

SAN RAMON VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER
P.O. Box 305
Diablo, CA 94528-8308
President: Victoria da Roza
Coord. Editor: Jean Hunt
Meetings: 10:00 a.m.
3rd Tue. of the Month
(except August & December)
Guardian Rehabilitation Hospital
7777 Norris Canyon Road
San Ramon, CA

Vol. XIV No.10

June 1999

THIS MONTH

by Claudia Mortensen

Creating a Personal Atlas. Judy Svoboda, who is a well known Lecturer and very active in the Santa Clara Genealogical Community, will tell how to create an atlas for our personal genealogical family search. We will learn how to seek sources and secure maps to find aids in our search.

LAST MONTH

by Fran Schweitzer

Scottish Research Experience

Peggy Frazier, our local member, shared her Scottish experience. She listed many different sources, records and abbreviations etc. Peggy was lucky to receive an autobiography of one of her ancestors, Adam Ferrie, who was with the Spanish Armada. He was born 1712 and this is where she started her research. She was able to get back to the 1500's.

Some general information she gave for searching in Scotland:

1. When searching marriage records the general marrying age for men would be between the ages of 25-45 years. For women it would be 25 years and older.
2. Women always repeat their given names and these Christian names are on most records. Sometimes they were even buried with their maiden names. This definitely makes researching female members much easier.
3. The naming pattern is much the same as all over the British Isle. If a man had 5 sons the next generation naming pattern would be much the same. After 1860 middle names were added. Peggy was lucky because after 15 or 16 children different names were used. In her case her ancestors name was Struthers.
4. When checking records these three prepositions referred to a persons status: ex: "Of Glasgow" would mean the person owns the land; "In Glasgow" indicates a tenant or one who has a lease; "At Glasgow" would means a person lived in Glasgow.
5. Peggy emphasized that wills would yield a wealth of information, often providing names of brothers, sisters and children of the person who died. Scottish terminology is important to know: A "relict" is a widow; "L.D." means legal daughter; "L.S." means legal son; "N.S." natural son indicates an illegitimate son. When a child was registered in the church it was important to have the biological fathers name as the Church would be responsible for supporting the child if the father could not be found. These abbreviations were used on OPR (Old Parochial Records).
6. OPR Index records are at Alamo, CA LDS library and cover the years 1500 to 1800. The CD Roms are phonetically spelled so be careful when checking those. Both the CD and fiche indexes have film numbers for the Presbyterian and Church of Scotland and both provide good information. A marriage record even gives the different parishes where everyone was from. On most marriage records the men's names were followed by their occupation.

At the end of some of these books she found separate records about burials. Ex: they listed cause of death, amount paid for the 'Mort' cloth, their ages and sometimes it listed who they were related to.

Another topic "Service of Heirs" was important to prove your heritage when there was property (continued on page 81)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR**June**

- 1 **Tuesday Board Meeting - 10:00 am.** Frances Lloyd's home, 210 Town Country, Danville. For Incoming and Outgoing Officers and Committee people. There will be a luncheon afterwards.
- 8 **Tuesday - 7:30 pm Livermore-Amador Gen. Soc.** Congregation Beth Emek, 1886 College Ave, Livermore. Map to the meeting site: < <http://www.l-ags.org/college.html> > The guest speaker is Kathleen Todd Watson on Using the Internet for Genealogy.
- 15 **Tuesday - 10:00 am General Meeting** 777 Norris Canyon Road, San Ramon. Our speaker is Judy Svoboda a well known lecturer and active member of the Santa Clara Genealogical Society. She will show us how to create a personal Atlas.
- 22 **Library Trip, The Oakland Family History Center**, 4766 Lincoln Ave. (510) 531-3905, open at 9:30. Meet in the back parking lot of the Lucky Store on Diablo Road in Danville or in the upper parking lot of the Orchard Nursery, Lafayette. Call Vern at 838-8570 to be added to the list or to cancel. *Please Note:* The FHC front parking lot has construction being done on it so instead of entering by the main entrance, go to Maiden Lane (the driveway on Lincoln Ave. above the main entrance) enter there and drive behind the temple to park. It will be a bit of a walk.

There will be no Member Education Class in June.

July

- 6 **Tuesday - Board Meeting - 10:00 am.** Frances Lloyd's home, 210 Town & Country, Danville. All members welcome.
- 27 **Tuesday - Library Trip.**

CONFEDERATE ANCESTORS?

(From H.A.G.S. Informer Vol 21, No. 2 Feb. 1998 via The Live Oak, East Bay GS, Nov/Dec 1997)

If you have Confederate ancestors and know the location of their graves, the Confederate Research Center would like some information.

Please send them: soldier's name, company and regiment, date of birth and death, name of cemetery, location of cemetery, and your name and address.

If you have letters, pictures, diaries, etc. they would like to have these items or copies of same for their archives.

<i>OFFICERS TO CONTACT</i>	<i>NEWSLETTER EDITORIAL TEAM</i>	<i>SRVGS TREASURERS REPORT</i>
<i>Pres. Victoria da Roza 820-7866</i>	<i>Coordinator: Jean Hunt 552-6564</i>	<i>FUND BALANCES (\$/31/1999)</i>
<i>Vice-Pres.</i>	<i>jhunt88961@aol.com</i>	<i>General Fund Balance: 2,541.32</i>
<i>Frances Grotefend 837-254</i>	<i>Sue Hughes 837-8369</i>	<i>Hospitality Fund Balance: 310.00</i>
<i>Membership:</i>	<i>Pat Isom 820-2660</i>	<i>Publications Fund Balance: 968.38</i>
<i>Diana Hancock 820-1424</i>	<i>Mailing: Barbara Dittig 648-9364</i>	<i>Special Projects Fund Balance 243.00</i>
<i>512 Zephyr Circle, Danville, CA</i>	<i>Lucy Carver 837-3146</i>	<i>Tape Library Fund Balance: 175.90</i>
<i>94526-4923</i>		<i>Library Fund: Prior Year Gift &</i>
<i>94523-1609</i>	<i>SRVGS Home Page</i>	<i>Donations: 130.54</i>
<i>Annual Dues: Individual \$15.00</i>	<i>< http://www.ancestry.com/societyhall/pages/sochall-503 ></i>	<i>Current Year Donations: 175.50</i>
<i>Family 20.00</i>		<i>OVERALL TOTAL BALANCE: 4,544.64</i>
<i>Membership year June 1 - May 30</i>		

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Howdy from the new Board! We have had our first Board meeting and we are off to a great start. I must say it is a little strange just beginning a new year when everyone is getting out of school and going on vacations.

I wanted to thank **Dorothy Stanton** once again for serving as President last year. She sets a high standard to follow and we all appreciate her weaving us in between new babies and other obligations.

Which brings up the point that everyone on our board has a busy life and we appreciate everyone who said yes to serving for the next year. But our Board is only as strong as the people in the Society, and so in a sense it is all of us who are beginning to serve a new year. We expect everyone to contribute...a good story, the name of a good speaker, a joke for the newsletter, a great web site, supporting our activities, etc. Together we can maintain our reputation as one of the best Societies in genealogy.

As you go out on vacation this summer, remember that note pad, tape recorder and camera to get those family details that might be forgotten next year. I don't know about you, but those car keys get more and more difficult to find. If they are not family but personal friends, then ask for memories of your past...for that complete history you have written of your own life as a starting point for your own genealogical story. Huuummm...must put that on my "to do" list!

With the new web site from Salt Lake I expect we will all be back another 8 generations by December on every line. By the way, we would be interested in comments on how that web site is working out from home.

See you at the Meeting.

Victoria da Roza

Pleasanton Library

From the L-AGS E-Bullitin for June 1999

Will be closed for renovation for the entire month of July. Toward the end of June, Jay Gilson will remove the CD collection and make individual disks available for borrowing from his home. Jay will make a further announcement later in June

(continued from page 79) **Scottish Research Experience**

involved. When property was passed to heirs and it was not just children, but nieces, nephews and grandparents, these records can be found under "Land and Property" in the LDS index.

Sasines: means aid of passing pieces of property. These transactions are indexed again at LDS and are under, (1) 'Deeds are indexed yearly'. (2) The General Register covers years 1617 to 1868 and are in the form of 'minute books'. (3) Particular registers cover counties and many are indexed. (Abridge 1781-1820 are typed and very good). (4) The Royal Burgh, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Irvine and Lanark have indexes. For those missing you can write to SRO (Scottish Records Office) on Princes Street in Edinburgh. Once you've found something of interest, you can order the films. Tombstone records are also available and give a wealth of names.

Wills were referred to as 'Commissariat' and identified under 'Probate record indexes'. Apparently not many actual wills were made as the courts went by the law and most properties were divided as such: one third went to the widow, one third divided amongst the children and one third going to whomever he wished.

Stent records are tax records. Properties were taxed by how many hearths and windows they had. City directories and local records, like fire insurance, are located in Edinburgh. The 1881 Census index is in the Alamo LDS Library. The 1891 Census index is now on the Internet; per Time Mag. article; www.origins.net/GRO.

There is now a CD available, which can be purchased through the Family History Center for around \$33, which lists Scottish census and other information. Their are two web sites available for further research: www.origins.net/GRO and gov.uk/gros/groshome.htm. 'GROS' stands for General Register Office Scotland.

When visiting Scotland, Peggy visited many small local libraries as well as local pubs. She said they were very helpful.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES YET?
DO IT NOW SO YOU WON'T MISS OUT ON YOUR
HANDBOOK

SRVGS COMMITTEES...1999

Alliance.....Frances Lloyd
Cassette Library.....Barbara Dyer
(backup).....Bob & Jane Singleton
Freebie Basket.....Frank Williams
Genealogy Classes.....Fran Grotefend
Historian.....Carol Glover
Hospitality.....Peggy Gierke
(backup).....Carol Huvane
Library Trips.....Vern Segelke
Newsletter.....Jean Hunt
Columnists.....Sue Hughes, Pat Isom
"Last Month" Reporters....Fran Schweitzer,
Jane Steiner, Betty Vail, Frank Williams
Publicity.....Ed O'Donnell
Special Interest Groups Coordinator.....Carol Huvane
Library.....Jack Johnson, Ed O'Donnell,
Dorothy Stanton, Helen Hubbard, Frances Lloyd
SFBAGS.....Robert da Roza
FGS.....Dorothy Stanton



You know you're a genealogist's spouse when--

(From the Clayton Library Friends, Houston, TX via Middle Tennessee Journal of Gen.&Hist Spring 1966)

1. You're the only other person in the house who knows what a Soundex is.
2. "It's only a few miles down the road," means fifty at least.
3. Some of your best friends live 200 miles away.
4. You have more pictures of tombstones than of the kids.
5. "As soon as I check out this census record" means if you want to eat--call the Pizza place!
6. Your spouse gets a letter or phone call from a member of the opposite sex and you pay no attention.
7. The mailman can't believe that you get this much mail from someone you don't know.
8. You explain to the family why you can't go twenty miles to their house for Sunday dinner but can go 300 miles to check out another cemetery.
9. Since you realize there is no way out of this, you wonder if your spouse can earn some kind of money with it.
10. Last but not least you figure if you can't beat them, join them, and take your spouse wherever they want to go and accept them for what they are. There are a lot worse things they could be doing!

ON THE WEB

Livermore Amador Genealogical Society

The **Computer Interest Group** will be meeting Thursday, June 24, 1999 at 7:30 pm at Mocho Street LDS Church, 950 Mocho Street, Livermore. (URL for a map to the church: < <http://www.l-ags.org/mocho.html> >)

The program is "**The GenWeb Project**" and is presented by Laurel Egenberger, Alameda County Coordinator, The GenWeb project.

Laurel Egenberger will speak to the group on the GenWeb Project, what it is, how we can use it, and about any tie to RootsWeb. Also, some information how it is organized, how it is supported, and what we can do to help.

Here are the URLs for **GenWeb**:

For the World: <http://www.worldgenweb.org>

For the US: <http://www.usgenweb.org>

For Calif. <http://www.compuology.com/cagenweb/>

Non-members are welcome to attend at no cost.

The **Livermore-Amadore Genealogical Society** can be reached on the Web at their URL <http://www.l-ags.org>

What you will find there is:

What everyone should know about L-AGS

How to join L-AGS Coming Events

Surnames we are researching (10,103 names)

Cemeteries of Pleasanton & Dublin, CA (4,668 names)

Robert Graham Mortuary Records (358 names)

Publications for sale CDs at the Pleasanton Library

Useful Internet Links Other Local Gen. Societies

May 1999 Roots Tracer (a quarterly journal of L-AGS)

and much much more.

Swedish Connections

Thanks to member **Sharon Clay** for the following URLs:

Swedes@majordomo.com (must subscribe)

Swedish Genealogy Usenet Group:

Swedes@smultron.com

Sharon says that you can unsubscribe any time if you are getting too much mail.

Do You Have An Interesting Or Favorite Web Site?

This Editor is always looking for good web site for our SRVGS members. If you have found some good ones, please pass it on. You can e-mail me at:

< jhunt88961@aol.com >

Here are some sent to me from **Diana Hancock**

German phone books, white & yellow pages

<http://www02.teleauskunft.de/cgi-bin/tron.cgi>

Kindred Konnections Great site with many data bases. It has free data bases and other sites that require you to be a member. <http://www.kindredkonnections.com/>

A **GenWeb** site: **St. Clair Co., IL.** (this includes St. Louis)

<http://www.frontiernet.net/~jimbridg/stclair.htm>

Illinois State Archives, a list of their entire holdings on this site:

http://www.sos.state.il.us/depts/archives/arc_home.html

Holland Web site: <http://www.cbg.nl/>

Genweb: Kansas County Index Selections. All the counties of Kansas.

<http://skyways.lib.ks.us/kansas/genweb/county.html>

and finally a **Government records** site. It reads: Welcome to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Eastern States, General Land Office (GLO) Records Automation web site. This site provides live database and image access to more that two million Federal land title records for the Eastern Public Land States, **issued between 1820 and 1908.** Due to the organization and binding methods utilized by the GLO, the data bases accessible from this web site currently do not contain every Federal title record issued for the states listed.

<http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/ZipNeeded.htm>

Correction for page 75 of May issue

The corrected URL for **NUMAC** is as follows:

<http://lcweb.loc.gov/coll/nucmc/nucmc.html>

Thanks to **Peggy Dearman** for noticing.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

SOUTHERN Meets the 2nd. Tuesday of the month 10:00 am. **There will be no meetings until September 14, 1999.**

PORTUGUESE - For information on time call Millie Freitas 837-2483. **Thursday - June 17, 1999**

IRISH & CALIFORNIA Meets the 2nd. Wednesday of the month 10:00 am at the home of Patty Erickson, 10 Ridge Place, Pleasant Hill. Phone 229-0889. **June 9, 1999. Confirm this before going!**

GERMAN Meets the 4th. Thursday of the month 10:00 am. **June 23, 1999** at 10:00 am at Fran & Bob Schweitzer's home, 2493 Lariat Lane, Walnut Creek. For information call The Schweitzer's at 935-5744.

MAC COMPUTER GROUP Meets the 3rd. Wednesday of the month. 10:00 am. **There will be no meetings in June, July and August.**

PUBLISHING **There will be no meeting scheduled for awhile.**

ROOTS USERS For those learning to use Palladium Ultimate Family Tree. Group meets after the General Meeting in Room AB. 7777 Norris Canyon Road. **Meeting to be announced.**

INTERNET Interested members should contact Robert da Roza by e-mail vrdaaroza@ix.netcom.com to be added to the SRVGS list.

NEW WEB SITE FOR SFBAGC

The newly formed **San Francisco Bay Area Genealogical Consortium, SFBAGC**, announced that locating census data in the bay area will now be easier.

The National Archives in San Bruno has all of the census data, but a closer library may have the data that you are looking for. By using their web site,

< <http://www.rootsweb.com/~casfbagc> >

you can search for the census by state or by date then read which local library has this census.

This web site also lists the upcoming events sponsored by the area genealogical societies. For example, the **SRVGS** meetings are listed. Our societies name in the listing is a hot link to our own web page which is,

<http://www.ancestry.com/societyhall/pages/ochall-503>

The consortium is starting a project to locate libraries with city directories for 1930. They anticipate there will be a big demand for these when the 1930 census is released in a couple years.

The consortium was formed as a non-political group to coordinate information flow for genealogists. Being non-political, the LDS Family History Centers and the public facilities can join the group.

Some Things to Ponder

All those who believe in psychokinesis raise my hand.

(continued from page 86) they are edited for accuracy, state by state, at the Mormon Church Family History Dept. Then they are delivered to the Park Service, which puts them on its Internet Web site and in visitor centers at the 30 Civil War parks it manages.

The completed Civil War Soldiers and Sailors project should be delivered to the Park Service by the end of 1999. By accessing a name on the CWSS list, a researcher or descendant can learn the regiment in which he served. That makes it possible to order copies of the soldier's military and pension records from the National Archives. Records received from the National Archives are a genealogist's bonanza. They list date and place of birth, height, color of hair and eyes, date and place of marriage and the names and dates of birth of spouse and children.

For updates on this project check the web site of the National Park Service or the Federation of Genealogical Society's home page ---look it up through Yahoo or another search engine.

Hamlet, Village, Town or City

(from the Live Oak, Nov/Dec 1998)

When researching ancestors in England it will be handy to know that a "Hamlet" has no Episcopal (Anglican) Church; a "Village" has a church; a "town" has a royal charter to hold markets and a "city" has an Anglican bishop!

The Civil War

WAS YOUR ANCESTOR BORN BETWEEN 1818-1843?

(from The Live Oak Vol XVIII No.4 Nov/Dec 1998 pg. 8)

If so, Civil War draft records may help you determine where an immigrant ancestor was born. Even if a direct ancestor is not found in these records, a brother or other relative may have registered for the draft and gave his birth place.

The draft records include **men born between 1818 and 1843 who served during the Civil War and those who did not**. The draft applied only to men residing in states of the United States under Union control. The records are in the National Archives I in Washington, DC and National Archives II in College Park, MD. Some are available by mail and some by research on site only.

The first national draft in U.S. history was established by President Abraham Lincoln on March 3, 1863. Under the draft act, all eligible males between the ages of 20 and 45, white citizens and aliens who had declared their intent to naturalize, were eligible for the draft. Males 20 to 35 were to be drafted first. Males ages 17 to 20 could serve with the consent of a parent or guardian.

Nancy Justus Morebeck of Vacaville, CA is the author of a book describing how to access these records. The book is ***Civil War Draft Records: An Index to the 38th Congressional Districts of 1863***. It may be ordered by sending \$10 plus 73 cents tax (for CA residents) plus \$2.50 for postage and handling to the author, Nancy Morebeck, 409 Dennis Dr., Vacaville, CA 95668-2119. The records in the National Archives are divided into five record groups:

1. Consolidated Lists (gives name, place of residence, age, occupation, marital status, place of birth and prior military service.)
2. Descriptive Rolls (gives all of the above plus personal description and whether accepted or rejected.)
3. Case Files on Drafted Aliens (gives name, place of residence, age, personal description, country of citizenship and length of time in US.)
4. Medical Records of Examinations (gives name, place of residence, age occupation, place of birth, whether accepted or rejected and remarks.)
5. Statement of Substitutes (gives name, age, place of residence, occupation, place of birth, personal description,

remarks and for whom substituting.)

The index in the Morebeck book is arranged alphabetically and shows in what Congressional District each county in each state was located during the time of the 38th. Congress. It includes examples reproduced from the original lists, form letters to use to request information and examples of replies from the national Archives.

As of the publication date (1997) there was no charge for mail requests for information from any of the records groups that are available by mail (some are not). The records are in tightly bound volumes and have not yet been microfilmed. The Archives will provide a transcription of the record for free or a microfilmed copy for a minimum fee of \$10. A mail request should include as much identifying information as possible, such as name, county of residence, age, marital status and Congressional District. (The above information comes from Der Blumenbaum, publication of the Sacramento German GS, Oct/Nov/Dec. 1998)

More News on the Civil War Front

(The following is take from the Sunday Rutland Herald, The Sunday Times Argus VT newspaper, Aug 16, 1998 by Vern Anderson Associated Press)

Salt Lake City, Terry Moyer leads a corps of highly dedicated volunteers in benevolent assault on the Civil War armies of the North and South. And He's winning.

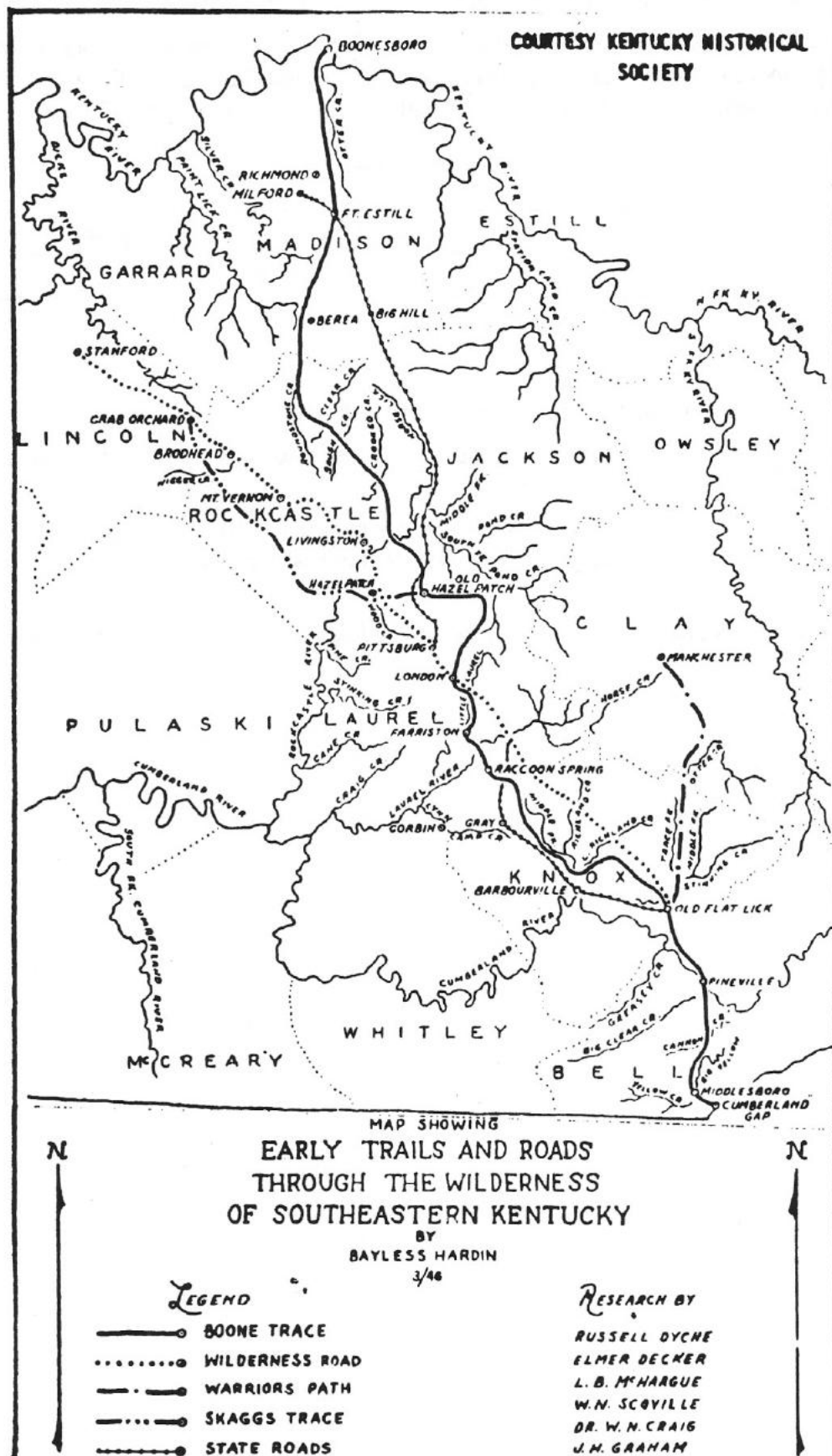
So too, are the United Daughters of the Confederacy, the Federation of Genealogical Societies, the National Park Service and, not least, up to 100 million Americans with Civil War ancestors.

Moyer and his self-styled "Utah Army Corps" of 440 volunteers are playing a decisive role in a vast, six-year Park Service project, placing on computer the name, rank and unit information from 5.4 million records of Civil War soldiers' service.

"The real hero's are all over the country, ordinary people who have volunteered to help, says Moyer, a former high school history teacher whose great-grandfather was a Pennsylvania volunteer in the Union Army. The data entry, now 80 percent complete, pares duplicated soldier index cards in the National Archives. That will leave the Park Service with a database of the approximately 3.5 million Civil War combatants, their regiments and rank when mustered in and out.

As the compact discs are completed, (continue on pg. 85)

EARLY TRAILS AND ROADS THROUGH THE WILDERNESS OF SOUTHEASTERN KENTUCKY



SRVGS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 1999-2000

Don't be left out! The SRVGS needs your interest, input, and good cheer to start a new millennium!

It is time for dues to support all our educational programs, helping hands, cross fertilization of minds and knowledge about our ancestors, and social meetings. Please fill out this form and send it with your check to Diana Hancock, 512 Zephyr Circle, Danville, CA 94526-4923. No Cash Please!

NAME _____

ADDRESS: _____

TOWN: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

Email: _____ PHONE: _____

Dues: \$15 Single _____ \$20 Family: _____

\$ _____ donation for Library addition, if desired.

\$ _____ \$1.00 donation suggested for a National Archives Record Administration (NARA) records microfilming project.

\$ _____ \$2.50 added, please, if you desire a handbook/Directory sent to your address and cannot pick up one at a meeting. This is only for those who cannot come to meetings or live out of town.

If you DO NOT wish a Handbook/Directory, please check here so we won't print unneeded copies _____