

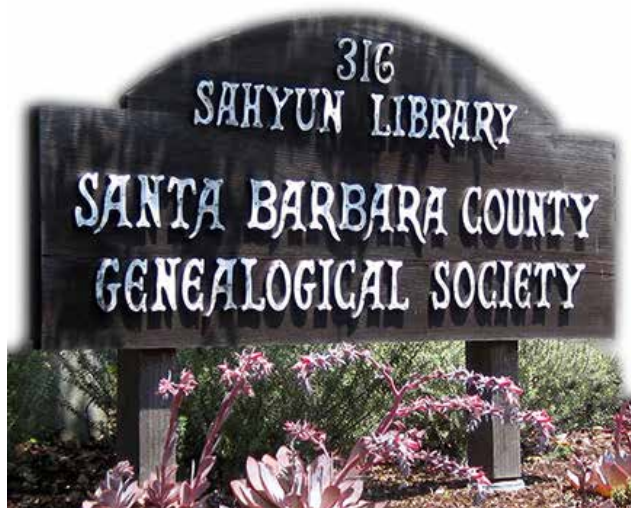


Ancestors West

A quarterly publication for the members of the
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
February 2014 Vol. 39, No. 1

CONTENTS

- 1** A Message from Bob Bason, President
- 2** Editor's Note
- 3** Wonderful and Beloved Mother: Mary Pat Frolick Hobbs
- 4** A Grave Mystery: The Hunt for Anna Rebecca Ferl
- 8** Tripped Up: Barbara Bauer's Grave
- 8** Hot Blogs: A Guide to Genealogy Using Google Earth
- 9** Oscar Thaddeus "Thad" Jameson (Grandpa J.) 1881-1945
- 11** Random Thoughts and Lessons Learned Regarding Death Records
Obituaries and Cemeteries
- 12** 1947 Death Notices and Obituaries from the *Santa Ynez Valley News*
- 22** Genealogy Indeed Can Be Rewarding
- 22** Through the Looking Glass
- 23** A Visit to Live Oak Memorial Park
- 24** Family History Alive in the Cemetery
- 26** Finding Find A Grave - Ancestry.com Purchases Find A Grave
- 29** Nicolas Rayes - an Early Santa Barbara Luthier - A Reminiscence
- 30** Finding Concetta
- 31** "A Name Known to Los Angeles Since 1890"
- 33** Cemeteries Hold Lasting Memories
- 34** *Ancestors West* Surname Index
- 34** Book Reviews: Discovering Cemeteries, & Burying Grounds
at the Library
- 36** Surname Index from *Santa Ynez Valley News* 1947 Extracts
- Inside Back Cover:** Author Guidelines *Ancestors West*
- Back Cover:** Pot Shots



Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society

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316 Castillo St., Santa Barbara

Phone: (805) 884-9909

Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

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

Active (individual)-\$40; **Family** (2 same household)-\$60; **Friend**-\$50;
Donor-\$75; **Patron**-\$150; **Life**-\$1000 (one-time donation)

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, Italian Research, DNA Special Interest Group (SIG), and Genealogy and Technology.

Established in 1972, the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society (SB-CCGS) 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.

Ancestors West is currently published quarterly in February, May, August, November. Articles of family history or of historical nature are welcomed and used as space permits (see inside back cover for submission details). As available, current and back issues are \$6.00 each including postage. Library subscription to *Ancestors West* is \$20.00 per year. *Ancestors West* is indexed in the **PERiodical Source Index (PERSI)** published by the Allen County Public Library, Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

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Dear fellow members:

One of our most important and most exciting duties is now before us!!

As we have received our vibrant and delightful Genealogical Society and Sahyun Library from previous leaders and a previous generation, it is now our responsibility to plan the Society's future for the next five years.

Our previous 5-year plan was completed in its entirety. We did it all!

And so, after several months of thoughtful discussion, I am pleased to present to you the DRAFT of our next five-year plan – VISION 2019.

You need to do THREE THINGS:

1. Read through this document. I think you will be excited.
2. Think about what might have been left out, or what you think needs more emphasis.
3. Send me your ideas. E-mail them to me at robertbason@yahoo.com or call me at 969-0203.

This is our moment of decision. I look forward to hearing from you.

With gratitude,

Bob

Robert E. Bason, President (2012-14),
on behalf of your Board of Directors
Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society



SANTA BARBARA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY VISION 2019

The library is bustling. Average Sahyun Library usage (patron sign-ins) is running about 600 a month, up from 245 a month in 2014. To accommodate the increased usage, the library is open six days a week and two evenings. The community and reading rooms are used for formal and informal meetings almost daily. Computers and work tables are in almost constant use.

Wednesdays are training days. The entire facility is dedicated to educational endeavors. Society volunteer faculty members provide instruction at a nominal fee or no fee in a full-range of genealogy courses, replacing those formerly held through Santa Barbara City College for a fee. The curriculum varies with expressed interest of participants and availability of volunteer instructors. Subjects cover the gamut of genealogical interests and are offered in various formats: lectures, seminars, computer assisted instruction, hands on computer training, and, for a fee, one-on-one assisted research.

Library holdings approach 30,000 volumes and stack capacity is nearing its limit. Additional space is created by digitizing original materials, removing titles and files that are scanned into storage or disposed of. Our

half dozen top on-line subscription sites are now fully utilized. A cadre of trained volunteer experts, sent by the Society to intensive training programs, trains others as well as patrons in the use of our resources.

Society membership has increased from 600 to 800.

Attendance at monthly meetings and member volunteer hours are up accordingly. A broad advertising campaign makes the community aware of the Society's existence, its mission, and its facilities. Newcomers and retirees as well as members of lineage and ethnic organizations are targeted for special attention. Efforts are made to reach potential members in the North County. A Society sponsored genealogical column appears regularly in the local press, encouraging readers to visit the Society's enlarged website and Facebook page.

The Society's annual operating budget has doubled to \$200,000 a year. The budget is balanced every year; a reserve fund of 50% of annual expenses is maintained. The endowment fund has grown to over \$1,000,000 through an Endowment Campaign that focuses on bequests and planned gifts. Income from the endowment fund provides up to \$60,000 a year to support the Society's operations.

The Sahyun markets itself increasingly as a "destination" library. Day and overnight visitors come from neighboring counties. Seminars and special events draw visitors from the Central Coast. A nearby motel offers mid-week discounts to Society visitors. The Society cooperates with other genealogical and historical organizations on the South and Central Coasts in matters of mutual interest, sharing "best practices."

We are a major preserver of local genealogical information. One of the goals of the Society is to be an indispensable resource for our community. Our goal is to identify and preserve the records about the people who lived here. Using the latest technology we scan, digitize and index Santa Barbara County genealogical documents, preserving them and making them readily available to users.

Development of our one and one-half acre site is continuing in accordance with the property master plan. We are well on our way to re-siting, replacing and expanding our crumbling rental units, doubling rental income. We have provided rental space for other like-minded organizations on our campus, creating a center for genealogical research. Parking has been expanded to the maximum number of spaces on the site. We continue to search for contiguous or nearby property to use for additional expansion and parking in the future.

Plans are afoot. In response to the growth of the Society and increased usage of the Sahyun Library, the Board is studying, among other things, options for expanding or modifying our existing facility. And, preparation of Vision 2024 is underway.

Editor's Note



Ancestors West has been a publication of the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society for almost 40 years. It has been the place where members and others can present their research and their journeys, tell the special or strange stories that they have uncovered, where we join in the conversation about what's important and why, and how we all do what we do.

I am the journal's new editor, and I hope to do well by the journal and the Society. I am not, however, a genealogist. Not yet. My experience is in local, institutional history. I've written books about the Santa Barbara Cemetery, the Puritan Ice Company of Santa Barbara, and most recently about Cottage Health System.

While history and genealogy are distinctly different pursuits, I joined the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society to further the cause of local history. A great deal of the focus and effort of a local genealogical society is to find those resources that help us look upstream into the past, wherever that may lead. While some researchers may find a string of generations here in town, they are in the minority. Most of us go back a generation or two and then find ourselves looking elsewhere. Thus, the Society's Sahyun Library is filled with reference books on Scotland, Germany, New Jersey, Lancaster County, and many more.

But, as a city-based society, SBCGS also recognizes the need to locate and make available records for people in distant places as they endeavor to find their own roots. The Society, over the last two decades, has become the leader in Santa Barbara County in digitizing important records. The Society's website already provides mortuary, burial, and cemetery records; hospital records; and indexes to wills and newspaper entries. Without their efforts, these records would be as good as invisible to researchers from distant places.

I look forward to working with the SBCGS Records and Preservation Committee to add to this growing repository of local historical information. Santa Barbara is behind any other city of its size in digitizing and making searchable its historic newspapers and directories. SBCGS is the organization in the community with the demonstrated commitment and ability to accomplish this.

Some goals

I have few goals for my time as editor.

My first intention is that *Ancestors West* captures the vitality of this Society's members' pursuits and curiosities. As you all know, genealogy is not just about family trees and finding the data. It is about learning to see and understand the past in ways that reveal and, I believe, ultimately heal. It is a celebration of our shared journey on this planet, our recognition of the thousands

of connections among us, all the way down to our blood and genes. It is, ultimately, one of the great forces of democracy and equality.

Vitality in a publication comes from relevance to the reader and the passion of the writer. I will do some level of effort to edit the material, to shape the selection of articles and the flow and cadence of each, to take care of you, the reader. But I also believe that if perfect writing is a barrier to hearing great stories, then let's skip the perfect part and get the story.

Finally, I intend to enjoy myself, to learn, and to meet some fantastic people.

Along those lines, it was a privilege to work with the authors who contributed to this issue. These stories are about recovering the lost, and finding a richer and more complex present. Most have something to do with graves and graveyards, but all have more to do with family and life.

I have also been privileged to work with a host of caretakers for *Ancestors West* - the people who have written, edited, proofread, produced, mailed and, of course, digitized, 38 years of great content. You would not have this in your hands (or on your computer) without their insights, effort and guidance.

Next Issue

The theme for the next issue is **Threads**. Submission deadline is April 10, 2014. As researchers, we come across bits of information that lead us to other bits. Sometimes we identify the bit as a meaningful thread at once. Sometimes it seems so innocuous, and we pass over it, only to return to it later, realizing its significance. As we get better at research, we learn to see them, to find them, to chase them ... in fact to cherish them.

Do not, however, take the theme too literally. It is meant to inspire, not restrain. There is room here for how you research and what you have researched. What you have followed and what you have found, your virtual travels and the physical and emotional ones, your victories and defeats. And anything else related to genealogy. As John Muir said, "When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the universe."² So in a sense, the next issue is actually about 'everything else.'

Thank you for entrusting me with your ... our ... journal

David Petry
dlpetry@gmail.com

¹Other historical writings appear on decomposingSB.com and Noozhawk.com.

²John Muir, *My First Summer in the Sierra*, Houghton - Mifflin, Co., Boston and New York, 1911, pg 211.

Wonderful and Beloved Mother: Mary Pat Frolick Hobbs

Michael Miller

I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN FASCINATED with grave markers, their inscriptions and the personal information that can be gleaned from them. Over the years, I have spent numerous hours walking through cemeteries learning many things about people, whether I knew them or not.

This thirst for knowledge about people sparked an interest in locating the graves of my own family members. This seems simple enough on the surface, since we usually have enough living relatives that know where deceased family members are buried or we possess written family histories, containing such information, that have been passed from generation to generation.

But, this was not the case for me. I was adopted at the age of three and did not know my birth parents. After a few years of searching, I found my birth parents and started to inquire about our family genealogy.

My father's (Gordon Hobbs') side of the family was well documented and I was able to trace the Hobbs family back to Norfolk, England in 1600. Some of Dad's ancestors were the first settlers of the Massachusetts Bay colony in the 1620s in the area that is modern day New Hampshire.

My mother's (Mary Pat Frolick Hobbs') family was a different story. Her father's family (Frolick) emigrated from Germany in the late 1880s and her mother's family (Juhasz) emigrated from Hungary in 1903. At the time I found my mother, the only living relative she had was her father. Unfortunately, he passed away before I could ask him about his side of the family.

The Juhasz family changed their surname to Schaffer around 1917. Many immigrant families changed their names to avoid discrimination and to facilitate blending into American society. According to my mother, there were four Juhasz children: Nicholas, Ray, William and Mary Marie (Mary Pat's mother and my grandmother).

In 1953, my grandmother, Mary Marie Schaffer, left Buffalo with my mom in tow and moved to Santa Barbara, where she worked as a nurse's aide at Cottage Hospital. They lived with Mary Marie's brother Ray. For some unknown reason he went by Ray Harris rather than Ray Schaffer. My mother, Mary Pat, was only 14



Ray Harris grave marker, Santa Barbara Cemetery, 2014



Mary Frolick marker, Santa Clara Cemetery, Oxnard, 2014

when her mother passed away in 1961. After burying her mother, my mom returned to Buffalo and has not been back to California since.

One of the goals in my genealogical research was to locate and obtain a picture of my grandmother's grave. We knew she was buried somewhere in the Santa Barbara area, even though my mother had Santa Clara stuck in her mind. I have been looking for this grave on and off for the past decade.

With just a few records in hand, I recently set out newly determined to locate the whereabouts of Mom's family graves. Besides her mother's grave, I also wanted to locate the graves of mom's three uncles. Mom knew William Schaffer had been buried in Buffalo and that Ray Harris was buried in Santa Barbara. Not much was known about Nicholas Schaffer since my mother had never met him, or so she thought.

While researching the death records for Ray, I discovered that Nicholas Schaffer was Ray Harris. I found identical death records with the same birth/death dates and the same Social Security Number.

Evidently, Nicholas Schaffer changed his name in the late 1920s. My mother was shocked beyond words. For 8 years she lived with who she thought was her uncle Ray, but was in fact the missing Nicholas Schaffer. The

reasons for changing his name are, at this time, pure speculation until further research can be completed. But, this then begged the question, who was the missing third uncle? I was finally able to figure out his name from a 1910 census and a death notice. His name was Julius Juhasz Schaffer.

Uncle Nicholas-Ray with two names spurred me on even further to find his and the remaining family grave markers. Which name was on the grave, Ray or Nicholas? Using one of the names, I found his grave on Find A Grave, but there was no picture. I submitted a photo request and within 24 hours was supplied with a

JULIUS B. SCHAFER
Julius B. Schaffer, 84, of 307 Third St., died Thursday (June 28, 1984), in Highland House Nursing Home.
Memorial services will be at 10 a.m. Monday at Slawson's Chapel of the Valley Funeral Home with Pastor Harold Anderson of Murphy Chapel officiating.
He was born Nov. 22, 1899, in Buffalo, N.Y. He was a miner and had a mining claim on Oscar Creek near the Applegate River for many years.
Survivors include a close friend, Mrs. Ann Porter of Grants Pass.

Julius B. Schaffer obituary, June 30, 1984

picture of the marker. The picture immediately solved the riddle of which name was on the grave. Besides the standard information gathered from the inscription on the marker, I discovered that Uncle Ray was in the Army during WWII. We knew that he had been in the Navy (using his birth name of Nicholas Juhasz) during the 1920s, but had no idea about his Army service under the name Ray Harris.

I then contacted the Find A Grave photographer directly for assistance in locating my grandmother's grave marker. He immediately took up the request and verified that she was not buried in Santa Barbara County. He gave me a few ideas and I found Santa Clara Cemetery in neighboring Ventura County. A caretaker at the cemetery verified that my grandmother was in fact buried there. I entered her information into Find A Grave and a picture request was fulfilled to bring closure to that 14 year old girl who left California over 50 years ago.

My quest is not yet complete. I recently discovered that Julius was cremated in Oregon and have yet to find Uncle William's grave in New York. Regardless, the informational value of grave markers is priceless and should never be underestimated. You never know what you will discover, simply by reading the inscription on a grave marker.

Michael Miller, originally from Springville, New York, is a retired Naval Officer. He presently resides in East Freedom, Pennsylvania and is researching Hobbs, Frolick, Juhasz and Miller in NY, PA and NH.

A GRAVE MYSTERY:

THE HUNT FOR ANNA REBECCA FERL

Terry Ellen Ferl

PROLOGUE

AS A NEWCOMER TO THE REALM of family history research, I thought I was doing fairly well. I had lost my beloved husband Richard two years earlier. Partly as a way to console myself, I began to study his Santa Barbara ancestry and discovered that much of the groundwork had already been done by some of Santa Barbara's own, most notably the local historian and researcher John Fritsche. My husband's great-grandfather, the farmer and horticulturist William Frederick Ferl (1835-1906), was born in Prussia, in the eastern German province of Saxony, near Leipzig, and immigrated to America sometime in the 1860s. His life — especially his work and his farm — was the object of several years of intensive research by John. Indeed, John's article "Bananas and Lemonade in Santa Barbara's Olden Days," and the extensive, meticulous research on which it is based, became the touchstone for most of what I know about William.¹

William was well known in the Santa Barbara community by the turn of the nineteenth century. His roadside refreshment stand on Mountain Drive, located near his farm and home, was a destination for people in horse-drawn carriages who came to see the hills and the views above Santa Barbara. Tourists stopped at his "emergency station" to buy his orchard-grown fruit juices and shake off the dust from the journey. Postcards of that era featuring William's "Mountain Nook" are now traded as collectibles.

William is buried in the serenely beautiful Ocean View section of the Santa Barbara Cemetery, toward the bluffs. I saw his gravestone first in 1972 when Richard and I, as yet unmarried, took our first day-trip together from Los Angeles to Santa Barbara. Before going for a swim at one of the beaches, we visited the cemetery and made what was then an essential stop at the monument of the famed movie star Ronald Colman (1891-1958). Then we visited the grave of several Ferl ancestors. I don't recall noting at the time that William's small monument bore no other name than his own.

About the same time I began to study the Ferls, I arranged to have a cenotaph² installed for Richard beside the family's monument in another part of the cemetery. I had also created a permanent memorial for Richard on the Legacy.com website. While surfing the internet, I came upon Find A Grave and discovered that someone named "Mr. Tom" had created a memorial for Richard with a photograph of his grave stone at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, Saint Louis, where he is buried. Indeed, there were also memorials on this vast website for several other Ferl family members.

This encounter with Find A Grave — a free-access, minimally moderated commercial website with over 100 million memorials — inspired me to become more



William Frederick Ferl at his Santa Barbara Mountain Nook

involved with genealogy. By the seat of the pants and the power of the Internet, I began to learn about the cooperation between gravers or grave walkers like “Mr. Tom” and genealogists, now often one and the same. In pre-Internet days I had associated the graver’s activity principally with those who travel from cemetery to cemetery to make grave stone rubbings. Intense interest in visiting cemeteries now appears to be widespread and closely associated with the increasingly popular field of genealogy. Richard and I had been members of Ancestry.com for several years but had used it very little. I was now using both Ancestry.com and Find A Grave, as well as many other sites to collect family history information.³ This helps me memorialize and gain a better understanding of my ancestors and those of my husband. I have not yet invested in a tree-maker, but I see one in my future.

Even as a “hobbyist genealogist” - Wikipedia’s name for my realm of interest - I am gaining ground. To my delight, I have met four distant cousins through Find A Grave, two of whom are advanced hobbyists and the others professional genealogists conducting research on families closely related to mine. As I gathered the bits and pieces of information to create online memorials, one ancestor posed a mystery for me, as she did for John when he wrote his article about William. This person was Anna Rebecca Ferl (1838-1905), the wife of

our banana farmer and the great-grandmother of my husband. Where was Anna buried? Why was she not in the Santa Barbara Cemetery with William and the other Ferls?

Anna was the fourth of six daughters born to Detler and Anna Margareta Lohmann in the northern German province of Schleswig-Holstein, near the border with Denmark. She came to America on August 5, 1865 and was married to William Ferl on May 26, 1874 at the new Presbyterian Church in Santa Barbara. Anna’s three older sisters had emigrated before Anna and settled in Davenport, Iowa where their stepmother’s family lived. It is likely that Anna stayed with her sisters in Davenport initially, though census records do not yield evidence. In any case, she eventually chose a life in Santa Barbara with William.⁴

John’s story recounts the details of how William acquired property in the hills above Santa Barbara through a land grant, cleared the land, planted a great variety of crops and fruit trees, re-routed spring water and acquired water rights, and sometimes dealt with contentious neighbors. Through two decades of hard work, William’s enterprise was finally flourishing: he found ways to distribute the fruits and vegetables, won prizes in fairs, and received favorable mention of his unusual farm in contemporary books and newspapers. Anna kept house near the farm on Mountain Drive, close to present-day Coyote Road. She raised their son Frederick (Fred) and daughter Anna, and also dealt with the many other chores of a nineteenth century farmer’s wife.⁵

In September 1895, Anna left Santa Barbara by train for Davenport, Iowa and stayed two months with her relatives. The following year, when she was 58, she apparently could no longer endure life with William at the farm, so she moved to town on December 21, 1896, two days after their 19-year-old daughter left the farm and married Carl Meyer. One month later, on Jan. 23, 1897, son Fred moved from the farm to 717 Castillo Street.⁶

William and Anna were estranged but never divorced. They did, however, take legal steps to disinherit each other, dividing their community property, most notably the farm property in the hills. On July 15, 1899, Fred arranged for construction to begin for a house at 216 W. Haley Street; on September 8, he and his mother Anna moved into the completed home. Life was likely happier for both Anna and Fred, now living close to city conveniences and work opportunities for Fred, who had graduated from college in 1894. The Santa Barbara city directories for the initial years of the new century show Fred and his mother sharing the home on Haley, as does the 1900 Federal census. The home is listed as owned but with a mortgage, and Anna is listed as head of the household, and widowed (though she was not). The directory for 1904 still lists Fred and his mother living at No. 216.

In July 1904, County records show that Fred arranged for financing and construction of a second home next door at 214 W. Haley for himself and his wife-to-be,



Lohmann women, ca. 1870, Davenport, Iowa (?) Courtesy of Jeff Mangelsdorf.

Anna Ernestine Schramm (1872-1967), whom he married in Pasadena on Dec. 15, 1904. For reasons not fully known, Fred's mother Anna moved into the home of her daughter and son-in-law at 319 Cota Street, and there, on June 9, 1905, Anna Rebecca Ferl took her own life, leaving a brief note for her son about her will, her despair and her disappointment with various family members. This little note was obtained by the press and its contents were published in the newspaper, true to form for the sometimes brazen style of journalism that prevailed at the time. A few days later another small news article appeared, signaling that the family took exception to the earlier report and that Anna's written lament was owing to her illness rather than any wrongdoing by the family.

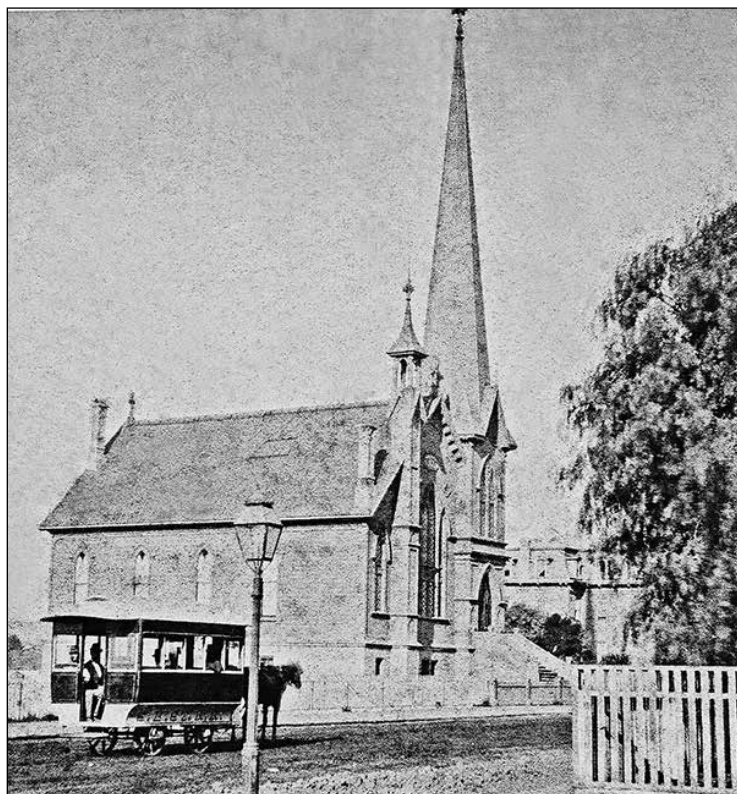
THE ODYSSEY

The Santa Barbara County death record for Anna lists her place of burial as Los Angeles. My initial reaction was skeptical so I began looking elsewhere, thinking that the record might be in error. In retrospect, I believe I would have saved some time by crediting the document's reliability and starting with Los Angeles, but side trips on an odyssey can be valuable. I pursued the Santa Barbara undertaker listed on the record and found it no longer exists and its records are lost. I contacted the Santa Barbara Cemetery to see if there was any possibility Anna was buried there, even though the online record of its interments hosted by the SB-

CGS website do not include her. I was told that they had no record of her burial there. Having some doubts about early cemetery records, I consulted David Petry's definitive history of the Santa Barbara Cemetery which supported their assertion.⁷ After ruling out other cemeteries in the Santa Barbara area, I called the cemetery in Davenport, Iowa where Anna's sisters are buried. There was an outside chance that she might be buried there, but I did not get the hoped for response.

I decided to rely on the Santa Barbara death record and begin my Los Angeles search. Advised to check older Los Angeles city directories for the cemeteries, I quickly found an online source. The Los Angeles Public Library has digitized some of its directories collection. While the earliest available was 1909, that was close enough to 1905, and a word search yielded a list of cemeteries active at that time. I then used both Wikipedia and the Southern California Genealogical Society's website to find out more about the cemeteries. The Society is host to a very large number and variety of databases, some of which are free to use, such as the county obituary and burial permit databases. But these did not yield Anna's name. An email inquiry to the Society's staff resulted in a recommendation to purchase their pamphlet *Cemeteries of Los Angeles County* (\$3.50). It was also possible for a small fee to have their staff look up information in sources not accessible online.

I continued to plod along. The Society's well-documented and publicly accessible story of the Los Angeles City Cemetery (est. ca. 1847) was a cautionary tale since its location is now under the asphalt pavement of the Los Angeles Board of Education's parking lot. I was



Presbyterian Church, Santa Barbara, circa (1880)? where William and Anna were married in 1874. Courtesy J. Woodward

relieved to learn that burials there ceased in 1879. While the famed Forest Lawn Memorial Park cemetery was a possibility, it was founded in 1906 and thus one year too late for my purposes. I sent an inquiry anyway but never received a reply. After reading a description of the Evergreen Memorial Park and Crematory, I decided to call since it is the oldest and largest extant cemetery in Los Angeles (est. 1877). To my surprise and initial delight, I was told they had a paper record for Anna that said that she died on June 9, 1905 and was cremated at Evergreen on June 11, 1905. (There was no crematorium in Santa Barbara at the time of Anna's death and there would not be one for two more decades.)

The Evergreen record has no information as to who made the arrangements. A fee of \$50 was paid to Evergreen by Emigh & Son, a Santa Barbara undertaker firm, presumably for the cremation service. There was no record as to how her body was transported from Santa Barbara to Los Angeles, though train seems most likely. I was then given some dispiriting news. In 1961, all cremated remains at Evergreen which were unclaimed for 50 years or more, including Anna's, were commingled and transferred to a "community grave" in the cemetery — plot 3766. The plot has no memorial markers.⁸

EPILOGUE

The solution to the mystery posed many more questions for this family history researcher. Was someone in Los Angeles expected to claim Anna's remains? If so, who might that have been? Were family plans for her cremated remains placed on hold because of events, such as the series of deaths in the family not long after Anna's? With the passage of decades, was the thread just lost? I may never find the answers to these questions but it is comforting to be able to replace the designation "unknown" on her Find A Grave memorial. A more traditional monument for Anna might help put the questions to rest. Evergreen does not permit memorials at the community grave site, and Santa Barbara Cemetery does not have a feasible site for a cenotaph, so I am making arrangements for an engraved memorial tablet to be placed near the grave of Anna's eldest sister at the beautiful Oakdale Memorial Gardens cemetery in Davenport.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author acknowledges the encouragement and assistance of fellow Society members John Fritsche, Dorothy Oksner, and Quinn; John Hauschild, Santa Barbara Cemetery Association; genealogist and cousin Terry Jensen; and numerous fellow members of Find A Grave.

¹ John Fritsche, "Bananas and Lemonade in Santa Barbara's Olden Days," *Ancestors West*, Vol. 30, no. 1 (fall 2003/winter 2004). The main body of John's research files on Ferl have graciously been given to the author. Related materials are also housed in the Sahyun Genealogy Library of the SBCGS.

² A cenotaph is a monument to honor someone whose remains are elsewhere. Legacy.com is a commercial provider of online memorials, which hosts obituaries for three-fourths of the largest U.S. newspapers and provides a site for recording condolences.

³ On Sept. 30, 2013, Ancestry.com announced its acquisition of Find A Grave, Inc. The latter will remain a wholly-owned subsidiary and a free web site; it will continue to be managed by its founder Jim Tipton. Both the parent company and this subsidiary are based near Salt Lake City.

⁴ Information about Anna, her parents, and her five sisters appears in *The Ancestors and Descendants of the Bettendorf-Kohrs and Related Families*. Comp. and ed. By Darlene Paxton and L.T. Sloane (Decorah, Iowa Anundsen Pub. Co., 1984). Anna's eldest sister Johanna Lohmann married Henry Kohrs. The photograph accompanying this article is from the Kohrs' family photo album.

⁵ Historians of farming in the West from the 1870s to about 1900 note that unmarried men did not typically attempt to operate a farm because they understood the need for a hard-working wife and numerous children to handle the many chores, including child-rearing, feeding and clothing the family, managing the household, and feeding hired hands. See the Wikipedia article entitled "Gilded Age." Electronic, retrieved 1/3/2014.

⁶ Fred kept a journal from 1894-2006, briefly logging both public and personal events. Entries for these two moves are included. Interestingly, William and Anna's 1874 marriage license lists her age as 24 when she was actually 36. In the 1880 census, six years after their wedding, the discrepancy persists. By the 1900 census, when she and her son are living on Haley Street, Anna gives her correct age, 61.

⁷ David Petry provides a detailed account of how some of the early burial records were recovered and a new method of registering interments was established in the late 1870s. The cemetery's records are reliable from about 1880 forward. See *The Best Last Place*, Olympus Press, Santa Barbara, California, 2006, p. 51-52.

⁸ In the 1961 transfer, the remains were removed from their urns when commingled, reportedly because of pressing space constraints. Current practice at Evergreen is to wait about 25 years for cremated remains to be claimed. The adjacent LA County Crematorium, responsible for indigent burials, waits three years then buries the unclaimed remains in their respective urns close together in a common grave.

Terry Ellen Ferl, SBCGS member and resident of Saint Louis, MO, is researching the Ferls in CA and Germany. terryferl@charter.net.

Tripped Up: Barbara Bauer's Grave

Carol Roth

IN AN AMITYVILLE, PA CEMETERY, my husband and I were looking for a headstone for Barbara Bauer, an ancestor in my great-grandfather, Dr. Edward Lincoln Bower's family, who I was told was buried there. I don't know about others, but when faced with a large cemetery, I tend to look for the right shape and length of a name. We spent a long time and couldn't find it so we headed for the car. As I neared the church, I tripped over something and fell to my knees. When I looked up, there she was. No kidding. They had used the German feminine, Bauerin, a bit longer than we were looking for and in the middle of a lot of wording on the stone, so we had missed it the first time.

The stone had so much information that I was glad to find it. It said she was the wife of Moses Bauer and had been married for 18 years, 4 months, and 8 days. She was born 13 Mar 1761 and died on 5 Oct 1797. She had 8 children, 6 boys and 2 daughters. At her death she was 36 years, 6 months and 22 days. Fortunately some of my high school German stayed with me.

It would have been a shame to miss this. Now I make sure I am more careful in my graveyard searches.

Carol Roth, Santa Barbara, CA. She is researching Forbes in Ohio & PA; Bower in PA; Potteet in Lee County, VA; and Huff in PA. Original member of SBCGS - 46 years.



Barbara Bauerin marker, Saint Paul's Church Cemetery, Amityville, PA. Photo by Mark Maxwell.

Hot Blogs A Guide to Genealogy Using Google Earth

THIS ARTICLE IS NOT, as the title might lead you to believe, a guide to using Google Earth for genealogy. Rather this article is intended to introduce you to a guide. Eric Stitt, long-time genealogy blogger, starting in January of this year, began publishing a blog in which he is promising to act as your guide to this topic.¹

His new blog (his old blog remains up and running) is called *Genealogy Through Google Earth* and already has several posts that exemplify the use of Google Earth and provide basic instruction.²

Google Earth, for those not yet familiar, is the amazing web application that stitches together thousands of satellite images into a navigable (in the application of course) photograph of the planet. You can jump to a location, an address, a set of GPS coordinates. You can 'drive' your browser view closer to the Earth's surface and 'fly' over approximate three-dimensional terrain as rendered by Google Earth.

More impressive and germane to genealogists is the ability to load historic aerial photos, location-specific photos, old maps, and create scenarios or geographical overlays as files that can be opened and viewed by others. People have done this for their travels, but more impressively have done this for historic wars and battles, transitions in a single location, and individual and family histories. Eric Stitt is going to share how to bring your genealogical sources, photos and detail into a unified Google Earth file, tied inextricably to the locations where your roots existed.

Stitt has been using Google Earth for genealogy and teaching a Google Earth for Genealogy class for a number of years. He summarizes the power of Google Earth for this endeavor. "Using geographic information found in Deeds and addresses from sources such as Census data, property where ancestors and neighbors once lived may be marked on historical maps, which can then be overlaid on modern Google maps. ... Using this information, it is possible to locate a family homestead on an historical map and compare the changes to those locations that have occurred over time as the area developed. In some instances, the old home may still be there or a family cemetery."

Stitt also explains that using Google Earth you can locate your family members' graves with GPS and view or print a map to navigate your way through a cemetery. This could also be a great tool for Find A Grave photographers with a long list of requests.

¹ Genealogy by Eric, <http://genealogybyeric.blogspot.com/>, retrieved 1/16/2014.

² *Genealogy Through Google Earth*, (<http://genealogythroughgoogleearth.blogspot.com/>), retrieved 1/16/2014.



Grandpa J. and the author, Santa Barbara, 1944

Oscar Thaddeus "Thad" Jameson (Grandpa J.) 1881-1945

Pamela Jameson Boehr

ALL TOO OFTEN I've allowed my enthusiasm and curiosity to focus primarily on early generations.

While I've been fascinated to learn about progenitor, James Jameson, who circa 1713 made the journey from Ireland to this continent and to discover that a later ancestor was a Revolutionary War patriot, the person I can tell my sons about was one I can actually remember.

Although I lost my paternal grandfather, Grandpa J., when I was still a small child, warm memories caused me to want to learn more about him. It wasn't hard to discover that he was 5' 10" tall, with hazel eyes, an officer in the First Christian Church and a member of the Painters and Paper Hangars Union, but what was this role model for his children and grandchild really like?

For seven generations my Jamesons had lived in PA, IN, KY, and IL. They farmed. As a young man Grandpa J. had made the transition away from farming.

We all know how important it is to ask questions of family members and to put information on photos. For me to put the pieces of the puzzle together such items were essential in explaining the courageous path taken by Grandpa J.

I came upon a letter of recommendation from *The Abingdon Wagon Factory* which told how he had worked there for 20 years and was foreman in the painting department. In 1917 he was leaving to go into the painting business for himself. The letter states, "We have always found Mr. Jameson to be an honest, faithful and dependable worker."

A range of factors had contributed to the Depression of 1920-21 shortly after the end of World War I. The cause was the economic pain of transitioning from a wartime economy to a peacetime economy. Jobs were being lost, homes were going through foreclosure, and government programs for assistance were not yet in

existence. People had to rely on friends and family to survive. Many people were looking toward California. There were reports of jobs there. As in all families, parents want their children to have the best possible opportunities and Grandpa J. began to plan. It must have been extremely difficult to consider leaving the area where he and his wife had roots for many generations.

It's disappointing to have gaps in the understanding of my family history. So much has been lost, but once in a while something worthwhile turns up. Not long ago I came across a little notebook that contained a diary of the trip to California in 1921. This is a treasure because it is a first-hand account of a long ago time in my family's life. It helped me to better understand my grandfather. This ninety-year-old gem is a story about a young family taking a journey which would change their lives forever. My grandfather's small 5 ½" by 3 ½" diary notebook was a daily record covering the period of August 15 to September 4, 1921. He used a lead pencil and it was difficult to read. I sometimes needed to use a magnifying glass.



Jameson trip en route to CA 1921: Cliff, Marlyn, Barney, Thad and Bertha Jameson

He and his family had a young man, Roy Fulmer, accompany them who also wanted to move to California. Grandpa J. bought a Ford Model T, a sturdy, low-priced vehicle. The family drove about 225 miles the first day. On Thursday "there were two tire punctures and a tire flew off in the afternoon." On Friday, Thad wrote, "Camped at Goodland, KS at a school house." School property was considered to be a safe place.

I came across a couple of streetcar-related pictures and wondered where they were taken.

Where was he? I learned that in 1906-07, prior to marrying, he took a leave from the wagon factory in order to earn money to purchase a house in Abingdon. He left IL and came to Los Angeles to work as a streetcar conductor. No letter he wrote to his bride-to-be told the actual name of the company and that's where modern day research techniques came in handy. With a magnifier I read the front of the street car, "East First Street"



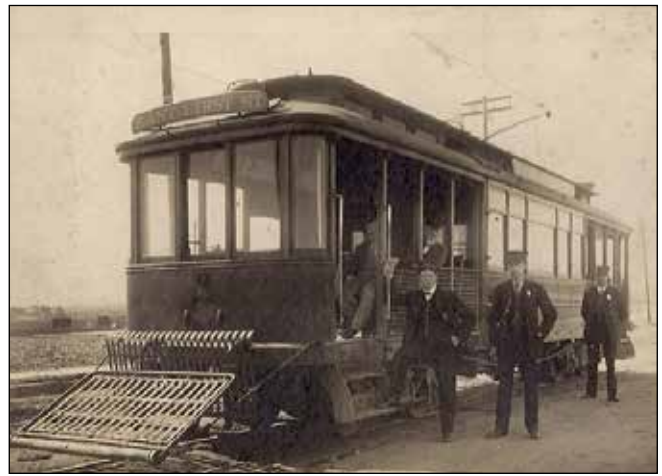
Thad Jameson, LA Railway Co., conductor 1907

and on the side it says," Salt Lake Station; Boyle Heights." Using the Internet, I learned that the job was with the Los Angeles Railway Company. When his financial goal had been reached he returned to Abingdon, purchased the house and got married. When we made a trip to Abingdon several years ago, to our delight we found the house.

The move to Santa Barbara was the right choice. Prior to leaving Abingdon, Grandpa J. had a job all lined up painting small houses on the 1000 block of North Nopal Street. His three children carried on his legacy of hard work, and I wish I could tell him, "You have a wonderful family; you would have been proud of us."

So as Delia M. Cummings Wright said so well in 1943, in *The Chosen*, "Doing genealogy is not a cold gathering of facts but, instead, breathing life into all who have gone before."

I hope I have done justice to the memory of Grandpa J.



Thad Jameson, LA Railway Company, 1907 standing center



500 N. Austen Ave., Abingdon, IL circa 1913 Cliff and Marlyn Jameson

Pam Boehr is a long-time SBCGS member and native Santa Barbaran is a member of the Mission Canyon Chapter, NS-DAR and is awaiting confirmation of her 8th Revolutionary War patriot. Also is a member of the Santa Barbara Chapter of Daughters of the American Colonists and expects to be a charter member of the U.S.S. Constitution Chapter of The United States Daughters of 1812.



500 N. Austen Ave. Abingdon, IL granddaughter and great-grandson on recent visit

Random Thoughts and Lessons Learned

Regarding Death Records, Obituaries and Cemeteries

Karen Harris

ABOUT TWELVE YEARS AGO, in the early months of my genealogical research career, I spent one very useless day at the Family History Library. This was back in the day when digital records were not online and it was necessary to travel to Los Angeles to read census records on microfilm readers that required vigorous, endless hand cranking. This occurred as I was hunting for an elusive maiden name for a female relative on the basis of a yellowed newspaper clipping of an obituary that was found in a file of miscellaneous information related to my mother's family. The troublesome obituary not only had a date unknown and source unknown, but it also contained a typographical error which led to the hours of fruitless hunting for RUSH relatives in Ohio census records, when, as was discovered weeks later, I should have been investigating RUSK relatives.

I am reminded of this incident regularly as I have been extracting death notices, burial announcements and obituaries from the weekly *Santa Ynez Valley News*, 1925-1947, over the past three years. I have found inaccuracies, typographical errors, and misspellings, sometimes within the same paragraph! One of the more curious ones I found was printed on Friday, October 11, 1929, Page One:

Prominent New Yorker Dies At Los Olivos

W. S. Vovier, prominent citizen of New York City, died Tuesday morning at Los Olivos from heart disease. He had been stopping in Los Olivos for several days previous to his death. He was an ex-serviceman.

My intuition and experience with names, cultivated since employment as a file clerk in high school and college, suggested that this was probably incorrect. At that time, the online resource to verify the name and death in California, the CA Death Index, 1909-1939 from Ancestry.com, was not available. I remembered that Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis had a maiden name of Bouvier and proceeded to do some Internet searching with the letter B instead of V. Sure enough, the *New York Times* printed a death notice for "Bouvier,--William Sergeant, on October 8, 1929 at Los Olivas, [sic] California, in the thirty seventh year of his age. . . ."

Further research was conducted on his family, and, he was, indeed, a relative of the former first lady, her uncle, the brother of her father.

While reading these newspapers, I have encountered men who are identified only by initials or women who were known only by their husband's names. Finding the correct identity of the decedents has become a challenging riddle for me to solve, and with additional resources, such as the 1909-1939 CA Death Index, the

1940-1997 CA Death Index, the 1940 Census, and Find a Grave, along with our own SBCGS cemetery and funeral records databases, many of these elusive individuals now have their full names.

The 1940-1997 CA Death Index, available on Ancestry.com, has not always provided the solution to one of these puzzles; sometimes, the answer is found in the RootsWeb version of this database.

During the course of reading many obituaries, from a variety of sources over the years, I have become quite a fan of small town newspapers because these accounts can be quite chatty, choc-a-block full of information such as a lengthy descendants list including siblings, aunts and uncles, nieces and nephews, along with parents, children and spouses, names of the pallbearers, significant geographical locations and a history of the family. This type of detail is often omitted in the big city papers which, until recently, tended to be rather minimalist.

Local libraries are wonderful resources for obituaries and a personal shout out must be given to the Guernsey County, Ohio, Public Library. Once a death date was determined, a query was sent, originally by the US postal service and promptly a copy from the newspaper obituary was returned by mail. Years later, an email to the library would produce a digitized copy, most likely from their microfilm scanner, sent as an attachment.

Over time, I have discovered some favorite websites which contain digitized copies of death records; these include: Ohio Death Certificates, 1908-1953 in FamilySearch.org; Arizona Death Certificates, 1909-1962 at genealogy.az.gov; Missouri Death Certificates, 1910-1955 at sos.mo.gov, and West Virginia Death Certificates, 1910-1963 at wvculture.org.

Sometimes, researching family history can produce unexpected results. During a genealogy journey taken in 2002 to Ohio, I found myself driving through the Ashland Cemetery, where my grandparents were buried, a location I had not visited in almost forty years after our family moved to Los Angeles in 1963. Although the sexton's office was closed, I decided to drive through the cemetery prior to returning the following day. A hazy childhood memory positioned the gravestone near the side of the road on the right side. While driving along the loop, occasionally casting a glance, I was unable to find it. Heading towards the end of the drive, I happened to turn my head to the right and noticed the gravestone, where my mother had formerly left flowers in remembrance of her mother, those many years ago. It was in the second row from the road, not the first. After parking the rental car and retrieving the digital camera, I walked over to the grave site. It was very quiet with no other mourners in attendance. While standing there to pay my respects and snap a photograph, spontaneously tears began to flow and I was most grateful to be alone.

My grandmother died when I was a toddler and my grandfather died almost twenty years later. Perhaps the grief arose from sadness that I never knew my grand-

mother and she had led an interesting life: teaching public school following her graduation from high school in 1902, graduating from Ohio State University at a time when women were a minority of the student body population, teaching home economics courses at Ashland College, serving as a dietician in the US Army during World War I in France, suffering from the 1918 Spanish flu, and of course, surviving, and working at a Veterans' hospital in North Carolina where she met my grandfather in 1919. How I would love to have known her. Or perhaps the tears came from the more recent loss of my parents who had died in 1999 and 2000, the combined events that started me on this genealogical journey of the past thirteen years.

Karen Harris, a former history major, began her own family history research in 2000; presently, those stubborn, personal brick walls have inspired a change of focus by working on a local history project for the Santa Ynez Valley, where she currently lives with her husband, Paul Roark, and their beautiful golden retriever, Carly.

1947 Death Notices and Obituaries from the Santa Ynez Valley News

Transcribed by Karen Harris

CAPTAIN CARL ALWOOD, Friday, June 13, 1947, Page Six

Rutters Return Home After Eastern Trip

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Rutters and son Norman, have returned home after spending the last four weeks in Hanover, Pennsylvania where Mr. Rutters was called by the fatal illness of his mother, Mrs. Lucy Rutters.

Mrs. Rutters died the day following the arrival of her son.

While in Hanover, Mr. and Mrs. Rutters, also received news that their nephew, Captain Carl Alwood was among six fliers who were killed when their plane crashed into the side of a mountain in Japan.

CHRIS ANDERSEN, Friday, January 17, 1947, Page Three Attend Funeral in Hayward Tuesday

Mr. and Mrs. Hermann Burchardi accompanied by Mrs. Wm. Petersen of Lompoc motored to Hayward Monday night and attended the funeral Tuesday of Chris Andersen an old family friend of the Burchardi family.

MARGRETHE APPEL, Friday, May 9, 1947, Page One Final Tribute Paid Mrs. Appel at Funeral Service Tuesday

Funeral services for Mrs. Chris Appel, 80, one of Solvang's oldest residents who died Saturday morning, as a result of injuries suffered when she fell at her home Friday evening, were held Tuesday afternoon in the

Danish Lutheran Church.

The Rev. Aage Moller, pastor of the church, conducted the services. Burial followed in the Danish Cemetery under the direction of the Paaske Funeral Home. Mrs. Appel was laid to rest beside the grave of her husband, who died November 19, 1943.

Serving as pallbearers were four of Mrs. Appel's grandsons, Harald Petersen, Roger Appel, Marlowe Appel, and Lyman Appel, and Judson Krogh and Clayton Sanchez, husbands of two of Mrs. Appel's granddaughters.

Mrs. Appel, the former Miss Margarethe Petersen, was born in Falster, Denmark on August 7, 1866. She came to the US in 1882 with her parents, and made her home in the eastern part of Nebraska.

She became the wife of Mr. Appel in Fremont, Nebraska on February 28, 1883 and they made their home in eastern Nebraska until 1889 when they moved to Dannebrog, Nebraska.

While in Dannebrog, Mr. and Mrs. Appel took an active interest in the civic and church affairs of the community. At one time, Mr. Appel served as county treasurer in St. Paul, Nebraska.

They lived in the vicinity of Dannebrog until the Fall of 1939 when they came to Solvang to make their home.

Mr. and Mrs. Appel celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary four years ago in Solvang.

Mrs. Appel was known by all her friends as a kind and devoted wife and mother. Her patient disposition and love of children was recognized by all who had come in contact with her.

She was lifelong member of the Danish Lutheran Church.

Surviving are two sons, Jens Appel of Dannebrog, and Roy Appel of Solvang; three daughters, Mrs. A. C. Petersen, Mrs. Anders Espersen, and Mrs. Harley Sorensen, all of Solvang; three brothers, Fred Petersen and John R. Petersen of Grand Island, Nebraska, and Chris Petersen of San Jose; also 17 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Appel was predeceased by a son and daughter, and four sisters, and a brother.

CORA BARNES, Friday, March 7, 1947, Page Four Mrs. Cora Barnes, Former Resident is Buried in Ballard

Mrs. Cora Barnes, 74, a former resident of the Valley, was buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Saturday. Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. J. B. Willhoit.

Mrs. Barnes who was born in Indiana, came to California about 40 years ago and made her home in Los Olivos.

She later moved to Orcutt, where she lived for 20 years. She afterwards made her home in Whittier where she lived with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Billington, until her death last Thursday.

In addition to her daughter, Mrs. Barnes leaves a granddaughter. Services were also held in the Santa Maria Presbyterian church with Rev. Phil Barret, officiating.

**FALLIE BARNES, Friday, January 17, 1947, Page One
Barnes Graveside Service Held Here**

Graveside services were held at Oak Hill Cemetery Tuesday afternoon for Fallie H. Barnes, member of a pioneer Santa Ynez Valley family, who passed away Saturday in Ventura.

The services here followed funeral ceremonies conducted by Dr. Theo Henderson, Presbyterian Minister, in Ventura, Tuesday forenoon. Rev. J. B. Willhoit officiated at Oak Hill assisted by the Masonic Lodge.

Mr. Barnes was born in Los Olivos on May 17, 1891. He attended the local grammar schools and high school and served in France during World War I. Shortly after the war, he went to Ventura where he married Miss Dudi Valencia. She and their son, Fallie Barnes, Jr., survive.

In addition to his wife and son, Mr. Barnes is survived by a sister, Mrs. Harvey MacDonald of Santa Ynez and two brothers, Delbert and Landon Barnes of Los Olivos.

BENJAMIN CHARLES BEATTIE, Friday, March 28, 1947 Page One

Last Rites Held for Beattie Boy

Funeral services for Benjamin Charles Beattie, three year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Beattie of Lompoc, were held at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon at the Valley Presbyterian church in Ballard.

The Rev. J. B. Willhoit officiated and burial was in Oak Hill Cemetery, Ballard.

The little boy died early Tuesday evening as a result of injuries suffered in a tractor accident.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by two brothers. His mother is the former Miss Elva Davis of Los Olivos.

**JUANA BERMUDEZ, Friday, October 3, 1947, Page One
Funeral Rite for Mrs. Bermudez**

A Requiem Mass was celebrated at 9 o'clock yesterday morning at La Purisima Mission, Lompoc, for Mrs. Juana Bermudez, 61, who died Monday morning at her home in Santa Ynez. Burial followed in Lompoc Cemetery under the direction of the Paaske Funeral Home.

Mrs. Bermudez, wife of John Bermudez, was born in Santa Ynez and had lived there the past 21 years.

In addition to her husband, Mrs. Bermudez is survived by five children by a former marriage, Charles and Philip Ochoa, and Mrs. C. Robles and Mrs. L. Enos of Cholame, and Mrs. L. Senteno of Lompoc, another son, John Bermudez; two other daughters, Delores and Julia Bermudez; a brother, Arthur Mendez, of Los Angeles, and a sister, Mrs. Ernest Herman of Santa Barbara, and 18 grandchildren.

**ROBERT BLAKELEY, Friday, January 31, 1947, Page One
Body Search Continues
Confessed Sailor Will Aid in Hunt**

Two carloads of Sheriff's Deputies spreading out from Buellton yesterday in the direction of Solvang and other parts of the Santa Ynez Valley in an attempt

to find the body of Robert Blakeley of Oakland, who was reportedly shot and killed January 12 by two sailors who dumped his body out of the car in the Buellton area.

Sheriff John D. Ross said yesterday members of his staff were continuing the search which started Wednesday in an area south of the Buellton bridge on 101 highway following a confession of the killing by Mitchel Arlin Johnson, 19, who is being held by Duncan, Oklahoma authorities. Sheriff Ross said he had spoken to Johnson on the telephone yesterday and the alleged murderer told the sheriff he remembered seeing a highway sign reading 30 miles to Santa Barbara and 135 miles to Los Angeles. Police officials gathered from this statement that Johnson had been in Buellton. Extra-dicting Johnson

It was also announced by the sheriff's office that a deputy from Santa Barbara was leaving by plane for Oklahoma where he will take Johnson into custody. The sheriff said Johnson is expected to arrive in Santa Barbara sometime today and will be used to aid in the search for Blakeley's body. Meanwhile deputies have gone to the Buellton area, searching ditches and ravines. They later headed toward Los Alamos and up to yesterday had covered all the territory from Las Cruces to Los Alamos.

News of the killing first came out upon the arrest of Richard Wayne Fisher, 19, another AWOL sailor in Carthage Missouri. He was picked up while driving a car registered to Johnny Johnson, Pico, California, stepfather, of the murder victim.

Describes Killing

Fisher told police Johnson had described the killing to him while the pair were on their way east with the stolen car. When arrested, police said Johnson had a loaded 45 caliber automatic pistol and 50 rounds of ammunition.

Johnson, arrested in Oklahoma, alleged to have told police he had driven with Blakeley as far as the Buellton area and then returned to Oakland, throwing the murder weapon which hasn't been recovered off the Buellton bridge, it was after that the two sailors departed for the East.

Blakeley assertedly left for Los Angeles on January 10 after quarreling with his wife. He was reported to authorities as missing on January 19.

**ROBERT BLAKELY, Friday, February 7, 1947, Page One
Murder Charge Filed Against Two Sailors**

District Attorney David S. Lickner filed an amended complaint on Wednesday charging Mitchell A. Johnson and Richard Fischer with the murder of Robert Blakely on the night of January 11.

Blakely's body was found last Saturday near Las Cruces. Originally only Johnson had been charged with the shooting.

**MARY BOBADILLA, Friday, August 29, 1947, Page One
Two Girls Killed in Auto Accident**

Mary Ann Garza, 12 of Lompoc Terrace and Mary

R. Bobadilla, 16 of 415 North E. Street, Lompoc, were killed in an automobile accident Sunday evening on the Lompoc-Buellton road.

According to the police, the girls were passengers in a car driven by Pvt. Raul Bobadilla, a soldier, who is stationed at Fort Ord.

Others seriously injured in the crash in addition to the driver were Olivia and Stella Garza, sisters, and Emma Bobadilla 14.

Sgt. C. D. Beach of the California Highway Patrol said the driver of the car apparently lost control of his convertible coupe on a small hill and overturned.

WALTER LEE BOISE, Friday, August 1, 1947, Page Five

Mrs. Walter L. Hanson and Miss Audrey Mae Hanson went to Los Angeles Monday to attend the funeral of W. L. Boise of Eagle Rock.

[NOTE: Walter Lee Boise is listed in the CA Death Index with a death date of July 27, 1947 in Los Angeles; his mother's maiden name: Easterday; he was born in Missouri on August 17, 1881.]

FRANK BUELL, Friday, August 8, 1947, Page One

Last Rites Held for Frank Buell

Graveside services for Frank Marion Buell, 54, of Dunlap, Fresno County, and son of Linus Buell, pioneer resident of Buellton, were held at 2:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon at Oak Hill Cemetery with the Rev. J. B. Willhoit officiating.

Burial was made under the direction of the Paaske Funeral Home.

Mr. Buell, a rancher, died July 30, as a result of injuries received Monday, July 28, in a traffic accident. His mother, the late Annie Buell, died in San Martin.

Mr. Buell, who lived in Dunlap the past four years, had resided in both Buellton and Santa Barbara before moving to Fresno County. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge of Lompoc.

He is survived by a son, Frank Buell, Jr., of Kanai, Alaska, and a daughter, Mrs. Barbara Piatt of Elsinore, the children by his former wife, Mrs. Sadie Buell of Santa Barbara. A sister, Mrs. Ada Helen Miller, formerly of Buellton, now lives in San Martin as does his brother, Edward Buell. Percy O. and Lester H. Buell of Santa Barbara are cousins.

IDA CARLSON, Friday, November 28, 1947, Page One

Mrs. Ida Carlson Dies in 74th Year

Graveside services for Mrs. Ida Charlotte Carlson, a resident of Solvang the past 15 years, were held at 10 o'clock yesterday morning at Oak Hill Cemetery, with the Rev. Aage Moller officiating. Burial was made under the direction of the Paaske Funeral Home.

Mrs. Carlson, who died early Saturday morning in Lompoc Community Hospital, had been a patient there for five days. She had been in poor health for some time.

Mrs. Carlson, who was 73, was the widow of Victor Carlson. She was born in Sweden and came to the Unit-

ed States 23 years ago. Three years after her arrival in this country, Mrs. Carlson moved to California.

Survivors include two sons, Carl and Harold Carlson of Washington, Miss Anna Carlson of Solvang, and Miss Edith Carlson of Spokane; two brothers, Charles and John Johnson of Washington, and two sisters, Mrs. K. P. Knudsen of Solvang and Mrs. Hilma Lybeckor of Washington.

CHARLES CLEMENS, Friday, June 20, 1947, Page One

Former Resident Dies in Exeter

Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Clemens and daughter who live at Gale's La Laguna Ranch, were called to Exeter recently by the death of Mr. Clemens' father, Charles Clemens, a former resident of the Valley.

Mr. Clemens died June 1 of a cerebral hemorrhage. He was employed at one time at Rancho Piocha until last Spring when he moved to Exeter.

His daughter, Doris, attended the Santa Ynez Valley Union High School. In addition to his second daughter, Mr. Clemens leaves his wife, and another son, Fontelle of Exeter.

MICHAEL FLANAGAN, Friday, July 25, 1947, Page One

Michael Flanagan Nojoqui Pioneer Dies in 88th Year

Michael Flanagan, 87, a pioneer resident of Nojoqui died at 9 o'clock yesterday morning in a Santa Barbara hospital following a long illness. Mr. Flanagan had been a patient at the hospital the past two months.

Mr. Flanagan was born in November of 1860 in Wisconsin and was married to the late Rose Ellen Cullen at Spencer, Iowa on September 28, 1887.

In the fall of 1893, the Flanagan family came to California and made their home in Ventura County until 1914 when they moved to Santa Barbara County and settled on their Nojoqui Valley Ranch. His wife died in November of last year.

Rosary will be recited at Old Mission Santa Ines at 8 o'clock tonight (Friday) by the Rev. Cyprian O'Leary, OFM, Cap., pastor. A Solemn High Mass will be celebrated at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning at the Mission and interment will follow in Oak Hill Cemetery under the direction of the Paaske Funeral Home at Solvang.

Mr. Flanagan leaves a son, Peter of Gaviota, and three daughters, Mrs. Alfred Hansen of Santa Barbara, Mrs. Guy McMartin of Santa Cruz, and Mrs. Leo Clinton of Guadalupe.

JOHN FRAME, Friday, January 10, 1947, Page Four

In Memory of John Frame

One year ago next Thursday, the Valley was shocked and saddened to learn of the sudden and unexpected death of John Frame. For twenty years he had been most active in community affairs and his unselfish interest in everything which came within his wide circle of activities endeared him to the hundreds in this area who loved him and called him Friend.

It is almost a year since I arrived to carry on in his footsteps and never have I heard any but kind words concerning him. He was genial and kindly, a man of

high standards, and clean living. He gave unstintingly of his time and energy to the innumerable calls on him for guidance or assistance from friends, acquaintances, strangers and the community.

In loving memory of a wonderful friend, John Frame, his office will be closed on Thursday, January 16th, 1947.

CHESLEY FREMONT, Friday, December 26, 1947, Part Two Page Twelve

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Twist left Saturday for Reno, to attend the funeral of Mrs. Twist's nephew, F. Fremont who died as a result of injuries suffered when his car was hit by a bus last Wednesday. Mrs. Fremont was a passenger in the car and was hospitalized.

[NOTE: This name was misreported in the SY Valley News; the deceased was named Chesley Freemonth, according to the Nevada State Journal, December 21, 1947, page two. Mrs. Twist was the former Ruth Austin; her sister, Lillian, was married to Oliver Francis Freemonth; Chesley was their son.]

MARGARET GALVIN, Friday April 11, 1947, page Four Mrs. Daily's Mother Succumbs in Montana

[NOTE: This article was somewhat illegible with some words missing.]

Mrs. Margaret Galvin of Harlowton, Montana, mother of Mrs. Herbert Daily of Solvang died Friday at her home after a long illness.

Mrs. Galvin was known in the Valley having lived with Mrs. Daily during . . . year of 1945.

She formerly lived in Long Beach, but moved to Montana . . . months ago. She was buried in the family burial plot in Harlowtown, on Tuesday. Mrs. Galvin's, husband, W.B. Galvin died two years ago.

In addition to Mrs. Daily, Mrs. Galvin leaves three daughters, Mrs. Perry James Moore, Two Dot Montana, Mrs. Jerry Breen of . . . Montana and Mrs. George Coolidge of Long Beach. [NOTE: The last name of Coolidge is incorrect and should read Mrs. George Bendlage.]

MARY ANN GARZA, Friday, August 29, 1947, Page One Two Girls Killed in Auto Accident

Mary Ann Garza, 12 of Lompoc Terrace and Mary R. Bobadilla, 16 of 415 North E. Street, Lompoc, were killed in an automobile accident Sunday evening on the Lompoc-Buellton road.

According to the police, the girls were passengers in a car driven by Pvt. Raul Bobadilla, a soldier, who is stationed at Fort Ord.

Others seriously injured in the crash in addition to the driver were Olivia and Stella Garza, sisters, and Emma Bobadilla 14.

Sgt. C. D. Beach of the California Highway Patrol said the driver of the car apparently lost control of his convertible coupe on a small hill and overturned.

FRED GILLETT, Friday, January 10, 1947, Page Eight
The [Santa Ynez Valley Farm Bureau] meeting, under

the chairmanship of Hermann Burchardi of Solvang, opened with a moment of silence in memory of Fred Gillett of Lompoc, active Farm Bureau worker who passed away suddenly Christmas day.

KATE ELIZABETH GRIGSBY, Friday, November 14, 1947, Page One

Last Rites Held for Mrs. Grigsby

Funeral services for Mrs. Kate Elizabeth Grigsby, wife of Leslie W. Grigsby, an instructor at the Santa Ynez Valley Union High School, were held at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon at the Bethania Lutheran Church.

The Rev. David A. Pierce-Jones, rector of St. Mark's Episcopal Church officiated and burial was in Oak Hill Cemetery under the direction of the Paaske Funeral Home.

Mrs. Grigsby, who was 61, died at her home Sunday evening. She had been in ill health for some time.

Mrs. Grigsby, who was a member of the Congregational Church and the Pythian Sisters, had been engaged in teaching before her marriage May 26, 1916 to Mr. Grigsby.

Her first experience was as a teacher in mission schools in North Carolina, New Mexico, and Sitka, Alaska, when she worked under the Mission Board of the Presbyterian Church. She later organized her own private school in Honolulu and taught Chinese boys of high school age.

Mrs. Grigsby was born in Kansas, a daughter of the late John Calvin Zimmerman and Catharine Lee Zimmerman. She came to California 32 years ago and she and her husband settled in Solvang, 22 years ago.

In addition to her husband, Mrs. Grigsby leaves a daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Wiard of Truckee; two brothers, Asa Zimmerman of Oakland, and Fred Zimmerman of Kansas; and three sisters, the Misses Jeanette and Sophia Zimmerman of Kansas and Mrs. Maude Hazlewood of Redding.

REV. NIELS PEDERSEN HALD, Friday June 20, 1947, Page One

Rev. Hald Dies; Rites Saturday

Funeral services for the Rev. Niels Pedersen Hald, 77, retired clergyman, who died Wednesday afternoon following a long illness will be held at 2 o'clock tomorrow afternoon at the Danish Lutheran Church, with the Rev. Aage Moller, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Ballard Cemetery.

Rev. Mr. Hald, who was born in Hjorring, Vendsyssel, Denmark on May 25, 1870, came to the US 54 years ago. He had been a resident of Solvang the past 13 years.

He started his work in the ministry in Minnesota in 1896 and retired in 1934 due to ill health. Rev. Hald had been in poor health the past 10 years.

Rev. Mr. Hald was pastor of eight churches in his career in the ministry, and headed parishes in Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, Montana, South Dakota, and Texas.

Rev. Mr. Hald and his wife, Marie, were married in Tyler, Minnesota in 1897 and had Rev. Mr. Hald lived,

he and his wife would have celebrated their golden wedding anniversary this December.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by three sons, Ansgar, a member of the US Marine Corps, Kristen of Santa Maria, and Valdemar Hald of Cozad, Nebraska, and two daughters Miss Marie Hald, principal of Solang Grammar School, and Mrs. Andrew Brandt of Junction City, Oregon.

Serving as pallbearers at the funeral will be Henry Johnson, Chris Johnson, Peder Duus, Holger Pohls, and Rev. Hald's two sons, Ansgar and Kristen Hald.

It was Rev. Mr. Hald's wish that no floral offerings be made. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of the Paaske Funeral Home.

FREDERICK KRAMER HANDY, Friday, February 21, 1947, Page Four

Smoke Victim Once Worked in Valley

Frederick Kramer Handy, 28, who died of asphyxiation in a fire at a pet hospital in Santa Barbara early Tuesday morning worked for time here in the Valley last summer as a ranch hand.

Handy, a veteran of service with the Seabees, was given assistance last summer by the Valley unit of the AWVS. He had been a patient in several service hospitals and the AWVS undertook to pay several of his medical bills. (AWVS is the American Women's Voluntary Services).

Handy returned to Sawtelle Veterans Hospital last July and it was understood that following his release from the hospital he went to Oregon, where he also was a patient in a hospital.

During his stay here in the Valley, Handy worked on several ranches for brief periods of time. He was employed at one time by the Petan Dairy and also was a member of the Valley post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Fire authorities attributed Handy's death to the fact he was smoking in bed. Dense smoke from the mattress asphyxiated Handy, firemen said.

EDWARD EARL HARDEN, Friday, July 24, 1947, Page Nine

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Browning have received word that their cousin Dr. E. E. Harden died at the Grove City, Pennsylvania hospital. The funeral was held July 19 at Butler, Pennsylvania. Dr. Harden practiced medicine in Butler for many years and was a visitor with his wife at the Browning home last March.

[NOTE: Edward Earl Harden, Doctor of Osteopathic, is listed in the 1940 PA census for Butler County; Find a Grave listed Edward Earl Harden, 1875-1947, with a burial at North Side Cemetery, Butler, Butler County, PA.]

ANNA HENNINGSEN, Friday, March 21, 1947, Page One Funeral Rites for Mrs. Henningsen, Solvang's Oldest Resident, Are Held

Funeral services for Mrs. Anna Margrethe Barger Henningsen, 92, the oldest resident of Solvang, who died Saturday afternoon at the home of her daughter,

Mrs. Chris Madsen, were held at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon at the Danish Lutheran Church.

The last rites were conducted by the Rev. Aage Moller, pastor of the church, assisted by the Rev. Evald Kristensen and the Rev. Mr. Markman, of Pasadena. Interment followed in the Danish Cemetery.

Mrs. Henningsen, who resided with Mrs. Madsen during the past six years, was born in Aero, Denmark, on December 5, 1854. She was married in 1875 to the late Rev. Loretz Henningsen, who was also born on Aero, an island in Denmark.

She and her husband came to the United States in 1882 and settled in Clinton, Iowa. They left for California in 1917, making their home in Solvang.

Mrs. Henningsen's husband studied for the ministry abroad and completed that work in this country. He also was an accomplished artist and much of his work was exhibited in Copenhagen. Mr. Henningsen died in 1927 in Solvang.

Mr. and Mrs. Henningsen celebrated their silver wedding anniversary in South Dakota and marked their golden anniversary in Solvang.

Mrs. Henningsen was an accomplished singer and was often called "The Nightingale" in her native land. Although she took no active part in social organizations, Mrs. Henningsen assisted her husband in his church work and did much to care for the sick and needy during her lifetime.

Surviving Mrs. Henningsen, who suffered a brief illness, is another daughter, Mrs. S. H. Sorensen of Solvang and two grandchildren, Hagbarth Sorensen, a student at Stanford University, and Zelma Sorensen who is in Mexico City. Two other children predeceased her.

WILLIAM IEST, Friday, November 21, 1947, Page One Former Resident Dies in Ontario

William Iest, a building contractor who lived in Solvang from 1943 to 1944, died of a heart attack Sunday, November 9, at his home in Ontario, California, according to word received here last week. Mr. Iest was 49.

While in Solvang, Mr. and Mrs. Iest lived in the house formerly owned by Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hanson. During his stay in the Valley, Mr. Iest was employed at Camp Cooke.

He was a native of Holland, and besides his wife, he is survived by three children, Meilina, William Jr., and Yvonne Iest. Two brothers and a sister, living in Holland, also survive.

CLARA JENSEN, Friday, October 17, 1947, Page One Mrs. Jensen Dies; Funeral Service Tomorrow at 2 pm

Funeral services for Mrs. Clara Kristine Jensen, a resident of Solvang the past 20 years and wife of Jens H. Jensen, former owner of the Solvang Feed Store, will be held at 2 o'clock tomorrow afternoon at the Bethania Lutheran Church, with the Rev. Aage Moller, pastor, officiating.

Burial will be in Oak Hill Cemetery under the direction of the Paaske Funeral Home.

Mrs. Jensen, who was 62, died at 4 o'clock Tuesday

afternoon in the Lompoc community Hospital, following an operation. She had been a patient at the hospital the past six weeks.

Mrs. Jensen was born in Wisconsin and came to California 21 years ago, making her first home on the coast in Oakland. She moved to Solvang a year later.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by a son, Anders Jensen of El Ajon; a daughter, Mrs. William Martin of San Juan Batiste; a brother Ansgar Ravnholt of Los Angeles, and a sister, Mrs. Ollie Sorensen of Solvang, and several grandchildren.

Acting a pallbearer at the funeral tomorrow will be Alfred Petersen, Anders Moller, A. C. Petersen, Jens Johansen, Emil Jensen, and Herman Mikkelsen.

[Note: El Ajon is likely El Cajon]

KRISTEN JENSEN, Friday, June 13, 1947, Page One Last Rites Held For Miss Jensen

Funeral services for Miss Kirsten Jensen, 81, a native of Denmark and a resident of Solvang the past 33 years, were held Monday afternoon at the Danish Lutheran church with the Rev. Aage Moller officiating. Interment was in Ballard Cemetery.

Miss Jensen died Thursday, June 5 in Santa Barbara General Hospital, where she had been a patient the past two years. She came to this country 66 years ago.

Miss Jensen leaves her brother, Carl Jensen, and three nieces and three nephews, all of Solvang.

FRANCES LAMPOR, Friday, May 16, 1947, Page One Ruth Gordon's Mother Dies in Santa Monica

Mrs. Francis M. Lampor, mother of Mrs. Ruth M. Gordon, former owner of the Los Olivos Beauty Shop, died Wednesday in Santa Monica.

Mrs. Lampor, who had lived in the Valley with her daughter for a time, became seriously ill the early part of the month.

It was shortly after Mrs. Gordon had sold her business that her mother became ill. Mrs. Gordon and her family left the Valley immediately after hearing of Mrs. Lampor's illness to be at her mother's side.

Funeral services were held yesterday in the Edwards' Brothers mortuary in Los Angeles.

FANNIE STOW LIDDLE, Friday, April 25, 1947, Page Four George Petersens Visit Santa Cruz

Mr. and Mrs. George Petersen returned last week from Santa Cruz accompanied by Mrs. Grace Boaz, who will be their guest for some time. Mrs. Boaz's husband was engineer on the first highway to run through Buellton. While in Santa Cruz, Mr. and Mrs. Petersen attended the funeral of Mrs. Boaz' mother.

[NOTE: The 1940 CA Census, Santa Cruz County, Santa Cruz listed Grace Boaz with her mother, Mrs. Fannie Little. The CA Death Index reports a death of Fannie Stow Liddle on April 11, 1947 in Santa Cruz County.]

MARCUS LUND, Friday, January 10, 1947, Page Eight Marcus Lund Dies in Los Angeles

Friends of Marcus Lund were saddened by the news of his death of a heart attack at his home in Los Angeles on December 31st.

Mr. Lund was well known in Solvang and vicinity. He was a student of the Danish College when the college occupied the building now owned by the Knudsen Coffee Shop. The Lunds have visited in Solvang on various occasions. He is survived by his widow and two sons, Alfred and Elmer, and two grandchildren.

GEORGE LUTON, Friday, May 23, 1947, Page Four Funeral Services held for Dr. Luton

Funeral services for Dr. George Roscoe Luton, 66, prominent Santa Barbara physician and Valley practitioner for many years, were held yesterday morning in Trinity Episcopal Church, Santa Barbara.

The Rev. Richard Flagg Ayres, rector, officiated, and burial was in Santa Barbara Cemetery.

Dr. Luton, a general practitioner, specializing in internal medicine, died in a Santa Barbara hospital Monday night after an illness of several months.

Dr. Luton was born on August 23, 1880 in Mapleton, Ontario. His first wife, the late Carrie Bell Luton, who died some years ago, was a member of the Bell family of early Santa Barbara. They had one son, William R. Luton of Los Alamos.

In 1942, Dr. Luton married Mrs. Theodore Frothingham, Jr., of Boston.

CAPT. OLUF. JOHN MADSEN, Friday, May 9, 1947, Page Ten Retired Officer Dies

Word was received here this week of the death of Capt. O. J. Madsen, last Sunday at his home in Lomita.

Capt. Madsen and his wife visited here on several occasions and had many friends in the Valley. He was a retired Naval officer and he and his wife had planned a year's vacation following his retirement from the Navy.

[NOTE: According to the CA Death Index, Oluf John Madsen died on May 5, 1947 in Los Angeles County.]

PEDER M. MADSEN, Friday, March 7, 1947, Page One Peder M. Madsen, Former Merchant, Dies in Denmark

Peder Martin Madsen, who once operated a confectionery store in Solvang, and later owned a restaurant at La Vega Park, died February 21, in Denmark. He was 70 years old.

Mr. Madsen first entered the confectionery business in the small white frame house which is next to the Solvang garage on Mission Drive. About 1913 he built the building on Main Street which now houses the Solvang Drug Store.

While in that store, Mr. Madsen operated a confectionery, barber shop and also dealt in jewelry items, specializing in imported jewelry items from Denmark.

Mr. Madsen later sold his Solvang business and with E. S. Johnson of Santa Maria, built a café at La Vega Park. Due to ill health, he sold out his interests in that firm and opened a restaurant in Redlands.

In later years he lived from time to time in Solvang and Redlands. At one time he lived in a house on Second Street near the Danish Lutheran Church.

Mr. Madsen had been in poor health during the past few months but during the first week in December of last year returned to Denmark.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Edel Madsen; daughter, Mrs. Kedy Stenberg, and a son, Soren Madsen, all of Brondum Pr. Guldarer, Denmark. A nephew, Hardvig Jerney, of Salinas, also survives.

FRANK MONROE, Friday, August 15, 1947, Page Four

Mrs. George Hartnett and her son were called north by the death of Mrs. Hartnett's brother by drowning.

[NOTE: Frank Monroe is listed in the California Death Index with a death date of August 8, 1947 in Humboldt county

JESS MOORE, Friday, July 11, 1947, Page One Last Rites Held for Jess Moore

Funeral rites for Jess Moore, resident of the valley the past 35 years and the Valley's first lion hunter, were held Tuesday afternoon at Oak Hill Cemetery. The Rev. J. B. Willhoit officiated.

Mr. Moore, who was believed to be about 68 years old, was a native of Texas.

There are no known survivors.

JIM MOSS, Friday, January 31, 1947 Page Three Mrs. Andrew Petersen and Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Elliott

of Sisquoc, were called to Salt Lake City Utah Monday following the death of Jim Moss who is the son-in-law of the Elliots. They left by plane from Santa Barbara.

[NOTE: The UTAH Death Register shows a death date for James Moss for January 26, 1947.]

NIELS M. NIELSEN, Friday, April 25, 1947, Page One Last Rites Held for N. M. Nielsen

Last rites for Niels M. Nielsen, 71, of Ballard, who had been a resident of the Valley since 1915, were held at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon at the Danish Lutheran church, Solvang, with Rev. Aage Moller, officiating. Burial was in the Solvang cemetery.

Serving as pallbearers were Henry Johnson, Henry Aasted, Jens H. Jensen, N. J. Nielsen, Herman Mikkelsen, and Jacob Svendsen.

Mr. Nielsen, who died Monday night in a Santa Barbara Hospital, was born in Denmark, March 17, 1876. He came to the United States in 1896 and first settled in Iowa.

He married the former Miss Dagny Sogaard in Iowa on February 22, 1911 and four years later he and his wife came to the valley to make their home.

Mr. Nielsen was engaged in ranching and was also in the poultry business for many years in Ballard.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Nielsen is survived by one son, Niels L. Nielsen and a granddaughter, Karen Louise Nielsen of Ballard; three sisters Mrs. Margaret Hansen, Yorkton, Saskatchewan, Canada; Mrs. Marie

Fischer, Boston; Mrs. Sadie Madsen, of Solvang, and a brother, Peter Nielsen of Santa Barbara.

JENNIE NORWOOD, Friday, October 17, 1947, Page One Norwood's Mother Succumbs in North Dakota

Wallace Norwood, Solvang barber, was called to Milnor, North Dakota, last Friday by the death of his mother, Mrs. J. E. Norwood.

Mrs. Norwood was 81 years old, a member of the Methodist Church, and an active member of the Order of the Eastern Star.

In addition to her son, Mrs. Norwood leaves a daughter, Mrs. Susan Archer of Miami, Florida, and another son, Alfred Norwood of White Ash, Montana.

[Note: Wallace Norwood is listed with his parents, G. W. and Jennie, along with his sister, Susan in the 1920 Census for Milnor, Sargent County, ND.]

FRANK OLIVERA, Friday, December 19, 1947, Page One Services Tomorrow for Frank Olivera

A Requiem Mass will be celebrated in Old Mission Santa Ines at 9 o'clock this morning (Friday) by the Rev. Cyprian O'Leary, OFM Cap., Pastor, for Frank Olivera, 62, who died Tuesday morning at his home.

Burial will be in Lompoc Cemetery under the direction of the Paaske Funeral Home of Solvang.

Mr. Olivera, a retired rancher, was a native of the Azores. He had lived in Solvang the past six years and had been a resident of the Valley 35 years.

He is survived by his wife, Isabelle; three sons, Frank, Manuel, and William; two daughters, Mrs. Mary Dutra and Mrs. Elero Hall, and three sisters, Mrs. Mary Silva, Mrs. Julia Nunez and Mr. Elvera Alexander.

MARIA ONTIVEROS, Friday, August 22, 1947, Page One Requiem Mass Held For Miss Ontiveros

A Requiem Mass was celebrated in St. Mary's Catholic church, Santa Maria, Monday by the Rev. Thomas V. Murphy, for Miss Maria Ontiveros, 66, a former resident of the Valley, who died Friday afternoon in Santa Maria following a long illness.

Interment was in Santa Maria Cemetery.

Miss Ontiveros was born in Tepusquet on March 25, 1881, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Ontiveros, who were also natives of California.

She had lived in Tepusquet for the past 30 years after making her home in the Santa Ynez region for a number of years.

She is survived by two brothers, Thomas and Leonardo Ontiveros, both of Santa Ynez and several nieces and nephews.

MAUD F. PENNEY, Friday, September 12, 1947, Page Four Attending Funeral

Mrs. George Penny of Long Beach, a sister-in law, of Mrs. Joe Forsyth of Santa Ynez, died Monday morning. The Forsyths left the Valley Tuesday to attend the funeral.

[NOTE: The CA Death Index shows a Maud F. Penney, born on March 15, 1884 in New York and died on

September 8, 1947, in Los Angeles County; mother's maiden name: Graham; father's surname: Towsly.]

**HOLGER PETERSEN, Friday, May 30, 1947, Page One
Holger Petersen's Classmates Act As Pallbearers at Rites**

Funeral rites for Holger Petersen, 18 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Niels Petersen of Refugio Road, who died early Sunday morning as a result of injuries suffered in an auto accident three and half miles west of Buellton, were held yesterday afternoon.

The services were conducted at the Danish Lutheran Church with the Rev. Aage Moller, pastor, officiating.

Serving as pallbearers were six of the young man's senior classmates from the Santa Ynez Valley Union High School. They were Alton Nielsen, Dale McClellan, Howard Jensen, Jimmy Saulsbury, Pear Harwood, and Donlon Hanly.

Serving as organist was Mrs. Gerda Rasmussen and soloist was Miss Elizabeth Erro, another high school classmate.

Burial followed in Oak Hill Cemetery under the direction of the Paaske Funeral Home.

According to the California Highway Patrol, young Petersen was a passenger in a car driven by Neal Glisson, 22. Another passenger was Glisson's younger brother, Donald, aged 16.

The three boys were en route home from Lompoc at about 2 o'clock Sunday morning, police said, when the Ford coupe in which they were riding apparently missed a turn. The car, which was practically demolished, plunged over a 75-foot embankment on the Lompoc-Buellton road.

Police said that the Petersen boy died a few minutes after the crash. Donald and Neal Glisson were rushed to the Lompoc community Hospital. Donald received a fracture of the left hip and other injuries and his brother suffered minor injuries.

Hospital authorities said yesterday that Donald Glisson's condition was improving daily.

Holger Petersen was born on September 26, 1928 on Rancho Los Amoles. He was a graduate of the Solvang Grammar School and was scheduled to graduate next Friday from the Santa Ynez Valley Union High School.

He was highly interested in model airplanes and was active in the Valley Model Air Club.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by a sister, Mrs. Ruth Miller of Ellendale, North Dakota.

**LORENTS PETERSEN, Friday, April 25, 1947, Page One
Arcata Man Succumbs Had Relatives Here**

Word was received here Saturday of the death of Lorents Petersen of Arcata, who had several friends here in the Valley, and who was a brother of the late Theodore Petersen of Solvang.

Mr. Petersen, who had been in ill health for some time, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Aage Christiansen. He was a brother-in-law of Mrs. John Roth.

He leaves another daughter, Mrs. Iver Iversen and two grandchildren.

**MARGARET QUINN, Friday, September 19, 1947,
Page One
Rites Tomorrow for Mrs. Quinn**

Mrs. Margaret Marie Quinn, a resident of the Valley the past 70 years, and widow of John Joseph Quinn, died at 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon at her home following an illness of more than two years. She was 81 years old.

Born in Sherwood Valley, on February 3, 1866, Mrs. Quinn came to Santa Ynez when she was 11 years old. She had lived in Buellton and Santa Ynez ever since coming to the Valley.

Mrs. Quinn was a daughter of the late Paul and Catherine Riel. Her father was a native of Germany, and her mother was born in Ireland.

Graveside services will be conducted at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning at Oak Hill Cemetery, with the Rev. J. B. Willhoit, officiating. Burial will follow under the direction of the Paaske Funeral Home.

Mrs. Quinn leaves two daughters, Mrs. Viola Evans of Amarillo, Texas, who arrived here Thursday, and Mrs. John Henderson of Santa Ynez. A son, William Quinn died about 20 years ago.

**RICHARD RAYMOND, Friday, March 14, 1947, Page Three
Mrs. Craig's Brother Succumbs in Madera**

Mrs. Edna Craig and son, Frederic Craig, were called to Madera Tuesday by the death Monday night of Mrs. Craig's brother, Richard Raymond, who made his home at one time in the Valley.

Mr. Raymond, who died of a heart attack, resided in the Valley until his marriage when he moved to Madera. He was in the feed and grain business in Madera for more than 32 years.

In addition to Mrs. Craig he is survived by his widow; two sons, Austin and William; another sister, Mrs. Irene Hawkins of Ventura, a brother, Horace Raymond of Concord and a grandson, who resided with his grandparents since the death of his parents in an auto accident two years ago.

**JOHN ROHAN, Friday, September 12, 1947, Page One
Mr. Rohan's Father Dies in Connecticut**

John Rohan, 84-year-old father of Robert A. Rohan of Buellton, died Tuesday at his home in Meriden, Connecticut.

Mr. Rohan who had resided with his son and daughter-in-law in Buellton for several years, had cultivated many friends during his residence in the Valley.

**LUCY RUTTERS, Friday, June 13, 1947, Page Six
Rutters Return Home After Eastern Trip**

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Rutters and son Norman, have returned home after spending the last four weeks in Hanover, Pennsylvania where Mr. Rutters was called by the fatal illness of his mother, Mrs. Lucy Rutters.

Mrs. Rutters died the day following the arrival of her son.

While in Hanover, Mr. and Mrs. Rutters, also received news that their nephew, Captain Carl Alwood was among six fliers who were killed when their plane crashed into the side of a mountain in Japan.

EDWIN ALONZO SHARPE, Friday, November 28, 1947, Page Ten

Readers Corner: Clarifies Report on Cycle Accident

There are a number of conflicting reports regarding the truck-motorcycle crash south of Buellton on Highway 101 on Friday of the last week which resulted in the death of Edwin Alonzo Sharpe, 21, a soldier.

First reports were that the High School bus driven by Mr. George Yabsley was involved in the accident. Evidence presented to the Highway Patrol by Eldon Curtis Powell, 20, of San Luis Obispo, driver of the truck, showed that Sharpe had been driving in an erratic manner ahead of the truck, finally fell from the motorcycle and was struck when trying to right his machine.

The high school bus had passed Sharpe immediately before the accident and the students confirmed the report of the truck driver.

After striking the motorcycle, the truck ricocheted across the road and turned over against the bank.

HALLIE SHURTLEFF, Friday, July 4, 1947, Page One Services Saturday For Mrs. Shurtleff

Funeral services for Mrs. Hallie B. Shurtleff, wife of Judson H. Shurtleff, widely known Valley rancher, will be held at 10 o'clock tomorrow (Saturday) morning at Oak Hill Cemetery

Mrs. Shurtleff, who was in her 81st year died Wednesday afternoon at her home in Fredensborg Canyon. Although she had been in poor health for some time, her death was termed as sudden.

Mrs. Shurtleff was born in Keene, New Hampshire on December 19, 1866 and has been a resident of the valley for the past 27 years. Her husband is her only survivor.

GEORGE SMITH, Friday, January 10, 1947, Page One George Smith, Valley Pioneer, Passes Away Monday Night

A large number of relatives and friends were present Thursday afternoon to pay their last tribute to the memory of George Smith who passed away Monday night following a long illness. Graveside services were held at Oak Hill Cemetery with Rev. J. B. Willhoit officiating.

Mr. Smith, a native of California was born in Cloverdale on September 10th, 1870, He came to Los Olivos in 1893 where he married Winnie Hartley on January 2nd 1904. The couple established their home on a ranch near Los Olivos which has been their home ever since.

He is survived by his wife, Winnie, and three sons and two daughters, Alvy Smith of Solvang, George Lewis Smith, Los Olivos, Harry Smith, Lompoc, Ronald Smith, Los Olivos, Eunice Hosier, Los Olivos, and Edna Picker of Klamath Falls, Oregon.

Surviving also are seven grandchildren, Arlene Smith of Solvang, Carolyn and Eugene Smith, of Lompoc, Esther Harding, Patricia Ann, and Sally George Smith, of Los Olivos and Sharon Smith, Klamath Falls. Also one nephew, Loranzo Burlingame of Los Olivos, and two nieces, Mrs. Lillian Craven of Toppinish, Washington and Mrs. Hazel Highfill of Yakima, Washington.

HESTER STAYTON, Friday, March 21, 1947, Page One Last Rites Held for Mrs. Stayton Once Valley Nurse

Funeral rites for Mrs. Hester Stayton, 90, who was known in her younger years by many in the Valley as a practical nurse, and who was the mother of Mrs. Harvey Stonebarger in Los Olivos, were held Wednesday, March 12 in Long Beach.

Mrs. Stayton, wife of the late Thomas Stayton, was a resident of the Valley for many years.

Since the death of her husband, she had lived with another daughter, Mrs. J. C. Malan, in Long Beach. She was born in Missouri on November 7, 1856. She later married in Independence, Missouri and came to California with her family in 1889.

The Staytons first settled in Moneta when the area was open range. At one time they owned the land which is now Exposition Park and the Los Angeles Stadium.

The golden wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Stayton was celebrated in Los Olivos and was attended by many friends of the family.

In addition to Mrs. Stonebarger and Mrs. Malan, Mrs. Stayton leaves four other children, Mrs. Adolf Eckert of Moneta, Mrs. Frank Robison of Idaho, John Stayton of Honolulu, and William Stayton of Oakland. There are 15 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

HAROLD A. STENBECK, Friday, July 11, 1947, Page One Harold A. Stenbeck Killed in Accident

Harold A. (Ike) Stenbeck, a veteran employee of the Bell Telephone Company in Los Angeles and brother-in-law of Mrs. Sam de la Cuesta of Rancho El Alamo Pintado, was killed instantly in an automobile accident July 4 near Inyokern in Kern County.

His wife, the former Miss Alice McCarthy, suffered a broken collar bone, several broken ribs and cuts and abrasions in the accident. She is a patient in the Rivercrest Hospital near Inyokern. The new station wagon in which they were riding was hardly damaged.

Mr. Stenbeck was a frequent visitor to the Valley and had cultivated many friends here during the past few years. His wife is his only survivor.

Funeral services were held yesterday in Los Angeles.

AMY STIRLING, Friday, November 28, 1947, Page One Norman Stirling's Mother Succumbs

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Stirling returned Saturday to their home, after attending the funeral of Mr. Stirling's mother, who died at the age of 91 at her home in Beverly Hills.

[NOTE: The CA Death Index shows Amy Gertrude Stirling with a birth date of August 24, 1846 and a death

date of November 16, 1947 in Los Angeles County; mother's maiden name: Plumb; father's surname: Young.]

**METTE THUESEN, Friday, February 21, 1947, Page Ten
Mrs. Madsen's Sister Succumbs in Denmark**

Mrs. Arne Madsen, wife of Solvang's postmaster, received this week news of the death of her sister, Miss Mette Thuesen in Denmark.

Miss Thuesen, who was 34, had been a visitor to Solvang on several occasions and was in this country during the war. In fact, she was en route to this country when hostilities broke out in 1939. She was here for five years and during that time, became a citizen.

She worked in an insurance office in San Francisco during the war. Miss Thuesen, who had been in poor health, was ill about 10 days before her death.

She had contemplated a return trip to this country in May and had already purchased her ticket for the voyage. She had planned to make her home here.

**WILLIAM UPTON, Friday, April 11, 1947, Page One
Heart Attack Fatal To Lompoc Pioneer**

William Upton, formerly of Lompoc, and brother of George Upton of Santa Ynez, died Tuesday in Ventura following a heart attack.

Mr. Upton was member of a pioneer Lompoc family. He was employed at Hueneme.

**ARABEL VASQUEZ, Friday, February 21, 1947, Page One
Arabel Vasquez Dies in Buellton**

Arabel Vasquez, 56, a veteran of World War I, and a resident of Buellton for many years, died early Wednesday morning at the home of Juan Fostero on the Odin Buell Ranch.

The cause of Mr. Vasquez' death was not known. He was a member of the American Legion.

Interment will be in the family plot in San Luis Obispo.

**ROSA B. WARD, Friday, August 29, 1947, Page Ten
Los Olivos Beauty Shop Open Again**

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Ward have returned to Los Olivos after spending two weeks in Springfield, Missouri, where they were called by the death of Mr. Ward's mother. Accompanying them to Missouri were Mr. Ward's brother and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ronald L. Ward of Buellton.

The Wards' Los Olivos Beauty Shop was closed for one week during their absence and they said they are now open for business.

[Note: Jimmy Lee Ward married Artis E. Nelson, proprietors of the Los Olivos Beauty Shop on April 25, 1945 in Los Angeles; according to the CA County Marriage Data Base, his parents were Jasper Lee Ward and Rosabelle Woodhouse; Rosa B. Ward died in Douglas County, MO on August 11, 1947. The death record reported that the informant was J. L. Ward.]

JOSEPHINE WINTER WHITNEY, Friday, February 21, 1947, Page One

Former Valley Teacher Dies

Mrs. Josephine Winter Whitney, who taught in the Santa Ynez Valley High School for two years, prior to her marriage, died at her home in Amherst, Massachusetts, last Sunday.

Mrs. Whitney, who was in her forty-first year, was married in Solvang on June 24, 1933 to Robert B. Whitney, who also taught at the high school at the same time as his wife.

She was born October 25, 1906 at Darlington, Wisconsin and received her education in Wisconsin and Minnesota universities. Her husband is head of the chemistry department of Amherst where they lived following their marriage.

Mrs. Whitney leaves her husband and two daughters, the youngest being only six months old. Several sisters also survive, one of whom is Mrs. James Westcott, of Santa Barbara.

**JOHN BURK WILLHOIT, Friday, October 24 1947,
Page One**

Last Rites Held for Rev. Willhoit, Retired Clergyman

Graveside services for the Rev. John Burk Willhoit, a resident of the Valley the past 20 years and a retired minister of the Presbyterian Church, were held at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon at Oak Hill Cemetery, with the Rev. Elmer W. Roy, pastor of the Santa Ynez Valley Presbyterian Church officiating.

Serving as organist at the service was Edgar B. Davison of Ballard, a long-time friend of the retired clergyman. Burial was made under the direction of the Paaske Funeral Home of Solvang.

The Rev. Mr. Willhoit who was the judge of the justice court at the time of his death, passed away at 6:30 o'clock Tuesday morning at his home. Although he had been in ill health for some time, his death came as a shock to his many friends in the Valley.

Rev. Mr. Willhoit, who was 80 years old, was born in Nashville, Tennessee, on June 18, 1867 the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Willhoit. He has been a resident of California for 35 year and had lived in Los Olivos the past eight years.

The retired clergyman took great interest in his home life and was also especially interested in his vegetable garden, where he could be seen almost every day cultivating and caring for his plants.

Rev. Mr. Willhoit served in World War I as a chaplain. He was a member of the Knights of Pythias and a past member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Maryetta MacGillivray Willhoit, four sons, Neil, Tom, Alfred, and DeWitt; four daughters, Mabel Von Golhn, Maude Dale, Neil Robb and Ruth Willhoit; nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Genealogy Indeed Can Be Rewarding

Michel Cooper Nellis

AS WE ARE AWARE, genealogy finds have their rewards, but have you ever thought they would include financial ones as well? Several years ago, I brought home a document I copied from a book at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. It was a record from the Cemetery of the City of Tulare (California) whereby my great-great grandfather, Charles Weden, had purchased half a lot in the city cemetery on November 4, 1893 for \$10.00.

I knew my great-great grandparents had moved to California from Minnesota with several children including my grandfather, but I only knew about their lives in Sacramento. What were they doing in Tulare and why did Charles buy a cemetery plot there?

As often happens, I did not follow up on this immediately upon my return from Salt Lake City. Instead this document languished for many months until one morning I decided to call the Tulare Cemetery to find out who Charles may have buried there. The cemetery clerk informed me that a Mary Weden was the one buried there. Who was she? She shared my great-grandmother's name but my grandmother didn't die until 1941. The clerk suggested I contact the Tulare Public Library to locate an obituary.

I wrote to the library and a week later a volunteer responded. She had found a reference in the November 4, 1893 issue of the *Daily Tulare Register* about the death of the INFANT Mary Weden. It read: "Mr. and Mrs. Charles Weeden (sic), recently arrived from Minnesota, lost an infant daughter by death this morning. The little one took cold on the way out here. This is most unfor-

tunate and not a little discouraging to newcomers." The volunteer also found a note on the child's death from the Carruthers Funeral Home which stated that Mary Weden, age six months and a resident of Tulare had died on November 4, 1893, and was buried the same day.

In a follow-up phone call to the Tulare Cemetery, I asked if there were others buried in the half lot that Charles had purchased, since a half-lot held four burial plots. The clerk looked up the files and to her surprise answered 'No.' It is customary for the Tulare City Cemetery to take possession of unused plots after seventy-five years. Apparently these three unused plots had been overlooked. She further stated that if I could prove my relationship to Charles Weden, for a nominal fee I could take ownership, and then sell the three open plots. I did this, and less than three months later, I sold the plots to a woman who wanted a plot for herself, her husband, and her unmarried brother in the old section of the Tulare City Cemetery. She happily paid me the going rate of \$400 per plot!

So now every time I discover the burial sites of ancestors, the first questions I ask is, "How many plots were purchased and how many have been used?" So far I have not reaped any more monetary rewards, but who is to say it won't happen again one day?

Michel Cooper Nellis is a California native, a local Santa Barbara historian, and a long-time member of the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society. She co-authored the book With Their Eyes Turned Skyward; Santa Barbara's Fallen Aviators of World War II published in 2012.

THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

Geraldine R. Thompson

LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT OUR MOST EXCITING graving adventure. The location was Mystic, Connecticut, and it was the last day of our stay in this beautiful village. My goal was to find Allyn's Point. I thought it was somewhere along the coast. After stopping at an information center in Mystic I found out I was all wrong.

Allyn's Point is located on the Thames River just above the submarine center and Coast Guard school. The directions sounded simple. We only got lost three times. We visited the submarine center and were turned away. No one there knew about the point. Lost with the Thames River on one side of us and beautiful Dogwood trees blooming on the other, I got some great pictures. Back on the main road we stopped at a McDonald's. I told Charlie I would ask directions from the many senior citizens eating hamburgers. Not one of them knew of Allyn's Point. Charlie asked a 16-year-old kid and he said it was just down the road. It was! It was a huge industrial complex with a tall fence and office, named Dow Chemical.

I felt that if I said that I have come all the way from Santa Barbara, California just to see my ancestral site that this would have an awful lot of clout on this huge, fat guard with guns around his waist. It didn't. He was at the entrance

window at the office. "You are not allowed to take any photos or go inside. There is an Allyn's ancient grave yard, but only Allyn descendants can see it."

"I'm am an Allyn descendant!"

"You are?"

"Yes I am!"

He closed up the office and said, "Follow me."

He unlocked the gate and we followed his truck into the grounds and finally reached the cemetery. It was a small plot with ancient grave stones. By this time we knew a little about grave stone art. The oldest being just a skull. A primitive face with wings for an angel the next step. We saw several of these and I was allowed to take their pictures. In back of me were several rows of plain stones with no decorations which I did not take a picture of.

Afterwards, I found out that these plain markers were the oldest stones. The earliest ancestors did not know the art of carving rock and what they used to mark it wore off with time. Afterwards I found out that this would be where my ancestors Robert Allyn (1697 - 1760) and his wife Sarah Allyn (1706-1786) rested. He would have been one of my founding fathers in America.

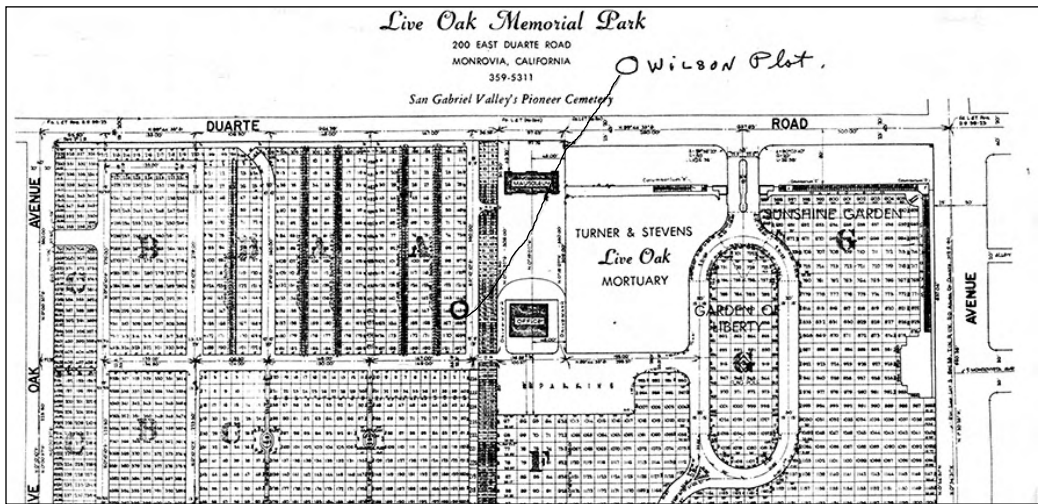
On the way out the guard told us that the Dow Chemical Company had bought this property with the condition that the Allyn cemetery would be kept up and only Allyn descendants could come into the grounds to visit the cemetery.

AGENT ORANGE most likely is made here!

A VISIT TO LIVE OAK MEMORIAL PARK

Jim Wilson

HAVE NOT OFTEN VISITED CEMETERIES, however, inadvertently arriving at the Huntington Library in San Marino two hours before its opening time I thought 'why not visit the Live Oak Memorial Park, it's just down the road in Monrovia (California). I have an old map with a circle and note "Wilson Plot." The plot is in the third row from the parking lot and fourth from the lane through the cemetery, a choice spot available in 1906 when my first ancestor was laid to rest there.



Live Oak Memorial Map showing Wilson plot

Walking through the headstones I saw a prominent piece of black granite on a grey granite base which stood out: Joseph and Elizabeth Wilson, my great grandparents. Joseph, born in Manchester England in 1832, immigrated to New York with his parents in 1837. From there, he drifted to New Jersey where, in 1854, he married Elizabeth Bonnell Sayre whose family had been in America since 1638. The lure of the West proved irresistible and in 1872 Joseph came to Los Angeles. Elizabeth and their five children followed two years later.



The headstone of Joseph F. and Elizabeth B. Wilson

Oral family history (and we are all aware of its accuracy) says they had a farm between Alameda Street and the Los Angeles River, now the site of the Los Angeles Union Railroad station. An 1873 map of then downtown Los Angeles shows a house identified with our family surname in that location, lending a bit of credence to the story.

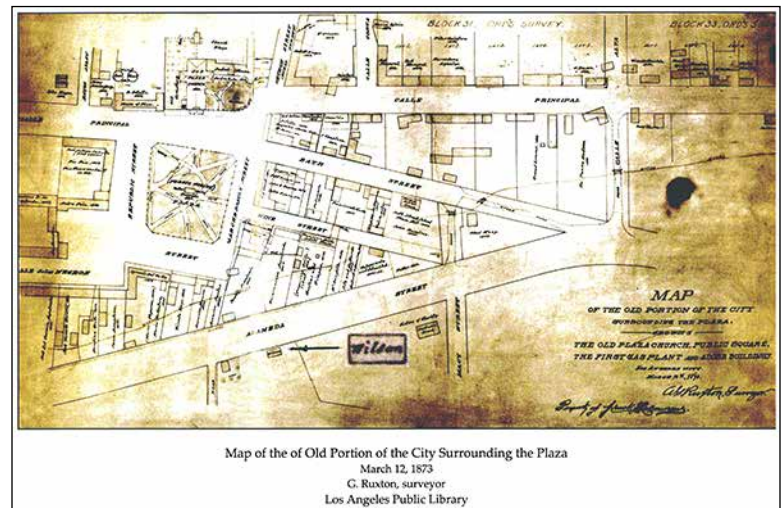
Circa 1880 they sold the property, again alleged by oral family history, to the Santa Fe Railway. Pushed out by expansion of the city's red light district which has been characterized as "sex on an industrial scale," they relocated to Duarte where they grew citrus.¹

Along with Joseph and Elizabeth here in the family plot were my grandfather Roswell, his two wives, Roswell's sister, her husband, one of their sons, and his second wife who was Roswell's daughter. I had

known Roswell and his first wife were there but the rest came as a surprise. Gathered here in the shade of an oak tree four generations held a quiet family reunion.

¹"Dig unearths buried brothels," *Lawrence Journal-World*, June 2, 1996, pg 6F.

²In the map, Calle Principal is now Main Street, Calle delas Negrón and Macy Street are now North Los Angeles Street, and Wine Street is the famous Olvera Street. The Wilson farm is at the parking entrance to Union Station.



Los Angeles Map, 1873, with Wilson property ²

Jim Wilson has been a SBCGS member for six years and authored *Some Perspectives on World War II (Vol 38, No. 1)* and co-authored a paper, *Liver & Bacon*, dealing with the train accident in which his cousin was killed (an expansion of the last paragraph of *Some Perspectives* article) and her travels with fellow WAVES. It is posted on the Michigan, North Dakota website.

Family History

Alive in a Cemetery

Cari Thomas



Cari's Grandfather William H. Fischer, in front of Chapel at Tree of Life Cemetery, O'Hara Twp, Allegheny County, PA. Circa 1910.

MANY OF THE ARTICLES in this Issue of *Ancestors West* will discuss research into, exploration of, or discovering family members currently to be found [or not] in a cemetery. Not so this article, since none of my family were buried at the Tree of Life Jewish Cemetery located on Kittanning Pike in the lovely little "Pleasant Valley" of O'Hara Township, Allegheny County, southwestern Pennsylvania.

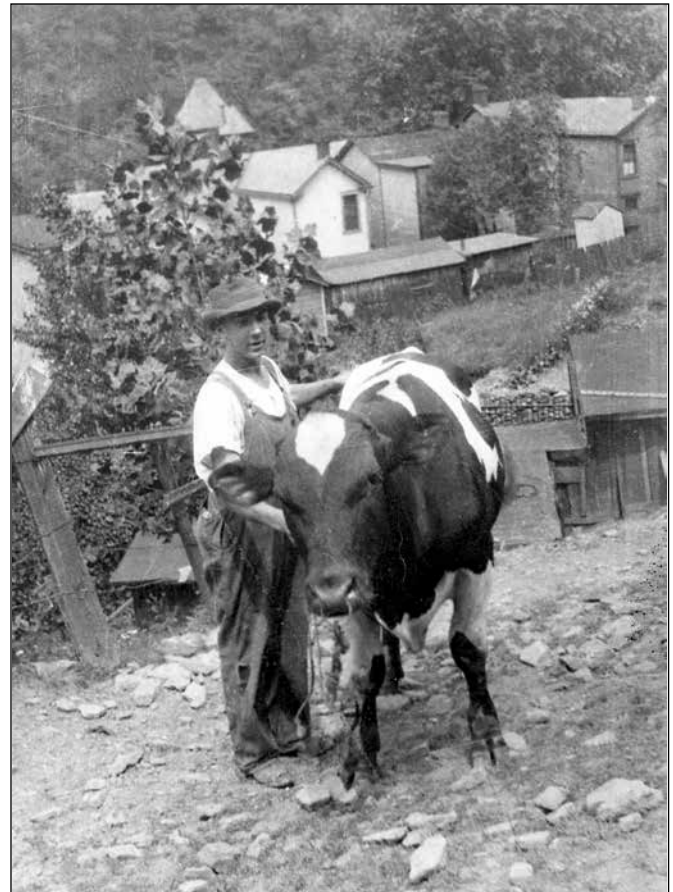
Yet that cemetery holds a significant part of my family history. My mother's family lived in that cemetery for 16 years, and several uncles worked there for more than an additional 40 years, until 1967. In truth, my mother, Anna Mathilda Fischer (7 Jul 1910) and her 3 younger siblings were born there!



Caretaker's house at Tree of Life Cemetery; Anna is small child on top step, to right of family friend. Cemetery to left of photo. Circa 1915.

My grandfather, William Herman Fischer (1873-1944), became the Sexton of the cemetery in 1908 and shortly thereafter, the family including the first 7 of the 11 children born to Grandpa and my Grandma Johanna Maria Bauer (1874-1948) moved into the caretaker's house on the southwest corner of Tree of Life Cemetery.

Besides my mother, siblings Raymond Frederick (1912), Esther Sarah (1915) and Robert John (1919) were born in the cemetery, and at 5 months of age, Raymond died there of entero-colitis, sometimes called summer complaint.



William A Fischer (older brother of Anna) and "George Washington", the single Fischer bull. Tree of Life Cemetery to left and down hill. Circa 1922.

On the hill above the cemetery, Grandpa also had cows stabled; they were a source of milk for the people in the valley. The family bottled the milk and Mom often told of climbing up and down the valley, delivering milk to neighbors, both before going to school (and arriving just as the late bell was ringing) and at night after dinner. In 1923, Mom graduated from 8th grade at Seitz School a short walk up Kittanning Pike from the cemetery, before her father stopped her formal education. Grandpa did not believe in 'higher education' for his daughters.

The cemetery telephone (Sharpsburg 62-J) was the first one in the Valley and the kids often "went in all directions to call neighbors to the phone."

In September of 1925, my grandfather purchased a new year greeting notice in the *Pennsylvania Jewish Criterion*. It read, "Mr. William H. Fischer, Sexton of the Tree of Life Cemetery, extends to his relatives and friends sincere wishes for a year fraught with health, happiness and prosperity." The Jewish New Year that year was September 17.

In later years Mom wrote: "If there was no rain water in the 2 barrels we had under the rain spouts then we would carry buckets of it from the cemetery pump. We used rain water if there was some because it was 'soft' water. Wonderful for washing hair! The tub was one of at least two that we used in washing clothes (rubbing them on a wash-board) and one for cold water rinsing.

We hung the clothes in the cemetery to dry. In 'bad' weather we stretched clothesline in the cemetery chapel. On one of those nights where the clothes were hanging in the chapel the wind came in the windows and moved the clothes back and forth. Someone saw this and started the rumor that there were ghosts in there. The chapel also had a small room where the body was washed before burial. People used to ask my Mother if she wasn't afraid to live in a cemetery and she replied, 'It's not these [the dead] to be afraid of, but the living ones.' "

The young families of two of my mother's elder brothers and one elder sister also lived, for periods of time, in the caretaker's house during the years after my grandparents moved to a larger home up the Pike. All told, twenty-five members of my Fischer family lived in the Tree of Life Cemetery.

So, you see, one's family history can truly be alive in a cemetery!

Cari Thomas is a local resident, 18-yr society member, and instructor of German genealogy for 8 years. She researches German, French, Irish ancestry, and immigrants from 1681 - 1891. western37@cox.net



Fischer girls and friends behind caretaker's house at Tree of Life Cemetery. Circa 1918.



Cari's mother, Anna M. Fischer, at Tree of Life Cemetery. Circa 1915.

Finding Find A Grave

Ancestry.com Purchases Find A Grave

David Petry

MOST GENEALOGISTS KNOW that Ancestry.com purchased Find A Grave on September 30 of 2013. The purchase has increased the use of Find A Grave by a factor of roughly five times and has highlighted some of the difficulties and limitations of Find A Grave, and also begs the question of how and when the site is most useful.

Find A Grave (www.findagrave.com) is a privately held website that compiles burial records, or in Find A Grave terminology, memorials, for individuals. Each memorial is associated with a cemetery and includes a best effort at the full name, the birth date and location, the death date and location, and of course the cemetery and specific section, plot and grave. You can add a brief bio, links to parents if they have records in the site, and photos of the individual or the grave. Incomplete (and incorrect) information is allowed.

Note to Photographers.

Take two grave photos whenever possible. Take one of the grave and epitaph head-on, another of the locale of the grave so viewers have a sense of where the grave is in the cemetery.



Copleman Direct & Copleman Area

Find A Grave has been in operation for 18 years and has amassed nearly 111 million memorials, mostly in the United States, but with graves recorded from all over the world.¹ The Find A Grave admin staff monetized their efforts primarily through advertising on the site and through the ability of interested parties to pay to stop that advertising on a per memorial basis.

First impression, and given the Ancestry.com purchase, you might suppose Find A Grave is a genealogy site dedicated to providing searchable burial records for researchers. But this does not explain the thousands and thousands of volunteer hours and effort the site has enjoyed from the very start from people who are not genealogists. The site was founded and built largely by gravekeepers, people who like to hang out in cemeteries, and who like to 'bag graves.' It used to be that these

gravekeepers were almost solely focused on celebrity graves, but Find A Grave's great innovation was to make the interests of these individuals available to families and researchers with their own interests.

Memorial Ownership

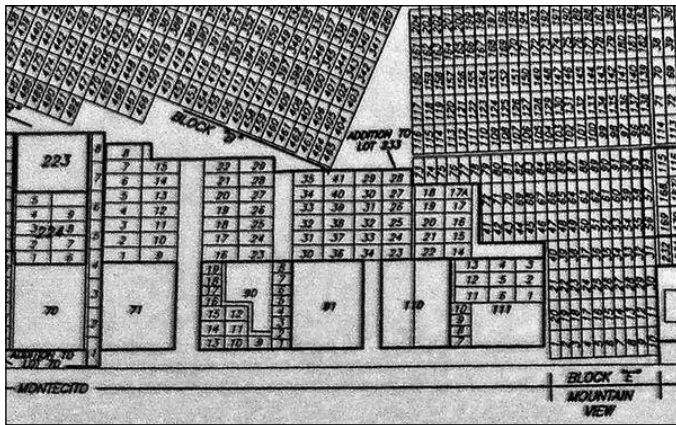
There are other aspects of the site that come to light with exposure and use. The most contentious among Find A Grave's volunteers is the site's operations model. Each memorial is 'owned' by one individual, generally the person who entered the memorial at Find A Grave in the first place. In some cases, it is a family member. But more often, someone compiles records for an entire cemetery and loads them en masse, thus becoming owner of hundreds, if not thousands, of records. The current operating model holds that any changes must either go through the current owner, or the current owner may, upon request, turn over ownership to a new owner.

There are good reasons for this model. The Wikipedia model, which people sometimes suggest as an improvement, opens data pages to updates from any logged-in user. The content wars that have occurred as a result are famous, or perhaps infamous, depending on how you view the web. Libel, slander, and outright insult are added before cooler heads prevail. Such wars would be inexcusable on a memorial.

Note to Photographers. When a grave is unmarked, or marked for someone else in the grave, take a photo that encompasses the grave site and area, and add a caption to photo and alert the requestor of the caption (many people are unaware of photo captions on Find A Grave).



Unmarked grave



Detail of Mountain View section, Santa Barbara Cemetery.

Note to Photographers. Get to know your local cemeteries. Learn the sections and numbering schemes.

However, the model has obvious limitations. The only way to update memorial pages is to request a change from the memorial owner. There are many examples of family members or researchers who wish to correct information or add links to deceased family members but who are ignored or rebuffed by the memorial owner. (These unresponsive owners are termed 'bullies' by other volunteers.) There is an escalation process that carries disputes to the admin staff of Find A Grave, but, like Wikipedia and other online volunteer content compilers, the default and persistent response is to let the parties work things out among themselves.

The reason for the hands-off approach is, of course, that the staff does not have any better basis than the disputants for making judgment calls on what is more correct. In addition, making such judgments opens the site's admin staff to legal scrutiny and challenges.

One outcome of this ownership model is a proliferation of duplicate memorial records, which are allowed. Screen actor Laurence Harvey, for example, has one marker in the Santa Barbara Cemetery, another in London. It is possible that his remains are also physically distributed between the two sites, thus two memorials on Find A Grave. Family members, frustrated with the response of a memorial owner to their change requests, have used this capability to create duplicate memorials in the same cemetery.

Grave Concerns

One group left wholly out of the Find A Grave business model is the cemeteries themselves. Where Find A Grave makes gravers happy, provides amateur services to genealogists, and tolerates families, it generally makes cemeteries uncomfortable at best.

Santa Barbara Cemetery is a case in point. They view the Find A Grave phenomenon as an influx of high-needs photographers and an invasion of their lot owners' privacy. (Disclaimer: I am one of these high-needs photographers.)

One of the basic functions of Find A Grave is matching up a request for a photo of a gravesite with a photographer in the area willing to go take the shot. The high needs arise from the opaque and confusing

grave numbering schemes that have arisen over time in many cemeteries. At Santa Barbara Cemetery, there are graves within lots within additions within sections and the numbering is often non-sequential and more often non-intuitive. Photographers like me show up with a list of gravesites and often need help finding their targets. As a result, the cemetery office is receiving more inquiries than ever about where specific graves are located.

But this is minor compared to concerns of privacy and accuracy. A cemetery's first principle is to retain family privacy. Not all burials and markers are straightforward. With multiple marriages, for example, a woman's last name may be contentious. She may have a death certificate under one name, a burial record under a different one, and a marker with a third. The dates on a marker are sometimes intentionally not those actually lived. There are veterans who, at time of death, are found to lack any record of service with the Department of Defense. There are families who assure geographically distant relatives that a marker is in place, when in fact it is not, or is not the one promised.

Find A Grave volunteers, researchers, or families trying to work through these discrepancies can also create a demand on the cemetery. Cemetery staff usually do their best to respond to family requests, but like the grave numbering on the ground, records too are layered, with computer data providing most of the information, but interment records, sales records, and plot books that run back into the 1870s that may contain critical data.

Recognizing the increasing demand to be transparent, and to provide families the ability to locate the resting place of their loved ones from afar, or at times when the cemetery is closed, the cemetery provided a complete database of burials to the SBCGS, but without any additional personal details.

Even when there are no discrepancies, there are families who simply do not want images of their loved-one's grave marker on the web. "We've had requests to remove the photographs," Randy Thwing, Manager of the Santa Barbara Cemetery, states. "These are families' private memorials and we only take pictures if we have been given permission since some families do not want the pictures posted or out there."²

But the cemetery does not have the rights to remove photos from Find A Grave, nor do the families. The photographer can remove it, and so can the owner of the memorial. The photographer is rarely related to the burial and may have an investment in building their Find A Grave reputation, which is measured in part by number of volunteer photos taken. The owner may be similarly stacking their site stats and be unwilling to remove anything. As stated earlier, the owner of the page might be from another limb of the family tree, a very distant family member, or not a family member at all.

A majority of Santa Barbara County graves on Find-A-Grave are 'owned' by local genealogist Ron West (164,797 memorials); he is the one who loaded the

grave records for many graveyards in the area to Find A Grave. West has been responsive to change requests for content or ownership. Although he did not reply to an inquiry for this article, it appears that West's motivation and practice is to provide families online access to their loved ones' memorials using the cemeteries' own records.

Following the Money

The result of all this is a volunteer-built, privately-held but free site, of and for gravers with something of a Wild West approach to administration that has nevertheless gathered 111 million grave records from thousands of volunteers. Largely due to its success, Ancestry.com, a \$400M/year genealogy concern, snapped it up.

Find A Grave volunteers were immediately and vocally concerned at the sale. The primary fear is that either Find A Grave access will be monetized, or that Find A Grave content will find its way into the Ancestry site, which of course charges for access. Diane Haddad of *Genealogy Insider* wrote in her blog, "You may remember back in 2000, when [Ancestry.com] (then called MyFamily.com) purchased RootsWeb. In 2008, RootsWeb was moved onto Ancestry.com servers."³ Which means it became part of Ancestry.com's subscription site.

Ancestry.com's announcement of the purchase stated that, "We will maintain Find A Grave as a free website, [and] will retain its existing policies and mode of operation."⁴

On Find A Grave's side, the Frequently Asked Question page states that the site management is "categorically opposed" to the sale of the information or images added to their site. Find A Grave "share[s] indexes of Find A Grave content to select sites such as MyHeritage, FamilySearch, Ancestry and Mocavo. We may allow them to use small 'thumbnails' of photos that are available on the Find A Grave website, but do not share full resolution photos. We think it is important that Find A Grave searching remains free and have required that Find A Grave search results always be available on the 'free side' of those sites. We have been participating in these 'sharing agreements' with other sites for years and have found that they help grow the Find A Grave community. Find A Grave receives no compensation from these partnerships."⁵

Claims aside, it is wise to remember that the sites in question are business entities and the best that can be said at this juncture is that change is afoot.

One change that's certain, Find A Grave is getting a lot more traffic. On site trend tracker Alexa.com, findagrave.com took a major leap after the purchase from a global ranking in the high 5000s to one in the 2000s. Find A Grave recently reached a ranking of the 935th most visited site in the United States. At this writing, Ancestry holds the 200th most visited site in the US and its interest in Find A Grave is obvious: over 20% of all visits to Find A Grave originate on Ancestry.com.

In Santa Barbara, requests for photos of gravesites increased from around five a month to over 100. In other words, Find A Grave is important and promises to become more so through increasing use and traffic.

Rules of Engagement

Everything discussed thus far is, to an extent, somewhat irrelevant to the genealogist. When it comes down to it, the most important questions are about the data. James Barton, Find A Grave volunteer, observed that the merger would proliferate 'junk' genealogy, the "repeating [of] erroneous data found who knows where, without citing any original source."⁶

This is the crux of how we understand and use Find A Grave.

The data is not open to the constant reviews and updates that Wikipedia boasts. It is 'owned,' and errors are often overlooked or intentionally left in place. Ancestry.com would do well to focus on the quality of the data as their first objective, but they have instead focused on delivering a mobile app for cell phones or tablets.

So, as photographers or researchers, it is a good time to remind ourselves of how to use Find A Grave. Some rules of engagement are:

- Be polite and be patient with all parties
- Take all data with a grain of salt
- Correct data in your research and do what you can to correct it online
- Be grateful for others' efforts, even if they screw up
- If you can, honor requests to remove or fix information or images

Find A Grave is a great piece of evidence that memorials are valid and valued in our culture. It is free. It is available. The best indications are join in, check your sources, and do your best to fix something a little bit broken.

¹ Find A Grave.com (<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?searchType=all&SUBccntry=4&SUBcst=&SUBccnty=&SUBcid=&page=1tf>), retrieved 1/14/2014

² Randy Thwing, Manager, Santa Barbara Cemetery, to author, e-mail, December 30, 2013.

³ Diane Haddad, *Genealogy Insider* (<http://blog.familytreemagazine.com/insider/2013/09/30/AncestrycomAcquiresFindAGrave.aspx>), retrieved 1/14/2014.

⁴ Ancestry.com blog (<http://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2013/09/30/ancestry-com-acquires-find-a-grave/>), retrieved 1/14/2014.

⁵ Find A Grave, Frequently Asked Questions, (<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=listFaqs>), retrieved 1/14/2014. Clearly, the last sentence is no longer true.

⁶ Ancestry.com blog (<http://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2013/09/30/ancestry-com-acquires-find-a-grave/#blogComments,Comment73>), retrieved 1/14/2014.

Nicolas Rayes

an Early Santa Barbara Luthier a Reminiscence

Melville R. V. Sahyun (his great nephew)
(sahyun@infionline.net)

IT OCCURRED TO ME that now I may be the only one living, at least in our family, who personally remembers my great uncle, Nicolas Rayes (aka Nicola Rayes, depending on whether one prefers the Greek or the French spelling; our family always used the former), both in person and in the stories told about him. Uncle Nicolas died when I was no more than six years old, so my direct memories are of necessity somewhat limited...a child's memories.

According to immigration records Nicolas was born in what is now Lebanon in 1861. He was the son of Helena Damianos and Boutros Rayes and the brother of my grandmother, Neffajeh Rayes Sahyoun. At that time Lebanon was part of the Ottoman Empire, and administratively it was part of the province of Syria. Suffice it to say that Uncle Nicolas fit the family ethos; he like a number of others could be described as "a character."



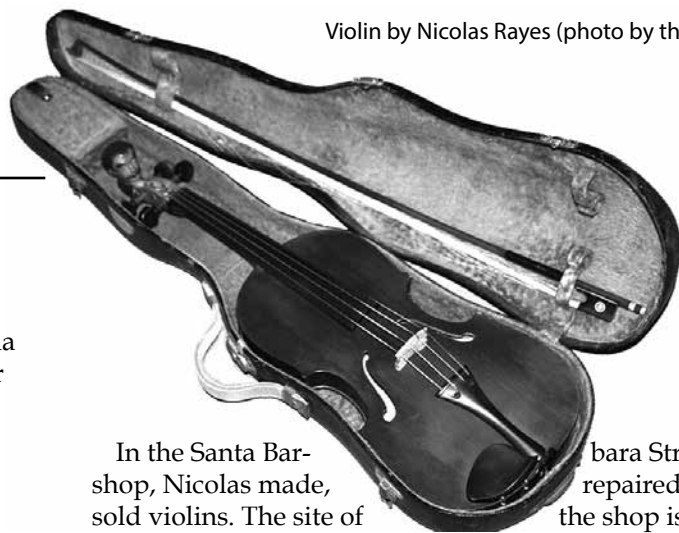
Theodore Sahyun
(ca. 1972)
(photographer unknown)

He was a violin-maker of great skill and also a hoarder who lived alone, for the most part; he never married. Among family memorabilia I have not found any photos of him, but when I came across a photo of my uncle, Theodore Sahyoun, my father's elder brother, I recognized a strong resemblance to my visual memories of Nicolas, strolling up the front walk to my maternal grandmother's house on Bath Street, perhaps bringing

us some snacks from the health food store. Nicolas was a strong believer in organic and natural foods, especially whole grains, and would lecture my mother and grandmother on the subject of nutrition. My mother rather resented this, as she felt that her husband was an expert on nutrition, and she didn't need any lecturing by an amateur.

My father, Melville Sahyun, chose to come to Santa Barbara when he immigrated in 1923 in large part because of the urgings of his uncle Nicolas who found the climate and flora of Santa Barbara strongly reminiscent of their Lebanese home. Both Melville and his uncle shared a love for Classical music and for the garden; they were at home with the olives, grapes, and the stone pines. Behind Nicolas' shophouse on Santa Barbara Street there was a grape arbor, as I remember – a Lebanese house had to have a grape arbor. Melville lived with Nicolas only a short time; both liked their independence, and I'm sure Nicolas' hoarding was a great irritant to Melville.

Violin by Nicolas Rayes (photo by the author)



In the Santa Barbara Street shop, Nicolas made, repaired and sold violins. The site of the shop is now part of the Santa Barbara Presidio State Park and the Presidio reconstruction, based in part on documents translated from the old Spanish by my mother, Geraldine Valde Sahyun. We still have three of Nicolas' instruments in the family. On one of them the scroll is carved into the shape of a human head. I personally kept the one with the head; it had been one of my father's favorites.

I was chided by a violinist friend, whose instrument also has a scroll carved in the form of a head, although not by Nicolas, for keeping a violin when I don't play. "A violin has a soul, and it must be played to nourish its spirit," she said. I suspect Nicolas would have agreed. During the 1920s, my father Melville played second violin in a regularly performing string quartet in Santa Barbara; he was quite a good violinist, but unfortunately stopped playing before home recording became feasible. Neither Nicolas' commitment to violin making nor my father's choice of instruments are perhaps surprising, as the violin is originally of Middle Eastern and Byzantine origin.¹

When Nicolas Rayes came to the United States about 1900 (on the SS Deutschland from Cherbourg, France, according to Ancestry.com) he did not go directly to Santa Barbara; he settled first in Los Angeles. He established his business on a site on the very western edge of the city's development. As the city grew up around it, his property value, and with it his property taxes, increased. By 1920 the taxes reached a point where he felt that they were onerous and refused to pay them. The property was seized and sold. That was when he moved to Santa Barbara. The property, by the way, is now part of the site of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), possibly one of the most valuable pieces of real estate in the LA basin.

As I mentioned, Nicolas Rayes died when I was about six years old, when he would have been 85. After his death a will was presented to the courts by another Lebanese family in Santa Barbara who owned a business located nearby to Nicolas' on Santa Barbara St. According to this will, Nicolas had left his property to a member of this family. The will was supposedly agreed

to by Nicolas in the hospital during his final illness, and witnessed by the would-be heir and his attorney. My father was suspicious, as was a cousin, George Rayes, another Lebanese immigrant who lived in Ocean City, New Jersey. With George's at least moral support, my father hired a young attorney, John T. "Jack" Rickard, who at that time had just finished law school and been admitted to the bar. Jack subsequently became a distinguished judge of the California Superior Court and served as mayor of Santa Barbara; he was also a neighbor.

When the case was being heard in the courtroom before Judge Wagner, who like Pres. Roosevelt was confined to a wheelchair as a result of juvenile polio, I was about 8 years old, and it was the first time I had been to see a legal proceeding in a courtroom. It made a great impression on me. The climax of the case (my original memories may be fragmentary, but the story was rehearsed many times in family gatherings, and I also found the transcript among my father's effects) came when the putative heir took the stand; Jack asked him who signed the will first:

"Mr. Rayes signed first"

"Then to whom did he give the pen?"

"I signed next."

"Then you passed the pen back to the attorney?"

"Yes, he signed last."

"So," Jack continued, "the pen was passed from Mr. Rayes to yourself to the attorney?"

"Yes"

"Then why are the signatures in different colors of ink?"

Needless to say, Judge Wagner promptly rejected the will, but there was no prosecution. After the costs of the case, charged to the estate, there was, of course, nothing left. But my father felt that a moral victory had been won. For George and Sarah things may not have gone so well; to Sarah fell the lot of cleaning up the results of Nicolas' lifetime of hoarding. She reportedly had to have the roof removed from the shophouse and the junk removed by crane.

There may be more information about Nicolas Rayes in the book *Rayes: a family history*, authored by Sadie R. Rayes in 1979 and indexed in the genealogical collection of the Library of Congress. I have not yet been able to obtain a copy of it, nor establish how Sandra, "Sadie," is connected to Nicolas. A database search indicates that both Nicolas and Neffajeh are incorporated in Ms. Rayes' family history book. Some confusion arose in my research, however, because Sandra had an older brother, also named Nicolas.

NOTE: An incorrect entry on Ancestry.com to the effect that Nicolas Rayes died in Lebanon resulted from misinterpretation of a request Jack Rickard made in 1949 through the US Consulate in Beirut to obtain in translation any will which Nicolas may have made and left in Lebanon prior to his emigration.

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¹Violin, Wikipedia article (en.wikipedia.org/wiki/violin), retrieved 1/18/2014.

Finding Concetta

By Gloria Clements

"I would like to visit my mother's grave when we are in Niagara Falls. She is buried at the St. Joseph's Cemetery close by to where we will be staying," Orlando tells Gloria, his significant other and travelling companion. Gloria suggests that Orlando contact the cemetery before we go and get a specific location of the gravesite so we don't have to wander all over the graveyard. Concetta passed away in 1952 so there have been many, many more graves placed in this cemetery since that time.

Orlando calls the cemetery and inquires as to the whereabouts of his mother's gravesite (Concetta Luele). They tell him there is no record of this burial in their cemetery. Orlando knows his mother's grave is there. He attended the funeral when he was in his early 20s. So we have no other choice but to wander around the pretty good sized cemetery until we locate Concetta. He remembers it was somewhat near a fence - doesn't that nail it down pretty well (ha).

The day was drizzly, windy, and cold, probably in the high 40's, as the two travelers converge at the St. Joseph Cemetery. As we drive around the U-shaped drive, it is more obvious the newer graves are to the right as there are more flowers and the burials dates are more current. We decide to debark from our rental car on the left side of the cemetery to start our search. Sure enough, in a section in the middle on the left side, there appears to be gravesites from the late 1940s and 50s.

After a half hour of wandering back and forth over the rows and rows of gravestones, we are getting pretty cold. Gloria's shoes had taken on water, so her socks were soaked and numbness was setting in. Gloria, ready to call it quits, yells, "Orlando, I am freezing and it doesn't look like we are going to find your Mom. Let's go. This cemetery is not well cared for as I am finding gravestones that are buried under the grass." Orlando turns around to look at Gloria with a look of dismay and discouragement and says, "Okay, let's go." As Gloria approaches Orlando, she looks at the stone where Orlando was standing. He was standing right in front of his Mother's gravestone. Fate, fortuitous, chance, luck, divine intervention...what do you think?

Gloria Clements, SBCGS member, resides in Santa Barbara CA. Searching Chaney, Anderson, Fernelius & Bunzel in WI, MN, IL, KY, OH, VA, MA

"A Name Known to Los Angeles Since 1890"

Sharon Summer

"A NAME KNOWN to Los Angeles Since 1890." Could one really put all those words on a headstone? Would it sound silly? My brother wanted to have this phrase carved on our father's headstone. The phrase was written at the top of our father's business card, after all, and it was so much the "him" we had always known.

I remember my father's discussion with my mother in 1948. What year did some relative first come to LA? "Did William arrive in Los Angeles in 1889 or 1890?" father asked our mom. Mother looked up from her embroidery, puzzled. "It's your grandfather. How would I know?"

Dad wanted to put the phrase across the top of his new business card. Starting an electrical contracting business in Los Angeles after the war, he thought having the year 1890 printed on his card would give weight to his venture. He couldn't make the decision that night. Who could tell him the correct year, since both William and his son Allen, Dad's father, were already dead. But then one night after dinner, Dad announced that the year was to be 1890. At age 5, who was I to wonder or question how Daddy arrived at this conclusion? I was simply happy he was happy to have his answer.



Allen Knickrehm's business card

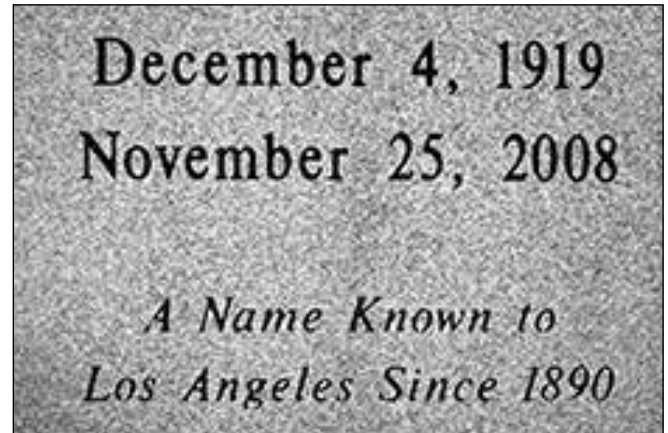
In 2008, as Dad neared the end of his long life, my brother kept talking to me about the idea of putting the phrase "A Name Known to Los Angeles Since 1890" on dad's headstone. I equivocated. I would not say yes or no. I imagine I looked like my mother must have looked, puzzled and uncertain. Do people write so many words on headstones? If few did, would ours look embarrassingly silly with such a phrase? Was it permitted by the graveyard people? Could we? Should we?

Because Dad was still alive in early 2008, my brother and I decided to ask him what he thought of the idea.

Settling down in comfy chairs in front of his wheelchair we talked with him about this and that. He loved having us with him and was never uncomfortable

talking about dying or most any topic. (The year before brother Glenn had asked Dad what he'd like done at his funeral. Dad replied, with grin and a twinkle in his eye, "Do anything you'd like. I won't be there.")

So now Glenn inquired of our dad in a lighthearted way, "Sharon and I were thinking of putting on your headstone "A Name Known to Los Angeles Since 1890." What do you think?" Despite our dad's Alzheimer's fog, his eyes twinkled again, and he managed an amused, "Yes."



Allen Knickrehm's epitaph

So it was to be done. Glenn and I set out to Angelus-Rosedale Cemetery on W. Washington Blvd. in Los Angeles, not far from downtown, to find the place where his ashes would be buried, alongside members of our family.

We drove into Angelus-Rosedale, founded in 1884, with its 65 acres. The place turned out to be rightly proud of itself for being "the first cemetery in Los Angeles open to all races and creeds," and the first in LA to implement a design called a "lawn cemetery," where the grounds have expanses of lawn, curving roads, and a park-like feel. The entire cemetery was once located right in downtown, until "development" said it had to be moved to where it is now. On the day my brother and I arrived we walked around on the parched grass. The place needed care. One headstone was half inside a tree trunk, struggling for its place and losing. The gently sloping hills showed us an array of old and varied headstones. Up at the top were tall and elaborate grave-stones, from the 1800s. Some of the others lower down were simply small flat memorials, many for infants.

After a bit of wandering we found the plot with William's headstone, 1863-1933. Buried next to William was his wife, Auguste. Now I could connect in my mind the William who arrived in Los Angeles in 1890 with the same William who had the thriving house-moving business. We have family photos of hotel-sized buildings up on wooden planks, ready for his workers to move. His company's work yard and office had been located across the street from present day Pershing Square. Long gone now. And I wondered who the other four relatives were that were buried with William and Augusta. Not all were their children. Finding



Three generations at the Knickrehm family plot.

Allen I. Knickrehm 1896-1941 – William and Augusta’s son Allen Ironside, our grandfather, got his middle name from a neighbor. He was said to be “fun-loving.” He ran the family house-moving business after William. We have a picture of him sitting at his company desk taken in 1914, but he died at age 45 due to heart problems from childhood scarlet fever. My grandmother then sold the business to two employees.

out more about these people buried in our family plot marked the beginning of my interest in genealogy. Here is what I discovered about them:

William Knickrehm 1863-1933 – Son of immigrants Carl and Caroline Knickrehm from Bückeburg, Germany who immigrated in 1871 to Elgin, Illinois. In the Sahyun Library for the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society a lovely lady helped me locate a book at UCSB in which included William’s obituary. The book is *California of the South Vol. 4: A History Biographical* by John Steven McGroarty, 1933. My great grandfather must have been important to get his life written up in a book of prominent Los Angeles citizens.

Auguste Knickrehm (Augusta in English) 1861-1955 – Came to Los Angeles on a covered wagon from Frederickburg, Texas, sometime before marrying William on January 11, 1890 in the First German Methodist Church in Los Angeles. I found out it was literally the first German Methodist church in LA, with services in German. Augusta lived to age 92 in the house William’s German workers built. I remember meeting her when I was a little girl. In 2013 the current owners gave my brother and me a tour of this sturdy home on East 35th Street.

M. Ruth Herley 1900-1983 – Miss Herley, an elderly relative told us, was a family friend who had no family of her own. She never married and lived with Augusta after William died.

On a plaque in the grass beside the prominent headstones of William and Auguste were three names of related Knickrehms:

Carrie Knickrehm 1894-1963 – Daughter of William and Augusta, born in Los Angeles, graduate of USC, Carrie was a school teacher and never married. She and Emma Knickrehm lived in a large room in a building in Highland Park near her school. I remember that room as being stuffed with dark mahogany furniture and a curtain around Emma’s bed.

Emma Knickrehm 1877-1956 – Sister of William, Emma worked in the Elgin Watch Factory in Elgin, Illinois before moving to Los Angeles. Once in LA she lived with her niece, Carrie Knickrehm, in the Highland Park section of Los Angeles. Emma served as a teacher’s aide in Carrie’s third grade classroom at a school in Elysian Park, near Dodger Stadium.

Months after our initial visit to the cemetery our father’s eyes twinkled no more. He died November 25, 2008. His ashes were placed next to those of our ancestors.

Glenn and I found Stan, the headstone maker. “I’ll put on it whatever you want me to put on it,” he told us. So it was, “A Name Known to Los Angeles Since 1890.”

Sharon Summer, whose maiden name is Knickrehm, is an SBCGS member with an escalating love of genealogy. This is Sharon’s first published article.

Cemeteries hold lasting memories and can yield up their secrets

Deborah Drew Kaska

IT WAS A STRANGE RITUAL. Each year a week or so before Decoration Day, my father would put the lawnmower in the trunk, together with clippers and rakes and after dinner we would all drive to “The Cemetery” to clean up the graves. I think other families did this too, but we never saw another living soul during our visits.



The Lehmann family marker, Lace Cemetery

The drive took perhaps 15 minutes, but that time was sufficient to travel from our home in a Chicago suburb “way out into the country.” Amid the Illinois cornfields lay a small graveyard in an area known as Lace Cemetery.¹ While my parents clipped and mowed and raked the plot where my grandmother and two generations before her rested in peace, my brother and I explored. There were tombstones to sit on, spooky crypts to peek into, and neat places to hide. We youngsters enjoyed ourselves thoroughly, with no thoughts of the persons buried there. They had all died long before our time.

For my father, however, I am sure there were many

memories. The tiny church where the German settlers worshiped used to stand adjacent to this land, but had long ago moved to a new location. His uncles had once owned the two farms down the road, but they too were now gone. The ground where he laid his mother to rest, and his grandparents before her, remained however, and each year he made sure that this plot was cared for before May 30.²

Another 60 years have now passed. Housing tracts have spread from the neighboring towns and swept around and past this sacred ground. My brother bought a townhouse within walking distance of the cemetery. Thus it is that once again we walk there to reminisce. Since it was never plowed, the cemetery is now considered original prairie and protected for the plants that grow there as well as for the history it records.

I visit now with a pad and pencil and walk slowly. I know much more about the people buried here. Many are part of my extended family. The stones tell varied stories. Most are in German; they were Alsatian farm-



Great-grandparents Henry and Ursula Lehmann

er laborers who sought better lives in the new world. Wives died in childbirth, children succumbed to diphtheria and small pox. A few served in Illinois regiments in the Civil War; more were drawn into the draft for the Great War. Some epitaphs have faded almost beyond recognition, stones have broken and been cleared away, but the graves my father tended still stand.

Not far from the Lace cemetery is the Cass graveyard



Cass Cemetery, located on N. Frontage Road that runs along the Stevenson Expressway (I-55), one-half mile west of Cass Avenue in Darien, Illinois.

where the English buried their dead.³ Since the settler’s farms were intermingled, the Alsations socialized with the English and hence I have ancestors buried here as well.⁴ Like Lace, Cass has also been swallowed up by the urban sprawl of the Chicago suburbs, but one family has started a Cass Cemetery Website. I contributed information to this website several years ago and this Christmas received a very special gift. I was contacted by a descendent of a related family. They shared with me family lore about my ancestors that may help to answer some questions I have long pondered. I’m sure the settlers buried in this quiet graveyard did not contemplate that across the years and across the miles email would one day connect their descendants.

¹Lace Cemetery is formerly known as Saint Johns Lutheran Cemetery, located at the junction of 67th Street and Glendon Hills Road in Darien, IL.

²Henry Lehmann and his parents Heinrich Lehmann and Eva Dietz and Ursula Veith's parents Jacob Veith and Salome Veith are all buried in the Lace Cemetery along with numerous uncles, aunts and cousins.

³Cass Cemetery is located at 1510 Frontage Rd, Darien, IL.

⁴The Cass Cemetery is where my grandfather Arthur Drew and his parents James Drew and Maria Rooke are buried along with Maria's sister Susanna Rooke Pitcher and other Rookes and Pitchers.

SBCGS member Debbie Kaska retired from UCSB in 2002 and has been researching family history in Illinois, Alsace, Pomerania and England. She is particularly interested in reading old German script. Kaska@lifesci.ucsb.edu

Surname Index

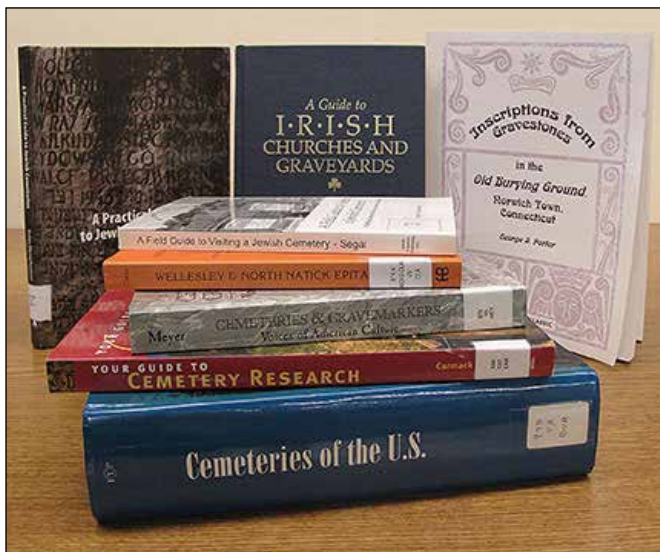
See page 36 for surnames for *Santa Ynez Valley News* Extracts. Does not include surnames from endnotes.

Allyn, 22	Harvey, 27	Poteet, 8
Anderson, 3, 30	Hauschild, 7	Quinn, 7
Bason, 1	Herley, 32	Rayes, 29
Bauer, 8, 24	Hobbs, 3	Rickard, 30
Bauerin, 8	Huff, 8	Roark, 12
Bettendorf, 7	luele, 30	Rooke, 34
Boehr, 9	Jameson, 9	Roth, 8
Bonnell, 23	Jenson, 7	Rush, 11
Bouvier, 11	Juhasz, 3	Rusk, 11
Bower, 8	Kaska, 33	Sahyoun, 29
Brilliant, 38	Kennedy, 11	Sahyun, 29
Bunzel, 30	Knickrehm, 31, 32	Sayre, 23
Burek, 35	Kohrs, 7	Schaffer, 3
Chaney, 30	Kuhn Clarke, 35	Schramm, 6
Clements, 30	Lehmann, 33	Sloan, 7
Colman, 4	Lohmann, 5	Stitt, 8
Copleman, 26	Mangelsdorf, 6	Summer, 31, 32
Cummings Wright, 10	Matz, 34	Thomas, 24
Damianos, 29	Maxwell, 8	Thompson, 22
DeBartolo Carmack, 34	McGroarty, 32	Thwing, 27
Dietz, 34	Menachemson, 35	Valde, 29
Drew, 34	Meyer, 5, 35	Veith, 33
Ferl, 4	Miller, 3	Vouvier, 11
Fernelius, 30	Mitchell, 34	Wagner, 30
Fischer, 24	Nellis, 22	Weden, 22
Forbes, 8	Oksner, 7	Weeden, 22
Fritsche, 4	Onassis, 11	West, 27, 28
Frolick, 3	Paxton, 7	Wilson, 23
Fulmer, 9	Petry, 2	
Haddad, 28	Pitcher, 34	
Harris, 3, 11	Porter, 3	

Book Reviews

Discovering Cemeteries, & Burying Grounds at the Library

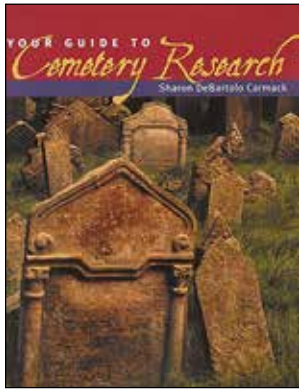
By Louise Matz



THE SAHYUN LIBRARY has several hundred books that can hone your skills while you “un-earth” your ancestors! Using the on-line Library index, you can search for “cemeteries, gravestones, burial or epitaphs”. There many cemetery “records” which should not be overlooked when trying to find *death dates* for your ancestors. I’m reviewing a few books here, but there many more for US states and other countries!

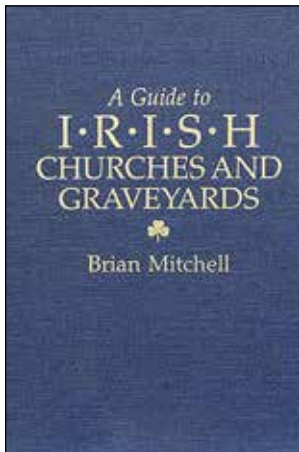
One of the best books to get started on your cemetery research is *Your Guide to Cemetery Research* by Sharon DeBartolo Carmack. (929/D27/Car) She writes an entertaining and informative book that will help you locate and evaluate cemeteries where your ancestors “reside.” She has helpful information that will clarify tombstone iconography, the symbols, epitaphs and inscriptions. Use cemeteries to find living relatives! This book is out of print, but good, used copies are available on Amazon.com.

There are helpful books for foreign cemetery research. One is *A Guide to Irish Churches and Graveyards*, by Brian Mitchell. (941.5/V3/Mit) “In this book every church and burial ground in Ireland is identified in relation to a townland or street address. Each townland is located in its appropriate civil parish, and each parish is listed in alphabetical order in its county and is preceded by a number which gives its location in *A New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland*. An Ordnance Survey number lets the researcher pinpoint the church’s exact



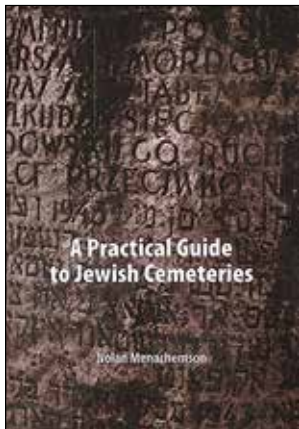
location on a six-inch Ordnance Survey map. Churches that are now defunct and graveyards that have been separated from their churches can be located with this guide.” I couldn’t describe it better. Irish researchers need this help. On Amazon about \$36.

A Practical Guide to Jewish Cemeteries by Nolan Menachemson, is a comprehensive text, in an easy to understand format, which covers Hebrew tombstone engraving and symbols. Understand Jewish laws about burial and customs. There are over 100 photos and diagrams. (305.892/V3/Men) Available about \$49.

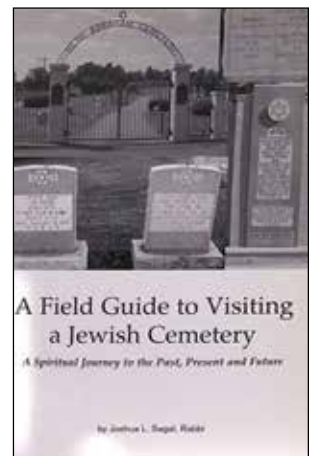
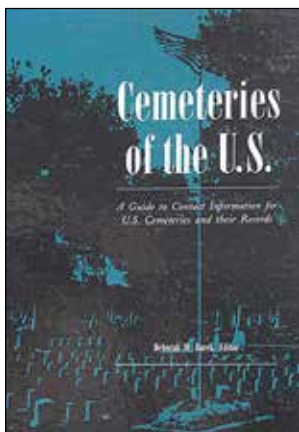
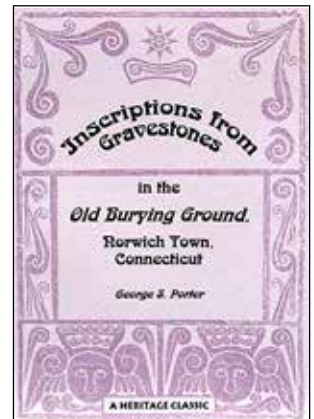
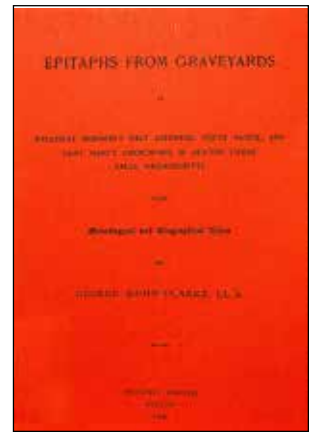
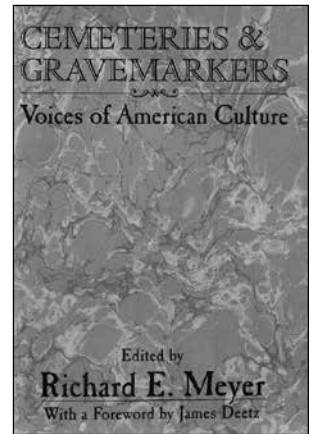


Cemeteries of the U.S., by Deborah M. Burek has been out for about 20 years. (973/V3/Bur) This is a great finding aid at your fingertips. Over 22,600 cemeteries are described with several ways to locate cemeteries if they have changed names, for example. National military and religious cemeteries are also listed. This book is not available.

Cemeteries and Gravemarkers: Voices of American Culture, by Richard E. Meyer. (973/V3/Mey) This highly reviewed book gives the researcher help in figuring out what the gravestone are really telling us! The motifs and the ethnic and cultural messages should not be missed. There’s more there than meets the eye. This book is available on Amazon about \$29.



Epitaphs from Graveyards, Wellesley, MA. by George Kuhn Clarke. (974.4/Norfolk/V3/Cla) This is one of several “epitaph” books on our shelves. This one goes a step further, in that the author has done biographical searches, and produced a more informative text. So you might get a clever epitaph, and also genealogical information!



Surname Index from *Santa Ynez Valley News Extracts*

Aasted, 18
Alexander, 18
Alwood, 12, 20
Andersen, 12
Appel, 12
Archer, 18
Austin, 15
Ayres, 17
Barger, 16
Barnes, 12, 13
Barret, 13
Beach, 14, 15
Beattie, 13
Bell, 17
Bendlage, 15
Bermudez, 13
Billington, 12
Blakeley, 13
Boaz, 17
Bobadilla, 14, 15
Boise, 14
Brandt, 16
Breen, 15
Browning, 16
Buell, 14
Burchardi, 12, 15
Burlingame, 20
Carlson, 14
Christiansen, 19
Clemens, 14
Clinton, 14
Coolidge, 15
Craig, 19
Craven, 20
Cullen, 14
Daily, 15
Dale, 21
Davis, 13
Davison, 22
de la Cuesta, 20
Dutra, 18
Duus, 16
Easterday, 14
Eckert, 20
Elliott, 18
Enos, 13
Erro, 19
Espersen, 12
Evans, 19
Fischer, 13, 18
Fisher, 13
Flanagan, 14
Forsyth, 18
Fostero, 21
Frame, 14
Freemonth, 15
Fremont, 15
Frothingham, 17
Galvin, 15
Garza, 14, 15
Gillett, 15
Glisson, 19
Gordon, 17
Graham, 19
Grigsby, 15
Hald, 15
Hall, 18
Handy, 16
Hanly, 19
Hansen, 14, 18
Hanson, 14, 16
Harden, 16
Harding, 20
Hartley, 20
Hartnett, 18
Harwood, 19
Hawkins, 19
Hazlewood, 15
Henderson, 13, 19
Henningsen, 16
Herman, 13
Highfill, 20
Hosier, 20
lest, 16
Iversen, 19
Jensen, 16, 17, 18, 19
Jerney, 18
Johansen, 17
Johnson, 13, 14, 16, 18
Knudsen, 14
Kristensen, 16
Krogh, 12
Lampert, 17
Lickner, 13
Liddle, 17
Little, 17
Lund, 17
Luton, 17
Lybeckor, 14
MacDonald, 13
MacGillivray, 21
Madsen, 16, 17, 18, 21
Malan, 20
Markman, 16
Martin, 17
McCarthy, 20
McClellan, 19
McMartin, 14
Mendez, 13
Mikkelsen, 17, 18
Miller, 14, 19
Moller, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19
Monroe, 18
Moore, 15, 18
Moss, 18
Murphy, 18
Nelson, 21
Nielsen, 18, 19
Norwood, 18
Nunez, 18
O'Leary, 14, 18
Ochoa, 13
Olivera, 18
Ontiveros, 18
Penny, 18, 19
Petersen, 12, 17, 18, 19
Piatt, 14
Picker, 20
Pierce-Jones, 15
Plumb, 21
Pohls, 16
Powell, 20
Quinn, 19
Rasmussen, 19
Ravnholt, 17
Raymond, 19
Riel, 19
Roark, 12
Robb, 21
Robison, 20
Robles, 13
Rohan, 19
Ross, 13
Roth, 19
Roy, 21
Rutters, 19, 20
Sanchez, 12
Saulsbury, 19
Senteno, 13
Sharpe, 20
Shurtleff, 20
Silva, 18
Smith, 20
Sogaard, 18
Sorensen, 12, 16, 17
Stayton, 20
Stenbeck, 21
Stenberg, 18
Stirling, 20, 21
Stonebarger, 20
Svendsen, 18
Thuesen, 21
Towsly, 19
Twist, 15
Upton, 21
Valencia, 13
Vasquez, 21
Von Golhn, 21
Ward, 21
Westcott, 21
Whitney, 21
Wiard, 15
Willhoit, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20
Woodhouse, 21
Yabsley, 20
Young, 21
Zimmerman, 15

Author Guidelines - *Ancestors West*

Updated January 16, 2014

Articles for *Ancestors West* should focus on useful sources, helpful research strategies, compelling historical accounts, and interesting case studies. Each issue will have a theme, but the theme is meant only to draw together a selection of content within the journal. There are also regular features or sections. These include Book Reviews, Hot Blogs, and On the Record. Submissions for these are welcome at any time prior to the deadline for the issue.

Manuscripts

Suggested length is from 250 to 2500 words. Longer pieces or serial pieces are also published.

Submit your document in Word format if possible. If not, please submit in text format.

If you have footnotes in your document, insert them if you are using Word. Otherwise, note the location in the text (at the end of a sentence or paragraph) with brackets and a sequential number, e.g., [1]. Enter the footnote text at the end of the piece.

Images

Any piece is enhanced by images. Please find images if you can to support your piece. The images in general must be over 1MB, and preferably over 2MB, with good quality resolution – they look clear and sharp to the naked eye.

Please include a caption for each picture, a photo credit or source, and insert the caption in the location in the document where it should appear.

Notes on content

Please include details you might otherwise think should be left out. All *Ancestors West* narratives have to do with genealogy. Genealogy is a method and a means. What we arrive at in this endeavor are life stories, pieces of history, and tales of the genealogical method or effort itself. If you write a narrative about tracking down Uncle Milo, for instance, it is not only okay to provide some gloss on the details you track down, but also to explore them. For instance, if Milo owned a dairy, was a deacon at the First Presbyterian Church of Lunar, Mississippi, became mayor of Lunar, married twice and had six children, your readers will expect that you have looked into the details and will want to know – about the church, about owning a dairy in Lunar in the 1860s, and about his wives and children – to the extent you can discern this.

Author information

Please provide a one or two sentence summary of yourself, e.g., Maggie Limb, resident of Hillside, KY, is researching the Grinches, Mordicorts, Loops and Fundlebys in KY, CA, and PA. mlimb@genepool.com.

Deadlines

Deadlines are the **10th of the month** in: January, April, July, October.

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