

SAN RAMON VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER
P.O. Box 305
Diablo, CA 94528-0305

President: Shirley Terry
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 IX No. 3

SEPTEMBER 1993

NEXT MEETING: SEPTEMBER 21, 1993
PROGRAM: THE IMPORTANCE OF JOINING A HERITAGE SOCIETY

ELLEN DEUEL, from Modesto, will speak about several heritage societies you can join, how you can become a member and why you, as a genealogist, would benefit from joining. Mrs. Deuel is the former State Regent for DAR in California. She belongs to several other heritage societies, as well.

From Frances Becker, Program

LAST MONTH

by Sandy Kimball

"Drowning in paper" could well be the slogan of most genealogists--even those of us who use computer software to chronicle our ancestors. Therefore, the talk on "Organizing Your Records," which was presented by Tudi Baskay at our July meeting was most welcome and very helpful.

She suggested we spend money for an adequate storage system, have a good work surface and a place for current work projects. Each of these points was illustrated with ideas for achieving these goals. In her frequently humorous remarks, the speaker stressed the value of a large waste basket as well as such furnishings as an ergonomically correct chair. She had many ideas for filing and handling outsize and oddly shaped documents, displaying bulky mementos and creating archival files when one file cabinet is full.

"Over-categorizing is a major problem," Tudi said. "It's too hard to remember only narrow categories." Instead, she urged us to think up broader file titles that can encompass a number of subjects. As an

example, instead of filing papers under "divorce" or her attorney's name, she developed a file labeled "professional" which she used to store documents relating to not only her lawyer but her accountant and other "professional" service providers.

[For those members who were unable to be at the July meeting, WIN KYNETT taped the talk so you can hear ALL our speaker's helpful suggestions. See FRANK WILLIAMS for availability of the tape, #M-53.]

NEXT MONTH

"Print, Publish, Preserve" is the title of the program a SRVGS Publishing Interest Group panel will present in October. It is also the title of the book the group has written based on reports from some of our members who have published. A panel will show some of the options for getting family histories into print as well as give some time-saving steps and practical suggestions on how and what (including what **not**) to do. The book was published with money from the Special Projects Fund and is being presented to the Society; profits from its sale will go back to the Fund.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR



SEPTEMBER

- * 14 - Tuesday 10AM Southern Interest Group [see p.23]; 7:30PM Livermore-Amador GS, Cong. Beth Emek, 1866 College Av, Livermore
- * 15 - Wednesday 10AM Irish Interest Group [see p.23]
- 16 - Thursday 1-3PM Mt. Diablo GS Civic Bank of Commerce Comm Rm, 1940 Tice Valley Blvd, WC "All You Ever Wanted to Know about the Doe Library" by Barbara Hill.
- 18 - Saturday 9AM-2:30PM Workshop by Allen Gardiner, "Finding Your Ancestors" at Eden U.C.C., Hayward [see below]; 1PM CGS Beginning Genealogy Classes start. [see p.23]
- * 21 - Tuesday 10AM SRVGS Meeting; 12:30PM ROOTS Users Group [see p.23]
- * 23 - Thursday 10AM German Interest Group [see p.23]
- * 28 - Tuesday SRVGS Library Trip [see p.24]
- * 29 - Wednesday 10AM Publishing Interest Group [see p.23]
- * 30 - Thursday 10AM United Kingdom Interest Group [see p. 23]

OCTOBER

- * 5 - Tuesday 10AM SRVGS Board Meeting at Frances Lloyd's. ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!
- 9 - Saturday 8:30AM - 4PM All-Day Seminar, "Unlock the Door to Your Past," sponsored by Concord Stake, LDS Church [see below]
- * 12 - Tuesday 10AM Southern Interest Group; 7:30PM LAGS Meeting [see Sept 14]
- * 13 - Wednesday 10AM Irish Interest Group; 9AM East Bay GS Meeting at Oakland Mormon Center.
- 14 - Thursday 7:30PM Contra Costa Co GS Meeting, City Council Chambers, Parkside Dr. Concord. "How to Write Your Family's Biography," by Floyd Cooper.
- 16 - Saturday CGS Fall Luncheon & Antique Photo Show 11:30AM at Ft Mason Officers Club, Bay at Franklin Sts, SF; Walking Tour of Historic Ft Mason starts at 10AM. Meet at Officers Club. For reservations or information call the CGS Library at 415/777-9936.
- * 19 - Tuesday 10AM SRVGS Meeting "Print, Publish, Preserve;" 12:30PM ROOTS Users' Group.
- 23 - Saturday Dr George Schweitzer Seminar, sponsored by GS of Stanislaus Co.

PLANNING AHEAD

November 7-14 - Genealogical Research Tour to Salt Lake City. Cost: \$415 (down payment of \$200 due by Oct 5; full payment by Oct 25). Contact Marie Prichett at 530-7575 or Frances Becker at 934-4962 or 837-8742.

November 17 - Wednesday - 9AM-4PM Bus Trip to Sutro Library [see p.24]

OFFICERS to Contact

President: Shirley Terry 829-7787
 Vice-Pres.: Carol Glover 829-7207
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 Annual Dues: Individual \$15
 Family \$20
 Membership year: June 1 to May 31
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● LOCAL SEMINARS

- HAYWARD "Finding Your Ancestors, A Genealogy Workshop for Emerging Researchers," given by Allen Gardiner, a professional genealogist on Saturday, Sept 18 9AM-2:30PM at Eden United Church of Christ, 21455 Birch St (at Grove Way) Hayward. Cost \$20. Questions: 510/538-8742. Topics include: Primary & Secondary Records; Census Records; Courthouse & Vital Records; Newspapers; Military Records; Who to Write to and How; Using Libraries.

- CONCORD "Unlock the Door to Your Past, an all-day seminar for Beginners and Experts sponsored by the LDS Church, 3700 Concord Blvd, Concord, will be held on Saturday, Oct 9. Keynote speaker will be Margie Bell, a Family History Specialist who will report on the genealogical seminar at BYU in August. Registration (\$8.00) is at 8:30-9:15AM; preregistration (until 25 Sept) is \$5.00. Classes 9:15AM-4PM include Irish Research (Alice Boyd); Canadian/NY Research (Evelyn Bentley); Documenting Your Ancestors (Julia Purdie);

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 24]

SPECIAL INTEREST STUDY GROUPS

CALIFORNIA - Meets with the Irish Group [see below].

GERMAN - Meets Thursday, September 23 at Shirley Terry's, 301 Almond Ct, San Ramon. Call Shirley to confirm: 829-7787.

IRISH - Meets 10AM each second Wednesday of the month at Carol Glover's, 333 Goshen Ct., San Ramon (829-7207). Next meetings: September 15 (3rd Wed. this month) & October 13. In September, Ed O'Donnell will report on his summer trip to Ireland.

PUBLISHING - Meets on the last Wednesday 10AM. Next meeting: September 29 at Dorothy Stanton's, 501 El Capitan Dr, Danville (820-3757). Contact Jane Steiner 283-0867.

ROOTS USERS - Meets 12:30 on Tuesdays following the general meeting at the Danville Women's Club House. Contact Sandy Kimball (283-8677).

SOUTHERN - Meets 10AM each second Tuesday. Next meeting: September 14 at Lee Lowry's [NOTE CHANGE], 1860 Tice Creek Dr. #1412, Walnut Creek (Rossmoor) 939-3453. The October 12 meeting place will be announced. Contact Bea O'Rand 837-1760.

UNITED KINGDOM - The first meeting for those interested in research in England, Scotland, & Wales will be on Thursday, September 30 at Carol Glover's, 333 Goshen Ct, San Ramon. Contact Carol (829-7207) or Ron Skilton (254-6989).

RESEARCH INFORMATION

● TIPS FROM MEMBERS

FROM DIANA HANCOCK (in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia) - Diana reports that the Aramco Compound has a genealogical society and a good collection of genealogy books in the local library. She found a very helpful book on the shelves there: *STATE CENSUS RECORDS* by Ann S. Lainhart. Even if you know about the state censuses, (often taken between federal censuses for the purpose of apportioning Congressional representation in rapidly growing areas), you'll find the information in this book helpful. The author has put together a comprehensive list of the records, not only state by state, but often by county and district as well. She also shows where the records are and what's in them.

[NOTE: The book is published by Genealogical Publishing Co, Baltimore. Frances Lloyd reports that Genealogical Resources has several copies for \$17.95. Contact her at 837-9382 or Bette Kot at (707) 554-4814.]

● VITAL RECORDS

● TEXAS VR UPDATE - The article on the Texas State Library in the July/August newsletter listed the cost of birth & death records from the Bureau of Vital Statistics as \$7.50. Please correct that; the cost is \$14, according to a letter received after the newsletter was published.

The Bureau has marriage records since 1966. Records of marriages before 1966 are located in the county clerk's office in the county where the marriage took place. [For more on Texas vital record indexes see page 26]

● IOWA - The Iowa GS has recently acquired 196 rolls of Old Age Assistance Records for 56 counties of Iowa. During the 1930's, Assessors listed the names of 21 to 65 year old Iowans subject to a tax to help care for Iowa's elderly. One great feature of these records is that for each person shown, the names of the parents (including the mother's maiden name) are listed. A research guide and register is available to better utilize and understand this

important collection. Write to: Iowa Genealogical Society, PO Box 7735, Des Moines, Iowa 50322 [From IA GS Dec 92 via San Mateo Co GS July 93]

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● SASE TIP

Sending a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) folded inside your letter can cause it to be torn by the automated sorting machine. The solution is easy. Envelopes can be bought in various sizes. They are: 6-3/4" short envelopes; #9 (9" long); #10 (often called "long envelopes"); #11 envelopes. All you have to do is get two sizes of envelopes. The best combination is to use #11 envelopes for your outgoing letter. For your SASE or return mail, use a #10. It fits easily inside the #11 without folding. Then you shouldn't have any trouble with your correspondence being torn apart in the sorting machine, or being laid aside for hand sorting. (Also, it is a good idea to keep a few 9x12 envelopes for mailing five or more pages of material. Then

you don't have to fold it. So the last word is: **Don't mail a folded envelope!** [From Bluegrass ROOTS/Spr 93 via SCCHGS July 93]
MORE MAIL HINTS: Typed envelopes will arrive at their destination one day earlier than written ones. Major US post offices use an optical scanner to read the addresses. They are read from the bottom up--zip code first. Having "Attn" at the bottom can kick the letter out to be manually sorted. Use of zip codes decreases delivery time by one day. [IA GS N/L Dec 92 via SMC GS July 93]

● PORTUGUESE ANCESTRY

Any one researching their Portuguese family history is invited to join Portuguese Ancestry. Four newsletters are published each year. Seminars, classes, books and films are available to the researcher. For more information write Rosemarie Capodicci, 1155 Santa Ana, Seaside, CA 93955.

● RUSSIAN RESEARCH

URBANA TECHNOLOGIES, 2011 Silver Ct E, Urbana IL 61801 will search genealogical and historical materials in Russia, Ukraine, Bylorussia and all other parts of the former Soviet Union. The genealogists and professional historians provide photocopies of the documents, answers to specific questions, or complete personal family histories. The rate for a search is \$12/hr plus \$1/pg of photocopies. To place an order or inquire about specific costs, write to the above address.

The German Gen Soc of America Newsletter reported very satisfactory results in obtaining information from

Urbana Technologies as well as other agencies. Urbana Technologies is in direct daily communication with Moscow and is thus a faster means of communication than mail if you were planning to write directly. Also researchers in Eastern Europe want to be paid in dollars and it is difficult to find a secure way of sending money to Commonwealth of Independent States (except for Moscow) unless you send it with someone traveling there.

GGSA reported that two other research groups, BLITZ or RAGAS, have been rather slow after a period of months. The American Historical Soc of Germans from Russia, however reports that RAGAS is now working out very well and seems to be doing excellent, thorough work.

Although mail service to Poland is significantly better than to CIS states, it is quite slow by Western standards. Experience with the Polish national and regional archives has been that it takes quite long to obtain a response, but research results have been highly satisfactory. Thus a query with respect to pre-1890 records of what used to be Eastern Poland may take as long as a query to the Zabuzanski archive, which is separate from the Polish national-regional archival system.

[from CSGA N/L Sept 93; see complete article in the GGSA N/L Vol II No 6, Jun/Jul 93 pp 51-2]

- CGS CLASSES TO START
 CALIFORNIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY is sponsoring four 3-hour classes for Beginning Genealogists on Saturdays from 1PM-4PM at St Cuthbert Episcopal Church Hall, 7939 Mountain Blvd (Kellar & McArthur) in Oakland.

The dates are: September 18, 25, October 9, 23. On Sunday October 31 a visit to the CGS Library in SF is scheduled. Cost: \$30 includes a beginners packet. For more information call CGS 415/777-9936 or mail to California Genealogical Society, PO Box 77105, San Francisco 94107-0105.

● [SEMINARS Cont'd from page 22]

Preserving Your Documents/Pictures (Julia Purdie); Writing Your Family History (Barbara Evans); Identifying Your Old Photos (Jim Tackitt); Beginning Genealogy (Helen Crump); German Research, a 3-hr class (Dr. Paul Mueller, past President of Sacramento German GS); England/Wales (Joyce Buckland); Family Research (Sandra Ruefenacht); Census & Probate (Esther Gregory); Southern Research (Jackie Mepyans); Swedish Research (Brian Schuck); Personal Ancestral File (Gerry Caulk). Questions: Jackie Hein 510/827-4729; Roy Wiscombe 510/372-5811.

- MODESTO - The GS of Stanislaus Co is sponsoring an all-day (8:30AM to 4PM) Seminar at Modesto Centre Plaza, Pistache/Ginkgo Rm, 1000 K St, Modesto. Dr. George Schweitzer (Ph.D degrees in Chemistry & Philosophy, Sc.D. in History) from Univ TN at Knoxville, will speak (too inactive a word for his presentations!) on German Research, Virginia Research, Major Genealogical Sources, and a separate Question & Answer Session.

To preregister send \$17 (payable to GSSC) Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County, PO Box 4735, Modesto, CA 95351-4735.

LIBRARIES & ARCHIVES

● SRVGS LIBRARY TRIP

From Mary Jo Hosteny:

The September library trip will be to the Sutro Library, 480 Winston Drive, San Francisco. Members will meet to carpool at 9AM in back of Lucky's on Diablo Rd, Danville, on Tuesday, September 28. Those living north of Danville may call Mary Jo Hosteny (932-2244) for an alternate meeting point in Lafayette.

Please check your Handbook for details about Sutro and its resources. Also - PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE THE MEETING PLACE BEFORE THE SPECIFIED TIME! Thanks.

[Editor's Note: If you missed Bette Kot's talk on Sutro in April, you might want to check out the tape from our collection.]

● SECOND CHANCE

A NOVEMBER BUS TRIP TO SUTRO LIBRARY on Wednesday, November 17, 1993, 9AM to 4PM, is offered by the Acalanes Chapter DAR. Cost: \$20.00. Bring a bag lunch--beverages will be provided. Call Lynn Sullivan 256-6955 for more information. Reservations and payment due by November 1.

● PREPARE FOR NEXT MONTH

Two relatively new publications for genealogists are Local History and Genealogy Resources of the California State Library, edited by Gary E. Strong and Newspaper Holdings of the California State Library compiled by Marianne Leach. Both are published by the CA State Library Foundation and available through the Foundation, PO Box 942836, Sacramento, CA 94237-0001

[CSGA N/L Sept 93]

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● LOCAL LIBRARIES● RESOURCES IN THE CONTRA COSTA LIBRARY, MAIN BRANCH

by Mary Jo Hosteny

This past June we had the pleasure of a trip to the "vault" in the main branch of the Contra Costa Library on Oak Park Blvd in Pleasant Hill. Daniel Hirsh of the Library staff was kind enough to spend an hour showing the dozen or so members what the vault contained, and how to gain access to it.

The vault contents emphasize primarily California and its history. Among its contents are: county histories for all of California; censuses through 1910, the 1880-1900 Soundex; the California State Census of 1852; the 1920 census for Contra Costa County; the 1940-1990 death index for California; an information file compiled by the State Library, and miscellaneous information such as biographies, etc.; a book of the newspaper holdings of the California State Library; the 1862-1872 index of the Contra Costa Times, with names for Contra Costa County only; a clipping file from local papers of general interest only (including some biographies for the last 50 years; and an index of Sutro's catalog indexed by family names, plus supplements with a master index.

Material is accessible through listing on the computers. Those items in the vault will be marked with a "V", and must be asked for at the Information Desk. The public is not allowed to go into the vault -- material will be brought out to you for use.

● LIBRARY HOUR CHANGES

- CONTRA COSTA's Main library (Pleasant Hill) will be open 12 fewer hours each week, although still open on Saturdays. Of the branch libraries, San Ramon has fared best because of contributions by the city which pays for 16 extra hours per week, including 4 hours on Sunday.
- SACRAMENTO - Budget cuts have forced the main State Library in Sacramento to cut 2-1/2 hours of staff assistance a day in the reading & reference areas. Effective Sept. 1, assistance will be available from 9:30AM to 4PM Mon through Fri, instead of the current 8AM to 5PM.

● OUT-OF-STATE

- SALT LAKE CITY - The new FamilySearch Center opened in July 1993 in the remodeled Joseph Smith Memorial Bldg which was formerly the Hotel Utah. Resources in the new center include: 206 computers dedicated to the FamilySearch program; Family Group Records Collection (8 million plus pages); 1920 US census and soundex on microfilm.

These sources were selected as most likely needed by patrons newly introduced to researching their family history. The same information is duplicated at the Family History Library so that patrons will not have to move from one resource center to the other.

A beautiful and extremely popular movie entitled "Legacy" plays in the full-size movie theater in the building. [CSGA N/L Sept 93; the editor reports being in Salt Lake 4 times this summer and never managed to get in to see the film due to tickets being given out already. Things should slow down during the winter.]

- **TEXAS STATE LIBRARY** – The following microfilmed INDEXES can be borrowed through your local library on interlibrary loan: Births, 1903-1976; Deaths, 1903-1940; Deaths, 1941-1945; Deaths 1946-1976; Probate Births. If you wish to borrow any of these, please indicate the SURNAME(s) and YEAR(s) needed. Interlibrary loan requests must be on an ALA Interlibrary Loan Form. Requests should be addressed to: Genealogy, Texas State Library, Box 12927, Austin TX 78711. There can be a six month waiting period.

- **VIRGINIA** – Three booklets are available upon request from the VA State Library & Archives, 11th Street at Capitol Square, Richmond, VA 23219. These are entitled *Using Land Tax Records, Archives and Records Division Research Note, Number 1*; *Using Vital Statistics Records in the Archives, Archives and Records Division Research Notes, Number 2*; and *Using Personal Property Tax Records in the Archives, Archives and Records Division Research Note, Number 3*. Send an SASE for each request.

BOOK REVIEWS

by Mary Jo Hosteny



- **THE SOUNDEX REFERENCE GUIDE**, ed. Bradley W. Steuart. Pub. Precision Indexing, PO Box 303, Bountiful UT 84011, 1990 hard cover, 252 pp. (Available in Pleasanton Library Genealogy Collection)
This handy book contains the Soundex coding for over 125,000 surnames, so if you have any doubt about how your ancestor's name is coded, do consult this book. It includes, of course, instructions on how to code in

Soundex, which bears re-reading every now and then, even though you think yourself an expert. I found all three of my major Irish surnames listed, and amazingly my own difficult Czech surname!

- **TRACING YOUR IRISH ANCESTORS**, by John Grenham. GPC 1993, soft cover, 281 pp.

In format this book follows *THE RECORD FINDER* (Heraldic Artists) and *IRISH RECORDS* by James G. Ryan, and is arranged in three parts. Part I covers the major sources (civil, census, church and land records), Part 2 covers other sources such as wills, the Genealogical Office, emigration, the Registry of Deeds, newspapers and directories, and Part 3 is a reference guide.

The front of this book lists all counties with a map of their divisions into Catholic parishes together with their names and dates of their earliest records. Part I presents a description of most of the records available with good practical advice on how to use them. In Part 2 the section on the Genealogical Office is a must for serious investigators, as it presents the list of manuscripts available in that office. The chapter on Emigration is valuable in that it presents a full bibliography of all presently available sources for immigrations lists. Part 3 presents a useful section on Occupations, and accompanying bibliography. There is a county by county source guide which should be useful.

I would urge anyone purchasing this book to read Paul Gorry's review of it in "Irish Roots, 1992, Number 3 for an in depth analysis of its failings. It is still **highly recommended**, but one should be aware of the shortcomings.

LOCAL PUBLICATIONS

- **CONTRA COSTA CO GS** members have completed the 1890 CCCo Great Register. The 144-pg book shows full name, country/state of birth, date first registered in CCCo, age at time of first registration, residence, and occupation. For naturalized citizens, place & date of naturalization are shown. A map is included. Copies have been donated to the Heritage Collection, CCCo Historical Society, and the Concord Family History Center. Purchase price of \$7.00 includes sales tax but not postage. Copies are available at CCCoGS meetings or by mail.
- **EAST BAY GS** has published *ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH GUIDE*. To order the 200-pg soft-bound book, send check (\$24.00) payable to East Bay Genealogical Society to: Alameda Co Research Guide, EBGS, PO Box 20417, Oakland, CA 94620-0417.

SRVGS MEMBERSHIP NEWS

- **HELP WANTED** – President Shirley Terry accepted with regret the resignation of Dave Browne because of ill health. Please contact Shirley if you would be willing to take over as Publicity Chairman. We thank Dave for the fine job he has done for us in contacting the media and wish him a speedy and complete recovery.
- **BOOK SOLD OUT** – Former member Cliff Gant (whose son Dave designed our logo), writes that his book was sold out before his announcements were published. We'll include some of his marketing techniques in our publishing manual. [see p.21]

[PLEASE DETACH THIS PAGE AND ADD IT TO YOUR 1993-94 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY]

● 1993-1994 LIBRARY TRIP SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
Sep 28	Tuesday	9am	Sutro Library
Oct 26	Tuesday	7am	CA State Library, Sacramento
Nov 22	Monday	9am	Solano Co GS Library
Dec			NO TRIP
Jan 25	Tuesday	8AM	Santa Clara Library
Feb 22	Tuesday	8AM	National Archives, San Bruno
Mar 22	Monday	8:30AM	Mayflower-EBGS Library
Apr 26	Saturday	8AM	California GS Library
May 24	Tuesday	9AM	Sutro Library
June 28			OPEN

● MEMBERS ADDED SINCE DIRECTORY PUBLICATION

FARRELL, Herb & Ruth - 709 Glen Rd, Danville 94526-2211 (837-7593). Researching: ROSEVAR, Eng 1840; ROWLAND, CN early 1800's; FOX, VT 1790-1825; KEEFER, OH 1830-40.

GARNER, Ruth F. - 8 Lawrence Av, P.O. Box 809, Potsdam, NY 13676.

GRIFFIN, Nancy - 105 Van Buren Ct, Novato 94947 (415/897-8199). Researching: BAER, PA 1800's; HANCHETTE, PA, OH 1800-50.

PARROTT, Mary Ella - Box #906, Brewster MA 02631 (508/896-3434)

PEGUES, Leslie - 101 Madora Pl, San Ramon 94583 (803-1607).

POWERS, John - 11860E West Wind Dr, Scottsdale AZ 85255. Researching: OLNEY, NY 1720-1840; STIMSON, NY 1640-1846.

ADD RESEARCH SURNAMES:

McCUE, Erma - Researching HANEY, PA 1800-1920; HIGGINS, NJ, Wales 1850-1920.

PRUDAMES, Ida - Researching: BRYANT, OH 1815-50, ME 1790-1815; SCOTT, MA 1640.

WADE, Rosemarie - Researching: STICKNEY, MI 1850; WADE, MI 1850, MA 1700.

FOR FUTURE ADDITIONS:

TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR GENEALOGISTS

1. I am a genealogist dedicated to true knowledge about the families I am researching.
 2. Thou shalt use family traditions with caution and only as clues.
 3. Thou shalt not accept as gospel every written or printed word.
 4. Thou shalt not hang nobility or royalty on your family tree without verifying it with experts.
 5. Thou shalt clearly label the questionable and the fairy tale.
 6. Thou shalt handle all records in such a way that the next users will find them in the condition you did. (I am grateful to Joe Brickey of the staff of the National Archives Summer Institute for rephrasing this commandment to read: "Thou shalt not use bacon as a bookmark").
 7. Thou shalt credit those who help you and ask permission of those whose work you use.
 8. Thou shalt not query any source of information without supplying postage.
 9. Thou shalt respect the sensitivities of the living in whatever you record but tell the truth about the dead.
 10. Thou shalt not become a genealogical teacher or authority without appropriate training and certification.
- "Here endeth the reading of Scripture."

[from "The Ethics of Genealogy" by Rabbi Malcolm Stern, "Genealogy Digest", Vol 16:4 Fall 1985.]

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FIRST CLASS MAIL