



Ancestors West

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

2013 Vol. 38, No. 2

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SANTA BARBARA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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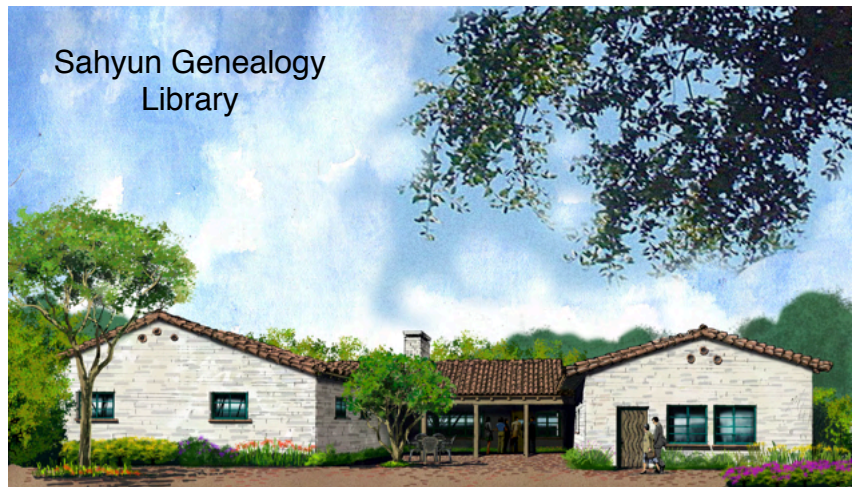
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Meetings: Regular monthly meetings are held on the third Saturday of each month except August. Meetings begin at 10:30 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 21 E. Constance Ave. at State Street in Santa Barbara. Prior to the meeting at 9:30 are sessions for Beginners, Help Wanted, Germanic Research, DNA Single Interest Group (SIG), and Computer Help.

Established in 1972, the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society (SBCGS) 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.

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President's Message

for this issue is:

Keynote Address by Robert Bason
for Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society
Annual Seminar - April 26, 2012

WANDERING IN GRAVEYARDS AND OTHER PASTIMES

Robert E. Bason



Bob Bason*

INTRODUCTION

When I was in college, I sometimes took the train from my home in Des Moines to Chicago. On one

such occasion after Christmas vacation I was sitting next to an older man who asked me where I was going. I told him back to college. He then asked me what I was studying. I told him archaeology. He said "Oh, that's very interesting. I drew the plans to my house once."

I was reminded of that story the other day when yet another acquaintance asked me what I was doing, now that I am retired. I am always tempted by these people to make up fantastic answers: "I'm honing my skills in brain surgery" or "I'm developing a new theory of relativity that explains Einstein's ideas a little further."

But, instead I meekly answered: "I'm working on my family's genealogy."

I was expecting one of the two usual responses: Either a blank glassy-eyed stare or a disjointed tale about a family tree that he once saw that was done by his Great Aunt Myrtle.

But, I was surprised this time. To my statement about my retirement activity of genealogy, my acquaintance simply responded with one word—WHY?

WHY I DO GENEALOGY

Why, indeed? I suspect we each have our own narrative on this subject—and I have heard several of yours.

So, here are some of them, in no particular order, and based on an arcane methodology known as randomly asking questions.

*Picture credit Roger Dawson

WE DO GENEALOGY TO PASS ON THE STORIES TO OUR FAMILIES

Michelle said: "To enrich my family's lives with the stories of our journey through time together."

Mac said: "I have an ethnically distinctive name but I soon found that nobody really knew whether we were of Scottish or Irish descent."

Jim said: "When my mother died she left boxes of family memorabilia on her closet floor. I can't bear to throw away these treasures. I am trying to share with other family members. Some are interested and some are decidedly not!"

Rosa said: "I didn't know my grandparents. The first time I even asked about names was when my son was born 34 years ago. Then Ellis Island came online and I found Rosa Segreto and her three small children arriving from Italy in 1898. I was hooked! So I guess I'd have to say the reason I do genealogy is to tell my children and grandchildren about their ancestors."

Joan said: "I also am hoping I might find some skeletons—makes the whole thing worthwhile if I can tell others that there are horse thieves in the family."

My own story is similar. In 1985, my oldest daughter asked me to tell her about my father's father. I couldn't because I didn't even know his name. Something inside me said, "This is wrong, wrong, wrong." Within days, at a charity auction here in Santa Barbara, I won three hours of hands-on genealogical research help from Sandy Strickland, a member of the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society—and that was the beginning of my long and continuing search for my family.

WE DO GENEALOGY BECAUSE WE LIKE TO SOLVE MYSTERIES

Jan said: "I do genealogy for the thrill of the search. To me, it's the ultimate detective game! (And it sure beats housework.)"

Diane said: "I was a history major and cultural geography minor at UCLA. I love research. Mysteries are my favorite genre—I taught myself to read with Nancy Drew books. I will do anyone's genealogy just for the research challenge."

Jean said: "I love solving mysteries. I love solving puzzles. And I really love history."

Julie said: "It has brought history alive for me and I get excited when we discover another piece to the puzzle."

Dorothy said: "It's the unanswered questions I now have for my mother and grandmother as to why my grandfather left them in 1920 in Santa Barbara. Who was this man and who was his father?"

My own mystery started when I was 17 and, for some reason, asked my mother about my father's father. She replied: "We don't talk about him." Well, that was enough to get anyone going

on genealogy, although it took a long time to germinate in me.

Who was this man? Why did we not talk about him? Years later, I found out he had committed suicide in 1902, just two months before his son, my father, was born. So, maybe it was just too painful to talk about—or maybe in 1902 it was considered such an awful thing that it was not to be mentioned.

So, then I knew the WHAT, but not yet the WHY.

WE DO GENEALOGY TO LEARN ABOUT OURSELVES

John said: "By learning a little about my ancestors, I can learn a lot about myself and my descendants."

Chris said: "I wanted to know where the 'crazy' came from in our line (really!)"

Debbie said: "My mother died in 1969 of a brain disease that has since been linked to

Sahyun Genealogy Library **"Researching the World" . . .**

is our tag line. What does it mean? It means the 20,000+ books, periodicals, maps, microfiche and CDs at the Library offer resources to help you research most anywhere in the world.

All 50 states are represented, some with detailed information on counties and cities. As for the world, we have a tremendous collection of books and CDs on Irish genealogy and the series collection of Germans to America. Search our [card catalog](#) online (www.sbgene.org) and find 50 books on Italian genealogy and another 400 on Irish genealogy. Typing in "map" gives you 725 results; "Mayflower," 425.

British, French, Swedish, French,

Polish and on and on . . .

Vital records, military records, census records, yearbooks, family histories and, let's not forget, Santa Barbara resources, death records, cemetery records, city directories, and local school yearbooks.



This is by no means a complete list so come visit our extraordinary Sahyun Genealogical Library at 316 Castillo Street in Santa Barbara.

Rosa Avolio

unusual genetic mutations. Was I (and my children and grandchildren!) at risk for this condition? To find out I needed to know whether any of her ancestors and/or their families shared her fate. It took twenty years of sleuthing in St. Louis, Milwaukee and eventually Poland to track down stories and ancestors. The happy ending is that there was no trace of the disease back many generations, thus my mother's case was undoubtedly spontaneous."

For me, this aspect of genealogical work took on a very deep meaning. Maybe we all suspect, at some time, that we are really an orphan. Where on earth did I come from? Why am I so different from my immediate family?

I lived through the 1960s (as many of us obviously did). For seven years I saw a psychotherapist. I wanted to know who I was. I wanted to know what I should do. I wanted to know how I could live a happier, more fulfilling life.

That took seven years and a lot of money. It was worth it.

Then I got into genealogy. And I found all my family. I not only found out where I came from but I could also see what had made me who I was. It was a huge relief.

I found an unknown cousin who I now count among my closest friends. What a relief to find her. We are interested in the same things. We are both committed to the same causes. We think alike. We can communicate without talking. And she is the recipient of the McArthur genius award. It turns out all my family is not crazy or stupid after all.

So, now, you can probably understand why I am such a BIG fan of Ancestry.com. WHATEVER I pay them is CHEAP. It's CHEAP therapy. Psychotherapy may have saved my life, but Ancestry.com found my family!!!

WE DO GENEALOGY TO CONNECT WITH PEOPLE WE LOVE

Diane said: "Walking the streets of the village in Poland where my grandfather was born; meeting unknown cousins in isolated towns in Georgia and South Carolina; taking my dad—just before he died—to Brownsville, Oregon,

where he spent fondly remembered summers with his grandparents."

Sue said: "My genealogy interest is rooted in the love of my four grandparents—which I was fortunate to have into adulthood."

Jean said: "History is about people, our people—the story of us."

Michol said: "I wanted to find my grandmother's family for her, to give her that family. And then, of course, once I got hooked I discovered that it was just plain fun."

Emily said: "I . . . feel that we honor our ancestors by bringing them to life again in our research."

I missed out on this side of genealogy. My mother, I think, was in some way ashamed of her family because they were so poor and uneducated. I very rarely met any of the extended family. Then, when I grew up, I was the one who left Iowa and went west, so geography intervened too. Now, when I find a new cousin I didn't know about, I am so excited I can hardly stand it.

And so it was in 1991 that I found myself wandering the country roads of Iowa in Greene County, trying to find the town of Angus. I was looking for it because my great-grandfather had worked in the coal mines here when there were over 7,000 people in the town. He had died here in 1883 and was buried in the local graveyard. I knew all this from my research and I had found the town marked on a historic map of Iowa. I got to the place where it should be, but there was nothing there except four scattered farmhouses and mile and after mile of cornfields. I knocked on the closest farmhouse door and asked the lady of the house how to find Angus. "You've found it," she replied, "or, at least, what's left of it. It's really all gone."



She directed me to the cemetery five miles away and I came upon a wonderfully maintained spot of great beauty. I wandered up and down the rows and found the grave marker for a James David Benshoof, who died at 19, and finally the stones for my great-grandfather, his second wife, and one of their grandchildren. I sat down, as I always do, and wrote him a letter on the spot.

While I was writing, a farmer drove up to the cemetery fence, unloaded his ride-on mower and started to work. When he finally got close to me, he stopped the mower and came over. "Who you looking for?" he asked. I replied that I had found them: my great grandfather George Benshoof and his wife. "Who are you?" he asked. I said, "I'm Bob Bason, my mother was Violet Benshoof who lived in Des Moines." He stuck out his hand, we shook. He said "I'm your cousin, Jim Benshoof."

I asked him about the grave marker for the 19-year-old and he began to cry. It was his son, killed in an automobile accident. The two of them had taken care of this cemetery since 1961 and one day his son said that if anything ever happened to him, he wanted to be buried here. "And so, here he is," said my cousin, "and that's why I'm here too, doing this, trying to keep it neat. It's for him."

We stood there crying together. Two cousins.

WE DO GENEALOGY TO UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE WHERE WE CAME FROM

Diane said: "I am so appreciative of those who came before me, who gave me the advantages I have so that I can enjoy life and contribute to my community and nation—and have time to do genealogy. My grandmother was the first to own her own house; she was the first to lose her house during the depression; she was the first to marry an immigrant. They lived in a tent in Los Angeles until they got back on their feet. My mother was the first to go to high school. I was the first to go to college—on money earned by my mother who worked the graveyard shift at a factory."

Nancy said: "Because my English grandfather told me stories about Yorkshire and I wanted to know more."

Louise said: "To find out how far back my American roots really went. Surprises along the way were American Revolutionary connections and Civil War involvement on both sides."

Jean said: "Genealogy is a connection to our past and all that makes us who we are. What could be better?"

Art said: "Mother said there was an Indian woman in her family, and I've spent the last 20 years trying to find her and prove it."

My own story took an interesting turn shortly after I started doing my genealogy in 1985. I knew that a cousin of mine in Iowa had done some work on the family and so I called him up. During our conversation, he told me that he had seen a trunk full of family letters many years before at the home of a relative in Davenport, Iowa.

A trunk full of family letters. Now, those are words to make ANY genealogist happy beyond reason. But he had forgotten their name.

So, in 1991, I convinced my long-suffering wife that we should take a GREAT vacation in that hot spot of world entertainment, Davenport, Iowa.

I got on the telephone from our hotel and called every Benshoof in the greater Davenport area and explained that I was looking for a trunk full of family letters. No one knew a thing about it.

Two weeks later, when I was back in Santa Barbara, I went through my notes and remembered that I had not gotten ahold of one person. So, I called again. This time he answered. I could tell from his voice that he was an old man.

I explained my mission—looking for a trunk full of family letters. "Oh, yes," he said. "I used to have those. They're long gone." My heart sank.

"Oh, no," I said, "What happened to them?"

"Oh, I gave them to my younger brother and they're a long ways away," he replied.

"Where does your brother live?" I asked.

"Oh, clear out in San Diego, California," he said.

Oh, happy day!! I immediately wrote to the brother and got no reply. I called and got no answer. Finally, in desperation, I went to San Diego and knocked on the door. A young woman answered and I told her who I was.

"Oh, I'm so embarrassed," she said. "I told Grandpa that he needed to reply to you. Would you like those letters?" she asked.

Would I? Would I?

I went home with a box full of 300 letters from all the members of the family to one man from 1844 to 1910, the year of his death. I have four original letters from the founder of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, a dozen letters from family members on the Civil War battle fields, a letter written the day after the assassination of President Lincoln and at least 50 letters written before and after the great Johnstown Flood of 1889 in which my great-great aunt was swept away and died.

It is a genealogist's dream. Those old dry facts of birth, marriage and death that I had before got up and fairly danced around as I added the amazing details from the letters, in their own words.

WE DO GENEALOGY BECAUSE IT IS A SATISFYING HOBBY THAT NEVER ENDS

Sheila said: "I love genealogy because it is endless and ambiguous. A continuous loop, just like life."

Cari said: "I'm unselfish; I enjoy every minute; and if my children pitch it all out, their children will get to do it for themselves."

Marsha said: "I am curious. I like history. I want to know details, and learning about my ancestors and researching world localities is satisfying."

One Society member said: "Continuously searching answers to 'why' questions is both a mentally stimulating activity and an amazingly fun endeavor."

My cousin Bart said: "As a pre-teen, my grandmother, Hazel (Snider) Benshoof, started me helping her with work on our family's history. She imbedded in me a life long love for family and genealogy that has continued and grown throughout my 72 years."

WE DO GENEALOGY BECAUSE IT EXPANDS OUR WORLD

Michel said: "Curiosity about my past takes me on adventures I would have otherwise never experienced."

Chris said: "I have learned now that when traveling somewhere—and I find family—I usually get a most special tour of an area, or have an in-home stay and a more immersion kind of experience than I ever did before."

My own story certainly includes this part of doing genealogy.

My wife and I had done a home trade with some English people one summer for six weeks. They stayed in our home in Santa Barbara and drove our car and took care of our dog. We stayed in their home in London, drove their car, and took care of their dog.

I had tracked my Bason family back to Shropshire in England. So, at some point in this vacation, we went up to Shropshire to find the village of Mainstone. There's not much there today. But the old church was a prominent fixture. There was an adjoining graveyard and we tried to look at gravestone but the weeds were so high, it was impossible.

The church was open, so I left a note in the guest book which read: My Bason relatives worshipped here in the 1700s and 1800s. If you know anything about them, please contact me — and I gave our Santa Barbara address. We went back to London.

About a week later, I convinced my wife that we needed to go back to Shropshire to the county seat of Shrewsbury where the records are kept. So, I called up the only bed and breakfast listed near Mainstone and asked if we could stay with them. The woman nicely declined and said they were full.

"Oh, I'm so sorry," I said. "I want to come back up to Mainstone, because I'm looking for my family who lived there."

"What's your name?" she asked.

When I replied, she said, "Oh, Mr. Bason, you come on up; you can stay in our daughter's room. She's gone away for a few days. There's someone up here who is looking for you."

We nearly flew to London, I was so excited. When we got to the B&B, our hostess said that she had made an appointment the next day with a woman across the border in Wales, who knew a lot about the Basons.

The next day we went to a lovely farm and met Mrs. Venable. She unrolled a huge piece of paper on which was a complete genealogical chart

of all the Basons and the Venables going back to 1640. They had intermarried several times.

"It's not complete," she said. "I don't know what happened to this one child, Griffith."

"Oh, I do, I do," I exclaimed. "He came to America."

After a lovely time telling stories, I asked if I could come back the next day and copy the huge chart.

"Oh, no," she said. "This is yours. I did it for you."

WE DO GENEALOGY TO BE PART OF A COMMUNITY

Kathie said: It is social, you get to meet and work with the most fabulously wonderful people I have ever met!"

Charlie said: "I relish the challenge of searching for new information and enjoy working with cousins and Society members on shared goals."

Jim said: "I do genealogy because it is fun and I like the people that I interface with and I enjoy helping others."

CONCLUSION

So, as King George V always said, "Well, there you have it." Finally, the definitive answer to the age-old question: "Why do you do genealogy?"

Whatever your own narrative is, welcome to the wonderful, wacky, world of genealogy. You are among some of the best people in the world.

We learn from each other, we care for each other, and we bore each other to death with our stories. But, as my wife says, "Better them than me."

Genealogy is an obsession!

Enjoy the seminar today. And when that next person asks YOU why you're doing genealogy, just use these words from Chris which sum it all up: "I love research and reading and learning and history and people—so come on! It's a natural fit."

NOTE: Clip art on pages 5, 8, 20 are from VintageKin.com

The Magic Pumpkin of Genealogy

by William G. Lockwood

It's been more than forty years since one of my brothers married a lady with a small son in tow from a previous relationship. Scott was a well-mannered little boy who enjoyed the company of the other children in our family, so I took him along on outings with some of my nieces and nephews and their fishing poles, minibikes, and whatnot.

After a few years my brother and Scott's mother divorced; that was the last I saw of him. Recently, however, he sent me an e-mail just to say hello. Surprise!

In my reply I told Scott that my major hobby these days was genealogy

and asked him about his family background. He responded by telling me that he'd never met his father. The only things he knew about him were his name, Lewis Arden Roseberry (which wasn't on Scott's birth certificate), and that he once belonged to the Hell's Angels motorcycle club. How's that for a research project?

It didn't take me long to find the elusive Mr. Roseberry, who passed away in 1992, on Ancestry.com. I then forwarded Scott all the genealogical details about him. We can only imagine what it was like for Scott, in sensitive middle age, to learn at long last the real-life particulars about his father, who'd never been anything more than a vague figure on a motorcycle in his mind and a very empty place in his heart.

Once Scott had his father's identity, he logged onto Facebook and found two half-brothers (Lewie and Clayton) and two half-sisters (Crystal and Harmony) he never knew he had! We can

Bringing families together through genealogy

only imagine was it was like for him to get in touch with all of them.

As if all of that were not enough, I traced his mother's side of the family back to the Plantagenets—Edward I of England. Shouldn't that be something for Scott and his new-found siblings to talk about when they get together for family holidays?

Who wouldn't be overwhelmed by the flesh-and-blood identity of an unknown parent, two long-lost brothers, two long-lost sisters, and a thousand year's worth of royal ancestors—transported as if by endowment through time and space all the way back to the courtyards and throne rooms of their magnificent palaces? And what researcher, as an incidental Fairy Godperson with a laptop for a magic wand, wouldn't want to bask in the glow of such happiness?

Seventh Day Baptist Historical Library

Did any of your ancestors start out in Newport or Westerly, RI, in the late 1600s, then move to Pennsylvania, Western New York, then Wisconsin and the Midwest? They may have been Seventh Day Baptists (SDB).

In Janesville, WI, there is an excellent library dedicated to preserving the records of that church from its beginnings to the present.

The Sabbatarians grew out of the Baptist movement but they differ in two aspects:

1. The definition of whether the Sabbath is the first or last day of the week. Since they observed the Sabbath on Saturday they raised the ire of the Puritans because they saw nothing wrong with working on Sundays;
2. They did not believe in infant baptism. They felt a person must understand what baptism is about before being baptized.

Many of the original Sabbatarians moved to Pennsylvania when William Penn made it a haven for Quakers. Then, as opposed to the original SDB churches in RI which were primarily English, many Quakers, German and Welsh joined the SDB Church.

As the Sabbatarians continued their westward movement, they established colleges in Alfred, NY, a theological seminary, and Milton College outside Janesville, WI.

Since SDB members practice adult baptism their records cannot be used for substitute birth records. Instead for genealogists information for family histories can be found in their record books. They recorded Baptisms (Adult); Letters of Dismissal, when a person left the church; and date of death. Among the records still in existence are the covenant for the first SDB church in Newport and member roles and baptisms dating to 1692.

Some of the records have been digitized by the LDS and are available on microfilm. The library in Janesville is continuing this effort and most of that data is available online. Another source of information is the *Sabbath Recorder*, a publication of the SDB Church, published for 150 years. It contains information on new churches, news of member churches and other personal and historical material. (It may not be easily searchable.)

The URL for the library in Janesville is www.sdbhistory.org. Some areas are restricted to members only. I have a membership so I can access their data.

This article was based on an article in *American Ancestors* by Shellee A. Morehead, Ph.D. I apologize in advance for any misrepresentations of the Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Jim Friestad

THE CIVIL WAR

One hundred fifty years ago, many of our ancestors were embroiled in the Civil War. Over four million men enlisted in the Union and Confederate armies; over 600,000 died from battle, disease and other causes—this equates to about two percent of the population. Statistics vary but needless to say a large number of people were involved in the war effort. Families, friendships and neighborhoods were torn apart; children went off to war (about 200,000 in battle were 16 years old and some were even younger); about 300 women, disguised as men, fought; cities, homes, farms were destroyed; civilians were displaced, killed, wounded; and the president assassinated. Many of our ancestors were involved in this war.



Ellsworth Zouave

On January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed all those enslaved in Confederate territory to be forever free. Few slaves were actually freed under the proclamation. However, it did lead the way for the Thirteenth Amendment (ratified December 1865) which made slavery illegal in the entire U.S. and applied to over 4 million men, women and children. Many of our ancestors were involved in this war.

Almost 100 years later, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was passed which ended racial segregation in the United States. The effects continue to progress. In essence we, too, were involved in this war.

On March 9, 2013, the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society's Spring Seminar was all about the *Civil War: North or South—Blue or Gray, Soldier or Citizen*. Dr. Russell Smelley started the day talking about today's south; Sharon Hoyt presented four sessions addressing genealogical research, Civil War records, family war stories and checking the facts; Cari Thomas presented a beginning genealogy research class to a small group sharing what resources are in the Santa Barbara area, where to find them and what those resources provide. It was an entertaining and very informative day.

THE KEYNOTE

Keynote speaker, Professor Russell Smelley, was born in a tight-knit Virginia community. His family had lived in the area for generations. When Russell was in grade school, his parents secretly

built a new home 30 miles from the family home. When his grandparents found out about the move they were heartbroken. They knew they would never see their family again as they were moving so far away. When Russell let his parents know he



Russell and Allison Smelley

was moving 3,000 miles away to California he heard the same lament. It was not true in either case. Dr. Smelley is in his 34th year at Westmont teaching a variety of Kinesiology courses and physical education electives while serving as the men's and women's head coach for Cross Country and Track & Field. In the fall of 1999 he was inducted into the NAIA Coach's Hall of Fame, and in both 1988 and 2002 he received the Westmont College Social Sciences Teacher of the Year award.

Smelley addressed the evolution the southern states have been going through since the Civil War. He led off by asking some basic questions:

- *Why do we have an interest in ancestry?
- *What is the connection to the lives of past kin that can have a sway in a person's life? Tradition/Scandal/Social standing
- *Does it matter who came before us in a democracy of free people? David McCullough, author of *John Adams*, presents the idea that history teaches us about where we have been as a nation, as a people, as families.
- *What is the cost or benefit of a legacy? Strength of character, legends of obstacles overcome, legacy of long and faithful marriages, a sense of belonging.

By interweaving his family story from Pappy Sam Phillips, a farmer, serving in the Confederate Army from 1862 to 1865 to the subsequent line of Smelley family farmers of his great-grandfather, grandfather and father he addressed these questions and felt how knowing our ancestors' role in their lifetime can help us understand where we are in our lifetime. He offered some insight into the differences between the North and South hardened over the long years before, during and after the war to the middle of the last century. Since the early 1960s time and laws have slowly softened some the long-held anger and opposition and are making way for a better union. As with much of the change these days, increased communications; movement of families into and out of the South; and integration of communities, schools and work places are all playing a role in these changes. He feels optimistic the changes will continue.



Pappy Sam Phillips

FINDING, RECORDING AND WRITING ABOUT YOUR CIVIL WAR ANCESTORS

Based in the Silicon Valley, Sharon Hoyt conducts genealogy research for individual clients and serves as a consultant to Ancestry.com. Before focusing full time on genealogy, she worked as an information architect managing intranet content and search tools for large technology companies. She is a graduate of the National Institute on Genealogical Research and the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy, and holds a Master's degree in Library and Information Science.

Sharon is particularly interested in Civil War era genealogy, and enthusiastically shared real-life examples of genealogical research challenges, many involving the Civil War. The tools, techniques, and tips covered in her four lectures are summarized below.

What a Story! Evaluating Sources and Family Legends

When using genealogical or other sources to learn about our ancestors' lives, it's important to evaluate both the sources and the information they contain.

Consider the Source!

Think critically about each source you use. Who created it, and why? How did the author intend for the information to be used? Was it created near the time of the events it describes, or years later? Is the information supported by source citations? Asking questions about the source itself can help put the information it contains into context. For example, a biographical sketch stating that a man was born in Sweden and died in Norway may take on a different meaning if it was

published in Oxford County, Maine, where Sweden and Norway are towns.

Verify the Story

Before you accept the information in a genealogical source, verify it against other records, preferably original records such as vital records, probate, or military records. Even if a statement appears in many different sources, it needs to be verified by checking other original records, especially if no supporting data is cited. Thoroughly evaluate both the source and the data it contains. Does the data make sense based on what you already know about your family? Does it support, contradict, or change the information you already have? Create a research plan that contains your questions, and identify sources that are likely to provide the answers.

When you're evaluating genealogical sources, keep an open mind and be flexible. If research points in a new direction, update your research plan to include it. Use original records as often as you can, but investigate any source that might be relevant, even if it's an uncited online family tree—it might have been created by someone who holds the only family Bible in existence. Thoroughly analyze each source you use AND the data it contains to help you break down brick walls in your research! Be curious about your family, and celebrate the story you ultimately uncover. Even when they differ from our family traditions, the stories we discover through our research are part of our ancestors' lives and our own family story.

Civil War Records

Two lectures covered the wide range of records related to the Civil War. **The Blue and the Gray: Civil War Era Records** focused on records created between the years 1860-1865, around the time of the Civil War. While primarily statistical, records from this era show where your ancestors

may have lived, whether they served in the military, and the events in which they may have participated. The second lecture,

"Horses Were Running Riderless": Finding Our Ancestors' Stories, described records created years after the War. It emphasized records containing personal narratives that can help you move beyond vital statistics and make your ancestors' stories come alive. Key points from both lectures are summarized below.



Sharon Hoyt sharing her enthusiasm and resources for searching for Civil War era ancestors at the 2013 Annual Seminar.

Did they serve? To determine whether a man served in the Civil War, you'll need to know his name; his approximate age during the War era; and where he lived before or during the War. Some important resources to check for evidence of whether a man served include **Civil War Draft Registration Records, 1863-1865** (at Ancestry.com); **town or county histories**, which often include information on local units and the men who served in them; and the **1910 and 1930 U.S. Federal Censuses**, which note military service in questions 30-31. A man's obituary or grave marker may also mention previous military service.

Service Records: Compiled Military Service Records (CMSRs) containing summarized service records are available for volunteer Union and Confederate soldiers. The **Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System** (www.nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm) is an index to Compiled Military Service Records, and contains information on how to order copies of CMSRs from the National Archives in Washington, D.C. Selected CMSRs are also available at online State Archives, Fold3, or Ancestry.com, including a collection of **African-American Service Records** (search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1107). For men who served in the Regular army, see “U.S. Army, Register of Enlistments, 1798-1914” at Ancestry.com.

Service Experience: Military unit histories can help you understand your ancestor’s Civil War service experience. Check library catalogs and e-book websites for book titles containing the unit’s name (Duryee's Zouaves) or number (5th or Fifth New York), and compare the unit’s history to your veteran’s service record to learn what he may have experienced. **Personal letters and diaries** also offer first-hand service accounts. Civil War letters can be found at state archives or at Civil War-themed websites such as Civil War Home Page (<http://www.civil-war.net>) and The Civil War Archive (www.civilwararchive.com). Some units also have modern-day **re-enactment** counterparts whose websites (such as www.fifthnewyork.com) provide rich detail on the unit’s service experience. **Newspaper articles** written by war correspondents serving in a man’s unit can also provide rich details of his service experience.

Post-War Records

A wide range of records created after the Civil War provide information on former soldiers. The **1890 Census of Surviving Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, and Widows** contains the names and unit information of former Union Civil War

veterans and lists surviving spouses. Records are available only for the District of Columbia, part of Kentucky, and all states alphabetically following Kentucky (through Wyoming). The index and images are available on Ancestry.com and FamilySearch.

Military Service Pensions could be granted to Union veterans or their surviving family members. Whether or not a pension was granted, the application packets often provide rich details about the life of a veteran, their family members, and fellow veterans. To determine whether a Union veteran or his surviving family members applied for or received a pension, check the **General Indexes to Pension Files** (available at Ancestry.com and Fold3). Union Pension records can be ordered from the National Archives in Washington, D.C. Confederate veterans could apply for a pension to the southern state in which they lived rather than the state from which they served. Most Confederate pension records are held by State Archives, but records are increasingly being made available online at Ancestry.com, FamilySearch, Fold3, and at State Archives website. See the National Archives page on Confederate pensions at www.archives.gov/research/military/civil-war/confederate/pension.html.

Soldiers’ Homes: In 1866, Congress established a network of **U.S. National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers** to provide care for Union veterans. For veterans who lived in a National Home, the records (online at Ancestry.com and FamilySearch) provide information on military service, personal, history and National Home history. For Confederate Soldiers, sixteen independent veterans’ homes were established by individual states or veterans organizations.

Confederate Homes for which records have been microfilmed are listed in the FamilySearch WIKI: https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Confederate_Soldiers_Home_Records.

Fraternal Organizations: Following the war, many veterans joined fraternal organizations such as the **Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R)** and **United Confederate Veterans (U.C.V.)**, which met for social, benevolent, and historical purposes. Records of many local chapters called “posts” are available, and provide basic personal and service information about veterans. Local historical societies and state archives in the area where a soldier lived after the war may hold records.

Death and Cemetery Records: many records are available online. Use the **Nationwide Gravesite Locator** (gravelocator.cem.va.gov) to search for burial locations of Union veterans and their family members in National or state veterans cemeteries. Ancestry.com has “U.S., Registers of Deaths in the Regular Army, 1860-1889;” “U.S., Registers of Deaths of Volunteers, 1861-1865;” and “Headstones Provided for Deceased Union Civil War Veterans, 1879-1903”. *The Roll of Honor: Names of Soldiers Who Died in Defense of the American Union* is on Google Books and Internet Archive.

Civilian life can be researched through **personal narratives**, often held at state archives and historical societies, or online at Ancestry.com, Family History Books, Google Books, Heritage Quest, or Internet Archive.

Military Pension records often contain letters and depositions from family, friends, employers and neighbors. **Southern Case Commission Claim Files** are indexed and selected records are online at Ancestry.com and Fold3; an excellent article is at https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Southern_Claims_Commission.

Freedman’s Bank was established in 1865 as a



Joanna Phillips,
wife and mother

savings institution for former slaves; Ancestry.com and FamilySearch have online records. For details about the Freedman’s Bank see: archives.gov/publications/prologue/1997/summer/freedmans-savings-and-trust.html.

Selected Civil War Research Resources

Civil War Resource Websites include: **The National Archives and Records Administration** (NARA) at www.archives.gov. Ancestry.com and Fold3 have digitized some NARA collections, see www.archives.gov/digitization/digitized-by-partners.html. Other information can be found at www.nps.gov/index.htm (**National Parks Service**); some battlefields are not designated as national parks, search the battlefield name; **Cornell University--Civil War Documents** at ebooks.library.cornell.edu/m/moowar/waro.html; **The Civil War Trust** (www.civilwar.org) has maps and downloadable battle apps. **The Civil War** (www.sonofthesouth.net) contains images from *Harper’s Weekly*, an illustrated Civil-War era newspaper.

Genealogy Websites include **Ancestry.com** (www.ancestry.com), **FamilySearch** (<https://www.familysearch.org>), and **Fold3** (www.fold3.com), an important resource for U.S. military records, many digitized from the National Archives.

Civil War Genealogy Resource Books: Two key references are: Dollarhide, William. *Genealogical Resources of the Civil War Era*. Bountiful, Utah: Family Roots Publishing Company, 2009; and Eales, Anne Brunner and Kvasnicka, Robert M. *Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives of the United States*. Third edition. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2000.

“It is presumed he never married:” Discovering an Extraordinary Life

The day wrapped up with a case study. During this session, Ms. Hoyt described the resources and search methods she used to learn the life story of Civil War veteran Edmund M. B. Hooker. Key tips included:

Use a wide range of sources: Revealing the story of a life often requires research in multiple sources such as Bible records, family or county histories, censuses, church records, city directories, newspapers, military records, and vital records.

Be creative when searching online for names: Our ancestors’ names varied across records, so look for different spellings (Edmund vs. Edmond), initials (J.D. Salinger), and nicknames (Jim rather than James, Mattie for Martha).

Use the power of search engines: Online websites provide different search capabilities to help you find name variations. Take time to learn about the search features of the websites you use most often. **Wildcard characters** such as an asterisk or question mark can replace one or multiple letters in a name to help you find name variations. Wildcard searches for the first name Edm?nd will find Edmond and Edmund, while a search for Ed*d will also find the names Edward and Edouard. **Phrase searches** can also be helpful. On Google or Mocavo, surround a name with quotation marks (e.g. “Edmund M B Hooker”) to search for it as a phrase.

Look for local genealogy resources where your ancestor lived. Local libraries, historical and genealogy societies and archives can hold unique collections. Some may have web-based indexes to vital records, newspapers and other resources. Ancestry.com and FamilySearch provide map-based interfaces which organize

available collections by location to help you find location-specific records. **Cyndi’s list** (www.cyndislist.com) also organizes genealogy resources by location.

Extend your search beyond the local area. Unique names are good for this. Your ancestor may have been mentioned in a newspaper article or biographical sketch published in a place far from where they lived.

Look for original sources to support assertions. Hints may be found in biographical sources, family trees, and record abstracts and transcriptions, but the information may differ from the original record or omit key facts. **Whenever possible, consult the original source yourself.** You may spot important clues that can lead to new discoveries about your family.

Search—then search again!

New collections are continually being added to the web. Periodically re-run searches on sites you’ve searched in the past to see what relevant new records may have been added.

For the entire day, Ms. Hoyt held the audience of more than 100 spellbound with her enthusiasm, delivery of resources intertwined with the how and why behind using the resources and real-life examples that helped solidify the understanding. Her goal was to bring ancestors alive, put them in their time and place, and provide resources to the group to accomplish that for their Civil War era relatives.

There are two ways to be fooled.
One is to believe in what isn't true;
the other is to refuse to believe what
is true.

Soren Kierkegaard

STARTING THE SEARCH

Cari Thomas, long-time Society member, genealogical investigator and teacher through the Santa Barbara Adult Education program, presented: **The Investigation Starts HERE! Who, When, Why, How, Where and What.** Cari has investigated her ancestral trails since 1995. Her research includes PA, IN, NYC, GER, FRA (Alsace and Lorraine), IRE and ENG; and she has done much of her detecting from right here in Santa Barbara. Cari has taught Beginning Germanic Genealogy in Adult Ed since 2006. She has also presented five programs for the SBCGS and other societies, taught a variety of classes at the Sahyun Genealogy Library, and speaks to local groups.

This session attracted a small but enthusiastic and inquisitive group. Cari provided handouts to record information “you already know,” and information helpful to continue the search—name, birth date and place, marriage date and place, and death date and place. Through a series of slides, Cari showed many of the local resource libraries, museums and other entities in Santa Barbara, how to get there, and what they offer the genealogist in search of information and documentation of those oft-times elusive ancestors.



Open the chest
of information

Free At Last a Poem for Juneteenth

By Sojourner Kincaid Rolle



Sojourner Kincaid Rolle has been The AfriGeneas Poet since 1988. **AfriGeneas** (<http://www.afrigeneas.com>) is a site devoted to African American genealogy, to researching African Ancestry in the Americas in particular and to genealogical research and resources in general. Its founder, Valencia King Nelson lived in Santa Barbara for over 30 years. The Juneteenth* poem was

originally written in 2004 and her recent revision is published here for the first time.

General Granger brought the news to
Galveston: “The war is over!”
President Lincoln has decreed;
The Emancipation Proclamation
declares, “All who live in bondage here
shall from now until be free.”

After 300 years of forced bondage;
hands bound, descendants of Africa
picked up their souls - all that they
owned - leaving shackles where they fell
on the ground, headed for the nearest
resting place to be found.

Some went no further than the shack
out back; oft only a lean-to shed -
hard ground for a bed; hard labor, no
pay, but the will to survive.
‘though they couldn’t call it their own,
They still declared, “this is my home.”

Some went to the nearest place of the
Lord; to some hollow place in the
brush or to a clearing in a grove
where folk gathered ‘neath a still-
standing tree and sang, “Thank you
Jesus, for delivering me.”

Some ran as far as they could go
into the service of the man
on the neighboring land
Working for a pittance
and a little plot of space
much like they did as a slave.

Some made a beeline for nearest saloon
singing a song, picking a tune;
toasting the Union and Lady Luck,
settin' da flo, dancing the jig and the buck;
patting themselves on their whip-scarred backs;
carousing from night into day.

Some went the way of the river,
following the Rio Grande
or swimming the up-flowing Mississip.
Hastening to get as far as they could -
thrusting their futures into sanctuary and
friendless unknown territory.

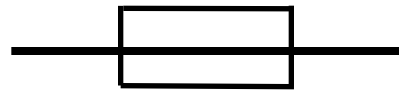
Some kept running like a stone on a
hill - never to grasp a firm place to rest.
Some even went to the promised land;
Wherever they went alone or abreast
At the end of their journey, they cried,
"I've done my best."

Every year in the Lone Star State, and
in towns from sea to sea,
sons and daughters of the ones who
were held celebrate the time when
their forebears got the news -
"the war was over; all men were free."

They will always remember;
they will never forget Juneteenth
When their forebears could shout,
"Free at Last! Hallelujah, I'm free."

*The first Juneteenth occurred on June 19, 1865, when General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, and read the Emancipation Proclamation. It took some time for the word to spread throughout the city, but within a few short hours, word had spread, slaves dropped their tools of bondage and the first celebration of freedom began. Read more about Juneteenth at <http://www.afrigenas.com/juneteenth-2004.html>

Sojourner Kincaid Rolle is poet, playwright, an environmental educator and a peace activist. Her books include *Common Ancestry* (Millie Grazie Press, 1999) and *Black Street*, (Center for Black Studies Research – 2009). Her poems have appeared in the publications *California Quarterly*, *Coffee Press*, *Squaw Review* and others, and in the following anthologies: *The Geography of Home* (Heyday Books, 1999), *Rivertalk 2000*, *Poetry Zone I, II & III*, *The Poetry of Peace* (Capra Press) and, *A Crow Black as the Sun* (Green Poet Press, 2011). Her play, "The Receptionist" was produced at Center Stage Theater (2008) and California Lutheran University (2010). She has engaged young poets through her "Song of Place. Poetry Project" and her work with City At Peace, Speak for the Creeks, and the Annual Young Writers Poetry Contest. Her book of poems for young people, *The Mellow Yellow Global Umbrella* is forthcoming as an e-book from Lucky Penny Press (2013) and she hosts a monthly poetry event, The Poetry Zone, in Santa Barbara.



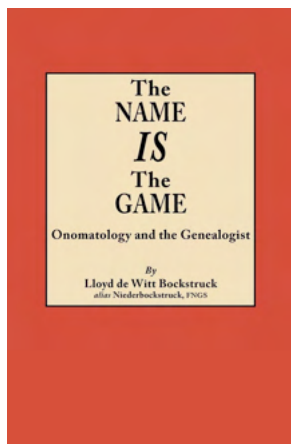
A Civil War note: In the March 28, 2013, issue of *Santa Barbara Independent* newspaper, page 43, Michael Redmon director of research at the Santa Barbara Historical Museum answers the question: What was **Santa Barbara's role during the Civil War?**

The answer involves Jose de la Guerra's youngest son, Antonio Maria de la Guerra, who called for volunteers in 1864. They were part of Company C of the First Battalion of the Native California Calvary. The Company was stationed at Drum Barracks in Wilmington south of Los Angeles.

A link to the article (and others) is found at <http://www.santabarbaramuseum.com/GledhillLibrary.html> then click on see **SANTA BARBARA HISTORY LINKS**.

For additional information, also see sbgen.org > databases > "links to other useful indexes" several contain Civil War information.

The Name is the Game: Onomatology and the Genealogist. Lloyd de Witt Bockstruck. 2013. 88p. Paper. Internet orders: www.genealogical.com (\$16.95) [#8806]. Include postage & handling. U.S. 4th Class \$5.50; FedEx Ground in U.S. \$7.50. Phone 800-296-6687.



As genealogists, we are all students of names. Lloyd de Witt Bockstruck, a well respected genealogist and former librarian, illustrates and comments on the obstacles names can create in research and helps researchers avoid the pitfalls in their own research.

The Name is the Game is very readable, not overly long, which makes it enjoyable to the utmost. After a brief introductory chapter about naming practices and onomatology (the study of proper names of all kinds and the origins of names), Bockstruck tackles forenames and surnames which covers most of the book. An important point he makes for forenames is the use of diminutives. He cautions the researcher not to leap to conclusions on these names, especially if one doesn't always know the correct abbreviation. Surnames frequently provide confusion with writing and spelling variations being an important part of the discussion. Also, don't forget the influence of pronunciation and dialects!

Learn what toponyms (place names) are and how they may influence names.

To wrap up the discussion, Bockstruck has a selected bibliography of legal change-of-name sources, so the researcher can find out if there were legal reasons for making name changes such as adoptions, divorces or statutes that affected name changes.

The book will give the genealogist some new information about how a name change came about and how it may influence your choices when evaluating whether one ancestor is "your" ancestor or not! *Review by Louise Matz*

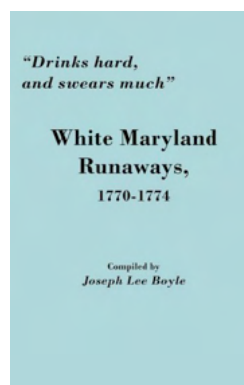
BOOK
and
Website
REVIEWS

"Drinks hard, and swears much" White Maryland Runaways, 1770-1774. Joseph Lee Boyle. 2010. 366p. Paper. Internet orders: www.genealogical.com (\$37.95) [#cf9076]. Include postage & handling. U.S. 4th Class \$5.50; FedEx Ground in U.S. \$7.50. Phone 800-296-6687.

Not every immigrant who landed on American shores was a free person. For many, beginning life here was hard. These were the indentured men and women, political exiles or transported convicts. It has been estimated the between 350,000 and 500,000 bound white servants preceded the use of black servants through 1775.

Many people wanted to come to America but couldn't afford the passage, thus committed themselves to servitude, usually from four to seven years. But there were always people who needed to run away or who might have been kidnapped and found themselves without means of self-support. Political failure in countries or war also drove many to look for greener pastures.

Joseph Boyle discusses other ways and means of servitude and provides a nice bibliography for further reading. But the book is mostly about the servants who ran out on their indenture. The owners were supposed to take care of their "people" by giving them food, clothing, housing, as well as, freedom dues in the form of money, land livestock, tools so the servant would be able to be on his own when his servitude was over. The servant was to give a good day's labor in return. Misunderstandings in the terms of the agreements frequently, resulted in the servant running off. The owner/master wanted to get his property back, so he ran ads in the newspapers. These ads are the premise of this book.



“Drinks hard, and swears much and used to have a sore leg” is a line from the ad that John Moore ran for his man John Harris, who had been AWOL for three years! These ads often gave physical characteristics as part of the description, as well as possible origin, status, occupation, and what the runaway might have been wearing. Usually a reward was given if the runaway was returned. If runaways were found, usually by the sheriff, an ad directing owners to make contact was taken out.

Over thirty-five newspapers were abstracted for the years indicated starting in 1770 and chronologically ordered in the text. These papers covered the counties around Baltimore, ranged to CT, NH, NY, PA, and included Boston and Philadelphia. It is indexed by the surname of the runaway, but not the owner/master. Each entry has the name of the newspaper(s) and the date(s) of publication. Locating a possible runaway should be fairly easy. *Review by Louise Matz*

Share a book
you've read or
a website
you've visited
with others—
write a review!
See the inside
back cover on
making
submissions.

Hallowed Were the Gold Dust Trails: The story of the pioneer priests of Northern California. Henry L. Walsh, S.J.. 1946. 559 p. Available at UCSB Main Library BX1415.C2 W3 and from various online vendors.

The primary link I have to my grandmother is her uncle who was a priest fresh from Ireland sent to the gold fields of Northern California in 1867. According to the records of his career, he spent a number of years moving to various locations in the mining districts of California and Nevada until he was given the pastorship of St. Joseph's in Marysville, California, in 1888.



Hallowed were the Gold Dust Trails is an exhaustive history of the Catholic Church during this era. It is arranged in counties of the area served. It relays information through documented narrative, photos, maps and letters written at the time. If information is desired for individual priests who served the area, the leadership and challenges faced by the Catholic Church during this time, the growth of the Catholic Church in the area, the parishes and physical churches built, and the role the orders of Sisters had in providing services, such as schools, and the role of the Catholic lay community, this book is a great resource. *Review by Catherine Quinn*

San Francisco History website. Having a number of relatives that settled in San Francisco in the 1860s, I was excited to rediscover San Francisco History by SFGenealogy at <http://www.sfgenealogy.com/sf/history/sindex.htm>. I had visited this page a few times several years ago and hadn't found much. But lately they have added a lot of new resources. I was quite interested in the city maps, street guides and city directories from the mid-to late 1800s with zoom-in function. Articles and books address a variety of topics, such as the '49ers, diaries, history of the area, buildings, street names, schools and more from the mid-1800s to the early 1900s. A lot of information is available. *Quinn*

Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society. Speaking of good websites . . . Have you checked out our own at sbgen.org? Each time I visit the site, I find something new. There is plenty of information for the visitor and even more for members. Past issues of publications, databases including cemetery records; naturalization, marriage and death indexes; area resources for genealogical research; volunteer opportunities and much more. Members can access speakers' handouts, mentors for members, current issues of *Ancestors West* and more. New items are being added often. Check us out! *Quinn*

Resources Around the Area

Gledhill Library

Undoubtedly some of you have already visited the **Gledhill Library** at the **Santa Barbara Historical Museum**, seeking out information on local families. It may interest you to know that the Gledhill is not just about Santa Barbara when it comes to genealogy. There was a time, decades ago, when the Museum accepted entire family libraries and the content of these collections often range far beyond the confines of Santa Barbara.

As an example, the Gledhill holds a 33-volume collection of *The Mayflower Descendant* (1899-1935), a run of the *New England Historical Register*, vols. 67-137 (1913-1983), as well as a run of both D.A.R. and D.A.C. lineage books.

This is in addition to volumes on eastern seaboard families, state and county histories, and more. Please go to www.centralcoastmuseums.org to view the book catalog, as well as the catalogs of other area museum libraries.

Gledhill Library hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10 to 4 and the first Saturday of the month, 10 to 1.—Michael Redmon

Lompoc Valley Historical Society

Located: 207 N L St., Lompoc, CA

Hours: Mon. and Thurs. 8:30 a.m. to 11a.m.

Saturdays: May 25, June 29, July 27
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

June 29—Flower Festival will feature a display of antique tractors after the parade.

Special tours by appointment:

Victorian 1875 home, Carriage and Car Museum, Museum, blacksmith shop and reference room

Contact: (805) 735-4626 or reference@lompochistory.org

inquiries welcome regarding genealogy, research and events.—Karen Paaske

Are you a Library, agency, museum, or society that has books, records, or other genealogically based resources that may be unique to the area? Have you visited a museum, library,



agency that had some information others may like to know about? Let others know—send me a note at AWED.quinn@gmail.com and we'll put it here.

Other resources listed on the

SBCGS website at sbgen.org

Santa Barbara Family History Center (no website)
2107 Santa Barbara St. (between Padre and Los
Olivos Sts.) 805. 682.2092
Hours open: M 10am-4pm; W 10am-6pm; Sat.
10am-2pm; for Evening use, call (805) 681-7147
Closed Sun, Tues and Thur.

Santa Barbara Mission Archive-Library
2201 Laguna Street Santa Barbara, CA 93105-3697
Phone: 805.682.4713 ext. 152
Hours: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 10:00
am to 4:00 pm **by appointment.**

Santa Barbara Historical Museum Gledhill Library

Michael Redmon, Director
136 E. De la Guerra St., Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Phone: 805.966.1601
Hours: Tues.-Fri. 10 am to 4 pm
First Sat. 10 am to 1 pm

Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation

123 East Canon Perdido Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101-2215
(805) 966-9719
Open Daily 10:30am-4:30pm

Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History

2559 Puesta del Sol
Santa Barbara, California 93105 USA
805.682.4711
Open Daily 10:00 AM–5:00 pm

Ventura Genealogical Society

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

San Luis Obispo County Genealogical Society

General Meetings:
See <http://www.slocgs.org/> for map and times.

Los Angeles Family History Library is now open!

Visit their webpage at lafhl.org/. See the catalog of
microfilms, microfiche, books and online classes and
much more on the new **website.**

NEW HOURS of OPERATION

Mon, Fri, Sat: 9 am to 5 pm
Tue, Wed, Thu: 9 am to 9 pm
Closed Sun.

The following are resources compiled by Cari Thomas
and are current as of February 2013

•Elverhøj Museum & Brandt-Erichsen Gallery:

1624 Elverhoy Way, Solvang, CA 93464
805.686.1211 Hours: W, Th: 1-4 pm; F, S, S:
Noon-4 pm & by appointment. Call museum for
summer hours.
< <http://www.elverhoj.org/exhibits.html> >
Strengths: Danish Heritage and Solvang History;
Classes in Danish and art, arts and crafts.

•Goleta Valley Historical Society: Stow House

& Sexton Museum: 304 N Los Carneros Rd
Goleta, CA 93117 805.964.4407 < [http://
www.stowhouse.com/gvhs.php](http://www.stowhouse.com/gvhs.php) >
Strengths: Presentations available on local
history. Restored historic Stow House and
outbuildings.

•Karpeles Manuscript Library Museum: 21 W.

Anapamu, SB 93101 805.962.5322
Hours: 10am-4pm W-Sun; closed M-Tu, and
Thanksgiving, 12/25 & 1/1. <[http://www.rain.org/
~karpeles/](http://www.rain.org/~karpeles/)> Strengths: Historic documents;
changing exhibits, programs & lectures. Check
website for schedule.

•Santa Ynez Valley Historical Society: 3596

Sagunto St, Santa Ynez, 93460—805.688.7889
Hours: Wed-Sun: noon-4; Tours by appointment
T-F. < <http://www.santaynezmuseum.org/> >
Museum & Carriage House; Ellen Gleason
Memorial Library: Book and Archive collection of
local, county, and state history/genealogy.

•University of California, Santa Barbara

(UCSB): Davidson Library: Campus, Santa
Barbara, 805.893.2478 < [http://
www.library.ucsb.edu/](http://www.library.ucsb.edu/) > online catalog < [http://
pegasus.library.ucsb.edu/F/?func=find-b-0](http://pegasus.library.ucsb.edu/F/?func=find-b-0) >
Hours: odd: Check website or call library; parking
info: < <http://tps.ucsb.edu/permVisShort.aspx> >.
Strengths: Special Collections: 3rd floor ["Wyles
Collection": major Civil War collection]; website
"course guides" explain: the special collections;
Ethnic & Gender Studies; East Asian Studies;
CEMA; terrific Map Department.

There are more, but I've run out of room!

Sahyun Coincidentia

by William G. Lockwood

Among the fringe benefits of SBCGS membership is the pleasure of discovering that we have things in common with other members beyond an interest in our ancestral backgrounds.

A few years ago, I was at the library photocopy machine when our former president Jim Friestad passed by. I happened to be making photocopies of an exact duplicate of a small commemorative plaque that I'd been asked to sign. The original plaque is mounted on a spectrometer developed by Raytheon, a local aerospace contractor, that's aboard the Mars *Opportunity* Rover spacecraft that was launched and landed safely back in 2003. Everyone who signed the plaque was presented with a duplicate.

When I showed the plaque to Jim, a retired aerospace engineer, his face lit up as he told me that he'd signed a similar plaque back in 1969 that was launched with the *Apollo 13* spacecraft to the moon. En route, however, one of its oxygen tanks exploded, so that mission had to be aborted. (The 1995 movie based on the perilous return of the three astronauts to planet Earth received nine Oscar nominations. Its star, Tom Hanks, bears a strong resemblance to Jim.) Of course I was somewhat embarrassed to admit to him that I hadn't actually worked on the Mars Rover mission; rather my dock neighbor in the harbor, Linda Hudson, was Raytheon's chief cost analyst at the time.

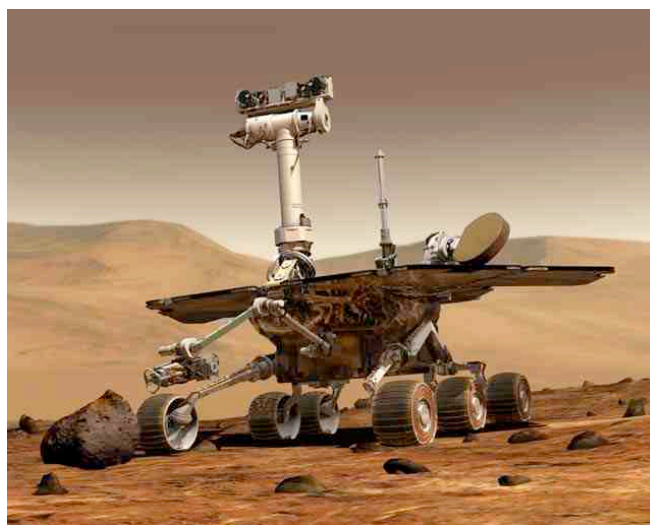
The plaque has places for 120 signatures. Linda and her husband Frank were allotted four places—two for them and two for their children. They have no kids and were gracious enough to ask me to sign it in recognition of my Cold War tour of duty in West Germany serving as a U.S. Army Operations & Intelligence specialist (a low-profile James Bond of sorts).

It also happens that my Uncle Richard Rein was an aerospace engineer who worked for the Douglas Aircraft Company back in the fifties and sixties. He may have helped to design the original version of their Delta rocket which launched both

Opportunity and its twin, *Spirit*, to Mars. For security reasons, he couldn't tell me what he was working on at the time, but I like to think that I signed the plaque in his remembrance as well.

The next time I stopped by the Sahyun to do some research, Bill and Mona Chapin, our long-time volunteer librarians, were on duty. When I showed Bill a photocopy of the plaque, he responded with obvious pride that his daughter was working for Raytheon at the time. She was working on a different mission and wasn't asked to sign the Rover plaque, much to her disappointment.

It was then that I started to examine the other signatures on the plaque, some of which are very



Opportunity photo from: http://kendall.rutgersprep.org/7thgrade/mars_rover/05_jg/marsOpportunity.jpg

hard to read. I was hoping to find surnames that matched those of our other members. Bingo! The very first signature on the plaque is that of Raytheon's chief scientist, Greg Mehall, whose surname happens to be the e-mail address of our recent past president, Mary E. Hall. A trifecta of Sahyun aerospace-related signatures!

After nine years of exploring the rugged surface of the Red Planet for signs of extraterrestrial life, *Opportunity* Rover ceased functioning last year. Mary's congeniality and Jim's talent for organization, however, continue to keep our cozy earthbound society, with our search for

signs of ancestral life, smoothly functional.

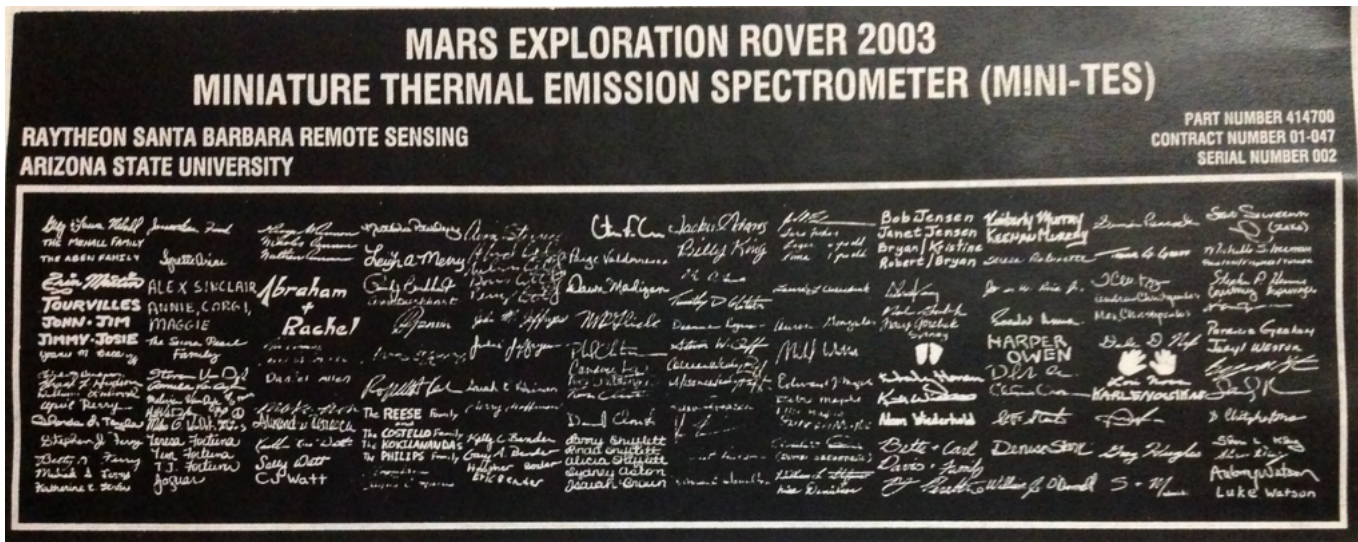
On more than one occasion, Linda, since retired, has told me that she enjoyed working at Raytheon because all their scientists and engineers loved the work they were doing. And isn't that what we do here?

It's been ten years since *Opportunity* landed on Mars with my signature on its Raytheon plaque; I've yet to hear back from any Martians. Maybe they don't speak English up there. Or perhaps they are preoccupied with their exotic

wardrobes, bizarre weaponry, and bacchanalian lifestyle, as suggested in the available literature. If and when I do get a message, I'll be sure to ask them about their family backgrounds.

Meanwhile, whenever the Moon swings by in orbit at 240,000 miles or Mars at 35,000,000, I give a nod of recognition to Mary, Bill, Mona, and Jim—my fellow Sahyun space cadets in good standing.

It's always nice to stay in touch.



On the chance that there might be more SBCGS/aerospace relationships, the legible surnames on the Mars *Opportunity* Rover plaque are, in order of appearance:

Mehall, Aben, Martin, Tourville, Baca, Hudson, **Lockwood**, Perry, Taylor, Ferry, Fink, Arias, Sinclair, Pearl, Van Dyke, Fortuna, Conner, Allen, Watt, Merry, Burkhart, Reese, Costello, Kokiananadas, Philips, Harris, Stersic, Jeffryes, Robinson, Hoffman, Bender, Valderrena, Madigan, Glick, Clough, Shifflett, Aston, Broun, Adams, King, Rogers, Guff, Ferguson, Hamilton, Fisher, Gonzales, Maple, Szegedről, Stefanat, Danielson, Jensen, Gorelick, Honan, Wiederhold, Davis, Murray, Robinette, Rùe, Owen, Stark, O'Donnell, Peacock, Graff, Christopoules, Huges, Silverman, Tucker, Hennie, Springer, Graham, Westor, Klug, and Watson.

"In all of us there is a hunger, marrow deep, to know our heritage - to know who we are and where we came from. Without this enriching knowledge, there is a hollow yearning. No matter what our attainments in life, there is still a vacuum, an emptiness, and the most disquieting loneliness."—**Alex Haley**, *Roots*

Nursing History in Santa Barbara

National Nurses Week begins each year on May 6th and ends on May 12th, Florence Nightingale's birthday. These permanent dates enhance planning and position National Nurses Week as an established recognition event. As of 1998, May 8 was designated as **National Student Nurses Day**, to be celebrated annually. And as of 2003, **National School Nurse Day** is celebrated on the Wednesday within National Nurses Week (May 6-12) each year. From nursingworld.org (American Nurses Association).

By 1908, Santa Barbara had two hospitals with their associated nursing schools. One was associated with Cottage Hospital, later known as the Knapp School of Nursing; the other, with St. Francis Hospital. As I was putting the St. Francis School of Nursing part of this article together, it became clear they cannot be completely separated. The doctors, the community, the period of growth and greater need for healthcare, completion of the Southern Pacific rail from Los Angeles to San Francisco (with a stop in Santa Barbara), and the opening of the Potter Hotel (with 390 guest rooms) all played a role in Santa Barbara becoming a two hospital town. Its sunshine and ocean air made it a perfect place to rest and relax. That attracted many to the area including the rich and famous.

Weathering the Years The Sunny History of Nursing in Santa Barbara

Reprinted by permission of the author and *Santa Barbara News-Press*. First appeared in the *News-Press*, Sunday, May 6, 2012, Home and Garden Section (not all the pictures are included here)

By Kerry Graffy

“Another gorgeous day!”

Santa Barbarans are so accustomed to the fortunate climate of our specific longitude and latitude, that this might as well be our city motto. We locals know we have our Eden-like locale to thank for tourist dollars, honeymooners, and celebrity sightings; however, we may not know the role it has played in shaping the city we enjoy today. So what could our renowned weather possibly have to do with our history of nursing? It would appear ... a lot.

HEALTH SEEKERS & SNAKE OIL

Our story unfolds in the 1800s when Southern California was fast becoming known to bone-chilled and sickly Easterners as the cure for almost any ailment. Our abundant sun-filled days,

cool nights, sea breezes, year-round mild temperatures, and natural mineral springs were touted as curing everything from tuberculosis and whooping cough to rheumatism, gout, and “chronic catarrh of the stomach.” Health-seekers began flocking here as ads lured them with promises of relief and miraculous recovery by merely soaking up our sunshine and “taking the waters” whether by bathing, drinking or breathing the hot spring vapors, mineral water and salts. While this atmosphere bred an abundance of snake oil salesman touting elixirs and tonics, 1847 also saw the formation of the American Medical Association whose first focus was to set educational standards for medical doctors. Now “country doctors” and home remedies had legitimate competition from professional, educated physicians.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE — THE REVOLUTIONARY

It was during this same time period, half a world away on the Crimean Peninsula in the Black Sea that nursing was about to become legitimized as well. A privileged Englishwoman named Florence Nightingale, who had withstood the strong



opposition of her upper class family, pursued what she felt to be a calling from God, to be a nurse. Society at that time considered this as menial and beneath the expected role of an affluent woman, but Florence ignored this and volunteered to help aid the injured soldiers during the Crimean War of 1856. Inspired by seeing the horrific conditions of the wounded, in which ten times more soldiers died from illnesses and poor living conditions than from their battle wounds, Nightingale set about forming guidelines and standards for those caring for the ailing and injured. She was to revolutionize the role of a nurse and set the foundation for modern nursing with a book she wrote in 1860 from her war experiences, "Notes on Nursing: What It Is and What It Is Not."

NURSING EARNS R-E-S-P-E-C-T

In this book Nightingale laments, "I use the word 'nursing' for want of a better. It has been limited to signify little more than the administration of medicines and the application of poultices. It ought to signify the proper use of fresh air, light, warmth, cleanliness, quiet, and the proper selection and administration of diet—all at the least expense of vital power to the patient." She raised the bar and legitimized nursing as a worthy, noble, and necessary occupation. For centuries nursing-type services were provided by nuns of various religious orders, domestic servants with the same lowly social status, or the military. After Nightingale, early nursing still echoed those origins with uniforms often similar to a nun's habit, the caring bedside manner a nun would impart, as well as the military undertones of rigorous routines and precision in the care of a patient.

CLIMATE LURES THE ASHLEYS

As Nightingale's book was coming ashore in the states, the health seeker's revolution was now reaching full-frenzy. Newspapers in New York, Boston and Chicago labeled Santa Barbara as "the leading health resort on the Pacific coast." It was this type of advertising that must have caught the eye of an Illinois doctor and his wife in the spring of 1869. At 67, retired Dr. James B. Ashley, once a

prominent frontier physician, was in failing health. It was Santa Barbara's "cure-all" weather that prompted Dr. Ashley's wife, Mary, to find a way to bring her frail husband to our clime. The infamous "golden spike" fortuitously paved the way for them as the Atlantic and Pacific oceans were finally linked by rail; Santa Barbara was now only 7 travel days away from their home near Peoria. The Ashley's were among the first passengers to come across the continent by locomotive on the Overland Railway.

ASHLEY LURES COMMUNITY TO BUILD FIRST HOSPITAL

Dr. Ashley's health did improve greatly and the couple enjoyed many years as civic leaders in the community. However, Mary Ashley saw that something was missing from this growing city renowned as a health center ... a hospital. In 1888, a now widowed but energetic 69-year-old Mary Ashley rallied the women in the community (who did not yet have the right to vote) and through their determined and tireless efforts, a hospital was built "far out in the country"—a stone's throw from the hospital's present-day site. Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital opened its doors in December of 1891. Now, at last, Santa Barbara had a hospital. But a hospital needed nurses.

"A FEW GOOD WOMEN"—COTTAGE HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING

According to Santa Barbara's foremost historian, the late Walker A. Tompkins, it was also Mary Ashley who had the foresight to establish a nursing school here. In January 1892, according to Mr. Tompkins, Mrs. Ashley announced that "a few women between 18 and 35, in good health, can receive instructions and be graduated as trained nurses at Cottage Hospital. Lectures on various subjects will be given during



Nellie Gray, left, first graduate of SB Cottage Hospital School of Nursing, 1894. Photo courtesy Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital.

the year, and the latest and best methods of nursing, preparing for invalids etc. will be taught.” Thus, the Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital School of Nursing was born.

DID THEY DO WINDOWS TOO? NURSING’S HEAVY LOAD

The first student nurses did not have an easy road. Twelve-hour days and a starting salary of \$7 a week, plus room and board, for duties that included washing dishes, scrubbing floors, laundry services, chopping wood and keeping fires stoked in patient rooms. In 1959, Tompkins gained an eye-witness report from Ida Catlett of Goleta, the second nurse to graduate from the school in 1893. She shared that many nursing student hopefuls had their biggest hurdles in the form of their own families whose Victorian morality dictated that “nice girls do not choose nursing as a career.” The idea of a female nurse bathing a male patient was looked upon as being “perilously close to a sin.” These first nursing students sported a uniform of ankle-length blue skirts, starched white aprons, caps, cuffs and black ties. “We lived in a state of voluntary serfdom,” Catlett shared with Tompkins, “We were motivated by a love for humanity and a pride in our chosen profession.”

DUBIOUS TOOLS OF THE TRADE

Today we can take a temperature with a swipe across the forehead, but those early nursing years saw kitchen sieves and flour sifters used as ether cones for administering anesthesia and infected sores and wounds were commonly cleansed with live maggots. This method was in use with military doctors in the field during the Indian wars which were ongoing as Cottage first opened its doors. According to Tompkins, the nursing student trainees were accepted on the basis of one month’s probation; if their performance was satisfactory they signed contracts for two years of physiology, hygiene, care of the sick, and cooking; leading to a diploma if successfully met.

VISITING NURSES VENTURE OUT INTO SB

A new concept in nursing came to Santa Barbara in 1908 when “for the good of the community and out of compassion for the less fortunate” the Visiting Nurses Association (VNA) was formed. “This was a very different type of nursing and required a very special temperament and disposition,” explained Erin de Garcia, a noted Santa Barbara historian and author who penned the hundred-year history on the VNA in 2008. “It took a different skill set to go into the homes of patients, and handle the medical visit entirely on their own, with no back up. They had to think on their feet. In some ways these nurses felt they had a more well-rounded view of the patient as they were privy to the personal living conditions that might be affecting them.” Although the Visiting Nurses had the same medical training, some of their equipment was decidedly different ...like a horse and carriage to traverse the bumpy and often unpaved dirt roads of Santa Barbara.



WEATHER BROUGHT POTTER, POTTER BROUGHT KNAPP

The next chapter in Santa Barbara’s nursing history also has our beautiful weather and locale to thank. The sunshine, buffering foothills and front-row view of the Pacific was enough to convince hotelier, Milo M. Potter, to build his beautiful six-story, 600-room Potter Hotel just steps away from West Beach. It was this magnificent resort hotel and our year-round mild climate that attracted the affluent from around the country to “winter” here; from the Rockefellers to the Vanderbilts to one George Owen Knapp, founder and chairman of the mighty Union Carbide Corporation. Knapp, like many of the other captains of industry, fell hard for Santa Barbara during stays at the Potter, eventually moving here and playing a pivotal role in our medical milestones.

KNAPP BROUGHT MONEY... AND STAYED

Although Mary Ashley did not have the chance to personally pass the baton to Knapp, he surely picked it up and ran with it. He had a passion for supporting and building hospitals, and he did both in Santa Barbara: donating state-of-the-art medical equipment, funding the construction of several new wings, serving as President of the Board of the hospital and bringing some top doctors and researchers to our city. But, he also had a profound influence on our local nursing history.

KNAPP—NURSING’S GENEROUS BENEFACTOR

In 1923, Knapp was given a tour of the Nurses’ Home—which for 10 years had been the original redwood hospital of 1891.

Due to overcrowding, a new Cottage Hospital had been built in 1912 and the nurses took up residency in the old building. These nurses can be credited with inadvertently securing building funds for the new hospital. A wealthy woman was so impressed by the kind and skillful nursing treatment she was receiving at Cottage she changed her will to earmark \$30,000 to go to the hospital. But after ten years, the nurses’ residence was drafty and bursting at the seams; Knapp took action.

That same year Knapp purchased property at 2400 Bath Street and built a beautiful Spanish Colonial Revival building that still stands today. This Nurses Hall housed two stories of dormitory rooms, classrooms, a reception lounge, kitchenette, dining room, and living room. In 1927 the Cottage Hospital School of Nursing officially became the Knapp College of Nursing. A generous benefactor, Knapp built a tennis court for the use of off-duty nurses and even provided Knapp Hall residents the unlimited use of his



Knapp College of Nursing

mountain top home at Laurel Spring farm off San Marcos Pass for rest and recreation.

A NEW ERA—KNAPP COLLEGE OF NURSING

For forty-one years Knapp College of Nursing was one of the proudest and most prestigious departments of Cottage. The student nurses lived together, ate together, worked together, studied together and had many adventures during their three years of coursework. As one alumnus put it at a Knapp reunion “Together we are still 18 years old.” And they heartily remind one another “To be a student nurse was to be more than a Marine!”

In the early 1940s the Board of Directors, at the urging of the Dean of the college, voted to increase nurses’ monthly salary to \$75 minimum and \$85 maximum; that’s a \$45 dollar a month

increase over 47 years. By the late 1960s, Knapp College was the only three-year nursing school left between L.A. and San Jose.

Cottage could no longer afford the mounting costs of a full three-year program as many community colleges across the state were now authorized to grant Associate Degrees to nursing candidates completing a two-year RN program. In July of 1968, after

more than 75 continuous years and nearly 1,000 nursing students, the last 20 graduates of the Knapp College of Nursing received their diplomas.

EYEWITNESS TO HISTORY

Our local nurses have witnessed and been a part of an amazing timeline of history: they would have been some of the first nurses in the county to see an X-ray machine, as Cottage Hospital procured one in 1896, within a year of the discovery of X-rays in Germany. They calmed patients in November 1918 who were alarmed by the 1 a.m. pealing of bells from every tower and steeple, train whistles, and horn blasts from cars and fire stations—noise that was celebrating the end of the war; it was the first Armistice Day. In 1922 they would have seen first-hand the life-

altering miracle of Dr. Sansum's research, experimentation and production of the first insulin ever produced in the United States; with Cottage Hospital temporarily the sole source of insulin in the world. They were the "first responders" to care for the wounded as they rushed to the scene in 1923's

worst peacetime disaster in U.S. Naval history as seven destroyers in heavy fog hit the rocks north of Point



Point Arguello Naval disaster, 1923

Arguello. They were hailed as heroines for their brave and calm demeanor during the great earthquake of 1925, moving 75 patients within 30 minutes of the quake to temporary beds outdoors. In the height of Hollywood's heyday our professional nurses of the 1930s kept the strictest confidentiality, even when a one week period saw the likes of Jimmy Cagney, Harold Lloyd, Lionel Barrymore, Zeppo and Groucho Marx and Gloria Swanson registered at Cottage. They would have helped to put up blackout curtains throughout the hospital each night following the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1941. They heard the hospital windows rattle from distant sonic-like booms in February 1942 as the Ellwood oil fields were shelled 25 times from a Japanese submarine that had surfaced in our Channel. And nurses would have been on red alert as six of our 44 Presidents visited our fair city starting in 1891.

FULL CIRCLE—ENTER CSU CHANNEL ISLANDS

The timeline does not end there. In fact, there is a whole new chapter beginning.



Last graduating class, Knapp College of Nursing, 1968.

It's been 44 years since the doors closed behind the last graduates of the Knapp College of Nursing. In January 2012, CSU Channel Islands and Cottage Health System opened the doors to the first bachelor's degree nursing program in Santa Barbara using an innovative public-private partnership, the

first of its kind in the county. The partnership helps address important needs for both Cottage and CI. It creates a qualified, locally educated workforce that Cottage hopes will relieve future nursing shortages. "Because of this partnership with Cottage, we can educate 22 new nurses every year in an optimal clinical setting," said Dr. Karen Jensen, chair of CI's Nursing Program. "We're excited about how this partnership will help elevate the level of care we offer patients in our community,"

added Herb Geary, Vice President of Patient Care Services and chief nursing officer at Cottage Health System. Until now, the closest bachelor's



Inaugural class, CSU Channel Islands, graduating May 2014. Photo courtesy CSUCI.

nursing programs were in Monterey Bay, Bakersfield or Camarillo. The new program in Goleta is off to a strong start; more than 150 candidates applied for the coveted first 22 spots.

...AND NOW, BACK TO THE WEATHER

And while the profession of nursing in Santa Barbara has changed and evolved radically since the starched aprons and long skirts of 121 years ago, it's nice to know some things, like our sun-drenched days and their power to seduce, have not. CSU Channel Island nursing student, Olivia Mariea, will be one of the first graduates of the new BSN program in May 2014. She originally had her eye on several hospitals in Oregon, but has decided to stay in Santa Barbara after graduation. As she aptly puts it, "How can you top living in paradise?"

A list of graduates can be found at Knapp School Graduates: <http://sbgen.org/cpage.php?pt=164>

ST. FRANCIS SCHOOL OF NURSING

In 1891, the St. Cecilia Club was founded as a women's small musical society.¹ Located on California Street on Santa Barbara's lower Riviera, the Club owned a small four-room bungalow. Initially, the group performed benefit concerts to raise funds to assist with hospital and medical bills for those in need. However, soon after the opening of the new Cottage Hospital, at the suggestion of Dr. Richard Hall, the Club began providing care for indigent patients making them one of the first nursing organizations established in Santa Barbara. The club provided a free bed at the hospital and took care of the treatment of 17 needy patients in the first year. "Thus the Society became one of the first nursing organizations established in Santa Barbara."²

In 1903, at the retirement of Mary K. Doremus from the Cottage Hospital Board of Directors, she verified rumors that the ladies of the St. Cecilia Club were considering building their own hospital. The club had purchased a bungalow near the intersection of Salispuedes and Arrellaga streets, behind the Quisisana Sanatorium. "However, the St. Cecilia Club's dream of establishing their own hospital with the bungalow as its nucleus failed to materialize due to lack of funds."³

The Quisisana Sanatorium was established by "Santa Barbara physicians, Benjamin Bakewell, Harold Sidbotham and Philip Chancellor . . . in 1905--an important development in the hospital work of the city. The Quisisana operations were under the capable ministrations of Katharine J. McGregor."⁴

The sanitarium provided room for up to 35 patients. It was portrayed in documents of the period thusly: "an imposing white building on the rising to the east. . . (with) a splendid view of the entire city . . . and the hills on all sides and of the great ocean beyond . . . above the frost belt and the fog belt . . . (with) a very appropriate name as "Qui si ana Santiarium" means "Here you get well Sanitarium" or "This is the Sanitarium in which one should get well."⁵

In 1866, a group of Franciscan sisters had left their homeland in Germany and journeyed to the United States with the goal of responding to the healthcare needs of people in communities in Indiana, California and elsewhere. They operated St. Joseph's Hospital in San Francisco and were looking for another site in California.

In 1908, it was well known that the doctors wanted to sell the sanitarium. About this same time, the sisters were considering opening a hospital in Santa Barbara. Santa Barbara was a growing city with an increasing need for healthcare services.

On August 20, 1908, four Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart led by Mother Superior Marcella Rastetter, arrived from San Francisco to establish a Catholic hospital. They purchased the Quisisana Sanatorium along with the bungalow on California Street owned by the St. Cecilia Club which they converted into a convent. The sisters christened Santa Barbara's first Catholic hospital the "Salispuedes" for the street it was on.⁶

This ended the services of Quisisana Sanitarium and was the beginning of St. Francis Hospital. The hospital was staffed by the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart. It served the entire community, not only Catholics. It was dedicated and blessed by Bishop Conaty from Los Angeles, October 27, 1908.⁷

Grace O'Brien came from Mercy Hospital, Chicago, to lead the nurses training program. The first class of nurses graduated from the nursing school in 1909. The three-year program was described as having the course work of a large city hospital with the advantage of more individual instruction due to smaller enrollment. It was accredited by the State of California Nurses' Association. It began as a small program but by 1929 had over 45 students. In 1930, the St. Francis alumnae had over 65 members. The school closed in 1935.

"In 1935, The School of Nursing closed due to a recommendation by the National League of Nursing that education programs in hospitals under one hundred beds be shut down. The increasingly specialized training necessary would be centered in larger hospitals."⁸

The class of 1931 dedicated their yearbook, *The Antidote*, to John B. Manning, M.D. with the following: "His field of work has been varied: as a prominent member of the St. Francis Hospital staff, and later chief of Staff, as founder and consultant of the Out-Patient Department; in addition to the demands of a busy practice. His personality we have never seen vary from thoughtful consideration of those with whom he works: patience and courtesy under any circumstances."⁹

They expressed their appreciation to the following doctors. The list gives an indication of the 1931 nursing program at St. Francis Hospital.¹⁰

Anatomy and Physiology	Dr. Blaisdell
Bacteriology	Dr. Holzman
Materia Medica	Dr. Munch
Medical Nursing	Dr. Friedell
Obstetrics	Dr. Bakewell
Gynecology	Dr. Johnson
Neurology and Psychiatry	Dr. Van Paing

Ear, Nose and Throat	Dr. Wells
Eye	Dr. Jean
Surgical Nursing	Dr. Thorner
Pathology	Dr. Ware

The senior class that year consisted of six women: A. Daly, H. Howell, O. Fiscalini, M. Frize, E. McClellan, and M. Haley. Their summation: "Starting as probies with the goal of graduation far in the distance, we have endeavored to maintain the standards of the school, and now with success in sight we hope to finish with the same spirit that we began."¹¹



1910 graduating nurses from St. Joseph School of Nursing, Nashua, NH

A Nurse¹²

The world grows better year by year
 Because some nurse in her small sphere
 Puts on her cap and grins and sings,
 And keeps on doing the same old things
 Taking temperatures, and giving pills,
 To remedy mankind's innumerable ills.

Feeding the baby and answering bells,
 Being polite with a heart that rebels
 Longing for home and all the while
 Wearing the same old professional smile.
 Blessing the newborn baby's first breath,
 Closing the eyes that are still in death.

Taking the blame for the doctor's mistakes
 Oh! Dear! What a lot of patience it takes.
 Going off duty at seven o'clock
 Tired, discouraged, and ready to drop;
 But called back on duty at 7:15
 With woe in her heart, but it must not be seen.

Morning and evening, noon and night
 Just doing it over and hoping it's right
 When we lay down our caps and cross the bar
 Oh! Lord, will you give us a little star
 To wear in our crowns in that uniform new
 In that city above, where the head nurse is you?

Selected

Editors note: Sources used for this article had conflicts in dates and facts, but the basics are real.

Footnotes for *St. Francis School of Nursing*

¹ The organization began in 1891 and was chartered in 1892 when a group of Santa Barbara women formed a small orchestra and raised funds, through benefit concerts, to provide help to people in need with hospital and medical bills. From: <http://stceciliasociety.org/Home.html>. Also see: Thompkins, Walter A. *Cottage Hospital: The First Hundred Years, The centennial history of Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital*. Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital Foundation. p. 32

² *Noticias Quarterly Magazine of the Santa Barbara Historical Society*, Vol. XLIV, No. 4. Winter 1998. "The History of St. Francis Hospital." p. 104.

³ Thompkins, Walter A. *Cottage Hospital: The First Hundred Years, The centennial history of Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital*. Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital Foundation. p. 46

⁴ *Noticias Quarterly Magazine of the Santa Barbara Historical Society*, Vol. XLIV, No. 4. Winter 1998. "The History of St. Francis Hospital." p. 103.

⁵ *Ibid.* p.103

⁶ Thompkins, Walter A. *Cottage Hospital: The First Hundred Years, The centennial history of Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital*. Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital Foundation. p. 53.

⁷ *Noticias Quarterly Magazine of the Santa Barbara Historical Society*, Vol. XLIV, No. 4. Winter 1998. "The History of St. Francis Hospital." p. 106.

⁸ *Ibid.* p. 118.

⁹ St. Francis School of Nursing. *The Antidote 1931*. p. 18

¹⁰ *Ibid.* p. 18

¹¹ *Ibid.* p. 45

¹² *Ibid.* p. 44

Where to find the sources used for this article

The Santa Barbara Historical Museum, Gledhill Library

-*Noticias*

-*The Antidote 1931* (catalog number: LD4801.S375 A2)

SBCGS Sahyun Genealogical Library.

-*Noticias*

-The Antidote 1929 (catalog numbers: 979.4 Santa Barbara B5 SAI 1929)

-The Antidote 1930 (catalog numbers: 979.4 Santa Barbara B5 SAI 1930)

-Thompkins, Walter A. *Cottage Hospital: The First Hundred Years, The centennial history of Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital*. Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital Foundation. (catalog number: 979.4 Santa Barbara H2 TOM).

-*The Blue Book of Santa Barbara, California* compiled by The St. Cecelia Club 1909 (catalog number L979.4 Santa Barbara C4Sai 1909)

-List of graduates can be found on Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society home page at www.sbgen.org click on "Databases" in the menu then scroll down the page to Local Nursing Schools.

—Knapp School Graduates: <http://sbgen.org/cpage.php?pt=164>

—St. Francis School Graduates: <http://sbgen.org/cpage.php?pt=166>

-History of the Potter Hotel (later The Biltmore Hotel) see <http://www.edhat.com/site/tidbit.cfm?id=3534> in the article *Santa Barbara's Grand Hotel—The Potter* by Neal Gaffy XNGH.

Constant attention by a good nurse may be just as important as a major operation by a surgeon.
~Dag Hammarskjold

Thanks Helen Rydell and SBCGS

In 1956, my family and I traveled to California. One of the stops was to visit two ladies in this town called Santa Barbara. For a nine-year-old to go to California from North Dakota was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Since that initial trip, my wife Linda and I have been in Santa Barbara a couple of times in the past few years. Linda's aunt and uncle, Evie and Bob Tetherow, have lived there for many years, but it never occurred to me to try to find out who these two ladies were that we visited in 1956.

My wife encouraged me to rekindle my interest in family history this winter. I think she was nervous I would be bothersome to her. I did find the name of those two ladies (Mary Swick and Nell Drake) from Santa Barbara and I knew they had connections to some distant relatives in Urbana/Champaign, Ill. Linda and I planned to spend the early part of the winter in Madison, WI, being onsite grandparents. Urbana is only four hours away, so I decided to pursue this part of my family history.

I was not sure where to start, so fired off an e-mail to the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society. I received a very quick response from Helen Rydell saying she would be glad to look for obituaries of these two ladies. Wow, was I surprised, but if she would help, that was great. I was sure this would indicate who the relatives were in the Illinois area and, in a short time, I would make connections. Wrong. The obituaries did not give much information. But, again, to my surprise, Helen said she would do more research. She looked at the probate records and provided me with the names of five women in the Illinois area who were benefactors of the estate of Mary Swick.

So, off to the Switchboard website. I found several phone numbers, called them, no answers. I tried a couple of times, then quit; three days later,

I tried again. The phone was answered! This was Marilyn Wojnar. She is the granddaughter of my great grandmother's brother. She was 90-years old, sharp as a tack. She related that she hadn't answered the phone as she did not recognize the number. After the fourth call, she thought that maybe she should answer it. I mentioned coming to her town. She said do that and we would take her car out to the family farm and around the area. Did I hit a home run? Or what!

After a few days, I had planned my trip and called her back. No answer. So, when I called three times to set up a visit and did not get an answer, I assumed she was screening her calls again and did not want to meet me!

I sent a long letter to her with lots of photos, mostly to establish credibility. Still no response. I finally got a call from her son. He indicated his mother had some photos and other items to send me and they wanted to confirm my mailing address. He indicated they were excited that someone had an interest in the Swick family history. I checked the mail daily, nothing. I finally e-mailed the son to let him know we had not received the information. Could it be lost? In another e-mail I mentioned we would be traveling through their area in a week and could we meet them for coffee? His next e-mail said the envelope was in the mail; nothing about meeting for coffee. I felt I was getting the message—they didn't have any interest in new relatives.

To make a long story long, let me explain another reason for my interest in the Swicks. I had read that these Swicks came from the Baden-Black Forest area. My son is a career Army officer currently stationed in Germany. This spring, Linda and I are going to Germany. If I can establish the area these folks came from, it would be interesting to visit the area. Who knows—maybe we will find relatives who would like to meet new relatives! Could I get more detailed information to help in this quest?

Through some information from Helen and other sources, I was quite sure they came from Gutach,

Wolfach, Baden, Germany. I also think that the Swick-Zwick name is quite prominent in Gutach today. Of course, I am still waiting for some response from someone in Gutach.

Finally the envelope from Urbana arrived. It was kind of like “the check is in the mail” and it was. In the envelope were photos of a nice tombstone, a headstone for Jacob and a house they owned in a small town, and a document in German that supports he was born in Gutach, with dates and other information.

Now, keep in mind, my son is a Major in the U.S. Army—red, white and blue since his youth. We had heard that Jacob Swick left Germany as he did not want to serve in the German Army. However, we had found evidence that he served in in the Union Army during the Civil War. The final item in the envelop was an 8 x 10 photo of Jacob Swick in his Civil War Union uniform, looking like a 16-year old, just like all of the rest of the Union Army. So, I forgive the Illinois folks for not meeting me for coffee. The photo of this Civil War soldier in my mind is one of those “hits” that makes us want to continue to learn more about our ancestors.

Just think, a quick e-mail and Helen’s response to see what she could find, gave our family a treasure that is beyond anything I ever imagined I’d be sharing with my family. I am sure this will be one of the highlights of my renewed interest in family history. Once more, my wife, will be able to take credit for a good idea—“rekindle your interest in family history.”

Linda and I have good memories of the few times we have spent in Santa Barbara or, I should say, Goleta. We normally spend our winters in Arizona so it is an easy drive over to see Bob and Evie.

My other recollection of Santa Barbara was the trip in 1956. The reason we even went on that trip was for my dad to take some time off as he was not feeling well. In addition to visiting Mary Swick and Nell Drake we spent some time with dad’s cousin, Dr. Teddy Togstad. (Who is actually

also related to my wife Linda — no we are not cousins.) My dad had considerable doctoring with no firm diagnosis. Teddy said, “Firemann, you look like you are having thyroid problems.” Yes, that was his problem; he started on iodine and lived until he was 92.

Another connection to Santa Barbara is Truls Person at the Trinity Lutheran Church. His dad and Linda’s mom are first cousins. We will look forward to a 2013/2014 winter visit to Santa Barbara. Maybe I will have stories to share of our new German relatives.

Thanks to the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society for having a website that allows one to easily send a request for information and for having a staff of volunteers to assist with these random requests for family search help. I guess we never know which will be the “hit,” but this has been a highlight in my family history search. Thanks, especially to Helen for all of her help.

Harold Legreid <hlegreid@cox.net>
January 27, 2013

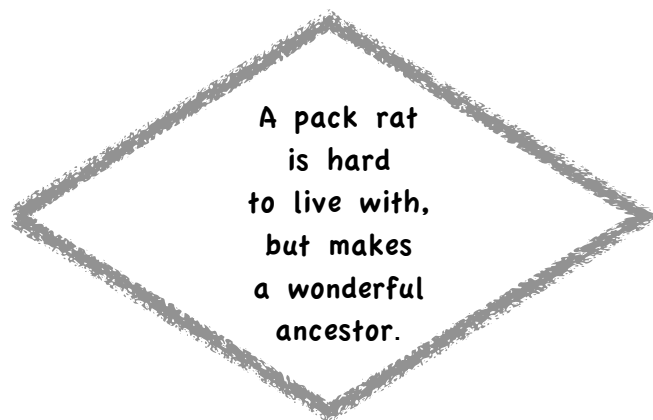
Editors note:

On April 11, I received the following e-mail:

FYI-I am in Germany, on Monday, 4-15 I will travel to Gutach the town where the Swick's lived prior to moving to the US. I have not identified relatives but will spend some time with an English speaking librarian in the church library. I am excited.

Thanks again to Helen helping me start this process.

Harold



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Soldier Boy to Gray Beard cont. from back cover

From *Civil War Times Illustrated*, Vol. XX, No. 2: "The Golden Age Regiment—Iowa's Graybeards," by George F. Scoch:

The arrival of the Graybeards in St. Louis, Missouri, on January 1, 1863, caused a mild sensation in a city that had already witnessed thousands of troops passing through its streets. The enthusiastic reception prompted Major General Samuel R. Curtis, commanding the Department of Missouri headquartered in St.

Louis, to comment that he had never seen a finer looking body of men. The city newspapers were equally generous with their praise and complimented the regiment on its soldierly bearing. It was a proud moment for the old men of the 37th Iowa and they resolved to earn the accolades bestowed on them.

From *Iowa Genealogical Society Newsletter*, December 1996, Volume 17, Number 6:

The Unit of 914 men was assembled near Muscatine, Iowa. The oldest man was 80-year-old Pvt. Curtis King. Six men were in their 70's, including 72-year-old drummer, Nicholas Ramey. Another 136 men were in their 60's. Nearly all of the members of the regiment were over 45.

By war's end, more than 1,300 of the sons and grandsons of Graybeard members had enlisted. So the regiment accomplished its major purpose, to serve as a grand propaganda tool for recruiting.

Isn't that fun? My Samuel was an interesting old guy—was convicted of second-degree murder in a lynching case, sentenced to state penitentiary, and pardoned by the governor upon his arrival there in 1859. He was an old man and considered the least guilty of the mob, and "When Samuel returned to Iowa City on June 25th, a reception was given for him at the Mansion House and congratulatory resolutions were published in the newspapers."

How to submit items for **ANCESTORS WEST**

Articles of family history or historical nature may be submitted in paper or electronic form via the contacts listed below. Electronic submissions must be in .doc, .txt or iWorks Pages format with no formatting commands; graphics should be in .jpg format. Items may be submitted via email to AW.ED.quinn@gmail.com with the subject heading "AW article." Mailed submissions should be sent to *Ancestors West* Editor, Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society, P. O. Box 1303, Goleta CA 93116-1303. There is also a box in the Sahyun Library for the AW Editor. If any materials are to be returned, include a self-addressed stamped envelope. **ALL materials should include the submitter's name and contact information on each page (electronic or mailed) and items (photos, charts, drawings, etc.) submitted.** Articles will be edited following *The Chicago Manual of Style*.

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SBCGS Historical Notes

From *Ancestors West*. Vol. 24, No. 4. Summer 1998. p. 53

Soldier Boy to Gray Beard

By Pat Lorentzen, SBCGS member

I received the following letter from Pat Lorentzen about the "soldier Boy" item in the last issue (Vol. 22, No. 3, p. 46). The statistic that there were no soldiers enlisted in the age category of "45 and above" prompted Pat to tell us about her ancestor. Ed.

My great-great grandfather Samuel Shellady enlisted in Company D, 37th Iowa Infantry, at Iowa City, Iowa, on 13 September 1862 for a period of three years. He was discharged for disability on 16 May 1863 "by reason of Surgeon's Certificate of Disability--Humeral asthenia and general disability from old age, being seventy-two years of age, and is not fit for Invalid Corps."

I received this information from the U.S. Army Military History Institute in Carlisle, PA. From *Iowa and the Rebellion* by Lurton Dunham Ingersoll. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co. 1867. Chapter XLI: The Graybeard Regiment.

The organization officially known as the Thirty-seventh Regiment of Iowa Volunteers Infantry, was universally known in Iowa and, largely over the country, as the Graybeard Regiment. It was composed exclusively of men over forty-five years of age, and who were, consequently, under no legal obligations to take upon themselves the duties of soldiers. It was the only regiment of the kind in the service. Iowa alone of all the States had its "Gray-Beards" in the field.

The most of them had lived many years in Iowa, whose healthful climate repels the ordinary effects of age and almost keeps old men young. The spirit of patriotism burned so brightly and warmly among our citizens that many, excluded by reason of age from the ranks of ordinary regiments of volunteers, proposed to form a regiment of healthy old men, and to into the service to perform such duties as it might be supposed they could well perform. The Secretary of the War Department, in the month of August 1862, specially authorized the organization of such a regiment, and it was not long till the various companies were recruited.

Continued on Page 35