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NEWSLETTER

Box 305
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Vol. I

September 1985

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- Thursday, 12 September - Contra Costa County Genealogical Society
7:30 p.m., Concord City Council Chambers
Speaker: Barbara Hill, University of California
Librarian "Importance of Maps in Genealogical
Research."
- Tuesday, 17 September - SAN RAMON VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
10:00 a.m., St. Timothy's Episcopal Church,
1550 Diablo Road, Danville. Speaker: Ray
Siemers, "Genealogy: Past, Present and Future".
- Monday, 14 October - Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society
7:30 p.m., Hacienda Business Park Community
Room, Pleasanton. Speaker: Bill Wolcott,
"The John and Mary Descendants' Trip to
England-summer of 1985".
- Saturday, 26 October - Contra Costa County Genealogical Society
Mini-seminar on military records and immigration
records.

Our Summer Meetings

- June - Jim Tackitt gave a slide show on types of old
photographs and how to date them.
- July - Twelve members went to Sutro Library. We were
given a talk by the librarian on how to use the
library and then spent the rest of the day on
individual research.
- August - Ten members went to UC Berkeley Library. We
were given a tour of the DOE Library and then
did individual research.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

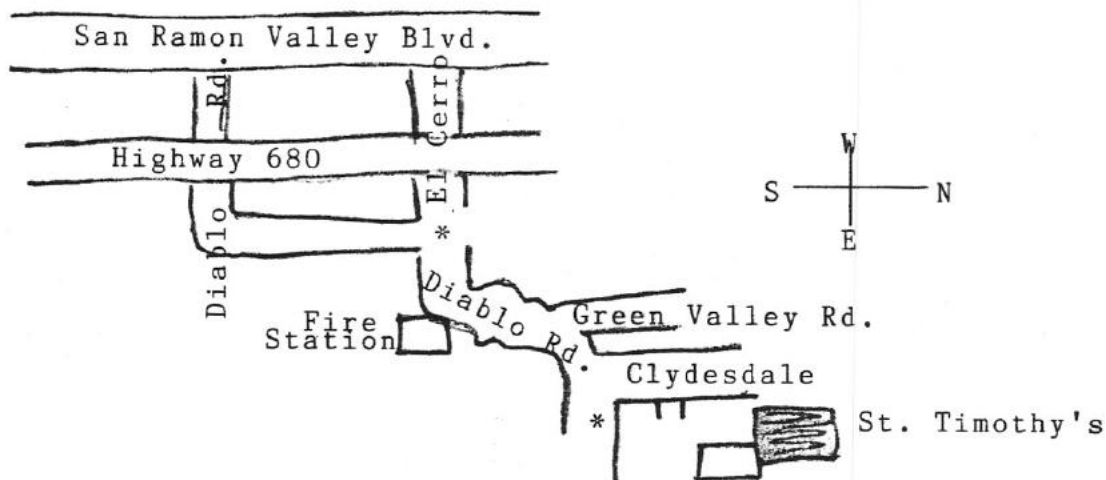
For some of us the summer has been a time for travel and research, precious conversations with relatives, leisure for writing letters, and reading up on history. With September's arrival, the pace picks up again and it is time to get back to business, sign up for classes, attend meetings, and schedule library visits. Our Society has plans for all.

In our first six months as an organization our membership grew to over fifty dues-paying men and women. This growth has prompted a change of meeting place from the library to St. Timothy's Church parish hall on Diablo Road, Danville. This interest in genealogy is truly exciting. We have a great year ahead with many opportunities to learn, share and socialize. Plan on being as active as you can. Our mutual success depends on each of us being involved.

Jean

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Our meeting place and time has been changed to: St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 1550 Diablo Road, Danville. The meetings will start at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall.



1 mile from * to *

CONTEST

Got any ideas for a logo for our society? A letterhead for our newsletter and stationery? Entries to be turned in by October 16th.

CLASSES

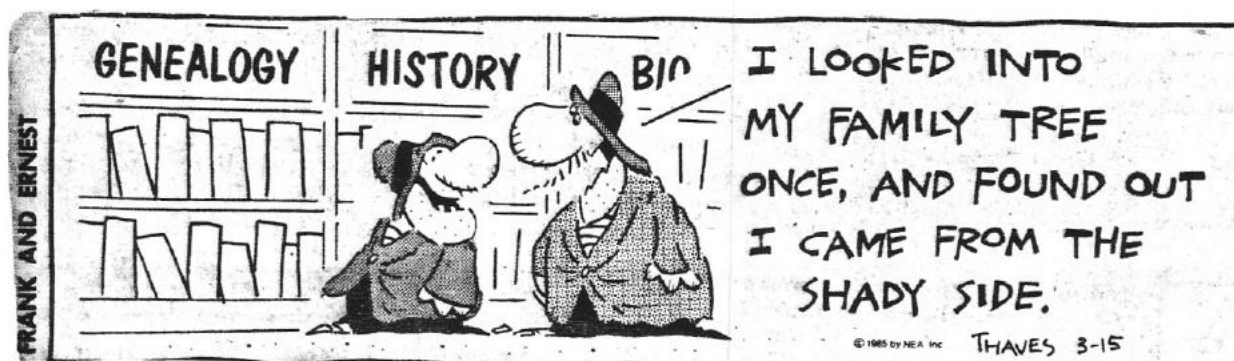
Beginner classes on Wednesdays, October 23 through November 27 (6 sessions) to be held in the afternoon in the Danville area.

Intermediate classes on Wednesdays, October 23 through November 27 (6 sessions) to be held at 10 a.m. at Ruth Farrell's home-709 Glen Road, Danville. Topics to be covered: indexes, Library of Congress system, how to get ready to go to Salt Lake City. There will be one field trip.

Cost is \$30 for beginner classes and \$30 for intermediate classes. Send your check to Bette Kot, 1506 Hampel Street, Oakland, CA 94602, by October 18.

SHARING

Do you have books, tapes, maps, genealogical society newsletters, etc. you would be willing to lend other members? Send your list to Marilyn Fullam, editor, 6933 Prince Drive, Dublin, CA 94568. We will list items in the newsletter.



HERE AND THERE

UNITED STATES

- Can't find a place name in the United States? Write to: Donald J. Orth, Executive Secretary, Domestic Geographic Names, U.S. Board on Geographic Names, National Center Stop 523, Reston, VA 22092. Give as much information as possible as to probable location and dates.

(Stagecoach Library)

GERMANY

- Suffixes of German surnames can give clues to the home regions:

bach	southwest Germany
burg	throughout Germany
haus	Westphalia
ecke	Hessen, Thuringia
ingen	Wurtemberg, Baden
inski	upper Silesia
reuth	Bavaria
ski/zke	east Pomerania

(Genealogy Guild of LaSalle Co.
Livermore Roots Tracer)

OHIO

- Birth and death records were not recorded until 1867. They will be found in Probate Court of each county. Since 1908, these records are maintained by the Division of Vital Statistics, Ohio Department of Health

Marriage records are kept by the Probate Court in each county, from the date of the county's formation. Since 1949 marriage records have also been maintained by the Division of Vital Statistics. There is no statewide index to marriages.

Naturalization records are filed in Probate Court in each county, or in federal district courts. Prior to 1851, Court of Common Pleas had jurisdiction.

Wills and estate records are held by the Probate Court in each county.

(Ohio Historical Society)

SUTRO LIBRARY

- The library is seeking volunteers willing to participate in a program to be trained as consultants in genealogy. Training will begin September 9th from 7 - 9 p.m. and continue, on Monday evenings, through November 25. Call Frank Glover, Librarian, at 731-4477 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

LDS - OAKLAND

- The Library has several boxes of family photos that have been donated by various families. The surnames and places are:

Boyce	Anaconda, Montana
Cunningham	" "
Boyce	Silver Bow, "
Bromley	Baltimore, Maryland/Oakland, California
Gribble	Northern California
Ostrander	Northern California

Contact: The Oakland Genealogical Library, 4780 Lincoln Avenue, Oakland, CA 94602.

NEW ENGLAND NATURALIZATIONS - Effective October 1, 1985, New England naturalization record inquiries should be requested from: Director, National Archives-Boston Branch, 380 Trapelo Road, Waltham, MA 02154

- SWEDEN - The House of Emigrants, Box 201, S-351 04 Vaxjo 1, Sweden will, for a \$25.00 fee, check their emigrant records for your ancestor. If the name is found it will show where in Sweden your ancestor came from and their destination. They will also furnish birth data, if shown on their records. They need to know name, birth date, place of birth, year of emigration, place of settlement, death date. If you do not have sufficient information, they will return your \$25 check.
- ARMY HISTORY - The U. S. Army Military History Institute will not do research but will provide research and reference assistance. Their holdings include over 300,000 books, 60,000 periodicals, 500,000 photographs and 3,000,000 personal manuscripts, diaries and letters. Cost is \$2.85 for the first six pages and 7¢ for each additional page. They also loan books through interlibrary loans. Write: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Military History Institute, Carlisle Barracks, PA 17013-5008.

THE JOINER by Mary-Ella Jones Parrott, Joiner

HUGENOTS: This organization has as its emblem a four-petalled Lily of France forming a Maltese Cross signifying the Four Gospels. Membership is open to both men and women of the Protestant faith who are lineal descendants of Huguenots. Huguenots are defined as the people of France and French-speaking nations who embraced the Reformation. More specifically, a Huguenot who, on account of religious persecution, left France and emigrated to America (or Holland, England, Germany, South America) before the promulgation of the Edict of Toleration on 17 November 1787. The California Society meets twice a year locally and for further information contact our Jo Adams at 837-2220.

MISSING TOMBSTONE?

Jean Blackmur turned in a very interesting article from The Wall Street Journal which may explain where that tombstone or grave marker is. Gravestone thefts are rampant, the result of mushrooming interest in old gravestones as folk art. Collectors, who will pay \$3,000 or more for a choice pre-1850 stone, liken the stones' carvers to Picasso and Klee. The 1,800 stones in the Trinity Church graveyard in Manhattan are guarded by day and locked at night. A gravestone maven in Connecticut scrutinized five graveyards in 1976 and again in 1983. The second time 168 stones were missing. Fragments, as well as entire stones are showing up in homes above fireplaces, in gardens, as coffee tables, doorstops or welcome mats. Some people pave their patios with gravestones. Gravestone thefts are forbidden in 34 states and the 1984 Connecticut gravestone law enables offenders to be jailed for as much as five years.

British man traces ancestor, successfully claims earldom

LONDON (AP) — Patrick Hope-Johnstone, until now a private citizen, has won an earldom vacated 193 years ago when the last earl died childless. He found a missing ancestor, a mercenary soldier overlooked by keepers of noble lineages.

"I am simply delighted — I always wondered why the title went wrong in 1792," said the new Earl of Annandale and Hartfell before returning Wednesday to his estate in Scotland.

He came to London on Tuesday to hear the House of Lords confirm his claim to the title.

The decision makes him chief of Clan Johnstone and a member of the House of Lords, the unelected upper chamber of the British Parliament.

His wife, Susan, becomes a countess. Their son David, 13, will be known as Master of Johnstone and their daughter Julia, 11, is now Lady Julia.

No financial benefit attaches to the title, except for expenses in connection with his Lords membership. When attending he can claim maximum daily expenses of 43 pounds (about \$60) for lodging, 18 pounds for such expenses as meals and taxis, and another 18 pounds for secretarial assistance and postage.

The new earl — one of 160 earls and countesses — hired Britain's best-known genealogist, Hugh Peskett, in 1979 to help find his ancestors.

Peskett traced Ronald Reagan's Irish forebears and he visited the ancestral town of Ballyporeen in County Tipperary last year.

"The key figure in the search was John Johnstone, a Jacobite rebel who fled into exile at the end of the 17th century," Peskett said.

"Like most of his kind, he could only earn money by serving as a mercenary in half the armies of Europe, so the search took me to East Germany, Poland and Denmark."

How did Peskett get permission to delve among state papers in the the communist Eastern bloc? "I gently implied that this poor man was the victim of British royalist repression."

Lord Keith of Kinkel announced Tuesday in the House of Lords that his committee, in examining the claim to the earldom, was convinced by documentary evidence that Hope-Johnstone was the male heir of Lady Anne Hope-Johnstone, daughter of the third earl.

The title, granted in 1662, expired when the fourth earl, the last of five unmarried brothers, died childless in 1792. He was the new earl's great-uncle, eight generations removed.

removed.

Three earlier claims to the title fizzled out in the House of Lords in 1834, 1844 and 1879, Peskett said.

Only two other peerage claims have reached the House of Lords in the past decade. A half-brother of Lord Amphilhill unsuccessfully challenged for the title in 1976 and the viscountcy of Oxfuird was resurrected in 1977.

The new earl has a mansion and sprawling estate, Raehills, at Lockerbie in Dumfries and Galloway, close to the English border.

His ancestors were prominent local leaders in the 16th and 17th centuries and lived in Lochwood Castle, which burned in about 1700 and now is a ruin two miles from his mansion.

Most Jacobites were Scottish Roman Catholics who supported the Stuart throne. Their long rebellion against England finally was crushed at the Battle of Culloden in 1746.

"John Johnstone was always writing home for money but was able to stop when King Augustus the Strong, elector (ruler) of Saxony, gave him a commission in the cavalry of Poland, of which he (Augustus) was also king," Peskett said.

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One of the advantages of being disorderly is that one is constantly making exciting discoveries
A. A. Milne

Fifteen Ways to Find A Maiden Name by Barbara Hill

1. Death certificate if within the past 100 years.
 2. If more than 100 years, all her children's death certificates.
 3. Newspaper obituaries.
 4. Her children's marriage certificates.
 5. Public church records found in libraries.
 6. Unpublished records microfilmed at branch LDS libraries.
 7. International Genealogical Index (IGI) on microfiche at LDS libraries.
 8. Divorce papers from county courthouse where filed.
 9. NEWSPAPER INDEXES by Anita Cheek Milner for records from burned courthouses and churches no longer in existence; local newspaper indexes.
 10. County histories for biographies of individuals and their families.
 11. Military pension information, widow's affidavits, bounty land warrants.
 12. Published family genealogies, bibliographies in book form.
 13. SURVEY OF AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL PERIODICALS INDEXES by Kip Sperry; also state and local historical society quarterlies.
 14. Look for wills. Write local historical societies and ask for an index check.
 15. Send out queries to periodicals and quarterlies in the areas where your ancestors were.
- Two other sources—(1) deeds and other land records; (2) sometimes a census record will mention a mother-in-law.

NINE FAMOUS IRISHMEN - author unknown

In Ireland, nine men were captured, tried, and convicted of treason against Her Majesty, the Queen, during what has been referred to as the "Young Irish Disorders," in 1848 or thereabouts. The nine, who were sentenced to death, were Pat Donahue, Charles Duffy, Michael Ireland, Morris Lyene, Thomas McGee, Terrence McManus, Thomas Meagher, John Mitchel, and Richard O'Gorman.

The judge asked if there was anything any of them wished to say before being sentenced. Meagher, whose response summed up the attitude of them all, replied "My Lord, this is our first offense, but not our last. If you will be easy with us this once, we promise on our word as gentlemen, to do better next time-sure we won't be fools to get caught."

The judge, outraged rather than amused at Meagher's remarks, indignantly decreed that the defendants should be hanged until dead and then drawn and quartered. Passionate protests, however, influenced Queen Victoria to commute the sentence to banishment for life and transportation to far wild Australia.

In 1874, an astounded Queen Victoria received word that the Sir Charles Duffy who had been elected Prime Minister of Australia was the very same Charles Duffy who had been transported there some twenty-five years before. Curious about the fate of the other eight, the Queen demanded that the records of those transported in the 1848 incidents be researched and revealed. This is what was found:

Thomas Meagher	Governor of Montana
Terrence McManus	Brigadier General, U. S. Army
Patrick Donahue	Brigadier General, U. S. Army
Richard O'Gorman	Governor of Newfoundland
Morris Lyene	Attorney General of Australia
Michael Ireland	Attorney General of Australia (after term of Morris Lyene)
Thomas McGee	Member of Parliament, Montreal. Minister of Agriculture and President of Council Dominion of Canada
John Mitchel	Writer and prominent New York politician. His son became Mayor of New York City.

DEFINITIONS

CENTAPH on a tombstone indicates an empty monument or tomb erected in honor of a person buried elsewhere.

CONSORT means the spouse or mate.

RELICT is the widow or widower.

SAN FRANCISCO HISTORIC RECORDS INDEX

Ray Siemers, our September speaker, is the head of this wholly volunteer-staffed project. The volunteers are compiling and reconstructing pre 1906 records; computerizing California genealogical source material before 1880; computerizing all Spanish genealogical source material before 1800; computerizing all New Spain genealogical source material before 1750. Public excess to the initial installment should begin in mid-1986. Would you like to volunteer a few hours each week to help on this project? Contact Ray Siemers, San Francisco Historic Records Index, City Hall-Room 167, Mezzanine, San Francisco, CA 94102.