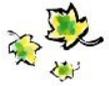




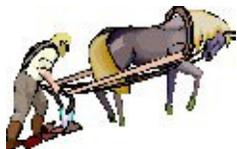
San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society



www.srvgensoc.org

San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

Vol. XXIX No. 4, October - 2013



THIS MONTH – October 15, 2013

“The U. S. Public Land Office “

Presented by: Garl Satterthwaite



Garl Satterthwaite will tell us about the Bureau of Land Management and how to access and use their great resources.

Garl Satterthwaite is an experienced genealogist with many Quaker ancestors. He has a Bachelor's Degree from Purdue and a Master's from University of Southern California, both in Electrical Engineering. In the Army, Gael was a topographical surveyor and surveyed in the United States, the Philippines and Okinawa. After coming to Southern California on the Hughes Fellowship Program, he worked for Litton Data Systems for thirty eight years, specializing in computers and large system design. He traveled to England, France, Scandinavia, Germany, Italy, Iran and Saudi Arabia during his working years.

Since he retired in 1998 he has dedicated much of his time to family research. He has attended many genealogical seminars and has researched his roots in Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Massachusetts, England and Wales. He has identified over sixty immigrant ancestors in the 1500/ 1600s. He has identified twenty one ancestors who were in Indiana before 1840 and has collected over 29,000 names in a well - sourced data base. He volunteered over 1,000 hours as a library docent in genealogy and gave over 200 meeting lectures at the Thousand Oaks Senior Center in a class that had a weekly attendance of about 40 genealogists over 10 years. ■



**From the September Meeting
"Maps Provide Answers to
Genealogical Research Questions"**

Speaker: Teresa Costa Fraser Reporter: Jean Hunt



Speaker Teresa Costa Fraser encourages the use of maps to answer genealogical questions and she shared with us her love of maps.

Several years ago she was hired to do a research project on land at the Napa County Re-

cordor's Office. Although she hadn't done such work before she figured she could do it and once she got into it she was hooked.

When you begin your research you should lay out priorities to answer, such as a time ►



(Photos by Nancy Alexander)

Teresa Costa Fraser

period, a place of interest and questions such as why did this person move, why did he go there, who went with him and so forth.

Early family stories learned from Teresa's parents and other relatives telling about places lived in and owned made her curious. She looked for the location of these fabled places just to satisfy a desire in her to see things as her ancestors saw them. Thus she has gathered a plethora of web sites to visit to find the answers.

In her handout she notes many of our local City and County libraries as well as going further afield to cite World Cat <http://www.worldcat.org> and Google Books <http://books.google.com>.

She encouraged teaching yourself how to become familiar with categorizing methods such as the Midwest Genealogy Center: Alphabetical Index of U.S. County Dewey Decimal Numbers, http://www.mymcpl.org/uploaded_resources/MGC-countydewey.pdf. One should also learn how to read and understand about boundaries and

jurisdictions in sites like the **Atlas of Historical County Boundaries** <http://www.newberry.org/atlas-historical-county-boundaries>.

As family research is all about the desire of our ancestors to gain land or have the freedoms of religion and/or self-government she has cited web sites like Research Wiki, <http://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Main-Page> and Cyndi's List: Migration Routes, Roads & Trails <http://www.cyndislist.com/migration>.

The Fire Insurance Maps can often be a help to genealogist although not originally intended for that use. Teresa found out how the prohibition laws changed the name of her Great-grandfathers Saloon and the adjoining Cigar Shop in Salinas, CA.

Another type of map she enjoyed getting was the Topographic Maps which she admired for their beauty.

Finally she found Cemetery Maps a must to share with her family so they all could know the final resting places of their very interesting ancestors.

Her three page handout and bibliography are chock full of sites and addresses regarding this subject so if you didn't get one you can probably get a set from someone in our society. ■



President's Message

By Russ Erickson

Serendipity! Genealogy makes history interesting. I have, since childhood, felt an attraction for Fort Ticonderoga at the end of Lake Champlain in New York. The fort, seeing 5 battles in the "French and Indian" war and the Revolutionary War, protected the Hudson River Valley from Canada, and formed a gateway to invading Canada (not successfully). It was overlooked by a hill known once as "Sugarloaf". We visited this historic spot once many years ago.

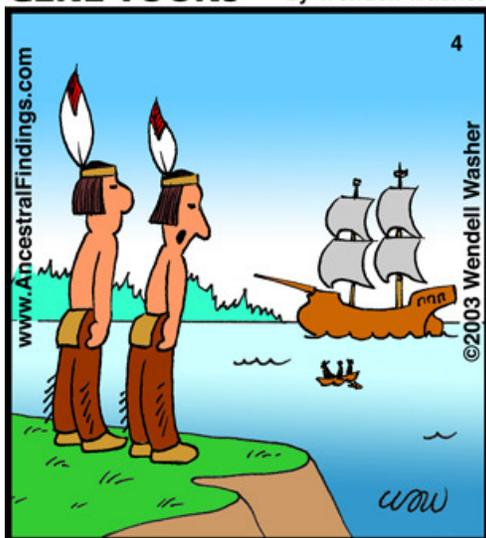
In my genealogic meandering, I found that George Butler, b 1758, brother of my direct ancestor Jethro, was in the Massachusetts militia, stationed there to protect it from the British. In May 1775, Benedict Arnold and Ethan Allen and ►

his Green Mountain boys traveled separately to Ft. Ticonderoga. Arnold knew of much needed cannon there and led to a gathering of Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Hampshire militia. Allen and Arnold squabbled over leadership. A Captain Phillips, acting as a peddler seeking a shave, found the fort walls in poor repair, and learned that the British powder was damp! An early dawn attack resulted in no deaths on either side. Allen's men, uneducated and "uncouth", were soon drunk on the fort liquor. Arnold had to argue to keep the cannon, mortars, and powder, all badly needed for the Continental army in Boston. He gathered up some of the incoming militia and sailed up Lake Champlain to Fort St. Jean, capturing it and a 70 ton sloop, the "Royal George". The ship and all arms was sailed back to Ft. Ticonderoga, then transported to the hills overlooking Boston. Faced with cannon, the British abandoned Boston for New York.

The Fort was rebuilt and strengthened, and my relative and hundreds of other men maintained and guarded it. In 1777, General Burgoyne and 8,000 men came down from Canada, took the overlooking "Sugarloaf" hill, put cannon there, and the militias abandoned Ticonderoga.

Benedict Arnold was here, and in other battles, an outstanding commander and thinker. The politicians and Continental Congress never gave him appropriate credence and advancement in the army. This led later to his going to the British and becoming a traitor. ■

GENE TOONS by Wendell Washer



So it looks like long-lost relatives find a way around sunken land-bridge.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SRVGS CALENDAR

October 2013

- 1 Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.** A Board meeting was held at the home of Frances Lloyd in Danville.
- 15 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.

November 2013

- 5 Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.** A Board will be held at the home of Frances Lloyd in Danville.
- 19 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*

SIG News

I keep waiting for Genealogy to settle down and it never does. Family Tree Maker just came out with an upgrade called FTM 2014. RootsMagic has released version 6, recently and Legacy Family Tree is due to ship version 8, any day now. These genealogy lineage programs are getting easier to use and all are compatible with on-line family tree web sites. Our SIGs now support all three of these programs and their Family Tree capabilities. Our current schedule:

- 1st Monday: Family Tree Maker & Ancestry.com (next mtg is in Nov.)
- 2nd Monday: FamilySearch and FS Family Tree

- 3rd Monday: Roots Magic with FS Family Tree
- 4th Monday: Legacy with FS Family Tree

SRVGS has all the help you need if you want to put your research on your computer and/or on the Internet. Uploading your family tree to the Internet encourages others to collaborate with you, resulting in finding more ancestors.

October is a normal month for SIGs except for the Family Tree Maker SIG which won't meet in October. So, we now have three SIGS, Irish, Publishing and German, that meet at people's homes, during the month. We have our lineage SIGS (FTM, FamilySearch, RootsMagic and Legacy) that all meet on Mondays, at 1pm, at the Danville Family History Center. Please check our web site at <http://srvgensoc.org> for more information.

Do you use Dropbox?

I have used Dropbox for several years and it is a wonderful free service. I highly recommend it, whether you use a Mac or a PC. It's super-simple to set up, just go to <http://dropbox.com> and register for a free account. Then, download their free Dropbox program, install it on your computer and you're all set. Dropbox will install a "Dropbox" folder in your "Documents" folder. When you copy a file to that folder, your computer automatically synchronizes that file to the Dropbox "Cloud". So now, if you go to the internet to Dropbox.com on another person's computer and log in, you can see your file and download it. So now, install the Dropbox program on your 2nd computer (a laptop). After this, your files in the cloud will automatically synchronize to your laptop. If you copy a file to Dropbox on the laptop, it will be synchronized to your desktop and vice-versa. Simple yes? Of course, your computers need to have access to the internet. Try it, I think you'll really appreciate the power of Dropbox. ■

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

SRVGS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS



IRISH - This special interest group will meet **October 9th** (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 or phone 229-0889.



FAMILY SEARCH / FAMILY TREE This Special Interest Group will meet **Monday October 14th** (the second Monday) at **1 pm at the Family History Center on Stone Valley Road.** The FamilySearch SIG will be discussing an Overview of all Services. Bill George is the coordinator and contact person for this group. You may contact him via e-mail williamcgeorge@Gmail.com



PUBLISHING – The publishing group will meet **Thursday October 17th 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



ROOTSMAGIC - Our Second RootsMagic SIG meeting will be **Monday, October 21st** (The third Monday), at **1 pm, at the Danville Family History Center,** 2949 Stone Valley Road. RootsMagic is a full-featured genealogy program with nearly every bell and whistle. There is also a free companion RootsMagic program for smartphones. RootsMagic Essentials is a free (with some functions) version of RootsMagic that you might download from their web site, <http://rootsmagic.com>. The program is \$29 and the optional user guide is \$15. ►

Gayle Curry will be the leader of our RootsMagic group and will be announcing the meetings in the future. If you want to be notified of future RootsMagic meetings, please notify Gayle at bandmcurry@comcast.net.



GERMAN – The German Group will meet **Wednesday October 23rd (the fourth Wednesday) at 10:00 am at the home of Marilynn Tanner in Moraga.** 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 or phone 932-6796 for more information.



LEGACY SOFTWARE – This is a genealogy software users group. This group will meet Monday **October 28th** (Fourth Monday) from 1-3 pm at the FHC on Stone Valley Road in Alamo. The subject for October will be "Lists," have you checked yours? The Master List, To Do list, and what about your Potential Problem List. Bring your data base(s), and your laptop – or you can use the library computers and we will work on areas of need. Please let Sharon Clay know whether you will be coming or not. Phone 925-462-4518 or e-mail sharonlclay@comcast.net. ■

CALENDAR OF OTHER EVENTS

- 5 October Saturday 11 am to 2:30 pm** Angel Island Family History Day will be co-sponsored by The California Genealogical Society and the Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation. Open house will be at the Immigration Barracks. There is no advanced registration or fee for this event. Island admission is included in the ferry ticket price. See further information at www.californiaancestors.org
- 8 October 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. Their web address is: <http://>

www.l-ags.org Richard Ferman will speak about "Finding Your Revolutionary War Ancestor."

- 12 October Saturday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm** Family History Day at the California State Archives, 1020 O Street in Sacramento. will be sponsored by the Sacramento Genealogical Society. There will be facility tours and the opportunity to visit with most of the genealogy clubs and historical societies in the Sacramento area. Admission is free. Parking is free provided you park in the employee lot across the street. For further details go to <http://familyhistoryday2013.blogspot.com>
- 15 October 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. *Territorial Lands and Records, Part 2*, will be presented by Vern Dale & Martha Wallace. As the United States grew, territories were created to organize and manage new land acquisitions. This talk will help you determine which territories your ancestors lived in and introduce the records that the US government has kept. Visit www.schgs.org for further information.
- 18 October 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. They meet on the third Friday of each month. The Speaker will be Bruce Cropper, telling about his research for German roots, and especially about the Germans who went to Russia between the late 1700s and late 1800s.
- 19 October Saturday 8 am to 4:30 pm (classes start at 9:15)** The 22nd annual Fall Seminar, "Digging for Your Roots" will be held at 3700 Concord Blvd. in Concord. The registration fee is \$ 7 for the seminar only. Watch for registration forms at your local Family History Center. Phone Jackie Hein 925-827-4729 for further ►

information.

22 October Tuesday 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

The Sacramento German Genealogy Society will hold one of its regular meetings at St. Mark's United Methodist Church, at Lusk Drive and St. Mark's Way in Sacramento. Baerbel Johnson, A.G, will present, "*Where did Your German Ancestor Fit Socially and Historically?*" Baerbel Johnson, is a specialist in German genealogy, who so often helps us at the help-desk at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. She considers the question appearing in the title above as especially important because in the German Empire history, laws and customs varied significantly among its regions. To guide us toward answers, she will discuss online sources and printed materials. You may also visit their web site at www.sacgergensoc.org

26 October Saturday 8 pm

Three Bay area celebrities discover their family history. "*Their Roots Are Showing*" will be presented at the Del Valle Theater, 1961 Tice Valley Road in Walnut Creek. The program will be Featuring: Billy Beane, Natalie Coughlin and Tim "Herb" Alexander Watch for registration information at www.californiaancestors.org or <http://www.lesherartscenter.org/california-genealogical-society-their-roots-are-showing/>. Tickets are available now. These celebrities will be presented with some of their genealogy, similar to the "*Who Do You Think You Are*" television show. The celebrities are Billy Bean (former baseball player and now A's general manager), Olympic swimmer, Natalie Coughlin, and rock drummer, Tim Alexander

2 November Saturday 9am to 3pm

The San Mateo County Genealogical Society presents their Fall Seminar featuring 4 lectures with Curt Witcher. It will be held at the LDS Church, 1105 Valparaiso in Menlo Park. The registration fee for non-members is \$ 42. Mr. Witcher is the Senior Manager for Special Collections at the Allen County Public Library in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, where he manages the Genealogy Center. He is a member of the Genealogy Committee of the American Library Association. From 1987-2012, he co-edited edi-

tions of the Periodical Source Index (PERSI), the largest and most comprehensive subject index to historical and genealogical periodical literature. He is a past President of the Federation of Genealogical Societies and of the National Genealogical Society. For more information go to <http://www.smcgs.org>.

9 November Saturday 8:00 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Ancestry day in San Francisco will be presented by the California Genealogical Society and Ancestry.com at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco, 5 Embarcadero Center. "Early bird" registration through October 9 is \$38 for the full day and includes access to one-hour sessions. Thereafter, the fee will be \$48. It will be a day of family history, classes, genealogy book sale, and more. Representatives from Ancestry.com will be available to interact with attendees. Personal consultations with CGS staff will be available by pre-registration. Same day registration begins at 7:30 a.m. at the Market Street Grand Foyer. For additional details and information go to www.californiaancestors.org ■

WELCOME — NEW MEMBERS

**We extend a WARM WELCOME
to our newest member!**

Giffen, Jayne

9199 Fircrest Lane, Apt.210

San Ramon, CA 94583

(925) 556-3540

alnjayne@aol.com

And WELCOME BACK!

Thiede, Pamela & Edmond - 2006

709 Las Barrancas Drive

Danville, CA 94526

(925) 837-0664

pamgt@sbcglobal.net

EDUCATION

By: *Kathy Javdani*

October, family history month, is a perfect time to hone our genealogy knowledge. As usual the California Genealogical Society (CGS) www.CaliforniaAncestors.org is offering a number of options.

- October begins with the **Angel Island Family History Day** on Sat., Oct. 5th from 11:30 - 2:30 at Angel Island State Park. Register on line.
- Also on Oct. 5th Pam Miller will lead "Genealogy: An Introduction" from 1-3.
- On Sat., Oct., 12th the City Directory Library is open from 10 – 4.
- On Tues., Oct. 15th the RootsMagic Group meets from 6:30 - 8 pm.
- On Fri., Oct. 18th from 9 - 1 join a "Create Your Own Document Box" Workshop.
- On the 18th the City Directory Library will also be open from 10 - 4.
- Also on the 18th "Understanding Our Family, Understanding Ourselves" will be held from 1 – 2:30 pm.
- On Sat., Oct. 19th the San Francisco Special Interest Group will meet from 10 - 11:30 am.
- On Sat., Oct. 26th from 8 - 10 pm at Del Valle Theater in Walnut Creek don't forget "Their Roots Are Showing! – Three Bay Area Celebs Find Out Who They Are". Buy tickets now! As always refer to the Society's website for details.



The Concord Family History Center will hold its "Digging for Your Roots" on October 19th. The registration deadline is Sept. 30th. For more information contact Jackie Hein at 925-827-4729.



The Oakland Family Search Library (FSL), <https://familysearch.org> offers ►

HOW TO REACH THE BOARD MEMBERS

President: Russ Erickson 925-229-0889
e-mail: president@srvgensoc.org

1st V.P. Lynnet Keihl 925-672-2567

2nd V.P. Program:
Patty Erickson 925-229-0889

3rd V.P. Membership:
Ed Mason 925-838-7848

Recording Secretary:
Mary Tom 925-376-2756

Corresponding Secretary:
Barbara Shapas 925-820-7943

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

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.

the following:

- The monthly Mac Gen Users Workshop on Wed. Oct 9th with our own Bill George at 7:00 pm.
- The SwedGen Tour 2013/Swedish Genealogy Seminar is scheduled to begin at 9:30 am on Sat., Oct. 12th at the Oakland Family Search Library. Refer to the Oakland Family Search Library website for registration information.
- On Wed., Oct 16th at 6:30 there will be a session on *Into. to Jewish Genealogy*.
- The monthly meeting of SFBAJGS will be held on Oct. 20th beginning at 12:30.
- The monthly African American Research Workshop will take place on Wed., Oct. 23rd beginning at 6:00 pm.
- On Sat., Oct. 26th Bill George will lead the daytime meeting of the Mac Gen Users Group at 1:30 pm. ►



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 California Genealogical Society, www.scsgenealogy.com continues to offer free Webinars. The next will be on Sat., Oct. 5th at 10 am when Taneya Koonce will present “*Genealogy News at Your Fingertips: From RSS to Digital Magazine Platforms*”. Then, on Wed., Oct. 16th at 6 pm, Drew Smith will lecture on “*Effective Online Queries, lost among the crowd?*” Find out how to construct and post effective queries so that yours get noticed!

Save the date:

Ancestry Day – – Discover a bridge to your past! on Saturday, November 9, 2013, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco for **Ancestry Day - San Francisco**. This event is sponsored by CGS and Ancestry.com. See the CGS website for details. ■

San Ramon Valley
Genealogical Society
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FIRST CLASS MAIL