

SAN RAMON VALLEY

GENEALOGICAL

SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 305
Diablo, CA 94526

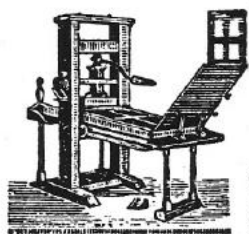
Editor: Dorothy Stanton

Meetings: 10 a.m.
3rd Tuesday of month
(except August & December)
Danville Women's Club House
242 W. Linda Mesa Avenue
Danville, CA

Volume V No. 6

Barbara O'Rand, President

January 1990



PROGRAM: JANUARY 16, 1990



HOW I PUBLISHED MY OWN BOOK

January's speaker, Elizabeth Campbell, is a local author of the book Castle Hopping in the U.K. with Elizabeth. She published her book herself, forming her own company and is now in the marketing phase of this endeavor. Mrs. Campbell will discuss some of the pitfalls and triumphs she experienced in producing her finished book: e.g., finding a printer and a company that will help you publish, deciding the computer format, the photos to use, the book cover, etc. If you plan to publish your own family history someday (Don't we all?), come learn the "do's & don'ts" of self-publishing.

LAST MEETING

At our November meeting, all who were able to attend just before Thanksgiving heard some of the fascinating stories which are the "bonus" of family history research. Our "mystery" panel, who entertained and informed us, were revealed as:

MARGARET DOUGHERTY, who detailed the problems of trying to verify family stories of a relationship to Cardinal Dougherty;

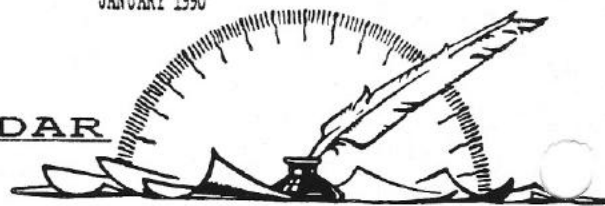
ARDITH STEGER, whose 8th-great grandmother Elizabeth Fones married Henry Winthrop (son of Gov. John) and became the basis for the heroine of Anya Seton's novel Winthrop Woman;

DELORES HUCKABONE, who finally had some success (thanks to a helpful person at the county Historical Society) in proving that her husband's grandfather did not really start life at the age of 26;

RUTH PHELPS, who showed us a silver butter dish (a Christmas gift to her gt-grandmother in 1875), used at the Graylock Institute in MA, started by a family member as the first prep school for Harvard and Yale; and

FRANCES LLOYD, whose long search for the ashes of gt-grandmother Mary Catherine, at last was

[Cont'd on p.36]

* MARK YOUR CALENDAR**JANUARY**

- * 9 - Tuesday, 10 a.m. Irish Interest Group [see p.37]
- * 9 - Tuesday, 2 p.m. Southern Interest Group [see p.37]
- 9 - Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Livermore-Amador GS meeting at Cong. Beth Emek, 1886 College Ave (at "M"), Livermore.
- * 11 - Thursday 10:30 a.m. & 1 p.m. German Interest Group & Class [see p.37]
- 11 - Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Contra Costa Co. GS meeting, City Council Chambers, Parkside Dr., Concord. Program: Jackie Mepyans, "Southern Migrations"
- * 16 - Tuesday, 10 a.m. SRVGS Monthly Meeting
- * 16 - Tuesday, 1 p.m. ROOTS III Interest Group [see p.37]
- 18 - Thursday, 1-3 p.m. Meeting of Mt. Diablo GS at Home Federal Sav. & Loan Mtg. Rm., 1928 Tice Valley Blvd., Walnut Creek.
- * 23 - Tuesday, 9 a.m. SRVGS Library Trip to Solano Co. GS Library, Vacaville. Meet behind Alpha Beta on Diablo Rd. to carpool.
- * 24 - Wednesday 10 a.m. Publishing Interest Group [see p.37]
- 27 - Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. First of 4 "Beginning Genealogy" workshops taught by Bette Kot. Other dates are Feb. 10 & 24, Mar. 10. Fee is \$10/class or \$35/series to benefit the Friends of the Archives. To register, make checks payable to SMCGRS and mail to P.O. Box 5083, San Mateo CA 94402.

FEBRUARY

- * 6 - Tuesday, 10 a.m. SRVGS Board Meeting. All members welcome.
- * 13 - Tuesday, 10 a.m. Irish Interest Group.
- * 13 - Tuesday, 1 p.m. Southern Interest Group. [see p.37]
- 13 - Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Livermore-Amador GS meeting [see Jan. 9 above].

PLANNING AHEAD

April 20, 21 CGS Genealogy Fair, San Francisco

June 6-9 NGS National Capital Area Tenth Anniv. Conf., Arlington, VA. For brochure write to 1990 NGS Conference, 4527 17th St., North, Arlington, VA 22207-2399.

* **HAPPY FIFTH BIRTHDAY TO US!****OFFICERS to Contact**

President: Barbara O'Rand 837-1760

Vice-Pres.: Frances Lloyd 837-9382

Membership: Carol Glover 820-7207

333 Goshen Ct.

San Ramon, CA 94583

Annual Dues: \$12.50; \$15 (family)

NEWSLETTER

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735-9610

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rewarded and resulted in uniting distant cousins for the purpose of giving them a final resting place.

CONGRATULATIONS, also, to Frances on the printing of her book on Mary Catherine's opposite number. See p.37 "Publishing".

→ **WELCOME to NEW MEMBER!**

MANFRED LINDNER - 32 Corte Nogal, Danv. (837-4444). Researching: SIMONS, Bristol, Eng. to U.S.; DECOSTA, London, Eng. to U.S.

CORRECTION: MARY JO HOSTENY is researching the surnames BOYLE, CALLINAN, & WELCH in Ireland; also HOSTENY in Czechoslovakia.



SPECIAL INTEREST STUDY GROUPS

IRISH INTEREST Meets at 10 a.m., Jan. 9 at Carol Glover's, 333 Goshen Ct., San Ramon (829-7207).

Joyce Gunderson will have more to report from the eleven pounds of notes she shipped home after attending the week-long Genealogical Conference in Dublin by Dr. James Ryan.

SOUTHERN INTEREST Meets Jan. 9, 2 p.m. at Peg Frazier's, 44 Toyon Terrace, Danv. Meets Feb. 13, 1 p.m., at Jackie Meyran's, 40 Harvard Wy., Walnut Creek. Call Frances (837-9382) to carpool from Danville.

GERMAN INTEREST Meets Jan. 11, 10:30 a.m. at Kate Pruenste's, 91 Madera Ct. Danville (838-9873).

At 1 p.m. the "German for Genealogists" class will be held at the same place.

ROOTS III - Meets Jan. 16 at 1 p.m. at Jean Blackmur's, 1941 Alameda Diablo, Diablo (837-2952).

Bob Hecox will demonstrate the use of a MODEM.

PUBLISHING INTEREST Meets Jan. 24, 10 a.m. at Carol Glover's [see IRISH above]. Frances Lloyd will discuss the printing of her book, Some Letters and Papers of Horace Leander Mixer.



HELPS from the PUBLISHING INTEREST GROUP

CORRECT TITLES

A "foreword" is not the same as a "preface", and neither is the same as an "introduction" to a book.

A book's FOREWARD always is written by somebody other than the author of the book. It tells the reader what the book is supposed to be about and is often an endorsement from another person.

A PREFACE is by the author of the book, and it usually contains acknowledgements and the author's reasons for writing the book.

An INTRODUCTION contains material essential to an understanding of the book. An introduction is by the author of the book, and it might contain, as an example, the historical background that led up to the events chronicled in the book.

[from "Words" by Michael Gartner,
Cowles Syndicate, Inc.]

ALWAYS REMEMBER!!!

[Ten Rules for Writing]

1. Verbs has to agree with its subjects.
2. In articles employ commas to keep strings of articles apart avoid confusion separate thoughts and make things clear.
3. Don't, however, overuse, commas, which aren't necessary.
4. Make sure every pronoun agrees with their antecedents.
5. Never use no double negatives.
6. Never abbrev.
7. Excessive use of exclamation points or capitalized words WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!!!!!!
8. Allways check for speling errors.
9. Use conjunctions like you know what you're doing.
10. Double-check to see if you out any words.

[Contributed by Fran Lloyd; source unknown]



[Cartoon below contributed by Marilyn Fullam]





REVIEWS

Castle Hopping in the U.K. with Elizabeth, by Elizabeth Campbell, pub. EFC Publishing Co., 1987.

The author based her book on information gathered during a 1982 visit to Scotland, England and Wales. It is a guide book for other castle visitors. In the table of contents there are 58 castles and palaces listed. Within the content of the book the author reviews the various architectures listing them alphabetically. She includes its location with directions, hours when viewing is possible, ownership, and entrance fees. She follows with short paragraphs in which she discusses distinguishing features and architectural design and of people and events which shaped its history. She includes for us her star rating which describes the length of her visit and the number of other tourists. She concludes each section with comments of her visit - what she liked most about each castle.

There is a 4 page bibliography for the castle enthusiast and outline maps of England, Wales and Scotland with a list of numbered castles for easy location.

If one feels he has an ancestor in Scotland, England or Wales with a castle in his history, this book would be of genealogical interest. One would have only to read each paragraph entitled History of People and Events. The book is not indexed - but it's not a big book. A genealogist interested in publishing their history may want to have a good look at the book itself. It is a handy size, well constructed with softcover and the cost is only \$12.95. If one is planning a genealogical trip to those countries, castle visiting would be a nice diversion and this guide book would help. It's a fascinating book that will make you wish you could visit each castle. But if you can't, Elizabeth Campbell's descriptions are the next best thing to being there. 185pp. small easy to carry 5-1/2 x 8-1/2. Available for \$12.95 by writing to the author at P.O. Box 522, Livermore, CA 94550. [Review by Delores Huckabone]

CASTLE TOUR

Elizabeth Campbell and her husband, Donald, will lead a 12-day castle-hopping adventure through England and Wales starting May 23. Mrs. Campbell, a former teacher, is an administrator at Lawrence Livermore Nat'l Laboratory. The tour includes 17 of the 60 castles included in her book. For more information, contact Columbia Travel Service, 886-9545.

LIBRARY NEWS

SOLANO COUNTY GS LIBRARY - The library chosen for our January 23 SRVGS Library Trip is located at 620 East Main St., Vacaville, (707) 446-6869. It is open Mondays (except holidays) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and (beginning Jan. 6, 1990 for 6-month trial period) Saturdays, also 10 to 2. The library now has Vol. 1 - 26 of the DAR's "Records of the Families of the Calif. Pioneers" on microfilm. These registers correspond to the Society's publication "Index to the DAR 'Records of...'" A recent acquisition is the CA Information File of the CA State Library Microfiche Edition. The library has diverse holdings; the "new books" lists in recent quarterlies show titles on England, France, Ireland, Germany, New Eng., the South, Midwest, as well as Western states--something for everyone!

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY - Librarian Kenneth Dowlin says the quake-damaged Main Library will reopen as scheduled on Jan. 13 even though it's still a mess. There will be fewer accessible books, less room to read, "boxes of books stacked and mass confusion."

FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY, SALT LAKE - Some new sources now available are: records of "National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers" 1866-1937, institutions in 12 states [in FHL catalog under "United States - Military"]; passport applications (1,100 microfilm rolls) 1795-1919 and a variety of indexes through 1925. For the 800,000 applications currently available, look in the catalog under the heading "United States - Emigration and Immigration." [More in Feb. Newsletter or see News of FHL, Sep/Oct '89] or NGS Newsletter Vol. 15, No.5]

★ CENSUS - 1790-1990 ★

★ 1990 - THE BICENTENNIAL CENSUS

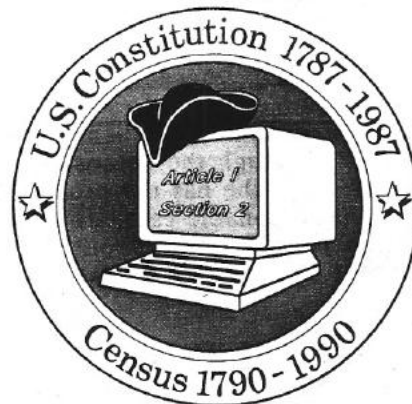
If the census can be described as a snapshot of America, then come April 1, 1990, census officials expect to have a clearer picture of the US. Special programs are being used for the first time in an effort to more accurately count minorities and the homeless. On the evening of March 20, census takers will go to homeless shelters, bus depots, train stations, etc. to gather information.

"The census is the largest undertaking attempted by the US, outside of war," according to Marianne Hansen, congressional affairs specialist for the bureau. The bureau will hire about 565,000 workers. The census is required every 10 years by the US Constitution. The population numbers are the basis for allocating congressional seats among the states. Also, states use the figures to redistrict congressional and legislative boundaries.

Unlike early census counts, when enumerators went from door to door, writing out answers by hand, the 21st Decennial Census will be a "do-it-yourself" census taken largely by mail and then tabulated by computer. Every household will receive a census questionnaire through the mail shortly before Sunday, April 1. One adult in each household will be the "census-taker" to fill out and mail back the form. Census employees will follow up in person or by telephone those households that do not send back their forms. Response to the census is required by law -- US Code, title 13 -- which also guarantees confidentiality of information.

Genealogists, thinking of future generations, have an interest in the form that the census takes. Most households will answer 19 questions on the "short form" pertaining to population and housing: e.g. age/month and year of birth, race, sex, Spanish origin, household relationship, and marital status; type of dwelling unit, number of units in the structure, plumbing, number of rooms, owner/renter status, and value of the house or monthly rent.

Approximately 1 in 5 households will get a



longer form, containing the basic questions plus a variety of additional questions about members of their household and their housing unit. The answers from this "sample" will be statistically projected to the entire population for use by decision makers in the public and private sectors.

★ HELP WITH THE CENSUS

Would you like to get an inside look at how the census is gathered? The Census Bureau needs Crew Leaders, Enumerators, Office Clerks, Data Transcribers, Payroll Clerks, Supervisors and Supply Personnel, etc. in temporary/part time positions. Most positions are 6 to 8 weeks or longer. Office positions are 18 months or more. For further information, call (707) 554-5905 for Contra Costa County. Call (415) 430-3525 for Alameda County.

★ OPENING THE 1920 CENSUS

On Monday, March 2, 1992, the National Archives in Washington and eleven regional archives will unlock the microfilm cabinets housing the 1920 census microfilm -- the culmination of 4 years work by more than 40 staff members at a cost of over \$1 million (not including salaries).

In the transfer of records from the Bureau of Census to the National Archives, an agreement was signed that the records be kept closed for 72 years (thus the 1990 census will not be opened until April 1, 2062!). The enumeration date for the 1920 census was Jan. 1 but the Archives staff selected Mar. 2 to ensure that all copies will be distributed and ready.

The 1920 census exists only on micro-
[cont'd on next page]

film and consists of 2,076 rolls of schedules and 8,590 roll of the Soundex index. Every state is indexed, which will simplify access for genealogists and family historian. The Archives Media Preservation Branch has undertaken a frame-by-frame review of each roll, examining each for density, scratches, focus, fungus, gasses, etc. The archives will produce the highest quality copy possible, given the quality of the original film.

A minimum of seventeen duplicate sets (fifteen positives and two negatives) must be produced in advance of the opening date: one for the Microfilm Research Room in Washington, twelve for the regional archives, two for the microfilm rental program, and two negatives for fee duplication (one set will consist of individual rolls, the other of 1,000-foot rolls for duplication of entire states). The Archives labs will be producing 127,992 rolls of census film in the next two years. Each Archives location will have to plan where to put 10,666 rolls of new microfilm. [From NGS Newsletter Vol. 15, No. 6. Excerpted from an article by Don W. Wilson, Archivist of the United States.]

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DIABLO, CA 94528**

→ HELPS FROM HERE & THERE

► A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION:

In the course of research, each of us learns more about the individuals on our pedigree charts than is conveyed by a few dates and place names. Resolve to write at least a paragraph about one individual each week during 1990. At the end of the year, you'll have 52 persons or families written up! If you can't decide where to start, use Marilyn Fullam's method: place couples' names in a hat, pull one out and start with that family!

► Write Elderhostel, 80 Boylston St., Suite 400, Boston, MA 02116, for their catalog of courses -- a number of them in genealogy, e.g., Mar. 4-17, a 2-week Advanced Genealogy Program at Brigham Young Univ. [Contributed by Ardith Steger]

► Genealogical Resources in the New York Metropolitan Area a guide by Estelle M. Guzik and published by the Jewish Genealogical Society offers information on more than 100 research centers. Order from the Society, P.O. Box 6398, New York, NY 10128 or call (201) 837-2700. [Contributed by Bea O'Rand]