

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. 2

July/August 1991

NEXT MEETING: July 16, 1991

PROGRAM: **PUBLISH OR [your work will] PERISH!**

Members of the SRVGS Publishing Interest Group will present a program on the pros and cons, ins and outs, the good and the bad of preserving your family genealogy.

The panel's topics will cover booklets, journals, anniversary commemorations, family newsletters, scrapbooks, county history articles, as well as privately and commercially printed books.

-- Priscilla Dietrich, Program

LAST MONTH

By Ardith Steger

"RESEARCH IN GERMANY" - Our May speaker was our own KATE PRUENTE. She described her 35-year "love affair" with the German language, which culminated in a "marriage" when, 15 years ago, she discovered an interest in genealogy. She has taught German in our schools, directed our society's German special interest group, and for some time has volunteered at the LDS (Mormon) Family History Center in Oakland. Even after she moves to Sonoma, Kate offers to help. How generous she is in sharing her expertise!

Much of the information she gave applies to research in other countries as well:

- * Study the country before you travel. Learn about the history, culture, and customs.
- * Search and exhaust records available in the U.S.
- * Register your family names in the Ancestral File at the Family History Center, so that others researching the same names may benefit. In turn you may add to your records as a result of others' efforts.
- * Should you find a book which has been

helpful to you, share with society members.

- * Purchase a good, hard-cover German dictionary (approx. \$20-25)
- * Germany was not a united country until 1870. Records are still found in small areas rather than in one central location.
- * Most people in Germany were either Catholic or Lutheran. It helps to know a family's religion.

Two valuable book Kate recommends are: *Beginning Research in Germany*, 2nd Ed. (approx \$7-8); *Old German Handwriting* (approx. \$3.75) Available at FHC. She also recommends maps at Maps Unlimited.

This month's tape provides good listening. Kate's voice is clear and allows you time to take notes. Again, our thanks to Winston Kynett.

CAN YOU HELP? - CALIFORNIA GERMANS

Shirley Terry found the following letter in her copy of "Der Blumenbaum" from the Sacramento German Genealogical Society. She felt that possibly someone in our area might be able to help. [Continued on Back Page]



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

JULY

- * 9 - Tuesday Irish Interest Study Group [see p. 11]; 7:30PM Livermore-Amador Valley GS Meeting, 1886 College Av, Livermore. Topic: "Joseph's Disease", Rosemarie Silva.
- 10 - Wednesday East Bay Gen Soc Meeting, Mormon Center, 4780 Lincoln Av, Oakland.
- 11 - Thursday 7:30PM Contra Costa Co Gen Soc Meeting, City Council Chambers, Parkside Dr, Concord. Topic: "Know Your Library" by Anne Marie Gold and Kris Wick, CCCo Librarians.
- * 16 - Tuesday 10AM SRVGS Meeting. Come at 9:30 for coffee & "information exchange"; 1PM ROOTS III [see p. 11]
- 18 - Thursday 1-3PM Mt. Diablo GS Meeting, Home Federal S&L Meeting Room, 1938 Tice Valley Blvd, WC
- 27 - Saturday 10-12 noon PAFERS UNITED (PAF Users Group) Concord PHC, 3700 Concord Blvd, Concord.

AUGUST NO SRVGS MEETING & NO LIBRARY TRIP IN AUGUST -- ALSO NO NEWSLETTER!!!

- * 6 - Tuesday 10AM SRVGS Board Meeting at Frances Lloyd's. ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!
- 8 - Thursday Contra Costa Co GS, City Council Chambers, Parkside Dr Concord. Barbara Hill will talk about changes to the UC Berkeley Library, where she is a Librarian. Barbara is the author of *GENEALOGY--A GUIDE TO THE UC BERKELEY LIBRARY*.
- August 6-9 - Provo UT: Annual BYU Genealogy & Family History Seminar. BYU Conferences & Seminars, HCEB, Provo UT 94602; (801) 378-3559.
- 13 - Tuesday 7:30PM Livermore-Amador Valley GS Meeting, 1886 College Av, Livermore. Topic: "Old Stamps & Letters" or "C.D. ROM". Whichever topic not given in August will be the topic for October.
- 14 - Wednesday 10AM East Bay GS Meeting, Mormon Center, 4780 Lincoln Av, Oakland.
- 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.

➔ ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER SHOULD REACH THE EDITOR BY THE LAST WEEK IN AUGUST.

SEPTEMBER

- * 3 - Tuesday SRVGS Board Meeting, Frances Lloyd's 210 Town & Country Dr., Danville. ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!
- 7 - Saturday "Photography in Family History", Seminar hosted by the Gen & Hist Council of Sacramento Valley, Sacramento City College, Sacramento.
- 10 - Tuesday Irish Interest Group [see p. 11]; 7:30PM Livermore-Amador Valley GS Meeting, 1886 College Av, Livermore. Topic: "Oral History" by Rose Marie Wade

PLANNING AHEAD

Oct 7-Nov 3 Fall trip to Salt Lake Library. \$465. Check with Frances Becker (934-4962) or East Bay GS
[Some calendar items extracted from "Friends of the Archives" CONSOLIDATED GENEALOGICAL CALENDAR received via Peggy Frazier's MODEM]

HAPPY SUMMER!!



OFFICERS to Contact

President: Frances Lloyd 837-9382
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 Membership: Mary Jo Hosteny 932-2244
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The Newsletter is published every month except August & December.

SRVGS OFFICERS FOR 1991-92

At the May meeting, the new (7th!) board for 1991-92 was installed and began their work:
 President, FRANCES LLOYD
 First Vice President, MARY McNAMARA
 Co-second Vice Presidents (Program), PRISCILLA DIETRICH & SANDY ABERER
 Third Vice President (Membership), MARY JO HOSTENY
 Co-Recording Secretaries, BOB SINGLETON & MANNY LINDNER
 Corresponding Secretary, VIRGINIA ROOD
 Treasurer, BILL ALLEN
 Parliamentarian, BEA O'RAND

A complete listing of COMMITTEE MEMBERS plus a MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT will be in the next issue (September) of the Newsletter.

SPECIAL INTEREST STUDY GROUPS

- GERMAN - The group will meet 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10AM at Shirley Terry's, 301 Almond Ct., San Ramon (829-7787). Next meeting: September 18. 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 meeting: July 9. Check with Carol for August & Sept.; meeting may change to Wednesdays.
- PUBLISHING - Meets on the fourth Wednesday 10AM. Next meeting to be announced in September newsletter. Contact Jane Steiner 283-0867.
- ROOTS III - Meets 1:00PM on first and third Tuesdays at Sandy Aberer's, 110 El Nido Ct., Diablo (837-8271). Next meeting: July 16. See September newsletter for start-up of beginners' group.

RESEARCH HELPSTIPS FROM SRVGS MEMBERS

EDITOR'S NOTE: Please keep this section of the newsletter in mind as you travel and/or continue your research this summer. Let other members benefit from your discoveries and experiences. Write up your tips and special sources so we can pass them along!

FROM HERE & THERE

- ANOTHER DATABASE: Last month's newsletter detailed a database source for locating living persons in the US. Another source is Ancestry's new "PHONE SEARCH", a 90-million household database for genealogists. Ancestry offers it as an alternative to searching more than 5,000 different telephone directories in the US. For \$10 you get 250 listings, plus \$5 for each additional 250 listings. Ask Frances Lloyd or Bette Kot for a form, or contact Ancestry, Inc., P.O. Box 476, Salt Lake City, Utah 84110-0476.
- WISCONSIN STATE CENSUS - The Northwoods Genealogical Society, a chapter of the Wisconsin State GS has just completed indexing the 1855 Wisconsin State Census. This was the first census taken by the State of Wisconsin. The index includes the information found on the original census: name of head of household, number in household, city and county. The Northwoods GS will search the index for \$2.00 per surname. Enclose your SASE and mail requests to: Sue Swanson, 219 Harmony Hills, Rhinelander, WI 54501. [From Wisconsin State GS N/L, April 1991; Contrib. by Marilyn Fullam]
- WISCONSIN GERMANS - To assist researchers tracing families in the Germanic countries of Europe, a German-American Research Documentation Center is being established at the University of Wisconsin. Contact University of Wisconsin Foundation, 7023 Langdon, Madison WI 53706. [From CCCGS N/L April 1989]
- WHEN YOU TRAVEL to ancestors' counties for research, you might want to contact a Texas-based guestroom exchange network called "Visiting Friends, Inc.", P.O. Box 231, Lake Jackson, TX 77566, suggests author Emily Anne Croom in her excellent book *Unpuzzling Your Past*. The network, begun by genealogists, has members (mostly genealogists) in more than 100 locations in the US and even several in Canada & England. For a small lifetime membership fee and a nominal fee for each guest-visit, members can stay in private homes when they travel and can be hosts to other genealogists or sightseers in return. No directory of names is published; visits and exchanges are arranged through the office, considering the preferences and needs of both guests and hosts. [Emily Anne Croom, *Unpuzzling Your Past; A Basic Guide to Genealogy*, White Hall VA: Betterway Publications, P.O. Box 219 Crozer, VA 22932, c1989. 184pp; \$9.95.]
- MAKING MAPS MORE USABLE - Buy two maps at once -- one to keep in your files and one to use. Place the map face down on an ironing board or flat surface. Place a layer of thin plastic (like a cleaner's bag) on top of the map (do not exceed the edges of the map) and top that with a piece of cloth. Iron with the iron set at the temperature recommended for the cloth. Press down on the cloth, lift the iron and press down on the area until the entire area is covered. Do not push the iron back and forth. The map will become bonded to the cloth. When cooled, trim the edges. You can now fold, roll, bend, or mark the map without harming it. You can use it and reuse it without wearing it out on the folds. When you've completed your research, you can transfer markings to your reserved map if desired and file it away. [From Ozark GS via SMC GS N/L June 1991.]

CEMETERIES

Does your vacation trip include visits to cemeteries? Here are some suggestions for making use of your findings.

● VOICES FROM THE DUST

A visit to the cemetery where your ancestors are buried is perhaps one of the most poignant experiences one can have in tracing the Family History. In America there are various types of cemeteries from the small private family plot, Church-yards, city and county ones, military cemeteries. One of the most charming terms for cemeteries is that of "Campgrounds" in Indiana.

From tombstones, odd and diverse information may be read. From symbols on various stones one can determine an ancestor's religion, Lodge affiliation, and nationality. A "centaph" symbol denotes that the body is not interred at a particular location, or grave-site, but is buried elsewhere. Epitaphs on tombstones make a "statement" concerning the deceased and or what another person presents about the life or personality of the deceased. By observing the surrounding graves, it is possible to find other family members. It may be possible to determine a woman's maiden name, as she may be buried in her parents Family Plot. Tombstones are an excellent source to find names of children who died before they could be christened, and for those who were born and died "between Census Years".

Addresses of cemeteries in any town may be found by writing to the Chamber of Commerce, local Historical Society, or by checking the *THE CEMETERY COMPENDIUM*, by Stemmons. If the cemetery no longer exists, write to the State Historical Society. Also check your local public library. In the Cemetery office, check the Register, and Burial Cards. These give much valuable data. Check Mortician Records, especially the Mortician who performed the pre-burial duties. Mortician records today are excellent because they often contain information not available in the Death record (name of the Insurance Co., or possibly, Social Security Number.) A good source for Mortician addresses is the *AMERICAN BLUE BOOK* the *YELLOW BOOK*.

Just as with Death Certificates, Funeral Director Records, if they deal with persons of old age, can bridge two or three generations at a time. An extension to Cemetery Records is the Obituary. Look for these in newspapers. These may be found on microfilm, local newspaper files, and Obituary Files of local Genealogy and Historical societies.

Also check the Family History Library Card Catalog at an LDS Family History Center.

One last suggestion: If your Ancestor lived in a small community or town, write to the President of the local Bank. Kindly request that he make a search of his records for your ancestor by the name of _____. State that the needed information is for genealogical purposes only. Research of Cemetery, Mortuary, Obituary, and Library Files will lead you to the "Information Trail" left behind by your Ancestor. It would almost seem that you hear a "Voice from the Dust" -- a most poignant experience in Family Research. [By Jessie Jones in Sequoia GS N/L Vol 17 #1 Sept 1990; contrib. by Frances Lloyd]

*EDITOR'S NOTE: *The American Blue Book of Funeral Directors* Kates-Boyleston Publications, will help locate funeral directors in the US and some foreign countries. *The National Yellow Book of Funeral Directors* published by Nomis Publications, Inc., Youngstown OH is in the Heritage Collection, Pleasant Hill Library. It lists approximately 22,000 funeral homes with addresses and phone numbers for each. The guide is arranged by state and city within each state. In addition to funeral homes, the book also lists some daily newspapers, hospitals and Veterans' Administration cemeteries.

● HOW TO DATE A TOMBSTONE

Slate or common fieldstone are the oldest tombstones in existence (other than the wooden markers used by pioneers) and date a cemetery at the 1796-1830 era. Flat-topped hard marble stones date a burial site as 1830-1840 or 1845. Round or pointed soft marble stones with cursive style inscriptions denote the era from 1845-1888. Masonic four-sided stones began about 1850 and may still be used. Pylons, columns and all exotic type monuments are found in the 1860-1900 era while zinc monuments were in vogue from 1870-1900. Granite, now common, came into use in 1900. [From Gen & Hist Council of Sacto-Valley, Nov-Dec 1990; via SMCBS N/L Apr 1991]

- 8870 FORMULA - This formula can be a help in checking tombstone dates to obtain a birth date. If a tombstone reveals that the deceased died May 6, 1889 and was 71 years, 7 months and 9 days old, but gives no date of birth, you can use the formula to get the date without counting backwards. Example:

18890506 (died 1889 May 6)

- 710709 (age 71/07/09)

18179797

- 8870 (constant)

18170927 (birthdate: 1817 Sept 27)

[From York Co Maine GS Spring 1990 via EBSGS J/F 1991]



LIBRARY INFORMATION

● LIBRARY TRIPS

There will be no SRVGS Library Trips in July and August. The 1991-91 Library Trip Schedule will be announced in September.

● FRIENDS OF NAT'L ARCHIVES

- CIVIL WAR PENSION INDEX- On April 1, the National Archives increased the cost of films to \$9.55 per roll. The FRIENDS are therefore requesting \$10.00 a roll to cover handling costs, and \$15.00 a roll when a copy of an entry is desired. At the present time, only 75 rolls of film, of the original 544, are needed to complete the entire index. PRINTED CENSUS INDEXES - Orders have been placed for the 1870 Georgia, 1910 Wyoming and 1910 Idaho printed indexes. Delivery is expected shortly. [From CCCGS N/L July 1991]

● FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY

- FHL NEW ACQUISITIONS - New California acquisitions at the Family History Library
 - *Vital Statistics, state death index, 1905-1983 (7 films, 391 fiche)
 - *Alameda Co. Superior Ct. probate files, 1880-1919 (510 films)
 - *Amador Co. deeds, marriages, naturalizations, probates.
 - *Butte Co. probate files, 1850-1928; deeds 1850-1904 (240 films)
 - *Gen. Assoc. of Sacramento, newspaper index, 1857-1905 (87 fiche)
 - *Tehama Co. pioneer register, 1828-1880 (86 fiche)
 - *Sutro Library, family history catalog (29 fiche)
 - *State Archives, Nevada Co. probate case files, 1880-1924 (105)
 - *State Library, information file (717,000 cards on 550 fiche): index cards include citations to CA periodicals, newspapers, manuscript collections, county histories, and biographical sources.
 - *State Library, San Francisco newspapers index, 1904-1959 (703 fiche; Births, deaths, homesteads, land patents, marriages, naturalizations, voters from Colusa, Fresno, Mendocino, Sutter, Yolo counties.
 - *Oakland Public Library, births and deaths 1870-1904 (51)
 - *Napa Co. Library, newspaper index (40)
 - *Mendocino Co. Hist. Soc., newspaper family name index (18)
 - *Soc. of Germans from Russia, Fresno Hall of Records, obituaries (5)

*Soc. of Germans from Russia, Fresno Hall of Records, marriages (15)

*Railroad Museum, A-T-Santa Fe Railroad employees, 1894-1950 (12)

"California - Naturalization"

*U.S. Dist. Court, CA Southern Dist, General Card Index to Naturalized Citizens, 1915-1978 (114 films)

● OTHER ACQUISITIONS FOR THE US -

"Connecticut - Military Records" Military Census Questionnaires, 1917-8; indexed by town, then by person (454 films)

"Iowa - Military Records" Grand Army of the Republic, Index and Post Returns, 1840-1900 (69 films)

"North Carolina - Military Records" Applications for Confederate Soldiers' and Widows' Pensions, 1885-1950s; alphabetical in two sets (105 films).

[News of the Family History Library Winter 1991 & CSGA N/L June 1991]

- FHC COMPUTERS - Once you've discovered via computers at the Oakland or Concord Family History Center that Salt Lake City has a microfilm you'd like to see, the computer can help you out even further.

Simply call up the record of the film you want and the computer will show you which FHC has that reel on indefinite loan. If the film is on indefinite loan at one of the other Bay Area Family History Centers, you may wish to see it there rather than order it and have to wait for it from Salt Lake. Another advantage: each FHC has a different collection of films on indefinite loan, so "browsing" in these centers is profitable. [From Orange Co GS N/L June 1991 via CCCGS N/L]

- INTERNATIONAL FHC - From the May meeting of CCCGS came a suggestion by Ruby Rossberg of the Concord FHC on Concord Blvd: If you are having trouble locating & obtaining records from another country (the example given was Czechoslovakia), ask at the FHC for the international list of Family History Centers, find the closest one to your ancestors and write to them; they may be able to suggest a solution.
- SALT LAKE FHL CATALOG - If the catalog you're using is more than six months old, you can ask your FHC for a reference questionnaire which you can send to inquire about the availability of new records.
- TRAVELING? Don't forget to take a *Research Outline* for the state in which you'll be traveling. The booklet (\$2 at FHC) will tell you about Libraries & Special Collections.

**BOOK REVIEWS**

By Mary Jo Hosteny

- **THE SELF-PUBLISHING MANUAL** by Dan Poyner. 6th ed., Para Publishing Co., Santa Barbara, CA, 1991. Soft cover, 415 pp.

The specifics of how to write, print and sell your own book are ably and concisely put forth in this small manual, from the writing of the material through publishing, printing, advertising to coping with being a published author, or "What Do I Do Now?"

Highly recommended.

- **PUBLISHING SHORT-RUN BOOKS** by Dan Poynter. 5th ed., Para Publishing Co., Santa Barbara, CA, 1988. Soft cover, 143 pp.

How to paste up and reproduce books instantly using your quick print shop is ably described in this ideal do-it-yourself system, from format, composition, layout and paste-up, reproduction and binding, to the finished product on your own book shelves. An able compilation of recipes by a proven author.

- **GENOGRAMS** by Emily Marlin. Contemporary Books, Chicago, IL, 1989. Soft cover, 152 pp. This is described as the new tool for exploring the personality, career and love patterns you inherit, or "family trees that talk". The genogram is a new way that psychotherapists are mapping traits, behaviors and preferences, opening up the hidden legacy of your family tree. Just as you inherit physical characteristics, you also inherit important health, relationship, and career patterns that influence everything from whom you marry to how you approach your work and relate to your friends.

The above books are available, along with many other valuable resources, at Genealogical Resources. Call Frances Lloyd at 837-9382, or Bette Kot at (707) 554-4814.

* * * * *

MORE BOOKS

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tape C-7 from our Tape Collection, "Preparing Genealogy for Publication" by David Dearborn suggests that everyone thinking of publishing should first read the article by Meredith Colket, written several years ago in the National Genealogical Society Quarterly. The article is now a separate publication:

- **CREATING A WORTHWHILE FAMILY GENEALOGY** by Meredith B. Colket, Jr. 20 pp. softbound. Send \$5.50 (price includes postage) to National Genealogical Society, 4527 17th Street

North, Arlington, VA 22207-2399. Ask for publication No. 42.

Pioneer Heritage Press has 4 volumes called

- **ABSTRACTS OF GRAVES OF REVOLUTIONARY PATRIOTS.** Since 1900 the DAR have been locating graves of Rev. War Patriots. Over 58,500 names have been reported. This list is both an abstract of the grave information and an index to additional information carried in the annual reports. Vol I, A-D; Vol II, E-K; Vol III, L-R; Vol IV, S-Z. Hard back \$25/vol.; soft-back \$23/vol (price includes postage & handling). Address: Pioneer Heritage Press, 8040 Claremont Drive, Dallas TX 75228.

[From NW MO Gen Soc N/L May/June 1991; Contributed by Nancy Williams]

- **LOCAL CEMETERY BOOKS:** C.C.C. Pioneer Cemetery Records Vol 1, 2, 3. Send \$20/vol. (postage paid) to Contra Costa Co Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 910, Concord, CA 94522. *Livermore Cemeteries* by LAGS. Available for \$14 from Livermore-Amador Valley Gen Soc, P.O. Box 901, Livermore 94551.

* * * * *

NEW TAPES

The following tapes have been added to the SRVGS John Kopcie Memorial Tape Collection: MEMORIAL TO BETTY ANGELL - C-80 "The Ohio River as a Mainstream of Frontier Migration", by Mary Harter; C-81 "Finding Your Way Through Ohio Genealogy" by Frank R. Levstik.

DONATED BY MARILYN FULLAM - C-82 "Sources for Genealogical Research in Poland" by Daniel M. Schlyter C-83 "Tracking Elusive Ancestors: There's No Such Thing as Too Poor to Trace" by Elizabeth Shown Mills. C-89 "Looking Beyond Tombstones in Cemetery Research" by Renee Jackson Smith

DONATED BY IRISH INTEREST GROUP - C-84 "Elusive Irish Immigrants: How to Get Them Back to Ireland" by David E. Rencher; C-85 "Sources and Methods for Doing Irish Genealogical Research" by David E. Rencher.

DONATED BY SHIRLEY TERRY - C-86 "The Golden Rule of Indexing for Genealogists" by Birdie Monk Holclaw; C-87 "Basic Procedures in German Genealogical Research" by Larry O. Jensen; C-88 "Resolving Common and Unusual German Research Problems" by Larry O. Jensen.

The last six tapes are from the NGS 1991 Conference in Portland. Your donation of \$1 per tape (per month) when you borrow a tape, will pay for the purchase of more tapes to be added to our Collection. Remember, you get two months for the price of one in July!

*** TAPE REVIEWS ***

by Marilyn Fullam

- C-82 "SOURCES FOR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN POLAND" By Daniel M. Schlyter, Salt Lake City, Utah 1990. [donated by Marilyn Fullam]

Mr. Schlyter gives a concise history of Poland's ever changing borders, the availability and languages of records, when each started and ended, formats, what is available at the Family History Center in Salt Lake, and what we can expect in the future. He covers Catholic and Jewish records and explains how some Polish records are now in other countries through the moving of the Polish borders.

If you need to do research in Poland, or any of the surrounding countries, listen to this tape.

- C-83 "TRACKING ELUSIVE ANCESTORS: THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS TOO POOR TO TRACE" by Elizabeth Shown Mills, Salt Lake, 1990. [donated by Marilyn Fullam]

Ms. Mills states "there is no ancestor that we cannot back track if we use the resources that exist imaginatively. Most answers are there if we just follow the clues".

Her talk is in four parts:

1. Back ground on what is "poor" and why people are labeled as poor.
2. Special resources such as brand books, road duty records, etc.
3. Research principles such as links and focusing on the known.
4. Case studies.

This tape is rather overwhelming as she gives the listener so many ideas on new, unusual places to search. If you are stuck on an ancestor, listen to this tape for new ideas and methods.

- C-84 "ELUSIVE IRISH IMMIGRANTS: HOW TO GET THEM BACK TO IRELAND" by David E. Rencher, Portland, Oregon 1991. [donated by Irish Interest Group]

Mr. Rencher, a very knowledgeable and interesting speaker, gives many new approaches and ideas for finding the location of the Irish immigrants place of origin.

His talk covers three phases of records and "methodologies which the experienced Irish genealogist can apply to leverage the effectiveness of the tools available."

If you are doing Irish research, this tape is also a "must hear."

- C-85 "SOURCES AND METHODS FOR DOING IRISH GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH" by David E. Rencher, Portland, Oregon 1991. [donated by Irish Interest Group]

Listen to Mr. Rencher's talk entitled "Elusive Irish Immigrants: How to Get Them Back to Ireland" (Portland, Oregon 1991) before this tape.

Mr. Rencher, who served as a reference consultant for the British Isles Desk at Salt Lake City for five years, gives a whole new slant on how to research for the existence and availability of records. This is a method every genealogist should use.

Mr. Rencher gets beyond the basic research we are all familiar with and gets into records, both here and in Ireland, that can be used for tracing the Irish. He compares our system of record keeping with the British and Irish systems.

This tape is a "must hear" for anyone researching the Irish either here or in Ireland.

- C-86 "THE GOLDEN RULE OF INDEXING FOR GENEALOGISTS" by Birdie Monk Holsclaw, Portland, Oregon 1991. [donated by Shirley Terry]

Ms. Holsclaw, the indexer for the "National Genealogical Society Quarterly" talks about the importance of indexing, what should or should not be included and the methods. She covers indexing for marriage records, periodicals, family histories, and cemeteries. She explains how to index married women and two or more people of the same surname. The importance of proper and accurate indexing is stressed - especially when you find out that there is even an organization called the "American Society of Indexers." You will have to listen to this tape to find out what the Golden Rule of Indexing is.

- C-89 "LOOKING BEYOND TOMBSTONES IN CEMETERY RESEARCH" by Renee Jackson Smith; Portland, Oregon 1991. [donated by Marilyn Fullam]

Ms. Smith gives a short background in burial practices, tombstones, markers, etc., then explains the types of cemeteries and records kept and where they can be located; veteran's burial records; pioneer cemeteries and how to find them; dangers of going to a cemetery alone (she tells a great story about something that happened to her while she was checking out a cemetery in the middle of nowhere); ethnic stones; how to map and record a cemetery; supplies for cleaning and photographing stones.

Ms. Smith is a good speaker - interesting and informative. You will learn a lot.

[GERMAN HELP - Continued from p. 9]

The letter is from Britta Fees of Pulheim-Stommeln, West Germany, presently at 2325 Channing Way, #51, Berkeley, CA 94704.

"I am a German Ph.D. student and I'm doing research on "German Women in San Francisco, 1850-1900." During my research I came across a few German women who emigrated to San Francisco in the late 1840s and early 1850s; their names are **Caroline STENCKHALIN** (Mrs. Ernest BRANDT), **Wilhelmine STENCKHALIN** (Mrs. Thomas SOYLE), **Mari STENCKHALIN** (Mrs. Rudolph JORDAN), **Augusta STENCKHALIN** (Mrs. Martin WATERMAN), **Regina STENCKHALIN** (Mrs. Adolph C. WEBER --brother of Ch. WEBER of Stockton) and their mother **Sophie Charlotte STENCKHALIN**. I also traced **Henriette NAHL** (mother of Ch. NAHL and Adolph NAHL, the painters), **Laura NAHL** (Mrs. WENDEROTH, sister of Ch. and A. NAHL), **Augusta NAHL** (sister of Ch. and A. NAHL) as well as a woman called **Anna HARDER OGDEN**.

"I found manuscript material relating to these women in the Bancroft Library, but I didn't find enough material to thoroughly describe their experiences as immigrant women in 19th century San Francisco. I now wonder

if you could help me provide additional information about the women mentioned above. Maybe you could place an ad in your bulletin: I'd really be grateful for your help! I'll be staying in Berkeley until the end of July. My home address in Germany is **Britta Fees, Auf der Platten 35, W-5024 Pulheim-Stommeln, Federal Republic of Germany.**"

● COPYRIGHT LAWS UPDATE

For more information on the Congressional Bills HR 4263 and S2370 on "Fair Use" of archival material (see SRVGS Newsletter April 1991, p.70), the following articles will explain more fully:

Heritage Quest #30, Sept-Oct 1990, article by Donna Potter Phillips;

National Genealogical Society Newsletter, Vol 16, No 6, 1990 "Copyright: The 'Fair Use' Doctrine and Genealogy" by Paul Drake, J.D, and Jo White Linn, D.G.;

"Congress Considers 'Fair Use' of Unpublished Works" in the same NGS Newsletter.

Also see "Copyrights, Fair Trade Practices, and Plagiarism; Guidelines for Genealogists" by Gary B. Mills, & Elizabeth Shown Mills in *FORUM* Spring 1991.

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FIRST CLASS MAIL