

SAN RAMON VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER

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

President: Carol Glover
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 X No. 6

JANUARY 1995

PROGRAM: JANUARY 17, 1995, 9:30AM-2:30PM

Jeanette Moses, Program, announces a special 10th-anniversary year treat for SRVGS members: the HERITAGE QUEST ROAD SHOW, an all-day workshop sponsored by Heritage Quest Magazine and American Genealogical Lending Library, featuring LELAND MEITZLER.

We will begin at 10am with some "Armchair Research." The next morning topic will be on doing genealogy on site or "On the Road Again." After lunch (11:30 to 12:45), the program will be on "Finding Cousins and Missing Relatives." There will be time for questions and information afterward.

Bring a bag lunch (SRVGS will provide coffee, tea and dessert). Prepare to browse through a selection of books, software and genealogical supplies between lectures.

LAST MONTH by Jane Steiner

Ron Bremer amazed and entertained the audience for almost an hour before his actual "lecture," fielding all questions without referring to so much as a note or reference! Some of the things we learned from this: The two hardest lines to research are Native Americans and Blacks; difficult individuals to research are carnival and circus workers; the I.G.I. has a 90% error factor; Koreans have the longest *documented* lines--2,000 years; the English can *document* only 350 years. In answering questions he named numerous little known libraries and repositories throughout the country.

His lecture began with the ten "*worser*" sources and the ten "*bester*" sources.

The weakest sources: Family tradition, published family history books, the DAR Lineage books, the Federal Census, tombstones, death certificates, obituaries, some reference works (some are good, but many

are terrible), family group sheets, and last, Adamic lineages, which are impossible.

His ten better sources include: Judicial court records (Minute Books, Common Pleas or Manor Court Rolls depending on the locality), property records (deeds, mortgages, tax lists, and plat books), probate records (not just wills), vital records (birth, marriage, death, divorce, adoption, and sexton or burial records), church records, fraternal records, alliances (national and occupational), insurance records (know the nationality and the religion), military records, and local newspapers (after the 1690s).

Among the surveys that Mr. Bremer espoused were to search (1) home sources, (2) the Family History Center in Salt Lake City (the largest genealogical library), (3) surname registers such as the G.R.O. (Genealogical Research Directory) which is the largest and is based in Australia with an agent in California, the Family

[Continued on p.56 LAST MONTH]

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

JANUARY 1995

• SRVGS EVENTS

- * 3 TUESDAY 10am SRVGS Board Meeting at Frances Lloyd's. ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!
- * 10 TUESDAY 10am Southern Interest Group [see p.49]
- * 12 THURSDAY 10am Irish Interest Group [see p.49]
- * 17 TUESDAY 9:30am-2:30pm SRVGS Meeting
- * 24 TUESDAY Library Trip [see p.54]
- * 31 TUESDAY Special Interest Group on COMPUTERS [see p.49]

• OTHER EVENTS

- 13 FRIDAY 10am-12noon National Archives Workshop San Bruno [see p.54]
- 14 SATURDAY 8:30am-4pm Seminar by Helen F. M. Leary "Seeing Genealogy in a New Light" sponsored by GS of Stanislaus Co at Modesto Centre Plaza, Ash-Magnolia Rm, 100 "K" St, Modesto. Reg. \$20. Contact Don Wilson 209/869-3966.
- 15 SUNDAY 1:30 Northern CA Chapter of Germans from Russia Heritage Soc meeting in Goethe Hall, St John's Lutheran Church, 1701 L St Sacramento
- 24 TUESDAY Sacramento German GS: Kate Prunte "Gottscheer Research & Genealogy Association."
- 28 SATURDAY Gen & Hist Council of the Sacramento Valley "Family History Day." SGGs, PO Box 660061, Sacramento 95866-0061.

FEBRUARY

• SRVGS EVENTS

- * 7 TUESDAY 10am SRVGS Board Meeting at Frances Lloyd's. ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!
- * 14 TUESDAY 10am Southern Interest Group.
- * 16 THURSDAY 10am Irish Interest Group.
- * 21 TUESDAY 10am SRVGS Meeting: Paul F.C. Mueller, from the Sacramento German Gen Soc will speak on "German Research"; 12:30pm ROOTS IV Group; German Interest Group.

• OTHER EVENTS

- 4 SATURDAY Monterey CA FHC & Commodore Sloat Chapt NSDAR 14th Annual Genealogical Seminar at Noche Buena and Plumas Aves, Seaside CA. [see p.49]
- 9 THURSDAY 7:30pm Contra Costa Co GS Meeting at City Council Chambers, Parkside Dr, Concord. Jolene Abraham will speak on Adoption Research.
- 11 SATURDAY, 10am 1:00pm Nat'l Archives Volunteer Training. See Workshop schedule p.54.
- 26-March 6 Genealogical Research Tour to Salt Lake FHL. Down payment due 24 Jan. For more information call Frances Becker at 510/934-4962 or 510/837-8742.

• PLANNING AHEAD

• LOCAL EVENTS

MARCH 10-11 - California Genealogical Society FAMILY HISTORY FAIR "Following Paper Trails Across the Continent" at Fashion Center, 8th & Townsend, San Francisco. Brochures will be available at SRVGS meeting or call 415/777-9936.

MARCH 18 SATURDAY Sonoma Co GS & LDS Family History Dept will sponsor a seminar "The Family and the Law in American History" by George Ryscamp, J.D., A.G., Asst Prof of History at BYU. To be held at LDS Church,

1725 Peterson Lane, Santa Rosa. Pre-reg \$10 (individual) \$15 (married couple), \$12 each at the door 8:00am. Send to: Carmen J. Finley, 4820 Rockridge Lane, Santa Rosa CA 95404 (707/544-2072).

• NATIONAL EVENTS
JANUARY 27 & 28 DALLAS TX - GENTECH Technology Conference "Enhanced Genealogical Networking," \$80/2 days. Contact GENTECH Inc, PO Box 28021 Dallas TX 75228, Fax 214/239-4992.

[See PLANNING AHEAD on page 56 for more Genealogy Events]

OFFICERS to Contact

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The Newsletter is published each month except August and December.

SPECIAL INTEREST STUDY GROUPS

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

GERMAN - Meets every other month after regular meeting at Barbara Johnson's (837-2153). Next meetings: February 21 & April 18.

IRISH - Meets 10AM each second or third (as announced) THURSDAY of the month at Patty Erickson's, 10 Ridge Pl, Pleasant Hill (229-0889). Next meetings: January 12; February 16.

PUBLISHING - Meets on the last Wednesday 10AM when needed. If you would like help with a publishing project, contact Jane Steiner 283-0867.

ROOTS USERS (Official Commsoft ROOTS III & IV Users' Group) - Meets 12:30 on Tuesdays following the general meeting at the Danville Women's Club House (\$3/fee for rent). Contact Sandy Kimball (945-0277). No meeting in January.

SOUTHERN - Meets 10AM each second Tuesday. Next meetings: January 10 at Maryhelen Ewing's (283-1304), 1033 Upper Happy Valley Rd; February 14 at Dorothy Stanton's. Contact Bea O'Rand 837-1760.

UNITED KINGDOM - Research in England, Scotland, & Wales. No meetings scheduled until further notice. Contact Ron Skilton 254-6989.

ATTENTION INTEREST GROUP CHAIRPERSONS: PLEASE REPORT PROGRAMS & CHANGES TO WENDY HABERMEHL 735-0737

RESEARCH INFORMATION

• COMPUTER INTEREST GROUP

A one-time Special Interest Group on Computers will meet on Tuesday, January 31 at Carol Glover's, 333 Goshen Ct, San Ramon. This will be a meeting on computers in general. Carol will circulate a questionnaire at the January 17 regular meeting for you to indicate what subjects you would like covered, e.g. what kind of computer to buy, what genealogy software will meet your needs, bulletin boards, Internet. She will try to have an "expert" available on each topic to answer your questions.

• FROM SRVGS MEMBERS

• GENEALOGICAL SEMINAR FIELD TRIP

From Millie Freitas: "I am planning to attend the genealogical seminar sponsored by the Commodore Sloat Chapter DAR and the Family History Center in Seaside California on February 4, 1995. I have room for four people who might want to attend. Call me, 837-2483, and send in your reservations immediately. I have attended their seminars in the past and have found them excellent. If enough are interested we can take several cars. It takes about an hour and 20 minutes to reach Seaside (just before Monterey)."

Classes from 9am to 4pm are for beginners as well as advanced researchers; many classes on computers & CD-ROMs, Portuguese research, etc. Pre-reg by 15 Jan: \$20 includes lunch or \$15/no lunch; register at door 8am. Checks payable to Commodore Sloat Chapter; send to Jane Holmes,

PO Box 4288, Carmel CA 93921. A schedule & registration form will be available at the SRVGS January meeting.

• CD-ROM PURCHASES

From Alice Tiso Romero: "It pays to shop around! CD-ROM prices are all over the board. Consider if you order the land records direct from the Superintendent of Documents they cost \$15; ordered from the genealogy distributors they are \$25.

At your local Egghead Software Store the USA Residential Phone Disks are about \$26. Order them from Genesys and you'll pay \$79 plus \$7.50 shipping & handling."

• PUBLISH YOUR WORK

From Muriel James: In the Nov 1994 issue of *Writer's Digest* there were two announcements that could interest members of SRVGS who want to publish their books.

The Castaway Co, Harlingen TX 78553-1269 is looking for family histories that included stories as well as genealogical charts and wants manuscripts that trace a family and its branches from colonial period to the civil war.

The *Windmill*, Box 8445, Berkeley CA 94707-8445 is looking for family history culture and folkways about Ostfriesen (East Frisian/North Germany).

THE CALIFORNIANS, The Magazine of California History, 5720 Rose Branch Rd, Sebastopol CA 95472, is looking for Historical Recipes to feature in their "California Cookery" department.

GENERAL INFORMATION

• THOUGHTS ON THE 21st CENTURY

- **WHEN DOES IT BEGIN?** The new century begins on Jan. 1, 2001, which is also the start of a new millennium. The last time a new century was celebrated was Jan. 1, 1901. A newspaper for that day included several predictions from around the nation for what the 20th century would bring. Among them: "Hot and cold air will be turned on as we turn on hot and cold water. We will go to England in two days in giant vessels that travel a mile a minute. Ready-cooked meals will be brought to our tables cooked by electricity." Another prediction: "There will be no c, x or g in our alphabet." [Trivia column by Rogers Cadenhead in Ft Worth Star-Telegram]

- **HOW DO WE WRITE THE DATE?** The 21st century is less than 6 years away. "How will we write a date such as February 3, 2001?" wonders Patrick Boulton in the ISBGFH Newsletter, Jan-March 1993. He suggests that some standard needs to be set or there will be misunderstanding. Consider:

Those with computers will write 010203.

Americans will write 2/3/1.

The English will write 3/2/1.

LDS will call it 03 Feb 2001.

NATO may call it 03FE01.

Our relatives will write Feb. 3/01.

Legal documents may have: On the third of February in the year two thousand and one. Or some other arrangement.

Of all the arrangements, the LDS one seems most useful to genealogists, for it can only be interpreted one way, and is reasonably short. However, will it permit computers to record various items in chronological order? And does Feb offend genealogists using other languages?...

What is needed is a method that is acceptable in all countries where genealogy is an active hobby. Think it over and then compose a letter to the Editor of *FAMILIES*, Ontario Genealogical Society, Suite 251, 40 Orchard View Blvd, Toronto Ontario M4R 1B9, Canada. He will evaluate the suggestions and perhaps be able to announce a standard. [CSGA N/L June 1993].

- **ANOTHER METHOD** for writing the date, e.g. 1995JA05, uses only eight characters

instead of the usual ten. There is no way of confusing the year, month or day because of the numeric, alpha, numeric sequence. Putting the year, month and day in descending order is more suited to computer sorting. Computerizing may well force this conversion in the near future. It is possible to use only two alpha characters to represent the month: JA, FE, MR, AP, MY, JE, JL, AU, SE, OC, NO, DE. [Chicago GS N/L]

• AROUND THE USA

- **NEBRASKA** - For toll-free access to the Nebraska State Historical Society between 9am-5pm (CST), call 1-800-833-6747.
- **NEW YORK** - Did your immigrant arrive in New York? He may not have come into the New York City area, suggests Grace A. Horner in an article in the *Chicago Genealogist*, Fall 1994 quarterly of Chicago GS. Oswego NY is the first US port you come to after sailing through the St. Lawrence River and drop into Lake Ontario, so it would have been one of the shorter crossings. From the famine period and into the 1860's there was a large Irish immigrant population. Check Oswego County histories and records.

• COMPUTER CORNER

- From Denmark, SRVGS has received a shareware-edition of WIN-FAMILY genealogy program. It is a full-featured program for Windows 3.1 featuring full GEDCOM support. The demonstration file (KINGS.GEN) contains most of the royal Danish family and contains some data in Danish but should be easy to understand and use. You can make copies and try it with your own data via gedcom. The shareware-edition has only one limitation: you cannot print to your printer but a "print-preview" function will show you what you will get. The price is US\$40 plus VAT for a total of US\$50. Price includes the complete program and shipment to any place in the world from JAMODAT, Dr. Dagmars Vej 34, 3650 Olstykke, Danmark. Pay by check, moneyorder or "just cash will do nicely."
- Contact Dorothy Stanton (820-3757) if you would like to give it a try.
- **PAF 2.3.1** (bug-fixed version of 2.3) is now shipping. The upgrade includes only the disks. The package has an order form for the new 2.3.1 manual available for another \$8.00.

SCIENCE & GENEALOGY

- **HUMAN GENOME PROJECT** – The Lawrence Livermore and Los Alamos national laboratories have produced the world's first detailed maps of a human chromosome, a feat which promises to greatly speed up research into diseases with genetic roots. The maps culminate four years of work at Lawrence Livermore dissecting and arranging the genes on chromosome 19 (Los Alamos worked on chromosome 16), part of the government's Human Genome Project to map all 24 chromosomes. Now, the most difficult part lies ahead -- studying what each of the genes do. [From a report by Jonathan Weisman, Tri-Valley Herald Nov 16, 1994]
- **mtDNA PROJECT** – Last year (January 1994), SRVGS Newsletter printed an article from Dr. Thomas Roderick (Bar Harbor ME) about a genetic study he and Dr. Mary-Claire King (UC Berkeley) are working on: an analysis of Mitochondrial DNA. An update by Dr. Roderick appeared in the June 1994 National Genealogical Society Quarterly (82:2) special issue on family health. The article is reprinted in its entirety below.

Umbilical Lines and the mtDNA Project

*Contributed by Thomas H. Roderick, Ph.D.**

The umbilical line refers to a single, very specific, matrilineal line—that is, the mother's mother's mother's mother's, ad infinitum. In an ancestral table, it comprises individuals numbered 1, 3, 7, 15, 31, 63, 255, 511, etc. It is analogous to the sequentially paternal line that follows a specific surname over generations. Although genealogists have long been obsessed with patrilineal-surname research, increasing attention has been given to umbilical lines since the early 1970s.

Each human inherits equal portions of nuclear DNA (deoxyribose nucleic acid, the "building blocks" of life) from his or her mother and father. But there are exceptions. One is the tiny but very important mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA), which lies outside the nucleus and is usually transmitted only through the umbilical line. Both males and females inherit it, but only females pass it on. This fraction, vitally important to life, is now the subject of considerable genetic research.

While all humans ultimately derive their mtDNA from the most recently known common umbilical ancestress—dubbed *Eve* in the popular press—slight changes have occurred through time. Thus, most modern individuals have slightly different mtDNA. Distinctions can be precisely described using today's technology, through analysis of the mtDNA's molecular structure. One aspect of interest to geneticists—one that has not been precisely understood or measured—is the relative change (mutation rate) of mtDNA over generations. Present knowledge suggests a mutation rate low enough that any person should have the same mtDNA as a relative with the same umbilical ancestor as far as fifteen to twenty generations removed.

Genealogists have much to offer in mtDNA research. Long and well-documented umbilical lines, coupled with small blood samples from living individuals with

* Adapted from presentations by Dr. Roderick at the 1992 NGS Conference in the States at Jacksonville, Florida, and the 1993 convocation of the American Society of Genealogists at Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Copyright restrictions are waived upon this article in order to make this vital project more widely known to the genealogical community. Family and society publications may reprint these two pages, provided they (1) do so in their entirety, with no alterations in wording; (2) acknowledge *NGSQ* as the source of the material; and (3) forward a copy of the reprinted pages to the *NGSQ* editorial office.

Umbilical Lines and the mtDNA Project

connected lines, can begin to provide information on mutation rates or the rate of change of mtDNA over generations and over time.

Another understandable and fascinating aspect is that, through time, specific changes have developed in specific wedges of Eve's tree of descendants—that is, in racial and ethnic groups. Thus, the mtDNA of racial groups is different, and much information is now being accumulated to describe these ethnic differences. So, for the genealogist, an analysis of the mtDNA of anyone living would reveal the racial and perhaps ethnic background of his or her umbilical line, information well before the time of printed records. A particularly interesting example is that of a woman from Yorkshire who has mtDNA similar to that in some Middle East countries. A significant genealogical and population-genetic question would be "How prevalent is this type of mtDNA in Yorkshire or elsewhere in England, and what does it imply about early migrations and admixture?"

A project is underway to help the geneticist with mutation and ethnic studies and to help the genealogist verify umbilical-line research and determine ethnic origins of umbilical ancestors. Well-documented umbilical lines, eight or more generations in length, will be the most useful; but those of lesser length may also be valuable, depending on the nature of other submissions.

Contributors will be asked to have a small portion of blood taken professionally for analysis, if the line can be shown to connect with another contributed line or if it presents an ethnic origin of interest. DNA analysis will, through the study of similarities, show with high probability whether the ancestral research is genetically valid and will, through the study of differences, provide data on mutation rates. Ethnic origins can be determined in most cases; this is valuable to both the geneticist and the genealogist. Participants will be kept fully apprised of the study as it progresses.

This program began in 1992. Thus far, nearly three hundred pedigrees have been submitted. Most are of New England origin, but a significant portion treats French Canadian background. As of this writing, one solid connection in Massachusetts in the 1600s has been made between two umbilical lines, and blood samples have been drawn for analysis. Another connection linking two people to an umbilical ancestor in early Quebec is under study. Also, several umbilical lines have been established to Priscilla (Mullins) Alden of the *Mayflower*, and efforts are being made to obtain blood samples.

Individuals interested in assisting with this project should submit their documented umbilical lines to the following address:

mtDNA Project
Center for Human Genetics
Municipal Building, Post Office Box 770
Bar Harbor, ME 04609-0770

• MORE ON mtDNA STUDY

In the Summer 1994 issue of *The Livermore Roots Tracer*, George Anderson printed questions he sent Dr Roderick by E-mail to clarify some aspects of the project.

Q. What constitutes "well-documented" lines?

Dr R: Cite sources of information connecting each set of generations such as vital records, deeds, probate records, court records, etc. If secondary sources are used, such as published genealogies, cite them as well with page numbers where information is found. If further documentation is needed, we will contact the submitter for further help.

Q. What are some examples of "an ethnic origin of interest," and others not of interest?

Dr R: Ethnic origins of particular interest may be Basques, Laplanders, French Canadians, some Amerindians. But we do not want to discourage people with typical early colonial British or European lines. I don't mean to emphasize this point too much. If we want Basques, Laplanders or French Canadians, we can go after them directly. Please minimize this point. All ethnic origins are really of interest. Ultimately we will have a good sampling of many different ethnic groups and will have a good idea of what specific mtDNA lines (if any) go with which groups.

Q. If a participant is asked to submit a blood sample, how much will it typically cost the participant?

Dr R: We send the blood kits to the submitters who in turn can take them to their hospital blood laboratory. In our experience, when a blood sample is needed for scientific purposes, hospital labs will usually do it for nothing. Sometimes a submitter will have a physician in the family who can do it. In any case, if there is a charge, the project will pay for it. Mailing the kit back is all prepaid. There should be no expense to the submitter.

[L-AGS Summer 1994 p497]

Some genealogists are worried that science is also making research more difficult for future genealogists. Consider the following article from *IRISH ROOTS* 1994 No. 1:

• **HUMAN ENGINEERING** - Sensational headlines have kept us informed over the years of developments in the area of human fertility. Artificial insemination makes it possible for a woman to conceive the child of a man whom she has never met and who may, indeed, have died years before. A newer technique, the implantation of a fertilized donor egg, in a sense, gives the resultant offspring three parents: the sperm donor, the egg donor, and the host mother. If adopted afterward, the child could claim five parents.

The latest advance makes it possible to produce children whose mothers have never been born. The technique involves the use of eggs from aborted female fetuses. A team of doctors from Edinburgh University has successfully performed the operation on mice and is set to start work on humans. The problems thus created for future genealogists are daunting. Even if a researcher of the future gets to the bottom of such an arrangement, how does one tell a client that his/her father died 20 years before he/she was conceived and that his/her mother never was born? Put that on a chart and hang it on the wall!

SRVGS MEMBERSHIP NEWS

• WELCOME to NEW MEMBERS:

ENFANTINO, Suzanne B., PO Box 24903, 26 Timber Cove Dr, Campbell CA 95008-4128. Researching: LEASURE, Kentucky & Indiana; BROSNAN, Massachusetts & Ireland.

HUBBARD, Helen 1160 Leisure Lane #3, Walnut Creek 94595 (930-9827). Researching: BLODGETT, Vermont late 1700's, early 1800's.

• Please correct your directory as follows:

GOODMAN, Cherri - Change address to 7156 Waterford Ct, Niwot CO 80503-7649

HANCOCK, Diana - Change address to 512 Zephyr Circle; Diana is back from Saudi Arabia for good and at her own home in Danville.

STANTON, Dorothy - Change zip code to 94526-4923.

LIBRARIES & ARCHIVES

• JANUARY LIBRARY TRIP

We are scheduled to visit Berkeley Bancroft and Doe Libraries on Tuesday, January 24, 1995. Bancroft Library (open from 9am to 5pm) is the top source for California and the Western states. Doe Library (open from 9am to 8:45pm) has the largest map and newspaper collection in the area. We are advised that their staff has been cut severely -- however they will try to have an introductory tour for us.

Let's leave at 8:30am from Luckys on Diablo Road in Danville. Those from the north around Walnut Creek may call Mary Jo Hosteny at 932-2244 for an alternate car pool site.

Millie Freitas (837-2483)

•REPORT FROM UC BERKELEY - From "California Monthly" Nov 94: The massive hole that was dug for the subterranean connection between Doe and Moffitt Libraries is now covered over. Beneath the surface, workers are putting the final touches on the new underground addition, which saw the last of 1.1 million books moved in on September 2. The books came from the much-venerated and much-feared Doe stacks, built in 1915 and widely considered to be a seismic disaster waiting to happen. Students were hired to move the books and proved to be very able, moving nearly a mile's worth of books each day, bucket-brigade style (at a savings of two-thirds the time and three-fourths the price). Still to be determined is what will become of the cavernous room with the 70-foot ceiling that used to house the stacks.

•YOLO COUNTY Archives has a new facility. They are now located at 226 Buckeye St, Woodland CA. It is open Tuesdays 9am-3pm, closed noon to 12:30pm. Additional research hours can be arranged by calling 916/666-8010 for an appointment. [Solano Co GS May 94]

•MOVIE INDUSTRY - Found an ancestor in the movies? Try the Library of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (Margaret Herick Library), 333 La Cienega, Beverly Hills CA 90211; phone 310/247-3020. [John Rea NNY-BBS via CCCGS N/L 5/94]

• NATIONAL ARCHIVES
1995 WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

JAN 13 FRIDAY, 10am to 12noon Basic Genealogical Workshop: Using Census Only - a hands-on workshop on what to do before your film reaches the machine.

FEB 11 SATURDAY, 10am 1:00pm Volunteer Training - Not open to general public for research.

MARCH 10 FRIDAY 9am-1pm Beginning Genealogical Workshop

JUNE 30 FRIDAY 9am-1pm Passenger Arrivals and Naturalization Records

AUGUST 11 FRIDAY 9am-12 noon Military - Part I Pre-Revolution to War of 1812

SEPT 8 FRIDAY 9am-12 noon Military - Part II Civil War to WW II.

Register in advance to guarantee a place in the class (there must be at least 10 in class. Cost: \$12.00 in advance \$15. at the door. Contact: Rose Mary Kennedy 415/876-9009.

• NATIONAL ARCHIVES ON INTERNET

The NA has made available an Internet Gopher server that provides key information including descriptions of facilities nationwide; information on agency holdings; publications and general information leaflets; some Federal records regulations. The Gopher is part of a pilot project to make information about the agency and its holdings available electronically.

Researchers can access information on some of the most widely-used collections, including Presidential Materials, Ansel Adams photographs, captured German sound recordings, electronic records, and an Index of selected census records. Research questions can be directed by e-mail to inquire@nara.gov

Text-based information can be accessed by connecting to the address gopher.nara.gov. [Jon Radel, NARA College Pk MD June 94]

ALSO The Center for Electronic Records will continue to receive reference inquiries about its services and holdings at the following electronic mail addresses:

tif@cu.nih.gov

or cer@nara.gov

Researchers interested in electronic records in the custody of the NA should

continue to send their reference requests directly to Theodore J. Hull, Archives Specialist, Center for Electronic Records, The National Archives at College Park, 8601 Adelphi Rd, College Park MD 20740-6001 (301/713-6645).

• AMA DATABASE

Since the late 1800s, the American Medical Association has accumulated information regarding the personal and professional background of licensed medical practitioners and self-designated eclectic, homeopathic, and osteopathic practitioners within the US. The files include more than 350,000 physicians whose services date as early as 1804. The information usually includes date of birth, date of death, medical school attended, places of practice, and obituary from the *Journal of the AMA*. The file is incomplete from 1878 to 1905, but comprehensive from 1906-1969.

The AMA has had to discontinue its research for the public, but it has taken steps to insure the preservation of the collection and the availability of its data. Microfilming will be performed by the Family History Library of the LDS Church, after which the original cards will be made available to the National Genealogical Society for retention by the society in Arlington VA. In the meanwhile, researchers who suspect that this data base could be of value to them may wish to consult the AMA's two-volume *Directory of Deceased American Physicians: 1804-1929*, available in the reference sections of larger libraries and elsewhere. The *Directory* provides concise biographical sketches on more than 149,000 male and female medical practitioners. [Combined from articles in NW MO Gen Soc N/L and NGS Quarterly, June 94]

AMA DIRECTORY of Deceased Physicians, (reports the Contra Costa Co GS N/L Aug 94, after a search of MELVYL, the public access library catalog of UC & CSU), is available at the UCSF Library [R153.D57] where the History Reference Library has volumes 1-2. CCCGS also reports that UCSF may do single lookups when the request includes an offer of compensation. This may change or it may depend on the staff on duty.

BOOK REVIEWS by Mary Jo Hosteny

- *EARLY KENTUCKY SETTLERS*, (*The records of Jefferson County, Kentucky*), from the Filson Club History Quarterly, with preface by James R. Bentley, Director. GPC, 1988. Hard cover, 505 pp.

The Filson Club was established in Louisville, Kentucky, in 1884 to collect and preserve historical material relating to Kentucky. It is the oldest continuously operating historical society for Kentucky. It is a library of some 50,000 volumes, and more than 1 million items, including family papers, diaries, records of organizations and business firms, and some genealogical collections.

In 1780 Kentucky County, Virginia, was divided into three new Virginia counties, and these are the parents of Kentucky's present 120 counties. This book contains the early records of these 3 counties in the form of Minute Books, wills, bonds, powers of attorney, and court records. Extensively indexed by GPC.

- *EARLY KENTUCKY TAX RECORDS* from the Register of the Kentucky Historical Society. GPC 1987. Hard cover, 318 pp.

This book lists the tax lists, county by county, for the years 1788 to 1819. Among the items listed are the persons chargeable for the tax, the number of blacks, horses, cattle and acreage, and their place of residence, whether it be a water course or in a town. Extensively indexed by GPC.

- *THE PAGE FAMILY IN NORTH CAROLINA 1685-1850*. By Jesse M. Page, Jr. Pub 1987 by Jesse M. Page, Raleigh, NC Hard cover, 850 pp.

For anyone who has PAGE in their background from North Carolina, this is an extensive reference work including every Page known in that state up to 1850. Most were reputed to be descendants of Thomas and Alis Page of Isle of Wight County, Virginia.

The book lists all the primary records on file in North Carolina, but makes no attempt to establish family trees. Indexed. [All three books are available from Genealogical Resources 837-9382.]

• [LAST MONTH continued from p.47]

Exchange in Concord California that will search multiple data bases for \$1.50 per name, or ethnic group data bases, (4) photo duplication at the Library of Congress in Washington D.C. where, for a fee, they will search a surname in all books for all countries, (5) data bases such as OCLC (Online Computer Library Center) and RLIN (Research Library International Network), (6) law libraries for the First Decennial Digest (5 volumes covering 1658-1911) and the Federal Digest (Volumes 66-70, covering 1754-1935).

He had numerous suggestions for research techniques, such as following a search of your surnames rather than of specific individuals and hiring a high school student to do research for you at a distance. He elaborated on these and other suggestions for success in this obsessive hobby, ending with "May you never find a cure for this virus."

If you want to learn a lot and be thoroughly entertained in the process, by all means, attend one of Ron Bremer's presentations.

• [[PLANNING AHEAD Continued from p.48]

MAY 3-6 1995 SAN DIEGO - National Genealogical Society Conference in the States: "A Place to Explore." For more information, contact NGS, 4527 17th St North, Arlington VA 22207-2399. (703/525-0052)

JUNE 11-16 BIRMINGHAM AL - Institute of Gen & Hist Research, Samford University, "Native American Research in the Southeast." For more information write: Dr. Joan Kirchman Mitchell, IGNR, Samford Univ Library, Birmingham AL 35229 or call 205/870-2780.

JULY 3-26 ATLANTA departure - Institute of Gen & Hist Research in the British Isles. For information write Samford University (address above)

JULY 13-15 NEW ENGLAND Historic Gen Soc (NEHGS) will mark its sesquicentennial with a major conference "150 Years --Exploring Our Heritage." Keynote speaker: David McCullough. More than 60 presentations by leading genealogists. Write NEHGS, 101 Newbury St, Boston MA 02116 or call 617/536-7306 for brochure.

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