

SAN RAMON VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER
P.O. Box 305
Diablo, CA 94526

Editor: Dorothy Stanton

Meetings: At 10 a.m.
3rd Tuesday of month
(except August & December)
Danville Women's Club House
242 W. Linda Mesa Avenue

Volume V No. 1

Barbara O'Rand, President

JUNE 1989

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 1989, 10 A.M.



PROGRAM: WRITING YOUR OWN PERSONAL HISTORY
SPEAKER: ANN MARIE MULLEN

Ann Marie Mullen, our June speaker, became interested in writing personal histories from a course she took at Brigham Young University while completing her Master's Degree in Educational Psychology. More recently, the loss of several close family members has reemphasized the importance for each of us to have this personalized information recorded. Her presentation will provide us with insights and valuable yet practical suggestions which will help make writing our own personal histories not only possible but fun as well. Ann Marie resides in San Ramon with her husband and 4 year old son. She presently serves as President of the Relief Society, the women's organization of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, in the San Ramon Area.

LAST MONTH

The May meeting was our annual installation of new officers and luncheon. It was also our yearly opportunity to share our books and resources with other members. We thank Jean Blackmur and Jane Nowicki, who were in charge of the very successful Book Browsing and "Swap".

Thanks also to Arlene Grimes and her committee (Marjorie Stenger and Bill Allen among others) for organizing and setting up the luncheon. We thank all who brought flowers to add to the festive occasion.

FUND RAISER NETS \$506.00

Congratulations to SRVGS! We did it, over and above our goal of \$500. The beautiful hooked rug alone accounted for \$160 of the money raised. Other donated items brought in most of the remaining amount. Several members also made generous cash donations to help us reach our goal.

As most of you know, Irma DOTSON is the winner and proud owner of the rug. Congratulations to Irma and thanks to one and all for your generous support and for caring about SRVGS. [Report by Delores Huckabone. Our thanks to Delores for a job well done!]

* MARK YOUR CALENDAR *

Tuesday, June 13 7:30 p.m. Monthly Meeting of Livermore Gen. Soc. at Congregation Beth Emek, 1886 College Ave. (at "M"), Livermore. Topic: "Effective Use of Sutro Library Collection"; Speaker, Jay Carlyle Parker.

Friday, June 16, 1-9 & Saturday, June 17, 9 - 5 CGS 4th ANNUAL GENEALOGICAL FAIR. [see below]

Saturday, June 17 German Research Seminar with Larry O. Jensen. Sponsored by Santa Clara Co. Hist. & Gen. Soc. Fee: \$15. Call (408)257-4195 for information.

* Tuesday, June 20, 10 a.m. SRVGS GENERAL MEETING.

Tuesday, June 20, 1 p.m. ROOTS III Special Interest Group Meeting, at home of Shirley Terry.

Saturday, June 24, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. An all-day workshop at the National Archives, 1000 Commodore Dr., San Bruno. Fee \$10. [See p.4 for details and more workshops]

* Tuesday, June 27, Library Trip to Heritage Collection, Pleasant Hill Library, Oak Hill Blvd. Pleasant Hill. Meet at 9 a.m. to carpool from Alpha Beta in Danville. Tour starts at 9:30 at the library.

Wednesday, July 5, 10 a.m. SRVGS BOARD MEETING, 10 a.m. at Frances Lloyd's. All members are welcome to attend.

Thursday, July 15, 7:30 p.m. Contra Costa County Gen. Soc. Meeting at City Council Chambers, Parkside Dr., Concord. Bette Kot will report on the Nat'l Gen. Soc. Conf. in Minneapolis.

October 29 to Nov. 5 Trip to Salt Lake Library sponsored by East Bay Gen. Society.

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FATHER'S DAY

This article reflects the transition of understanding of the male parent and child:

age 4: My Daddy can do anything.

age 9: Dad knows a whole lot.

age 12: Dad doesn't understand.

age 21: That man is out of touch.

age 25: Dad is okay.

age 30: I must get Dad's input.

age 50: What would Dad have thought?

age 60: I wish I could talk it over with Dad once more.

[In California State Genealogical Alliance Newsletter June 1988 from a Dutch magazine.]

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY TO ALL YOU GREAT DADS!



COME TO THE FAIR!

Plan to attend the 4th Annual CGS Genealogical Fair on Friday, June 16th from 1 to 9 p.m. and Saturday, June 17th from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. It will be held at the spacious St. Mary's Cathedral Conference Center, Gough Street at Geary Blvd., San Francisco.

James Dent Walker of Washington, D.C., Archivist formerly with the National Archives, is the featured speaker. In addition, there will be classes (18 sections) during the two days. Numerous vendors and societies will offer their genealogical riches. Tickets: \$6 for 1 day; \$10 for both. For info call 283-0867.

June 16
& 17



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

June 6, 1989

The newly elected 1989-90 SRVGS officers met this morning. As the new president, I appreciate the fine job which Marilyn Fullam, her board members and committee chairmen accomplished last year. They revised job descriptions and kept careful records of their activities so that jobs would be easier for incoming officers. By building on their fine work, the new officers will continue to listen to the genealogical needs of members. They will expand the Society's program as they bear in mind the objectives enumerated in the By-laws of the Society.

In fact, after this morning's meeting I am excited about the ways the society may promote interest in genealogy. Special needs of members were met last year through the special interest groups, through library trips, through visits to Salt Lake City, through special presentations by members or speakers. By all means let us continue these activities where they are helpful and needed, but also let us expand.

Even though newsletter mailing and room rental expenses rose dramatically, the excellent response by members for a five hundred dollar reserve fund means that it may still be possible to widen our activities or selection of speakers. Next month our new treasurer, Jess Sutfin, will present a proposed budget for the year. Then it will be time for careful planning and deciding which direction to go in 1989-90.

If you have particular ideas about future programs or activities, please let a Board member know so that we can consider your recommendations. Above all, keep in touch. Make this a memorable year for our Society and your genealogical research.

Barbara ("Bea") O'Rand [837-1760]

SRVGS OFFICERS FOR 1989-1990

The following members were elected as our new Board of Directors for the year starting June 1, 1989:

President, Bea O'Rand;
1st VP, Frances Lloyd
2nd VP (Program) Martha Banner
3rd VP (Members) Carol Glover
Recording Sec'y, Alice Wade
Corresp. Sec'y, Jo Bolenbaker
Treasurer, Jess Sutfin
Parliamentarian Marilyn Fullam

Appointed Officers & Committee Chairpersons:

Auditor, Barbara Irwin;
Historian, Diana Hancock;
Publicity, Marjorie Stenger;
Education, Bette Kot; Editor, Dorothy Stanton; Newsletter Comm., Delores Huckabone and Barbara Dittig; Interest Group Co-ord., Patty Erickson; Library Trips, Shirley Terry; [more on p.6]



NATIONAL ARCHIVES WORKSHOPS

To be held at the National Archives- Pacific Sierra Region
1000 Commodore Dr., San Bruno. Reservations: 876-9009.

The following workshops are sponsored by Friends of the Archives:

Saturday, June 24, 9-4 (an All-Day Workshop). Fee \$10. "Organizing Your Genealogical Data", Bette Kot; "What Genealogical Computer Programs DO and How They Do It", Marjorie Howarth.

Saturday, July 22, 9-12 (3 hours). Fee \$5. "Sources and Procedures for German Research from California", Venice Kratzer and Doris Newbery.

Saturday, August 12, 9-12. Fee \$5. "Pre-1850 Migration Patterns, Eastern Seaboard to the Mississippi", Judy Svoboda.

Basic Genealogical Workshops given by Archives staff:

Friday, June 30, 9-1 (4 hours) Fee \$5. "Genealogy Research Using Military Records", Rose Mary Kennedy.

Wednesday, July 26, 9-12 (3 hours). Fee \$5. "Preserving Your Family History", Jane Freeman, conservator.

Thursday, July 27, 9-1 (4 hours). Fee \$5. "Researching Indian Records", Kathleen O'Connor.

Tuesday, August 22, 9-1 (4 hours) \$5. "Research Using Court Records", Claude Hopkins.

FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES AT SAN BRUNO

The General Index to Civil War Pension Files 1861-1934 has been microfilmed and appears on 544 rolls of film. This set can be purchased BY THE FILM ROLL at the special price of \$6.80 per roll, providing that the film is donated to a Branch Archives to become part of their permanent collection and made available to the general public.

The FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES AT SAN BRUNO has selected as a special project to head up a donation drive to bring this important collection here. YOUR DONATIONS ARE NEEDED!

Operating under the auspices of the San Mateo Co. Genealogical Society, the FRIENDS will collect your donation and

order the film roll containing your ancestor's index card --you provide his FULL NAME (and his widow's, if you know it) -- YOU DON'T NEED TO SPECIFY THE ROLL NUMBER, JUST HIS FULL NAME.

Option #1: \$6.80 purchases the film roll you want here.

Option #2: \$10.00 per film roll provides PHOTO-DUPLICATION SERVICE; a volunteer from the FRIENDS will photocopy your ancestor's index card (and his widow's card, if there is one) and mail the copy/copies to you.

Make check payable to: SAN MATEO CO. GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 5083, San Mateo, CA 94402.

[Forms will be available at the next SRVGS meeting].



BOOK REVIEW: IRISH RECORDS: Sources for Family Local History
by James G. Ryan, Ph.D., Ancestry Publishing, c1988. \$34.95, 561 pp.

An excellent book for all interested in searching Irish heritage -- a frustrating endeavor due to the unavailability of records. Dr. Ryan compiles his data as a noted genealogist working first on his own family and gradually performing research work for others. Although I did not personally attend his lecture at CGS a few months ago, others I have spoken with who did have highly commended his knowledge of his subject and his lecturing ability.

In this book he starts with valuable information about Irish family research. He gives samples of what an Irish record may look like; he tells about origins of place names and surnames. He explains the administrative workings of the government, the church records and gives addresses of where to write.

He arranges his book alphabetically by county beginning each chapter with a history giving significant dates and events. He discusses what kinds of records are available and in many cases who to write to - or who to see. He includes a map of each county showing baronies and parish districts.

The appendix lists Belfast newspapers giving the dates of existence and who now holds these records. He also lists church records by type of religion and where those records can be found. He includes a large and complete index.

This book and many others is available through Genealogical Resources. Call Frances Lloyd at 837-9382.

[Review by Delores Huckabone]

SEND MEMBERSHIP DUES BY JULY 1 TO BE LISTED IN THE 1989-90 DIRECTORY!

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ ZIP: _____

Please list two surnames being researched for individual membership or four names for family membership so that they may be listed in the directory's surname index.

(1) _____ Locale and yrs _____

(2) _____ Locale and yrs _____

(3) _____ Locale and yrs _____

(4) _____ Locale and yrs _____

Individual membership \$12.50 _____ Family Membership \$18.00 _____

Please send this form and your check, payable to SRVGS, to: Carol Glover,
333 Goshen Court, San Ramon 94583.

[Officers, cont'd]

Hospitality Committee, Kate Pruenete assisted by Pat Monteith; Program Taping, Win Kynett; Cassette Library, Bob Heacox; Alliance Rep, Frances Becker; Information Table, Jerry & Shirley McGlathery.

COMPUTER SHOPPING?

If you are stymied by all the choices in computers, ask to see Jane Steiner's article, "Saga of a Computer Purchase", that she wrote for the Computer Interest Group of CGS. She details what she was looking for and why and how she made her choice of a new computer to use for genealogy.

RESEARCH HELPS

*The new Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., has the California Death Index 1950-1986 on microfiche.

*The CCCo. Records Office in Martinez has moved to 730 Las Juntas. [contributed by Marilyn Fullam]

*The 1920 Federal Census will be available in Jan. 1992, just 72 years after the Census date, in accordance with the 1977 Privacy Act. The Soundex will be available for the complete file.



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