



# San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society



www.srvgensoc.org

San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

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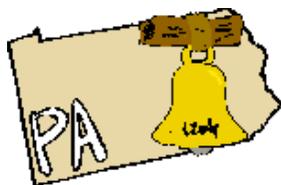
**THIS MONTH – July 15, 2014**  
**“Quakers: History & Research”**  
**Presented by: Garl Satterthwaite**



**G**arl’s talk will provide background on the Quakers in England and their migration to Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. He will discuss their persecution, hardships, religious beliefs, Meeting Houses, Burial Grounds and the Fighting Quakers. His many photos give insight into where they lived, worshipped and are buried. He will discuss the sources for Quaker research in libraries, archives and on the internet. He will provide awareness of the Quakers surnames that have spread throughout the country.

Garl Satterthwaite is an experienced genealogist with many Quaker ancestors. He has Electrical Engineering Degrees from Purdue and USC. He worked for Litton Data Systems for thirty eight years, specializing in computers and large systems design.

Since he retired in 1998 he has dedicated much of his time to family research. He has researched his roots in Indiana, Ohio, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, England and Wales. He has identified over sixty immigrant ancestors born in the 1500s and 1600s, and has collected over 31,000 names in a well-sourced database. In Thousand Oaks, he volunteered as a genealogy docent at the library and presented genealogy lectures to a class at the senior center. He and his wife, Carol, also an avid genealogist and DAR member, moved to Pleasanton in the summer of 2012.



**From the June Meeting**

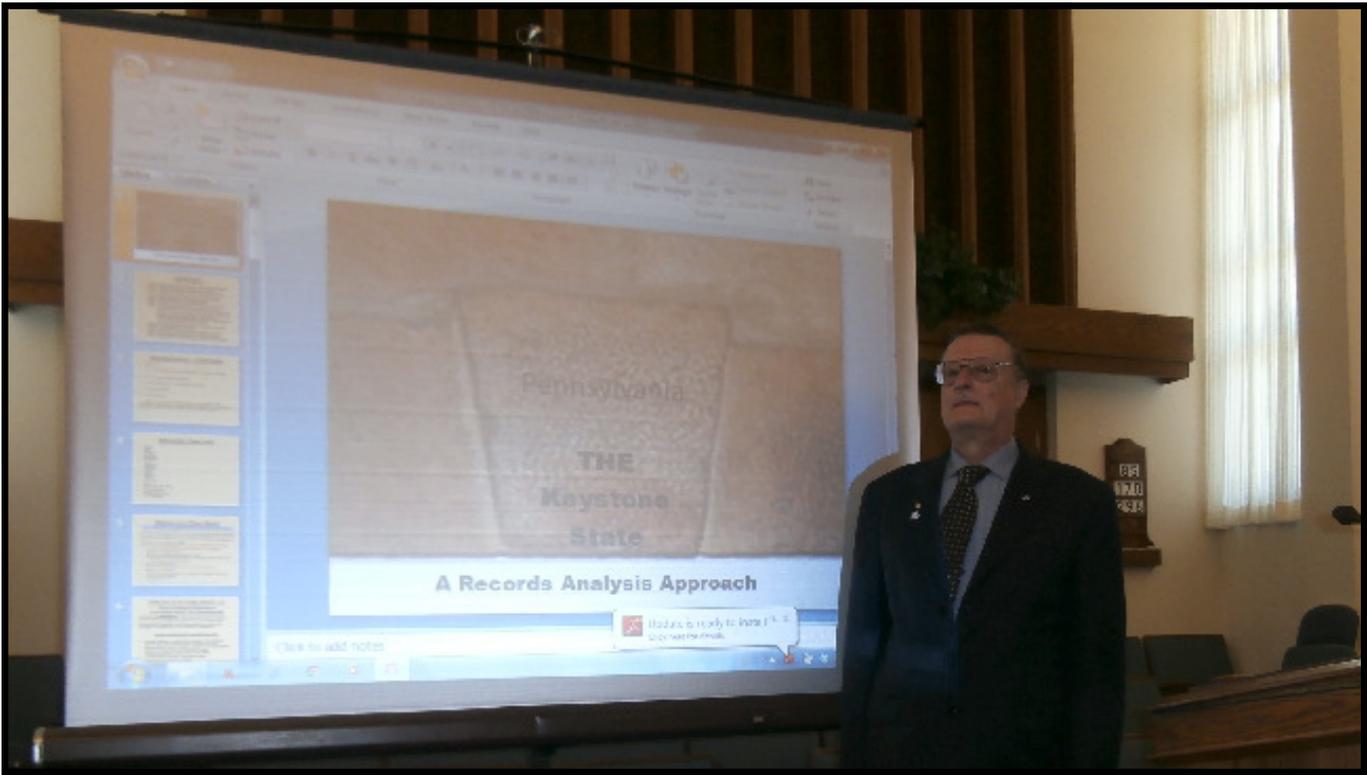
**“Pennsylvania: The Keystone State”**

**Speaker: Richard J. Ferman**  
**Reporter: Russell Erickson**

**KEYSTONE  
STATE** 

**I**n 1614, the Dutch established trading posts in Pennsylvania. In 1681, Charles II gave Pennsylvania to William Penn to pay debts. In 1682, Wm Markum was appointed governor and selected Philadelphia as the capital. The

years 1683-84 saw 3,000 Quakers and Germans invited to colonize Pennsylvania by William Penn. 1701 was Penn's last visit and a liberal charter was set. From 1700-1800, many Quakers and “Anabaptists” (Amish, Mennonites, Dunkards) ►



(Photo by Nancy Alexander)

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### Richard Ferman

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and Tunkards) colonized, aided by English and Scots-Irish in 1735, English Catholics in 1732 and Moravians and Deutsch in 1740. After 1800, colonists came from many countries. The Pennsylvania Archives have MANY records published and free on the internet (only New Jersey also publishes free). All Land records are extant because they were a source of revenue for the state--start with them! Tax records are likewise all available as a revenue state source. One can judge the wealth of an ancestor by these. When using census records, check history to see when counties changed; a book of county histories is available (also the "Source"). Both federal and state censuses are available. Military records are from 1776-1858, with pension data. Religious records have many leads, though Presbyterian or Congregational churches are often not released as the ENTIRE church body has to vote for to release them! Records could go back to 1730 if so. Wills, Intestate, and orphans records can have much information. If intestate, the courts seized assets and posted a genealogy of the children under 21, so they received funds for their sustenance before creditors. If over 21, debtors came first and land and belongings could be sold by the court. Other records include legal, criminal

(www.ronaarons.com gives a good criminal history survey), death, marriage, birth, business, newspapers, and ship lists. Fold3.com has scanned the Pennsylvania archives (free). It is important to check the history of the county of interest in the era of interest. If interested in a city, check it in Wikipedia. Birth and death records exist mainly from 1852.

A reference list was handed out: Hoenstein "Guide to Genealogy and History Research in PA", 1972. Dructor, "Guide to Genealogy Sources at the PA State Archives", 1998, Clint, Florance, "PA Area Key-A Guide to Genealogy Records", 1976 including maps, history and charts, Munger, Donna "PA Land Records" are all excellent. For religious records check Rich Dougherty, chapter 6 of the "Source". Note every denomination in the USA has a historical society and can say where the church records are available.

WPA workers indexed county records that are available in PA libraries (LDS and universities might or might not have them). Sutro has copies of the indexing. Many libraries in PA have unadvertised holdings. Mr. Ferman found a SAR connecting ancestor information in a cardboard box at a library! ■



## President's Message

By Russ Erickson

Investigating, after Francie Lloyd and Rae Atwood mini-eds on our libraries, I explored the Pleasant Hill library genealogy section. Entering the library, stay left into the reference room; on your immediate left is a locked case of California history, with reports and texts, such as 5 volumes of the Anza Expedition, the Annals of San Francisco, the history of Berkeley, and 1849-50 El Dorado. Continue toward the left to the back of the room to the genealogy room.

In section 1 to your left, are shelves of general genealogy research books, land and ethnic genealogy books. Section 2 near the door covers Canada, England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, plus French and German books. Lower are 2 shelves of organizations; DAR, SAR, and Mayflower. The lowest shelf covers New England and many books of Heraldry.

To the right of the door, section 3 has 1 shelf on the Revolutionary War period, including a fascinating 2 volumes of "*Field Book of the Revolution*" by Tuttle (929.373), 3 volumes of "Revolutionary Women of the Era, history through bibliography" (973.3), and "*Bounty Land Grants*", by state governments by Bockstruck (973.24). There is 1 shelf of Wars and Pensions, including the Indian Wars. In sections 3 to 12 are books on state genealogy and history, with 3 for California, 2 Tennessee, Illinois, Kentucky, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, and 3 for North Carolina, and 9 for Virginia! Section 13 covers Immigration, including ship's passenger lists and many books on the Scots, plus 6 on the Irish Famine immigration. Section 14 has books of family histories covering 2 shelves of 6-3 foot sections.

In addition, there are 3 file drawers of family periodicals and newsletters plus California periodicals. The library also has Everton's Genealogical Helper and National Genealogy Society magazines in the periodical area just outside the Genealogy room. The shelves there also contain periodicals from many states, Canada, England, Scotland, Germany, and New England. ►

The library in Pleasant Hill is worth a browsing afternoon for those with a love of genealogy and history. Downtown Pleasant Hill is a good mile north, with many good, not too expensive restaurants for lunch or early dinner, and easy free parking. ■

## WELCOME — NEW MEMBERS

Let's all extend a warm Welcome to our newest members:

**Eugene Bissell**

and

**Richard & Valerie Jo Remley**

Please look for Eugene, Richard and Valerie Jo at our meetings and welcome them to our Society.



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### SRVGS CALENDAR

#### July 2014

- 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.

#### August 2014

**Our Society will not hold a Board Meeting or a General Meeting during the month of August.** The next Board meeting is to be held at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, September 2 at the Home of Frances Lloyd in Danville.

## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP UPDATE

By: *Bill George*

Because the Danville Family History Center is closed in July, our three SIGs that meet there have been cancelled this month. The German SIG will not meet in July nor August. The Irish Research and Publishing SIGs will meet at their normal times and places. Please refer to our web site and elsewhere in this newsletter for details.

In August, people have traditionally taken time off for vacations, but three of our SIGs plan to meet. The FamilyTreeMaker SIG on the 1<sup>st</sup> Mon. 1pm, the FamilySearch SIG on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mon. 1pm, Danville FHC and the Publishing SIG on the third Thursday at 10am at Francie Lloyd's home.

Please check our web site for SIG happenings and schedule changes at <http://srvgensoc.org/sig.html>.

### County Formation Maps

Something one needs to verify during one's U.S. research is the history of the formation of states and counties. A Windows program called Animap from Goldbug Software <http://goldbug.com/animap/> can do this and it costs about \$80.

However there's another way, using the web site, <http://mapofus.org>. This contains historical atlases and maps of the U.S. states and counties. From their Home page, a map of the U.S. is displayed and you can click on any of 48 U.S. states to display more detailed information with interactive maps showing the formation of counties. You can advance year by year, showing when counties were formed and what their boundaries were. This can really focus your research. There are many other links to various maps on these pages from different time periods and locations.

If, from the Home page of <http://mapofus.org>, you click on "U.S. Maps" there appears an Interactive Map of U.S. State Formation History, from 1776 to the present. Year by year you can see, graphically, when states became territories and then were admitted to the U.S. There are also many more map links that may help your genealogy research. ■

## SRVGS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

**NOTE:** For San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society Special Interest Group contact information and schedules, you may also visit the web site at <http://srvgensoc.org/sig.htm>



**IRISH** - This special interest group will meet **Wednesday July 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am., at the home of Russ and Patty Erickson** in Pleasant Hill. **They do not plan to meet in August.** Please plan to get together again on the second Wednesday of September . Patty Erickson is the contact person for this group.



**PUBLISHING** – The publishing group will meet **Thursday July 17<sup>th</sup> and August 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 am at the home of Frances Lloyd** in Danville. This informal Group invites you to monthly third Thursday meetings. Members will offer advice, encouragement, suggestions and guide you to publishing sources as you develop your book, big or small. Members share their writings as their progress to a finished project. Society members interested in joining should let Francie know that they plan to attend.



**ANCESTRY/FAMILY TREE MAKER** – This group focuses on how Family Tree Maker interacts with Ancestry.com. This group **will not meet in July.** Susan Rush is the coordinator for this group. They are scheduled to meet **Monday August 4<sup>th</sup> (the first Monday) at 1 pm at the Danville Family History Center, 2949 Stone Valley Road,** and plan to meet **Monday September 15<sup>th</sup> (the third Monday) at 1 pm** at the same location.



**FAMILY SEARCH/ FAMILY TREE** This group will not meet in **July.** They are scheduled to meet **Monday, August 11<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm at the Danville Family History Center, 2949 Stone Valley Road.** Bill George is the coordinator and contact person for this group.





**LEGACY SOFTWARE** – This is a genealogy software users group. **This group will not meet in July or August.** Sharon Clay is the coordinator and contact person for this group.



**GERMAN** – The German Group **will not meet during July or August.** Their next meeting will be their Oktoberfest luncheon September 24th at the home of Carol Huvane. The coordinator for this group is Helen Odegard. Please contact Helen if you plan to join the group.

## CALENDAR OF OTHER EVENTS

- 14 July Monday 7:30 pm** The Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society will hold one of its regular meetings at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court in Pleasanton. **Meetings will be on the second Monday of the month.** ‘*Cemeteries Are Not a Dead Subject*’ will be presented by Virginia Kysh. The web address for the society is: <http://www.l-ags.org>
- 18 July Friday 1:30 pm** The Mount Diablo Genealogical Society will hold one of its regular meetings at the Creekside Clubhouse meeting room #3 in Rossmore. They meet on the third Friday of each month. The meeting will feature an ‘Open Forum’ questions and answer session for members to share valuable experiences with the group. The discussion will be led by MDGS Member, Diane de Golia.
- 19 July Saturday 10:30 am** 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. Martha Wallace will speak about “*Care and Reading of Old Tombstones.*” This talk will help you use tombstones as clues in learning more about your ancestor. Symbols and epitaphs often reflect personal characteristics. Their web address is: <http://www.smcgs.org/> ►

- 22 July 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. James Baker, PhD will speak about *Solving the Hardest Genealogical Puzzles with Clues You Already Have.* At their meeting on **Tuesday, August 26, Warren Bittner will speak about Basic Church Records, an A to Z overview of German Family Historians' most valuable records.** You may also visit their web site at [www.sacgergensoc.org](http://www.sacgergensoc.org) ■

### \*\*\* A Message From Your Program Committee \*\*\*

Get your society working for *you*.

Suggest meeting presentation topics or

Speakers to the programs committee at:

[programs@srvgensoc.org](mailto:programs@srvgensoc.org)

We will do our best to find a qualified

Speaker to cover the topic.

## EDUCATION

By: *Kathy Javdani*

It s time to escape the hot summer days by enjoying increasing our genealogy expertise.



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

- starts the first Saturday of each month with its Introduction to Genealogy class from 1-3 pm. This month the class will meet on Sat., July 5<sup>th</sup> and next month on Sat., Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please register on line.
- Join the Information Discussion Group on Thursdays, the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, and 31<sup>st</sup> from 6:30 - 8:30. It s open to all members at all levels of research experience to share information and experiences.
- On Sat., July 19<sup>th</sup>, the San Francisco SIG will meet from 10 - 11:30. ►

This SIG always meets on the third Saturday of each month.

- On Sat., July 26<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 - 12:30 CGS will present *Passenger Lists, Naturalization, and Passport Records*, Presenter: Jancie Sellers.

Register on-line.

For more upcoming events from Santa Cruz to Sacramento check the CGS San Francisco Bay Area General Calendar at <http://sfbagenealogy.blogspot.com>



At this time the Oakland Family Search Library has no classes listed for July. But July is a good time to check the FamilySearch website <https://familysearch.org> for tutorials, wikis, discussion forums, and Webinars. You also might want to check on your favorite websites for similar offerings.

### Enjoy learning from home:



The Southern California Genealogical Society (SCGS) [www.scsgenealogy.com](http://www.scsgenealogy.com) continues to offer free webinars. This month it will be offering

- Wed., July 16<sup>th</sup>, from 6 -7 pm. *How the Interview Family: Skills for Your Ears, Eyes, Brain* by Susan Kitchens.
- Sat., Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10 - 11am *Crossing the Border: How To Backtrack an Ancestor into Quebec from the US* by George L. Findlen.



Remember there are also free genealogy presentations and PDF notes for researching information at NARA on the SCGS website under webinars ([www.scsgenealogy.com/weinar/overview.html](http://www.scsgenealogy.com/weinar/overview.html))

- *Neither Filmed nor Scanned: NARA Treasures Await* by Kerry Batlets
- *Many Facets of the National Archives Website* by Kerry Batlets
- *National Archives Website, Microfilm, Catalog, Archival Databases, and Guides* by Kerry Batlets ►

- *Military Records at the National Archives* by Kerry Batlets



The New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) [www.Americanancestors.org](http://www.Americanancestors.org) has a growing Online Learning Center that offers educational resources for both guest users and NEHGS members. There is access to archived webinars, online courses, how-to videos, subject guides, and more.

### Save the Date:

The New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) comes west to Berkeley, Saturday, September 13, 2014.

Family History Retreat, Family Search Library, Oct 27-31, 2014, Salt Lake Plaza Hotel, 122 West South Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

Happy researching!

## Is Your Membership about to Lapse?

Society membership dues were due by July 1<sup>st</sup>. As a reminder for those who were just too busy to get their renewal application in on time, a **Red Dot** has been placed on their address label of the newsletters that were sent via the U.S. Post Office. For those who receive their newsletters via e-mail a short message was included with the e-mail delivery. If you have received such a reminder, please get your renewal to us by the end of July or you will be dropped from our rolls and this will be the last newsletter you will receive.

## When a Genealogy Hobby Digs Up Unwanted Secrets

By Sue Shellenbarger

The Wall Street Journal, January 15, 2013

Amateur genealogists, beware. Researching your ancestry doesn't always turn up heroes and royalty. It may turn up a felon, a bigamist or another unsavory character.

New York filmmaker Heather Quinlan ►

found more than a few skeletons when digging into her ancestors' closet. Among them: Thomas Fagan, her grandmother's great-grandfather, who had killed a man during a drunken bar fight in 1868 (reportedly hitting him over the head with a chair in self-defense).

She also turned up evidence of a murderous feud—set off by a scandalous elopement—that had engulfed her grandfather's ancestors in the 1830s. One forebear was hanged for the killings, but others, including her fourth great-grandfather, escaped after the jailer forgot to lock the cells. "It was like the Hatfields and McCoys meet Romeo and Juliet, with a touch of 'Mayberry R.F.D.' thrown in," Ms. Quinlan says.

Last year, people curious about family trees spent \$2.3 billion on genealogy products and services, according to a 2012 study by market-research firm Global Industry Analysts. And while nearly everyone who researches ancestry is caught off guard by some finding, says genealogist Terry Koch-Bostic, a Mineola, N.Y.-based director of the National Genealogy Society, a nonprofit education, training and records-preservation group, roughly 1 in 5 of those surprises are negative, she estimates. The bombshell may be the discovery of someone up the family line who engaged in illegal or immoral activity. "We all find things that are really shocking and surprising," she says.

Experts say reactions can range from detached bemusement to identity confusion and soul-searching as the researcher tries to understand—and rethink—his or her lineage.

For Ms. Quinlan, the news of her rampaging relatives was cause for some head scratching. "We're actually not a violent bunch," she says. But she regards the stories as evidence that her forebears were fiery and colorful, family traits that have since emerged in more positive ways through careers in the arts and public service.

Acceptance can be harder, experts say, when the story is particularly grisly or the unsavory relative sits closer in the family tree.

Crista Cowan, a genealogist with Ancestry.com, the largest subscription genealogical website, says a client she worked with a few years ago was aghast to learn that his great-great-grandfather was the notorious "sausage king." ►

## HOW TO REACH THE BOARD MEMBERS

**President:** Russ Erickson  
[president@srvgensoc.org](mailto:president@srvgensoc.org)

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**Treasurer:** Bill Hewitt

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## NEWSLETTER TEAM

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**Calendar Coordinator:**

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**Mailing:** Lucy Carver

*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 owner of a Chicago meatpacking plant who was convicted of murdering his wife and disposing of her body in a sausage grinder. Stunned, the man broke off contact for a few months before returning to Ms. Cowan to learn more.

The growth of genealogical Web research has facilitated many such discoveries. Membership on Ancestry.com rose 54% since 2010 to more than 2 million, while Cyndi's List, a service that catalogs genealogy links on the Internet, has more than tripled its postings in the past decade to 325,000.

But for many family historians, things that used to be considered embarrassing just aren't that big a deal any more. "The black sheep, the skeletons in the closet these days are celebrated, if anything, because we have become more open-minded and flexible," says Megan Smolenyak, a Haddonfield, N.J., genealogist and author of *"Hey, America, Your Roots Are Showing,"* a book about surprising genealogical discoveries. Her advice: "When you look at what your ancestors did, you don't get the glory and you don't get the blame. It just means you have a colorful story to share."

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**San Ramon Valley  
Genealogical Society  
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**FIRST CLASS MAIL**