



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society



www.srvgensoc.org

San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

Vol. XXVI No. 9 April - 2011



THIS MONTH – April 19, 2011
"Remember the Ladies, Celebrating the California Centennial of Women Suffrage, 1911-2011"
Presented by: Jean Blaser, Betty Casey, and Roxanne Lindsay



California voters approved women's right to vote in 1911, making 2011 the Centennial of California's Women Suffrage. Three members of the Museum of the San Ramon Valley will present a program that will include a presentation on women's movements in the 19th and 20th centuries and efforts by women, to win the right to vote in California and the Nation.



March Meeting
"Using The NEHGS Website Like a Pro"
Speaker: Lisa B. Lee **Reporter:** Lee Schlenker



Lisa B. Lee made another appearance before our membership this past month and, once again, she was excellent as our speaker! You may read her lengthy biography in the March Newsletter; but beside that she also has done Beta tests for many, many programs and on many different computers. She is well rounded in genealogy and fun to listen to. She has enlightening stories always.

The NEHGS is the New England Historic Genealogical Society which is the oldest and largest genealogical society, founded in 1845. Its research library, in Boston, houses more than 12 million records – some you won't find anywhere else. They are in the process of digitizing these records. Their website originally was for only the PC users and now has become MAC friendly too. And just to put an end to thinking that the New England Historic Genealogical Society deals strictly in New England information only, they have chosen to change their website from

NewEnglandAncestors.org to AmericanAncestors.org. Lisa says it contains the same information as their previous website and the new site is user friendly! Hopefully, this new website will cover the *rest of the world* as well as New England.

Annual membership fee is \$80 or a Life Time membership is a mere \$6,000. But there is a new "free guest" access to 10 databases (SSDI, vital records to 1850, pension index, NY wills, etc.). The annual membership gives you the 10 databases (many with images), an online expert for guidance or if you need to hire an expert (\$50 to \$70 per hour), online seminars, research events at the library, NEHGS journals, online exhibits, and the *Weekly Genealogist* online newsletter. Their databases include Canada, Connecticut, England, Ireland, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Other European Countries, Other U.S., Rhode Island, Vermont and various other subject areas (Free ►

Negro Head of Families 1830, Cemetery Transcriptions, Family Files, School records, Selected external databases, SSDI plus many others).

The website also contains comprehensive indices such as the Virginia Genealogist, the American Genealogist, the Connecticut Nutmegger, the Mayflower Descendant, NEHGS Register plus several others.

Lisa is a huge "wild card" proponent within the new database. By "wild card" she uses the (*) in place of vowels when researching names because they can often times be misspelled. This can give you the misspelled as well as the correctly spelled name you are searching for.

Your search fields are wide and contain drop-down menus so you can choose which records/time/area you'd like to search for your ancestor. You can search by categories, then by record types and whittle down your search even more. States are listed in alpha order then you can go to the region and keep working it down until you find whatever you're searching for. Lisa says searching is easy and self-explanatory. Also there are your citations listed either at the end of your document or at the end of that page. If you find an image you are able to move it around, make it smaller or larger, only a few lines or only just a half of a page and extract that information.

Lisa has definite likes and dislikes when it comes to researching. For any additional research information, Lisa suggests you *do not* use The Pro-Genealogist website which is usually run by college students (for a fee) and which could use more integrity. She liked Ancestry.com (the old version) search page better than the new search page. Lisa claims Reunion for the MAC is better than Family Tree Maker for the PC. She didn't have too many nice comments in regards to FTM. Lisa claims it's one of the poorest programs out on the market.

She had three information sheets available: one was online for our members to download, the other two were "Golden Rules of Genealogy" (the dos and don'ts) and then "U.S. Vital Records" (listing the years each state started recording that particular vital record). All three can be very helpful in your genealogy research. If you should have questions Lisa has her own website: Lisa@GotGenealogy.com (you may also ►

subscribe to her website/newsletter).

And remember -- the new website for NEHGS is now AmericanAncestors.org. Go and play around with it! ■



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SRVGS CALENDAR

April 2011

- 5 Tuesday – 10:00 am.** A Board Meeting was held at the home of Kathy Javdani in Danville.
- 19 Tuesday – 10:00 am.** The General Meeting will be held at the LDS Church on Stone Valley Road at Smith Road, in Alamo. From I-680 freeway, take Stone Valley Road east 2 & 1/2 miles

May 2011

- 3 Tuesday – 10:00 a.m.** A Board Meeting is scheduled to be held at the home of Sherri Hedman in San Ramon.
- 17 Tuesday – 10:00 a.m.** The General Meeting will be held at the LDS Church on Stone Valley Road at Smith Road, in Alamo.

SRVGS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS



THE MASTER GENEALOGIST INTEREST GROUP

This is a genealogy software users group for PC's with their focus on the use of The Master Genealogist. They will meet on Tuesday, April 19 at the home of Peggy Dearman in Danville. This group typically meets about 12:30 pm at someone's home after a General meeting. **Plan to bring a sandwich for your lunch.** Barbara Johnson is the contact person for the group. For further information, contact Barbara by phone 837-2153 or e-mail bcj616@earthlink.net ►



MacGen – MACINTOSH GENEALOGY GROUP

The MacGen group will meet Wednesday, April 20th, at 10:30 am in the Danville Family History Center on Stone Valley Road. Our SIG specializes in the uses of the Macintosh by genealogists. The topic this month will be "The Family History Report" one of the most important reports in Reunion. If you're hoping to publish a book, this is the report you want to run. If you have a Mac lap top, please bring it as you will be able to follow along with the examples.

Bill George, Special Interest Group Coordinator, is the contact person for this group. E-mail williamcgeorge@Gmail.com or phone: (510) 538-2449 You may also refer to the web site at <http://www.macgen.org>.



ENGLISH - Members with this special interest may set aside Thursday mornings from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Suzanne Johnston and interested members will work on research in England and Wales. If you are interested in getting some help with your English research, gather the materials you have about your line leading to your current research project, and bring it on a Thursday morning. Phone 552-5920 or e-mail Suzanne Johnston: gjohnston3@comcast.net



GERMAN – The German Group will meet Wednesday, April 27th (The fourth Wednesday) at 10 am. at the home of Marilyn Tanner in Moraga. The contact person for this group is Helen Odegard. If you are interested in joining the group please contact her at 932-6796 or e-mail shodegard@att.net for more information.



IRISH – This special interest group will meet April 13th (the second Wednesday) at 10:00 am. at the home of Russ and Patty Erickson in Pleasant Hill. Patty Erickson is the contact person for the group. Phone (925) 229-0889 or e-mail russpat@comcast.net



LEGACY SOFTWARE GROUP
The Legacy group will meet on Monday, April 25th (The fourth ►

Monday) at 10 am at the Danville Family History Center. Bill George is the Acting Group Coordinator. For more information, contact bill at williamcgeorge@Gmail.com or phone: (510) 538-2449



PUBLISHING – A few members that are sharing their interest in publishing their genealogy and family history data, will meet on April 21st (the third Thursday) at 10:00 am. at the home of Francie Lloyd in Danville. Members are welcome to attend. For further information, contact Frances Lloyd at 837-9382 or e-mail: frances_lloyd@comcast.net



SCANDINAVIAN – Members with this special interest may set aside a Wednesday afternoon between 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm, at the Family History Center on Stone Valley Road. A few members are usually there to provide help to do research for Swedish, Norwegian and Danish genealogical information. It might be best to call to make sure they are there. For further information, please call (925) 552-5920 or e-mail Linda Bailey: baileylinda100@Gmail.com. ■

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP UPDATE

By: Bill George

And then there were eight! I'm sorry to report that as of April, 2011 the Southern States Research SIG (Special Interest Group) is on hiatus. Joann Garlington and Nancy Alexander are interested in coordinating the Southern States SIG but need to have more participation to conduct monthly meetings. If you would like the Southern SIG's meetings to start up again, please e-mail Nancy at LXNANCY@AOL.COM.

Our SIG meetings are of two types (1) A volunteer who's available every week at the Danville Family History Center to help in specific areas. Two SIGS are like this... the English SIG (Suzanne Johnston on Thursdays at 10am) and the Scandinavian SIG (Linda Bailey Wednesdays at 10am). (2) SIGS with once/month meetings at specific locations. Six SIGS are like this; the ►

German, Irish, Legacy, MacGen, Publishing and TMG SIGS. They all welcome your participation and will help you learn.

The new Legacy Genealogy Program SIG has decided to meet once a month on the fourth Monday of the month at 10 am at the Danville History Center. We had 11 people sign up for the group. We plan to incorporate some of the Legacy Family Tree training CD segments which are very good. On Monday, April 25th we will finish up Tagging & Searching and start on Entering Names, Dates and Places.

Specifics of SIG meetings each month can be read in our monthly newsletter available in both a paper and web site (<http://srvgensoc.org>) edition. I try to highlight a SIG or two in this SIG article every month. If you want more information about any of the SIGs please check our SIG page at <http://srvgensoc.org/sig.html> that has a calendar of events and email contacts. Any other questions, please e-mail me, Bill George SIG Coordinator, at williamcgeorge@gmail.com ■

CALENDAR OF OTHER EVENTS

12 April Tuesday 7:30 pm The Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society (LAGS) will have their regular meeting at Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court in Pleasanton. Cath Madden Trimble will speak about California Cousin.

13 April Wednesday 10 am The East Bay Genealogy Society will have one of its regular meetings at the Oakland Regional Family History Center Conference Room, 4766 Lincoln Ave., Oakland, CA. The Speaker will be Richard Hansen. The topic will be, *SAN FRANCISCO MUSEUM ONLINE* (SFmuseum.org). Richard will explain how the website works and how to navigate it. The website contains much information on family history. Richard Hansen was with the San Francisco Fire Department photo unit for ten years. ►

16 April Saturday 9 am to 4 pm An all day seminar will be sponsored by the Sacramento German Genealogical Society. It will be held at the Turnverein, located at 3349 J Street in Sacramento. "In Search of Our German Ancestors," 6 different topics will be presented by Roger P. Minert, Ph.D, A.G.. The fee is \$50 for non-members and the deadline for registration is April 9. See the registration form and more details at : <http://www.sacgergensoc.org>

16 April Saturday 9 am to 4 pm A seminar will be sponsored by the Sonoma County Genealogical Society. This will be their 19th annual spring seminar. Christine Rose will be the featured speaker. It will be held at the Wells Fargo Center for the Arts, off Hwy 101 at River Road in Santa Rosa. For further details and registration information, go to www.scgs.org/calendar.html The registration fee for a non-member is \$30. You must register prior to April 8.

30 April Saturday 9 am to 3:15 pm The San Mateo County Genealogical Society will host a seminar at the Menlo Park LDS church, 1105 Valparaiso. The theme is "Finding and Using Free Online Genealogy Resources". There will be three lectures and a problem solving workshop with Susan Goss Johnston. She is a graduate of the National Institute on Genealogical Research, Advanced Methodology and Evidence Analysis course at Stamford University's Institute of Genealogy & Historical Research, and the National Archives' course, going to the Source. For more information and the registration form go to http://www.smcgs.org/temporary/spring_2011_seminar.pdf The fee for a non-member is \$30. The registration deadline is April 22.

11 thru 14 May Wednesday thru Saturday The National Genealogical Society Family History Conference will be held in Charleston, SC. For further information, go to www.ngsgenealogy.org ►

10 thru 12 June Friday through Sunday The Southern California Genealogy Jamboree will be held in Burbank, California. The theme will be; "They Came from Somewhere Else." Search <http://www.scsgenealogy.com> for information.

EDUCATION

 **15 April Friday 9 am to 1 pm** Rose Mary Kennedy, Genealogy Specialist, at the National Archives, Pacific Region, in San Bruno, will present a workshop. The subject will be "Passenger Arrival and Naturalization Records." The fees are \$15 payable in advance. To register and reserve a space, contact her at (650) 238-3488. The address is 1000 Commodore Drive in San Bruno. She will also present a workshop on Friday, May 13. The subject will be, Military Records Part I, Revolutionary War to Civil War.

 **27 April Wednesday 10 am to noon** Genealogy: Getting Started classes will be given for beginning to intermediated students. This will be the first of 6 weekly classes to be held in Computer Room A of the Rossmoor Computer Club at the Acalanes Adult Education Center, 1963 Tice Valley Boulevard in Walnut Creek. The Instructor will be Gail Roche van Wye. The cost is \$25.

MY BIGGEST BRICK WALL

By: Bob Venter

My problem is not so much a brick wall as such, but rather the lack of the appropriate source to answer a question. My question concerns the parents of my great-great-grandmother, Caroline Beck. Caroline's birth record of 18 Apr 1837 in Schiltigheim, France (a suburb of Strasbourg) records her father as Charles Beck (age: 33) and her mother as Anne Marie Riehl (age: 30). The record of Caroline's marriage to Jean Boell shows these same names. However, no record of the marriage of a Charles Beck to an Anne Marie Riehl can be found, nor a birth record for Anne Marie Riehl. ►

A marriage of a Charles Beck (age: 30) to a Marie Catherine Riehl (age: 27) was recorded on 31 Mar 1834. Note the difference between Ms Riehl's given names as shown in her marriage record and that of the mother in Caroline's birth record. Additionally, a birth record for a Charles Beck was recorded on 26 Jun 1804 and for a Marie Catherine Riehl on 7 Feb 1807. There is little doubt that these birth records are for the same people who were married in 1834; the parents are the same in both cases.

To add to the confusion, records of supposed siblings of Caroline's were sought and the following were found:

- Marie Salomé, born: 20 Jan 1836; Mother: Marie Catherine.
- Charles, born: 12 Feb 1836; Mother: Catherine Marie.
- Dorotheé, born 28 Jul 1842; Mother: Marie Catherine.

The question is: "Is the couple who were married in 1834 the parents of Caroline, even though Caroline's mother's name is given as *Anne Marie* in Caroline's birth and marriage records, but the name *Marie Catherine* is recorded in the presumed parent's marriage record?" And a second question would be; "Are all four of the children listed above siblings?"

There is evidence supporting both sides of the question. In support we have: 1) the fact that no marriage record for Charles Beck and Anne Marie Riehl has been found, nor Anne Marie's birth record. 2) The ages of the known Charles and Marie Catherine are in reasonably agreement with those of all children's parents. 3) Marie Catherine's mother's name was Anne Marie. 4) Charles and Marie's first child, Marie Salomé, married a Frederic Kissel, and the record of the marriage of Caroline to Jean Boell shows witness #3 to be "Kissel, Frederic, brother-in-Law of the bride". And likewise, Charles and Marie's second child, Charles, married Caroline Debus and their marriage record shows witness #3 to be "Boell, Jean, brother-in-law to the groom". These two marriage records would appear to be good evidence that Salomé, Charles and Caroline are siblings. This would appear to be pretty conclusive. ►

However, the evidence against the claim is 1) all of the supposed children's birth records show a different form of the mother's name, and that same name is repeated in their marriage records. 2) There is no explanation for why the mother's name would be Marie Catherine sometimes and Anne Marie or Catherine Marie at other times and yet be consistent as to which name she used with which child. [This is my main cause of doubt.] 3) The fact that Anne Marie's birth record and the record of her marriage to Charles Beck has not been found can be explained by the possibility that she may have been born and married in another town.

I have decided that the best way to solve this dilemma would be to find a record that lists everyone in the family. An American style census record would be ideal. As luck would have it, a local census was taken every 5 years beginning 1836. Unfortunately, the only census available is the one from 1836. It does show a Charles Beck family with two children, Salomé (1 yr.) and Charles (0 yr.), but with a wife named *Madeleine Marie!* This census was a year too early to include Caroline, but at least we know that Salomé and Charles were indeed siblings. But, of course, we now have yet another name for the mother.

So, I need to find another source that lists this entire family and was recorded after the birth of my great-great-grandmother, Caroline, in 1837. Hopefully, a record of this type exists out there, somewhere. ■

Why Move?

By: Bob Daoust, Alamo, Calif.

Since I started with this genealogy thing a couple of years ago and started fooling around with family trees and such, I brilliantly deduced that we all have eight great grandparents. Just researching them alone has been a journey of joy and reward and since subscribing to Ancestry.com a year ago, much of their lives have been opened up to me. Of my eight great grandparents, seven of them Moved to California between 1855 and 1868, pure and simple to strike gold. They Moved from places such as Montreal, Canada; ►

Bethel, Vermont; Baltimore, Maryland; Kentucky and Missouri. They came by covered wagon across the plains and mountains and by ship around Cape Horn or trekking across Panama. All of them spent at least their first thirty years in California in the Mother Lode gold fields. The eighth GG, my maternal great grandmother on my mother's side, Anna Irene West, was actually born in the mining camp of Rattlesnake Bar, California on the American River on Jan. 9, 1853. (Hooray!!!! officially making me a fourth generation Californian)

My research has revealed that only one, Jacob Carlock from Ohio, actually struck any gold as we find him first in Georgetown, California in 1858 and then in 1865, the owner of a fine hotel in Bakersfield. All the others tried their luck in such stops as Virginia City, Nevada, Mokelumne Hill, Tuolumne City, Keswick, Shasta and Walker Mine to name a few, always on the Move to whichever mining camp sounded promising. My Grandpa Will Daoust, born in San Francisco in 1868, actually Moved at least twenty seven times in pursuit of "The Big Strike".

Those who struck gold and got any money out of the diggings were few and far between. By the 1870's many of the miners had given up and Moved to towns such as Sacramento, Stockton, Redding, San Francisco and Oakland for jobs that were reliable and could support a family. My Dad's parents were actually exceptions and stayed in mining. Grandpa Will and Grandma Addie Moved to those twenty seven various locations in California and Nevada until his retirement in the 1940's. Their children, who were my parents and my aunts and uncles, all Moved to the big cities for good jobs such as electrician, cement mason, accountant, bar tender, rancher, etc. They too all tried mining and logging for a short while, but the pay was small and the work was much too hard. They had to Move on.

I was born in Stockton in 1942, as my parents were in the process of Moving out of the mining industry in the Mother Lode and getting closer to good jobs. When I was one year old, we Moved to San Francisco so my father could work for an electrical equipment supplier. We then Moved to Oakland in 1942 so my father could get a job with an electrical contractor. From there ►

we Moved to Hayward in 1946 so my father could start his own electrical contracting business. As he became successful we Moved to Danville in 1953 and he commuted to Hayward until his retirement in 1980.

I graduated from high school in Danville in 1960 and went to San Jose State and got my degree in business in 1965. I got married, worked in the truck manufacturing industry from 1965 through 1968 in Newark, California then Moving on to Seattle, Washington. We had kids and I went to work for my father in the electrical construction industry in 1968, Moved to San Ramon and worked in that business until 2000, when I retired. Since 1968 we have lived in San Ramon and Alamo in order to be near family and my electrical contracting business. I don't think that I will ever have to Move again. ■

WELCOME — NEW MEMBERS

Please extend a Warm Welcome to our newest members!

Jo Anne Gardner
5780 Tamarack Way
Clayton CA 94517
925-672-2955
msoakhaven@me.com

Bill Hewitt
157 Clydesdale Drive
Danville CA 94526
707-853-2626
bill_hewitt43@yahoo.com

News from the Danville Stake Family History Center

By Janet Broderick

The internet at the FHC is getting faster!! The end of April will see the FHC connecting to the internet through a Comcast cable ►

HOW TO REACH THE BOARD MEMBERS

President: Sherri Hedman 925-275-8123

e-mail: president@srvgensoc.org

1st V.P. (Vacant)

2nd V.P. Program:

Elaine Franke 925-831-1989

3rd V.P. Membership:

Ed Mason 925-838-7848

Recording Secretary:

Carol Huvane 925-947-5669

Corresponding Secretary:

Kathy Javdani 925-736-5464

Treasurer: Tom Draeger 925-9375161

Parliamentarian:

Virginia Rood 925-937-8659

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Coordinator: Bob Venter 925-454-9919

e-mail: rjventer@comcast.net

Calendar Coordinator:

Vern Segelke 925-838-8570

e-mail: v.m.seg3@sbcglobal.net

Mailing: Lucy Carver 925-837-3146

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

Members are encourage 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.

Want to help someone who is having research problems in your area of knowledge? Call Harry Baggett at 925-837-7960 to have your name added to the SRVGS Individual Help list.

Harry Baggett trvlrl@sbcglobal.net

connection. We have been working on this for several months and it is going to happen. This will make the Center even more effective. There will be some construction work around the building. Hopefully there won't be any disruption of the connection during our hours. We will know more as the installation time grows nearer.

We apologize for the remodeling work on the church that has made getting into the church & FHC a challenge. Thank you for your patience!

I am also going to be released from my assignment as Family History Center director. My husband, Dennis, & I have accepted a call to serve a mission for our Church. We have been assigned to the Cape Verde Mission (that's a group of islands off the west African coast, about 500 miles from the Senegal coast) as welfare specialists. We will be working with welfare and humanitarian projects, the employment center, assisting with the perpetual education fund of the church that provides educational loans for young adult church members in developing countries, and general member and leader support!!! Our report date is May 30 and the assignment will be for 23 ►

months. (And, I checked the Church's web site and there are 2! FHCs in Cape Verde!!!)

Obviously, while in Cape Verde, I can't work in the Danville Family History Center. The Church leaders have identified a new director and I should know soon who he/she is. My plan is to introduce him/her at the April general meeting. That meeting will essentially be my last FHC/SRVGS activity, as we will be leaving on April 20 to go visit our children and grandchildren in the East (NC, WI, MI) and will be returning in mid May only to leave about 1 1/2 weeks later for this assignment.

I will so miss serving in the FHC - I have loved being there. And, I have so enjoyed working with the SRVGS. You are a great group of dedicated individuals. I feel I am just getting to know more people and wish I could do both!! Thanks to all those who have served as staff, for all who have come in as patrons and for all who make family history an important part of their lives. Family history is dear to my heart! I won't be able to do much for the next couple of years, but when I return.... ■

**San Ramon Valley
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