



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

www.srvgensoc.org



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

Vol. XXXIV No. 8 March - 2019

This Month's Presentation:

March 19, 2019

Italian Research:

Ciao to Your Ancestors in Italian Civil Records

Presented by: Karen LaDuca



This is the guy (who looks very much like Karen's husband) who started her foray into Italian genealogy. Who was he and why was his portrait hanging in the basement at her in-laws' house? He was her husband's grandfather but that was about all the family knew about him. They knew his name, Angelo LaDuca, and that he left the family somehow when his children were quite young and his wife was mad at him. That's why he was in the basement! Through the use of Italian Civil Records available online (some only viewable at the Family History Center) Karen has traced this family tree back to the mid 1700's.

Ms. LaDuca has also used Italian Civil records to research her mother-in-law's family in Italy as well as the ancestors of extended family members and friends. She is also a member of 4 different Facebook groups focused on Calabrian and Sicilian genealogy and helps many members looking for assistance in finding their ancestors.

Karen holds a BS in Elementary Education and Math with a minor in French and an MS in Education. She taught Elementary School in New York State for a few years and then began teaching quilting classes and lecturing on the topic. Karen began researching her own ancestry about 30 years ago and then took a break to raise 2 children. She resumed her genealogy researching in earnest in 2006 and volunteers at the Family History Center in Livermore. ■

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Last Month's Presentation:

Scotland & Northern Ireland Research

Presented by: Mark McLaren**Reported by: Russ Erickson**

Scottish Archives--the Gold standard for genealogy research William Wallace became the symbol of Scottish independence. King James I in 1603 unified Scotland and England, uniting the flags, providing the present Scot flag. Northern Ireland and Scotland are 12 miles apart with common industries and families historically went back and forth. The first major Scottish emigration was to north Ireland--the Ulster migration, between 1605 and 1697, involving 200,000 people. King James encouraged it to control the rebellious Irish and elevate the prosperity of Ireland, a very poor country. A later Ulster Scots Diaspora sent people worldwide to the British colonies and beyond. A 1703 English "test act" against Scot Presbyterian church control and a 1699 Woolens act reducing Ulster linen trade increased emigration. 250,000 went to the American colonies. In 1717-18, many went to Pennsylvania and Baltimore. In the 1740s, more went to Virginia and Maryland, then more south and to the frontiers in 1754. A 1763 treaty sent more to Canada. A bad economy made more Scots emigrate from 1900 to WWI. Many wealthy Scots also emigrated, due to primogeniture where the eldest son inherited and the younger had to find positions elsewhere. Scots were good traders and were involved in the Hudson Bay Co. and East India monopoly. After the battle of Culloden, many Highland Scots served in the British army dispersing clans worldwide. North and South Carolina recruited Scots to the frontier states early. The Jacobite rebellions, from 1707 to 1745, trying to restore the Stuart king line, ended with more people going over seas. A 1717 English law sent minor law breakers, about 162,000, to the many British colonies, from Americas to Australia. From 1750 to 1860, English laws against the clans, famines, over population, replacing Crofters (farmers) with cattle and sheep, and indenturing the poor all contributed to the diaspora. In the late 1800s, linen, shipping, and coal industry declines added. 363,000 left in the 1920s and some returned during the Great Depression of the 1930s.

From 1825 to 1903, Highland Scots (20%) and Ulster Scots (80%) were prominent from New York to Georgia. When looking for early USA ancestors,



(Photo by: Nancy Alexander)

Mark McLaren

seek the "Bell Cow" or earliest leading ancestor before the 1880s. US immigrants were sought less after that as the country filled up more.

Remember name changes were common due to Scot accents and illiteracy and nick names and middle names were often used in records. Surnames often related to occupations or places--Webster equals weaver, Craig--rocky or hilly, Glenn--Valley. Mc (80%) or Mac (20%) mean "son of". O' means grandson of. From 1603 to 1779, the clan MacGregor name was outlawed, making their genealogy in that period more difficult. After Culloden, some highland clans changed names for a period. Scots named first sons for ►

the father's father, second for the mother's father, and third for the father. Daughters were named for the mother's mother, the second for the father's mother, etc. If a child died, the next might be given the same name. Nicknames were common-- Saddle for Sarah, Jane for Jean, Sandy for Alexander, etc. Clan means children, with the chief being father--usually well educated and a good leader. Septs with allegiance were included in a clan, so clans were not bloodlines. A clan is recognized by Heraldry and a coat of arms. There is a standing council of chiefs and female chiefs are common.

GROS--General Registry of Scotland--a notable resource where actual documents can be viewed, with more information than indexed resources. Searches are fee based. Ancestry and Family Search, more easily searchable, should be viewed first. GROS has deeper data and is more likely correct. (See internet sites given by Mark with his talk).

From 1553 to 1855, old parish records are often available. From 1855 onward, civil Scottish records. Early registration was expensive, and many did not bother. With Civil records, birth records are available to 100 years ago, marriage (with dates, surnames, and occupations) to 75 years, and death records to 50 years ago, with current and past spouse surnames. "Irregular marriage" means outside the national church. From 1841 to 1911, there was a census every 10 years. There are also valuation roles, wills and testaments. But in North Ireland, many records were destroyed and many others are in scattered holdings.

Using DNA can validate data and direct one more closely to ancestral homes as data gets better. Autosomal can indicate back 5 to 6 generations. ■

WELCOME — NEW MEMBERS

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

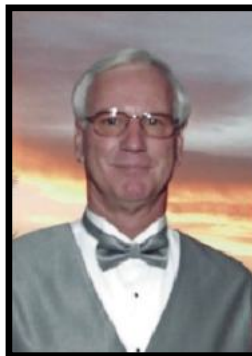
Harold Bradley
Karla Henderlong
Tim Theobald

Please look for them at our
meetings and welcome them to our Society.



President's Message

By Steve Watty



If you did not attend the General Meeting on February 19, you missed a well attended, informative and, by the feedback, very popular session. The meeting was divided into two sections, first, each of our Special Interest Groups (SIGs) staffed a table that provided the membership and guests with information on their charter, common interest, and how they may help the membership with the group's specialized area of expertise. We thank the members that staffed the tables and provided the displays, examples, literature and answered questions.

Following this expanded social period our own Mark McLaren gave an excellent presentation on Scottish history and research sources and techniques. Mark even dressed the part in his clan kilt! Thank you Mark, very nice talk, Power-Point presentation and handout material.

With close to 70 attendees to this meeting, including a number of guests, we enrolled three new members to our society and a number of members joined a Special Interest Group. We will continue to promote our society and the speaker agenda in an effort to grow our base. Please continue to support SRVGS with your attendance and invite family and friends to our monthly meetings.

Another way to support SRVGS is to volunteer to serve on the Board or help with committee support. We can always use the help. We will find a position for you that fits your background and expertise. Do not wait until all the jobs are filled, contact a Board member today! ■

*If you think your
family is normal, you
are probably not a
genealogist.*



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SRVGS CALENDAR

March 2019

- 5 Tuesday - 10:00 am** A Board meeting was held at the home of Frances Lloyd.
- 19 Tuesday - 10:00 am** The General Meeting will be held at the LDS Church on Stone Valley Road at Smith Road, in Alamo.

April 2019

- 2 Thursday - 10:00 am** A Board meeting will be held at the home of Frances Lloyd.
- 16 Tuesday - 10:00 am** The General Meeting will be held at the LDS Church on Stone Valley Road at Smith Road, in Alamo.

SRVGS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

NOTE: For San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society Special Interest Group contact information refer to your Society Handbook. For schedules, visit our web site at: <http://www.srvgensoc.org/sig.html>.

Please **note** some activities take place early in the month, before our newsletter is issued. Be sure to check with the SIG coordinator if you have a particular interest.



FamilySearch - Monday, March 11th (the 2nd Monday) 1:15 pm - 3 pm at the Danville Family History Center. Learn how to search records and study family trees on the FamilySearch.org web site. **Bill George** is the SIG Leader at: williamcgeorge@gmail.com.



Irish/Scottish Research - Wednesday March 13th (the 2nd Wednesday) 10 am - 12pm, at the home of Russ and Patty Erickson in Pleasant Hill. Patty Erickson is SIG Leader. You may contact Patty at: russpat@comcast.net. ►



DNA - Monday March 18st (the 3rd Monday) 1:00 - 3:00 pm, at the Danville Family History Center. This SIG assumes a basic knowledge of Genealogical DNA testing and therefore is only open to those who have completed the SRVGS Intro to DNA class or an approved equivalent. Mark McLaren is SIG Leader. You may contact Mark at: greatscot@earthlink.net.



Publishing - Thursday March 21st (the 3rd Thursday) from 10 am - 12 pm, at the home of Francie Lloyd in Danville. This informal Group shares advice, encouragement, and suggestions to preserve their genealogy project, big or small. Members share their projects as they progress to a hoped for completion. Society members interested in attending should let **Francie Lloyd**, the SIG Leader, know they plan to attend at: frances_lloyd@comcast.net.



Legacy Family Tree - Monday, March 25th (the 4th Monday) from 1:15 -3 pm. The group discusses how the Legacy genealogy program works and is for beginners as well as experienced Legacy users. **Sharon Clay** is the SIG Leader and can be contacted at: sharonlclay@comcast.net.



German Research - Wednesday, March 27th (4th Wednesday). This month the group will be meeting at **BJ's Bistro** in Concord for its **Annual German Luncheon**. Plan to arrive by 11:30 am and let Helen Odegard (odegardsh@gmail.com) know that you will be attending the luncheon. ■

Four-Part FamilySearch Series

March—June, 2019

By: Bill George, FamilySearch SIG Leader

Our February general meeting with SIG tables was a success with several new SRVGS members and a number of new people signing up for various SIGs.

I want to alert members to a four-part series of FamilySearch SIG meetings I'm starting, it's a review of the main parts of the FamilySearch.org website. ►

FamilySearch.org is a full-featured genealogy website allowing users, for free, to research 2,455 databases for genealogy records and maintain their “one world” family tree. The website has four main areas: (1) Searching for records; (2) Building your family tree; (3) Uploading photos, documents, audios and stories; (4) Help and Learning Aids

I will be covering the four areas in the next four months, starting in March, 2019, on the 2nd Monday, 1:15pm at the Danville Family History Center. Newer SRVGS members might make the most of these sessions. Even experienced FamilySearch users occasionally can use a refresher on how the system works. Especially since there have been many recent enhancements.

The site has been continually improving for years and its family tree was opened to the public in 2013.

Stats from a “What’s New at FamilySearch” RootsTech Session.

- Total family tree Persons: 1.21 Billion
- Total Sources added to the family tree: 1.3 Billion
- Total memories (photos, documents, audios) attached: 32 Million
- Searchable names in historical records: 6.2 Billion

Please come to one or all four of these sessions and keep the FamilySearch SIG going. ■

EDUCATION

By: Kathy Javdani

All the rain lately makes it a perfect time to stay inside a learn more about genealogy.



As usual, the month begins with the California Genealogical Society (CGS) www.CaliforniaAncestors.org For all the following activities, register online:

- On Sat., Mar. 9th from 1-3:30 pm, Lucy Jennings Sweeney will present **Hispanic Genealogy: Spanish Records**.
- On Sun., Mar. 10th from 1-4 pm, there will be a class **on Finding Your** ►

Japanese Roots in the U.S. and in Japan.

- On Sat., the 16th from 10 am – 12:30 pm, the **San Francisco SIG** will meet.
- Also the 16th the **Family Tree Maker SIG** will meet from 1-3 pm.
- On Sat., Mar., 23rd and on Mar. 30th the class **Hard Drive Organization: Managing Images and Your Computer File Folders** will be held from 10 am -12 pm.
- On Sat., Mar. 23rd from 1-4 pm, and repeated again on Mar. 30 from 1-4 pm, there will be a class entitled **You’ve Got Your Ancestry DNA Results, What Next??**
- On Sat., Apr. 6th from 1-4 pm, there will be a class entitled **You’ve Got Your 23andMe or MyHeritage DNA Results, What Next??**
- On Sat., Apr. 6th the **Intro to Genealogy** will meet from 10:15am -12:15 pm.

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



The Oakland FamilySearch Library, https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Oakland_California_FamilySearch_Library, offers the following support: (See website for registration details.) Pre-register for classes at fhcoakland@gmail.com or at 510-531-3905.

- On every Sat. from 10:30 – 11:30 am, Mr. Perrone will lead an **Indexing Workshop**.
- On Wed. the 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th from 6-9 pm, Jane Lindsay will offer **French Canadian Research** assistance.
- On every Wed. in March from 6-8 pm, Pamela Brett will present **Building Skills for Successful Family History Research**.
- On every Thurs. from March 7th through Apr. 11th, Mark McLaren will present a six-part **genetic genealogy class** at the Oakland Family Search Library. ►

- On Thurs., the 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th, from 10 am — 4 pm, Beryl and Wade Olofson will provide individual help with **Swedish research**.
- On Tuesdays and Fridays the Family Search Basics series will meet as follows:
 - ♦ Tues. Mar. 5th 7-8:30 pm, **#4 Finding & Merging Duplicates** and again on Fri., Mar. 8th from 10:30 am -12 noon.
 - ♦ Tues., Mar. 12th, 7-8:30 pm, **#5 Learning more about the Temple Box** and again on Fri., the 15th, 10:30 am -12 noon,
 - ♦ Fri., Mar. 22nd from 10:30 am - 12 noon, **#2 Sourcing & Attaching Records**
- On Wed., the 13th from 7-8 pm, the **Mac Users Workshop** will meet.
- Beginning on Tues, the 19th from 1-2 pm, Karina Robinson will continue a 4 part series; Mar. 19th **Immigration – Online Tools & Resources** and Mar. 26th – **Newspapers-Online & Resources**.
- On Wed., the 27th from 6—8 pm, Alvis Ward will lead the **African American Research Workshop**.

You can check the Family Search website <https://familysearch.org> for tutorials, wikis, discussion forums, and webinars. June's numerous webinars are listed at: https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Family_History_Library_Classes_and_Webinars

 At the Concord Family History Center, 3700 Concord Blvd., Concord on Sat., Mar. 16th at 10 am, Madeline Yanov will share **Finding Missing Ancestors in Institutional Record. Part 1: Hospitals, Sanitariums and Asylums**. Contact Jackie at 827-4729 for further information.

Enjoy learning more from home?



The Southern California Genealogical Society (SCGS), ►

www.scgsgenealogy.com/webinar/overview.html continues to offer free webinars. Register in advance on line. This month it will be presenting:

- On Wed., Mar. 20th at 6 pm, Thomas MacEntee will share **One Touch Genealogy Research: How to Handle a Record Just Once**.

SCGS also offers the following webinars at their website for free to the public.

- *Neither Filmed or Scanned: NARA Treasurers Await* by Kerry Bartels
- *Military Records at the National Archives* by Kerry Bartels with downloadable notes.
- *The Many Facets of the National Archives Website* by Kerry Bartels with downloadable notes.
- *How to Get the Most Out of a Genealogy Conference* by George Morgan.
- *National Archives Website Microfilm Catalog, Archival Databases and Guides* by Kerry Bartels with downloadable notes.



The Illinois State Genealogical Society, <https://ilgensoc.org>, continues its webinar series. The initial presentation of each webinar is free to the public.

- On Tues., Mar. 12th at 8 Central, Janice Lovelace will discuss **The (Underground) Railroad Runs Through Here – Illinois**.

Register at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4315351536373554690>



The New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS), www.Americanancestors.org/education/ online classes, has a growing Online Learning Center that offers educational resources for both guest users and NEHGS members. It contains subject guides on a variety of genealogical topics, informative videos, webinars, online courses, and more. If you have questions or feedback, contact Online Education

- On Thurs., Mar. 21st from 3-4 EST Alicia Crane Williams will investigate **Using and Evaluating Published Genealogies**.

Unable to attend the live broadcast? A recording of the free events will be posted to the NEHGS website the following day. ►



Legacy offers numerous free webinars every month. Go to FamilyTreeWebinars.com to register. November's webinars include:

- On Tues., Mar., 12th at 11 am, MyHeritage Webinars will share **Suggested Relationship Paths: An Inside Look at the Theory of Family Relativity.**
- On Wed., Mar., 13th at 11 am, MyHeritage Webinars will explore **(Swedish) Hitta okand familj med MyHeritage.**
- On Wed., Mar., 13th at 5 pm, Brooke Ganz will discuss **Reclaim the Records: Using Freedom of Information Laws for Genealogy.**

Save the Date:

- On Sat., Mar. 9th from 9-11:30 am, the Silicon Valley Computer Genealogy Group, www.svcgg.org, will meet at 875 Quince Ave., Santa Clara. Linda Okazaki will present **Angel Island: The History and the Records.** In addition, Pamela Brigham and Vern Dale will lead a **RootsTech Panel** on what they learned at RootsTech. Also, Martha Wallace will share **Reunion – Mapping Your Ancestors.**
- On Mon., Mar. 11th at 7:30 pm, the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society, www.l-ags.org, will meet at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Sue Severson will discuss **Our Genetic Heritage: Better Understanding our Genealogy through DNA.**
- On Fri. Mar. 15th at 10 am, the Mt. Diablo Genealogical Society, www.mdgs.webs.com will meet at the Rossmoor Creekside Clubhouse. Stephen Morse will share **One Step Website: A Potpourri of Genealogical Search Tools.**
- On Tues., Mar. 19th from 6:45-8:30 pm, the Santa Clara County Historical and Genealogical Society, www.scchgs.org will hold its general meeting at the Santa Clara Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Rd., Santa Clara. Dr. Jan Joyce will present **Creative Hypothesis Development for Complex Genealogy Problems.** ■

HOW TO REACH THE BOARD MEMBERS

President: Steve Watty
president@srvgensoc.org

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vicepresident@srvgensoc.org

2nd V.P. Programs:
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 Karen Olynger
 Gladys Warr
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 Bob Thompson
membership@srvgensoc.org

Recording Secretary:
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Calendar Coordinator:
 Bill George
srvgs@srvgensoc.org

Education Coordinator:
 Kathy Javdani
srvgs@srvgensoc.org

Mailing: Mary Tom

Deadline to put information in the Newsletter is the Last Thursday of the month.

Members are encouraged to submit articles for the Newsletter by mail or email to the Coordinator.

INDIVIDUAL HELP

Do you need individual help in overcoming a "brick wall" in your research? Go to the SRVGS web site at: <http://srvgensoc.org/>, click on RESOURCES, then click on INDIVIDUAL HELP FOR SRVGS MEMBERS.

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS!*By: Kathy Javdani*

- ⇒ On Sat. Apr., 6th the Sacramento Genealogical Society will hold its Root Cellar Spring Seminar featuring four presentations by Lisa Louise Cooke. For more information go to: <https://rootcellar.org/cpage.php?pt=42>
- ⇒ The **National Genealogical Society 2019 Conference** will be from May 8th - 11th in St. Charles, MO. For more information go to: www.conference.ngsgenealogy.org
- ⇒ From May 30th – June 2nd the **2019 Jamboree** will be held in Burbank. Go to: genealogyjamboree.com.
- ⇒ From June 15-17, 2019 the Second International German Genealogy Conference will be held in Sacramento. For information visit: <http://iggpartners.org> ■

Danville Family History Center*2949 Stone Valley Rd. Alamo*

Phone: 925-552-5920

Monday: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm**Tuesday:** 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm**Wednesday:** 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
and 7:00 pm - 9:00 pmClosed on Holidays, the month of August
and Thanksgiving week.**FHC Director:**Chris Engstrom: cechocolatego@prodigy.net**Subscription Sites Available For Free at FHC:**

- Ancestry.com
- Fold3.com
- Heritage Quest
- MyHeritage.com
- Origins.net
- ProQuest Obituary Listings
- Godfrey Memorial Lib.
- Newspaper Archive
- World Vital Records
- Findmypast (UK)

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