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# Ancestors West

# SANTA BARBARA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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ELLIS ISLAND: THE DREAM OF AMERICA IS COMING TO SANTA BARBARA IN APRIL (SEE PAGE 24 AND BACK COVER)



# SANTA BARBARA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1303, Goleta, CA 93116-1303 Web Address: www.cagenweb.com/santabarbara/sbcgs/

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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.M3 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

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#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



We, in Santa Barbara, have Adult Education classes provided by Santa Barbara City College each semester. Genealogy classes, co-sponsored by our society, range from Introductory, Intermediate/Advanced (which covers topics such as Military Records from the Revolutionary War to the Civil War, English Research and Immigration/Naturalization), and a class for everyone - the ever-popular Methodology and Problem Solving Class. This past semester a new topic was offered for the Intermediate/Advanced, "Writing Your Family History," taught by Jan Cloud. And boy was it a goody.

We all are faced with that daunting and much avoided task of pulling all of those wonderful, diligently collected facts and putting them down on paper to be passed on to all who will listen. And, if you look at the whole picture, "write large," it IS a very intimidating task. But, if you do as was taught in Jan's class, and start small, you can find that process looms less intimidating than first thought.

Jan started the first week of class out by giving an assignment to write something about a couple in your family tree, just the couple and nothing more. The next week you were to write about one or two of the children, maybe including things like the kind of games they might have played to fill out the picture of who these kids were. Another week you were to write about someone in your family that you knew very little about, relying on information about the time period and the locale to give a better understanding of this individual. Well, you get the idea. By starting with these smaller "chunks" you find before long that you have a lot of information that can then be put into that written Family History. Once included these become a larger portrait of who these individual members of our families were and how they in turn make up the fabric of who and what our families are all about.

The most important thing to come from the class is to simply sit down and write something, start small, don't get bogged down but put something down on paper. As Jan said, and it is well worth remembering, "If not you, who?" and, "If not now, when?"

If you have an opportunity to attend any Adult Education genealogy classes I encourage you to do so.

#### EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Writing this quarterly Editor's Message is for me the hardest part of being the editor. I don't feel that I am a writer, I don't do it well, and I agonize over having to do it. I save this task for the very last in the hope that there won't be enough room for me to write anything. Why can't Michol write a longer President's Message? I'll just put in a big graphic image at the bottom.

I read the Editor's Letter in the different magazines I subscribe to with bitter envy. Why can't I do that? What's so hard?

What I'm getting at is I know that I'm not alone in this failing. Many of you dislike writing letters and will even put off writing your family histories. That's why I too have joined Jan Cloud's writing class with Michol. Well, I'm not writing anything yet, even the class assignments, but I'm getting closer to it because I think about it a lot. This may be the first step in recovery. Is there a Procrastinating Writers Anonymous (PWA) group around? I sure hope Jan teaches this class again for us PWs. I'm taking the following quotes to heart.

BEGIN IT NOW. Until one is committed, there is hesitancy, the chance to draw back, always ineffectiveness. Concerning all acts of initiative (and creation), there is one elementary truth the ignorance of which kills countless ideas and splendid plans: that the moment one definitely commits oneself, then providence moves too. All sorts of things occur to help one that would never otherwise have occurred. A whole stream of events issues from the decision, raising in one's favor all manner of unforeseen incidents and meetings and material assistance, which no man could have dreamed would have come his way. Whatever you can do or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius, power and magic in it. Begin it now.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

"Have you somewhat to do to-morrow, do it to-day." Benjamin Frankin from's Poor Richard's Almanack

# Dorothy Oksner, Editor



Hmmm... It was a dark and stormy...

# Michol Colgan, President

# LETTER TO THE SANTA BARBARA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### Dear Directors,

From time to time, tragedy and scandal visit every family. Painful memories then preclude discussion, and a lot of family history is lost to future generations. That's what genealogy libraries are for — as if I had to tell you.

Since becoming a member of your society, I've found many of my long-lost ancestors on your shelves, including three gr-grgr-grandfathers who fought in the Revolutionary War, one of whom (Elihu Corliss) crossed the Delaware with Washington, which bounced me off the ceiling. I could hardly believe it! But there he was, listed in a volume of the official War Service records, an eighteen year-old volunteer with the 1st New Hampshire Regiment, which was one of the units that made the treacherous crossing immortalized in the enclosed painting.

As a buck private, Grandpa Eli wouldn't have been standing up in one of those boats and surveying the scene like his commander-in-chief. He would've been too busy fending off clogs of ice with his oar and trying to keep his powder dry. More than likely, he and his comrades-in-arms didn't realize that they were participating in one of the cardinal events of American history. But thanks to your treasure trove of archival material, everyone in my family, including those yet to be born, will know that one of our very own had put his life on the line that day to be there for us. And for that, we will be forever grateful to you.

I'm sure that many other members have made similar discoveries about their ancestors. But if you find a fresh dent in the ceiling, that was me. Thanks again,

Bill Lockwood <WGLProductions@aol.com>



WASHINGTON CROSSNG THE DELAWARE BY EMANUEL GOTTLIEB LEUTZE

# THE EXCEPTION THAT PROVES THE RULE?

By Elizabeth Dake, SBCGS Member <bjodake@cox.net>

In genealogy there is a maxim," Without proof there is no truth," meaning all records must be validated by acceptable proof: birth records, marriage records, military records, death records. Not all are available, of course, so the next acceptable substitutes are newspaper accounts of the event or the family Bible or even eye-witness letters; census, land and tax records show approximate dates of a person's residence and are heavily relied upon. Simply relying on another person's construction of a family tree does not constitute valid research. Have you corroborated the material yourself? Is it accurate?

While discussing genealogical research with visiting Canadian friends, my friend chuckled that his uncle took advantage of the saying, "Without proof there is no truth." When my friend was called to Seattle to clean out his uncle's effects after his death, in the uncle's dresser drawer was his birth certificate, showing the birthplace as Big Spring, Texas. How could that be? My friend knew both his father and uncle, the father's brother, were born on the prairies of Manitoba. Solid Canadian citizens, both of them.

He also knew that his uncle hated Canada and loved the United States, and always wanted to live in the U.S. As a youth, the uncle took advantage of the long, unguarded border between the two countries and simply walked across the border and became an American, at least in his heart if not legally. Loyalty was never in question, for he gladly served in the U.S. armed services, but he also needed to earn money, so he journeyed to Texas where jobs were readily available. While he was living in Texas, the nearby courthouse burned down. All the records turned to ash along with the building, posing record problems for countless people, and opportunity for the few. There were notices posted in the paper to the effect that if you needed court records verified, please come in and have the records replaced. One quick-witted young (ex) Canadian appeared and declared his birthplace was Big Spring, Texas and received his copy that would prove his American citizenship. "Without proof there is no truth." Indeed!

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# A UKRAINIAN JOURNEY: REMEMBERING MAMA

#### By Olga Nellis

Editor's note: Olga Swystun Nellis, the mother-in-law of society member, Michel Nellis, and Michel's daughter, Ann Opara, traveled to Poland, Ukraine, and Hungary in spring of 2000. The main purpose of the trip was to visit the area where Olga's mother, Anastasia Plysuik, was born in Tartikiw, Sokol, eastern Galicia in 1899. She later immigrated to Winnipeg, Manitoba in 1922 where early in 1924 she married Wasyl Swystun, also an immigrant from Eastern Galicia. Their daughter Olga was born ten months later in Winnipeg. Olga wrote the following about their journey.

Well, we made it, Annie and I, to Poland, Western Ukraine, Hungary and back. 1'm convinced each of us would have found the journey more difficult without the other.

This trip of destinations is interesting historically and culturally, it's even enchanting in some areas. Yet, particularly in the first two of these countries, the lack of tourist infrastructure makes them somewhat less "user-friendly" than most of Western Europe. Travelers would be wise to join managed tour groups for ease of transportation and communication as well as for a greater measure of personal safety. However, by exploring this far-less-traveled route independently, I believe my granddaughter and I got closer to the people and their everyday way of life.

After flying via London to Warsaw, we traveled within and between the countries by train and by bus, returning sixteen days later by air from Budapest. We had all sorts of weather from unseasonably warm to blustery cold, with one violent electrical storm, a few downpours and frequent showers in between. About ten days into the trip, my susceptibility to colds kicked in and my nightly bronchial hack was robbing both Annie and me of much needed sleep. But we were "up-and-at-em" each morning, eager for the next experience.

Now in order for this story to have a happy ending, I'll do the bad part first. Though we encountered a few minor mishaps and a couple of rip-offs along the way, the worst experience was our 13-hour journey on the night train from L'viv, Ukraine to Budapest. This is a Russian train from Moscow, and it seems our friendly car porters (two women) were looking for a few extra bucks; unfortunately, I literally "fell" into the role of provider. I won't take another page here to relate the details of this scam except to say that no matter how watchful we are we cannot foresee the unexpected. So I paid a bribe (in U.S. currency) to remain on this ugly train and about 4 a.m., as dawn approached, we jolted to a stop at the Hungarian border. Breaking the monotony of the parade of dull "officials" through the door of our compartment, thumbing through our passports, we entertained ourselves by watching an unusual procedure: with passengers remaining on board, a ground crew jacks up the "wagon," changes the

wheels and lowers us back to the track. (Apparently Russian square wheels don't ride well on Hungarian tracks.) Now, having sat at this spot for nearly four hours, the sun is high in the sky as we roll, more smoothly, towards Budapest. Annie and I have not had more than forty winks all night. It's hot on the train. Annie has an upset stomach, I'm coughing nonstop. Of course, there are no dining facilities on this train. Our over-ripe bananas and protein bars look very unappetizing. The water we brought on board is not only warm; it's also "mit gaz," carbonated.

Finally, Budapest and a very hot day. It's close to noon as we arrive at our hotel, anxious to shower, eat, and relax. I hand our prepaid voucher to a reception desk clerk. He hums and hahs, then announces in cold, unapologetic tones, "We do not have your reservation and the hotel is full." Oh yeah?

The hotel was overbooked, for sure, but reception soon found us a "reservation," all right—an executive suite at the nearby Marriott Court—and we settled in to what felt like heaven after fourteen hours of hell.

Beautiful Budapest on the romantic Danube, a bit of a culture shock after L'viv and, after the incredibly low cost of food and services in Poland and Ukraine, expensive. Now we're back in a land of infrastructure---mega tourist buses, packed to capacity, are everywhere and, like the taxis, are overpriced. Yet I was pleasantly surprised by their medical service. When I finally decided to have a doctor check my worsening condition, he prescribed an antibiotic (amoxicillin-American), a cough suppressant, a nasal spray (for the flight home) and a vial of 1000 mg Vitamin C to be delivered to the hotel. These arrived promptly and the total bill was around 7 USD. (Makes one wonder where the U.S. gets the outrageous charges.) A highlight of the Budapest visit was a concert by the Hungarian Folk Ensemble. The dancers were okay, very colorful, but the musicians were outstanding.

Frequent discomforts notwithstanding, this trip was a real adventure, at times a real joy and altogether a great experience. Annie was so good with her guidebooks, choosing the attractions and following the maps to get us there. She's also an expert luggage handler.

In Poland we especially enjoyed Krakow's wonderful mediaeval square, where one evening we stood with thousands of others viewing a concert in honor of Pope Paul's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday; where we climbed to the top of the Bell Tower in the royal Wawel Castle and descended to the depths of the amazing salt mines; where we dined in a Galician restaurant to the Dixieland music of the Beale Street Band; where we ate pierogies fit for a queen at the Francuski (French) hotel, and more.

An overnight in Czestochowa provided an easy afternoon at the monastery housing the famous Black Madonna and we attended mass in the Cathedral there. Another overnight in the little town of Prezemysl (Shemish) close to the Ukraine border enabled us to do the border crossing the next morning by bus which would make transit through passport control speedier than by train. (Even so, it took more than an hour.) Here is where my knowledge of the language, though limited, was really helpful and this is where I found how very kind and helpful these people can be. By the time we arrived at our rather elegant L'viv hotel it was pouring rain. Sitting in the cozy dining room over a steaming bowl of authentic borscht, I felt so happy to finally be here, close to where my mother was born in 1899. This part of Ukraine was then under Polish rule, and I don't know whether Mama had visited L'viv more than once, but she had spoken of it as the thrill of her young life. And here I was.

The following day was the highlight of the trip for me, thanks to Annie. She had arranged for a car and driver and an interpreter to take us to the village of Tartikiv, where Mother was born, and to Kopytiv, where Mother's parents were born. What we imagined would be easy, turned out to be not quite so, but successful in the end.

Our interpreter, "Slawko," is a pleasant young med student with a good knowledge of English; we can communicate. Our middle-aged driver, Jan, has an old Mercedes van (beat up like most of the autos here, because L'viv is a maze of narrow, rough cobblestone streets and country roads are full of potholes). There is another, youngish, man who sits in front with the driver through the entire trip (security? We weren't introduced). It's a beautiful, bright morning, and we take off. It seems the men know the general region but not the exact location of the villages we hope to visit. (I'm hoping the names haven't changed in the last hundred years.) After an hour or so on the road they begin to stop and ask people along the way, but many of them don't know or aren't sure. Then, stopping to inquire of a gathering at a bus stop, one young lady speaks up-she is going to Tartikiv! We invite her on board, and she not only directs us to the village but right to the Greek Catholic church there, which is precisely where we wanted to begin our search for records of ancestors.

Another stroke of luck: a woman who is curious about our little group comes over as we are stopped in front of the church. Slawko and I explain our mission and she immediately fetches the priest. The young "Father" tells me the long history (since 1875) of this church but says there are presently no Plysuiks (my mother's family name) in this parish. Meanwhile, the woman from the street says she had known the Plysuik family. "They used to live nearby but ever since the last member of the family died, about fifteen years ago, the house sits abandoned." She takes us there-weeds as tall as the house encircle the old brick cottage, empty inside a rickety wooden fence. (There must not have been an heir to this humble abode.) The woman apologizes for not being "dressed" (she looks every-day fine to me) but tells me we'd be welcome in her home (Ukrainian hospitality). I politely decline, as we want to visit the nearby Greek Catholic cemetery.

A tiny chapel stands in the middle of this cemetery, which obviously dates back to ancient times. Many of the crosses and monuments are fallen, cracked, rusted or faded beyond showing any inscription, but there are also some better-preserved and more recent ones. The grass is quite tall and wet after yesterday's rain, but Annie, Slawko and I wander through looking at headstones. Slawko calls out—he had located one with the name Plysuik, in Cyrillic alphabet, carved on it. It reads, "Here rests Eva Plysuik 1903-1981." My mother did have a younger sister named Eva. Incredible—all these years, all this distance, and I am here! I can't describe my feeling at this point.

Leaving the cemetery I ask Jan to stop so I can take some photos of the village. After I snapped a picture of an old woman working in a garden, she called to me and came to the fence to ask if we were the people from Canada and America who came to look at the church. Word had already spread and later that day Annie commented that we'd probably be the talk of the town tonight. Anyway, I asked whether this woman had known any Plysuiks. Yes, she mentioned several names but I caught "Eva" and "Paul." I remember my mother had a brother Paul. Does she know where any of them are now? They all died, she said, "Bcï nomepru." I was so glad to be able to talk with this old woman. She told me her life story-briefly. She had moved a distance of about three city blocks (pretty much the length of the village) from where her life began to where she is now, living in a house that she and her late husband built fifty years ago. She has a daughter and a grandson but they live in the regional town, and she has a cow.

She had known some of my mother's siblings—and so happy to see me.

Now we learn that Kopytiv is just a stone's throw away. We can see it from Tartikiv, but we may not be able to drive there, as the only road into that village is very muddy. Annie and I hold our breath as Jan and his vintage Mercedes plow through the gumbo. We escape the nuisance and delay that getting stuck in this mud would have caused and proceed towards the church whose Greek Catholic dome we'd spotted from a distance. We find the building is being renovated, but a cross in front of it bears testimony to a thousand-year anniversary "988 to 1988."

It appears life is static in this part of the world. People survive with their cows, their chickens, their gardens—and their faith. Over the centuries they've patched their houses and their churches, made the best of what they had and endured the political forces they couldn't control. Today the meadows surrounding these ancient picturesque villages are very green and lush. The soil is fertile and there are fields of newly planted grain everywhere. But when summer gives way to winter?

On the drive back to the city we stop for a late lunch at Sokol, the one rather shabby town of some size in the region. Sipping tea, I wonder, "What if Anastasia Plysuik had not emigrated to Canada?"

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# FLORIDA CONFEDERATE PENSION APPLICATION FILES ONLINE

The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright 2005 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 Florida State Archives has digitized its collection of Confederate pension records with over 13,000 pensions now available online. This is a great resource for anyone researching Florida ancestry after the Civil War.

The first Confederate pensions in Florida were authorized in 1885. Each veteran received the sum of \$5.00 per month. The next three decades saw a new Confederate pension bill introduced at nearly every session of the Legislature. Residency requirements were added and adjusted, militia members and widows were declared eligible, various financial qualifications were added and changed, and the amount and method of distribution were changed many times.

The pension application files include both veterans' and widows' applications interfiled, although approved and denied claims are filed separately. A veteran's application generally includes his full name, date and place of birth, unit of service, date and place of enlistment, date and place of discharge, brief description of service and/or wounds, proof of service, place and length of residence in Florida, and other miscellaneous documentation.

The widow's application is filed with that of her husband and includes her full name, date and place of marriage, date and place of her husband's death, her place and length of residence in Florida, and proof of her husband's service. Some early applications also include the widow's date and place of birth. Confederate pensions were awarded to residents of Florida regardless of the state in which their service was rendered.

I decided to investigate the pension applications, so I went to the Florida Memory Project web site. I found it super easy to use. The only input field is a place to enter a soldier's or widow's last name or else to enter an Application Number, if known. In most cases, genealogists will be entering sumames.

I entered the rather common name of Williams and found eight pension applications for persons with the last name of Williams. Actually, only one was for a soldier of that name. The other seven were all widows with a maiden name of Williams who applied for pensions based upon their husbands' service.

I clicked on the application of R.L. Williams and found the following listed:

Pension Application A00121: Surname: WILLIAMS Given Names: R.L. Service Unit: 3rd Regt Inf Reference: Wife's Name: Norcissa Blair Application County & Year: Madison Co 1903

Best of all, immediately below that brief amount of information were 13 links to the 13 pages in this pension application. I started going through them, one at a time. In this case, R. L. Williams died in 1895, and his widow applied for a pension in 1903.

Each page of the application and each attached piece of paper has been scanned and made into a separate PDF file. I would have preferred one file of thirteen pages. However, for some reason this one was done as 13 separate files.

I also looked at a few other pension applications while visiting the site. I was very impressed with the quality of the images. I have seen a lot of old records that have been scanned and placed online. These were some of the highest quality that I have seen. All were perfectly readable if the original record was recorded in good penmanship.

This is high-quality genealogy material: images of original records that you can view from home. The best part is the price: free.

You can view the Florida Civil War pension files at http://dlis.dos.state.fl.us/barm/Pensionfiles.html.Other sections of the same site include World War I Service Cards for Florida residents and also Spanish Land Grants. This is an excellent site for genealogists.

My thanks to Leonard J. McCown for telling me about the Florida State Archives web site.

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# ONLINE MAPS OF AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN EMPIRE

From: ALSACE-LORRAINE-L@rootsweb.com

Those of you whose ancestors (or other relatives) went from Alsace or Lorraine to areas now in Hungary, Romania and Croatia might be interested in a site that offers detailed maps of that area:

http://lazarus.elte.hu/hun/maps/1910/vmlista.htm

At the bottom of that page there is an index map for orientation. For each county there are two maps available: one you get by clicking on the name of the county in the left column, the other by clicking on the scale in the right column. You will notice that the scales of the two maps are usually different, with the one on the left more often being a bit more detailed. Robert Behra

Submitted by Cari Thomas, SBCGS Member

# NAME SWITCHES AND ALIASES: THE GENEALOGIST'S BUGBEARS

By Arthur Gibbs Sylvester, SBCGS Member <sylvester@geol.ucsb.edu>

Names are everything for genealogists, so if an individual changed his or her name, switched names, adopted a nickname, or took an alias, then it may be difficult to trace the person confidently through time. Name switches typically provoke difficulties for children for whom few records have accumulated. For example, several assumptions are required to trace Mary Jane Doe, age 6 months in, say, the 1850 census, as Polly Doe, age 11, in the 1860 census, as Jane Doe, age 20, in the 1870 census, and then as Mary Smith, age 30, wife of Joe Smith in the 1880 census. Even if the facts of the name switch can be traced, however, the genealogist may be hard-pressed to find supporting documentation to elucidate *why* the person went by a name other than the birth name.

The two vignettes here describe the difficulties in tracing name changes of the kind that may be common at a moment when an individual declares his name in a new context, such as enlistment in military service. It is the handwriting in three private letters that supports my argument that Levi B. Kimball, my great-grandfather Kimball's brother, and Bradley L. Kimball are the same person. That graphologic thread, though slender, seems strong enough to trace this unfortunate fellow's short life history. My great grandfather Sumner Sylvester enlisted in the Union Army under his given name, but was mustered out of the U.S. Navy a couple years later as Charles A. Kimball (no relation to the Kimballs mentioned above). Clarification of his name switch is straightforward through military pension records, but Sumner's explanation for it is curious and arcane.

#### LEVI B. AND BRADLEY L. KIMBALL

Only three public records are available for Levi Kimball covering the first 18 years of his life. He was born about 1844, most probably in Hermon, Maine, the youngest of eight children by Nehemiah and Hannah (Grant) Kimball.<sup>1</sup>



LEVI B. KIMBALL (BRADLEY L. KIMBALL) wearing the regulation issue enlisted man's greatcoat for infantry and regulation issue forage cap.

Nehemiah died 19 June 1856 in Hermon, and according to the second extant record, the Probate Court in June 1857 awarded seven equal shares of his estate, \$338.97, to his children Elisha, Moses G., Jackson, Maryann, Ruth, Levi, and "one other."<sup>2</sup> It is noteworthy that Nehemiah's son Andrew Jackson<sup>3</sup> is referred to only by *his* middle name, because it adds familial precedence to the argument below that Levi eventually assumed his own middle name.

The third public record states that Levi's older brother, Moses G. Kimball, was nominated and allowed to be guardian unto Levi B., miner [*sic*] under 14, on 28 April 1857, with brothers Andrew J. and Elisha G. as sureties.<sup>4</sup> Moses G. posted a guardian's bond of \$300. Levi's name was given as Levi B. in the court records, the only time that *B* appears in his name other than in his private letters that are discussed below. Nowhere is Levi's full middle name ever given.

A single photograph of Levi is a link to his identity and history.<sup>5</sup> He wears the regulation issue enlisted man's

<sup>1. 1850</sup> U.S. Federal Census, Hermon, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 297.

<sup>2.</sup> Ruth Gray, ed., *Abstracts of Penobscot County Probate Records 1816–1883* (Camden, Maine: Picton Press, 1993), hereafter *Penobscot Co. Probate Abstracts*, p. 124; Penobscot Co. Probate Records, 23:140, 308, 415.

<sup>3.</sup> He is referred to as Andrew Jackson in his military records. Notations on the back sides of tintypes refer to him as A. J. Kimball; but informally, he was referred to as Jack Kimball, judging from the addressee on envelopes, salutations in letters, and oral histories (1993 verbal communication with Gloria M. Pickard of Bangor, Maine).

<sup>4.</sup> Penobscot Co. Probate Records, 23:309.

<sup>5.</sup> Original photograph with handwritten note on back in possession of Arthur Gibbs Sylvester.

greatcoat for infantry and the regulation issue forage cap, suggesting that he is quite likely an infantryman and would thus likely be a member of an infantry company.<sup>6</sup> On the back of the picture, one of his nieces or nephews attached a note that identifies him, says that he was in the U.S. Navy, that he enlisted without his father's consent, and that he was "lost off Charleston, South Carolina in 1865, cause unknown." That is the same place where, but not the same year when, Bradley L. was killed. Levi enlisted in 1862 "without his father's consent" because his father died five years previously, and Levi was "lost" because, I conclude, he was buried in South Carolina under the name of Bradley L. The uniform he wears in the photograph establishes that he was in the Union Army, not the Navy.

The names Levi Kimball and Levi B. Kimball are not recorded in any official and public records after the 1860 census. I have been unable to find a single military record for a Levi B. Kimball either in the National Archives, or the Adjutants General's records for the years 1862–65. Levi disappeared completely when he left his home in Hermon in 1862 at the age of 18 to enlist in the military service. I maintain that he reappeared as Bradley L. Kimball on 12 March 1862 when an individual of that name surfaces for the first time in any State of Maine or U.S. military record as a Union Army enlistee.

Bradley L. Kimball, an unmarried, 18-year-old resident of Hermon, Maine, enrolled and was mustered on 12 March 1862 in Augusta, Maine, as a private in Company E, 11th Regiment Maine Infantry.<sup>7</sup> He is present in Company Muster Rolls from March 1862 through his death in December 1863. He participated in the Peninsula Campaign with the Army of the Potomac and fought through all of its campaigns through December 1862. His regiment was transferred to the Department of the South. On 20 July 1863 an artillery detachment of forty enlisted men and Lieutenants Sellmer and Charles H. Foster from the Eleventh Maine were detailed from Fernandina, Florida, to Morris Island, South Carolina, to man the "Marsh Battery," otherwise known as the Swamp Angel detail.<sup>8</sup> The Swamp Angel is the name given to an 8inch Parrott rifle that fired a 200-pound shell; its sole purpose was to terrorize the citizens of Charleston.9 Bradley L. was present at Company Muster Roll in Captain Francis W. Wiswell's Company E, Eleventh Regiment Infantry, Maine Volunteers, stationed at Morris Island, South Carolina.<sup>10</sup> For his instrumental role in saving lives of comrades when the Swamp Angel burst on 23 August 1863, Bradley L. Kimball was awarded the Gillmore Medal by General Quincey A. Gillmore "for gallant and meritorious service" at the Marsh Battery.<sup>11</sup> On the muster of 15 November 1863, his age was given as 18, resident of Hermon, Maine, single.<sup>12</sup> He was mortally wounded on 8 December 1863 by the explosion of a Confederate cannon shell fired on Battery Chatfield, Morris Island, South Carolina.<sup>13</sup> Bradley L. Kimball is buried in section 20, grave 1771, of the Beaufort National Cemetery in Beaufort, South Carolina.14

#### THE LETTERS AS A LINK BETWEEN LEVI B. AND BRADLEY L.

Three letters have been handed down through the family.<sup>15</sup> Each is written in beautiful script to Andrew Jackson Kimball, Levi's brother. The salutation in each letter is "Dear Brother" or "Dear brother" (see Figure 1). The first letter is dated 8 May 1859 but was written 8 June 1859 from Levant, Maine, according to the text of the letter. The second is dated 30 October 1859 or 1860, also from Levant. The second letter mentions working "to david gilman" in Levant, indicating that Levi did not always reside in Hermon. Both letters are signed "Levi B."

The third letter is in the same script as the first two letters, datelined 16 October 1863, Morris Island, South Carolina. The salutation is "Dear Brother," and it is signed "... from your brother, B. L. Kimball." The writer mentions having been "on fatigue" in the previous ten days at Fort Gregg on Morris Island, the same place where "Bradley L. Kimball" was at the same time according to his military records mentioned above. A search of the relevant military records indicates that Bradley L. Kimball was the only Kimball on Morris Island, and thus, the only person who

Written communication, dated 17 Jan. 1995, from Michael J. Winey, Curator, Special Collections Branch, U.S. Army Military History Institute, Carlisle Barracks, Department of the Army, Carlisle, Pa.

<sup>7.</sup> Adjutant-General, Annual Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Maine for the Year Ending 31 December 1862 (Augusta, Maine: Stevens & Sayward, 1863), p. 311; Bradley L. Kimball compiled service record, National Archives microfilm M543, roll 12.

<sup>8.</sup> Regimental Association Committee, The Story of One Regiment; The Eleventh Maine Infantry Volunteers in the War of the Rebellion (New York: J. J. Little & Co., 1896), hereafter The Story of One Regiment, p. 130.

<sup>9.</sup> W. S. Stryker, "The 'Swamp Angel," *Magazine of American History*, vol. 16, no. 6 (1886):553-56; Bruce Catton, *Never Call Retreat* (Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1965), pp. 225-26.

<sup>10.</sup> Adjutant-General, Annual Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Maine for the Year Ending 31 December 1862 (Augusta, Maine: Stevens & Sayward, 1863), p. 311; Bradley L, Kimball compiled service record, National Archives microfilm M543, roll 12.

<sup>11.</sup> The Story of One Regiment, p. 390.

<sup>12.</sup> Bradley L. Kimball compiled service record. National Archives microfilm M543, roll 12.

<sup>13.</sup> Adjutant-General, Annual Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Maine for the Year Ending 31 December 1863 (Augusta, Maine: Stevens & Sayward, 1864), p. 389; The Story of One Regiment, pp. 155, 390.

<sup>14.</sup> Beaufort National Cemetery Records, online <a href="http://www.varyrare.com/cwk.html">http://www.varyrare.com/cwk.html</a>, downloaded 4 Oct. 1999.

<sup>15.</sup> Original letters in possession of Arthur Gibbs Sylvester.

8,

C.

from Celoly the with Que Brother I not fiel sping per to write a few lines to you to let you know that we see all well I to good I night has your and hearts

Morris Island Oct 18 # 63

Dear Beathe I mon seal myself to write you a few lines to let you know that I am well and from your brother 28 Le Himboll

Figure 1. Greetings and salutations in three letters written by Levi B. Kimball and B. L. Kimball.

- A) Levant, May 8, 1859
- B) Levant, October 30, 1859
- C) Morris Island, SC, October 16, 1863

could have written the letter to Andrew Jackson Kimball and addressed him as "Brother."

#### CONCLUSION

The available public records clearly state that both Levi B. and Bradley L. were from Hermon, Maine, and were the same age. The 1850 and 1860 census returns lack any other Levi Kimball and no Bradley Kimball of that age in Hermon. Public records are not extant for Levi of Hermon after 1862. the same time that military records appear for Bradley L. of Hermon. Military records do not exist for a Levi Kimball of Hermon. The handwriting by Andrew Jackson Kimball's "brother," "Levi B," and "B. L. Kimball" in each of three letters is so similar that the letters must have been written by the same person. Therefore I conclude that Levi B. and Bradley L. are the same person. I infer that Levi B. walked out of the house in Hermon one day in March 1862 and enlisted in the Union army the same month and year as Bradley L. who died a year and a half later in South Carolina where he is buried.

#### SUMNER SYLVESTER ALIAS CHARLES A. KIMBALL

Sumner Sylvester was born in Etna, Maine, 7 June 1844,<sup>16</sup> the fourth of seven children born to Daniel and Mary Jane (Mitchell) Sylvester.<sup>17</sup> Sumner Sylvester assumed the alias Charles A. Kimball as described below, although his reasons for doing so remain unclear. The confusion, which might have ensued for a genealogist by reference solely to Sumner's military records, is easily clarified by reference to his voluminous pension records.

According to official records in his military and pension files, Sumner Sylvester voluntarily enlisted in the 1st Maine Cavalry, on 3 June 1862 at Bangor, Maine, and was assigned to Company H, 1st Battalion, 17th Regiment, U.S. Infantry.<sup>18</sup> The next indication of his whereabouts states: "muster roll for November and December 1862 shows him deserted November 2, 1862 while marching to Snickersville, Va., a Pvt. No record of surrender or apprehension."<sup>19</sup>

According to the story that has been handed down through the family and that exists as threads in census records,<sup>20</sup> Sumner claimed that he was a prisoner of the Confederate army in Andersonville prison during summer and early fall of 1862. A few prisoners were scheduled to be released early one morning. One of Sumner's two tent mates, a Charles A. Kimball, was on the release list, but he died in the night. Sumner and the other tent mate buried Kimball beneath the tent, then drew straws to decide who would answer to the name of Charles A. Kimball at muster the next morning and be released. Summer won the draw and was released. He allegedly made his way somehow from Georgia to Maine where he appeared one day, a shadow of his former self and newly named. Available military and pension records do not substantiate this story.

The available military records clearly indicate Sumner enlisted on 5 May 1863 under his new alias, Charles A. Kimball, as a landsman in the Navy at the New York Naval Yard, age 20 years.<sup>21</sup> From then until 3 June 1863, he served in North Carolina, and during the next year he served on the USS Water Witch.22 That ship was captured by the Confederate Navy on 3 June 1864.23 Sumner, aka Charles A. Kimball, was incarcerated at Andersonville Prison for five months, transferred to Libby Prison and held four weeks, paroled at Varina, Virginia, on 16 October 1864, and was sent from College Green Barracks, Maryland, to Washington, D.C., on 20 October 1864. On 5 November 1864 he was honorably discharged as Charles A. Kimball<sup>24</sup> and subsequently returned home to Maine still as Charles A. Kimball. The illness he contracted in prison so debilitated him with rheumatism and heart disease that he was unable to obtain gainful employment the rest of his life. But more serious were his difficulties in proving his identity in order to claim his Army pension. Not until 1915 did Sumner clear up the alias to the satisfaction of the Pension Office of the U.S. Treasury.<sup>25</sup> His pension file, 105 pages long, clearly supports Sumner's claims about his naval service under his pseudonym, and so does the official history of the USS Water

<sup>16.</sup> An official record of Sumner's birth has not been found, but he stated in various pension application affidavits to the Bureau of Pensions that he was born on 8 June 1845 in Etna, Maine, and that his occupation was cooper (pension records of Sumner Sylvester, NAV.SC 597, National Archives, Washington D.C., hereafter Sumner Sylvester pension file).

<sup>17.</sup> Daniel Sylvester and Mary Jane Mitchell were married in Etna on 13 May 1838 (see Arthur Gibbs Sylvester and Richard E. Spinney, *Vital Records of Etna, Maine, Prior to 1892* [Camden, Maine: Picton Press, 1998], p. 34).

<sup>18.</sup> U.S. Army Register of Enlistments, National Archives microform M686, vol. 57, p. 139, dated 3 June 1862,

<sup>19.</sup> Adjutant General's Office report, dated 18 April 1903, Sumner Sylvester pension file.

<sup>20.</sup> Related orally in 1992 to Arthur G. Sylvester by Richard Bradford of Orono, Maine, nephew of Sumner Sylvester; 1890 U.S. Federal Census, Hermon, Penobscot Co., Maine, Special Schedule—Surviving Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines, and Widows, p. 6, #202/208. At the bottom of this census page is the notation that Sumner was suffering from Rheumatism and heart disease, that his first enlistment was as Sumner Sylvester in the 17<sup>th</sup> Infantry, and that he was taken prisoner, paroled and afterward enlisted under the assumed name. He had no discharge papers or other records of his first enlistment.

<sup>21.</sup> Muster roll of the crew of the USS Water Witch, dated 30 Sept. [year torn off, undoubtedly 1863], Records of the Bureau of Naval Personnel, Record Group 24, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

<sup>22.</sup> Ibid.

<sup>23.</sup> Note from the Military Secretary, dated 20 July 1904, to the Chief of the Bureau of Navigation, Navy Department, included in Sumner Sylvester pension file.

<sup>24.</sup> Ibid.

<sup>25.</sup> Restoration of Pension, dated 4 Nov. 1915, included in Sumner Sylvester pension file.

*Witch.*<sup>26</sup> Neither Sumner Sylvester nor Charles A. Kimball are among the records for Andersonville or Libby prisons, however, and nowhere have I found any evidence whatsoever bearing on the existence of a Charles A. Kimball of the right age anywhere in Maine, either in civil or military records, with one exception: Charles A. Kimball of Casco, Maine, was mustered into service by the Provost Marshall in Portland, Maine, for the First Cavalry on 30 December 1863,<sup>27</sup> a year after Sumner Sylvester assumed the name of an alleged dead man.

Is any of Sumner's story about his capture and incarceration at Andersonville Prison true, at least in part? His military and pension records affirm that he, as Charles A. Kimball, did spend five months there in 1863 after his capture with the USS Water Witch, but not after his alleged capture in 1862 when he was enlisted in the Army. Is it possible that he concocted the story of drawing straws and his release for his family and friends in Maine to cover the shame of desertion, and then he took on the alias of Charles A. Kimball so that he could reenlist in the Navy to vindicate himself? Was Charles A. Kimball merely a figment of Sumner's imagination or, in fact, a real person? Fortunately the pension records provide a clear history of Sumner's adoption of an alias, but regrettably neither the reasons nor details for his doing so are known from the available records. Perhaps the enigmatic Charles A. Kimball buried underneath the tent did not die after all, but was dug out and sent home to Casco where he recovered and reenlisted. Stranger things have happened.

#### SUMMARY

Names that seem so permanently affixed at birth may be changed by or for the individual later in life for a myriad of reasons. Whereas the fact that a name change or switch, or adoption of an alias may be proved eventually, the reason may never be known. In the two examples described in this paper, the name switches coincided with events that were as momentous for this country as they may have been for the individuals. Leaving home and entering military service may have marked a rite of passage for young men and women in many wars in many eras, so that they were emboldened to turn a page in their lives and start anew with a new name, just as Levi B. Kimball may have done when he enlisted as Bradley L. Kimball. War situations may also have provided opportunities for an individual to assume an alias in order to gain an advantage as was the case if Sumner Sylvester is to be believed. The official records, however, belie his story. Just as some handwritten letters provided valuable clues for the solution of Levi B's name switch, so also may some old and precious letters or diary entries come to light that will clarify Sumner's motives.

I am grateful to cousin Richard Spinney of Ellsworth, Maine, for helping to locate some of the relevant Kimball records and for reading some of the preliminary drafts of the manuscript. Steve Brown and Kurt Burmeister taught me the art of handwriting restoration. Joseph C. Anderson II made several editorial suggestions on early drafts that clarified the final manuscript.

 26. The USS Water Witch, pamphlet published in 1974 by The Georgia Historical Society, Savannah, Ga.
 27. Adjutant-General, Annual Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Maine for the Year Ending 31 December 1864 (Augusta, Maine: Stevens & Sayward, 1865), p. 790.

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#### SLOWNIK GEOGRAFICZNY AT THE FHC

(The previous article in Ancestors West on Slownik Geograficzny was incorrect, the corrected information is shown below)

The Polish Genealogy Society of California donated two CDs to the LDS LA-Family History Center that are now available for researchers on the LA-FHC computers. Slownik Geograficzny contains the entire gazetteer database of the 15-volume set of books available in Salt Lake City and microfilm/fiche available at the LA-FHC. However, the CD is searchable by computer keystrokes for the towns of choice. The images, which can be printed, are extremely clear. The detailed village description information is in Polish and will require English translation by the researcher.

The second CD is the Slownik Nazwisk, which contains the surname database (1990 and 2000 census data) from towns in Poland and can help to identify in which towns the selected surnames have been located. The Slownik Nazwisk is in Polish but is easily readable without a translation due to the format of the data. (Thanks to Robert Sherins, M.D. and the Jewish Genealogical Society of Los Angeles, JGSLA Newsletter, August 2004.)

### GOOD GRIEF, CHARLEY BROWN!

#### By Richard H. Dittman, SBCGS Member <rdittman@uwm.edu>

There are many reasons for settling in Santa Barbara: climate, hunting, family, business, and culture. But how about fleeing the long arm of the law? During the 1840s Santa Barbara was about as far away from the *Polizei* in Berlin as a fugitive could possibly be.

Carl August Dittmann was born on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November 1825 in Berlin, Kingdom of Prussia. He was the third of seven children born to Wilhelm Dittmann and Johanne Öhlbrecht. Carl told his children that at age fourteen he became an apprentice in a furniture factory. There he received a beating from his employer for making a mistake while caning a chair. Learning of his son's beating, Wilhelm argued with the employer. A scuffle ensued and both father and son were thrown in jail; an apprentice was given few rights in Berlin at that time. Carl decided to run away. When informed of his son's decision, Wilhelm said, "I don't blame you. I wish I could too."

According to his *Narrative*,<sup>1</sup> Carl traveled north about eighty miles to the small seaport of Ueckermünde. He eluded the police, who must have been looking for him, because he broke his contract. Then as a cook's boy he sailed away in Captain Rathmann's ship.

In February 1842, after having risen to the rank of ablebodied seaman, Carl sailed from Liverpool to Quebec and back. He writes in his *Narrative*, "The weather was very cold... being almost constantly wet... I suffered very much ... [I] determined to make no more voyages to cold climates." Although being a fugitive from the law caused Carl to leave home, he now had the incentive to search for a warm climate.

His next voyage was a round-trip to the sunny West Indies, which was completed without incident. On the following trip, Carl sailed from Liverpool to Valparaíso, Chile aboard the English brig *Euphemia*.

This decision was pivotal for two reasons. First, Carl would eventually arrive in Santa Barbara, and second, he took on an alias. While signing on, the skipper Captain John Nightingale seemed to have had trouble spelling Carl Dittmann, as the story goes. So in exasperation Nightingale said, "Aw hell, you're Charley Brown!" Records show that a "real" Charley Brown had sailed on a previous voyage; perhaps Captain Nightingale was too lazy to change his records.

A source of confusion for historians of pre-pioneer California is that another Charles Brown, born in New York, deserted the whaling ship *Helvetius* in San Francisco in 1833.<sup>2</sup> He settled in northern California and died in Sonoma in 1883.

The voyage from Liverpool to Valparaíso began on January 19, 1843. Nowhere in his *Narrative* does Carl write about any difficulty sailing around Cape Horn, the oftenstormy southern tip of South America. Indeed, Carl later told his family that the sea was calm. Carl's experience was unlike that of Richard Dana, who endured days of sleet and snow as he sailed around Cape Horn in 1834 and 1836.<sup>3</sup>

Carl writes, "At Valparaíso . . . instead of going back to Liverpool, we started for California. Our vessel was chartered by Captains John Wilson and James Scott, of Upper California. She was loaded with an assorted cargo and was to call at many ports on the California coast."

From Valparaiso they sailed to Callao, Peru and thence to Honolulu, arriving on December 13, 1843. The trip so far had been a total 328 days, of which it is estimated that 258 days were at sea and the remaining 70 anchored in a port.

Because the *Euphemia* was judged by the British Admiralty in Honolulu to be unseaworthy and condemned, the cargo was transferred to the brigantine *Juanita* in January 1844. Charley Brown signed on again with Wilson and Scott to sail for Monterey, where taxes were levied by the Mexican government on cargo imported to Upper California.

"From Monterey ... we came direct to Santa Barbara, arriving here in [spring] 1844." Carl Dittmann, alias Charley Brown, may have been the first native of present-day Germany to become a permanent settler in Santa Barbara.

In Santa Barbara Charley was put in charge of Captain Scott's storehouse, which is described in his *Narrative* as "the old adobe building, that one still standing [1878] just below Cook's building and a little off State Street."

Something of Charley's character is revealed in the next lines of his *Narrative*. "Here I remained all the summer of 1844 in charge of the store house... The boatswain was discharged here and again tried to influence Capt. Scott against me by false reports. This time I gave him a good clubbing, very near breaking his arm."

In April 1845 Charley gave up storekeeping and began the very lucrative activity of otter hunting with Isaac Sparks, George Nidever, and James Breck. Fifteen years later Charley was still reporting his occupation as otter hunter on the 1860 Census.

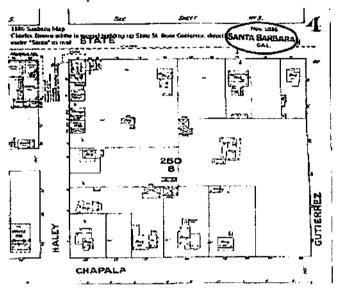
In July 1846 the hunters stopped at Monterey to find the American navy in possession of the port. There Charley learned of the war with Mexico. After hunting farther north the hunters returned to a camp just above the harbor of San Luis Obispo, where they were warned about a band of marauders. Late that night they slipped away from their camp out to sea and safety. "There were several of them headed by an Italian called Antonio, a regular desperado, who was killed two or three days afterwards. ... (members of the band) acknowledged that they intended to kill us all and take our skins."

Upon arriving at Santa Barbara, they were arrested by Californians (Mexican citizens). Bill Fife (a Scot) and Charley Brown (a German) were released, while the Americans were held. Charley declined to join either side in the war and continued his otter hunting.

When gold was discovered at Coloma in January 1848, Charley interrupted his otter hunting. He could not get away in 1848, but in March 1849 he went to the Stanislaus

diggings (north of Sonora) with George Islip and Julian Foxen to seek his fortune. After two months of mining, Charley returned to Santa Barbara with \$1,030 in gold. In the spring of 1850 he returned to the same diggings and mined only \$500 in gold after four months. He then quit mining and resumed otter hunting in Santa Barbara.

Charley became a homeowner in Santa Barbara during August 1850, when for \$310 he bought "Casa de Olive," located on the southwestern side of State Street between Haley Street and Gutierrez Street. The property was purchased from the estate of James Scott, the merchant whose warehouse Charley had occupied in 1844.<sup>4</sup> Charley lived there until August 1887, when he sold his holdings and moved to Lompoc.



1886 SANBORN MAP

CHARLEY BROWN'S ADOBE IS THE SECOND BUILDING UP STATE ST. FROM GUTHEEREZ, DIRECTLY UNDER "SANTA" IN THE OVAL. MAP FURNISHED BY JOHN WOODWARD, SBCGS MEMBER

[Note from John Woodward: Casa de Olive was probably built after streets were laid out in the 1851 Haley survey since it is parallel to State Street (compare to Maria Cordero adobe at angle behind Brown adobe in right center of block). Original map with color coding shows central part of main house and cook house immediately in rear as being made of adobe.]

Charley Brown's *Narrative* ends in the summer 1853 with a long description of finding the lone Indian woman of San Nicholas Island. Curiously, Charley never related anything about his family.

Those years around 1850 were especially important because of Brown's marriage to Francisca Cascareña and births of their son Carlos and daughter Maria Juana. Family life was the last and most important reason for Charley Brown to settle in Santa Barbara.

No record has been found at Our Lady of Sorrows Church for the marriage of Charley Brown and Francisca Cascareña. That is not surprising, since he was Lutheran and she was Catholic. The 1850 Census has an entry for only Charles Brown, age 25, of Prussia. His wife Francisca's name does not appear, but there is a check mark for the column listing "Married within the last year." Her name has not been found anywhere in California in the 1850 Census.

The only record at Our Lady of Sorrows Church for any Brown is a baptism for "Maria Juana Brown on November 5, 1850, daughter of Carlos Brown and an Indian neophyte of San Luis Rey named Francisca."<sup>5</sup> The birth date is given as October 31. Because the enumeration date on the 1850 Census for the page listing Charles Brown is October 29, perhaps Francisca was giving birth to Maria Juana somewhere in seclusion. This might be the reason that she was entirely missed on that census.

There is much less information on their son Carlos (Charles, Jr.). On the 1860 Census for Santa Barbara, taken on June 7, 1860, one finds four members of the Charles Brown family. Charles (Sr.) is listed as an otter hunter, born in Prussia, and the other family members are born in California. Francisca's age is given as 30. Juana's age is given as 12, suggesting that she was born in 1847 (contrary to her baptismal record!), and a boy, Charles, age 10 years, suggesting that he was born in 1849 or 1850. The children's ages don't add up! But census records are often not accurate, and so far, they are the only official documents showing that the son Charles ever lived.

A most significant document appears in the Actions of the Santa Barbara District Court on April 11, 1861. The abridged transcript reads, "I, Charles Dittmann, commonly known as Charles Brown which latter name I hereby declare is not my true name... acknowledge myself to be the father of Charles Cascareña aged about twelve years, and Juana Cascareña aged about eleven years ... of an Indian woman.. . Francisca Cascareña, formerly of the mission of San Luis Rey, and I... hereby adopt ... [them] ... as my own children."

In this document that acknowledged the name Brown to be an alias, Charles also changed his children's surname Cascareña (not Brown) to Dittmann. Notice that the children's surname had been that of their mother. It seems that he was adopting his own children, perhaps because he was never married to Francisca and she may have died. This document is probably more accurate than the 1860 Census concerning the children's birth order and ages. Charles was born probably in 1849 and Juana definitely in September 1850.

Another clue that Francisca may have died during the latter half of 1860 appears in the article, "St. Vincent's Students."<sup>6</sup> Jane Dittman (formerly known as Maria Juana Brown or Juana Cascareña) appears once, in the 1861 school year for St. Vincent's school and orphan asylum for girls. The Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul also accepted "half-orphans," described as having one deceased parent.

The next significant record is the Letter of Intent (for naturalization) that Charles Ditman (as he then spelled his

surname), alias Chas. Brown, signed on July 20, 1867 in the Court of the First Judicial District in Santa Barbara. He finalized his naturalization on July 31, 1871.

There is no mention of Charles Dittman Jr. during the 1860s. The last official record of him is the 1870 Census for Santa Barbara. That census, on the page enumerated August 12, 1870, lists Charles Ditman, age 46, carpenter from Prussia; [no Francisca!]; Charles Ditman, age 21; Jane Ditman, age 19. Jane's age is consistent with her baptismal records. So it seems likely that her brother Charles was born before August 1849, probably June or July. A few months earlier Charley was finding gold left and right, then left after only two months. Perhaps he gave up mining in order to hurry home to his pregnant wife.

While browsing through court records, I discovered a document that greatly complicated Charley Brown's life.

In court proceedings<sup>7</sup> that were recorded on August 10, 1852, Francisca was the plaintiff in a child custody case. "... a Writ of Habeas Corpus by Francisca Cascareña setting forth that her minor child named Refugio was unlawfully restrained ... by Jose Carrillo. ... The Court ordered that the body of the child Refugio be delivered up to the custody and possession of her mother Francisca Cascareña ..."

This document prompts many questions. Who is the father of Refugio and when was she born? (She was not identified as Charley Brown's child when he claimed Charles and Juana in 1861, so Jose Carrillo probably fathered her before 1849.) Whatever happened to Refugio? (No trace of Refugio Carrillo was found in either the 1850 or 1860 Census.) Did Charley save Francisca from an abusive relationship or was she a "wanton woman," as they liked to say in the nineteenth century? Good grief, Charley Brown! Well, back to the story of his two children born of Francisca Cascareña.

Mary Jane Dittman, as she preferred to be called as an adult, was married on May 1, 1872 to Benjamin W.C. Brown. Isn't that confusing! Mary Jane's birth surname and married surname are both Brown. Benjamin was born in Newport, Rhode Island on January 5, 1833. He came to Santa Barbara as a sailor and held various jobs, including being a deputy to Sheriff Don Nicolas Covarrubias about 1878 and a saloonkeeper in 1880.

In May 1873 Charles Dittman gave his daughter Mary Jane Brown "in consideration of love and affection" a belated wedding gift, all the real property on the northwest side of Gutierrez Street between State Street and Anacapa Street. In other words, Mary's property was half a block away from her childhood home.

A marriage license records that Charles Dittman married Margaret Wetfield (actually, Whitfield) in Santa Barbara on October 11, 1873 with Rev. James Vila presiding. Margaret was an Irish immigrant from Australia who worked as a seamstress for Dr. James Shaw. She had been attracted to the beautiful garden planted by Charles. Theirs was a "May-and-December" marriage; she was age 25 and he was age 52. They had five children before moving away from Santa Barbara in 1887, but that is another story.

Mrs. Mary Brown was a part of her father's second family, being godmother to her half-brothers Thomas Dittman and Ludwig Dittman. Another half-brother, also named Charles, remembers an argument between Mary and Margaret about the disposition of some furniture after the house on State Street was sold. Not until the late 1950s did the Dittman boys learn from Ludwig's son Henry that Mary was their half-sister.

On July 9, 1883 Benjamin Brown died, apparently leaving no children. Mary Brown lived on at 115 Gutierrez Street for the rest of her life. She can be found at that residence on every census from 1880 to 1920, except of course, 1890.

Mary Brown later became a source of information about Santa Barbara during the 1850s and 1860s. An extensive interview of her appears in the May 13, 1922 issue of *The Daily News* published in Santa Barbara, wherein she relates that the family home on State Street "stood on the site of what is now Faith Mission, next to Jones Cafeteria." In that same interview she tells that her brother, Charles Dittman, had been an otter hunter. Later he became a sailor and was lost at sea in 1894 when his ship sank.

Elsewhere Mary goes into more detail<sup>8</sup> about her brother. She relates that he "was hunting with Capt. George Nidever and his son, young George, in the waters of Lower California, in 1865." During that hunt he shot an otter and gave the skin to Mary. She had possession of it in 1922, when it was valued at \$7,000. She died on June 9, 1929 and was buried at Calvary Cemetery.

The author wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Kathleen Brewster and Dorothy Oksner, as well as apologies to Charles Schultz. Endnotes:

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Compiled by Ted Denniston

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.

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# ELLIS ISLAND IS COMING

# By James Friestad, Past President, SBCGS <ronjim@worldnet.att.net>

On April 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> the Santa Barbara Symphony in collaboration with the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society will present a concert entitled "Land of Dreams." The second half of the program will be the presentation of "Ellis Island: The Dream of America," a work by Peter Boyer. SBCGS will set up several genealogical displays at the Arlington and work with the symphony to promote this event.

Ellis Island and the Port of New York have special meaning to me because my father and his brother, and his brother's future wife all entered the United States from Norway through Ellis Island. My uncle arrived at Ellis Island in 1916 and my father in 1926. My maternal grandparents arrived in New York from Norway in 1882 and 1884.

During its peak years (1892 – 1924) Ellis Island received thousands of immigrants a day. More than 12 million immigrants have passed through Ellis Island. Its peak year was 1907 when 1.2 million people arrived. In a single day in 1907 11,747 people were processed.

By the 1890s steam powered ships had modernized the business of ocean travel cutting the time of Atlantic transit to two weeks. Large shipping lines such as Cunard and White Star competed fiercely for the immigrants, who were seen as profitable cargo. These steam ships could accommodate as many as two thousand people in steerage. The long narrow compartments were divided into separate dormitories for single men, single women, and families. The bunks were stacked three high; the air became rank with the heavy odor of spoiled food, seasickness and unwashed bodies. Toilet facilities were extremely limited and there was little privacy. By 1910 things began to improve somewhat as many ships had replaced steerage with four and six-berth Third Class cabins. These vessels served meals in dining rooms with long tables set with dishes.

Deaths caused by exposure and cases of malnutrition were not uncommon and Public Health officials state that thirty percent of the children who contracted measles died. The immigrants were not free of death and disease after landing at Ellis Island. During its fifty years of operation over 3,500 immigrants died, including 1,400 children and over 350 babies were born.

When they landed, the immigrants had numbered tags pinned to their clothes which indicated the manifest page and line number on which their names appeared. Though relatively few immigrants were denied entry, the two percent that were excluded often equaled over a thousand a month during peak years. Jostling three abreast, the immigrants made their way up the steep flight of stairs and into the great hall of the Registry Room. Although many did not know it, the inspection process had already begun. The doctors looked to see if anyone wheezed, coughed, shuffled, or



limped as they climbed the steep ascent. Children were asked their name to make sure they weren't deaf or dumb, and those that looked over two-years-old were taken from their mother's arm and made to walk. The doctors only had a few seconds to examine each immigrant, checking for sixty symptoms, from anemia to varicose veins, which might indicate a wide variety of diseases, disabilities and other physical conditions. Of primary concern were cholera, favus (scalp and nail fungus), insanity, tuberculosis, epilepsy and mental impairments. The disease that resulted in the most exclusions, however, was trachoma, a highly contagious eye infection that could cause blindness and death.

Those who appeared sick were marked with blue chalk and detained for further medical examination. The sick were taken to Ellis Island Hospital for observation and care and once recovered, could proceed with their legal inspection. Those who were excluded were returned to their point of departure at the expense of the steamship company. After 1903 the steamship company was also fined one hundred dollars for each immigrant deported.

As immigration laws were tightened by 1917 the government was forced to add a literacy test. The law required all those over sixteen years of age to be able to read a forty-word passage in their native tongue. The passage was commonly from the Bible.

It normally took about five hours to pass through inspection in the Great Hall. A detainee's stay could last days or even weeks, and accommodations were always in short supply. Dormitories consisting of two long, narrow rooms ran along either side of the Registry Room mezzanine. Each room slept three hundred people in triple-tiered bunks.

After inspection, immigrants descended from the Registry Room down the "Stairs of Separation," so called because they marked the parting of the ways for many families and friends with different destinations. They were then directed toward the railroad ticket office for trains to points west or were met by relatives at the "kissing post," where many joyous and tearful reunions occurred.

In the 1920s, immigration was severely restricted and in 1932, for the first time ever, more aliens left the country than arrived. By 1937 the island's population had dwindled to about 160 deportees and 30 detained immigrants. The last detainee, a seaman who had overstayed his shore leave, was granted parole and ferried to the mainland.

Editor's Note: The background material for this article was obtained from the Ellis Island Historical Website <a href="http://www.ellisisland.org/">http://www.ellisisland.org/</a>

# JOHN HYSLOP AND THE BRIG SAMUEL BAKER

#### By Raymond Gladden Crewe, Cheshire <raymond@gladden88.freeserve.co.uk>

The Gladden family is not unusual: they don't keep many records from one generation to another. But since I retired, I have spent much time on researching my family history. Despite a lack of documentation, I have found it rewarding to build a picture of my forbears and the times they lived in.

Amongst other things, I discovered that my grandfather, William Gladden, was the orphaned son of a London peeler. After a time in the Enfield Workhouse, the lad was apprenticed to the corn miller at Flatford Mill, immortalised by Constable. A copy of his apprenticeship articles dated 1859 is one of the few interesting artefacts that did survive amongst the family memorabilia. William gravitated to London and became a railway signalman. There he met his wife Grace Hyslop who was a cook in a large Hampstead household. Grace was the youngest of thirteen children who were born to a poor gardener, Andrew Hyslop (1800-87) living on Loch Ryan near Stranraer. I never knew my grandmother, Grace Hyslop (1849-1925). She died in the year I was born. Similarly, Grace never knew her eldest brother, John Hyslop (1823-47), as he had been drowned at sea at the age of 24, two years before she was born.

In our house, a copy of one letter, which had been kept with other old papers, had always intrigued me. It fascinated me and I used to read and re-read it a lot. See Figure 1. It was written in July 1848 by Catherine Hyslop, the widow of John, to her father-in-law the gardener. It told of her decision to emigrate to a new life in the United States of America. She sent it from aboard the ship Cushmalachree in the Irish port of Galway where she and her little group of friends awaited passage to New York. It radiated such warmth of family feeling, yet expressed the poignancy of the situation for the newly widowed young girl and her hopes for the future. The words echoed the grace of the Victorian age. Her news and manner of expression gave it such a dimension that you felt you would have just loved to meet her. She wrote of her John having, '... shipped on board the Samuel Baker on the third of May as near as I can guess and it is no later than the sixth of said month. He served on board as able seaman at £3 per month...'

Which May did she mean? Where had he travelled? When did they marry? What sort of a ship was the *Samuel Baker*? How did she come to sink in the Bay of Biscay when all the crew drowned as the family story said? Why did great *grandma* later tell the family of the night of the great storm when all the windows in the house at Cairnryan shook and she heard voices of drowning men shouting above the gale? These and many other questions needed answering. Yet how to start?



The family bible showed John as being born on 3 May 1823 and that was really all the additional written information there was. Catherine's letter was dated 10 July 1848 and she gave the name of the ship and the date. It could only have been May of the previous year -1847 - as there was not time for her to grieve over her loss and re-organise her life to prepare for emigration.

So this was the starting point when I set out for Liverpool and the Archive department of the Maritime Museum. As a maritime nation, we have a wonderful mass of information available about shipping and much of it centres on Lloyds of London with all their detailed registers and Daily Lists of Shipping. The staff at the museum were most helpful. They pointed me first in the direction of the shelves containing Lloyds Registers and I had only to look in the bound edition for 1846 to discover details of the ship: registration number, date and place of building, quality of hull and bottom as listed at Lloyds, port of registration, captains' names, tonnage, areas traded to.

Already a picture was emerging of a seaworthy brig that travelled the world. Next, thanks to the painstaking attention to detail of our forebears I was able to extract the microfilm references, year by year of the announcements affecting any one ship in the year under review. From these I was able to transfer to the microfilm copies of the individual Daily Lists and armed with page and column numbers, seek out the arrival dates, departure dates, sightings and 'speakings' of the *Samuel Baker* as she journeyed the world. An occasion arose occasionally when I failed to read an entry correctly, or, there was a clerical error. But 'by and large' (as we say nautically!) the picture was complete.

The only time I failed to get the full information was when I could not ascertain the location of a remote Sardinian island which featured in my story. The Maritime Museum staff referred me to the Public Records Office in the city centre and again with helpful people, I was able to find what I needed. Following this I researched the Admiralty publication *Mediterranean Pilot* which gave a wealth of detail regarding the SW coast of Sardinia and the local navigational hazards.

One of the several unanswered questions that still remain is the fate of poor Catherine, John Hyslop's widow. Knowing the exact date of arrival of her ship in New York, I was hopeful of uncovering a story of success in the New World. I looked carefully through the US Immigration records at the City Record Office, but regrettably, there was no mention of Catherine Hyslop. So the human story ends there.

But the story of the ship can be adequately chronicled and here it is:

The brig *Samuel Baker* was a sailing ship with two square-rigged masts. On her main mast she carried a big gaff and boomsail called a spanker. She was only 290 tons and had been built at Shoreham, Sussex in 1835. Well found, with a hull that was sheathed in "yellow metal" (an alloy of copper, zinc and tin), she was registered A1 at Lloyds of London. Her original owners were Baker and Co of Gloucester and this was originally her homeport.

Her masters were R Butcher for the first two years from 1835, then R Wylde until 1842. A captain called E. Canney commanded her for the next two years. In 1844, Baker and Co. of Gloucester entered into a partnership with C. Watkins of London and from that time she commenced trading to Buenos Aires, Argentine. She was under Captain F. Langlois (or sometimes Langley) in 1845/6, then Reid (or sometimes Read) until her sinking in late November 1847. Earlier in that year she had been sold to Watkins and Co. of London.

In her early years of trading she went regularly to Jamaica and the West Indies, but from 1838 she is recorded as trading between Mauritius and India, and Mauritius and South Australia, staying away from England for four years. In 1845 she traded from England to Buenos Aires and in 1846 went to the Mediterranean and Black Sea. In 1847 she made voyages to Egypt, Malta and North African ports. It was on her return voyage from Alexandria via Malta that she sank in the Bay of Biscay in late November 1847.

*Lloyds Daily Shipping List* gives a sketchy story of her travels and this is not helped by the delays in reporting ship movements. There was no telegraph in those days. Sightings and 'speakings' by other ships and mails would have been the only way of conveying news. For instance, the report of *Samuel Baker* having left Calcutta on 9 July 1838 for Ceylon was not printed in the Lloyds List until 17 October 1838; and the report of her having arrived at Port Adelaide from Hobart Town on 27 July 1839 was not published until 27 December 1839. Dates have been shown as 'factual' rather than 'reported.'

Despite the inadequacy of the information from Lloyds List, there emerges a picture of a far-ranging and busy commercial trader. One wonders whether her activities were always strictly 'above board.' The journeys to the West Indies could have been profitable through slaving and immigrants from India largely helped the sugar industry in Mauritius!

Typical voyage dates would indicate a 'best guess' average speed on passage of around four to five knots. There was a great variation in timings due to the vagaries of wind and weather. This is reflected in trips from Mauritius to Calcutta in 36 days (3,000 miles) at around 3 ½ knots overall. Exceptional passages like December 1842 on passage from Mauritius to Liverpool (11,000 miles), she made the last 20 days at an average 7.25 knots. Map mileage has been increased ten per cent to account for tacking

courses, etc. Driven hard by energetic masters anxious to maximise voyage profits, this could have taken her a total of around thirty thousand miles a year.

Severe weather conditions would certainly have been more frequent than the two occasions reported by Lloyds, (viz., August 1841 off Cape Good Hope and October 1845 off Buenos Aires.) But a far more serious incident affecting her safety and final demise was when Lloyds reported her 'taking the ground' in early September 1847. The unfortunate Captain Reid had run her aground on Piana Island off Cape Farma (Rama?). Piana Island is at the northern end of the Gulf of Carloforte, off the NE tip of San Pietro Island, which lies off the SW coast of Sardinia.

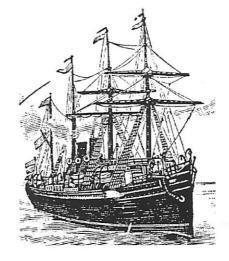
It is likely that they had run in behind the shelter of San Pietro Island to avoid some exceptional weather. She was evidently stuck so fast that they needed to jettison part of the cargo in order to kedge her off fourteen hours later. She arrived back in Malta on 18 September and repairs were completed in six weeks ready for her to sail again for UK on 1 November.

Whether the repairs were adequate is questionable. Reid was still young in service aboard, having only been one year as master. He may have been unwilling to spend more than absolutely necessary in order not to alienate the new owners, Watkins and Co.

We shall never know whether *Samuel Baker* was overwhelmed by excessive winter gales in the Bay, or whether her pumps could not cope with leaks made worse by the weather. There was no report of a wreck on the lee shore of the Brittany coast at Audierne. Just the plank. It has to be assumed that the vessel foundered and broke up out at sea.

The last word comes from Lloyds List of 12 January 1848, which reads: "Report from Paris dated 10 January 1848: A plank, inscribed '*Samuel Baker*, London' apparently the name of a large Sloop, was found on the Coast of Audierne, near Quimper, towards the end of last month."

(Continued on the following page)



#### Figure 1.

This is a letter from Catherine Hyslop, widow of John Hyslop (1823-47 died at sea) to her father-in-law Andrew Hyslop (1800-87) gardener of Cairnryan, before her emigration to the United States of America in 1848. John Hyslop was the older brother of Grace Gladden (née Hyslop).

Galway July 10th '48

My dear Father in Law,

I read, your affectionate letter of the 4th inst. and the contents of which gave me much pleasure and satisfaction to hear a satisfactory account from you. And if God spares me health to arrive in America I will as soon as placed in business communicate with you as friendly as you might expect from a daughter in law.

As for what you want to know about John. He shipped on board the Samuel Baker on the 3rd day of May as near as 1 can guess and it is no later than the 6th of said month. He served on board as able seaman at L3 per month.

My friends and I join in forwarding our sincerest love and respects to you and your loving wife and family.

You mentioned to write an answer to this but I expect that our ship will sail this week and you need not mind writing for fear that I would be gone ere the letter would arrive here. The ship's name is 'Cushlamachree' and the owner's name is William Evans the broker in Galway and the captain's name is John Thomas. He's a Welshman and I am in good health thank God as also all enquiring friends who subscribe.

With your affectionate dauthter in law Catherine Hyslop PS The ship is bound for New York, United States

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## THE TERRITORIAL PAPERS OF THE UNITED STATES

#### By John Stemmons

After the Revolutionary War, many people desired to move west and obtain inexpensive land in the vast areas acquired by their new country from 1783 through 1803. The period following our nation's independence witnessed one of history's greatest migrations as a large percent of U.S. citizens and foreign immigrants moved from the Eastern Seaboard to the territories. Very few records were kept until an orderly form of government was established. Of course, record destruction took its toll. Therefore, many of our most difficult genealogy problems bog down in the period of the first territories of the United States. And, as luck would have it, many of the missing federal censuses prior to 1830 are for the territories before they became a state.

One of the best resources for this period is *The Territorial Papers of the United States* (listed below) that contains a wealth of information on many thousands of individuals making it an excellent substitute for lost census records. Numerous records not made by states or counties are contained in these volumes.

United States, Department of State, compiled and edited by Clarence Edwin Carter, *The Territorial Papers of the United States* Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1934-1962. 26 volumes. National Archives microfilm publications: M0721

Vol. 1 The Territorial Papers of the United States, General. Vols. II & III The Territory Northwest of the River Ohio, 1787-1803. [Includes Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and part of Minnesota.] Vol. IV The Territory South of the River Ohio, 1790-1796. [Includes Tennessee.] Vols. V & VI The Territory of Mississippi, 1798-1817. [Includes Alabama and Mississippi.] Vols. VII & VIII The Territory of Indiana, 1800-1816. [Includes Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and part of Minnesota.] Vol. IX The Territory of Orleans, 1803-1812. [Includes Louisiana.] Vols. X - XII The Territory of Michigan, 1805-1837. [Includes Michigan, Wisconsin, and part of Minnesota.] Vols. XIII - XV The Territory of Louisiana-Missouri, 1803-1821. [Includes Missouri, Arkansas, and the states north and west that were in the original Louisiana Purchase.] Vols. XVI & XVII The Territory of Illinois, 1809-1818. [Includes Illinois, Wisconsin, and part of Minnesota.] Vol. XVIII The Territory of Alabama, 1817-1819. [Includes Alabama.] Vols. XIX - XXI The Territory of Arkansas, 1819-1836. [Includes Arkansas and part of Oklahoma.] Vols. XXII - XXVI The Territory of Florida, 1821-1845. These books are one of the most underused resources for the U.S. territorial period because many researchers are unaware of their existence and they are to be found usually in

the larger libraries. Many territorial records were filmed by the National Archives and are available at the Salt Lake City, Utah Family History Library and its various centers. There are few inventories and no indexes to the filmed records. They may contain information not published in *The Territorial Papers of the United States*.

Since there are so many volumes, it is really time consuming to search them all, especially for common names, but one should review each book because many persons migrated through several territories.

To make using *The Territorial Papers of the United States* more convenient and time saving, the names and relevant information attached to the names before 1825 are being extracted to help one determine if the name has any meaning to their research.

To find this resource go to www.censustrail.com where all extractions have been combined into one database. This may help determine residence when one record doesn't list a locality, but another does. This remarkable database can be used at home without going to the library. It also provides multiple ways to search the data, including by soundex. This is helpful since the variety of spellings for names is unusually large. In addition, it provides a means of searching names by the boundaries of the territory or by the state that later came from the territory. Although there is a fee for using this website, it is small compared to the wealth of information now contained therein and which will be added to from time to time.

Many of the names in these volumes are contained in petitions submitted to various governmental agencies. While most often just a name is given, there are many things you can learn about the persons listed, such as:

- 1. Clues that provide details about one's ancestors.
- 2. The migration trail of an ancestor through multiple territories or states.
- 3. Insights into personal feelings, cultural settings, literacy, hardships, and historical details about an individual.
- 4. Names of potential family members that may have signed the petition also.
- 5. Information about individuals who lived in the area prior to its becoming a part of the United States.

While not on the website, the signature in the original petition can be used to compare with other known signatures of your ancestor to help identify individuals. This is especially helpful with common names. The website www.censustrail.com is very helpful in knowing what petitions to search for to see the original signature.

Many other records besides petitions are contained in these volumes such as an 1809 census for Madison County, Alabama.

A partial solution to your research problems for this period may be found in the information contained in *The Territorial Papers of the United States.* 

John (Jack) Stemmons is an accredited genealogist specializing in the Southern States and LDS Records. He is also a certified genealogical record specialist for the New England States. He was employed at the Family History Library for 13 years and has been an author and publisher of family history materials for more than 30 years.

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#### **GERMAN RESEARCH TIPS**

BREMERHAVEN EMIGRATION CENTER

Bremerhaven emigration records were destroyed in World War II. There were over seven million emigrants who left through Bremerhaven between 1830 and 1974. The new Deutsches Auswandererhaus (German Emigration Center), Europe's largest theme museum, is currently under construction with plans to be completed and open to the public on August 8, 2005. It is especially important for anyone having stories, documents, and pictures about emigrants who left through Bremen to share it with others through this new Museum. You should contact the Deutsches Auswandererhaus, Columbustrasse 65, D-27568 Bremerhaven, GERMANY or communicate with them by email at info@dh-bremerhaven.de. Their beautiful website is at

http://www.dah-bremerhaven.de/

There's a Chico's Cafe there. Take the tour in English.

#### PRUSSIA

The term "Prussian" is a very confusing one because it meant different areas at different times in history. There are several websites that give helpful information. There are links at this website to others that provide additional information on various aspects of Prussia.

www.wordig.com/definition/Prussia

This website gives the history of Prussia and maps.

www.nccg.org/ezion\_geber/preussen1.html

#### **GERMAN LIFE ARCHIVES**

The periodical, *German Life*, publishes many articles about German history and German cities and customs. They also have a website where an archive of their materials is available.

www.germanlife.com.

It should provide much background information for German researchers.

The above three German research tips are from the IGS Newsletter, February 2005

# DIGITIZED NEWSPAPERS: SUGGESTED SOURCES

Compiled by Sandy Lewis, SBCGS Member <Sandylewis@yahoo.com>

# Please visit the web sites for more information regarding dates of coverage and titles not listed here-too many to list.

Ancestry: www.ancestry.com (requires a fee)

Historical Newspaper Collection 1786-2002 U.S., U.K., Canada

Godfrey Library: www.godfrey.org (requires a fee-it's a bargain at \$35.00)

- NewspaperARCHIVE Elite: collection of 400+ digital historic newspapers from across the US, Canada and the UK. With over 12 million fully searchable pages representing over 400 cities and towns, users can research obituaries, articles and newspaper data of all types, with articles dating back as far as the 1700's.
- · Chicago Tribune
- · New York Times (1851-2001)
- · Los Angeles Times (1881-1984)
- · Washington Post (1877-1988)

African-American Newspapers: The 19th Century

- · Freedom's Journal, New York, 1827-Mar. 1829
- · Colored American, New York, 1837-Mar. 1841
- · The North Star, Rochester, NY, 1847-July 1851
- · National Era, Washington, DC, 1847-1860
- · Frederick Douglass Papers (continuation of The North Star), 1851-1856
- · Provincial Freeman, Toronto, ON, 1854-1857
- · The Christian Recorder, Jan. 1865-1882

UCSB Libraries: www.library.ucsb.edu (must be in the library to use)

Use Pegasus to search the library's collection, which contains current and historical newspapers available on microfilm.

Genealogy guide: http://www.library.ucsb.edu/subjects/genealogy.html Newspaper guide: http://www.library.ucsb.edu/eresources/epubs/newspaper.html

The following are just a few titles that are available online:

- African American Newspapers: 1827-1876
- · America's Newspapers: full text access to 269 newspapers, including 43 California titles
- · Civil War: A Newspaper Perspective 1860-1865
- · Godey's Ladys Book 1830-1880
- · Harp Week 1857 to 1912
- · Pennsylvania Newspaper Record: Delaware County. 1819-1870
- · Pennsylvania Genealogical Catalogue: Chester County: 1809-1870
- · Times (London): 1785-1870

Los Angeles Public Library: www.lapl.org (no residency requirements for library card, although you must pick it up in person)

Atlanta Constitution	L.A. Daily News
Atlanta Journal	N.Y. Times (Current)
Boston Globe	Orange County Register
Business Dateline	USA Today
Chicago Tribune	Wall Street Journal
Christian Science Monitor	

# THE USE AND ABUSE OF CENSUS RECORDS

By Leland E. Pound <LEPound@aol.com>

Census records are a great boon to research. However, if they are used incorrectly, they will give poor results. Census records are secondary records since they are for the most part made long after the events recorded took place and they do not identify the source of the information.

In many cases, the records do not give enough information to clearly identify family relationships and must be used in conjunction with other sources to build family pedigrees.

When used properly, the census is a powerful research tool. As the only record series that purports to include information on every American living in the Census year, it includes details that may not be available anywhere else.

#### **Errors Researchers Make:**

Do not assume that the information on a census record is either correct or complete. The census is a guide to lead us to confirming records, not the final proof. Remember, the census is a snapshot taken every ten years and will not contain information on events occurring between census dates.

## Key Data in Census Records

Rey Data in Census Records	
Name of Head of Household:	1790-1930
Value of Real Estate owned:	1850-1870
Birthplace of every person:	1850-1930
Color, sex, age:	1850-1930
Employment, education:	1850-1930
Profession:	1850-1930
Name of every person in Household:	1850-1930
Relationship to Head of Household:	1880-1930
Birthplace of parents:	1880-1930
Marital Status:	1880-1930
Street Address:	1880-1930
Date of Immigration:	1900-1930
Month and year of birth:	1900
Number of years married:	1900
Number of children and number living:	1900-1910
Rent or own home or farm:	1900-1930
Number of marriages:	1910
Years of present marriage:	1910
Language Spoken:	1910-1930
Value of Home, have a radio:	1930
Age at first marriage:	1930

#### Errors to Watch For:

By Census Taker:

Misspelled names Incorrect ages Misaligned columns Missing members of family Poor handwriting

#### By Indexers:

Misreading names Unindexed sections Transposing names

#### **Index Types:**

Ancestry.com: Allows Soundex search, first three letters, data combinations. Index contains name, age, location and family members.

**Genealogy.com**: Allows only last name search by state. No Soundex or partial name searches. Gives name and location only.

**AIS Printed Indexes**: Alphabetical listing with only the location given.

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Lee Pound was the guest speaker at the January meeting of the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society. Over the last twenty-five years, Lee has presented programs and taught classes at many genealogical societies and conferences in Southern California. He is a resident of Newport Beach, California. The above handout is reprinted here with permission.

# **RESEARCHING THE CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS MEMBERS**

By Bill Boyd, SBCGS Member <boydbill@cox.net>

- Best place to start researching a CCC enrollee is in your genealogical research records.
- Was a male family member or relative eligible for CCC service? [Age 17 to 25 during the period 1933 to 1942] or [WWI or Spanish American War vet age 30 to 50] or [Skilled Tradesman during that period] or [Military service during that period].
- Where and when did they serve? Camp location, number, dates of service
- Look for clues in old documents, photos, CCC memorabilia.
- Check the National Association of CCC Alumni website: http://www.ccalumni.org
- Visit their Museum and Research Center at Jefferson Barracks in St. Louis, Missouri.
   —Check their States Listing for Camp Project Number, Company Number, Date Started, Nearest Railroad, Post Office and Location.
   —Review their Guidelines for Research.
  - Request Discharge Papers at: National Archives and Records Administration (NARA),
- National Personnel Records Center, 111 Winnebago St., St. Louis, MO 63118. [Best way to find company and camp location]
- Search for camp and company records, photos, etc. from the National Archives in Washington, DC.
- Refer to NACCCA\* guidelines on how to acquire CCC records from the National Archives by mail.
- Check out the National Archives website, under Record Group 35: http:// www.archives.gov/research\_room/federal\_records\_guide/ civilian\_conservation\_corps\_rg035.html.
- Get a feel for CCC life and history: *The Tree Army: A Pictorial History of the Civilian Conservation Corps. 1933-1942*, by Stan Cohen
- If your relative was assigned to work on the La Purisima Mission project, check out names and interviews in Christine Savage's book, *New Deal Adobe*.
- Go to Google (www.google.com) and click on Images, then type in Civilian Conservation Corps and browse through over 1,000 images.
- Go to eBay auctions (www.ebay.com) and search for Civilian Conservation Corps. Have fun buying old and new CCC memorabilia.

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\*NACCCA-National Association of Civilian Conservation Corps Alumni

Editor's Note: Bill Boyd presented this program to the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society February 19, 2005. This is the handout from that program.

(CCC Continued on the following page)

(CCC Continued from previous page)



'WE CAN TAKE IT!'

"The slogan of the Civilian Conservation Corps is 'We can take it!' Building strong bodies is a major CCC objective. More than half the enrollees who entered CCC the last year were seventeen years of age. Work, calisthenics, marching drill, good food, and medical care feature the CCC health program." By Wilfred J. Mead, Civilian Conservation Corps, undated National Archives, Records of the Civilian Conservation Corps (35-G-830)

Franklin D. Roosevelt instituted the Works Projects Administration (WPA) in order to give wages to people currently unemployed. By 1936 over 3.5 million people were employed on various WPA programs. Included in these programs was the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) that was designed to put unemployed men aged between 18 and 25 years old to work. The CCC camps were set up all over the United States based on the armed forces with officers in charge of the men. The pay was \$30 a month with \$22 of it being sent home to families. The men planted trees, built public parks, drained swamps to fight malaria, restocked rivers with fish, worked on flood control projects, and a range of other work that helped to conserve the environment. Between 1933 and 1941 over 3,000,000 men served in the CCC.

Source: http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/USARccc.htm

# A FEW POINTS TO REMEMBER ABOUT HERALDRY

By Don K. Bloomfield <vze285gn@verizon.net>

Most people did not, and do not, have a coat of arms. They were originally permitted only to royalty, nobles, and knights, and later to "esquires" and "gentlemen" - the latter term meaning those who had enough property that they didn't have to work for a living. This excludes most people's ancestors. (Nowadays, the definition of "gentle," for purposes of obtaining a grant of arms, in those countries where this is still done, has been stretched to include almost anyone with a profession, an officer's commission, or a university degree, who hasn't done time in prison.)

A given coat of arms is like the trademark of a particular family line, and belongs only to the descendants of the original possessor of the arms, not to everyone who happens to share the same surname. There are some surnames with which dozens of different coats of arms are associated. The people in the malls and on the Internet who will sell you "the" coat of arms for "your family name" are being less than honest.

A "crest" is not a shield. It is the little emblem that sits on a wreath, and may be shown above the shield, sometimes atop a helmet. It is sometimes used separately, to mark small items, like the family silverware, especially in cases where the shield design is too complicated to be engraved in a small space.

Most of what one reads about the supposed symbolism of the colors and designs on coats of arms (red means bravery, white means purity, etc.) is speculative romanticizing, and would no doubt amuse the original bearers of the arms. Some designs clearly were intended as puns on the bearer's surname, (falcons for Falkner, bells for Peel, e.g.), and others no doubt had significance to their originators which has since been forgotten, but many were just abstract designs, arbitrarily chosen because they looked good, and were different from those of the neighbors.

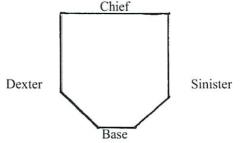
If you encounter a description of a coat of arms that may have been borne by someone connected with your family, copy it just as you find it, and look up the meaning of the terms in a good heraldic reference book, or have it interpreted by someone who can read the jargon. Don't change it even if it looks wrong. Remember, we're dealing with a language in which "or" is an adjective; ermine is a fur, but a sable coat is not; and a "mullet" is a star, not a fish (or a haircut).

Don Bloomfield was the guest speaker at the November 2004 meeting of the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society. He is from Silver Spring, Maryland and has degrees in history and law. He is now retired from a career of service in the federal government and the World Bank in Washington, D.C. He has been pursuing his family's genealogy for about 15 years and has made a hobby of the study of heraldry for nearly as long.

## SOME BASIC HERALDIC TERMINOLOGY

In the technical jargon of heraldry, a picture of a coat of arms is an "emblazon." A verbal description of the arms is called a "blazon." Many of the terms used in the blazoning of arms in English are of Norman French origin, and date from the Middle Ages. This can make it difficult to decipher a blazon; but if one learns the terminology, it becomes possible not only to understand a description that may be centuries old, but even to picture the arms with some exactitude.

The background of a shield, whether plain or patterned, is termed the "field." Any design elements placed on this field are referred to as "charges." In describing the location of charges on a field, the area nearest the top is called the "chief," and that at the bottom, the "base." The area to the viewer's left is referred to as the "dexter," and that to the viewer's right, the "sinister." This is so because - although in Latin, dexter means right and sinister means left— the shield is described from the point of view of the man behind it.



The simplest, most common, geometric charges, such as chevrons and crosses, are called the "ordinaries." In addition to the ordinaries, other charges often seen include all sorts of animals, both real and mythical, and a limitless variety of inanimate objects. Some of these are easily recognizable. Others, common enough in medieval times, are now obscure, and found only in heraldic context. The bibliography provided includes books which list and describe many of these charges.

Only a few colors are used in heraldry, and they are called by their heraldic names in describing a coat of arms. They are spoken of as "tinctures," and include two "metals" and five "colours," as follows:

	Heraldic <u>Name</u>	English Equivalent	Abbreviations for Tricking	Manner of Hatching
Metals:	Or	Gold (bright yellow on paper)	0	speckled
	Argent	Silver (white on paper)	A, Ar, Arg	plain white
Colours:				
	Gules	Red	G, Gu	vertical lines
	Azure	Blue	B, Az	horizontal lines
	Sable	Black	S, Sa	vertical and horizontal lines
	Vert	Green	Vt	diagonal lines from upper left
	Purpure Purple		Purp	diagonal lines from upper right

In addition to these seven tinctures, the field of a shield, or any charge on it, may be of a pattern called a "fur." Two of the most commonly found furs are "ermine" - silver (white) with black ermine tails scattered all over it, and "vair" - a pattern of shield-like shapes, alternately erect and inverted. Vair is blue and white unless another combination of tinctures is specified. A charge that is said to be "of the field" is of the same tincture as the field, or background, of the shield. One that is "proper" is of its natural color. If a charge is "of the first" (or "of the second," etc.) that means it is of the same tincture as the

(Continued on the following page)

one first (or second, etc.) one mentioned.

The "tincture rule," which is not hard and fast, but good practice nevertheless, says that a metal charge should not be placed on a predominantly metal field, or a colour charge on a predominantly colour field. The reason behind this rule is that a coat of arms ought to be a bold, clear emblem, easily distinguished from others at a distance. It is thought that metal on metal, or colour on colour, would fail to create the high contrast that would serve this purpose. The rule does not prohibit the partitioning of the field into two or more areas of colour, or of metal, but only requires contrast between a charge and the field on which it is placed.

# A FEW GOOD WEBSITES DEVOTED TO HERALDRY

#### http://www.heraldica.org

*Heraldica is* the granddaddy of them all. It includes dozens of scholarly articles on heraldry, along with links to other good sites (although a number of these links are currently broken). Do read the Frequently Asked Questions for the newsgroup rec.heraldry

#### http://www.rarebooks.nd.edu/digital/heraldry/

This *Heraldic Dictionary*, hosted by the University of Notre Dame Library, explains and depicts all the basic terms used.

#### www.lyon-court.com

The Court of the Lord Lyon, King of Arms, is the heraldic authority for Scotland. The Lord Lyon, the chief herald, is both a government minister and a judge.

#### wvvw.college-of-arms.gov.uk/

The College of Arms is the official body which regulates heraldry in England, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Commonwealth

#### http://wwvv.briantimms.com

*Studies in Heraldry,* by Brian Timms, is a large, beautifully illustrated site which includes many early rolls of arms borne by famous figures in European history.

#### http://wwvv.amateurheralds.org/

The Association of Amateur Heralds is dedicated to providing members of the public with information about heraldry free of charge, and provides free design help.

http://www.americancollegeofheraldry.org/index.html The American College of Heraldry is a private, unofficial body which, however, registers coats of arms of Americans and others, and publishes them in its journal. It also offers, for a fee, help in designing arms.

#### http://www.ngw.nl/index2.htm

*International Civic Arms*, by Rolf Hartemink, displays thousands of arms of nations, provinces and towns all over the world, especially in Europe. It is an <u>amazing</u> site, but does not contain any arms of individuals, or any genealogical information.

# A SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY ON HERALDRY

Some of these are out of print, but can still be found in libraries, used book stores, or on abebooks.com. Publication dates have been omitted, as most books on this subject seem to be published more than once, with little or no change in content.

#### Introductory books:

Friar, Stephen, and John Ferguson, *Basic Heraldry* Moncreiffe, Sir Iain, and Don Pottinger, *Simple Heraldry* [Still the best and most accessible introduction to the subject, both witty and authoritative]

#### Lengthier treatments:

Brooke-Little, J. P., An Heraldic Alphabet
[A good source for deciphering the terminology]
Fox-Davies, A. C., The Art of Heraldry
[The most extensive treatise I have found]
Fox-Davies, J. P., A Complete Guide to Heraldry
[An abridgement of the previous title, but quite informative]
von Volborth, C. A., Heraldry: Customs, Rules and Styles. [Better coverage of continental European heraldry than many books]
Woodcock, T., and J. M. Robinson, The Oxford Guide to Heraldry, OUP, 1990. [For finding what arms a given family used]
Bolton, Charles Knowles, Bolton's American Armory Burke's Peerage, Baronetage and Knightage United Kingdom

Debrett's Peerage & Baronetage, United Kingdom [For finding out which family used a given coat of arms] Papworth, John W., An Alphabetical Dictionary of Coats of Arms Belonging to Families in Great Britain and Ireland [Long out of print, but available on cd-rom]

#### ഗ്രര

'I can trace my ancestry back to a protoplasm primordial atomic globule, consequently, my family pride is something in-conceivable. I can't help it. I was born sneering'. Poohbah in The Mikado (1885) Act 1, W. S. Gilbert (1836-1911)

# MORE RESEARCH TIPS

**Direct or Indirect?** - Many genealogists have a problem telling the difference between direct evidence and indirect evidence. Direct evidence is any evidence that provides an answer to your question directly, without any further calculations, even if the answer is not correct. Indirect evidence is any evidence that provides an answer to your question but requires you to perform some sort of calculation to arrive at that answer, even if the answer is not correct.

An example: You are looking for the birth date of John Smith who died on 14 November 1964. Your question is: "When was John Smith born?"

In case A, in county records, you find a birth record that says John Smith was born on 12 October 1890. You know from the parents listed that this is the correct John Smith. This is direct evidence – it answers the question, "When was John Smith born?" You may also find an obituary for John Smith that says he was born 12 December 1890. This is still direct evidence – even if it is not correct, because it answers the question "When was John Smith born?"

In Case B, you find his tombstone and it says, "John Smith died 14 Nov 1964, age 74 years, 1 mo, 2 dys." From this you can calculate that he was probably born on 12 October 1890, (if the years, months and days were stated correctly.) You have the answer to the question, "When was John Smith born?" but you had to perform a calculation to arrive at that answer – it was not given to you directly. So that is indirect evidence. If the tombstone only said "age 74," you could still come up with about 1890 as a birth date. (You could still be off a year depending on whether or not John Smith had already had his birthday that year, but it would still be indirect evidence.)

(Source: NGS News Magazine, Nat'l Gen. Soc., Jan/Feb 2003.)

**Bible Copying Tips** - One of the most valuable and trusted sources of genealogical data is a family Bible. But while you're photocopying all of the birth, marriage and death records, be sure to photocopy the title page of the Bible, including the year of publication.

A few pages of information without a source can be from anywhere, and a good genealogist will be sure to identify the source along with who has the original Bible, where it can be found and when you found this source. Taking the time to note the source at the beginning will save much backtracking later - for you AND future generations.

Also in this age of divorce and blended families, if you are applying to a lineage society and have any children at all, please include the name and dates for "that person to whom I was married," whether or not you enjoy acknowledging him or her. You may only have sons, but they may have daughters someday, who will be so happy that their grandmother made their lineage a bit easier.

(Source: Melissa Swoager, Registrar, Col. Wm. Wallace Chapter, NSDAR in Bethel Park, PA. as found in *Lifeliner*. Gen. Soc. of Riverside (CA), V. XL, #1.) The Hutterites - The Hutterites are a group of persons who are members of this Anabaptist and pacifist religion that evolved as an outgrowth of the Protestant Reformation of the early 1500's.

This religious group was named after Jacob Hutter, a Tyrolean and Moravian Anabaptist leader who was burned to death at the stake in 1536 as a heretic by order of the Holy Roman Emperor, a Hapsburg King.

The early Hutterites lived in Austria, Bohemia, Moravia, Slovakia, Transylvania (then Hungary) and Wallachia (southern Romania) before continuing on to two major locations in European Russia (now the Ukraine.) They immigrated to South Dakota starting in 1873, and then went elsewhere to Canada about 1918 and later some returned to America.

They came together as a united group with a fairly common set of Anabaptist and pacifist beliefs as a small communal group in Moravia in 1528. They found themselves branded as heretics and persecuted by both the Catholics (who burned them to death at the stake) and by the Protestants (who beheaded them) in Europe.

Many Hutterite descendants now live in small colonies in western Canada (Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan) and the north central and western United States (Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota and Washington State) where they still practice their communal living and their Anabaptist and pacifist beliefs. As a closed society with good genealogy records going back for centuries, they were recognized over a decade ago in the literature by Hostetler and others as an ideal group for genetic research.

More information on this group and many links to other related sites may be found on the Hutterite Genealogy Homepage < http://feefhs.org/hut/frg-hut.html >

(Source: The website listed above.)

**Researching on the Internet** - We frequently find genealogy purists, this writer included, looking askance at some of the genealogy published on the Internet. The other day I got to re-thinking this idea and decided that I'm grateful for anyone who takes the time to make family information available.

If you look at the Internet as the world's most gigantic library, then the contents should not be a surprise. Haven't we all been to a genealogy library and found an old book about some branch of our family only to discover that no sources were mentioned for any of the information? I don't know about you, but I burn up the photocopier anyway, not wanting to lose anything that made it into print about those elusive inhabitants of our family tree.

Of course there are books written, both now and in the past, that contain excellent source citations. But that does not necessarily make the book any more accurate than the one with no source notes. It just gives us a better roadmap for checking information. And that book without citations makes us work a little harder to verify the information, but the presence or lack of citations does not make it true or false.

The same thing is true for the Internet. There are people

posting genealogy who wouldn't recognize a source citation if they saw one and others who are meticulous in their documentation. We have no guarantee that the first is not based on accurate oral tradition or that the second is not based on misrepresented facts in the sources cited.

So what to do with all the genealogy we find on the net? Just like any other resource: we need to verify the information in as many ways as possible. Did the author claim the family lived in a particular locale? Look for them in the census and tax books or city directories. Are the names of prior generations given? Search for any materials possible about those mentioned. Did you get a book on interlibrary loan that takes your family back six more generations, complete with source documentation? Follow the author's trail and verify the facts by looking at the same documents yourself. It's always possible your interpretation may be different.

Then when you find a juicy clue in someone's Internet posting, send him or her a thank you e-mail. After all, no matter how complete or lacking in documentation, they have done you a huge favor by sending your search in a direction you might not have otherwise gone.

(Source: This article was written by Connie Moretti in the newsletter of the South Bay Cities Gen. Soc., V. 27, #6.)

The foregoing **Research Tips** were compiled by Anne Tetley Butcher and appeared in *Rabbit Tracks*, Vol. 22 No. 4 Winter 2004, Conejo Valley Genealogical Society, Inc.

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## THE ORIGINS OF NICKNAMES

The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright 2005 by Richard W. Eastman. It is republished here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at http://www.eogn.com.

Here is the trivia word for the day. The term "nickname" originated as an Anglo-Saxon word: ekename. In the Anglo-Saxon tongue, "eke" meant "also" or "added." The term seemed just a bit awkward to pronounce; so, it became slurred, converting ekename to nekename and finally to become nickname.

The idea of a nickname didn't come from English origins, though. They were originally common in ancient Greece and Rome, especially when used as terms of affection, which the Greeks called hupokorisma, meaning "calling by an endearing name."

It was not uncommon for English parents to give their children long names and abbreviate them for ordinary use, which they called "nurse names," — so Harold became Hal and Elizabeth became Betsy.

Of course, children and adults often get tagged with somewhat less endearing names. Lefty, Shorty, Pinky and many others were probably not earned in the nursery.

# GENEALOGICAL STANDARDS

# Standards For Use Of Technology

## In Genealogical Research

Recommended by the National Genealogical Society Mindful that computers are tools, genealogists take full responsibility for their work, and therefore they—

- learn the capabilities and limits of their equipment and software, and use them only when they are the most appropriate tools for a purpose.
- do not accept uncritically the ability of software to format, number, import, modify, check, chart or report their data, and therefore carefully evaluate any resulting product.
- treat compiled information from on-line sources or digital databases in the same way as other published sources—useful primarily as a guide to locating original records, but not as evidence for a conclusion or assertion.
- accept digital images or enhancements of an original record as a satisfactory substitute for the original only when there is reasonable assurance that the image accurately reproduces the unaltered original.
- cite sources for data obtained on-line or from digital media with the same care that is appropriate for sources on paper and other traditional media, and enter data into a digital database only when its source can remain associated with it.
- always cite the sources for information or data posted on-line or sent to others, naming the author of a digital file as its immediate source, while crediting original sources cited within the file.
- preserve the integrity of their own databases by evaluating the reliability of downloaded data before incorporating it into their own files.
- provide, whenever they alter data received in digital form, a description of the change that will accompany the altered data whenever it is shared with others.
- actively oppose the proliferation of error, rumor and fraud by personally verifying or correcting information, or noting it as unverified, before passing it on to others.
- treat people on-line as courteously and civilly as they would treat them face-to-face, not separated by networks and anonymity.
- accept that technology has not changed the principles of genealogical research, only some of the procedures.

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# GUIDELINES FOR PUBLISHING WEB PAGES ON THE INTERNET

#### Recommended by the National Genealogical Society

Appreciating that publishing information through Internet web sites and web pages shares many similarities with print publishing, considerate family historians---

- apply a single title to an entire web site, as they would to a book, placing it both in the <TITLE> HTML tag that appears at the top of the web browser window for each web page to be viewed, and also in the body of the web document, on the opening home, title or index page.
- explain the purposes and objectives of their web sites, placing the explanation near the top of the title page or including a link from that page to a special page about the reason for the site.
- display a footer at the bottom of each web page which contains the web site title, page title, author's name, author's contact information, date of last revision and a copyright statement.
- provide complete contact information, including at a minimum a name and e-mail address, and preferably some means for long-term contact, like a postal address.
- assist visitors by providing on each page navigational links that lead visitors to other important pages on the web site, or return them to the home page.
- adhere to the NGS "Standards for Sharing Information with Others" regarding copyright, attribution, privacy, and the sharing of sensitive information.
- include unambiguous source citations for the research data provided on the site, and if not complete descriptions, offering full citations upon request.
- label photographic and scanned images within the graphic itself, with fuller explanation if required in text adjacent to the graphic.
- identify transcribed, extracted or abstracted data as such, and provide appropriate source citations.
- include identifying dates and locations when providing information about specific surnames or individuals.
- respect the rights of others who do not wish information about themselves to be published, referenced or linked on a web site.
- provide web site access to all potential visitors by avoiding enhanced technical capabilities that may not be available to all users, remembering that not all computers are created equal.
- avoid using features that distract from the productive use of the web site, like ones that reduce legibility, strain the
  eyes, dazzle the vision, or otherwise detract from the visitor's ability to easily read, study, comprehend or print the
  online publication.
- maintain their online publications at frequent intervals, changing the content to keep the information current, the links valid, and the web site in good working order.
- preserve and archive for future researchers their online publications and communications that have lasting value, using both electronic and paper duplication.

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## CONCERNING NAMES

Alsace-Lorraine mailing list gives a website that's a great resource (see Cari's note at end) for given names.

The home page <http://www.gaminggeeks.org/Resources/KateMonk/> states: "This is a collection of names from around the world ... It includes short historical backgrounds, male and female first names or personal names, and surnames or family names, from many countries and periods. The author is not an expert in onomastics or history so would like to apologize if any mistakes have been made. All names included are from genuine sources to the best of her knowledge, but this is not an academic study. ..."

The homepage has as its beginning index these categories of names:

Celtic: Old Celtic, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Brittany, Cornwall, Isle of Man

England-Saxon: Dithematic and Monothematic Names, Bynames, Religion, Rulers

England-Medieval: Medieval, Norman, Biblical, Celtic, Greek, Latin, Norse, Saxon, Rarities, Surnames, Early Modern, Puritans, Rulers

England-First Names: Variant Spellings, Modern Coinages, Surname Adaptations, Themes, Foreign Borrowings, Saints' Days, African-Americans, Linknames, Literary Inventions

England-Surnames: Bynames, Localities, Patronymics, Matronymics, Old English, Trades, Top 50

England-Colonies: Countries and States, Mayflower, West Indies, Pitcairn Island

Europe-Medieval: Byzantium, Goths, Huns, Franks, Song of Roland, Lombards, Germanic, Romany

Europe-Western: Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Netherlands, Luxembourg, Belgium, France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Basque

Europe-Eastern: Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Bulgaria, Romania, Albania, Greece, Former Yugoslavia Europe-Scandinavia: Old Norse, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Iceland, Faroe Islands

Former Soviet Union: Russia, Republics, Georgia, Ukraine, Belarus, Moldavia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kirghizstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Baltic States

Ancient World: The East, Egypt, Greece, Rome Africa: Ancient, Northern, Eastern, Central, Western, Southern, Islands America: North American Indians/Native Americans South American States, Inca, Maya, Aztec

India: Hindu Names, Hindu Gods, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Srí Lanka, Maldives

Middle East: Arab/Muslim - History, Rulers, Names, Male, Female East - Iran, Turkey, Kurds, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan Jewish/Israeli - Biblical, Yiddish, Modern, Various, Surnames

Orient: China, Mongolia, Korea, Japan Himalayas - Tibet, Bhutan, Nepal

Indochina - Thailand, Vietnam, Burma, Cambodia, Laos South-East Asia - Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei, Philippines

Pacific: Polynesia - Polynesian Names, Fiji, French Polynesia/Tahiti, Samoa, Tonga, Cook Islands, Maori, Hawai'i, Easter Island, Australia Micronesia - Federated States of Micronesia, Guam/Northern Marianas, Marshall Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, Belau Melanesia - Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Tuvalu, Papua New Guinea

Cari's Note: I found online, however, a qualification to this site, re: the Medieval names. <http://www.s-gabriel.org/ names/arval/badpages.shtml> states that the Kate Monk list is not appropriate for "historically accurate" or resourced medieval names, due to modernization of the names. On this "badpages" site, you can also click at top on "Academy of St. Gabriel" and then on "The Medieval Names" Archive"under "Need Help" on the resulting page; you'll be taken to links to original names from over 100 medieval documents, if you need non-modernized names from that era. However, for genealogical purposes, I believe Kate Monk's Dictionary of Names is still an excellent source of given names, old and new, and of all kinds of origins.

It's great reference help for deciphering old records in many different languages, or strange names found even in English documents. Be sure to bookmark it, twice!

Submitted by Cari Thomas, SBCGS Member <western37@cox.net>

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# Annual Seminar, Saturday, April 2, 2005

Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society

First Presbyterian Church

21 E. Constance Ave., Santa Barbara (corner of State St. & Constance)

# **Digging for Your Roots**

7:45 AM to 8:30 AM-REGISTRATION 8:00 AM TO 4:00 PM-SALE TABLES OPEN

1.00	Opening Session: Pierre Cruzatte, A Musical Journey Along the
<u>1st</u> Session	Lewis and Clark Trail
8:30 to	Keynote Educator and Musician: Daniel Slosberg Playing, fiddle, jaw harp, bones, spoons, and other instruments of the Lewis & Clark
9:30 AM	Expedition, musician Daniel Slosberg takes audiences on an unforgettable musical
9:30 AIVI	voyage with stops along the way for humorous and moving stories about the journey
Fellowship	and Cruzatte's critical contributions to it.
Center	"such as were able to shake a foot amused themselves in dancing on the green to the music of the violin which
	Cruzatte plays extreemly well"
	Meriwether Lewis. 6/25/1805
<u>2nd</u>	Genealogical Pitfalls
Session	
9:45 to	Featured Speaker and Instructor: Lloyd deWitt Bockstruck
10:45 AM	What keeps us from success in our research? Do we get in our own way?
Colloumbin	Let's turn those "negatives" to "positives" with tips to
Fellowship Center	avoid common genealogical stumbling blocks!
3ल्ट	A. The Germans in Colonial America. <u>Instructor</u> : Lloyd deWitt Bockstruck Learn about early German migration records in New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, North
<u>3rd</u> Session	Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia.
11:00 to	
Noon	B. Compone to Magnolias. <u>Instructor</u> : Evelyn Savage What's different about southern research? And even if the courthouse burned, not all
	records were destroyed!
	C. The Steamship Era. <u>Instructor</u> : Michael Patmer Study the ships that carried millions of immigrants to America. What were conditions like? Are pictures available?
	12:00 NOON to 1:15 PM
LUNG	CH (nearby restaurants or bring a bag lunch) AND CHAT TABLES (information on back)
	A. Huguenot Research. instructor: Lloyd deWitt Bockstruck
<u>4th</u>	Is there a hidden Huguenot in your line? Even some early Germans were Huguenots! Learn how to spot them despite name changes and trace them back to Europe.
Session	B. Using Digital Technologies to Compile Your Family History. Instructor: Rodney Shaw
1:15 to 2:15	Take advantage of today's technology to make the job easier! Several components may provide a more pleasing result.
	C. Sailing Ships in the Immigrant Trade. Instructor: Michael Palmer
	What can we learn about the ships that carried our ancestors and what information do we need to identify them? Where can we find the data?
	A Caught in the Act! Criminal Records. Instructor: Lloyd deWitt Bockstruck
	Fascinating details can be found through court, newspaper, and incarceration records.
<u>5th</u>	B. French Genealogy for the 19th Century. Instructor: Gaston Dessornes
Session	Use the vast filming of French records by LDS to locate your French forebearers and learn bow to serve provide from France.
2:30 to	how to secure records from France.
3:30 PM	C. Advanced Internet Searching: Where to search and how. <u>Instructor</u> : Robert Block Tips on getting the most from search engines—keyword searching in "hard to search" sites—selecting the right mailing list, and more!
	8:00 AM to 4:00 PM—SALES TABLES OPEN
	Complete Registration Form on Back
	Complete Registration Form on Back

Photocopy for future reference

## EXPERT AND MOTIVATING SPEAKERS SESSIONS FOR ALL LEVELS OF EXPERIENCE - SALES TABLE - HANDOUTS!

**ROBERT BLOCK**, retired patent and trademark lawyer, has used the Internet extensively to research his far-flung ancestors in Canada, Cornwall, Norway, and Germany. He loves nothing better than forcing the Internet to cough up the information he seeks.

LLOYD deWITT BOCKSTRUCK, is Supervisor of the Genealogy Section of the Dallas Public Library, one of the nation's stellar genealogical collections and is the author of *Genealogical Research in Texas, Virginia's Colonial Soldiers*, and *Revolutionary War Bounty Land Grants Awarded by State Governments* (these latter two titles are in our own Sahyun Library). In 1982 he received the Award of Merit from the National Genealogical Society and was named a Fellow of the Society in 1993. A lecturer in high demand, Mr. Bockstruck has spoken at numerous national conferences, as well as genealogical societies throughout the country.

GASTON DESSORNES was an electrical engineer in the French military who served in Europe, Africa, and the U.S. Eight years ago he decided to continue the modest work his father did on their family tree and he has now traced the family back to Fiacre De Sorne born 1564, in the Brie country. Some 99% of his research was done at the Family History Center in Thousand Oaks using French records filmed by LDS.

MICHAEL PALMER, following many years pursuing German genealogical research, has now turned his scholarly interests to ships of our ancestors and established the "Palmer List of Merchant Vessels" at http://www.geocities.com/mppraetorius/. He recently completed a Master's degree in Library Science and is currently working with the Nixon Library.

**EVELYN SAVAGE** states that she has "nothing but southern roots," so, of course, we asked her to speak on that subject for our seminar. Eve is a long-time volunteer at the Family History Center in Los Angeles where she specializes in southern and Black research.

DANIEL SLOSBERG, formerly a musician with the Aman Folk Ensemble, performs his one man show in schools, libraries, museums, and historical sites throughout the country. Slosberg offers a unique depiction of the expedition's main boatman and fiddler in a show which has been called "a delightful program of music and monologue." Be prepared to have fun and learn something along the way!

**RODNEY SHAW** is Vice President, Imaging for OurPictures, Palo Alto, CA. His goal is to combine digital technologies and services into forms that can be conveniently accessed and applied by non-technical family historians in compiling their family history.

LUNCH: bring a brown bag lunch or plan on eating at one of the nearby restaurants. CHAT TABLES: if you decide to bring your own lunch, join other attendees at one of the Chat Tables that will be set up. Each table will focus on an interesting genealogical subject. Share your research, ask questions, help others, or just listen!

· PHOTOCOPY REVERSE SIDE TO PRESERVE SCHEDULE; THEN CUT HERE AND MAIL REGISTRATION FORM & CHECK ·						
<u>Make checks payable to SBCGS and mail to</u> Diane Sylvester: SEMINAR c/o SBCGS P.O. Box 1303 Golcta, CA 93116	2: Seminar Ra \$25 for men \$30 for men \$30 for non-	Seminar Rates \$25 for members mailing prior to March 25 \$30 for members mailing after March 25 \$30 for non-members mailing prior to March 25 \$35 for non-members mailing after March 25				
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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 2005**

<u>March 19</u>, Saturday, Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society Meeting at First Presbyterian Church, 21 E. Constance at State, Santa Barbara, CA.

Program: Alan Jones on using Ancestry.com

Help groups begin at 9:30; general meeting begins at 10:30. Park in upper lot off Constance.

<u>March 29</u>, Tuesday, SBCGS-sponsored bus trip to the Los Angles Public Library. No seats available. Call Ruby Trent 683-1188 for future trip reservations and schedules.

#### APRIL 2005

<u>April 2</u>, Saturday, Santa Barbara County Genealogical Seminar featuring **Lloyd deWitt Bockstruck**, head of the Genealogy & Local History Department at the Dallas Public Library. We are in for a genealogical and educational treat when he presents "Genealogical Pitfalls!"

• Opening Session featuring Pierre Cruzatte, and a musical journey along the Lewis and Clark Trail. **Daniel Slosberg**, musician, actor, and educator, plays Pierre Cruzatte, the main boatman and fiddler on the expedition.

• Workshops on German, Huguenot, and French genealogy; computer technology; ships our ancestors took; southern research; fascinating criminal records.

First Presbyterian Church, 21 E. Constance at State, Santa Barbara, CA. Park in upper lot off Constance. For registration, times and workshops see http://www.cagenweb.com/ santabarbara/sbcgs/#seminar.

<u>April 5</u>, Tuesday, SBCGS-sponsored bus trip to the Los Angles Public Library. No seats available. Call Ruby Trent 683-1188 for future trip reservations and schedules April 16, Saturday, Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society Meeting at First Presbyterian Church, 21 E. Constance at State, Santa Barbara, CA. Program: Peter Boyer, composer of "*Ellis Island: The Dream of America.*" Help groups begin at 9:30; general meeting begins at 10:30. Park in upper lot off Constance.

<u>April 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup></u> the Santa Barbara Symphony in collaboration with the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society will present a concert entitled "*Land of Dreams.*" The second half of the program will be the presentation of "*Ellis Island: The Dream of America,*" a work by Peter Boyer. SBCGS will set up several genealogical displays at the Arlington and work with the symphony to promote this event.

#### **MAY 2005**

<u>May 13 and 14</u>, 2005 - Southern California Genealogical Society Jamboree and Resource Expo 2005 at the Burbank Hilton in Burbank, CA. For more information visit the website at www.scgsgenealogy.com.

<u>May 18-25</u>, 2005, SBCGS sponsored research trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. Contact Jim Friestad for information, 964-0227

#### **JUNE 2005**

#### England:

June 25, Saturday, 10th Yorkshire Family History Fair, York Racecourse (Knavesmire Exhibition Centre) 10.am to 4.30 pm. All the usual stalls associated with such a major event. Free car parking - Admission £3.00- Cafeteria facilities. This is the largest Family History event in the UK. (248 tables in 2005). Further details from Mr. A. Sampson, 1 Oxgang Close, Redcar, Cleveland, TS104ND, England. Tel: (01642) 486615.

Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society P.O. Box 1303 Goleta, California 93116-1303

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