

SAN RAMON VALLEY

GENEALOGICAL

SOCIETY



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Vol. II

March 1987

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

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| Thursday, 12 March | - Contra Costa County Genealogical Society, 7:30 p.m.
Concord City Council Chambers, Parkside Drive,
Concord. Speaker: Wayne Korsikan "Spirit of
Nortonville." |
| Tuesday, 17 March | - SAN RAMON VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
10 a.m., Danville Women's Club, 242 Linda Mesa,
Danville. Speaker: Artel Ricks "New Resources
for Genealogical Research". |
| Friday, 20 March | - California Genealogical Society, 300 Brannan Street,
Suite 409, San Francisco. Workshop: "Irish Research"
by John F. Roake. 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. |
| Tuesday, 24 March | - SAN RAMON VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY library trip
to National Archives, San Bruno. |
| Wednesday, 25 March | - Mt. Diablo Genealogical Society, 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.
1660 Olympic Blvd., Walnut Creek. |
| Friday, 27 March | |
| Saturday, 28 March | - Mission Oaks Genealogy Club Seminar, 4701 Gibbons
Drive, Carmichael. Speaker: William L. Arbuckle
"Research in General", "Research in Pennsylvania",
"Research in the 20th Century". |
| Monday, 13 April | - Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society, 7:30 p.m.
Hacienda Business Park, Community Room, Pleasanton.
Speaker: Shirley Terry "Pennsylvania Research". |

Our last meeting: This program was geared towards organizing your genealogical materials. Some members shared their use of computers for this purpose while others shared a variety of other means for organizing their research.

Margaret Frazier began the program with a short talk on the value of using computers in genealogy. She said that the biggest job that the computer does is "sort and search". She recommended using three programs: (1) a good word processing program (e.g. Word Star); (2) query program which she said takes only 15 minutes to learn; (3) Family Roots Program - not only is it a good program but you have access to the compiler via the telephone and he will answer any "dumb" questions. The computer is also an excellent tool for storing your reference material such as books you've researched and the

location of that book. Peggy suggested that a few members could get together at her home and try a hands-on class for anyone who is skeptical of the computer or of what it can do for you. She also recommended using user groups sponsored both by the program and by your particular computer in order to get the best use from the machine.

Charles Graves spoke on the program which he uses which is Roots II. He also shared his family line which he has traced back to Adam and Eve.

Bette Kot's computer program is the Family Research Manager put out by Dollarhide and her comment on it was it forces you to be organized. This program will sort by name, place, soundex number, birth, marriage, death and residence. Mr. Dollarhide is also available by telephone for questions and general handholding. Incidentally, he will be in the area on the 2nd of May speaking about his program.

Hugh Barnett, a newcomer to the Society, has developed his own program which will hold 300,000 entries and have query and search capability.

Carroll Maninger shared his portable Zenith computer which he carries to libraries when he does research and which runs on batteries (about two hours) and/or a battery pack which will run for eight hours.

Following the sharing on computers, Dorothy Stanton shared her system for organizing pictures and negatives, and Carol Glover shared her organizational system and documentation files which can be learned in any class taught by Bette Kot.

Several books were displayed including a miniature file for taking anywhere brought by Frances Becker and a large book complete with handle for easier carrying brought by Loretta Vranesh.

Our March meeting: Artel Ricks, former Western Regional Director of the National Archives, will be speaking on new resources for genealogical research. Since his retirement, Mr. Ricks has been a representative of the Genealogical Society of Utah. He will tell us about new resources available to genealogists from the National Archives and the microfilming being done by the Genealogical Society of Utah.

NEW MEMBERS TO ADD TO YOUR SOCIETY ROSTER

Charles Graves, 19 Woodford Dr., Moraga, CA 94556 376-6866

Agnes Johnson

Mrs. Alice L. Wade, 2341 Tice Creek Dr. #2, Walnut Creek, CA 94595 935-2500

Mrs. Betty Timmers, 379 Castello Rd., Lafayette, CA 94549 283-8864

James Orian Harvey, 104 Natalie Dr., Moraga, CA 94556 376-7942

Mrs. Ruth S. Day, 130 Sequoia Ave., Walnut Creek, CA 94596 934-2409

Hugh D. Barnett, 1913 Park Meadow Dr., Danville, CA 94526 837-6023

Shirley Jean Siems Terry, 301 Almond Ct., San Ramon, CA 94583 829-7787

Luz Maria Lucha Fleming, 1148 Greenbrook Dr., Danville 94526 837-7458

Ewyian Jolimay Rakestraw Names, 790 Contada Circle, Danville 94526 838-2950

SURNAME FILE

Our file is growing - have you added your surnames? Have you checked the file to see if anyone else is researching the surnames you are?

TAPES

Did you miss a meeting? Win Kynett has been taping our speakers. These tapes can be rented for \$1.00 per month from our tape library. Check with Fred Potter to see what other tapes we have.

PERSONAL

Our condolences to Sandy Kimball on the death of her husband John on February 26, 1987.

HERE AND THERE

GERMANY

- Those wishing help in locating a German village may get assistance from the German Research Association. When you can't find a town on the map, send all the information you do have, including a xerox of the name if taken from a written document, along with a large SASE and \$1.35 check payable to John Bentz to him at 13139 Old West Ave., San Diego, CA 92129. John promises a map showing the village or your money back. All profits go to the GRA.
(The German Connection, Aug. 1986 via Diablo Descendants)

PHOTOGRAPHS

- Preserving family photographs is a recent organization designed to assist the public in preserving family photographs through education, consumer advocacy, research, and development. For information contact: Nancy Rosen, PREFAB Coordinator, 1910 Torquay, Royal Oak, MI 48073
(Patty Erickson)

IOWA

- Supported in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Iowa Newspaper Project is part of the nationwide movement to ensure the preservation of this nation's newspapers and to provide easy access to them for researchers. A pilot project under the U.S. Newspaper Project of the 1970's produced a unique publication entitled "A Bibliography of Iowa Newspapers, 1836-1976". Continuing from this fortuitous start, the Iowa Newspaper Project is designed to locate, catalog and microfilm all existing issues of Iowa's past and present newspapers. There will be two cataloging centers in Iowa: Iowa State University Library in Ames for the western half of the state and Iowa State Historical Department Library for the eastern section. Cataloguing is being conducted county by county. Those wishing to locate Iowa newspapers may write to the Project for the list in their area of interest. Inquiries and donations for this project may be addressed to: The Iowa Newspaper Project, Nancy Kraft, Director, Office of the State Historical Society, 402 Iowa Avenue, Iowa City, IA 52240.

(Calif. State Gen. Alliance
Feburary 1987)

GUESSACHE

- Just as a bellyache is perhaps the most common ailment, so guessache may well be the most common ailment of genealogists. A Genealogist must guess, but any guess should be tentative. If no corroborating evidence is found, the guess should be rejected. If an item in a genealogy is a guess by the genealogist, the text should clearly show that the item is such a guess. Family tradition, while it may add color to a genealogy, should never be accepted as correct without further proof. It may, however, serve as a lead to reliable records.
(Penn. Mennonite Heritage
contributed by Patty Erickson)

..ACCORDING TO DANIEL WEBSTER: "Those who do not look upon themselves as a link connecting the past with the future do not perform their duty in the world."