



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society



www.srvgensoc.org

San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

Vol. XXVII No. 8 March - 2012

THIS MONTH – March 20, 2012

**“Getting Ready for the 1940 Census: Searching without a Name Index “
Presented by: Steve Morse**

This One-Step program gives numerous tools for obtaining Enumeration Districts for the census coming in April 2012.

Stephen P. Morse is the architect of the Intel 8086 chip. He has degrees in Electrical Engineering from CCNY, the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn and New York University. He has worked for Bell Laboratories, IBM's Watson Research Center and GE Corporate Research and Development.

In recent years, he has applied his technology expertise to Web-based Genealogy Search Tools. His "One Step" Search Pages are widely used by genealogists all over the world. He is also the co-author with linguist Alexander Beider of the Beider-Morse Phonetic Name Matching Algorithm.



**February Meeting
"Born Irish"**

Speaker: Cath Madden Trindle Reporter: Russ Erickson



Mrs. Trindle has a Certificate of British Research from BYU as well as other awards and is on the Boards of several Genealogical Societies.

One must locate the ancestral Hometown in Ireland using home resources in the USA to obtain the best chance of learning the ancestral source home. Use Bibles, letters, photos, heirlooms and any records known in your extended family. The more relatives (cousins, aunts, uncles, etc.) one can trace, the more likely to obtain data. A marriage record, especially Catholic Church, might produce a county or town of birth. Tombstones from the 1880s and 1890s often noted the birth place. Military records, pensions, and foreign service papers offer good information. Immigration

records, naturalization papers, ship lists, voter registrations especially from early times off place of origin. Once an indexed record is found on the internet, etc., the original record should be sought for better definition. Newspaper articles can be very revealing; even speeches given or local news articles.

INFORMATION WANTED on the net; from the 1830s to 1930s, the Boston Pilot paper sent articles all over the USA with adds giving family info about origins and seeking relatives.

Seek all possible ports of entry: New York and Boston first, but also Philadelphia, Baltimore, New Orleans (one ship with cholera aboard had ►



(Photos by Nancy Alexander)

Our February Speaker: Cath Madden Trindle

to sail all the way there to debark passengers), Galveston, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. Explore Ellis Island records after 1892.

Explore county and town histories in the USA; newspapers, school records (some states have good data, but not CA), ethnic societies, clubs, fraternal groups, obituaries.

Check land records, bounty lands and homesteads. Check online, LDS records, FamilySearch, published genealogies.

In Ireland, Civil Registration began in 1864, with full name, mother's maiden name, father's name and occupation, with death records including date, place, and occupation and cause. Marriages can go back to 1845. Records include ages and "condition" (spinster, child, bachelor, etc.). There are 273 Baronies in the 1901 census, 162 workhouses in Poor Law Union records, 32 counties, about 2500 parishes (several parishes make up a Diocese under a Bishop, some of whom release church records and some do not), 60,000 Townlands from one to several acres each, and ►

4 Provinces: Munster, Leinster, Connaught, Ulster.

The Irish Genealogy Toolkit on the internet is a good site. The Library of Ireland has good data about times prior to 1880. The Civil Record Index gives name and district, but not all correct. There are often many people with the same name. Most of this is in Family Search (LDS) (6 million births). Ireland is in the process of digitalizing all records so there is future hope for genealogists. One can find from 1921 on now, with some pre-1921 data.

PRONI--*Public Record Office of North Ireland* has records for the north. James Brian's "Irish Church Records" is a worthwhile book. Brian Mitchell's "A Guide to Irish Churches and Graveyards" is another. The *J.G.Schultze Register* covers 14,000 marriages done by him from 1825 to 1837 in the German Lutheran Church. It was the place to go if a quick wedding without 3 weeks of "bans" was needed for those going to England or with other need, even if not Lutheran. He was also cheaper. Catholic Church records were illegal until 1829 (England control), but some were kept anyway. Irish birth date registrations could be off a bit, due to cost, travel need, and increased cost of late registration. Dates of Christening were more honest. Many Records for counties Kerry and Carlow, plus Dublin, are now on line and free! County Limerick site can be helpful. Quaker records go back to 1720 with many available. Presbyterian records go back to 1843. Scots from Lowland Scotland, London, and French Huguenots came in the 1720s to 1770s, but were not called Scots-Irish until 1820 to 1830s. They often went to Pennsylvania, then spread out to other areas in the USA. *Charlton's Charitable Fund of the Church of Ireland* has old records especially in central Ireland. The Irish Family History Foundation has researchers that can be helpful, but the site is pay per view and quality is poor. You need a COUNTY to find assistance. "Irish Genealogy-A Record finder" is a good book. The National Archives of Ireland has many records. It also provides good descriptions of Ireland from 1901-1911. The censuses of 1901 and 1911 give good descriptions, even of the homes. Little Applotments from the 1820s on have data on counties, poor law unions, baronies, parishes, and ►

townlands; even descriptions of land and bogs. (Bogs were important as sources of peat for burning and heating homes.) *Griffin's Evaluations* from 1850s can provide some tracing to the 1820s. "Irish Origins" website is good and links Ordnance maps to pages. Between 1908 and 1922, many seeking pensions brought in pages of the 1841 and 1851 census to prove their age (census otherwise destroyed). <Pensear.org> has census pages from these pension files. Check the National Library of Ireland, it is a good site. Ulster Historical Foundation is worth joining if researching there. <www.headstones.com> is worth a look, but many Irish gravesites were in bogs or had headstones overturned or made use of for barn floors! <www.from-Ireland.com> by Dr. Jane Lyons has some tax and other records. Directories from the 1830s are "iffy". The Ireland Genealogy Project (IGP) has estate records, "spinning wheel records" (kept for those given such for great flax output). One nearly needs to hire a researcher to use it well. Genweb in Ireland is not well maintained. The Castle Garden website has data from the 1850s. Ireland History in Maps site is of interest from 1700s to 1800s. Ireland Genealogy Society International office is in St Paul, MN and contains ALL the *Septs* issues that contain much information on Irish counties and towns. Its use is for members only, but a year membership might well be worthwhile. Check Rafford and Betit "Discovering Your Irish Ancestors" book.

The census from 1821 to 1851 all burned in 1922. Censuses from 1861 to 1891 were used for paper pulp in WWI!! There are no ship records from Ireland to England or from England to Canada before Canada became a true non-colony country. ■

Some Reminders from our President

Bring your family recipes and recipe books to display during our break—remember Clarice Hart and the book she wrote for her grandsons?

Needed for Freebie Table:

- A person to handle the table during our break
- donations of genealogy literature



President's Pen

By Sherri Hedman

Dear Members:

I came away from today's monthly Board Meeting with serious concerns for our group. Elections are coming and we are having a hard time even finding members to serve on our nominating committee. If we want a viable genealogy group we need to all step up and help out, whether on the Board or on a committee, since we are a group of volunteers. Meanwhile, our planned presidential candidate is suddenly unavailable, and Board Members are wisely not allowed to serve in the same office for more than two consecutive terms. Further, a healthy board should contain some newer members too, not just the "same old ones" continually recycled. Please do not let SRVGS die out simply because we each think someone else will step forward for us, because indicators point to each one thinking the same thing!

Sherri

WELCOME — NEW MEMBERS

Please extend a *Warm Welcome* to our newest members!

Cathy Tanaka

561 Morecroft Road
Lafayette, CA 94549

925 330-2516

cathytanaka@hotmail.com

Stewart Proctor

1800 Saint Norbert Drive
Danville, CA 94526

925 735-2542

Stewart.Proctor@att.net



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SRVGS CALENDAR

March 2012

- 6 **Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.** A Board meeting was held at the home of Vern Segelke in Danville.
- 20 **Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.** The General Meeting will be held at the LDS Church on Stone Valley Road at Smith Road, in Alamo. From the I-680 Freeway, take Stone Valley Road east 2 1/2 miles.

April 2012

- 3 **Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.** A Board will 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.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP UPDATE

By: Bill George

In March the MacGen and DNA Special Interest Groups will be on hiatus. There is another MacGen group available in Oakland on Sat. March 24th at 1:30pm

You should have received a handout with a detailed list of resources available at the Danville Family History Center (FHC) last month. There is support for patrons doing genealogy research for relatives all over the world. The FHC is open Tuesday evening and all day Wednesday and Thursday. View resource information on our web site in the SIG area (click on "About SRVGS" and then click on "Special Interest Groups") for details. ■

SRVGS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS



DNA - This Special Interest Group will **Not meet during March**. Bob Venter is the initial contact person for the group. Please contact him to express your interest in the group. You may contact him via e-mail, rjventer@comcast.net or phone (925) 454-9919. Bob has a Venter family web site, <http://www.venter.org>, from which you may view family DNA information and from which he wants to gather information for the Venter Surname Study.



MacGen – MACINTOSH GENEALOGY GROUP

The MacGen group will **NOT meet during March**. Macintosh owners are welcome to attend the Oakland Regional Family History Center MacGen group at 1:30 pm, Saturday March 24th. This SIG specializes in the uses of the Macintosh by genealogists. Bill George, Special Interest Group Coordinator, is the contact person for this Group. You may contact Bill via e-mail, williamcgeorge@Gmail.com or phone (510) 538-2449. You may also visit the following web site: <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. to be at the Family History Center on Stone Valley Road. Suzanne Johnston will work with you on research in England and Wales. Gather the material you have about your English family line, and bring it on a Thursday morning. Contact Suzanne by phone, (925) 838-8682 or e-mail, gjohnston3@comcast.net



GERMAN – The German Group will meet **Wednesday March 28th (the fourth Wednesday) at 10:00 am** at the home of Helen Odegard in Alamo. The contact person for this group is Helen Odegard. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact her via e-mail, shodegard@att.net or phone 932-6796 for more information. ►



IRISH - This special interest group will meet **March 14th (the second Wednesday) at 10:00 am., at the home of Russ and Patty Erickson**

in Pleasant Hill. They are also scheduled to meet April 11th. Patty Erickson is the contact person for this group. You may contact Patty via e-mail, russpat@comcast.net or phone 229-0889.



LEGACY SOFTWARE - The Legacy group will meet **March 26th (the fourth Monday) at 1p.m.** in the Danville Family History Center on Stone Valley Road. This is a genealogy software users group.

This month we will watch the Webinar on Entering Census information into Legacy and then we will work with that information in the computer lab or with our laptops. Members are asked to bring their Legacy database on a flash drive or on your laptop, and bring census information that you can add into your database; or check census information that you already have on your database. Did you get everything that was available that year? Was your documentation appropriate. Sharon Clay is the contact person for this Group. You may contact Sharon via e-mail, sharon-clay@comcast.net or phone (925) 462-4518.



PUBLISHING - This is a group of several members that are interested in sharing their interest in Publishing their genealogy and family history data. **March 15th at 10:00 am** (the third Thursday of the month) at the home of Frances Lloyd in Danville, would be their typical meeting date. **Interested members should let her know ahead of time that they plan to attend.** For further information, contact Francie at 837-9382 or e-mail, frances_lloyd@comcast.net

Are you a family historian who has spent years digging out the facts only to see the results collect dust because you don't know how to transform the history into a published book easily distributed to family, friends or maybe the whole world? Publishing a book about your family's story need not be a mysterious process. The Publishing Group invites you to monthly meetings where you will learn the ins and outs of publishing. Group members will offer advice, ►

encouragement, suggestions and guide you to publishing sources as you develop your book. The informal group meets the third Thursday morning of each month at the Danville home of Francie Lloyd.



***The Next Generation of Genealogy Sitebuilding*® ("TNG")** -

This group has been organized for the purpose of allowing members to share their interest in creating their own web site from which their family history data can be found and shared. Their next meeting will be held **Tuesday March 27th at 10 am at the Danville Family History Center** on Stone Valley Road. The theme for this meeting will be Adding Branches and user account security. TNG is a powerful way to manage and display your genealogy data on your own web site, all without generating a single page of static HTML. Your information is dynamically displayed in attractive fashion. Linda Bailey is the contact person and SIG leader. Her email address is baileylinda100@gmail.com or Phone (925) 552-5920 for further information. ■

CALENDAR OF OTHER EVENTS

- 13 March Tuesday 7:30 pm.** The Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society (www.L-AGS.org) will have their regular meeting at Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court in Pleasanton. Julie Mooney will present "Researching the valley Pioneer Martin and Related Families."
- 16 March Friday 1:15 to 3 pm** **The Mount Diablo Genealogical Society** will hold a regular meeting at the US Bank in the Rossmoor Shopping Center. The speaker will be John Maestri. His topic will be "A Pro's Research Tips."
- 17 March Saturday 10:30 pm.** **The San Mateo County Genealogical Society** will hold their regular monthly meeting at Grace Lutheran Church Hall, 2825 Alameda de las Pulgas in San Mateo come hear how Linda Lorda has uncovered the shenanigans of early Californians. ►

Linda Lorda is a Professional Genealogist with a 25-year research background in Early Hispanic California. For more information, visit their web site: www.smcgs.org

20 March Tuesday 6:15 pm The Santa Clara County Historical and Genealogical Society will hold a regular meeting at the Santa Clara Central Park Library, Cedar room, 2635 Homestead Road in Santa Clara. Mary Hanel will present "What's new for Genealogists and Local History Researchers at the Central Park Library." For further details, visit their web site: www.scchgs.org

27 March Tuesday 1 to 3 pm The Sacramento German Genealogy Society Will hold its regular monthly meeting at St. Mark's United Methodist Church, Lusk Drive and St. Marks Way in Sacramento. Nancy Thym with "Cantefable" will present Medieval German stories and Ballads with harp, voice and medieval fiddle. You may also visit their web site at www.sacgergensoc.org

31 March Saturday 9 am to 3:45 pm The Sacramento Genealogy Society is sponsoring a seminar featuring George G. Morgan. It will be held at the Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church, 1427 Fair Oaks Blvd. Mr. Morgan is a popular speaker at international genealogical conferences and an author of ten books. His topics will include: The Genealogist as CSI Push and pull, The reasons for Migration Bring 'em Back to Life: Developing an Ancestor Profile. The registration fee is \$30 for non-members. Pre-registration is required. To download the registration form and get additional details, go to: <http://www.rootcellar.org/RC%20SpringSeminar%20flyer2012.pdf>

5 April Thursday 1 pm The Genealogy Society of Vallejo Benicia will hold its regular meeting at the Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum, 634 Marin Street in Vallejo. The following Thursday afternoon, in this same building, their ►

library will be open to the public.

21 April Saturday 9 am to 4:15 pm The Sacramento German Genealogy Society is sponsoring a spring seminar featuring Warren Bittner, C.G. It will be held at the Turn Verein, 3349 J Street in Sacramento. Several topics of interest will be presented. The fee to pre-register is \$40. The fee to register at the door will be \$55. To download the registration form and get more detailed information, visit: www.sacgergensoc.org and click on Spring Seminar.

21 April Saturday 9 am to 4 pm The Sonoma County Genealogical Society is sponsoring a Seminar featuring Connie Lenzen. It will be held at The Wells Fargo Center for the Arts off of Hwy 101 at River Road in Santa Rosa. A pre-registration fee of \$30 must be received by April 7. Visit the SCGS web site at www.scgs.org for further details. The following topics will be included in the presentations:

- Vital records on the web
- The dos and don'ts of on line genealogical research
- Proving a maternal line

June 8 to 10 The Southern California Genealogy Jamboree will be held in the Los Angeles area. For more information, visit their web site: <http://www.scgsgenealogy.com> ■

EDUCATION



Our own Francie Lloyd will offer her famous **Genealogy Organization** class on Wednesday March 7th. Contact her at 837-9382 for further details.



On Saturday, March 24th from 1:00-3:00 pm the class **Things to Know about the 1940 Census and More** will be presented by Stephen Morse and Steve Harris. Register online.



The FHC (Family History Center) <https://www.familysearch.org/> on ►

Tues. Mar. 27th from 7-8:30pm will present **Beginning Research in Norway** taught by Gloria Hanson. This is an introduction to Norwegian genealogical research and online resources and materials at the Oakland California Family History Center, including naming practices, censuses, church records (births, marriages, deaths, immigration) and information on Norwegian settlements in the U.S. There is a \$10 fee. Register online.

 The National Archives (NARA) (<http://www.archives.gov/research/genealogy/index.html>) will present a workshop at The National Archives at San Francisco, Leo J. Ryan Federal Building, 1000 Commodore Drive, San Bruno on Friday, April 13th from 9am-1:00pm on **Census Records** taught by Rose Mary Kennedy.

 Reminder: (NARA) www.archives.gov has launched a *Youtube* Channel. Right now the film clips include workshops on census, immigration, Native American, and military records. Check it out at www.youtube.com/USNationalArchives

Quarterly Report from the Tri-Valley History Council

By: Kathy Javdani

SRVG is a member of the Tri-Valley History Council. The Council is a network of local history centers, historic sites, libraries, museums and genealogical societies whose fields of interest include the eastern part of Alameda County and the southeastern part of Contra Costa County, California. Its members meet once a quarter to share their recent accomplishments and upcoming events. The February meeting was held at the Carnegie SVRA http://ohv.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=1172 on Tesla Rd., south of Livermore. A lot is happening in the area.

The local library representatives commented on their local history collections, a must for genealogists. Don Meeker of the Livermore Heritage Guild, www.livermorehistory.com, noted that he is in the midst of indexing newspaper clippings from 1949 of local leisure activities. Forest Hills Farms in San Ramon offers a chance to relive ►

HOW TO REACH THE BOARD MEMBERS

President: Sherri Hedman 925-275-8123

e-mail: president@srvgensoc.org

1st V.P. Ed Mason 925-838-7848

2nd V.P. Program:

Elaine Franke 925-831-1989

3rd V.P. Membership (Acting):

Ed Mason 925-838-7848

Recording Secretary:

Carol Huvane 925-947-5669

Corresponding Secretary:

Vern Segelke 925-838-8570

Treasurer: Vern Segelke (acting) 925-838-8570

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 trvrlr@sbcglobal.net

farm life in the late 1900s. The site will be having a busy spring with highlights including March 10th, a celebration of National Plant a Flower Day: Visit the organic garden at the farm and plant a flower seed to take home; and April 14th with Spring Babies: Come visit the new spring lambs, see the herding dogs at work, and learn to card wool. Check the website, www.srhf.org/about/history.html for more events.

The Niles Canyon Railway, www.ncry.org, has Sunday excursions on the first and third Sundays of each month, March 4th and 18th. Check the Railway website for many more upcoming activities.

Dick Finn of L-AGS continues to spearhead the Livermore Heritage Families (families in Livermore prior to 1900) research. Patrick Lofft, also of L-AGS, announced that the second annual Heritage Happenings will be held during October 2012.

www.l-ags.org/HistoryCouncil

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