

SAN RAMON VALLEY

GENEALOGICAL

SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER
P.O. Box 305
Diablo, CA 94528-0305
President: Ed Mason
Coord. Editor: Bob Venter
Meetings: 10:00 a.m.
3rd Tuesday of the Month
(Except August & December)
Danville Family History Center
Stone Valley & Smith Rds., Alamo
<http://srvgensoc.org/index.html>

San Ramon Genealogical Society

Vol. XXIII No. 6 January - 2008



THIS MONTH – January 15, 2008
"Airplanes, Bananas and Sugar Roots."
Presented by: Nilda Rego

Nilda Rego be talking about two sides of her family (Jacuzzi and Peruzzo) and her husband's Rego roots. She will explain how she is the airplane and banana part and her husband Dan is sugar roots.

Nilda Rego was born and raised in Berkeley, California. In 1991 she retired from news reporting, but continues to write her local history "Days Gone By" column for the Contra Costa Times. She and her husband Dan have raised six children, and have lived in Moraga for the past 28 years. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism from the University of California.

NOVEMBER MEETING
"Google: A Goldmine of Genealogy Gems!"
Speaker: Lisa Cooke Reporter: Lee Schlenker

November's speaker was our own member Lisa Cooke who puts together her own podcast on Google. Her presentation was very good regarding getting onto the internet through Google and into her podcast which she puts out weekly. The word podcast comes from the Apple's "iPod" and the word "broadcasting" to equal podcast. A podcast is a method of publishing audio files to the internet for public use. Consider it a radio broadcast on the internet. Podcasts are made up of various subjects and Lisa's is about genealogy.

She explained how you can set up your own genealogy network on Google without any cost to you even though you subscribe to iGoogle. It's free. No credit cards required. It only takes of few minutes. This will enable your computer to search the internet for you and return to you items of interest on your Google account. Setting up your computer screen to Google browser is like arranging your own airplane cockpit

with all its gauges. And all the gauges are the many areas within the internets reach helping you find answers and genealogy information *more* easily.

If you don't already have a Google screen when you log onto the internet, you are going to change that screen so it will always come up to the Google browser. You will go to www.google.com. Then click on "igoogle." There you will find the sign-in link, click on it, "no account," click on it, add your Email address and your own password and you are ready to set up your own "cockpit." You should see an array of items to choose from such a calendar, the weather, Lisa's site and her Christmas photo wreath, news, gmail (google mail), etc. And you can add your own items of interest using the search box. You can click on "gadgets" and add anything you want to customize your own page.

Lisa recommends subscribing to the podcast through iTunes which means you just receive the podcasts automatically. To get iTunes on your computer go to <http://www.apple.com/itunes/download/> then enter your email address in the box on the left and click "Download itunes 7.1 Free" button and follow the prompts. Now, to get Lisa's podcast go to www.genealogygems.tv, click on the iTunes icon in the blue column on the right and this will automatically open the Genealogy Gems listing on your computer. Next click the subscribe button and iTunes will download the most recent episode of your iTunes Library in the Podcasts folder.

If you would like to hear an example of the show before subscribing go to www.genealogygems.tv. In the upper left of the page where it says "New This Week," click on the episode number. This opens the new window called "Genealogy Gems Podcast." In the upper right corner of the Podcast page you'll find a media player. Double click the little triangle button to play the most recent episode. You can also find the "Show Notes" for the current episode on the same page.

Lisa gave us a very nice handout and it is more self-explanatory than this article. You might ask an attendee for a copy of this handout. Lisa says "Google gives you the comfort of the box so you can research *outside* the box!"

And by going to www.genealogygems.tv you can also find out how to order Lisa's book, if you're interested.



President's Message

By Ed Mason

I hope that the holidays were good for you. It is a busy time of year and the one-month break in our meetings helped to free up time for family celebrations - perhaps even for some research.

Now it's 2008 and one way to welcome in the New Year and serve as a reminder that we are back in business would be to go to our website at <http://srvgensoc.org/> and click on *Our Photo Album*. When you open it up you will find several new pictures. But, what else can the New Year offer? As with many other endeavors, genealogy can have its highs and lows. We can be stuck for decades on the wrong side of what seems like an impenetrable brick wall. But we can take comfort in knowing that the research tools available to us improve every year and that we may eventually make that big breakthrough. This may be your year.

In 2007 many of us received a setback when Ancestry.com discontinued its availability from Family History Centers and the at-home access from the Pleasanton Library. Now, in 2008, things are looking up on several fronts.

- 1) Helping to prove that competition is a good thing, Salt Lake City has greatly increased its efforts to digitize and index many important records. If you

go to <http://labs.familysearch.org/> you can already benefit from this effort, which is still in the very early stages. You will have to register, but - not to worry - there is no cost. I registered and was very pleased to use *Record Search* and find a database for Ohio deaths from 1908-1953. I was able to obtain death dates for about eight of my mother's aunts, uncles and cousins. The search capability was extremely well executed. The new LDS effort includes several different categories, such as *Life Browser*, *Pedigree Viewer*, *Record Search*, and *Standard (place) Finder*. This whole effort is very much in the Beta stage and they are looking for feedback to improve its development. If you are interested, there is also the opportunity to assist in their indexing effort.

- 2) Ancestry.com is part of a for-profit Company, now called Generations Network, which includes *Family Tree Maker*, *MyFamily.com*, *RootsWeb.com* and *Genealogy.com*. Those of us who have been in this business for a long time may remember the company's beginnings as *Banner Blue* in Fremont about 20 years ago. The company has been acquired at least 6 times since then. Now it has been acquired again. Quoting from an Eastman's Newsletter, "*The Generations Network, Inc., announced that Spectrum Equity Investors will lead an investment of \$300 million to purchase a majority interest in the company. The investment will support and accelerate the company's strategic direction and growth plan. If they are right, we can expect the company's various divisions to be of even greater help to us in the future, hopefully at a reasonable cost.*"
- 3) Now, as I am writing this letter on December 20, it has just been announced that the Generations Network has made an agreement with Salt Lake City to provide free access to Ancestry.com from the Family History Library in Utah, as well as 13 Family History Centers, including Oakland and Sacramento. That may be of help for some of you.
- 4) More good news comes from the accelerating progress in the use of DNA in genealogy. I have a third great-grandfather, Daniel Perry, whose origins I have been unsuccessfully researching for 20 years. Members of my family were equally unsuccessful for the previous 80 years. I'm sure that somewhere there is a record of him, but it could easily take thousands of hours and much expense to find it. Instead, I am trying to locate a male descendant willing to provide a DNA sample. Family Tree DNA has 65 Perrys in their database. Establishing a match with at least one of them could help to save a lot of time and money.

I am hoping that all of this portends good news and more successful searching for each of you in 2008.

Ed



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SRVGS CALENDAR

January 2008

3 Thursday – 10:00 am. The Board Meeting was held at the home of Barbara Dittig in Danville.

15 Tuesday – 10:00 am. The General Meeting will be held at the LDS Church on Stone Valley Road at Smith Road, in Alamo. From I-680 freeway, take Stone Valley Road east 2 & 1/2 miles

February 2008

5 Tuesday – 10:00 am. A Board Meeting will be held at the home of Lee Schlenker in San Ramon.

19 Tuesday – 10:00 am. The General Meeting will be held at the LDS Church on Stone Valley Road at Smith Road, in Alamo.

SRVGS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS



COMPUTER INTEREST GROUP (The Master Genealogist) -- This is a genealogy software users group for PC's with their focus on the use of The Master Genealogist. This group will meet Tuesday January 15, after the general meeting at about 12:30 pm at the home of Peggy

Dearman in Danville. Please bring a bag lunch. Peggy Dearman is the contact person for the group. Phone 837-1621 or e-mail pdearman@earthlink.net.



FAMILY TREE MAKER GROUP - This is a genealogy software users group for PC's with their focus on the use of Family Tree Maker.

This group will regularly meet on the fourth Thursday of the month. On Thursday January 24, from 10:00 am until noon, they will meet at the Danville Family History Center in Alamo. Gail Roche Van Wye is the contact person for the group. Phone 253-1096 or e-mail gailrvw@aol.com.



GERMAN – The German Group will meet January 23 (the fourth Wednesday) at the home of Margaret Koenig in Lafayette. Please contact her if you can not attend.

Phone 934-3830 or e-mail mmbkoenig@comcast.net. Helen Odegard is the contact person for this group. For more information, please contact her at 932-6796 or e-mail shodegard@aol.com.



IRISH – This special interest group will meet January 9th (the second Wednesday) at 10:00 am. at the home of Patty Erickson in Pleasant Hill. Phone (925) 229-0889 or e-mail

russpat@comcast.net for further information. The February meeting has not been scheduled.



SOUTHERN – This group will meet January 8th (the second Tuesday of the month) at 10:00 am. at the home of Dorothy Stanton Danville.

This group will also meet February 12 at the home of Dorothy Humpal in Danville. The contact person is Dorothy Stanton; Phone 820-3757 or email dpstant@hotmail.com. New persons interested in attending should contact Dorothy Stanton for information.

N E W S V I A E M A I L -

Ed Mason is the coordinator for the sending of group emails. This extends our group communication ability beyond the monthly newsletter. In addition, about half of our members have chosen to receive their monthly newsletter by email, the advantages being; faster delivery, a much prettier presentation in full color, substantial savings for the Society and for the environment. Ed keeps an email address list of members. He will distribute messages a minimum of once a month. Members wishing to share news may send it to Ed. If it is deemed appropriate, it will be distributed. Members always have the option to Opt-Out of the email distribution. Notify Ed Mason at: edmason@sbcglobal.net

CALENDAR OF OTHER EVENTS

January 2008

10 Thursday - 7 pm The Contra Costa County Genealogical Society will hold a regular meeting at 3700 Concord Blvd. in Concord. Wayne Ernstrom from the Family History Center will be the featured speaker.

19 Saturday - 10:30 am The San Mateo County Genealogy Society will hold a regular meeting at the Peninsula Community Foundation, 1700 South El Camino in San Mateo. "English

genealogy on the Internet - What's hot and what's not" will be presented by Christine Green, PhD. Christine was born and raised in England.

February 2008

- 2 **Saturday** - 8 am to 4 pm The San Luis Obispo County Genealogical Society will present a seminar for "Tracing Your Family Tree – Digital, DNA and Traditional Sources." Guest speakers will include Dick Eastman, publisher of online genealogy newsletter; Max Blankfeld, expert in using DNA to trace your ancestry; and others. Five sessions are planned in 3 classrooms. The pre-registration fee prior to January 18, 2008 will be \$45 for non-members. This all day seminar will be held at Veteran's Hall, 801 Grand Avenue in San Luis Obispo. For further details visit - <http://home.kcbx.net/~slogen/08seminar.html>
- 9 **Saturday** - 9 am to 4 pm The California Genealogical Society will celebrate its 110th anniversary by hosting an all day seminar at the Concord Hilton, 1970 Diamond Blvd. in Concord. Visit their web site, www.calgensoc.org. Under the heading of CGS Events, click on the PDF icon to see details, registration form and lunch menu. The nationally recognized speaker, Maureen Taylor, known as the Photo Detective, will present a day of seminars exploring ways to identify and preserve photos to enhance our family history. **The registration fee is \$45.00 for the seminar and lunch.** Please RSVP no later than February 1, 2008
- 12 **Tuesday** - 7:30 pm The Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society will hold a regular meeting at Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court in Pleasanton. "Ancestry: review and What's New" will be the subject of the presentation by Kay Speaks.
- 19 **Tuesday** - 7 pm The Santa Clara County Historical and Genealogical Society will hold a regular meeting at the Santa Clara City Public Library, 2635 Homestead Road in Santa Clara. "Genealogy for NSDAR Lineage Proofs" will be presented by Diana Claussen, Registrar for the Los Gatos Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR).

This packrat has learned that what the next generation will value most is not what we owned, but the evidence of who we were and the tales of how we lived. In the end, it's the family stories that are worth the storage.

-Ellen Goodman,



Dorothy Stanton

This year I'm Education Coordinator for SRVGS as well as FGS (Federation of Genealogical Societies) Delegate – which means I keep our society page up to date and communicate information to and from FGS. Also, I'm the contact person for the Southern Interest Group. As a Charter member I was here at the beginning of the society and helped write the by-laws. I've had a number of jobs over the 23 years: I was in charge of Programs for the first 2 years, did publicity, was Newsletter Editor for 6 years, President for one year and, as a member of the Publishing Group, helped write the society's book *Print, Publish and Preserve*.

I can say I've been a genealogist for more than half a century because I started as a teen-ager. I was born in Chicago but my parents were from the South (W. Tennessee about 100 miles N. of Memphis). Except for a couple of brief periods living in Tennessee on a farm my family owned, my growing-up years were in Chicago. Its many ethnic neighborhoods make you conscious of your roots. We lived on the NW side at a convergence of Irish, Polish and Scandinavian neighborhoods. My classmates were mostly 2nd or 3rd generation Americans who knew where their families were from. When I asked my mother where we were from, she said "We're not from anywhere. We're Americans!" That made me more curious.

We'd visit Tennessee almost every summer and, of course, we'd go to the cemeteries where my parents' families were buried. I started asking questions about who these people were. For most of them I could find someone who still remembered something about them and how they were related. One gravestone interested me: my great-grandfather's mother Mary whose gravestone said she was born in 1784. No one could tell me where or anything about her family. They told me, "Those people are long gone and no one can know anything about them." I'm happy to say I've proved them wrong.

After college I put family history aside for a while. I taught for several years in a suburb of Chicago and after coming to Berkeley for summer school a couple of years, I decided to try teaching in California. I didn't intend to stay but I met and married Jim Stanton who had stayed on in Berkeley after grad school. He also was born in Chicago but his family had moved to Los Angeles when he was 10. We have a son and 2 daughters who all (at present) live in the Bay Area. And we have 2 grandchildren.

I didn't get back to family history until we moved to Danville 30 years ago when my youngest daughter was in kindergarten. I took a class in genealogy taught by Howard Bishop which gave me some research sources. Then a class from Bette Root (later Kot) helped me further. It was this

class that provided the nucleus for Jean Blackmur starting this society. And the rest, as they say, is history. I've enjoyed my membership in the society because of all I've learned, the people who've become friends and the association with "my kind of people": those who love learning about their families and their histories, and enjoy researching in libraries, courthouses, cemeteries and anywhere else they can make discoveries.

When I get frustrated with the lack of records in the South, I work on my husband's lines. He was a 5th - generation Chicagoan on his Irish Stanton side but he had one grandmother who was born in Denmark and another who was half French-Canadian, half English by way of Plymouth Colony. I discovered where his Irish families originated so we could visit there. But Ireland can be frustrating too. It's wonderful to find so many records available on the French Canadians and Danes and in New England.

I've learned a lot about my Southern families who are mostly Scots-Irish, English and German. I've found only one ancestor, so far, who came here after the Revolution, some going as far back as Jamestown. I did discover that gt-gt-grandmother Mary was born in Caswell Co. North Carolina in 1784 and who her family was. When my eight-year-old grandson asked "Grandmom, don't you know enough yet?" I told him there's much more to learn. Now we have the Internet and DNA studies – resources I never dreamed of when I started!

EDUCATION

The new year offers many opportunities to learn and to improve our genealogical research skills.

January 9 - The Acalanes Adult Education classes on genealogy taught by Cat Nielsen (our speaker at the July meeting) start the Winter quarter at the Del Valle campus 1963 Tice Valley Rd., Walnut Creek. Classes meet weekly. Registration information is on the web site for Acalanes at: <http://www.acalanes.k12.ca.us/adulted/html/familycommunityandtheworld.htm>

There is a link to a registration form that you can print out. Class size is limited to the number of computers in the room. Call the office to find out if the classes are full (925-280-3980 ext. 8001) before going in to register in person. You may join the continuing classes even if you missed the first quarter. The classes are: Beginning to Intermediate Genealogy; Genealogy Seminar (group discussion of research problems); and a class on using The Master Genealogist software program.

January 11 NARA-San Bruno: Workshop— Immigration and Naturalization Marian Smith, National Agency Historian for the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service at USCIS headquarters in

Washington DC, is making a rare visit to the San Francisco Bay Area to present two NARA-sponsored workshops on Federal immigration records research resources and history on Friday, January 11, 2008, at the National Archives Pacific Region-San Francisco. Historians, genealogists, and others are invited to attend this rare opportunity to hear a definitive national-level Federal immigration records and history, offered free at no charge to the public by USCIS and the National Archives. Historian Smith notes that at both sessions, there will be ample time for discussion with attendees, with discussion of common research problems or issues. Researchers with questions about a record they found should bring a copy of the record to the workshop. While the first session will address U.S. immigration and naturalization records and history, the second will focus on the major Federal collections of Chinese and Asian American immigration research resources throughout the U.S. What: U.S. Immigration Records Resources Workshops When: 9:00 - 11:00 a.m., Friday, January 11, 2008 1:00 - 3:00 p.m., Friday, January 11, 2008 Where: National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), Pacific Region 1000 Commodore Drive San Bruno, CA 94066 <http://www.archives.gov/pacific/san-francisco/index.html> Public contact information: (650) 238-3501

SRVGS member classes – During the fall, the society offered classes on: "Beginning Genealogy (Organizing Research)" by Frances Lloyd; "Using the Family History Library" by Linda Bailey; "Using Cameras for Family History" by Bob Dougherty. If you would like a repeat (or variation) of any of these classes, please contact Dorothy Stanton and we will re-schedule them. Bob Dougherty also has offered to give classes on any variation of the camera subjects covered in his original class.

Planning Ahead for National Conferences on Genealogy

May 14-17 2008 - The National Genealogical Society's annual Conference in the States and Family History Fair in Kansas City, Missouri is titled "Show Me the Nation's Records." This conference will feature record types from across the country. Program topics include Adoption research, African American research, BCG skillbuilding track, Computer topics, DNA lectures, Genealogical essentials, German research, Homesteading records, Land records, Midwest topics, Migration topics, National Archives records, Writing lectures, Native American lectures, Military records, Methodology, and a variety of workshops amongst many others. The full program will be available online shortly at <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>

September 3-6 2008 – The Federation of Genealogical Societies will hold its annual Conference "Footprints of Family History" at Philadelphia, PA. Check the blog at <http://www.fgsconference.org> to see the reasons why genealogists attend these conferences.

Genealogy or Family History?

While it is common for people to use the terms 'genealogy' and 'family history' interchangeably, they actually have a subtle but different meaning. [Genealogy](#), the study of ancestry and descent, refers more to the actual search for ancestors, while [family history](#), the narrative of the events in your ancestors' lives, denotes the telling of your family's story. Family history is genealogy come alive.

To experience the difference between genealogy and family history, place yourself in the world of an ancestor. For the best experience, select one for which you only have a few dull, dry facts such as birth date, hometown, marriage, children and burial location. Then try to learn the circumstances of his/her life - what he did to put food on the table, how he spent his leisure time, his position in the town or community, the cost of living in effect at the time, the types of food he ate, the clothes he wore, diseases which were prevalent for the time period, the traditions he followed...

To dig up the answers to these questions, you can turn to a variety of historical resources: timelines, social histories, community histories, newspaper accounts, biographies, etc. The records which gave you the names and dates for your ancestors are also a source for potential clues. Census records may be able to tell you about your ancestor's neighborhood, occupations, educational background, and financial situation. Wills may provide insight into your ancestor's feelings, friends, and possessions. Immigration and naturalization records may offer a look at your ancestor's motivations for moving to a new country.

In your quest to learn more about where you came from, don't limit yourself to the 'genealogy' search. Flesh out the lives of your ancestors, tell the stories of your living family members, and bring your *family history* to life.

From: About.com: Genealogy Tip of the Day

Our ancestors ... possessed a right, which nature has given to all men, of departing from the country in which chance, not choice has placed them.

Thomas Jefferson

Some family trees have beautiful leaves, and some have just a bunch of nuts. Remember, it is the nuts that make the tree worth shaking.

~Author Unknown

What can they see in the longest kingly line in Europe, save that it runs back to a successful soldier?

Sir Walter Scott

Missing Story

Turning Dull Genealogy Facts into Family History

By: Ralph Bishop, Your Family Legacy

Have you ever looked at your family heritage information and wondered, "what's the missing story?" What happened that caused your ancestors to choose a certain set of actions? Or what events brought them to a particular situation? Unfortunately, your ancestors are not around to fill in these "missing stories." You don't really know why an ancestor immigrated, for example. Or what happened that caused great-great grandpa to change occupations.

Although there may be no way of knowing or verifying why something happened, a little deduction can re-create the likely "missing stories" of your ancestors' lives. The following example illustrates the idea. The cited couple are a fellow researcher's great grandparents. The facts are:

At the time of the marriage (1898) the husband was 31 years old and the wife-to-be was 17. The wife had an older sister who was 28 and also living at home. It was the mother of the bride who applied for the marriage license.

The couple's first child was born slightly less than eight months after the marriage.

In 1909 the wife filed for a divorce, citing her husband's disregard of his marital duties by being "willfully absent."

The 1910 census had the husband, the kids, and the unmarried, older sister living together in the same residence. His occupation was listed as "rig builder."

The older sister married the ex-husband in early 1911.

What circumstances prompted the divorce? Why was the wife's unmarried sister living with the ex-husband in 1910? Why did the husband have the kids, rather than the wife? Then there is the fact that the older sister later married the ex-husband. Obviously, there is a missing story here that goes beyond the "facts" - there are too many oddities. Since no one is alive that can fill in the gaps, the researcher reasoned the following using the stated rationales:

Possible missing story: Although the husband was courting the younger sister (his soon-to-be wife), he and the older sister may have developed an interest in each other.

Rationale: The older sister was much closer in age to the husband-to-be and the fact that she later married him means a romantic interest had to develop sometime. Although he could have been courting the older sister, his causing the younger sister's pregnancy would certainly have upset the older sister, making it unlikely that she would have ever wanted to marry him.

Possible missing story: Unfortunately, he got the younger sister pregnant before any marriage was planned, so the girl's mother insisted they get married right away.

Rationale: Although not unusual as pregnancies go, the less than eight months time between marriage and birth

is somewhat soon after the wedding night. Add the fact that the girl's mother applied for the marriage license and it would seem that Mom had an urgency in getting them hitched.

Possible missing story: Since it was a 'forced' union, the husband may not have really loved his wife and eventually began to ignore her. The wife could not tolerate his absence any more and a divorce was inevitable. The wife was unable to support the kids, so they lived with their father.

Rationale: His absence, stated in the divorce decree, implies a lack of concern for his wife, perhaps motivated by his having to marry her and/or his interest in the older sister. Since he had a livelihood, he could provide financial support for his children so they lived with him.

Possible missing story: The unmarried older sister and ex-husband, wanting to pursue their interest in each other, had the sister move into his home after the divorce under the guise of caring for her younger sister's children. They eventually married following a reasonable waiting period after the divorce.

Rationale: The fact that she later married him again implies a romantic interest and that she was perhaps supportive of him, rather than her younger sister, during the divorce. Caring for the children seems a plausible excuse to the community to justify her living with her sister's ex-husband. Even then, her living with him may have been considered scandalous at the time.

Although the researcher doesn't know if these proposed *missing stories* are what actually happened, the facts support the possibility... and it does make an interesting ancestor soap-opera!

How to fill in the missing stories in your family history:

You may also be able to infer reasons for ancestors' actions based on history. Perhaps the potato famine in Ireland caused your ancestors to migrate. Or was a family breakup caused by political events? For example, it was not unknown for brothers to fight on different sides during the Civil War.

Maybe you can deduce sibling bonds. Our great grandfather and one of his brothers enlisted together and served in the same unit during the Civil War. Whereas a third brother enlisted separately and served in a different unit. This might indicate that the brothers who enlisted together had a close bond and wanted to stay together during the fighting.

There are probably a myriad of deductions you can make based on your family history facts. If you include them though, be sure to state that they are only opinions based on facts, and are not verified.

So think beyond the facts! Deduce what you can about what happened in your ancestors' lives and turn your heritage facts into heritage stories.

From: About.com Genealogy

HOW TO REACH THE BOARD MEMBERS

President:	Ed Mason	925-838-7848
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	Sandra Burns	925-648-4653
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Corresponding Secretary:	Vern Segelke	925-838-8570
Treasurer:	Ileen Peterson	510-651-7728
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NEWSLETTER TEAM

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Mailing:	Lucy Carver	925-837-3146

Deadline to put information in the Newsletter is the Last Thursday of the month.

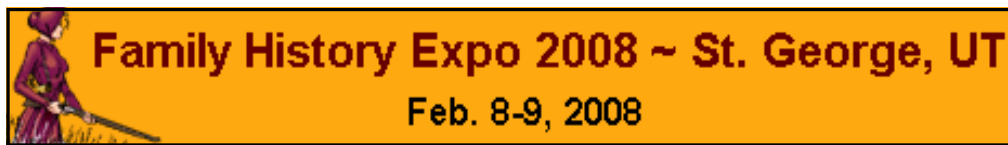
Members are encourage to submit articles for the Newsletter by mail or email to the Coordinator.

INDIVIDUAL HELP

Do you need individual help in overcoming a "brick wall" in your research? Go to the SRVGS web site at: <http://srvgensoc.org/>, click on RESOURCES, then click on INDIVIDUAL HELP FOR SRVGS MEMBERS.

Want to help someone who is having research problems in your area of knowledge? Call Harry Baggett at 925.837.7960 to have your name added to the SRVGS Individual Help list.

Harry Baggett trvrl1@hotmail.com



The Family History Expo is a two-day event drawing speakers and vendors from all over the U.S. and beyond. It will feature 101 terrific presentations to choose from, more than 50 vendors and exhibitors, and the latest genealogy products and technology. Many free drawings and prizes each day! The EXPO is a great place for beginners to learn the ropes! And for pros to sharpen their skills.

Our own Lisa Cooke will be presenting *Google: A Goldmine of Genealogy Gems* at the conference as well as having a **Genealogy Gems** booth in the Exhibit Hall. Lisa has produced a "video tour" of the conference that you can view at her Genealogy Gems News Blog:

<http://genealogygemspodcast.blogspot.com/2007/12/hear-ye-hear-ye-come-one-come-all.html>

February in Southern Utah hints of the beginnings of spring with its sunshine and emerging daffodils and hyacinths. Before or after the event you may wish to enjoy hiking and bike riding in Zion's National Park, Snow Canyon State Park, and the Grand Canyon. Visit real Dinosaur tracks, National Museums, Pioneer Historical sites, and even enjoy an outdoor evening performance at Tuacahn Theater nestled in a red rock canyon. Many attractions await early visitors who want to avoid the summer crowds but still crave fine weather. St. George is also known for its abundance of Hotels, Motels, varieties of Restaurants, Factory Outlets, and other great shopping opportunities.

The two day conference is just \$60. Register today at My Ancestors Found at:

http://www.myancestorsfound.com/events/upcoming.php?event_id=1

**San Ramon Valley
Genealogical Society
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FIRST CLASS MAIL