

SAN RAMON VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

Vol. I No. V

June 1985

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Tuesday, 18 June - San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society
10:30 a.m., upstairs meeting room, San Ramon Valley
Library, 555 South Hartz Avenue, Danville.
Guest speaker: James William Tackitt

Tuesday, 16 July - Trip to Sutro Library

Tuesday, 20 August- Trip to University of California, Berkeley, Library

June meeting - James William Tackitt is a graphic arts/photography instructor at Mt. Diablo High School in Concord. He has been an active genealogist since 1954 and was certified as a Genealogical Record Searcher in 1968. Mr. Tackitt is a member of the National Genealogical Society and numerous state/regional societies and was listed in Vol. 1 of "Who's Who in Genealogy and Heraldry". His publications include the 1958 "Descendants of Allen Jackson Tackitt" and some 80 different booklets on the Tackett Family. Mr. Tackitt will talk on preserving and dating old photos. Members are invited to bring old photos.

July meeting - We will meet at the San Ramon Valley Library parking lot, 555 South Hartz Avenue, Danville at 8:45 a.m. Members will car pool to Sutro Library in San Francisco where the librarian will give us an introduction to use of the Sutro Library. A restaurant is nearby or you can bring a bag lunch. We should be back to Danville by 4:00 p.m. (Please leave your car parked on the street next to the San Ramon Valley Library - not in the library parking lot).

August meeting - We will meet at the San Ramon Valley Library parking lot at 9:00 a.m. Members will either carpool or "BART" to Berkeley. We will regroup at 10:00 a.m. at the main entrance lobby by map room at the DOE Library. Tours are conducted every hour beginning at 10:15 a.m. Bring a bag lunch or food can be obtained on campus.

Our last meeting - Officers for the 1985-86 year were elected and installed. President Blackmur introduced Committee Chairmen. Carleton Smith of the California State Genealogical Alliance spoke on the indexing and microfilming project of his group.

San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society
Box 305
Diablo, California 94528

Board of Directors 1985-1986

President:	Jean Blackmur	837-2952
First Vice President (Program):	Dorothy Stanton	820-3757
Second Vice President (Membership):	Sharon Krider	831-1681
Third Vice President (Newsletter):	Marilyn Fullam	828-1873
Recording Secretary:	Katie Horton	820-1489
Corresponding Secretary:	Mary-Ella Parrott	837-9677
Treasurer:	Clifford Gant	820-1981
Parliamentarian:	Anne Moulds	837-2800

Chairmen of Committees 1985-1986

Hospitality:	Patty Erickson	934-9063
Education:	Bette Kot	531-0776
Publicity:	Lowrey Jones	837-9298
Library Trip Coordinators:	Ginny Rei	837-4357
	Marilou Victor	837-6769
Historian:	Helen Roach	937-5673
Auditor:	John Watson	837-9668

Meeting dates: Third Tuesday of each month January through November at 10:30 a.m.

Meeting place: San Ramon Valley Library, 555 South Danville, California

Newsletter: Published monthly except July, August and December.
Queries published at no charge and items and ideas for publication are welcomed. Send to: Marilyn Fullam, 6933 Prince Drive, Dublin, CA 94568.

CHARTER MEMBERS OF THE SAN RAMON VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Josephine Adams	Mrs. Leslie Fulton	Marian Marquardt
Diane Anderson	Clifford Gant	Lee Meola
Jackie Baggett	Susan Guinivere	Guenevere Mills
Peggy Bechtel	Diana Hancock	Harry Moses
Frances Becker	Helen Haney	Anne Moulds
Jean Blackmur	Barbara Holmes	Richard Moulds
Clyde Brown	Shirley Holmes	Mary-Ella Parrott
Mary Ellen Brown	Katy Horton	Ruth Phelps
Vera Brown	Mrs. Grant Irwin	Fred Potter
Patricia Connett	Margaret Jensen	Virginia Rei
Irma Dotson	Aleta Johnson	Helen Roach
Jim Dotson	Barbara Johnson	Eula Sale
Patty Erickson	Lowrey Jones	Marian Shreve
Ruth Farrell	Bette Kot	Mrs. Donald Smith
Joan Frayher	Sharon Krider	Dorothy Stanton
Margaret Frazier	Julia McLaughlin	Marilou Victor
Marilyn Fullam	Jean Maninger	John Watson
		Susan Watson

President's Message

Like a new bare-root tree planted in January, our Society has begun to sink healthy roots into the fertile soil of the San Ramon Valley. This Spring new blossoms appeared in profusion and it seems we have chosen ideal conditions for a promising future of growth, strength, and value.

We now boast over 50 members who are eager to learn about and to share their interest in genealogy. Thanks to their enthusiasm and willingness to participate we have already had several fine speakers, exchanged surnames, sent out excellent, informative monthly newsletters, and offered workshops and classes in genealogy.

Organization has been accomplished by the adoption of by-laws and the election of officers. As our first Society's President I thank all of you, especially those who served on the Steering Committee, who have so generously contributed to planting our tree. It is off to a wonderful start and if conditions continue as they have thus far, the San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society will grow strong and tall.

We may all be searching our own roots, but collectively, as a society, we are sinking roots which offer the opportunity for a fruitful harvest for all.

Jean Wheeler Blackmur

Books

"Genealogy: A Guide to the U.C. Berkeley Library" by Barbara Lee Hill and our Bette Kot is available by sending check or money order for \$3.50 to: The Library Associates, 208 Main Library, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA 94720. This guide, written just for genealogists, explains how to use the West Coast's largest research collections of catalogs, bibliographies, indexes, maps, atlases, government documents, newspapers and periodicals. A special section covers the Bancroft Library. This guide will be useful when we visit the UC Library in August. It takes about one month to receive.

THE JOINER by Mary-Ella Jones Parrott, Joiner

Part of the joy of being a genealogist is sharing information with others who share common origins and interests. It is in this spirit that I join all sorts of organizations and will try to share with YOU through the SRVGS Newsletter.

The largest and best known of the hereditary societies is the NATION SOCIETY DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION. The local Danville chapter (Mount Diablo) started in the same room our San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society started in the library! Since 1890, almost 675,000 women have joined the DAR based on lineal, bloodline descent from a Military or civil PATRIOT. If your Patriot is not in the DAR PATRIOT INDEX you may be able to establish a new line. Acceptable service includes: Signers of the Declaration of Independence, holders of Civil Office from 19 April 1775 to 26 November 1783 (such as Town Clerk, Selectman, Juror, Town Treasurer, Sheriff, etc.), members of committees made necessary by the War (such as Committee of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety), signers of Association Tests, Oath of Allegiance. Others who loaned money, preached sermons, furnished supplies, nursed the wounded are eligible. For further information contact our Jo Adams at 837-2220.

LDS LIBRARY-Oakland. The library will close about June 20 for a six month period. Other LDS libraries in our area which offer the same services (films from Salt Lake, microfiche, microfilms, books, etc) are:

San Jose 408-251-3962	2175 Santiago St. San Jose	Tue. 10-3 pm and 6-9 pm Wed., Thur., & Sat. 10-3 p.m.
Santa Clara 408-241-1449	875 Quince Ave. Santa Clara	Tue. 9:15 to 4 p.m. Wed. & Fri. 9:15-4 p.m. and 7-9:30 p.m. Sat. 12-4 p.m.
Stockton 209-951-7060	800 W. Brookside Rd. Stockton	Mon. 10-4 p.m. Tue., Wed., Thur., 10-9:30 p.m.
Fairfield 707-425-2027	2700 Camrose Fairfield	Call for hours
Menlo Park 415-325-9711	1165 Valparaiso Ave. Menlo Park	Call for hours

HERE AND THERE

CALIFORNIA - The Native Daughters of the Golden West have a Pioneer Roster to register individuals who came to California up to and including the year 1869. Forms may be obtained from Marilyn Fullam. Completed forms to be sent to Dorothy C. Romo, 1836 D Central Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501

GENEALOGY COURSE - Brigham Young University offers correspondence courses in genealogy. You can take the courses for personal enrichment, or to earn an AA degree or a Certificate in Genealogy. For information: BYU, Dept. of Independent Study, 206 HCEB, Provo, Utah 84602

(Chicago Gen. Society)

SOCIAL SECURITY - You can get an ancestor's original social security application form using the Department of Health and Human Services form SSA-L997. If your ancestor is still living that person must sign the request. If the ancestor is deceased, their death certificate, is required with the form. You must know the person's Social Security number. For forms write: Social Security Administration, SSN Process Branch, 300 N. Greene St., Baltimore, MD 21201.

(Genealogical Helper)

CHECKLIST - A free "Checklist of 169 Genealogy Sources" can be obtained from: Dr. Geo. K. Schweitzer, 7914 Gleason, C-1136, Knoxville, TN 37919. Enclose a SASE and one loose 22¢ stamp. A handy checklist of sources.

PENNSYLVANIA - The Pennsylvania DOT Publication Sales Store, P.O. Box 134, Bldg. 33, HIA, Middletown, PA 17057 publishes state, county and township maps. Write for more details.

(Nutmegger)

GERMANY

- For copies of free literature write: German Information Center, 410 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022; German Embassy, Cultural Counselor, 4645 Reservoir Road N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006; German Consulate General, 8 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60603. Ask for the booklet "Facts About Germany" and inquire about wall maps of Germany. (Submitted by Jean Blackmur).
(Connecticut Nutmegger)

COLLEGE ALUMNI

- If your ancestor was a college graduate, write to the Alumni Association c/o of the college, asking for information about your ancestor. Ask also if they have a photo.

OLD PAPERS

- The Library of Congress, Preservation Office, has, for no charge, leaflets on care and preservation of old papers. Write for Leaflet No. 2 (Paper and Its Preservation: Environmental Controls); Leaflet No. 4 (Marking Paper Manuscripts); and Leaflet No. 5 (Newsprint and Its Preservation). Write to: Preservation Office, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C. 20540.

BOOKS SEARCHED

- A new service is being offered to customers of Pathfinders Genealogy Books. First obtain a catalog for \$1.00. This will put you on their mailing list. When new material is available they will send a supplement to the regular catalog. If a book interests you, send Pathfinders \$1 per surname, per book and a SASE. You will be informed of the books searched and the availability of information in each book on your ancestor. If you purchase one of these books, the search fee for that book will be credited towards the price of the book. Pathfinders Genealogy Books, 1601 Bunker Hill Road, Pueblo, Colorado 81001.
(Dorothy Stanton)

ILLINOIS

- The 1860 census for the City of Chicago and also Cook County are on index cards at the Illinois State Archives. The Archives will answer mail requests for one or two specific named individuals or family group from these cards. Write: Illinois State Archives, Archives Building, Springfield, ILL 62706
(Chicago Gen. Society)

GEORGIA

- The Genealogical Center has announced the beginning of its Georgia Families Project which will consist of gathering information about people who were born or lived in Georgia. This information will be published in separate county family history books. Send \$1.00 to The Genealogical Center, Box 88100, Atlanta, GA 30356-8100 for the packet. When the packet arrives, fill out the forms and return them with the small typesetting charge for each page. Contributors will be notified when the book for each county will be published.

(Genealogical Helper)

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- Nancy L. Dodge, 28 Ball St., Portsmouth, NH 03801 has mapped, recorded and indexed all known burial places in seven northern New Hampshire towns: Clarksville, Columbia, Dixville, Pittsburg, Stewartstown and Stratford. Nancy has no plans to publish but for a SASE will check her index of over 15,000 enteries. Her next volume will be Hereford, Quebec and south in Vermont along the river towns of Canaan, Lemington, Bloomfield and Brunswick.

(Chicago Gen. Soc.)

FEDERAL EMPLOYEE

- If your ancestor was a federal employee write to: Federal Employee Records, Federal Record Center, 111 Winnebago St., St. Louis, MO 63118.

STATUE OF LIBERTY

- Don't forget to send in your donations for the restoration of this grand lady. About 40% of all Americans can trace their roots back to New York's Ellis Island. Besides restoring the Statue, 31 buildings will be redone, there will be the installation of a computerized genealogy exhibit, a history museum of immigration and a section where visitors can hear reminiscences of thos who passed through the halls. Send donations to: Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island Foundation, P.O. Box Liberty, New York, N.Y. 10117.

(Chicago Gen. Soc.)

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

The cross bar of the letter "G" is much like an arrow, pointing to the beginning of the letter. It is fitting that G begins genealogy because, in our research, we too "point" towards the origins of our own families.

Jon Marquardt (age 13)

MURPHY'S LAWS OF GENEALOGY (continued)

8. The town clerk you wrote to in desperation, and finally convinced to give you the information you need, can't write ledgibly, and doesn't have a copying machine.
9. The spelling of your European ancestor's name bears no relationship to its current spelling or pronounciation.
10. That ancient photograph of four relatives, one of whom is your progenitor, carries the names of the other three.
11. No one in your family tree ever did anything noteworthy, always rented property, was never sued, and was never named in wills.
12. You learned that great Aunt Matilda's executor just sold her life's collection of family genealogical materials to a flea market dealer "somewhere in New York City."
13. Ink fades and paper deteriorates at a rate inversely proportional to the value of the data recorded.
14. The critical link in your family tree is named "Smith."

(Livermore-Amador Gen. Soc.)

Your next newsletter will be sent out before our September meeting. Have a nice summer and good luck on your research.

Marilyn Fullam, Editor