maintains the largest repository of traditional cultural documentation in the United States.

AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan membership organization dedicated to making life better for older Americans.

Those who are interested in becoming involved in the Veterans History Project are encouraged to e-mail the office at [vohp@loc.gov](mailto:vohp@loc.gov) to request a project information kit. The kit is also available on the Veterans History Project Web site at [www.loc.gov/folklife/vets/](http://www.loc.gov/folklife/vets/) or call the toll-free message line at (888) 371-5848.

*Submitted by Christine Palmer, SBCGS Member  
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## THE MELLERS' TRIP HOME

By Bill Meller, SBCGS Member  
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Satoraljaujhely: This mouthful (pronounced Shah-tor-al-ya-oo-hay, more or less) doesn't flow easily off the tongue, but for our family, well, we've heard its music for a lifetime. An adventure to say, getting there is even trickier. Our family had very deep emotions last summer as we journeyed to the town whose name we'd heard for so long. We believed that no ancestor had returned since leaving almost a hundred years ago.

Satoraljaujhely is a small town in northeastern Hungary, located in a largely flat section of Central Europe. During the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and before, it was a wine-trading town serving the Zemplen region of northeastern Hungary. Nearby is Tokaj, home for a thousand years of the world famous dessert wine of the same name. The town boasts two moderate hills for which they are regionally well known. One has a road winding up through a series of memorials to the dead of several wars, the Hungarian Calvary they call it. The second hill has a chair lift and some short ski runs, but minimal snow.

The town's one main street, along which the 20 or so young people stroll and chat in the early evening, closes up around nine. There is only one real restaurant not counting a single pub and sandwich shop and very few hotels, so there's not much in the way of local tourism. Just at the edge of town lies a very old decrepit Jewish cemetery surrounded by a wall and locked gate. There's a phone number to call for information. We hopped the gate and wandered for a while. The only clearly legible gravestone is a single small stone mausoleum of a Hasidic rabbi named Moses Teitelbaum (1759-1841), which is visited annually by remaining believers on the anniversary of his death. Most of the 4,000 Jews living in Satorajaujely before



CIRCA 1907 POSTCARD FROM SATORALJAUJHELY, HUNGARY

World War II were deported to Auschwitz in 1944 and few returned. The area is now nominally Christian, but with no apparent fervor.

After getting a feeling for the town we visited its small historical museum, devoted largely to natural history and a few famous locals. Our tour was conducted in sign language since there are not many English speakers in this part of the country. Hungarian is a unique language unrelated to any other, except Finnish, and we speak neither. We then continued on to the town hall and cultural center to inquire about what records might still be available. We were escorted into a large room on the second floor with a massive central table where several people sat and scoured what appeared to be old legal records. We were told that we would have to be registered as researchers and were given some forms to complete. Within ten minutes we became certified researchers. It was then that we began the task of explaining exactly what it was that we were looking for.

During this attempt, Danny, my 17-year-old, spoke up and said, "Dad, turn around." I turned and looked through an open steel door hanging in a three-foot deep stone doorway and was amazed to see a long string of rooms leading off into the distance. Each 20- by 20-foot room was covered floor to ceiling with shelves full of large leather bound volumes, catalogued every few feet with an



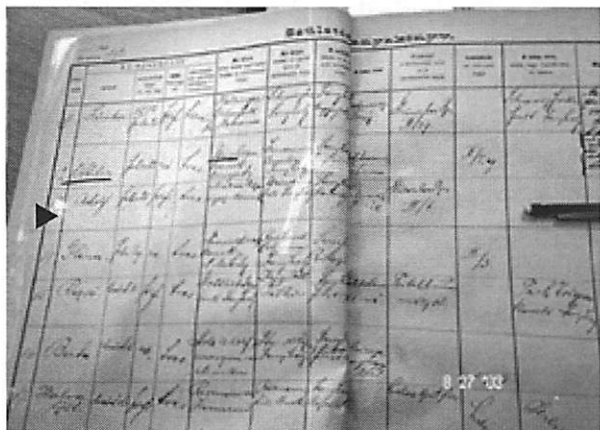
ornate numbering system on hand-painted signs. During our visit to the museum an hour earlier, we had seen these exact rooms in the background of pictures from the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century.

After a few minutes the fellow in charge brought us a foot-tall stack of loosely and unbound pages, separated by light blue folder-like covers and broken down only by year. Without a lot of hope, we sat down to page through the usually neat copperplate curlicue handwriting. With the help of a Hungarian-English dictionary we were able to make out the column headings: name, date, address, mother, father, midwife, circumciser, occupation, legitimate or not, etc. The archivist warned us that we would not be able to photocopy or photograph some of the records because they were religious, but we managed to take a few pictures using a camera with no flash.

After about twenty minutes I began to feel that this was a wild Hungarian-Jewish goose-chase. It was at this point that Leah breathed, "I think I found him!"

"What do you mean?" I asked.

"Well, I have a Meller here on the same line as a Weinstein." We knew that my grandfather's mother was a Weinstein. Danny and I leaned over to look and there it was, Adolf Meller's birth record on page 98 of the book for February 28, 1892. His father was recorded as Moses Meller, occupation laborer, and his mother, Salli Weinstein whose family was from Satoraljaujhely, was listed below. There was even a street address, which apparently was her parents' (some things never change). A man named Gunsler did his circumci-



ADOLF MELLER'S BIRTH APPEARS ON LINE 3

sion on March 6th and the midwife was Kalmusz Ferez. The records of course were all in Hungarian, but I believe that we were able to translate them accurately.

You can barely imagine how excited we were. The other people in the room could tell that we had found something meaningful to us and were smiling and became a lot more helpful. By carefully going through the rest of the records we were able to find all five siblings and even the record of Moses and Salli's marriage. The quality of the books and their organization improved noticeably as our search continued through the decade.

I'm sure there was much more information to be had, including regular census records and other legal proceedings, but we felt very lucky to find what we did. Best of all I shared this once in a lifetime experience with my children, and our ancestral home, Satoraljaujhely, is no longer just a picture in our imaginations.



IN THE ARCHIVES AT SATORALJAUJHELY

The numbering system on the walls of the archive is their retrieval system that was developed by this nineteenth century count who spent much of his life doing natural history research and keeping records in this town. It is his collection and life that form the basis of the little museum, which I mentioned earlier. When we were touring the museum we saw a photograph of him standing in front of these strange large numbers and an hour later we were there in the same place he was and looking at the same rooms he had worked in.

*Thanks to Gaye O'Callahan, SBCGS Member, for her assistance in preparing this article.*



## JEWISHGEN'S HOLOCAUST DATABASE

*The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright 2004 by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at <http://www.eogn.com>.*

Jewish genealogists face challenges unique to their history. For many, the holocaust of sixty to seventy years ago fragmented families in a manner that few others can comprehend. Many families were eradicated with others dispersed. Survivors have migrated all over the world. For anyone researching their family tree, this can create huge impediments.

JewishGen, perhaps the leading online genealogy organization, has created many sources of information to aid anyone researching Jewish ancestry. The Web site is brimming with databases and helpful "how-to" files. The Holocaust Database is one of those resources.

Actually, the Holocaust Database is not a single database. Instead, it is a collection of databases containing information from many different sources. Here is a small sample of the 62 distinct databases contained:

- The Aufbau Database - Names of over 33,000 Holocaust survivors, published in the German-language newspaper Aufbau in New York, 1944-1946.
- Jews who Resided in Krosno, Poland before 1941 - Over 2,000 Jews who resided in this Galician town before 22 June 1941.
- Deaths in Mühldorf, Nov 1944 - April 1945 - 1,857 persons who died at this forced labor camp in Bavaria.
- American Military Government Compiled List of Jews - 987 Survivors and Victims of concentration camps.
- Dachau Inmates - Possessions upon Entry - A list of 2,800+ inmates of Dachau Concentration Camp, and their possessions.
- The Extraordinary Commission Lists: Riga - Over 2,000 individuals residing in Riga who are

recorded as having perished at the hands of the German forces, most during 1941.

Searching for Hebrew or Yiddish names can be difficult. All of JewishGen's databases may be searched by regular ASCII text searches as well as by Daitch-Mokotoff Soundex. While Soundex may be a familiar tool for American genealogists, the Daitch-Mokotoff Soundex is not well known outside of Jewish genealogy circles.

The American Soundex code consists of the first letter of the name followed by three digits. These three digits are determined by dropping the letters a, e, i, o, u, h, w and y and adding three digits from the remaining letters of the name according to a table letters with loosely similar sounds. There are only two additional rules. (1) If two or more consecutive letters have the same code, they are coded as one letter. (2) If there are an insufficient numbers of letters to make the three digits, the remaining digits are set to zero. (For more information about the American Soundex code, see my "Soundex Explained" article in the July 15, 2002 edition of this newsletter at <http://www.eogn.com/archives/news0228.htm>.)

The Daitch-Mokotoff Soundex System addresses the many Eastern European Jewish names which sound the same but do not have the same American Soundex codes. The most prevalent were those names spelled interchangeably with the letter w or v; for example, the names Moskowitz and Moskovitz. A modification to U.S. Soundex system was first published by Gary Mokotoff and then expanded by Randy Daitch. It has since become the standard of all indexing projects done by Jewish genealogical organizations.

The major improvements of the Daitch-Mokotoff Soundex are:

- Information is coded to the first six meaningful letters rather than four.
- The initial letter is coded rather than kept as is.
- Where two consecutive letters have a single sound, they are coded as a single number.
- When a letter or combination of letters may

(See HOLOCAUST DATABASE *continued on page 19*)



## NEW IN THE LIBRARY

Compiled by Ted Denniston

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*Editor's Note: What follows is a list selected from the publications recently catalogued. To keep the list a reasonable length, we have excluded school yearbooks and reunions, dictionaries, Who's Who books, city directories, telephone books and other publications of lesser genealogical interest. All publications, however, are listed in the Library Catalog.*

### GENERAL

American Combat Planes. By Wagner, Ray. 1968. [358.4/M2/Wag].

American Library Directory, 2002-2003, V. 1, 2. By McDonough, Beverley. 2002. [929/A3/Mcd/V.1, 2].

The Encyclopedia of Jewish Life Before and During the Holocaust, V. 1-3. By Spector, Shmuel. 2001. [305.892/H2/Spe/V.1-3].

Everything Was Wonderful, a Pictorial History of the Civilian Conservation Corps in Shenandoah National Park. By Engle, Reed L. 1999. [333.75/H2/Eng].

The Foundation Directory, 2002 edition, vol. 1, 2. By Jacobs, David G. 2002. [929/A3/Jac/V.1, 2].

Great American Post Offices. By Bruns, James H. 1998. [725/J7/Bru].

Nicknames Past and Present, 4th ed.. By Rose, Christine. 2002. [929.4/D4/Ros].

Pioneer Jews: A New Life in the Far West. By Rochlin, Harriet. 2000. [305.892/H2/Roc].

Sail, The Romance of the Clipper Ships, V. 1-3. By Lubock, Basil. 1972. [387.2/H2/Lub/V.1-3].

Supplement to The Complete Book of Emigrants in Bondage, 1614-1775. By Coldham, Peter Wilson. 1992. [929.3/W2/Col].

### AFRICAN AMERICAN

Black Genesis: A Resource Book for African-American Genealogy, 2nd edition. By Rose, James M. 2003. [305.896/D27/Ros].

Black History: A Guide to Civilian Records in the National Archives. By Newman, Debra L.. 1984. [305.896/J5/New].

### REVOLUTIONARY WAR

Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Patriot Index, V. 1-3. By Daughters of the American Revolution. 2003. [929.3/D22/Dar/V. 1-3].

Index to Revolutionary War Service Records: Volume IV: S-Z. By White, Virgil D. 1995. [973.3/M2/Whi/V.4].

### UNITED STATES

Handy Railroad Atlas of the United States. By Rand McNally. 1988. [973/E7/Ran].

A List of Emigrant Ministers to America, 1690-1811. By Fothergill, Gerald. 2002. [973/W2/Fot].

### MIDWEST (UNITED STATES)

Home on the Range: A Culinary History of the American West. By Luchetti, Cathy. 1993. [978/H2/Luc].

### NEW ENGLAND (UNITED STATES)

The Great Migration: Immigrants to New England, 1634-1635, V. 3 G-H. By Anderson, Robert Charles. 2003. [974/D2/And/1634-1635].

Mills and Factories of New England. By Hambourg, Serge. 1987. [974/J7/Ham].

Taverns and Stagecoaches of New England; Anecdotes and Tales Recalling the Days of Stagecoach Travel and the Ancient Hostelries Where Strangers Tarried. By Forbes, Allan. 1953. [974/J7/For].

## **WESTERN (UNITED STATES)**

The Harvey Girls, Women Who Opened the West. By Poling-Kempes, Lesley. 1991. [979/H2/Pol].

## **ALABAMA**

History of Walker County (Alabama), Its Towns and Its People. By Dombhart, John Martin. 1937 (2002). [976.1/Walker/H2/Dom].

## **CALIFORNIA**

Aged in Oak: The Story of the Santa Barbara County Wine Industry. By Graham, Otis L., Jr. 1998. [979.4/Santa Barbara/H2/Gra].

Altadena's Golden Years. By Peterson, Robert H. 1976. [979.4/Los Angeles/H2/Pet].

"And So It Grew," the History of Cold Spring School. By Shennum, Peter G. n.d. [979.4/Santa Barbara/H2/She].

Angels Flight. By Wheelock, Walt. 1961. [979.4/Los Angeles/H2/Whe].

Behind the Badge: Ninety Years in Santa Barbara. By Kral, Timothy. 1992. [979.4/Santa Barbara/H2/Kra].

Central Coast of California Stage Drivers, 1851-1920s. By Norris, Jim. 2003. [979.4/D4/Nor].

Cowboy Island, Farewell to a Ranching Legacy. By Ehrlich, Gretel. 2000. [979.4/Santa Barbara/H2/Ehr].

Hayward ... the First 100 Years. By Eden Writers. 1975. [979.4/Alameda/H2/Ede].

Historic Ranchos of San Diego. By Moyer, Cecil C. 1969. [979.4/San Diego/J7/Moy].

History of Clear Lake, Mt. Konocti and the Lake County Cattle Industry, Ref. ed.. By Mauldin, Henry K. 1968. [979.4/Lake/H2/Mau].

History of Solano County, California, and Napa County, California, V. 1. By Hunt, Marguerite. 1926. [979.4/Solano/H2/Hun/V.1].

Looking Back: A History of Goleta's Historic Structures and Sites and the Pioneer Families Who Made Them. By Ruhge, Justin M. 1991. [979.4/Santa Barbara/H2/Ruh].

## **COLORADO**

Forgotten People: a History of the South Platte Trail. By Propst, Nell Brown. 1979. [978.8/H2/Pro].

Kiowa County (Colorado). By Teal, Roleta D. 1976. [978.8/Kiowa/D3/Tea].

Timberline Tailings: Tales of Colorado's Ghost Towns and Mining Camps. By Wolfe, Muriel Sibell. 1977. [978.8/H2/Wol].

## **CONNECTICUT**

The Barbour Collection of Connecticut Town Vital Records: Stamford 1641-1852. By Greater Omaha Genealogical Society. 2000. [974.6/V2/Bar/V.42].

The Barbour Collection of Connecticut Vital Records, Stonington, 1658-1854. By Schott, Nancy E. 2000. [974.6/V2/Bar/V.43].

The Barbour Collection of Connecticut Vital Records, Stafford 1719-1850, Tolland, 1715-1850. By Tilton, Jan. 2002. [974.6/V2/Bar/V.44].

The Barbour Collection of Connecticut Vital Records, Suffield 1674-1850. By Schott, Nancy E. 2002. [974.6/V2/Bar/V.45].

## **DELAWARE**

1671 Census of the Delaware. By Craig, Peter Stebbins. 1999. [975.1/X2/Cra/1671].

Reconstructed 1790 Census of Delaware. By DeValinger, Leon. 1954. [975.1/X2/Dev/1790].

## **GEORGIA**

Early Georgia Wills and Settlements of Estates, Wilkes County. By Smith, Sarah Quinn. 1992. [975.8/Wilkes/P2/Smi].

Gone to Georgia: Jackson and Gwinnett Counties and their Neighbors in the Western Migration. By Stewart, William C. 1965. [975.8/W2/Ste].

History of Macon County, Georgia. By Hays, Louise Frederick. 1933 (1998). [975.8/Macon/H2/Hay].

## **ILLINOIS**

Illinois Mortality Schedule, 1860. V. 2, Counties Fayette Through Knox. By Volkel, Lowell M. 1980. [977.3/X2/Vol/1860].

## **KANSAS**

Portrait and Biographical Record of Leavenworth, Douglas and Franklin Counties, Kansas. By Chapman Publishing Company. 1899. [978.1/Leavenworth/D3/Cha].

## **KENTUCKY**

The Illustrated Centennial Record of the State of Kentucky (1792-1892). By Elliott, Sam Carpenter. 1892. [976.9/H2/Ell].

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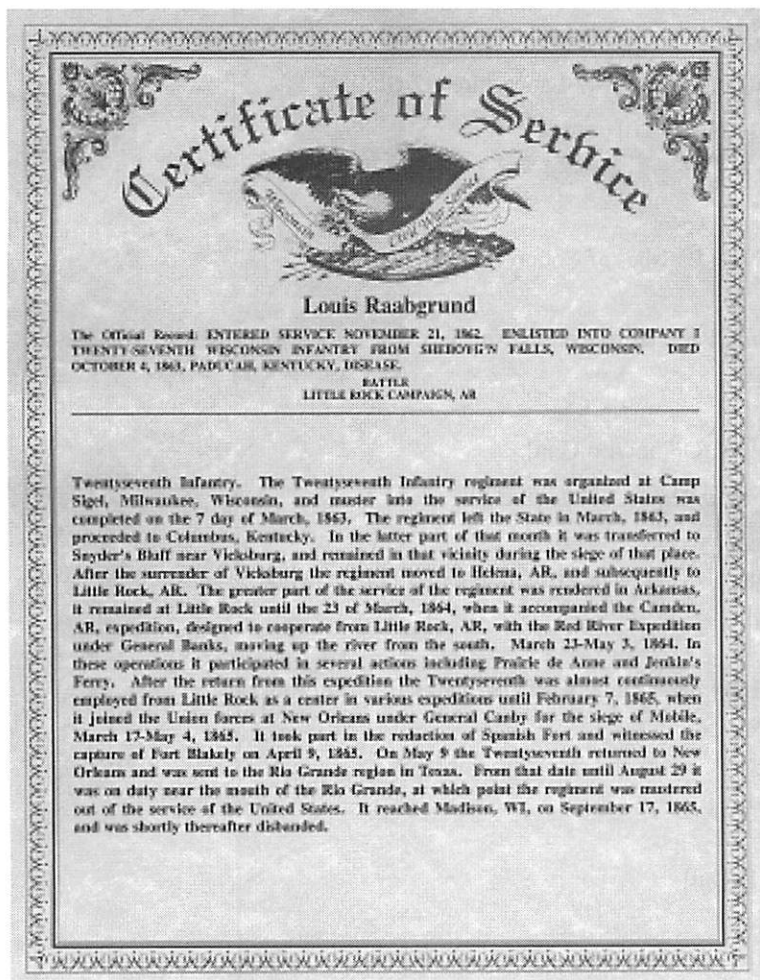
\* \* \* \*

*(FAMILY MYSTERY Continued from Page 21)*

Two family mysteries were now solved: the correct spelling of my great-great-grandfather's name and his final resting place. I later acquired his Pension Records from the National Archives. They confirmed that he enlisted at the age of 39 in the 27<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Wisconsin Volunteers and that he had dark hair, eyes and complexion and stood 5 feet 5 inches tall. It listed his cause of death as chronic diarrhea—not exactly the glorious and heroic death I expected of this old Hessian. Although his wife must have known of his death because she claimed his pension, their daughter apparently was never aware of his burial place or at least didn't speak of it to her son, my grandfather.

On a very rainy day in May 1997, my wife and I visited the gravesite of my great-great-grandfather at Mound City National Cemetery.

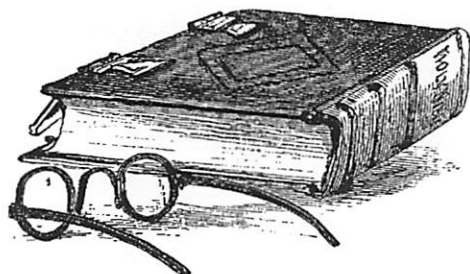
Now if I could only find my great-great grandmother's burial site . . .



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE OF LOUIS RAABGRUND

# BOOK REVIEWS

Ted Denniston, Editor



***Black Genesis, A Resource Book for African-American Genealogy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition.* James M. Rose, Ph.D. & Alice Eichholz, Ph.D., C.B. 2003. Softcover, 422 pp. Indexed. \$24.95 from Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc.**

*Black Genesis* is designed to help African-American genealogists find their roots, but the book should be helpful to anyone interested in recording their family history. The Preface gives a concise history of how *Black Genesis* first came to be published. It also briefly describes how the format has been changed since the first edition was published in 1978. Following the usual front matter topics (Foreword, Preface, etc.), *Black Genesis* is presented in two parts.

Part I - An Overview- contains seven chapters. Chapter 1 covers the essentials of beginning genealogical research in the following topics: *Helping the Novice; Unearthing the Records; Reexamining History; Emergence of Research on the Internet; and Conclusion.*

Chapter 2 lists important dates in U.S. African-American History from 1619 to 1941. Chapter 3 tells how to collect data from "Informal but informative" means or what is termed Oral History. Chapter 4 gives resources for National Archives and Federal Records, while Chapter 5 cites Military Records from the *French and Indian War; Revolutionary War, 1776; War of 1812; Civil War; and concludes with Other Military Resources.* Chapter 6 discusses three Migratory Patterns in which African-Americans alone were involved: domestic slave trade; escape of slaves with or

without the Underground Railroad; agricultural revolution of the early twentieth century.

Chapter 7 deals with some approaches for researching enslaved ancestors. Ten subheadings give information about *Slave Trading Records; Bills of Slave Sales; Slave Advertisements; Birth, Baptism, Marriage, and Death Records; Census and Tax Records; Court Records; Medical Records; Wills, Intestate Records, and Inventories; Manumissions; and Secondary Sources.*

Part II - Survey of the States - cites records of the individual states. Each state's resources specific to African-American research are organized by: *Important Dates; State Archives; Census Records; State and County Records; Cemetery and Church Records; Military Records; Newspapers; Manuscript Sources; Internet Resources; Research Contacts; and Bibliography.* Besides the 50 United States, research resources are given for Canada and the West Indies.

*Black Genesis* concludes with Appendix A – General References; Appendix B – African-American Family History and Research Bibliography; Appendix C – National Archives and Records Administration Facilities; Appendix D – Library Symbols; and, finally, a comprehensive Index.

*Black Genesis* is an update of an already fine first edition and its text is sufficiently inclusive to be of value to genealogists of any race. Its references to Internet sites greatly adds to the utility of the book.

*Reviewed by Joan Jacobs*

***A Field Guide for Genealogists, Second Edition.* Judy Jacobson, 2003. Softcover, 316 pp. Indexed. \$25.95 from Clearfield Company, Inc. 200 E. Eager St. Baltimore, MD, 21202**

We genealogists learn a lot with our visits to libraries (especially the one at Salt Lake City), our use of the Internet, and our correspondence. But sometimes we happen on a term we just can't

decipher and are daunted by the time required to find out its meaning. Do you know, for example, the meaning of bovenlyf, or calamus, or gredyron, or skomear? Sorry, no answers here. You will have to look them up in *A Field Guide*. The author has thoughtfully included many hints and information to improve your probability of genealogical success.

Ms. Jacobson has gathered information on a multitude of topics (like Genealogy in General, Libraries, Photographs, Diseases and Calamities, Courthouses, Land Records, Deciphering Documents, Graveyards, Measurements, Museums, Occupations, Archives) and through the use of a tabular format stuffed it all into a 316-page paperback. The beauty of the book lies in its compactness. Text is kept to a minimum. Obviously all this information is available in other places, but it is usually not easy to find. Here we have in one place, a compilation of useful genealogical information that can be conveniently carried with you on your travels.

I would suggest but one improvement: a thorough edit to get rid of an excess of misspellings, typos, and even a questionable definition or two.

*Reviewed by Ted Denniston*

***Genealogical Research in Ohio. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition.***  
Thomas Jay Kemp. 2003. Hardcover, 366 pp.  
\$39.50 from Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc.,  
1001 N. Calvert St./Baltimore, MD 21202-3897  
or <http://www.genealogical.com>

This expanded and revised edition of author Kip Sperry's Ohio research guide describes thousands of sources valuable to the genealogist and family historian. Mr. Sperry is a noted genealogy scholar and one of the leading experts on Ohio research. In addition, he is an associate professor at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah where he teaches American family history.

*Genealogical Research in Ohio* is divided into two larger sections dealing with libraries, archives and major resources plus 21 pages of Ohio Maps that show frontier settlement, land grants, canals,

road maps, boundary changes, and roads. Some of the topics in the major resource section include birth and death records, cemetery records, court records, directories, institutional records, migration and immigration records, newspapers, probate records, school records, township records, vital records, etc. Smaller sections deal with abbreviations, chronology, and early Ohio settlement. An extensive and in depth 123-page bibliography of Ohio books and periodicals completes this valuable resource.

Addresses as well as Internet sites are given for repositories housing Ohio historical records, genealogical records and oral histories, both in and out of the state. Also included are listings of many records and indexes dealing with Ohio research and available on microfilm, microfiche and compact disc.

Of particular interest to the researcher are the four pages devoted to a listing of potential sources and substitutes for missing or incomplete civil vital records information in Ohio. Anyone researching in the state of Ohio will certainly want to have this comprehensive reference guide close at hand on their bookshelf.

*Reviewed by Merna Mclenathen*

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## DOCUMENTS IN THE HUNGARIAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

According to *Avotaynu*, Winter 2003 issue, in an article written by Kinga Frojimovics, the largest collection of original Jewish registers in Hungary is held in the Hungarian Jewish Archives. The original Jewish registers differ from the copies prepared by the Jewish communities for the state authorities in that they include Hebrew names and dates. These documents include censuses surveying the Jewish population of the entire country, counties or settlements taken at various times; lists of members and/or taxpayers of Jewish communi-

*(See HUNGARIAN JEWISH ARCHIVES Continued on next page)*

## 'ROSIE THE RIVETER' STORIES, MEMENTOS SOUGHT

"You must tell your children, putting modesty aside, that without us, without women, there would have been no spring in 1945."

— Inscription from the Rosie the Riveter Memorial

This memorial, honoring American women's labor during World War II, is the first in the nation to honor the contributions and sacrifice of women on the home front. The National Park, located in Richmond, California, is the former Kaiser Shipyard and Ford Assembly Building.

If you, your mother, aunt or grandmother, etc. participated in the home front or has a 'Rosie the Riveter' experience, memento, anecdote or memory and would like to share it, follow the instructions at SHARE YOUR STORY here:

[https://www.timeinc.net/people/secure/sweeps/ford/rosie/index\\_2.html](https://www.timeinc.net/people/secure/sweeps/ford/rosie/index_2.html)

The stories and artifacts collected will be incorporated by the National Park into future exhibits, research centers, and historic records to bring to life the stories of those who came together on the American home front to help ensure victory overseas in World War II.

For additional information about this National Park and the Rosie the Riveter Trust, please visit these websites:

<http://www.nps.gov/rori/>

<http://www.rosietheriveter.org/>

*Previously published in RootsWeb Review: Vol. 7, No. 4, 28 January 2004.*

*Submitted by Cari Thomas, SBCGS Member*

\* \* \* \*

*(HUNGARIAN JEWISH ARCHIVES continued from previous page)*

ties and the documents of various religious associations; vital registers, and documents of individuals that include personal papers of Jewish peddlers and of Jewish soldiers who participated in the 1848-49 Hungarian revolt. The Winter 2003 issue of *Avotaynu* will be at the Sahyun Library soon.

## MAGNOLIA LODGE NO. 242, F. & A. M.

Chartered October 12, 1876  
Santa Barbara, California

Masonic Temple  
16 E. Carrillo St.  
8:00 P.M. Stated; 7:30 Specials  
Tuesdays

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Senior Warden ..... E. Lloyd Hitchcock  
Junior Warden ..... John H. Fickle  
Treasurer ..... Charles E. West  
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Chaplain ..... Harry L. Brown  
Senior Deacon ..... Ralph B. McNall  
Junior Deacon..... Charles B. Weaver  
Marshal ..... Lorenz R. Greeson  
Senior Stewart ..... Joseph B. Sudduth  
Junior Stewart ..... Jethro C. Moore  
Organist ..... Geo. Ernest Cowley  
Tyler ..... Raymond L. Coon

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Inspector, 70th Masonic District

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Past Master's Night  
Carl H. Henrickson

*(Continued on next page)*



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*Addison H. Orr.....	1877-78
*Benjamin F. Thomas.....	1879 thru 1890
*John D. Peer.....	1891
*Frank A. Conant.....	1892
*William P. Butcher.....	1893
*James H. Austin.....	1894
*W. B. Cope.....	1897
*Lance Richardson.....	1898-99
*James W. Smith.....	1900-01
*Lance Richardson.....	1902
*John T. Johnston.....	1903
*Joseph R. Granger.....	1904
*William P. Butcher.....	1905-06-07-08
*Charles P. Reynolds.....	1909-10
*Samuel T. Ricketts.....	1911
*William P. Butcher.....	1912
*James W. Smith.....	1913
*George W. McComber.....	1914-15
*Emmet F. Rodenbeck.....	1916
*Andrew H. Smith.....	1917
*William A. Patton.....	1918-19
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William S. Porter.....	1921
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Ralph C. Hine.....	1933
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Orange R. McNall.....	1935
*Dana F. Bucey.....	1936
*Eugene H. Howman.....	1938
Darrel C. Eppel.....	1939
Albert F. Clausen.....	1940
Joe Dal Pozzo.....	1941
Joe Chibos.....	1942
Charles L. Tenney.....	1943
Herman L. Harms.....	1944
Cade W. Grow.....	1945
Albert Brotherton.....	1946
Carl Henrickson.....	1947

\*Deceased

The preceding listing of Officers, Trustees, Committee Members and Past Masters are from an original pamphlet in the editor's collection as is the following list of Members..

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Cherrie, Arthur B.	Fries, Russell G.
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Harwin, Jerry	Lee, Walter P.	Overgaard, Fred	Sudduth, Joseph B.
Harwin, Lionel M.	Leister, Chas. I.	Porker, William H.	Sturgeon, James M.
Haskill, Floyd D.	Lemmon, Charles F.	Paulin, David W.	Swan, Edwin L.
Hatch, Roy R.	Lemmon, Warren W.	Peers, Albert W.	Swimmer, Harris F.
Hauptert, Francis K.	Lewis, Everett A.	Petersen, John C.	Taylor, Geo. C.
Hauser, E. E.	Lewis, John R.	Philip, John	Taylor, Perry C.
Hawn, Robert R.	Liatas, Nicholas F.	Patton, Thos. E.	Taylor, Theodore F.
Hayes, James B.	Lillard, Wm. T. J.	Phillis, Joseph D.	Tenney, Charles L.
Hays, Fred P.	Logran, Francis W.	Phipps, Claude O.	Terry, Albert Z.
Heaton, John N.	Long, William S.	Pierce, Brooks	Thompson, Edgar L.
Hedberg, E. R.	Longmire, Clarence	Pierce, Glenn E.	Thompson, Ernest M.
Hein, David H.	Lowsley, J. D.	Pierce, Horace F.	Thornburgh, Byron
Hendrick, Charles C.	Lyman, Isaac S.	Pomatto Dominic E.	Travis, Robert M.
Henrickson, Carl H.	McBride, Wm. A.	Poole, Arthur G.	Troup, Wm. Gordon
Herbst, Richard G.	McCoy, John L.	Pope, Lester L.	Troup, George E.
Hess, Fred C.	McGrew, Dan	Porter, William S.	Truesdale, Kyle
Hicks, Marshal N.	McIntosh, W. B.	Powers, Frank W.	Trueman, Walter B.
Hine, Ralph C.	McKee, Chas. H.	Powers, Sehon W.	Turnbull, John
Hinton, Henry L.	McNall, Orange R.	Pinkham, Chesley M.	Underwood, Arthur W.
Hinton, Robert C.	McNall, Ralph B.	Preuss, Charles A.	Ustick, Lauren E.
Hitchcock, E. Lloyd	McReynolds, Earl	Price, Pemberton M.	Van Dover, John M.
Holman, Leon M.	McPhee, Avery S.	Reed, Clarence M.	Van Rensselaer, Richard E.
Holloway, Dee A.	Mace, Billie F.	Reid, J. Wilbur	Van Alstyne, C. W.
Hoskins, Wm.	Malott, Reg. K.	Rennie, Henry F.	Von Ende, C.
Houghton, Avery J.	Marbut, John W.	Rett, Egmont Z.	Van Ornum, A. T.
Howard, Chas. D.	Martinsen, Martin C.	Reyburn, Harry E.	Wade, Albert C.
Howard, William A.	Martinsen, Perry J.	Richardson, H. S.	Wade, John L.
Howell, J. Brady	Maschke, Austin A.	Robbins, Edw. H.	Wade, Martin P.
Hoyt, Charles M.	Mathews, Edward L.	Roger, Allen E.	Walker, Earl F.
Humphries, Stanley T.	May, Delmer W.	Roughcore, Edw. A.	Wathey, Thomas E.
Hunting, Harold B., Jr.	Meadows, Henry D.	Rounsevel, Ashton	Watkins, Albert B.
Ingalls, Harold D.	Meisenbach, Frank G.	Rounsevel, W. H.	Watson, John R.
Inglis, Malcolm J.	Meyer, Richard	Runkle, Ralph	Waugh, Chas. R., Jr.
Isbell, Melvin B.	Miller, Alden W.	Salloway, Geo. F.	Waugh, James B.
Jacques, J. Alfred	Miller, Francis E.	Saunders, Karl	Weaver, Chas. B.
Jamison, Charles W.	Miller, George A.	Saunders, Wm. B.	Weidenbach, H. J.
Jobbins, Chas. G.	Milton, Robert W.	Savage, Geo. S.	Weissend, John A.
Johnston, Fred	Mincer, L. Geo.	Schilling, Ernest B.	Wells, Hal D.
Johnson, Harold A.	Minkler, Leon C.	Schooler, Clark W.	West, Chas. E.
Johnson, Julius S.	Mollett, L. C.	Scott, Douglas E.	Weston, Ralph A.
Kallman, Bert T.	Montgomery, Geo. J.	Sears, Leslie	Whaley, Fred
Kaplun, Harry L.	Montgomery, Norris	Sexton, Harry E.	Whiting, Arthur F.
Keiser, Milton D.	Moon, George E.	Shaw, Donald L.	Wilkins, Kenneth V.
Kenney, Arthur	Moore, Fenton R.	Shaw, Palmer H.	Wills, Donald
Kentner, W. Tracy	Moore, Jethro C.	Shook, Floyd M.	Wilson, Geo. W.
Kerrigan, Frank J.	Moore, Leonard J.	Simpson, Ray V.	Winn, Bert B.
Kerry, Geo. M.	Moore, Roy G.	Singleton, Fred J.	Winn, W. F.
Kidd, Robert B.	Morgan, Herbert	Smith, Delbert D.	Woods, Paul E.
Kincaid, Joseph A.	Morse, Frank L.	Smith, Edw. C.	Wright, Chester
Kirkpatrick, G. B., Jr.	Mosher, L. D.	Smith, Frank B.	Wrightson, Arthur V.
Kirkpatrick, G. B., Sr.	Moss, Charles L.	Smith, Milton H.	Yarwood, Raymond M.
Kittler, Wm.	Mowry, Roger E.	Smith, Wm. O.	Young, Cyril G.
Kleiner, Theo.	Muir, John	Smith, Wm. W.	Younghusband, John A.
Krebaum, A. F.	Murphy, James G.	Sommerfield, Archie W.	Zaruba, Josef A.

## LASSOING A HORSETHIEF

By Myra Vanderpool Gormley, CG

We all laugh about finding a horsethief in the family, but the possibility is not as remote as some think. My online adventure started with a search in one of the recently uploaded user-contributed databases. You might have overlooked it when it was announced in the RootsWeb Review on 18 February, but having discovered a purported relative who was listed in the Leavenworth, Kansas penitentiary at the time of the 1910 census, I decided to do a search in this database.

KANSAS. Leavenworth County. Leavenworth federal prisoners, 1895-1911, 7,506 records; 1911-1920, 8,337 records; Staff and volunteers of the Central Plains Branch, National Archives <http://userdb.rootsweb.com/groups/>.

Alas, or yahoo! — depending on your feeling about finding a jailbird perched upon your family tree — I discovered two of them. Here's how:

At the webpage here:

<http://userdb.rootsweb.com/groups/> I typed in the surname of interest (skipped the optional first name because I wanted to find everyone of this surname), selected KS (any county) in the State/County (optional) window, and under the Group/Organization (optional) window, selected Leavenworth (KS) Federal Prisoners.

A match for my query appeared and under the Notes/PostEms option, I clicked on VIEW/ADD NOTES, which revealed the name, year, the fact that it was a civilian (rather than military) case, the 1905 date, the jurisdiction was Indian Territory, the offense was larceny, plus it gave a record number, and under photograph, it says "true" (meaning there is one available).

I followed the instructions that are provided with each successful search, which say: A copy of this record is available at the National Archives regional office in Kansas City.

NARA's Central Plains Region  
2312 East Bannister Road  
Kansas City, MO 64131-3011

(See HORSETHIEF continued on page 42)

## DIGITAL CAMERAS AND GENEALOGY

*The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright 2004 by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at <http://www.eogn.com>.*

Writing on the newsletter's Discussion Board, Ken Watson states, "I've had several e-mail queries about the specifics of how I go about copying old photos using a digital camera. To help answer those questions, I've updated my digital camera and genealogy website with a page that details my personal "workflow." Just click on the link from the main page, or from the Making Digital Copies of Old Photographs page."

Indeed, this is an exhaustive analysis of digital photography and old photograph restoration. The topics covered include storing digital photographs, copying and improving old family photographs, photographing old documents, labeling digital photographs, capturing photographs, CD-ROM storage and archiving a cemetery with digital photographs. My person favorite is Ken's section entitled "The Myth of DPI."

You can see Ken's excellent work at <http://www.rideau-info.com/genealogy/digital/>.

By the way, are you printing family photographs on an inkjet printer with the expectation that you can keep them for years? Take a look at the examples at the bottom of the page at <http://www.rideau-info.com/genealogy/digital/project-2001.html>. Don't destroy the digital images!

\* \* \* \*

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## LOST IN RUSSIA

By Valerie Renner Ingram



Michael Renner, my father, was born in 1908 in Speier, Beresan District, South Russia. He was the son of a wealthy landowner, Christian Renner, and his wife, Barbara Bernhardt. In 1918, when my father was 10, the Bolsheviks came to the village and arrested Christian and charged him with crimes he was not guilty of. They tortured him horrendously for three days in front of his family, and my father was forced to watch as they cut and burned and beat his father. When there was nothing else they could do to the man, they dragged him out into the street and shot him.

My father was haunted by this event all of his life and feared the Russians until the day he died. His mother, afraid they would return for her young son, doctored his papers and sent him off with relatives to Felsenburg and Christina. The Russians had a creed "Death to the cradle," and my father was the "cradle" of his family.

When he was old enough, he left Felsenburg and began roaming the countryside, always fearful of the Russians and never forgetting how unmercifully they had butchered his father. He met Leogadia Maier, the daughter of a German-Russian, Karl Maier, and his Russian wife, Serafima. They married in Kramatorsk, and soon they had a daughter, Emma, born in 1935 and Adolf, born in 1937. They were living in the house of his mother-in-law and they felt a sense of protection in this Russian household.

Meanwhile, tensions were mounting throughout Russia, and the raids on the German villages were increasing rapidly. German males of all ages were being "verschleppt" (taken away) from their homes and families by the truckload. Forced famines and other great hardships befell the German-Russian families. Dad knew he was risking the lives of those he loved by staying in Russia, so

when he was asked to leave the home in 1941, he did so with a heavy heart, for his wife refused to leave her newly-widowed mother alone. The children stayed behind with their mother.

In February of 1944, he finally made it to Germany and filled out the necessary EWZ<sup>1</sup> documents that would play such a vital part in locating his children today. He also filled out a form for his wife, so I can only surmise he expected her to follow. He never saw or heard from his family again, and in time, assumed they had been killed.

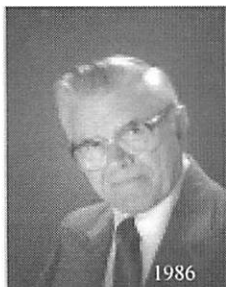
He met my mother, Angela Kiefel, a German-Russian refugee from Romania, and they were married. Three sons were born in Germany before they left in 1952 for the USA. They lived briefly in Solen, North Dakota, where I was born, before heading out to Spokane, Washington, where two more children were born to them. For as long as we can remember, the picture my father brought with him of his two children always hung on our wall.

We knew they were Dad's first children who had been "lost in Russia," and we knew their names were Emma and Adolf. Dad never knew if they were dead or alive, but we knew by the softness in his eyes that he loved and missed them very much. He was a good man, the very best father, and we all loved him dearly.

In early 1992, one of my brothers approached Dad with an idea to begin searching for Emma and Adolf. Dad slammed his fist down on the table and cried out "No! I forbid it!" and stomped out of the room. We were flabbergasted. We didn't know why he had acted in this strange way. A few days later he called his six children to the house and told us the story of what happened while he was in Russia.

For four and a half hours we cried with our father as he opened up his heart and told of all the pain he had gone through. He was afraid that if we began a search for Emma and Adolf, the Russians would hear that he was still alive and they would find him, and do terrible harm to his family. He made us swear on his life that we would hold off searching until after he died, and then we would

have his full blessing to go find our siblings.



Michael Renner died June 11, 1995, and the picture of his two lost children was placed into his hands and buried with him. By October, the search was on.

Three months after the death of my 87-year-old father, Michael Renner, the search began for our missing half-siblings that had been left behind, but never forgotten, in Russia in 1941.

With our father's full blessing, we began by calling all the Renners in the United States that we found with first names of Adolf, Edward or Emma, explaining to each about our father and his children. Everyone was very understanding, and some even offered their help. One lady was obviously a genealogist and did all sorts of Internet searching for us but there was no sign of them to be found. By Christmas it was clear that they had never immigrated to the USA.

In November of 1995, one of my sisters-in-law found a copy of the AHSGR's<sup>2</sup> *Clues* while visiting friends. Inside, among the index of surnames, was the RENNEN name and the names and addresses of those people that were doing the research. With much excitement, I began writing letters to the five people listed, knowing that we were finally on the right track.

One of the researchers listed, Carol, actually knew of my father and was already deep into the Renner family genealogy as her mother-in-law was a first cousin to my father. Carol sent me membership applications to both the AHSGR and the GRHS<sup>3</sup> and urged me to join at least one of these societies. I was so excited about the connections I was making now that I went ahead and joined both organizations.

I didn't want to miss anything that might lead me closer to finding my half-sister, Emma, who probably had married by now and would be sporting a new married name, or my half-brother, Adolf or their descendants. My husband knew there had to be an easier way than charting to keep track of

all this family information, and returned from the store one day with a Family Tree Maker program for me and then proceeded to get me onto the computer. A big mistake as I ended up on his computer so much so that he had to go buy me one of my own.

Soon, I was connected to the old Ger-Rus List-serve, where I met Michael from NDSU<sup>4</sup> and Dale, the two men that really got me started. On the Internet, I finally started connecting with many, many cousins and friends. Together with my new cousin, Al, we began building a database of all the Catholic families that we tied into from the villages of Speier and Sulz and soon found ourselves adding families from Katharinental, Landau, Karlsruhe, München and Rastadt. Our area of interest was spreading like wildfire, and the database was growing larger and larger, but still no Emma and Adolf.

I volunteered as a GRHS Village Coordinator, began going to the GRHS conventions and helping with a wide variety of projects. Most people that I worked with knew of my father's story, and if anything popped up in their research that they felt might help, I would always be informed. There were always some, though, who tried to convince me that my search was a lost cause, and that I should give up any hopes of ever finding them.

With the help of the BDO List-serve (Beresan District Odessa), more contacts were made with researchers in other countries, and friendships developed in Canada, Australia, Germany, the Netherlands and England.

In searching the EWZ files for RENNEN, I came across the documents my father filed in order to enter into Germany. One of the amazing pages found there was a "time line" that he had filled out from the time of his birth to the time he entered Germany, including years correlating to the villages he had lived in. At the time that I thought he had lived with his family, he had written in "Kramatorsk, Wosnesensk." With help, we located Wosnesensk on a map, but could not find Kramatorsk.

In January of 1998, I sent a letter to the Landsmannschaft in Germany asking for their help



in locating my lost siblings, but never received a reply. After finding my father's documents, I wrote to them again, enclosing copies of a few main pages that verified he did leave his children behind, and that he had made it into Germany. In late December, I received word from Peter that he had seen my inquiry while he was visiting in Germany. It was published in the *Volk auf Dem Weg* magazine that I was looking for the family of Michael Renner who was born in Speier and anyone with information should contact me in the USA. A month later a letter came from Germany written in Russian. I thought for sure it was something about Emma and Adolf, but when the letter was translated, it was from a first cousin, Selestina Renner Rau, who had also been born in Speier, the daughter of my father's half-brother, Peter. They had been arrested and taken off to the labor camps in Kazakhstan in 1939, along with my grandmother who died along the way. Finally, I knew the fate of my grandmother, Barbara Bernhardt Maier Renner, whom my father had last seen in 1923. Selestina knew nothing about my father as he had already left Speier by the time she was born. She now lives in Leverkusen, Germany, with her husband and sons and their families.

At the 2002 GRHS Convention in Bismarck, I spoke with cousin, Vera, about her recent tour of Ukraine. She convinced me that I needed to go and introduced me to Robert Schneider, LLC Tours. In November it was decided that my sister and I, along with a cousin, David, would go in September 2003 to tour the Catholic villages in the Beresan and see where Dad had gone to school and to church, and to walk the street where my grandfather, Christian Renner, was murdered by the Russians.

Bob Schneider sent out a questionnaire to those interested in the tour, asking which ancestral villages we wanted to visit. I indicated I needed to go to all the Catholic Beresan villages, as well as Christina, Felsenburg and Wosnesensk explaining why I needed to visit these villages where my father had spent his last years in Russia. I couldn't go all the way to Ukraine and not check where I thought my siblings might have lived and for any

possible proof of their existence. I did not believe they would still be living, but perhaps they had married, and their children may still be there. We knew that Dad's mother-in-law was Russian, and I thought we could perhaps see if some of his wife's relatives might still be living. We just had to check.

Bob sent the list to Valentina in Ukraine to see if visiting the villages would be "do-able." Bob explained the situation with Woznesensk, and she volunteered her services as a researcher to see if any of the family could still be found in the area. She went into the archives and searched for some sort of documentation and actually went out to the villages to see if anyone remembered the Renner family. I had shared my family data and documents via my website with Valentina in hopes that she could see something that I was perhaps overlooking.

The morning of January 22, 2003, while I was online doing my morning mail, I opened a message from Valentina and read, "All information about you I've sent to German Society in Nikolaev Region. Then my daughter Carolina and I looked through all information about your family. I asked God to help you and my prayer was heard." I sat in shock for at least two full minutes staring at these words before my fingers would work enough to scroll down to the next line, which read, "I have found your brother and sister!"

She had found both of them living in Kramatorsk, Dones'k Region, Ukraine. Yes, indeed, miracles do happen. We have been busy communicating over the Internet with the help of a few friends that have offered their skills in translating. Frank Ulm in Germany and Bob Berger in Canada are deeply appreciated by the whole Renner family on both sides of the ocean since there is definitely a "language barrier" between us.

We leave Spokane for Ukraine on September 16, 2003. Bob Schneider has graciously revamped his itinerary to allocate six days to our Kramatorsk family reunion, and Valentina will be with us as an interpreter. While we are there, Emma and Adolf will make their final decision as to whether or not

*(Continued on next page)*

they will immigrate to the USA.

Previously printed in the Beresan District Odessa Newsletter Volume 8 Issue 2 October 2003, and reprinted here with permission of the author.

*Val Ingram's story will be continued in the Spring 2004 issue of Ancestors West.*

#### ENDNOTES:

<sup>1</sup> Commonly referred to as the EWZ, the German Immigration Center was created in 1939 to facilitate the resettlement of people from eastern and southern Europe identified as ethnic Germans. To learn more about the EWZ and Germans from Russia, read the article in the Summer 2003 issue of *Ancestors West*, "Beyond the Pale—My Lost German Ancestors from Russia," by Louise Swain.

<sup>2</sup> American Historical Society of Germans from Russia, <http://www.ahsgr.org/>

<sup>3</sup> Germans from Russia Heritage Society, <http://grhs.com/>

<sup>4</sup> North Dakota State University.

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## SORENSEN MOLECULAR GENEALOGY RESEARCH PROJECT

*The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright 2004 by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at <http://www.eogn.com>*

The first significant database designed to help people find their family trees through DNA will be announced Monday, March 1. The non-profit Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Foundation is introducing the most comprehensive DNA genealogy database available today. It will link scientific data and family trees. The project is called the Molecular Genealogy Research Project, or MGRP.

This database has excellent "credentials" of its

own. The idea came from billionaire businessman, James Sorenson. According to Sorenson, his goal is simply to bring people together. "It connects you in a unique way to many, many people out there. Many, many." Scott R. Woodward, Ph.D., is the Chief Scientific Officer of the Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Foundation. Dr. Woodward is well known for his DNA work at Brigham Young University. He and his team have attended many genealogy conventions in the past few years, collecting DNA samples and pedigree charts. You can read more about Dr. Woodward's work in past newsletters at <http://www.eogn.com/archives/news0016.htm>, <http://www.eogn.com/archives/news0034.htm>, <http://www.eogn.com/archives/news0111.htm>, and <http://www.eogn.com/archives/news0202.htm>.

The new database already has more than 40,000 names, but the Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Foundation wants many more. In fact, the Foundation wants your DNA, too. To add to the database, you order a packet online. In that packet you receive a consent form, a genealogy chart, and a little bottle of mouthwash that you swish in your mouth for 45 seconds. You simply collect everything into the enclosed plastic bag, place the bag into a pre-addressed stamped envelope, and drop it in the mailbox. The Sorenson Foundation will then analyze your DNA free of charge and add the information to the new database.

Free of charge? Yes, indeed. As Dr. Woodward said about the Sorenson Foundation, "They are receiving nothing back personally. This is altruistic. This is completely beneficial to, hopefully, the whole family of man. I'm amazed that we have had so many people willing to do that."

DNA will be taken from your sample cells and a genetic profile created. This profile, together with your genealogical pedigree, will be placed into the database. All information and samples will be encoded in such a way as to remove your personal identification. A link will remain available to the researchers, but not to anyone else. No unauthorized person will ever be able to see your name or your DNA information. The information from this study will be used only for genealogical

services and determination of family migration patterns and geographic origins.

Quoting from the Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Research Project Web site:

Your unique personal identity is considered strictly confidential and private. Your unique personal identity will not be disclosed in any general or scientific publication of the data. Samples and files containing this information will be stored in a secure facility. The individuals who will have access to the codes and genealogy information will be the principal investigator and the research staff.

While you can participate free of charge, be aware that you do not receive any information back. Why would anyone want to do that? For three reasons:

1. The desire to help others with their genealogical research.
2. Satisfaction of knowing that you are a part of a worldwide project.
3. Preservation of your genetic information for posterity.

Details of the free DNA submission process can be found at <http://smgf.org:8081/pubgen/site3.jsp>.

The second service is a fee-based search for your ancestry. According to preliminary information, for about \$200 you can receive a report on your 'Y' chromosome signature. Using information in the report, you can search for matching codes among the 40,000 DNA samples already in the database. (Privacy is assured. Nobody is ever given your name, address, or other personal information without your consent.) At this point, the available information only goes back to the 1400s, but that is a start.

If your DNA does not match any of the 40,000 existing samples, you will receive scientific information as to where your paternal line originated and other migratory information that has been determined. Future possible matches are always possible, of course. The searches will cost.

Scott R. Woodward, Ph.D., Chief Scientific Officer, said, "If we can tease that information out of our genes, about who our parents are and who

our grandparents are, we can convert that into genealogical information, and that's the purpose of this database."

For now, the MGRP is set up to trace only male ancestors. Maternal side searches are expected to be added within a few months.

The non-profit Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Foundation is looking for people who want to share their genealogy. The MGRP website will be available Monday. You can obtain preliminary information right now at <http://www.smgf.org>.

\* \* \* \*

## ADOPTEE'S WILD WEST ROOTS SPROUTED IN DODGE CITY

*By Phil Little, Wichita, Kansas*

Some years ago I prepared and sent to our three children a seven-generation chart, as I understood it at that time. When son Kent received his in California, his wife, Suzanne (Sue) thought it looked very nice but soon became depressed. She said, "I don't have any blood relatives, I was adopted."

It did not take Kent very long to sympathize with her and start seeking a genealogy researcher who specialized in adoptive cases. The researcher was able to locate an uncle of Sue's biological father who had done some genealogy. Kent and Sue carefully contacted the uncle, Chuck, who also lived in California. He was receptive to meeting them and gave them valuable information about Sue's father. Chuck had raised Sue while the husband of Sue's mother was in prison. He said her great-great-grandfather was Michel SUGHRUE who had a twin brother, Patrick, and that both of them had served as peace officers in Clark and Ford counties and in Dodge City, Kansas in the early 1880s.

For some time Sue had wanted to visit Dodge City, as she has been a captive reader of the Wild West by authors like Louis L'Amour and Zane Grey. In May 2003 they came to visit us. Time pressure limited the visit in Dodge City to a day

and a half. We managed to search two of the three historical libraries and a museum there. We found plaques that listed the SUGHRUE brothers as law officers with Wyatt, Morgan and Virgil EARP, Bat MASTERSON, Bill TILGHMAN, and Doc HOLI-DAY. Michael SUGHRUE had served as sheriff of Clark and Ford counties and co-marshal with his twin, Pat, in Dodge City.

When we finished the search Sue left with 226 photocopies and a camera full of exposed film — very excited and happy. The SUGHRUES were Chuck's paternal grandmother's relatives. The SUGHRUE twins had served in the Union Army in the Civil War. The researcher told Sue she has a great heritage in the United States and that some of her father's family came from England and one or more served in the Revolutionary War.

Sue emphatically said, "We are coming back to Dodge City and bringing Aunt and Uncle. They are as enthusiastic as we." Kent said the fees paid the researcher were the best money he ever spent.

[Editor's Note: For more about the Wild West of Kansas, see: Kansas State Historical Society's "Topics in Kansas History: Old West" at <http://www.kshs.org/research/topics/oldwest/essay.htm> and Dodge City's Boot Hill Museum at <http://www.boothill.org/> ]

*Previously published in RootsWeb Review: Vol. 7, No. 8, 25 February 2004*

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## DUTCH NAMING PATTERNS

A practice commonly used until the beginning of the 20th century was the consistent pattern used to name the children after close relatives. The most common system is listed here:

### Naming Sons

First son named for his paternal grandfather; second, for his maternal grandfather; third, for his father's paternal grandfather; fourth, for his mother's paternal grandfather; fifth, for his father's maternal grandfather; sixth, for his mother's maternal grandfather.

### Naming Daughters

First daughter named for her maternal grandmother; second, for her paternal grandmother; third, for her mother's maternal grandmother; fourth, for her father's maternal grandmother;

(HORSETHIEF continued from page 36)

Mail orders must include the prisoner's case number and name. The archives' staff will write back with cost of copying the record—DO NOT send money until you have received confirmation from them on the cost. Since Leavenworth was a federal prison don't assume your ancestor might not have served his time there based just on locality. Many prisoners were from Indian Territory, Missouri, Illinois, Texas, and North Dakota, for example, but some are listed from Washington, D.C., and there's even a military prisoner from Philippine Islands, who was sent there for disobeying orders. Crimes range from murder, assault, and grand larceny to stealing mail pouches, house-breaking, theft of interstate shipments, and violating national banking laws.

The entire process took about two weeks and each file cost me about \$10. Both had pictures of my less-than-illustrious relatives along with additional valuable genealogical information. Guess this will teach me not to laugh at my spouse's sheep-stealing Irish ancestors who were shipped off to Australia.

*Previously published in rootsWeb Review: Vol. 7, No. 9, 3 March 2004.*

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fifth, for her mother's paternal grandmother; sixth, for her father's paternal grandmother.

If the family was very large, or children of one sex predominated, the system can be extended along the same pattern. Sometimes the first son was given the full patronymic of his grandfather instead of receiving a patronymic from his father.

The province of Drenthe had several extra rules: If a son was born after his father died, he was given his father's name. If a widow remarried, the first son of that marriage was given the name of the deceased husband. The same rule applied to naming a daughter of a deceased mother. To confuse things, children were often named for relatives from whom they were expected to inherit.

The feminine version of male names was formed by adding these suffixes: -ghe, -ghen, -je, -jen, -ke, -ken, -pie, -pien, -tge, -tgen, -tghe, -tghen, -tie, -tien, -tije, -tijen, -tie, -tjen, -tke, and -tken.

— *Dutch Genealogical Research*, by Charles M. Franklin From: *Solano County, CA Genealogical Society, Spring, 1988*, and previously published in *Ancestors West, March 1989*.

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### SBCGS PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

Order publications listed below from the Society's Sahyun Library, SBCGS, P.O. Box 1303, Goleta, CA 93116-1303, attention: Emily Aasted.

- *The Great Register 1890 - Santa Barbara County, California.* Male Surnames in the Santa Barbara County Election District, 68 pp., \$10.00 p&h \$3.20
- *The Great Register 1890 - Mono County, California.* Male Surnames in the Mono County Election District, 18 pp., \$5.00 p&h \$3.20
- *The Great Register 1890 - Mendocino County, California.* Male Surnames in the Mendocino County Election District, 102 pp., \$12.00 p&h \$3.20
- *Santa Barbara Newspaper Extracts, 1868-1880.* Surnames extracted from newspapers, indexed, 100 pp., \$12.00 p&h \$3.20
- *The 1888 Santa Barbara City Directory.* 90 pp., \$10.00 p&h \$3.20
- *The 1895 Santa Barbara City Directory.* 90 pp., \$10.00 p&h \$3.20
- *Roots, Recipes, & Recollections,* a collection of recipes and stories presented by The Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society, pub. 1999, 187 pp., spiral bound. \$10.00 p&h \$3.20



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## MARCH 2004

March 20, Saturday, Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society Meeting at First Presbyterian Church, 21 E. Constance at State, Santa Barbara, CA. Help groups begin at 9:30; general meeting begins at 10:30. Park in upper lot off Constance. Program: Speaker John Woodward, "Santa Barbara's Lost Bells."

## APRIL 2004

April 16-17, Friday and Saturday, SCGS Genealogical Jamboree and Resource Expo. Genealogy in the New Millennium. Westin Pasadena, 191 N. Los Robles Ave., Pasadena, CA.

April 17, Saturday, Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society Meeting at First Presbyterian Church, 21 E. Constance at State, Santa Barbara, CA. Help groups begin at 9:30; general meeting begins at 10:30. Park in upper lot off Constance.

April 24, Elizabeth Shown Mills will present an all-day seminar in Santa Rosa Details can be found at: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~cascgs/mills.htm>. Topics include:  
Genealogical Problem Solving: Professional Tips for Everyday Success; Putting Your Evidence on Trial: Direct? Preponderance? Clear and Convincing?; Finding Origins and Birth Families: Methods that Work!; Finding Females: Wives, Mothers, Daughters, Sisters & Paramours!

## MAY 2004

May 15, Saturday, Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society Meeting at First Presbyterian Church, 21 E. Constance at State, Santa Barbara, CA. Help groups begin at 9:30; general meeting begins at 10:30. Park in upper lot off Constance.

May 19-22 The National Genealogical Society (NGS) Conference in the States at the Sacramento Convention Center.

See <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/> and click on the SACRAMENTO logo.

May 19-26, SBCGS sponsored trip to Salt Lake City, UT. Contact Jim & Marj Friestad for information. <[ronjim@worldnet.att.net](mailto:ronjim@worldnet.att.net)> Marj will lead a class to help members prepare for the research trip at 9:30 prior to the general meeting on April 17, 2004.

## JUNE 2004

June 9, Wednesday, Honors Luncheon. Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society is honoring members Cheryl Jensen and John Woodward for their past contributions to the society. More information to come regarding place and time. contact Joan Jacobs at (805) 966-4021 if you would like to help sponsor invitations, wine, flowers or favors.

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**Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society**  
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