

SAN RAMON VALLEY

GENEALOGICAL

SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER

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

President: Millie Freitas
Editor: Betty Vail

Meetings: 10:00 a.m.
3rd Tuesday of the month
(except August & December)
Danville Women's Club House
242 N. Linda Mesa Avenue
Danville, CA

Vol. XI No. 8

March 1996

THIS MONTH

John Movius will speak on Eastern European Family History. Mr. Movius, president and webmaster of the Federation of Eastern European Family History Societies, has researched in Europe. He appears on-line in the AOL Genealogy Forum of ten national East Euro-

pean message boards and is an on-line resource and problem solver on AOL's German and Eastern European chat hour most Tuesdays and Saturdays. This is a speaker you won't want to miss. — Jeanette Moses

LAST MONTH

Reported by Christine Scott

Judith Svoboda, a well known Bay Area Genealogist and lecturer, spoke about "Probate Records; Understanding and Using Them."

She explained the probate process and pointed out that, since probate is a public process, it generates "paper" valuable to genealogists. A trust will limit the "paper", but, as Ms. Svoboda pointed out, there is always something people forget to put in a trust and this will appear in probate.

Ms. Svoboda suggested that public abstractions should be used as an index to and a locator of the original wills or records. A typescript is suspect as a source, for someone else has copied the information from the original record. There may be as many as three copies of a will — the original copy, the court copy and the executor's copy. The latter may be found in a manuscript collection.

"Not all wills are created equal," Ms. Svoboda said. There is an attempt to have a universal

law based on one that is now in effect in twenty states. This law insures that the spouse is not left destitute, that the state gets its taxes, and that the funeral director is paid; creditors compete for the residue.

Ms. Svoboda also discussed the Laws of Descent and Distribution and dower rights. She stressed that it is important to know the laws of the state at the time period of the probate and the history of the laws. Ms. Svoboda recommended several references: Inheritance in America from Colonial Times to the Present by, Carole Shammas, et. al., The Statutes at Large; Being a Collection of the Laws of Virginia by Walter Hening; Law in Colonial Massachusetts, 1630-1800 by the Colonial Society of Massachusetts; the Essential Guide to Wills, Estates, Trusts, and Death Taxes by Alex J Soled; A History of American Law by Friedman; and Women and the Law of Property by Mary Lind Salmon. Ms. Svoboda also recommended the chapter on American Court Records in The Source and the chapter about probate records The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy by Val D. Greenwood.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MARCH



SRVGS EVENTS

- 12 - TUESDAY 10:00 a.m. Southern Interest Group will meet. See page 59.
- 13 - WEDNESDAY 10:00 a.m. Irish and California Groups will meet. See page 59.
- 19 - TUESDAY 10:00 a.m. SRVGS Meeting. John Movius will speak on "Eastern European Family History"; 12:30 Roots Users will meet at Ruth Pfeiffer's, 59 Mariposa Ct., Danville, (837-5160)
- 26 - TUESDAY 9:00 a.m. Santa Clara Central Library trip.

OTHER EVENTS

- 12 - TUESDAY 7:30 p.m. The Livermore-Amador Gen Soc meeting. Don Baker will speak on New England Research. Congregation Beth Emek, 1886 College Ave., Livermore. For information call David Abrahams (447-9386) or John Malden (443-2057)..
- 23 - SATURDAY 9:00-11:00 a.m. San Mateo Genealogical Society "Learn to Copy Your Own Photos." Details below.
- 26 - TUESDAY - 1:00 p.m. Sacramento German Gen Soc regular meeting. John Movius will present up-to-date information on the latest in German research. Northminster Presbyterian Church, 3235 Pope Ave., Sacramento.
- 28 - THURSDAY - 7:00 p.m. Concord & Walnut Creek FHC Julia Purdie will tell "How to Edit the ancestral File in Family Search." 3700 Concord Blvd., Concord

APRIL



SRVGS EVENTS

- 2 - TUESDAY - 10:00 a.m. SRVGS Board Meeting at Francis Lloyd's. ALL MEMBERS WELCOME.
- 16 - TUESDAY - 10:00 a.m. SRVGS Meeting at Danville Women's Club. Mr. and Mrs. Bill Rupp will speak on "The Oregon Trail"; 12:30 Roots Group will meet at Ruth Pfeiffers.
- 18 - THURSDAY - 10:00 a.m. Mac Computer Group

OTHER EVENTS

- 10 - WEDNESDAY - 7:30 p.m. San Mateo Co Gen soc "How to Use Persi" by Betty Kot, Belmont City Hall, 1365 5th Ave., Belmont, Ampex Cafeteria.
- 20 - SATURDAY - 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Root Cellar Gen Soc Seminar with George Schweitzer. "How to Find Your Ancestor's Parents" and "Virginia and Pennsylvania Research." Details below.
- 20 - SATURDAY - 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. LDS Family History Seminar. Details below.
- 27 - SATURDAY - San Mateo Co Gen Soc Seminar with George Schweitzer "Migration Routes and Settlement Patterns 1607-1890" done in frontier costume. Details below.

OFFICERS to Contact

President: Millie Freitas 837-483
 Vice-Pres.: Irma Dotsun 820-8344
 Membership: Diana Hancock 820-1424
 512 Zephyr Circle,
 Danville, CA 94526
 Annual Dues: Individual \$15.00
 Family: \$20.00
 Membership year: June 1 to May 31

NEWSLETTER

Editor: Betty Vail
 824 Moraga Road
 Lafayette, CA 94549
 Mailings: Barbara Dittig 735-9610
 Lucy Carvers 837-3146
 The newsletter is published each month except August & December.

LDS SEMINAR

Saturday, April 20,
 the Danville stake of
 the LDS, with the as-
 sistance of SRVGS, will
 present a Family History Seminar at the Alamo Ward Chapel, Stone Valley Road & Smith Road, Alamo. Pre-registration \$8.00 (until March 16); at door \$10.00. Sack lunch provided with ticket. For more information call Colleen Justis (837-1844).

SAN MATEO COUNTY SEMINAR

Dr. Schweitzer on
 "Migration Routes and Settlement Patterns 1607-1890" in frontier costume. "Tracing Ancestors Back Across the Atlantic" and "Genealogical Research in North Carolina." San Trans Building, 1250 San Carlos Ave., San Carlos. 9:00-3:00. Registration 8:00 a.m. \$25.00 at the door.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

GERMAN - Will not meet for the next two months. Members may wish to attend the March 26 Sacramento German Group meeting. See the calendar.

SOUTHERN - Will meet at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 12 at Barbara Irwin's, 1400 Canyon Ct. #8 (Rossmoor.)

IRISH - Will meet at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 13, at Patty Erickson's, 10 Ridge Pl., Pleasant Hill (229-0889).

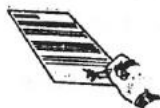
CALIFORNIA - Meets with the Irish Group.

MAC COMPUTER - Will not meet this the month.

PUBLISHING - Meets on the last Wednesday 10:00 a.m. when needed. If you would like help with a publishing project, contact Jane Steiner (283-0867).

ROOTS USERS - Official Comsoft ROOTS III/IV Users will meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesdays following the general meeting at Ruth Pfeiffer's 59 Mariposa Ct., Danville (837-5160).

UNITED KINGDOM - No meetings until further notice.



YOUR PERSONAL LIBRARY AND YOUR WILL

Most family historians and genealogists are concerned about what will become of their collection acquired during a lifetime of research. There is a very simple solution. Have a short paragraph added to your will leaving no doubt as to your wishes regarding both your personal library and the product of your research. The following paragraph is an example; or your attorney can quickly modify it to be in compliance with local laws:

"I Direct my executor/excu-
trix to box the following ge-
nealogical publications and
compilations for donation to
----- (insert your favorite
genealogical library/society
here) for appropriate disposi-
tion/retention by that library
/society for the benefit of
family history researchers.
(A family member or other per-
son could be substituted as
the recipient of your materi-
als.)

(Odom Family Tree Dec 95/Jan 96)



BOOK REVIEW

Lists of Swiss Emigrants in
the 18th Century to the Ameri-
can Colonies, edited by Albert
G. Faust and G. M. Brumbaugh,
is a fascinating story of the
18th century emigration from
the cantons of Zurich, Bern
and Basel, particularly from
1734-1750. This was a very
critical emigration period,
during which many decrees were
issued to prevent emigration;
fines were imposed, emigres
were forbidden to sell their
property, and agents and dis-
tributors of literature were
punished for encouraging in-
habitants to leave their home-
land. In several cases they
were deprived of citizenship
and land rights forever.
Those who purchased their pro-
perty were punished along with
the agitators. Nevertheless
many thousands of inhabitants
left. Indexed.

This book is available at
the Heritage Room, Contra Cos-
ta County Main Library on Oak
Hill Blvd.

- Mary Jo Hosteny

TAPE REVIEW

Four Centuries of Genealogy
Tape 2. Public Service
Claims for North Carolina,
South Carolina and Virginia
were put in by citizens who
had property or supplies con-
fiscated by soldiers for the
Revolutionary War. Indexed.

There are lists of Hessian
soldiers who fought in the
Colonies. Many did not return
to Germany but, after the war
ended, simply melded into the
populace as future citizens.

There is a distinct differ-
ence between Tory and Loyal-
ist. Tories were sympathetic
to the cause; Loyalists actu-
ally contended in the con-
flict. Their property was
confiscated, and many of them
fled to Canada.

Papers of the Continental
Congress by John Butler (5
vols., from 1760 on) contain
very valuable information on
the 18th century. The Papers
of George Washington contain
names of many people in N.
Carolina, Virginia and Penn-
sylvania that are documented
in no other place. There are
also hundreds of documents in
the Public Record Office in
London referring to the 17th
and 18th centuries.

- Mary Jo Hosteny



SRVGS NEWS

A WORD FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

We had 66 in attendance at our February meeting, an excellent speaker on Probate Records, and I found the two members who thought they might like to start a Midwest Special Interest Group. Tied them down! Fran Lloyd offered to help them get started. Call Louise Ford 376-4587 or Janice Clapp 254-5159 if you are interested. Thank you, ladies!

Some members were upset that we placed the speakers table so that the chairs were facing south as we did in January. We learned that this arrangement clears a corner for the tape table during the inclement weather. It's a little crowded but cozier!! When we can put the tape table outside again, who knows where I'll put the chairs!

Don't forget, you SHY ONES, get your questions in the Question Box —you have a roomful of genealogists with many years of experience at your fingertips.

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

Dorothy J. Baker, 560 El Pintado Rd., Danville, CA (837-7524).

Marilyn Hinck, 3151 Sandalwood Ct., Lafayette, CA 94549 (283-2458) is researching Getchell in Iowa from Maine to Des Moines, Iowa and Hind from Scotland to San Francisco.

Margarite Koenig, 1545 Ranch View Dr. Lafayette, CA 94549 (934-3830) is researching Zierrot and Bruckschlogl.

Susan F. O'Hair, 401 Bianco Ct., San Ramon, CA 94583 (820-6792) is researching Larsen and Laws.

Carol Thompson, 308 Hartford Rd., Danville, CA 94526.



NEW TELEPHONE NUMBERS

These numbers were missing from the addendum to the handbook:

Natalie H. Griffin 634-5570
Shirley Siems Terry 829-143
Shirley Thomson 945-6337



MARCH LIBRARY TRIP

This month we will visit the Santa Clara County Central Library, 2635 Homestead Rd., Santa Clara. The library has a large Genealogy Room with a good collection on every state and many countries. It also houses census films and microfiche collections. We will meet to carpool at 9:00 a.m. in the rear parking lot of the Lucky store on Diablo Road, Danville. Questions? Call Manny Lindner at 837-4444.

NEW AT SUTRO

Manny Lindner reports that Sutro now has on CD-ROM master census name index that is especially valuable for research before 1880. You can use a "wild card" (by inserting a *) to generate a list of possible spellings of family names.

The list of Sutro CD's is on page 61.

NEWSPAPERS AT STANFORD

Stanford Library houses copies of many newspapers, especially in California. Manny Lindner has a list of them. If you would like to check the availability of a particular newspaper, call Manny (837-4444).

TEN YEARS OF GENEALOGICAL HELPER

Jim and Irma Dotsun are offering their collection of the Genealogical Helper 1985-1994 to anyone who has room for them. If you are interested, call (510) 820-8344.

MEMBERS' PERSONAL HOLDINGS

Alice Tiso and Ardith Steger have almost completed a list of members' resources. This will be a valuable aid for all of us.



The Society wishes to express its sincere sympathy to the family of Patricia Ann Templeton, a long time resident of Danville, who died Monday, February 26, 1996. She served as Recording Secretary for SRVGS for two years.

CD'S AT SUTRO

United States Census Indexes

CD 20	1880	Ohio
CD 21	1860	New York
CD 22*	1860	DE, NJ, PA
CD 24*	1860	DC, MD, NC, CA, WV
CD 26*	1860	AL, AR, FL, GA, LA, MS, SC
CD 27	1860	IL, IN
CD 34	1870	KY, NC, VA, WV
CD 35	1880	Illinois (Cook County)
CD 39	1860	Wisconsin
CD 40	1850	CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT
CD 41	1850	DE, NJ, PA
CD 42	1850	New York
CD 43	1850	DC, MD, NC, VA, WV
CD 44	1850	KY, TN
CD 45	1850	AL, AR, FL, GA, LA, MS, SC
CD 46*	1850-1851	IN, OH
CD 47*	1850-1856	IA, IL, MI, MN, MO, WI
CD 51	1860	Massachusetts
CD 78	1860	Vermont
CD 136*	1634-790	Colonial America
CD 137*	1790	United States
CD 138*	1791-1809	CT, MA, ME, NH, NY, RI, VT
CD 139*	1820-1829	CT, MA, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT
CD 140	1830-1839	CT, DE, MA, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT
CD 141	1840	CT, MA, ME, NH, NY, RI, VT
CD 142	1840	DC, DE, MD, NJ, PA, VA
CD 148*	1830-1839	AL, AR, DC, FL, GA, IL, KY, LA, MD, MI, MS, OH, SC, TN, VA, WI
CD 149	1810	CT, MA, ME, NH, NY, RI, VT
CD 150*	1810-1819	AL, AR, DC, DE, GA, IL, IN, KY, LA, MD, MI, MO, MS, NC, NJ, OH, PA, SC, TN, VA
CD 151*	1791-1809	AR, AL, DC, DE, GA, IL, KY, LA, MD, MI, MO, MS, NC, NJ, OH, PA, SC, TN, VA
CD 152*	1840-1849	AL, AR, FL, GA, LA, MS, NC, NM, SC, TN, TX
CD 153*	1840-1849	IA, IL, IN, KY, MI, MN, MO, OH, WI
CD 154*	1820-1829	AL, AR, DC, DE, FL, GA, IL, IN, KY, LA, MD, MI, MS, NC, NM, OH, SC, TN, TX, VA, WI

Ireland Census Indexes

CD 197*	1831, 1841	Londonderry County & Cavan County
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Automated Family Pedigrees

CD 15	1500-1990	Everton Publishers - Computerized Family File and "Roots" Cellar
CD 100	1500-1950	No. 1
CD 101	1500-1990	No. 2
CD 102	1500-1992	No. 3

Mortality, TX, UT, & NY Miscellaneous State Records: Indexes

CD 49	1860-890	Texas
CD 160	1685-1910	New York (Quarterlies, Newsletters & Journals)
CD 164	1850-1880	United States (Mortality Records)
CD 168	848-1992	Utah (Salt Lake City cemetery entries)

Land Records

CD 250	1812-1907	Arkansas
CD 251	1820-1907	Florida
CD 252	1820-1907	Louisiana
CD 253	1812-907	Land Records Set (includes Cds 250, 25, & 252)
CD 254	1700-908	Michigan

Military Records

CD 146	1784-1811	Series I: Revolutionary War Volunteers
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Family History Collection

CD 113	The Complete text of 217 genealogy research books	
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Marriage Records Indexes

CD 1*	1718-1925	Louisiana
CD 2*	1720-1926	IL, IN, KY, OH, TN
CD 3*	1641-1944	AL, GA, SC
CD 4*	1624-1915	MD, NC, VA
CD 5*	1766-1981	AR, MO, MS, TX
CD 226*	1754-1850	Georgia
CD 227*	1728-1850	AR, CA, IA, LA, MN, MO, OK, TX
CD 228*	1790-1850	IL, IN
CD 229*	1660-1850	KY, NC, TN, VA, WV

Social Security Death Benefits Records

(From The Journal of the San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society, Vol. XV, No. 4, November 1995.)

A Politically correct computer virus: never calls itself a "Virus", but instead refers to itself as an "electronic microorganism."

TIPS FOR RESEARCHING EUROPEAN ROOTS

GERMANY

The German association STAEDTE has planned a celebration in Germany in September, 1996. All Americans bearing a German family name are invited. American families will be looked after by their German namesakes. For additional information write to (enclosing 3 International Reply Coupons):

STAEDT-BRUECKE e. V.

P O Box 76 04 44

22054 Hamburg, Germany.

Telefon 040/20/ 46 47.

FAX 040/200 26 55

(CSGA Newsletter, Vol.14 (March 1996 p. 46)

Wuttemberg Research Tip

All communities in Wurttemberg have Family Registers dating from 1808. Usually the list includes both husband and wife with birth, marriage and death dates; lists their children with birth, confirmation, marriage, death or emigration dates; and names the parents of both husband and wife, plus the page where the grandmother may be found as a child. These family Registers are written in Old Script, but anyone can learn to read at least surnames and dates by use of a style sheet and then copy the document for translation.

(CSGA Newsletter, Vol. 14, No. 3 March 1966 p. 48.)

POLAND

A five-page list of Polish terms with their meaning in English is provided in the August 1995 issue of Rodziny, The Journal of the Polish Genealogical Society of America. It is designed to assist persons who receive information from a Polish Archive and need help to understand it.

(CSGA Newsletter, Vol. 14, No. 3 (March 1966)

HISPANIC GENEALOGY

Norma Flores and Patsy Castro Luewig, co-authors of A Beginners Guide to Hispanic Genealogy, have joined with others to organize the Hispanic Genealogical Society of Santa Clara County. If you are interested, call 408-486-6979, or write: Hispanic Genealogical Society of Santa Clara Col, 2064A-A Walsh Ave., Santa Clara, CA 95950. (CSGA Newsletter, Vol. 14, No. 3 (March 1966)

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On April 26-28 the Society of Hispanic Historical & Ancestral Research (SHHAR) will present its 12th Annual conference, "Buscando Nuestras Raices," at the institute of Learning and Golden West College in Huntington Beach, CA. The theme "Where Are Our Records?"; the keynote speaker Dr. Antonio Rios-Bustamante. Call SHHAR for information and registration forms (714) 773-1510.

ALSACE-LORRAINE RECORDS

Andriveau, a wealthy Frenchman, hired scribes to copy all the official records of births, marriages, deaths, divorces, etc., from all cities and districts of Alsace-Lorraine. When many of these records were burned or destroyed, French officials asked Andriveau to let them recopy his records; he refused. The LDS was allowed to microfilm the records and they are now available in the Salt Lake FHC Library, but not in Europe!

(SMCGS Newsletter, Volume 14 Issue 1, January 1996, p. 18)

NOTES ON NAMES PAST & FUTURE PROBLEMS FOR GENEALOGISTS

Compiled by Dorothy Stanton

John K. Boone Jr. of Scotia NY, a prominent historian of the interrelated Bryan & Boone families, has written a tongue-in-cheek piece about the multitudinous Bryan family entitled

"WHY THE BRYANS [substitute your favorite family name] CRAMMED 50 MEN INTO SEVEN NAMES."

The author states, "I have been forced to conclude that they did it on purpose. They were not ignorant or unimaginative. Traditionalism doesn't adequately explain it. Some 50 Bryan men of three or four generations lived in the same area for 35 years. Their sole purpose in sharing just seven names was to confound their descendants and hopelessly confuse would-be genealogists Those bemused Bryans delight in my frustration. They're laughing at me across 200 years."

He goes on to imagine a scene in which the patriarch, Morgan Bryan, calls together his seven sons and outlines the following plan:

1. Each of the seven would be allowed to name one son in honor of a close family friend or the father-in-law.
2. The other sons were to be named for papa or a fraternal uncle.
3. The seven brothers would continue to live within 50 miles of each other.
4. As third generation sons married, they would establish homes within the same area.

5. Every effort would be made to extend the above condition to the fourth generation.

'The idea,' old Morgan explained, 'is to get as many Bryans as possible with the same given name into the same neighborhood at the same time. Our descendants will go crazy trying to sort everybody out!'

[From *Piedmont Passages V: Famous Families of 19th-Century Rowan County* by George Raynor, Salisbury NC, 1991]

If we think our ancestors were perverse, pity the genealogists of the future! The following excerpts point out the difficulties likely to result from some of our contemporary customs in the choice of surnames.

GERMANY - German federal law passed by the Bundestag October 18 [1993?] now allows spouses to choose the surname they wish to use. Up to now couples had to use one surname only, usually the husband's last name. Hyphenated names, the husband's and wife's surnames together, for example, can no longer be used. A spouse whose surname is not the shared family name still has the option of adding that surname as a given name.

Couples already married have a grace period of one year to decide on the surname they will use. Children, according to the new law, can use either parents' surname when there is no new family name.

What sort of genealogical nightmare will this new legislation bring? Siblings with different surnames? New family names from generation to generation?

[From "Deutschland Nachrichten," 5 Nov 1993 via EBGS Jan/Feb 1994]

The USA - A long-term survey of married people in the USA (by David Johnson, a sociologist at the U of Nebraska-Lincoln), indicates that the proportion of couples with non-traditional last names has nearly quadrupled since 1980. As many as 10 percent of married women in the USA use surnames other than their husbands', according to a news item in *IRISH ROOTS* [1995 Number 2].

"The trend is not entirely due to women opting to keep their maiden name after marriage. Some couples opt to drop both surnames and invent an entirely new one. Mary Marten married David Gill in 1980 and the couple adopted the surname Gillmarten. Despite predictions to the contrary from

parents of the family, the couple's children have had no problems with the invented surname.

David Rickter and Anna Reedy married in 1988. It was not until the birth of their first child that they got round to deciding on the family name. They chose a new one: Rain. 'We met as Peace Corp volunteers in West Africa where rain is a nice thing, and we decided it was a nice concept', explained Ann Rain in the *Washington Post*.

Steve Higginbotham and Jennifer Brown elected to become the Braunginns; David Smith and Jennifer Wilcha blended their middle names -- Lynn and Alan -- and became the Allyns.

US genealogists have warned that if too much of this goes on lineage will be increasingly difficult to trace. People could eventually lose track of their roots unless the changes are carefully documented."

In *IRISH ROOTS* 1995 Number 3, two more problems are pointed out:

TOO MANY NAMES - Whose surname should a child take, the mother's or the father's? Traditionally, the father's name has been used, but the situation has changed as more women have kept their maiden names after marriage, reverted to maiden names after divorce, and are raising children alone. Divorce lawyers in the USA state that the surname of the child is increasingly a point of issue in divorce cases.

When courts intervene, the standard has become 'the best interest of the child', but this is often difficult to determine. A couple of US states have legislated that the custodial parent should decide. Some courts have ordered the child to carry a hyphenated name, but the majority continue to uphold the paternal preference.

Not so the New Jersey Supreme Court. In May of this year, in a case contested between ... parents of a four year old boy, the court upheld the right of the mother to choose the child's surname. The father was so distraught at the decision that three days after the ruling, he shot his son to death and then turned the gun on himself.

TOO FEW NAMES - The massive increases in the population of China, paradoxically, has been paralleled by a decrease in the number of Chinese surnames. Only 3,100 surnames are now in use in China compared to 12,000 in the past. An evolutionary dwindling of surnames is common to all societies, according to Du Ruofu of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, but in China the paucity has become acute. The five most common surnames -- Li, Wang, Zhang, Liu and Chen -- are shared by 350 million of China's 1.2 billion people. Those named Li alone number 87 million.

This situation has resulted in a number of predictable problems: operations performed on the wrong patients, medicines misprescribed, bank accounts misappropriated and wrongful arrests. The solutions offered -- the use of more foreign names, or the revival of other traditional names -- show no signs of being taken up by the people.

ONE SURNAME? - Dr. Thomas H. Roderick [SRVGS Tape Library cassette C-128] points out that if the current trend of the "daughtering out" of family surnames continues, there will be only one surname in the world, the surname *LI*, and everyone will have to be known by a number.

RECOMMENDED READING: *FAMILY NAMES -- The Origins, Meanings, Mutations, and History of More than 2,800 American Names* by J.N. Hook, (New York: Collier Books, Macmillan Publishing Company, 1982) ISBN 0-02-080000-2.

QUOTES on NAMES

"Names are not always what they seem. The common Welsh name Bzjxxllwcp is pronounced Jackson."

-- Mark Twain

"Fate tried to conceal him by naming him Smith."

-- Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

GENEALOGICAL RESOURCES ON THE INTERNET

The United States Telephone Directory is now on the internet at: <http://www.switchboard.com>

USENET NEWSGROUPS



Last update: January 28, 1995

Maintained by John Fuller, johnf14246@aol.com

[Mailing Lists](#) | [Ftp Sites](#) | [Telnet Sites](#) | [Gopher Sites](#) | [Web and other sites](#) | [Email Sites](#) | [Text file of these pages](#)

Please note that you will not be able to access newsgroups which your local site does not carry. The number of articles displayed may be limited by the browser or site, and posting to the group may or may not be enabled.

(If you do not have newsgroup access, postings may be sent to usenet.group.name@nic.funet.fi where "usenet.group.name" is the name of the newsgroup you want to post to).

- ☐ [alt.war.civil.usa](#)
- ☐ [alt.adoption](#) (for adoptees, birthparents, adoptive parents)
- ☐ [alt.genealogy](#)
- ☐ [alt.scottish.clans](#)
- ☐ [fr.rec.genealogie](#) (in French, mostly)
- ☐ [news.groups](#) (discussions on newsgroup "administration")
- ☐ [no.slekt](#) (mostly in Norwegian)
- ☐ [no.slekt.programmer](#) (mostly in Norwegian)
- ☐ [rec.heraldry](#)
- ☐ [soc.genealogy.african](#)
- ☐ [soc.genealogy.australia+nz](#)
- ☐ [soc.genealogy.benelux](#)
- ☐ [soc.genealogy.computing](#) (genealogical computing and net resources)
- ☐ [soc.genealogy.french](#)
- ☐ [soc.genealogy.german](#)
- ☐ [soc.genealogy.hispanic](#)
- ☐ [soc.genealogy.jewish](#)
- ☐ [soc.genealogy.marketplace](#)
- ☐ [soc.genealogy.medieval](#)
- ☐ [soc.genealogy.methods](#) (genealogy methods and non-net resources)
- ☐ [soc.genealogy.misc](#) (general genealogical discussions that don't fit within one of the other soc.genealogy.* newsgroups)
- ☐ [soc.genealogy.nordic](#)
- ☐ [soc.genealogy.slavic](#)
- ☐ [soc.genealogy.surnames](#) (surname queries and tafels)
- ☐ [soc.genealogy.uk+ireland](#)
- ☐ [soc.history.moderated](#)

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

FAMILIAR THINGS

The old man died, and the kids rushed in.
His house was gutted by his kin.
They all agreed so loud and clear,
That poor man was surely queer.
"What are these things, what's that there?"
Whose junk is stuffed behind the chair?
Get a box," became the shout.
"Let's throw those old things out."

Grandma's vase, of glass so fine,
Had no chance in the cast-offs line.
Grandpa's pipe went in the box
Along with keys to some old locks.
His favorite saw was next to go,
And his hammer, too, that helped him so.
Now came his hat, old with stain.

It had sheltered his eyes from years of rain.
His slippers then were thrown away,
With no one there to gainsay
The fact that he had taken care
To gather these things for a future heir.

But no one wanted his precious hoard.
In fact the heirs soon became bored.
Papers left loose were shown no apology,
Including, of course, the man's genealogy.
And this is the way, as the story is told,
History is lost when generations grow old.
So, heed the warning, you kin of young years,
Your turn is coming as your certain end nears.
Preserve all you can, for the future to see.
For this is the goal of genealogy.

— Lucille Vinsant

(CGS Root Digger December 1995.)

SAN RAMON VALLEY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
BOX 305
DIABLO, CA 94528-0305



FIRST CLASS MAIL