

SAN RAMON VALLEY

GENEALOGICAL

SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 305
Diablo, CA 94528

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 94526

Volume VII No. 1

June 1991

NEXT MEETING: JUNE 18, 1991

PROGRAM: GERMAN RESEARCH

KATE PRUENTE, a SRVGS member, has been doing German research since 1975 but has done more concentrated work in the past five years. She is a volunteer at the Oakland Family History Center; has taught German locally at the high school and adult education levels; she continues to do German translating.

Although her topic is German research, Kate will begin with research techniques suitable to any European inquiry. She will mesh these methods with the LDS Family History Center library resources specifically. Her two trips to Germany for research will provide valuable tips about on-site work. We are fortunate to have Kate share her knowledge and experience with us before she moves away from us to Sonora.

From Sandy Aberer, Program

* * * * *

LAST MONTH

By Ardith Steger

MAY SPEAKER: LINDSAY REEKS on "SCOTLAND"

The majority of Mr. Reeks' 35 years of experience in genealogical research in England and Scotland has been "on location." His many trips have taken him to villages of his forebears, parish chapels and graveyards, usually located next to the churches. For the traveler, it's the way to go; but, 'stay-at-homes', remember, much information is available here at home -- sans a bit of the romance and glamour!

One especially interesting custom Mr. Reeks related was the Scottish pattern for naming children:

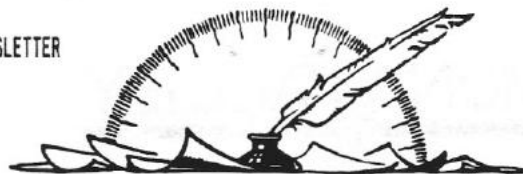
First Son named for Father's Father
Second Son named for Mother's Father
Third Son named for Father

* * *

First Daughter named for Mother's Mother
Second Daughter named for Father's Mother
Third Daughter named for Mother

If you missed getting the handout of "A Few Important Addresses For Travel and Family Research in Scotland", let me know. I'll be happy to make copies.

[More on Scotland on p.6; naming patterns, p.7]



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

JUNE

- * 11 - Tuesday 10AM Irish Interest Group [see p. 3]; 7:30PM Livermore-Amador GS Meeting, 1886 College Ave, Livermore. Topic: Members Sharing.
- 12 - Wednesday - 10AM East Bay GS Meeting at Mormon Center, 4780 Lincoln Av, Oakland. (SRVGS member) JOYCE GUNDERSON will speak on the topic "Shamrock Shimmer and Survive Seminar." Joyce will talk about her Irish heritage & Dr. Ryan's seminar in Dublin. Come at 9AM for Used Book Sale to raise funds for publishing a "Guide to Research in Alameda County".
- * 13 - Thursday 10AM German Interest Group [see p. 3]; 7:30PM Contra Costa Co GS Meeting, City Council Chambers, Parkside Dr., Concord. Program: Report on the NGS Conference in Portland by members who attended.
- * 18 - Tuesday 10AM SRVGS MEETING; 1PM ROOTS III Interest Group [see p. 3]
- * 25 - Tuesday 9AM SRVGS LIBRARY TRIP to Sutro Library [see p. 5]
- * 26 - Wednesday 10AM SRVGS Publishing Interest Group [see p. 3]
- 29 - Saturday 10AM PAFFers United, Family History Center, 3700 Concord Blvd, Concord.

ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE JULY NEWSLETTER SHOULD REACH THE EDITOR THE LAST WEEK IN JUNE.

JULY

- * 2 - Tuesday 10AM SRVGS Board Meeting, Frances Lloyd's. ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!
- * 9 - Tuesday Irish Interest Study Group [see p. 3]; 7:30PM LAGS Meeting: "Joseph's Disease", Rosemarie Silva.

SUMMER EVENTS

- July 7-11 - Salt Lake City UT: 3rd Internat'l Seminar on Jewish Genealogy "A Global Affair" Contact: Assoc. of Jewish Genealogical Societies, 1485 Teaneck NJ 07666; (201) 837-2700. July 8-14 Chicago IL - 22nd Internat'l Convention of American Historical Soc. of Germans from Russia "This is Our Story --Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow". Write A.H.S.G.R. 631 D St., Lincoln, NE 68502-1199 or call (402) 474-3363. July 8-12 - Washington, DC, Nat'l Institute on Genealogical Research. Write NIGR, P.O. Box 14274, Washington DC 20044-4274. July 8-13 - Boston MA: "Come Home to New England" Seminar. Contact William H. Schoeffler, NEHGS, 101 Newbury St., Boston MA 02116. July 20-21 - Locust Grove, VA: The Memorial Fdtn. of the Germanna Colonies in VA, Inc Seminar. Write Germanna, P.O. Box 693, Culpeper, VA 22701.
- August 6-9 - Provo UT: Annual BYU Genealogy & Family History Seminar. BYU Conferences & Seminars, HCEB, Provo UT 94602; (801) 378-3559. August 15-18 - Fort Wayne, IN: FGS "An All American Conference". Contact: Curt Witcher, FGS Conference Chair, 900 Webster St, P.O. Box 2270, Fort Wayne IN 46801-2270.
- [Some calendar items extracted from "Friends of the Archives" CONSOLIDATED GENEALOGICAL CALENDAR received via Peggy Frazier's MODEM]



MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

I fell asleep the other night
and while I had my snooze
I dreamed each Member stepped right up
and promptly paid his dues.
But when I found 'twas but a dream
I nearly threw a fit.
It's up to You to make this true.
Suggestion -- PLEASE REMIT!

[Borrowed from CLAN DONALD U.S.A. N/L via EBGS N/L]

➡ This will be your LAST NEWSLETTER unless Membership Chair Mary Jo Hosteny receives your dues by JULY 1. [See form in the May Newsletter.]

* * * * *

CONDOLENCES - SRVGS wishes to express sympathy to Peggy Frazier in the death of her husband, Phil, on May 20. The board would also like to extend a belated expression of sympathy to Ardith Steger and Guin Mills for the death this past year of their husbands.

OFFICERS to Contact

President: Frances Lloyd 837-9382
Vice-Pres.: Mary McNamara 837-7767
Membership: Mary Jo Hosteny 829-7207
2004 Reliez Valley Rd.
Lafayette, CA 94549-1804

Annual Dues: \$12.50; \$18 (family)

NEWSLETTER

Editor: Dorothy Stanton
501 El Capitan Drive
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820-3757

Mailing: Barbara Dittig
735-9610

The Newsletter is published every month except August & December.

SPECIAL INTEREST STUDY GROUPS

- GERMAN - The group will meet June 13 at 10AM at Shirley Terry's, 301 Almond Ct., San Ramon (829-7787). Call Shirley to confirm the date.
- IRISH - Meets 10AM each second Tuesday of the month at Carol Glover's, 333 Goshen Ct., San Ramon (829-7207).
Next meetings: June 11 and July 9.
- PUBLISHING - Meets 10AM June 26 at Dorothy Stanton's, 501 El Capitan Dr. Danville (820-3757).
- ROOTS III - Meets 1:00PM on third Tuesdays at Sandy Aberer's, 110 El Nido Ct., Diablo (837-8271). Next meeting: June 18. This will be the last meeting until September. Watch the newsletter for announcements about the CONTINUING Group and start-up of the Roots III BEGINNERS group with Bob Heacox this fall.

RESEARCH HELPSTIPS FROM SRVGS MEMBERS

- From CAROL GLOVER:

SOFTWARE BARGAINS

Genealogists who use computers will find some bargains in software at CompUSA in San Bruno near the Tanforan Shopping Center (close to the National Archives). Sample: ROOTS III at \$119.99. You can check on price and availability by calling 1-800-451-7638.

- From MARILYN FULLAM:

OVERLOOKED PASSENGER RECORDS

If you can't seem to find the immigration records of your ancestor, try checking the New Orleans passenger arrival indexes for 1853 to 1899. Thousands of Irish, as well as French, Germans and Scandinavians came through New Orleans on their way to other states. These arrivals are indexed year by year on 31 reels (Family History Center Nos. 0543403 to 0543434.) The unindexed arrival records cover 29 December 1820 to 28 February 1921 (check the Family History Center card catalog - Louisiana, Orleans, New Orleans, Emigration and Immigration for the numbers).

Another good group of records for New Orleans is the Charity Hospital Admission Records from September 1829 to December 1899. This was a Catholic charity hospital. The poor of New Orleans came here as well as ill passengers just off arriving ships from Europe and "up the river". These admission records are indexed by year and gave a very detailed admission record such as name, last place lived, how long in New Orleans, name of ship arrived upon, age, etc. These films are on 40 reels (check the Family History Center card catalog for the film numbers - Louisiana, Orleans, New Orleans, Medical Records).

- From KATE PRUENTE:

GERMAN MAPS

Maps Unlimited (2005 Crow Canyon Place, just

south of Costco, 277-1885) has detailed maps of sections of Germany. Call or visit John Heilbronner to get your section. The East-West atlases will not be available until later in the year.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: Another source for modern European maps, as well as topographic and pre-World War II maps of German and Austro-Hungarian Empires, is GENEALOGY UNLIMITED, INC. P.O. Box 536, Orem, UT 84059-0537. Write or call (800-666-4363) for their free catalog]

- From MILLIE FREITAS:

FREE HELP

Ritchie County, West Virginia Marriages, 1843 - 1915. I own a copy and will be happy to check the index for relatives of any of the membership. Call me at 837-2483.

HELPS FROM HERE & THERE

- MISSING PERSONS? A recent Scripps Howard News Service article by Rebecca Jones (*SRV Herald* 5/16/91) detailed how modern technology can help you locate a missing relative for your family reunion -- or even an old high school sweetheart, if you wish. Valentine's Tracing Service of Youngstown, Ohio has a data bank of about 90 million names compiled from 4000 US cities' phone books, plus magazine mailing lists, voter registration lists, car registrations and other sources. Sue Bishop, whose husband Josh runs a tracing service, can give you a printout (by mail or FAX) of names for \$39.95. Give her a surname, a first name or a middle initial and she can search 50 states and give you all those with that name plus phone numbers and addresses. The Bishops say, "If you're not delighted with what we've done for you, we'll rip up the credit card charge." [EDITOR'S NOTE: This may be similar to the database which Wilbur Duberstein (January 1991 SRVGS speaker) said he used to trace all Dubersteins in the US for his family reunion. You might also want to check

with former SRVGS speaker John Ferris of Walnut Creek who is an heir-tracer. It's possible that he has access to a similar database.]

LOOKING FOR FAMILIES

- SHROPSHIRE FAMILY? Donald F. Harris, M.A., 25 Grangefields Road, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY39DD, England is investigating emigration from Shropshire to the US and Canada before 1914, as a member of a professionally-directed local history study group which will publish its findings. He would like to know (in addition to names) the emigrants' place of origin in Shropshire, date and port of embarkation, reasons for leaving, any arrangements made with English shipping agents, destination, and career in the US -- in fact, any data concerning the emigrants. In return, he will be glad to try to help those wishing to find out more of their Salopian heritage.

[from FORUM Fall 1990]

- IS THERE A YARDLEY IN YOUR FAMILY? Yardley of London, manufacturer of lavender soap, is looking for descendants of the Yardley family for a special event scheduled for later this year. The company has a strong interest in learning more about the Yardley/Yearley/Yardlie family history in England, as well as in America. It hopes to join members of the Yardley family separated by the Atlantic Ocean and centuries of history. Initial research has identified several names associated with the Yardley family. They include Cadwalader, Flowerdew, Offley, Thorowood, and Upshur. If you have any information about the Yardleys or associated families, please contact Elaine Ehrhardt at 916 Michigan Ave., Evanston, IL 60202. [From FORUM Spring 1991]

- OR A MAUPIN? Phyllis J. Bauer, 3312 W. Fairway Dr., McHenry, IL 60050-5606 is in the process of collecting the names and addresses of persons who would like to be notified of the publication of an update on the lineage and descendants of the Gabriel and Marie (Hersent) Maupin family who came to America in 1700 and settled in Williamsburg, VA. If you have documented lineage data concerning the Maupins, please send it to her as soon as possible. Publication is projected for the fall of 1991 [From NGS N/L Vol 16 No 5]

The MAUPIN family reunion will be held 2 Nov 1991 in Williamsburg, VA. For details, send a LSASE to Mrs. Dorothy Maupin Shaffett, 1919 N. 82nd St., Kansas City, KS 66112. [From CSGA N/L Jan 1991]

- WRIGLEY Medical researchers have discovered that persons whose ancestry include a WRIGLEY

may have a unique protein in their blood that results in that person's blood cholesterol being very low, lower than 50 -- even as low as 35 to 17. This property of the blood is called "Apo B 54 protein" and other persons with Wrigley ancestry are being sought so that additional test can be conducted. Any such persons will be paid \$250 plus expenses. Contact Kathy Garlock, Washington School of Medicine, Barnes Hospital, 4566 Scott Ave, Box 8046, St. Louis, MO 63110. Telephone (314) 362-7465. The doctors are in "fax" communications with a family line in Scotland and eight families in the US. [From IL State GS Jan/Feb 1991 via SMCOS N/L Apr 1991]

- CALLING ALL FOOTES! For information on the Foote Family Association of North America Family Reunion scheduled for July 1992 in Petaluma, CA, please contact Helen Raid, 3274 Tioga Rd. #202, Concord, CA 94518. Tel (415) 825-8629.

- OLD ST. PAUL'S CEMETERY, Baltimore MD is being restored. It was activated in the 1790s and was active until the 1850s. The restoration committee is looking for living descendants of those buried there. Information on descendants (names, addresses, telephone numbers should be sent to: Nancy Schamu, Chairman, Committee for the Restoration of Old St. Paul's Cemetery, 122 E. Churchill St, Baltimore, MD 21230. [From Charlotte Co GS June 1990 via FORUM Spring 1991]

- THE BRUCE FAMILY Historical Society/The Royal Bruce Society has implemented some ideas that other Family Associations might use. The society is in the process of entering family lines and data into its computer program. This will be an ongoing process as more lines are received. Members will be provided with ten free searches a year on the computer search program, and they will be informed of any important links. Members receive discounts on all society publications including *The Bruce Journal*. The organization has a one-time registration fee of \$15 in addition to the annual membership (at present \$15). The first in a series of *Historical Papers* will contain approx. 120 pages of primary records, early lineages, research, etc., pertaining to all branches of the Bruce family. Membership is open to all descendants of Robert de Brus born at Normandy 1040, accompanied William the Conqueror to England, and died ca. 1094; also any descendants of the senior branch of the de Brus family of Normandy. All female lines are accepted. For more information contact Michael Bruce at Box 724511, Atlanta, GA 30339.

[From Christine Rose, FORUM Spring 1991]



LIBRARIES & ARCHIVES

JUNE LIBRARY TRIP

The library trip on June 25 will be to Sutro Library. Meet to carpool behind Lucky's on Diablo Rd. in Danville at 9AM. If anyone wants to meet in Lafayette, please call Mary Jo Hosteny (829-7207). Pleasanton Library has the microfiche of Sutro's newest acquisitions; check with CCCo Central Library in Pleasant Hill for availability there.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES at San Bruno is open on Wednesday until 8:15PM.

LDS FAMILY HISTORY CENTERS - Before ordering microfilm/fiche be sure to check the FHLIC Card Catalog to see if this film is available on fiche. By ordering fiche, the branch library can keep the fiche as an indefinite loan and the cost to the patron is considerably less. Be aware that if the card catalog indicates a set of fiche, then you must order the entire set at 25 cents each. Some fiche may be lengthy.

The 200 most commonly used books are available in each LDS Family History Center on microfilm. The FHLIC Card Catalog will indicate when the item you are viewing is one of the 200 most commonly used books by stating "This title is part of the Family History Center Microfiche Project. Ask your Family History Center director for more information." It is not necessary to order these films/fiche as they are already on the premises. [From SMCOS N/L May 1991 "Family History Footnotes" by Diane Harrington]

GERMAN HELP The Immigrant Genealogical Society Library has an extensive German section, including books in German and in English, on states with a high concentration of German immigrants, such as NY, NJ, and PA. The library will be adding East German telephone directories and updating the current West German directories, which they will search for a fee of \$15 for ten towns or cities per surname. [From Marilyn L. Deatherage, Corresponding Secretary, The Immigrant Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 7369, Burbank, CA 91510-7369]

The Immigrant Society is conducting negotiations with the staff of the Hannover Archives to purchase the Schaumburg-Lippe microfiche. Germany has filmed their records, but have never sold the film. If the IGS is allowed to

purchase these records, American genealogists would have access to a valuable new resource. For information about availability or to make a contribution towards the purchase, contact the society at the address in the previous item. [From FGS FORUM Fall 1990]

JEWISH RECORDS - An article in the Jan. 1991 issue of the magazine Hadassah tells of "Looking for Cousins Removed" by Miriam Weiner. It tells of the DOROT, the Jewish Genealogy Center at the Beth Hatefuloth Museum of the Jewish Diaspora at Tel Aviv University. In its computers are over 670,000 family trees. By 1992 they plan to have worldwide satellite centers. A specialty is the vast amount of information concerning Holocaust victims. Included is a resource list with addresses of places doing Jewish research and of many repositories. [From Western PA GS Feb 1991 via SMCOS April 1991]

HOLOCAUST SEARCH - Through a new service made available by the American Red Cross, Holocaust survivors are now able to begin to search for their families. Two years ago, the Soviet Union released documents that list more than 400,000 people who were interned in camps and died under the Third Reich. Included in the documents are records of 46 death camps including nearly 70,000 death certificates from Auschwitz; 130,000 names of prisoners used for forced labor in German companies; and 200,000 names of victims in other camps. Inquiry forms are available from the Red Cross (1-800-848-9277). Once completed, they are sent to the international tracing service in Arolsen, Germany, a branch of the central tracing agency of the International Committee of the Red Cross. [From an article by Judy Chicurel, Examiner/Chronicle, March 17, 1991. Contributed by Marilyn Fullam]

VIRGINIA ARCHIVES The Archives and Records Division of the VA State Library and Archives has recently published the first of a series of research notes designed to assist researchers in using records in its collection. Research Notes Number 1, "Using Land Tax Records," describes the form, content, and uses of VA land tax records. These records, which begin as early as 1782, comprise one of the oldest continuous series of records in the

archives. The four-page leaflet is available free upon request from the Archives and Records Division, Virginia State Library and Archives, Richmond, VA 23219

[From FGS FORUM Spring 1991]



LIBRARY BROWSINGS

PLEASANTON LIBRARY - Livermore-Amador GS Collection:

SCOTTISH ROOTS: A Step-by-step Guide for Ancestor-hunters in Scotland and Overseas. 1981 by Alwyn James. MacDonald Publishers, Loanhead, Midlothian. 183 pp.

This book is a good follow-up to last month's talk by Lindsay Reeks. Like Mr. Reeks, the author takes you through the principal repositories of Scottish records and, using the device of helping two beginners, gives an account of a week's research in the New Register House. This is a good basic book on Scottish research which includes the subjects of genealogy by mail and writing up the research. The author begins by explaining that he started in genealogy by helping his wife with her research. "Within hours I had contracted that appalling and increasingly common disease of ancestor-hunting, a disease for which there is no known cure. Ancestor-hunting, ... has everything: the magnetism of the puzzle, the thrill of the chase, the challenge of the unknown -- and the very real sense of exploring territory which has not been surveyed and measured, logged and plotted by all and sundry. Add to this the fact that it is your own ancestors you are identifying and learning about and you will get an inkling of the power of the addiction." We can all identify with that!

NEW ACQUISITIONS AT THE PLEASANTON LIBRARY:
SCOTCH-IRISH FAMILY RESEARCH MADE SIMPLE by R.G. Campbell. Rev. Ed. 1987, Summit Publications. 65 pp. Treats movements of Scots to Ulster and on the America. Discusses research in Ireland.

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE MIDWEST by Allen Carpenter. 2500 entries on history, people and places, including histories of the states, counties and cities in the Midwest.

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE HOLOCAUST 4-vol set. The article on Byelorussia, for example, is five pages long, and gives a short political history of the area, then the history of the Jews there, then the sad story of the murders. [Abstr. from reviews by Judy Person & Geo Anderson]

SOLANO COUNTY GS LIBRARY

By Mary Jo Hosteny

[Note: While these reviews represent books at the Solano Co GS Library, they may also be available in other genealogical libraries -- especially Sutro.]
NOTES AND QUERIES RELATING TO INTERIOR PENNSYLVANIA by W.H. Egle, 1896, GPC 1970. This includes biographical sketches, genealogical data, and lists of members of various military companies. INDEX to Egle's Notes and Queries published by GPC in 1970.

INDEX TO INDIAN WARS PENSION FILES 1892-1926 Vol 1-2 transcribed by V.D. White, Natl Historical Publ. Co., Waynesboro, TN, 1987. This was taken from microfilm records at the National Archives and includes claims for service in the Indian Campaigns between 1817-1898, in the Army, Navy and Marines.

INDEX TO THE WAR OF 1812 PENSION FILES Vol 1-3, transcribed by V.D. White, Natl Hist Pub. Co., Waynesboro, TN 1989. Transcribed from microfilm records at the National Archives for claims for service 1812-1815.

U.S. CENSUS OF PENSIONERS OF 1840 by R.V. Jackson, AIS Int'l. 1984.

GENEALOGICAL ATLAS OF IRELAND by Gardner, Harland and Smith, Deseret Book Co., 1964, 41 pp. A brief history of Ireland, genealogical records (as of 1964), maps of all counties and index to towns.

NATIONAL INDEX OF PARISH REGISTERS (England), V.1-3, V.1 to 1837, birth, marriage and death records by D. J. Steele, Phillimore, London, 1976.

NEW ENGLAND MARRIAGES (PRIOR TO 1700) by C.A. Torrey, GPC, 1990. Alphabetical index with copious information on each listing.

THE SCOTCH-IRISH by C.A. Hanna, Vol. 1-3, GPC, 1985. Mainly history of the Scotch-Irish with relation to the Revolution, Constitution, American liberty, religion, history of Picts, Britons, Norse, Angles from early times to present, also history of Scots in Ireland. No index of names.

10,000 VITAL RECORDS OF WESTERN NEW YORK, 1809-1850, Vol I; CENTRAL NEW YORK 1813-1850, Vol II; EASTERN NEW YORK 1777-1834, Vol III by F.Q. Bowman, GPC 1987. Vital records from early NY newspapers' marriage and death columns. No births -- they were not published in these early papers.

GATEWAY TO THE WEST by Bowers and Short, Vol 1-2, GPC 1989. Covers relatively inaccessible genealogical records of 76 of Ohio's 88 counties. Common pleas court records, guardianships, naturalizations and deed abstracts to birth, marriage and death, cemeteries & wills.

NAMES AS CLUES

Your research may be aided by knowing typical naming patterns in the past. According to the Santa Clara Hist/Gen NL for Jan 1989, these are patterns which may help identify the family of an ancestor from the names he gave his children.

ENGLISH/WELSH

1st son after paternal grandfather
2nd son after maternal grandfather
3rd son after father
4th son after the father's oldest brother.
1st daughter after the maternal grandmother
2nd daughter after the paternal grandmother
3rd daughter after mother
4th daughter after mother's oldest sister.

DUTCH

1st son after paternal grandfather
2nd son after maternal grandfather
3rd son after father's paternal grandfather
4th son after mother's paternal grandfather
5th son after father's maternal grandfather
6th son after mother's maternal grandfather
1st daughter after the maternal grandmother
2nd daughter after the paternal grandmother
3rd daughter after the mother's maternal grandmother
4th daughter after the father's maternal grandmother
5th daughter after the mother's paternal grandmother
6th daughter after the father's paternal grandmother.

GERMAN

1st son after paternal grandfather
2nd son after maternal grandfather
3rd son after father
1st daughter after the maternal grandmother
2nd daughter after the paternal grandmother
3rd daughter after mother.

[Reprinted in CCCGS N/L April 1989]

IRELAND

The tradition strictly adhered to in many parts of Ireland was that the father names the first-born after his father or mother and the mother the second-born after her father or mother. They then alternated until both sets of parental names were used up. Then they used the names of their brothers and sisters -- always alternating.

[From *The Ancestor Trail in Ireland* by Donal F. Begley]

SURNAMES AS GIVEN NAMES

The American custom of giving a boy his mother's surname as a middle-name originated in England. Keep in mind, however, that after the Revolution (and other wars) many sons were given the name of the General or commanding officer of the father. For example: the many males named "Greene" or "Green" (for General Nathanael Greene) in the South [Editor's note: I have a "Green House" in my family]

For a fascinating study of given names and the way immigrants often modified their native surnames, see H.L. Mencken's *The American Language* and, especially, *The American Language, Supplement Two, "Proper Names"*.

CONFUSION OF NAMES

A Boyertown, PA genealogist passes along a hint about nicknames in general and PA "Dutch" names in particular: "I know people who were looking for a Margaret and found a Rebecca and didn't know they had their person. Both Salome and Sarah have Sally as a nickname. When a tombstone cutter, a census taker or someone such as those were given a nickname, he often would change it to what he thought was the correct given name. If he was given the name "Sally", he might change it to Sarah, thus most likely changing Salome's name on some permanent record. The names of Margaret and Rebecca were often used one for the other. Margaret was known as "Peggy"; Rebecca as "Becky" and the Pennsylvania German pronounced them both "Pecky" -- with the aforementioned result on the records! -- From Edgar B. Grubb via Chicago GS N/L German Interest Page, Feb. 1988 [Editor's note: Having found a "Melissa" (known as "Lizzie"), whose death certificate and cemetery record listed her as "Elizabeth", I can attest to the truth of the above]

PATRONYMICS

Until well past 1900, many Scandinavians did not use surnames at all, but only patronymics. Hans the son of Neils was Hans Nielsen; but Hans' son Soren was Soren Hansen. Peder, the son of Soren would be Peder Sorensen. If there happened to be more than one Peder Sorensen in the village, then sometimes the name of the farm where he lived would be added, as in Peder Sorensen Soby (South Farm). Until mid-1800's, women added "datter" to her father's name; she did not change it at marriage. The practice still survives in Iceland.



WORLD WAR II VETERANS ASKED TO REPORT WARTIME EXPERIENCES

As a genealogist, you recognize the value of military records. Now is the time for veterans of World War II to tell their stories for posterity. Most veterans will say they are not writers and will not sit down and compose their own story, but now they are asked to answer some questions, and have it become a part of preserved history of their nation during wartime.

The United States Army Military History Institute, Carlisle Barracks, Carlisle, PA 17013-5008, is offering a questionnaire to any veteran who will write and ask for one (you need not send a return envelope). Just ask for the "questionnaire for World War II military service and experiences." The Institute will even provide a postage-paid envelope in which to return the survey.

In the 17 Dec 1990 issue of *AntiqueWeek Genealogy Week* section, John W. Heisey, noted genealogical author, talks about this project at some length. He reminds us that, "as a genealogist you shouldn't always be getting. You should also give." Most World War II history is written by military leaders, government officials, newsmen, or historians.

Now it is the turn of the 'vet'.

This survey is an 18-page questionnaire, but don't let the length deter you from the project. Just think of it as your contribution to the true story of how you served. You can answer as briefly or as thoroughly as you want, but you will be surprised at how much you will want to say when you are presented with questions that jog the memory.

For those of you with WWII veterans in the family, why not write for the forms for your veteran; make it as easy as possible for them. Perhaps your interest and enthusiasm will encourage them to tell at least some of their story. Don't forget to make a photocopy of the questionnaire and answers for the family history.

If you are a member of a local veterans organization, your old unit's organization or know any other WWII veterans, please give them the address and encourage them to write for, and complete the form. Your own version of your experiences should be told and kept for posterity.

[From Scott Co Iowan March 1991. Contributed by Jane Steiner]

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FIRST CLASS MAIL