



# San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society



www.srvgensoc.org

San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

Vol. XXVIII No. 10, May - 2013



**THIS MONTH – May 21, 2013**

**“Ohio: Gateway to the West “**

**Presented by: Richard Ferman**

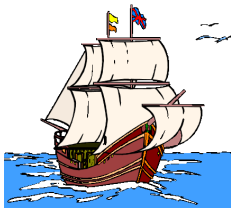


**M**any of our ancestors came through Ohio on their way west. Some remained a generation or two. Richard Ferman lived, attended college and has researched around this state. He is knowledgeable on most of the 88 counties and will tell us what is there, not there, and how to get around "not there".

Richard Ferman graduated from Ohio University in Athens in '67 with a BA in History/English. He began his computer technology career at 5/3 Bank in Cincinnati, Ohio. In subsequent years he worked for other computer companies, retiring from IBM in 2005.

Dick was elected President of Santa Clara County Historical & Genealogical Society (SCCHGS ) in 1984 and continues his Society volunteer work in many different capacities. He is a member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, a SeniorNet council member, and a 501(c)(3) expert; and he teaches *Family History Searching on the Internet* and several other courses at SeniorNet.

After completing his own research back to the Revolutionary War, he joined the Sons of the American Revolution and helped his sister with her DAR admission. He is a frequent lecturer in the area on topics such as Research in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Civil and Revolutionary Wars and the Internet. ■



**From the April Meeting**

**"Jamestowne and the Jamestowne Society "**

**Speaker: Jo Ann Garlington    Reporter: Lee Schlenker**



**O**ur member, Jo Ann Garlington, shared the story of Jamestowne being formed back in the 1600s. She asked us to close our eyes and "imagine" London, England in December, 1606. Suppose you were the second, third or fourth son of an Englishman and you knew you would never inherit the land your father owned

(only the first son would inherit it). Or, if you were a laborer, you never would have enough money to purchase land in England or enough to support a family. The war between England and Spain was just ending. A poster tacked to the outside of the local pub suddenly gives you an opportunity to have land in a new world (Nova ►



(Photo by Ed Mason)

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### Jo Ann Garlington

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Britannia aka Virginia) would be intriguing, so you sign up for this voyage not knowing it would take you a minimum of 5 months. You have no idea how to survive the wilderness and you don't know how to dress for the new environment. But you sign up just the same.

The Virginia Company of London, a group of well-to-do Englishmen, was issued a charter by King James I to settle a colony to be called James Town. This Virginia Company outfitted three ships, the *Susan Constant*, the *Godspeed* and the *Discovery*, and sailed for the New World on December 12, 1606 with 104 men and boys plus the crew. The mission was to 1) discover riches such as gold to send back to England, 2) search for a water route to China, 3) establish an English colony, and 4) export natural resources such as lumber to England. You were to be given land which was there for the taking. The voyage was during the winter months and crossing the Atlantic was miserable. Food ran low; there was seasickness, cramped quarters, and boredom. The voyagers were mainly gentlemen, scholars, artisans ►

and tradesmen, not the laborers or farmers needed to start a settlement in the wilderness.

The Virginia Company of London had been instructed *not* to settle on the coast since the Spanish had settled New Spain (St. Augustine aka Florida). They should travel 100 miles inland and find a position that would be protected and easily defended if Spain or others should try to attack the settlement. They traveled from the Atlantic inland 35 miles and anchored the ships on what they named the James River. They could tie up the ships to trees rather than anchoring out in the river and rowing into shore. There was timber, vegetation, fertile soil, fish, fowl and game. There were also reedy marshes, no fresh water, disease-carrying mosquitoes and Indians everywhere! The voyagers quickly built a fort and basic shelters. They were welcomed by a few Indians who gave them food and entertainment. But there were other Indians who were not so friendly and shot arrows at them.

“Class” was very important to the newcomers in Jamestowne and some of the settlers were their own worst enemy. The stay-at-home Councilors selected the colony's leaders on their family ties and ignored those of lesser standings. John Smith was the best known settler. He was outspoken, usually right and was finally admitted to council membership in June, 1607. He left the fort and undertook exploratory journeys around the island. He was captured by the Indians and nearly lost his life if the Indian princess, Pocahontas, hadn't interceded on his behalf. He learned the Indian language which helped the colony; but he still made waves, got himself arrested and set back to England. He did return to New England later but finally died in 1631 in England. His writings about Jamestowne gave us what we know today.

One year after the first ships arrived in Jamestowne the second supply ship arrived bringing 120 new settlers including two women. Maid-servant, Anne Burras would marry John Laydon, a carpenter, and have the first child born in Jamestowne.

By 1609 more supply ships and 350 new settlers came. Then the Starving Time began with settlers going to outlying areas and taking ►

foods with them leaving the fort settlers short and with a harsh winter coming. With the weak settlers and a harsh winter the Indians took advantage and attacked anyone who ventured outside the fort. Of the 215 at the fort only 60 would survive. Another ship's arrival brought fresh foods and more settlers who built plantations. Still the Indians attacked and by March, 1622, 347 settlers were dead (just over a third of the population). But by 1624 their census showed 906 people living in Jamestowne.

John Rolf's contribution was the introduction of sweet-scented tobacco from his Bermuda trip. This tobacco became a money crop and was used for cash. Colonists were growing tobacco rather than food crops and waited for the ships to arrive once again from England with supplies.

By 1623 the Virginia's Company charter was revoked, Virginia became a Crown colony. And by 1634 the colony was subdivided into eight shires with a local court, sheriff, clerk and other functionaries. The capital of Virginia remained in Jamestowne until June, 1699 when the governor approved the law that made Williamsburg the new capital. As the area faded, farmers plowed, grew their crops and ended up burying much of the artifacts remaining around the settlement. Jamestowne became a footnote in history.

Little did we know that this settlement by the English would be our own foundation for the legal framework that would govern the new country.

In 1994, the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities was established, hoping to uncover the remains of the original fort. This has been done along with many other artifacts from that time. The year 2007 was the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Jamestowne and was attended by Queen Elizabeth II.

Today, descendants of Jamestowne boast their society encompasses more than 8,000 members with companies (societies) scattered throughout the U.S. In November, 2012 the Northern California Company accepted their charter and is based in Berkeley, CA.

Jo Ann had multiple books for viewing as well as Jamestowne Society brochures. She has also figured out that she is the 11<sup>th</sup> ►

generation from Jamestowne!

Jamestowne Society –

<http://www.jamestowne.society@verizon.net>

Historic Jamestowne –

<http://www.historicjamestowne.org/> ■



## President's Message

*By Dick Finn*

The end of my term as your SRVGS president is just about here. I can not leave office without thanking the many members of our organization who have strengthened it by their dedicated efforts.

When a person writes a letter like this there is always the danger of leaving out some hard working persons. I understand that, so this, my last president's letter, will highlight some of those who have gone the extra mile. This listing is in no special order. I want to thank all of our speakers. We have learned so much this year. A big thanks to Rae and Patty for arranging these speakers. Thanks to Ed for his work as Membership VP and being my behind the scenes adviser, to Bill and all the SIG leaders: Patty, Francie, Bob, Helen, Sharon, and the newest SIG, FTM started by Susan. Thanks to Sandi for all of the outreach work she has done, Ileen for Bits and Pieces, Kathy for keeping us informed of genealogical events, and all the members involved in the our great newsletter: Vern, Bob, Lee, Lucy, and Ileen. A big thanks to all those behind the scenes that help keep the SRVGS strong and viable: Russ, Mary, Jan, Virginia, Peggy, Nancy, Lou, Barbara, Ted, Quentin, Harry, and another Ed. I am afraid I may have missed some of our hard workers. My apology to them but a huge thank you to not only them but all of the folks that have helped make 2012-2013 another great year for the SRVGS. Please give our new president, Russ Erickson, your full support by volunteering to help in anyway you can, be it as a society officer, event volunteer, or committee member.

Thank you,

Dick





## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### SRVGS CALENDAR

#### May 2013

- 7 Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.** A Board meeting was held at the home of Frances Lloyd in Danville.
- 21 Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.** The General Meeting will be held at the LDS Church on Stone Valley Road at Smith Road, in Alamo. From the I-680 Freeway, take Stone Valley Road east 2 1/2 miles.

#### June 2013

- 4 Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.** A Board will be held at a location to be announced.
- 18 Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.** The General Meeting will be held at the LDS Church on Stone Valley Road at Smith Road, in Alamo.

### SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP UPDATE

*By: Bill George*

#### **Legacy SIG Date Change to May 20th**

Due to Memorial Day falling on the fourth Monday in May, we moved the Legacy SIG back a week, so it's Monday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, at 1pm, at the Danville Family History Center. So the General meeting will occur the day after the Legacy SIG. All other SIGs meet at their normal date/times. Also, the FamilySearch SIG is now meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at 1pm and the Legacy SIG meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 1pm, both at the Danville Family History Center.

#### **Resources for SRVGS Members**

We maintain a SIG Calendar, a list of all SIGs and a Member Resources document, at <http://srvgensoc.org/sig.html>. Member Resources includes all SIG information and Danville Family History Center information. You may also ►

email Carol Parmely, Danville FHC Director at: [carolparmley@comcast.net](mailto:carolparmley@comcast.net) or Bill George, SIG Coordinator at [williamcgeorge@gmail.com](mailto:williamcgeorge@gmail.com).

#### **Family History Expo on Fri - Sat, June 28 - 29, 2013 in Sacramento**

I'm attending this two day conference as last year's turned out to be one of the best I've ever attended. They have an Exposition Show Floor and many genealogy classes, typically on record types, DNA, FamilySearch, Ancestry, genealogy programs, Google, research techniques and much more. It's a quick way to get up to speed on multiple genealogy topics. You will meet fellow researchers and maybe, someone who will really make a difference to your research. They have a web site at <http://www.familyhistoryexpos.com>. The event takes place at the Crowne Plaza Hotel Sacramento Northeast, 5321 Date Avenue, Sacramento, California, 95841.

#### **FamilySearch Evolving Quickly**

The FamilySearch web site had a major facelift on April 15<sup>th</sup>, giving it a more glitzy look and opening up photo and story uploads to the public (photos/stories were previously LDS-only). The web site is segmented into "Family Tree", "Photos" and "Search" sections. We have been focusing on the Family Tree in our FamilySearch SIG. The Photos (and stories) section, offer new possibilities to document your family tree, especially as your relatives all over the world might contribute photos and stories. There's a limit of 5,000 photos per registered user. Photos will be covered in our May FamilySearch SIG meeting. "Search" allows you to find sources for ancestors from their collections, most recently, the 1940 census. "Search" is kind of a mini-Ancestry.com, but free. There was one problem that was fixed right away. The Research Wiki got buried in the menus, so they put it right back into the "Search" section. To get to it, go to <http://familysearch.org>, then click on "Search", and then click on "Wiki". We will cover the Research Wiki at our June FamilySearch SIG meeting.

#### **Two Blogs with good FamilySearch Information**

I have been obsessing over the <http://familysearch.org> system recently, and these two blogs have provided a wealth of ►

information about it. One is <http://www.geneamusings.com/> by a prolific blogger, Randy Seaver. The other blog is <http://genealogysstar.blogspot.com>, one I've mentioned previously (by LDS member James Tanner). Please consider either or both as you try to stay up to speed on your genealogy and FamilySearch.org.

■

## SRVGS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS



### FAMILY TREE MAKER/ ANCESTRY – They will meet **Tuesday May 28<sup>th</sup> (the fourth Tuesday)** at 10 am at the Family History Center

on Stone Valley Road. This group focuses on how Family Tree Maker interacts with Ancestry.com. The topic of discussion for this meeting will be: Ancestry Syncing and Questions and Answers. Come join the discussion, keep the group alive and bring your questions. Susan Rush is the coordinator for this group. You may contact her by e-mail [gen4you@astound.net](mailto:gen4you@astound.net) or phone 674-0929.



FAMILYSEARCH

### FAMILY SEARCH / FAMILY TREE

Persons at the previous meetings learned how to register, activate an account on the FamilySearch web site for Family Trees and have an active role in posting data about their ancestors. This Special Interest Group will meet **Monday May 13<sup>th</sup> (the second Monday) at 1 pm** at the Family History Center on Stone Valley Road. Please Note that the *starting time is 1 pm*. The topic will be: *Photos and Stories*. Bill George is the coordinator and contact person for this group. You may contact him via e-mail [william-cgeorge@Gmail.com](mailto:william-cgeorge@Gmail.com)



### GERMAN – The German Group will meet **Wednesday May 22<sup>nd</sup> (the fourth Wednesday)** at the home of Bob Venter in Liver-

more, at 10:00 am. [rjventer@comcast.net](mailto:rjventer@comcast.net) is the e-mail address for Bob Venter. The coordinator for this group is Helen Odegard. Please contact Helen

if you plan to join the group. **You may contact her via e-mail, [shodegard@att.net](mailto:shodegard@att.net) or phone 932-6796** for more information



### IRISH - This special interest group will meet **Wednesday May 8<sup>th</sup> (the second Wednesday) at 10:00 am.**, at the home of Russ and Patty

Erickson in Pleasant Hill. Patty Erickson is the contact person for this group. You may contact Patty via e-mail, [russpat@comcast.net](mailto:russpat@comcast.net) or phone 229-0889.



### LEGACY SOFTWARE – Please note the change in meeting day due to the Memorial Day Holiday. This is a genealogy software users group. This group will meet **Monday May 20<sup>th</sup> at 1-3 pm** at the Family History Center on Stone Valley Road.

The topic for this meeting will be; *Sharing Data: Gedcom, Web Sites, and Thumb Drives*. If anyone is interested in joining this group, contact Sharon Clay with an e-mail to: [sharonclay@comcast.net](mailto:sharonclay@comcast.net), or 925-462-4518.



### PUBLISHING – The publishing group will meet **Thursday May 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am (the third Thursday of the month)** at the

home of Frances Lloyd in Danville. This Group invites you to monthly meetings where you will learn the ins and outs of publishing your family History. This informal group of members will offer advice, encouragement, suggestions and guide you to publishing sources as you develop your book. Members that are interested in joining should let Francie know that they plan to attend. For further information, contact Francie at 837-9382 or e-mail, [frances\\_lloyd@comcast.net](mailto:frances_lloyd@comcast.net) ■

## CALENDAR OF OTHER EVENTS

- 9 **May Thursday 7 pm** The Contra Costa County Genealogical Society holds their regular meetings on the second Thursday at the LDS Building, 1360 Alberta Way in Concord, CA ►

- 17 **May Friday 1:15 to 3 pm** The Mount Diablo Genealogical Society will hold one of its regular meetings at the Creekside Clubhouse meeting room in Rossmoor. **Please note the meeting location.** They will meet on the third Friday of each month. Vera Broyles will speak about: “*How to Research Maiden Names.*”
- 18 **May Saturday noon to 2:30 pm** The Sonoma County Genealogical Society will hold a regular member meeting at the Finley Community Center, 2060 W College Ave in Santa Rosa. The subject of the scheduled program is: *New Ways to Access U. S. Military Records That Save Time and Money and How to navigate your way through the “FOLD3.com” website.* For more information go to <http://www.scgsonline.org>.
- 18 **May Saturday 10:30 pm** The San Mateo County Genealogical Society will hold a regular member meeting at the Grace Lutheran Church Hall, 2825 Alameda de las Pulgas in San Mateo.. “*The Erie Canal and Its Influence on the Outbreak of the Civil War*” will be presented by John Gleed Visit [www.smcgs.org](http://www.smcgs.org) for details.
- 21 **May Tuesday 7:30 pm** The Livermore-Amador Genealogical society will hold one of its regular meetings at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court in Pleasanton. **Please Note that the date is one week later than the typical schedule.** Their web address is: <http://www.l-ags.org> Debbie Mascot and Jane Southwick will speak about Self Publication.
- 21 **May Tuesday 6:15 pm** The Santa Clara County Historical and Genealogical society will hold one of its regular meetings in the Cedar Room of the Santa Clara Central Park library, 2635 Homestead Road in Santa Clara. *Genealogy Research in Pennsylvania* will be presented by Richard Ferman. Visit [www.scchgs.org](http://www.scchgs.org) for further information.
- 7 - 9 **June** The *Southern California Genealogy Jamboree* will be held in Burbank, ►

California. It is the largest Genealogy conference held on the west coast. There will be nearly 100 presentation over the 3 day period, nearly 70 exhibitors and other special events. For details and other registration info, visit [www.scgsgenealogy.com/Jamboree/](http://www.scgsgenealogy.com/Jamboree/)

- 28 - 29 **June Friday and Saturday noon to 4:30 pm** The *Northern California Family History Expo* will be held at the Crown Plaza, Sacramento NE, 5321 Date Avenue. \$55 registration fee for one day. For details and other registration info, visit <http://www.familyhistoryexpos.com/> ■

## EDUCATION

By: *Kathy Javdani*

May is a good time to be out and about learning.



The California Genealogical Society, CGS , [www.californiaancestors.org](http://www.californiaancestors.org)

- The Society begins the month with its **First Saturday Free Intro Class** – May 4th from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m, with Pam Miller. Register online.
- On Wed. May 8<sup>th</sup> there is a field trip from 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. to **the California State Library** at 900 N St, Sacramento, CA 95814 and tour of the **State Archives**. Again register online.
- On Sat. May 11<sup>th</sup> and on Fri. May 17<sup>th</sup>, the **City Directory Library** will be open from 10am – 4pm.
- Also on May 11<sup>th</sup> from 1 - 3pm, Steve Morse will present “*One-Step Webpages:Genealogy Search Tools*”. Register online.
- **The San Francisco Special Interest Group** will meet on Sat., May 18<sup>th</sup> from 10 – 11:30 am.
- The **RootsMagic Special Interest Group** will meet on May 21<sup>st</sup> from 6:30 - 8:00 pm.
- On Sat., May 25<sup>th</sup> from 1-4 pm, Tim ►

Cox will present "*Hard Drive Organization: Making Use of Your Computer File Folders*". Register online.

- Finally on Sat., May 25<sup>th</sup> from 1 - 3 pm Pam Miller will present "*Platting and Locating Lands from Metes and Bounds Deeds*". Register online.



The Oakland Family History Center <https://familysearch.org> will hold its monthly **Mac Gen Society** meeting (Check site for date and time.) **The African-American Research Workshop** will meet on May 22<sup>nd</sup> from 6-8 pm.



At **NARA**, in San Bruno, Rose Mary Kennedy, genealogy specialist continues a series of workshops. On Friday May 10<sup>th</sup> from 10 - 1pm, she and Deborah Osterberg will present "*Federal Land Records*". All workshops are given at the National Archives at San Francisco located at 1000 Commodore Drive, San Bruno, CA 94066. For questions or to register and reserve a space contact: Rose Mary Kennedy at 650-238-3488. Fees are \$15 per session payable in advance.



As always there are opportunities to learn from the comfort of your home. Many classes are listed at <https://familysearch.org/learn>. Just click on research courses. Also at this URL you might want to explore the research wiki and discussion forums.

The Southern California Genealogical Society (<http://www.scgsgenealogy.com>) continues to offer free webinars.

- The next will be on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. From 10-11 am, Peggy Clemens Lauritzen will present "*Homespun and Calico - Researching our Foremothers*".
- Then on Wed., 15<sup>th</sup> from 6-7 pm, Debbie Mieszala will share "*Options in Post-Adoption Research*".
- On Sat, June 1<sup>st</sup> from 10-11 am Janet Neff Rollins will present "*Is There a Baby Catcher in Your Bloodline?*"

If you miss any of these webinars, you can listen to them any time for free if you are a member of SCGS. ►

### HOW TO REACH THE BOARD MEMBERS

**President:** Dick Finn 925-447-9652

e-mail: [president@srvgensoc.org](mailto:president@srvgensoc.org)

**1st V.P.** Russ Erickson 925-229-0889

**2nd V.P. Program:**

Rae Atwood 925-376-7527

**3rd V.P. Membership:**

Ed Mason 925-838-7848

**Recording Secretary:**

Mary Tom 925-376-2756

**Corresponding Secretary:**

Jan Mangold 925-820-5901

**Treasurer:** Vern Segelke 925-838-8570

**Parliamentarian:**

Virginia Rood 925-937-8659

### NEWSLETTER TEAM

**Coordinator:** Bob Venter 925-454-9919

e-mail: [rjventer@comcast.net](mailto:rjventer@comcast.net)

**Calendar Coordinator:**

Vern Segelke 925-838-8570

e-mail: [v.m.seg3@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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 [trvrl@sbcbglobal.net](mailto:trvrl@sbcbglobal.net)



**Save the date:**

“*My German Roots*” - A Festival for German Genealogists; May 4, 2013 Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church, 11427 Fair Oaks Blvd, Fair Oaks, CA 8 a m - 4:30 p m Info: [mekelly4143@comcast.net](mailto:mekelly4143@comcast.net) The San Mateo County Genealogical Society [www.smogs.org](http://www.smogs.org) Spring Seminar will feature D. Joshua Taylor on May 4th.

National Genealogical Society 2013 Family History Conference will be held at The LVH-Las Vegas Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada. Mark your calendars for 8–11 May 2013. For more information go to [http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conference\\_info](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conference_info)

The SCGS Jamboree 2013 will be held from June 6th – 9th in Burbank.

The Concord FHC “Digging for Your Roots” will be held on Oct. 19th

Enjoy!! ■

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**San Ramon Valley  
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