

SAN RAMON VALLEY

GENEALOGICAL

SOCIETY



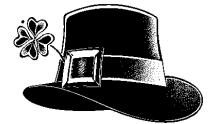
NEWSLETTER
P.O. Box 305
Diablo, CA 94528-0305
President: Ed Mason
Coord. Editor: Bob Venter
Meetings: 10:00 a.m.
3rd Tuesday of the Month
(Except August & December)
Danville Family History Center
Stone Valley & Smith Rds., Alamo
<http://srvgensoc.org/index.html>

San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

Vol. XXIII No. 8 March - 2008



THIS MONTH – March 18, 2008
"The New Family Search"
Presented by: Marge Bell



The March 18th General Meeting will be held at the Family History Center in Oakland, rather than at our usual location on Stone Valley Road. Margery Bell, Assistant Director of the Oakland Regional Family History Center will use their superior audio visual facilities to make a presentation about the church's new *Family Search Website* which allows us to work together with researchers all over the world on our genealogy lines. She will also show us the beta site with the results of the massive indexing program they are doing. Over 100,000 indexers are indexing a million names a month. Finally we will see the new FHC Portal with access to most of their paid websites such as Ancestry.com, Godfrey Library, Footnote.com, Worldvitalrecords.com, and Genline.com. It will be a unique opportunity to see all the new innovations first hand.

Marge is the author of *Line Upon Line: A Beginners Guide to Genealogy* published with Ancestral Quest software. She is married, lives in Moraga, and the mother of two grown children and grandmother of seven.

Feel free to stay after the meeting and utilize the wonderful resources at the Oakland Regional Family History Center.

(Note: Directions to the Oakland Family History Center can be found on page 7.)



FEBRUARY MEETING
"Your American Freedoms: Protect Them or Lose Them "
Speaker: Fred LaCrosse Reporter: Lee Schlenker



We had such a interesting speaker for this past month since it was Presidents Week. If you missed it, it was very unique, interesting and entertaining. Fred LaCrosse, formerly with KNTV and KRON (1980s) and now retired, gave us an interesting concept of how our nation was built from the ground up which included recorded words from prominent shapers of

the Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights, the Constitution which hold even today. Mr. LaCrosse gave it in a very powerful interview format as his talk.

"We live in a land with rich cultures and with values that unite all of us." His talk started out with a recorded voice telling us that we started out with no freedom of speech (couldn't talk poli-



Our speaker Fred LaCrosse in a discussion with some of our founding fathers.

tics), couldn't have prayer groups of 2 or more persons, no right of assembly and if you were accused of a crime and couldn't prove your innocence within 5 minutes you were put to death! How did we get so lucky to have the freedoms we have today?

So, with many recorded voices, Mr. LaCrosse questioned famous people such as Samuel Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Patrick Henry, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, George Washington, Alexander Hamilton, etc. taking us through time and telling us how complicated this huge transition came about over time. It basically covered 1763 to 1789.

1607 Jamestown (Colonial America) was an American dream - starting with English men and boys. The 13 colonies were chartered by the King of England with each colony having it's own governor and being permitted to site it's own rules within the colony. Well, that didn't work as well as it was expected so the rebellion against the

King started. The Kings troops were sent to the colonies. Then higher taxation (even higher than the colonists income) started. Everything which was "stamped" had to be taxed. The Sons of Liberty wanted to boycott these duties. By 1773 the Boston Tea Party occurred with tons of tea going into Boston Harbor. Then more British troops were sent over. The colonists considered this "slavery with taxation." Shortly thereafter Patrick Henry gave his famous speech of ".....give me liberty or give me death." And then "the shot heard 'round the world." Of course there was no money enough for weapons or powder. By 1776 Thomas Payne, a Brit, wanted liberty over this tyrannical King. So the colonists chose Thomas Jefferson to write the Declaration of Independence - and only because he could write better than any of them! They wanted to tell their plight to the world and they wanted freedom. Jefferson wrote the Declaration in three weeks taking knowledge from others who had struggles such as the Greeks, the Romans. These men signed the Declaration

and instantly became traitors to the King. They encouraged the people to fight for liberty on their own home turf which turned into a 7 year long war.

By 1781 the British surrendered and signed the Treaty of Paris in 1783 with Ben Franklin in attendance. Now the 13 colonies were free - but now how were they going to make this all work? They fought over boundaries, printing money, common defense, providing for the welfare. Alexander Hamilton and James Madison became framers of the Constitution using the old Articles of Confederation and that only produced anger among them all. So, in 1787, Ben Franklin and James Madison suggested the separation of powers - checks and balances. But slavery was still an issue. The south wanted slavery abolished in 20 years where as the north wanted equal rights for all. After long debates at town hall meetings 8 states ratified a national Bill of Rights. Slavery still remained, but owners were much more humane. It would take three generations (1860) to abolish slavery from the south and another 100 years to *totally* abolish slavery (1960s).

Abigail Adams wrote a letter concerned for the rights of women to be represented also and much with persistence the women finally got the vote by 1920.

Thomas Jefferson believed religion was between man and God. Whereas Madison felt we should keep focus on church with equal rights. American was founded on the Christian religion.

Well, we are no longer "Brits" - we come from all over now. We have a Republic - if you can nurture it, sustain it, keep it. Rome was destroyed by decay from within. And in this year particularly Mr. LaCosse asks us to:

Use your knees - rise up to the occasion and don't believe everything you hear!
Check out the other side too.

Use your head - think reasonably and continue learning.

Use your hands - participate by voting, getting involved with city government.

Use your heart - be an active, responsive participant.

Self gratification is only half of our union.



President's Message

By Ed Mason

By the time that you read this letter, most of the carpools will have been arranged and we will be set for an exciting new experience, a General Meeting at the Family History Center in Oakland on March 18. It may not work for everyone, but we should double the pleasure of those who can attend by experiencing a new environment with state-of-the art equipment being used to present a stimulating subject. An additional benefit for many members will be the opportunity to stay over to use the excellent research facilities.

As the years go by, more and more of our research is shifting to the Internet. Every day more databases are being digitized and indexed. Understanding how to access this information in the most expeditious and cost-effective manner is important to each and every one of us. The major effort by the LDS to expand the data available at their *FamilySearch.com* site will be the subject of the March presentation. Access to *Ancestry.com* is also important to us, but since last summer has had its access restricted mostly to paying members. It is now my understanding that a Card from the Library in Livermore will now allow home access to *Ancestry*. Linda Bailey informs me that many of the staff right here in Alamo can access *Ancestry* - but to call ahead to confirm. *Heritage Quest* is available for home access with a card from Pleasanton and several other Libraries. In the meantime there are several important databases available from the Family History Center, right here in Alamo:

Free to you, these are (I've included your annual cost, if you had to subscribe):

Footnote.com \$59.95 View, save, and share original images of historical documents available for the first time on the Internet.

Gen-Line.com \$313.00 Search your Swedish ancestry in millions of pages of original Swedish Church Records on the Internet.

Godfrey Library \$35.00 Are you missing a name, a date of birth, a marriage? Has someone in your line written a family history or left behind a

family bible? They can help you find it!

HeritageQuest Available at home with many library cards. Combines digital, searchable images of U.S. federal census records with the digitized version of the popular UMI® Genealogy & Local History collection and other valuable content.

VitalSearch-Worldwide.com \$57.95 Birth, death, and marriage indexes for most of the United States. Access to the same information as government and law enforcement officials.

WorldVitalRecords.com \$119.95 Offers archived newsletters on genealogy research topics including how to order vital public records, the use of genealogy timelines for research. World Collection - Access over 2 billion names in both U.S. and International records.

In Oakland, Marge Bell will be demonstrating the new FHC Portal, which will provide access to some of these same websites. This is an important meeting. I hope to see you in Oakland on the 18th.

Ed



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SRVGS CALENDAR

March 2008

- 4 **Tuesday– 10:00 am.** A Board Meeting was held at the home of Lisa Cooke in San Ramon.
- 18 **Tuesday –10:00 am.** The General Meeting will be held at the LDS REGIONAL FAMILY HISTORY CENTER ON LINCOLN AVENUE IN OAKLAND. CARPOOLING IS BEING ARRANGED.

April 2008

- 1 **Tuesday– 10:00 am.** A Board Meeting will be held at the home of Kathy Javdani 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

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 NOT meet in March. Peggy Dearman is the contact person for the group. Phone 837-1621 or e-mail dearmanp@gmail.com.



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 meet March 27 (the fourth Thursday of the month) 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 is

scheduled to meet at the home of Helen Odegard in Alamo on Wednesday, March 26th. (the fourth Wednesday). 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 March 12th (the second Wednesday) at 10:00 am. at the home of Patty Erickson in Pleasant Hill. Phone (925) 229-0889 or e-mail russ-pat@comcast.net for further information. They will also be scheduled to meet April 9th at this same location.



SOUTHERN – This group will meet

March 11th (the second Tuesday of the month) at 10:00 am., at the home of Nancy Alexander in Danville. This

group will also meet April 8th at the home of Suzanne Johnston 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.

NEWS VIA EMAIL

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

- 11 March - Tuesday 7:30 pm** The Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society will hold a regular meeting at Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court in Pleasanton. "Tradition and Tradition Breakers: One Korean Family Lineage, 720 AD to 1955" will be the subject of the presentation by Hildi Kang.
- 18 March - 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. Mary Hanel, the Library Staff Liaison person, will talk about "The Latest Resources for Genealogy at the Central Park Library". She will also talk about new databases that have been added to Ancestry.com, Library Edition. Debbie Shields will speak about "Choosing Genealogy Software" at their

meeting on Tuesday, April 15.

- 29 March - Saturday 9 am to 3 pm** The San Mateo County Genealogy Society is sponsoring a spring seminar at the First Presbyterian Church, 25th and Hacienda in San Mateo. The featured speaker will be Stephen P. Morse. Other speakers will be Steve Danko, John Glead, Chris Green and James Smith. "Your Immigrant Ancestor, by Land and Sea" will be the theme for the seminar. Registration fees are \$22 for each member; \$25 for a non-member; or \$27 at the door. A lunch is optional for \$8. For additional information, visit www.smcgs.org
- 25 & 26 April Friday eve and Saturday.** The Sacramento German Genealogy Society is sponsoring 25th anniversary Fest and seminar. From 8 am to 4 pm on Saturday, the all day seminar will feature Roger Minert and Marion Wolfert as presenters. Choose a seminar topic that will interest you. The Saturday seminar will be held at La Sierra Community Center, 5326 Engle Road in Carmichael. Beginning at 5 pm Friday evening there will be a Gala event with German style food and music. You must be pre-registered to attend on Friday evening. There is no additional cost to attend this special event at the Sacramento Turn Verein at 3349 J Street. Registration fees are \$30 for members, \$35 per couple; or \$40 for non-members, \$50 per couple. Fees must be received by April 19. A lunch for Saturday is optional for \$8. To register, contact Milt Kelly at mekelly4143@comcast.net. For additional information, visit www.sacgergensoc.org
- 26 April - Saturday** The Sonoma County Genealogical Society is sponsoring an all day Seminar. It will be held at the Merlo Theater, Wells Fargo Center for the Arts off Hwy 101 at River Road in Santa Rosa. The lecturer will be Rhonda McClure, popular instructor and writer. She will speak about: (1) Online research, (2) Newspapers, (3) Combining the best of

Internet and Traditional Research and (4) If I Knew Then What I Know Now. There will also be exhibitors and vendors. A pre-registration fee of \$25 for non-members must be received by April 16. The fee will be \$30 at the door. You may contact the registrar at (707) 763-4492 or visit their web site at www.scgs.org for further information.

WELCOME—NEW MEMBERS

We extend a warm welcome to the newest members of our group.

Rose Seay
237 Lyndhurst Place
San Ramon, CA 94583
rgseay@yahoo.com

Susan Roveto
28 Francesca Way
Alamo, CA 94507
(925) 934-1130
dsroveto@comcast.net

Patty and Bill Petersen
2036 Shoreline Loop #136
San Ramon, CA 94582
(925) 309-4916
pattypetersen22@gmail.com

A note from Linda Bailey at the

Danville Family History Center

As you know, the SRVGS monthly meeting for March will be held at the Oakland Regional Family History Center. For those of you who are planning to spend some time there after the meeting, I just wanted to remind you of the center's homepage at <http://www.oaklandfhc.org/>. It will help you make the most of your visit. You'll probably want to skim through the entire website, but especially take note of the Athena catalog (searchable from home). It contains all their film, fiche, CD's, books, journals, periodicals and maps. Just a tip - once you are in the catalog, I suggest you go to "Advanced Search." You will also want to peruse their list of online subscription databases and, in the box "More About Us" is a link to their "Special Collections." Happy hunting.

HOW TO REACH THE BOARD MEMBERS

President: Ed Mason 925-838-7848
e-mail: edmason@sbcglobal.net

1st V.P. Barbara Dittig 925-648-9364

2nd V.P. Program:
Kathy Javdani 925-736-5464
Clarice Hart 925-743-9245
Lisa Cooke 925-831-8537

3rd V.P. Membership:
Patty & Russ Erickson 925-229-0889
Sandra Burns 925-648-4653

Recording Secretary:
Carol Huvane 925-947-5669

Corresponding Secretary:
Vern Segelke 925-838-8570

Treasurer: Ileen Peterson 510-651-7728

Parliamentarian:
Virginia Rood 925-937-8659

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Coordinator: Bob Venter 925-454-9919
e-mail: rjventer@comcast.net

Calendar Coordinator:
Vern Segelke 925-838-8570
e-mail: v.m.seg3@sbcglobal.net

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.

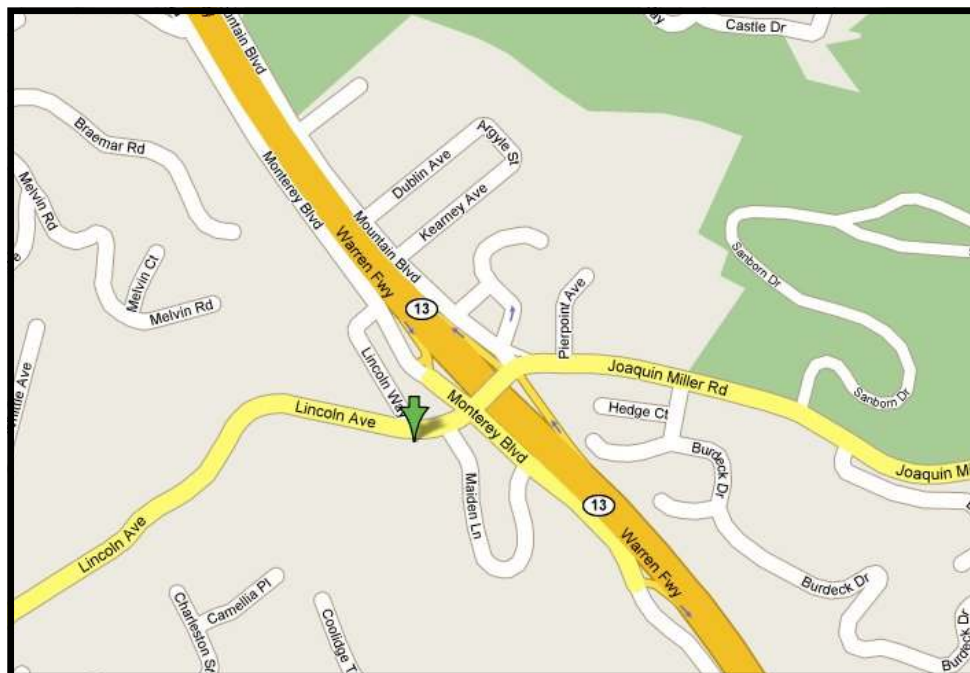
Harry Baggett trvlr1@hotmail.com

Directions to the Oakland Family History Center



From the Danville area: Take I-680 N toward SACRAMENTO
 Merge onto CA-24 W toward OAKLAND / LAFAYETTE
 Merge onto CA-13 S toward HAYWARD
 Take the exit toward JOAQUIN MILLER RD / LINCOLN AVE
 Turn SLIGHT LEFT onto MONTEREY BLVD
 Turn RIGHT onto LINCOLN AVE
 End at 4766 Lincoln Ave, Oakland, CA 94602-2535, US

drive approx. 3.3 miles
 drive approx. 10.8 miles
 drive approx. 3.4 miles
 drive approx. <0.1 miles
 drive approx. <0.1 miles
 drive approx. <0.1 miles



EDUCATION

Your Name



A new workshop series at the Castro Valley Library will allow anyone age 55 and older to tap into their positive memories and experiences as a way to help reconcile the aging process.

A journal writing workshop for seniors will be lead by retired Cal State East Bay English professor John Manion, and will be held from 10:30 a.m. to noon on March 6, 13, 20, and 27.

The workshops are free, but registration is requested. One can register at the library's information desk or you can call 510-670-6280. The Castro Valley Library is located at 20055 Redwood Road and is wheelchair accessible.

On the grave of Ezekial Aikle East Dalhousie Cemetery , Nova Scotia
Here lies Ezekial Aikle, Age 102. Only The Good Die Young.

You got it from your father, it was all he had to give,

So it's yours to keep and cherish for as long as you shall live,

It was clean the day he got it, and a worthy name to bear,

When he got it from his father, there was no dishonor there,

So protect and guard it safely, for when all is said and done,

You'll be proud the name is spotless when you give it to your son.

From: www.familytreequotes.com

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