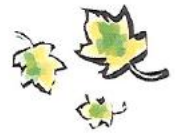




San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society



www.srvgensoc.org

Celebrating 25 Years!

San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

Vol. XXV No. 5 November - 2009

THIS MONTH – November 17, 2009

"What is New, Recovered, and Too Long Ignored in German Family History "

Presented by: Shirley Riemer

Shirley will review some of the latest developments in German research, but meantime, let's remember when we exclaim, "That's news to me!" that "new" idea may have been around for some time, but hasn't been sufficiently discussed or publicized. Shirley will free-wheel it with ideas from a wide variety of sources -- enough to open doors, but not so much as to dizzy our brains. Meantime, let's keep in mind how lucky we are that we happen to be focused on German research, where the records are so numerous and the research opportunities so rampant.

A graduate of the University of Pittsburgh, Shirley Riemer earned her Masters Degree in English from Carnegie-Mellon University. She taught high school English for ten years, then worked in communications for 22 years in Pennsylvania. Following her retirement, her book, *The German Research Companion*, was published in 1997, followed by a second edition in 2000, which is now sold out. The third edition is in preparation. In 2001 she co-authored with Dr. Roger P. Minert the book *Researching in Germany: A Handbook for Your Visit to the Homeland of Your Ancestors*. Since 1992 she has published *Der Blumenbaum*, the award-winning quarterly journal of the Sacramento German Genealogy Society. For the last eight years she has also published the quarterly newsletter, *Mitteilungen*, for the Sacramento Turn Verein German-American Cultural Center – Library. To help satisfy her never-ending awe and appreciation of German history and culture, she completed her 40th visit to Germany this year.

As the long-time editor of the *Der Blumenbaum* journal, Shirley has worked extensively with German family history researchers known nationally for their expertise in the field – in order to disseminate information that is helpful to descendants of German immigrants who are actively pursuing their German family history.

Special Note; The German SIG will be taking Shirley to DJ's Bistro in Concord for lunch. All Society members are invited to join them.



October Meeting "Scandinavian Research"

Speakers: Mel Stephensen Reporter: Lee Schlenker



Mel Stephensen, a retired teacher of Biology and Ornamental Horticulture, was a volunteer with the Sacramento Family History Center and served as a Missionary for the

LDS Church in Western Canada. His Scandinavian Research training was done at Brigham Young University and with his wife, Elizabeth, served as an LDS Missionary in Denmark for ►

two years. His complete bio can be found in the October Newsletter.

Mel spoke to us on Scandinavian Research with his strong point being in Denmark, since his ancestors are originally from there. He covered Sweden, Norway, Denmark and bits of Finland.

Finland was originally part of Sweden. In Finland they chose to speak a far different language compared to Sweden, Denmark and Norway. These latter three countries write and speak a similar dialect. And all their flags have the similar design: a colored field with a different colored horizontal cross.

Denmark is the smallest of the European Scandinavian countries, with Greenland (to the north) also part of Denmark. Denmark is comprised of over 300 islands. Their waterways were extremely important. The isthmus of Denmark allowed trade routes between these three countries. The fjords along west Norway make up the extremely long coastline. The boundary between Sweden and Norway probably comes from the crest of the mountain range which runs basically north to south.

Vikings were in all Scandinavian countries. They were not always war-like people as portrayed. They were found to have gone trading as far as Africa. Denmark was a dynasty until 1448, Norway was a dynasty until 1380, Sweden was a dynasty until 1397. All three became the Union of Kalmar (1397 to 1448). Then Norway and Denmark were the oldest monarch (1448 - 1814), then Norway split off and Denmark remains as it is today. Sweden became a dynasty once again.

All records you find in these countries were handwritten. Mel emphasized getting familiar with the Scandinavian handwriting. He took us through some of the pit falls you could run into: their alphabet contains 29 letters whereas our English contains only 26. Their extra three letters are always found at the end of their alphabet.

Examples:

Denmark & Norway use Æ, æ, Ø, ø, Å, å

Mel gave us a name: SAABY (should be pronounced - "sew - boo")

år = year

får = receive, ship

far = father, daddy

ost = cheese

øst = east

Gothic penmanship can be found on the internet. He feels you should practice writing it. (Their letter "r" is written upside down in words.) They kept the letters open in order not to create ink "blobs" on the paper when touching a previously written letter.

How were people named when born? Patronymic - each took their father's first name and added "sen" or "datter" (Denmark), "sen," "son," or "dotter" (Norway), "son," or "dotter" (Sweden) to it.

Father - *Hans* Pederson

Son - Lars *Hansen*

Granddaughter - Kristen *Larsdatter*

Grandson - Hans *Larsen*

The nobility and the clergy had the right to keep their given names. Often times a person's profession would be used as part of the last name - i.e. "-gaard" (farm), "-sted" (place), "-dahl" (valley), "-bakken" (hill). By 1850 the trend was to use a consistent family name.

Mel took us through the different registries that are available (all handwritten, of course) but at first it was left up to the parish priest on how to enter events, names, dates, etc. in the books making it very hard for the average person nowadays to read. By the mid-1800 the priests were given a book with columns in which to enter data thus making it easier to read and to pick out words more readily. At christenings the mother of the child would stay outside the church while the grandmother brought the baby in and went through the christening with the baby. Babies were not christened until 40 days after their birth; so keep in mind that dates you find may not be the actual birth date.

The religion of these countries is mainly Lutheran now.

Priests also could have an "examination list" whereby they took their big book out to the family and examined the family - how the husband treated his wife, writing down children's names, did they read the scripture, etc. These books can still be found. ►

Going to the cemetery is a disappointing experience because they don't bother to keep them up. In Denmark everything within the cemetery must be bio-degradable. Most of the headstones have been pulled up and stacked to make way for another burial.

Mel told us to start our research at the beginning - at home with living relatives, scrapbooks, diaries, journals, photos. Finding a family bible can be a gold mine as well as obituaries, citizenship papers, naturalization papers, old letters. Church sources TIB (Temple Index Bureau), IGI, Branch and Ward records, family search on the internet. Parish registers are a wealth of information, military levying records (unique to Denmark), probate records, census (created for taxation and military). Parish records for Denmark started in 1645; for Norway they started 1688; for Sweden they started about 1650. If you are able to find Postal Guides they can give you the parish where your ancestors may have lived. Finding a parish is critical because there are so many within a country - Sweden had 2,600 parishes.

There was a four-page handout listing important resources (books, gazetteers, archives) to use for each country as well as the Gothic penmanship alphabet. Mel had a lot to teach us and did it in a limited space of time. So, if you are working on Scandinavian research, try to pick up the handout.

SOCIETY NEWS VIA EMAIL

Ileen Peterson is the coordinator for the sending of group emails. This extends our group communication ability beyond the monthly newsletter. In addition, about half of our members have chosen to receive their monthly newsletter by email, the advantages being; faster delivery, a much prettier presentation in full color, and substantial savings for the Society and for the environment. Ileen keeps an email address list of members. She will distribute messages at least once a month. Members wishing to share news may send it to Ileen. If it is deemed appropriate, it will be distributed. Members always have the option to Opt-Out of the email distribution. Notify Ileen Peterson at: ileenpeterson@comcast.net ■



President's Message

By Barbara Dittig

For those who are currently writing or plan to some day write their family history, here is an item to consider when addressing your female ancestors. I recently came upon an article in a "Miss Manners" column that caught my attention. The writer stated that she recently discovered a Bible that belonged to her g-g-grandmother. Being an avid genealogist, she was puzzled about the form of her name engraved on the cover of the Bible "Mrs. Margaret Brown". What did this mean? Was she divorced, widowed?

Traditional methods of address might lead you to believe that she was divorced by using her given name and her husband's last name. If she was widowed, you would expect to see "First name Maiden name Married name."

The writer was fairly certain that her g-g-grandparents, who lived in the early 1800's, were not divorced.

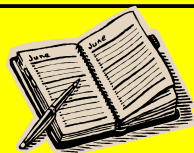
In traditional usage, "Mrs." was rarely used before a woman's first name, maiden name, or before a hyphenated surname her husband was not using. For example, "Mrs. Scarlett O'Hara" (wife of Rhett Butler), "Mrs. Scarlett Butler" or "Mrs. Scarlett O'Hara Butler" were considered incorrect by many etiquette writers, especially of the early 20th century.

So for your early ancestress to be traditional, she would have had to look back to the 18th century, when "Mrs." was simply an abbreviation for "Mistress," a then-respected term that was used for the married and unmarried alike, with the lady's full name.

Interesting that now days, pretty much anything goes - "Mrs., Miss, Ms" are commonly used unless you are an avid traditionalist and/or genealogist!

May the holiday season be a joyous time for you and your families.

Mrs. James Dittig, formerly Miss Barbara Eichel, aka Madam President. ■



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SRVGS CALENDAR

November 2009

- 3 Tuesday – 10:00 am.** A Board Meeting was held at the home of Gail Roche Van Wye in Orinda. The next Board meeting is scheduled to be held at the home of Elaine Franke in Danville on January 5, 2010.
- 17 Tuesday – 10:00 am.** The General Meeting will be held at the LDS Church on Stone Valley Road at Smith Road, in Alamo. From I-680 freeway, take Stone Valley Road east 2 & 1/2 miles.

December 2009

Note: The San Ramon Valley Genealogy Society will NOT have a General Meeting during the month of December.

Note: Special Interest Groups of The San Ramon Valley Genealogy Society will NOT meet during the month of December.

SRVGS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS



THE MASTER GENEALOGIST INTEREST GROUP

This is a genealogy software users group for PC's with their focus on the use of The Master Genealogist. **They**

will not meet during November or December.

This group plans to have their next meeting at the home of Barbara Johnson in Danville on January 19th, 2010. Barbara Johnson will be the interim contact person for the group. Contact Barbara by Phone 837-2153 or e-mail: bcj616@earthlink.net



GENEALOGY COMPUTER SOFTWARE USERS GROUP

This is a genealogy software users group for PC's. They will meet Wednesday, November

18 at 1 pm at the Family History Center on Stone Valley Road. Gail Roche Van Wye is the contact person for the group. Phone 253-1096 or e-mail gailrvw@aol.com.



MacGen – MACINTOSH GENEALOGY GROUP

This group specializes in uses of the Macintosh by Genealogists. Meet Mac Genealogy enthusiasts from all over Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. On **Saturday, November 21st (3rd Saturday-of-the-month)** from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm they will hold their monthly meeting. They meet at the Oakland Regional LDS Family History Center off Lincoln Ave. Marge Bell will be the presenter, telling all about the Vital Statistic Record types. She will also cover one of her favorite topics, the Gregorian to Julian Calendar change for the United States, which took place in 1752. In the second half of the meeting they will discuss how to enter Vital Statistic Records into Reunion for the Mac. The MacGen Group will also have a free form workshop on Wed November 11th from 7 to 9 pm., at the same Oakland Regional FHC. Please refer to the MacGen web site at <http://www.macgen.org>. Bill George is the contact person for this group. Phone: (510) 538-2449 or e-mail williamcgeorge@Gmail.com. Organizers of the MacGen group are Bill George, Ed Mason, and Rich Peterson.



GERMAN – The German Group will meet Wednesday, November 18th at the home of Fran and Bob

Schweitzer in Walnut Creek. **Please note that this is the third Wednesday.** They will also have their annual German cookie party on Wednesday December 9th at the home of Helen Odegard in Alamo. If you are interested in joining the group please contact Helen Odegard. Helen Odegard is the contact person for this group. For more information, please contact her at 932-6796 or e-mail shodegard@aol.com. the



IRISH – This special interest group will meet November 11th (the second Wednesday) at 10:00 am. at the home of Patty Erickson in Pleasant Hill. Patty Erickson is the contact person for the group. Phone (925) 229-0889 or e-mail: russpat@comcast.net ►



SOUTHERN – The Southern Interest Group will meet at 10 am on November 12th (the Second Thursday of the month) at the Family History Center on Stone Valley Road. The contact person is Dorothy Stanton; Phone 820-3757 or email dpstant@hotmail.com. New persons interested in attending should contact Dorothy Stanton for information.

CALENDAR OF OTHER EVENTS

- 21 November Saturday 10:30 am** The San Mateo County Genealogical Society will hold a regular meeting at the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, 1700 South El Camino Real in San Mateo. This is near Highway 92. Ron Aarons will present "*Mapping Madness*". In this talk Ron discusses websites providing historical maps and several online mapping tools. Ron demonstrates how both Microsoft Maps (maps.live.com) and Google Maps (maps.google.com) operate. The presentation also covers Microsoft's Map Cruncher tool, which "mashes" two similar maps together. For more information go to: www.smccgs.org.
- 12 December Saturday 10:30 am to 2:30 pm** The California Genealogical Society is sponsoring a workshop with Steve Harris. The theme is "New York City: Insiders Guide to Research." This workshop will focus on techniques for researching New Your City ancestors in the 19th and 20th centuries. There is a \$10 fee for non-members. Pre-registration required. The group will be limited to 15. To print the registration form and read event details, go to <http://calgensoc.org>. Attendees are encouraged to bring laptop computers. The workshop will be held at the CGS Library, 2202 Broadway, Suite LL2 in Oakland.

EDUCATION

 **PUBLISHING** – The "Exploring Ideas for Publishing" group will meet again with Frances Lloyd at 10am on November 19 at the FHC.

 **SCANDINAVIAN** - Thanks to Linda Bailey, the Scandinavian Research Group got off to a good start. They will continue to meet at 10am on each Wednesday the FHC is open.

 Thanks too, to Janet Broderick for braving the heavy rain (along with 4 hardy members) on October 13 for the class on using the Family History Center. Another class will be scheduled in early Spring 2010.

 **MARK YOUR CALENDAR:** The National Genealogical Society announces that registration brochures are available for download from the NGS website <<http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>> for the 2010 Family History Conference, "Follow Your Ancestral Trail." It will be held 28 April—1 May 2010, in Salt Lake City, Utah. A few examples of the Family History Conference's diverse program offerings include the *International Workshops* which will focus on researching the cultural records of other countries through lectures, research, and problem solving; the *Evening Celebration of Family History*, which will incorporate a multi-media tribute to family history, a special guest speaker, and a mini-concert by the Mormon Tabernacle Choir; and *Ask An Expert*, where the Utah Genealogical Association will sponsor twenty-minute family history consultations to registered attendees. The Family History Library will have extended hours during the Conference.

 **MORE OPPORTUNITIES for LEARNING:**

NATIONAL ARCHIVES VETERANS RECORDS WORKSHOP ON NOV 10 2009
NARA in San Bruno is offering an informative discussion about how the National Archives can assist veterans, their family members and the public:

- Find out how veterans and their ►

family members (next of kin) can request records stored at the Military Personnel Records Center in St. Louis.

- Learn about military records in the National Archives Headquarters and Regional Archives. Receive information on requesting replacement medals.
- * **When:** 9:00 am - 12:00 noon, Tuesday, November 10, 2009
- * **What:** Veteran's Records Workshop
- * **Who:** National Archives at San Francisco National Archives and Records Administration.
- * **Where:** NARA, Pacific Region
1000 Commodore Drive,
San Bruno, CA 94066
<http://www.archives.gov/pacific/san-francisco/index.html>
- * **Public information:** (650) 238-3501 or: sanbruno.archives@nara.gov



OAKLAND FAMILY HISTORY CENTER CLASSES:

November 14 1:30 pm "Newspapers Online" taught by Janice Sellers

December 5 1:30 pm "Getting the most from ancestry.com" by Kay Arnold

December 12 1:30 pm "Sources & Citations (hands-on)" by Marge Bell

For more information see:

<http://www.oaklandfhc.org/classes/php>

or call: (510) 531-3905.

STORYCORPS ANNOUNCES THE SECOND NATIONAL DAY OF LISTENING

Acclaimed oral history project creates a new holiday tradition where Americans share and record their stories on the day after Thanksgiving.

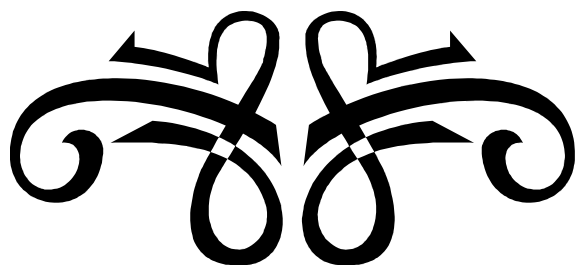
NEW YORK – StoryCorps, the most ambitious oral history project ever undertaken, has announced the second annual National Day of Listening, to take place on November 27, 2009. The National Day of Listening is an effort to encourage all Americans to honor a friend, a loved one, or a member of their community by interviewing them about their lives. The interview process takes less than an hour and offers a meaningful alternative to holiday consumerism.

Participants are encouraged to record their National Day of Listening interviews using equipment that is readily available in most homes – from cell phones to tape recorders to computers or even pen and paper. StoryCorps has created a free Do-It-Yourself interview guide with equipment recommendations and interview instructions available online at nationaldayoflistening.org.

StoryCorps' national partners for the National Day of Listening include NPR, the Corporation for National and Community Service and the American Library Association. Although StoryCorps does not currently have the capacity to include National Day of Listening interviews in its collection at the Library of Congress, the organization provides simple instructions for recording and preserving interviews at nationaldayoflistening.org.

StoryCorps is an independent non-profit whose mission is to honor and celebrate one another's lives through listening. StoryCorps has one of the largest archives of American voices ever created, with interviews gathered from more than 50,000 people in all 50 states. Each StoryCorps interview is recorded on a free CD for participants to take home and share, and is also archived at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress.

Taken from a press release at:
<http://www.storycorps.org/>



News from the Danville Stake Family History Center

I am so grateful for all the support you give to the FHC. Thanks for your patronage and thanks for those who volunteer as staff members. We couldn't keep our full schedule without you!! THANK YOU!

The holiday season is coming up. The FHC will be closed on Veteran's Day, Nov. 11 and Thanksgiving week from Nov. 23-27. We will re-open on Monday, Nov. 30. In December, we will be closed from Dec. 21 until we reopen on Jan 4, 2010! For orders sent the end of November, there is extra time allowed to view them before the return due date. Please time your orders to give you sufficient time to look at them before the due date.

We also have purchased a small camera tripod clamp. This clamps onto the side of the microfilm machine, enabling you to take a picture of the film image without your head or hands in the way and with the best focus. The clamp will be kept in the FHC. I would suggest you bring your own camera, though at times, there may be one available. Smaller, lighter-weight cameras are preferred.

Have a wonderful holiday season!!

Janet Broderick

Director, Danville Stake FHC

California's AB 130 Signed into Law

On the last possible day for the Governor of California to sign bills into law or veto them, October 11, 2009, he signed AB 130 into law. This law becomes effective January 1, 2010.

As previously reported, this will provide for informational copies of marriage records, and non-comprehensive indices with mothers' maiden names removed. As with birth and death records (legislation was enacted in 2002 addressed those vital records) marriage records will be subject to the Vital Records Image Redaction and Statewide Access Program (VRIRSA). At this time it is not known what, if any, additional redactions they

may require from informational marriage records. Currently, they require redaction of Social Security Numbers, any signatures and any sensitive medical information from informational on copies of birth and death records.

IAJGS submitted letters of opposition to the redaction of mothers' maiden names throughout the bill's legislative history- before Assembly and Senate committees, and submitted a letter to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger requesting he veto the bill.

You may read the new law at:

<http://tinyurl.com/yh3vft8>

Jan Meisels Allen

Director, IAJGS and

Chairperson, Public Records Access Monitoring Committee

WELCOME—NEW MEMBERS

We extend a warm welcome our newest members:

Melinda Wiseman

539 Contada Circle

Danville, CA 94526

(925) 820-9026

Library4VG@aol.com

Robin Grant

472 Marshall Drive

Walnut Creek, CA 94598-4850

(924) 934-0814

robin@att.net





SRVGS Anniversary - 25 Years!

PART 2

THE DANVILLE WOMEN'S CLUB YEARS

By: Patty Erickson

In January 1987, we held our first meeting at the Danville Women's Club. Again, there were no steps, adequate parking, a nice size room with a kitchen and patio, too. Best of all, no insurance was required.

May 1987, we had our first May Luncheon in the Women's Club, with book browsing on the patio. Loretta Vranish became our third President and Bill Allen became our second Newsletter Editor.

1988 was a happening year! In January of 1988 Peggy Frazier, our Program Chairman organized our Special Interest Groups. Their Chairpersons were:

Irish--Marilyn Fullam
Southern--Dorothy Stanton
German--Jo Bolenbaker
Publishing--Frances Lloyd
Computers--Peggy Frazier

Surprisingly, these are still our core interest groups today. Many other Interest Groups have come and gone throughout our 25 years. Some faded very quickly, some sputtered along, and the original Groups just chugged on.

Our tape library was named the "John Kopcie Memorial Tape Library" when our member Theresa Kopcie donated \$100 in her husband's memory. We added 29 new tapes to our library.

At the 1988 May Luncheon, Marilyn Fullam was elected our fourth President. In November 1988, the Women's Club raised our rent 63%. We needed a way to raise money, since membership dues were our only income at \$10 each per year. In January 1989, the RAFFLE began. We had high hopes of raising \$40 to \$50 per month, selling tickets at \$1.00 each. Items raffled were genealogical books, wine, and a special item

which was donated by an anonymous member - a large, hand hooked, area rug. The rug would not be raffled until 150 tickets were sold. By March, we were half way to our goal. By May, our goal of \$506 was met, and Irma Dotson was the lucky winner of the hand hooked rug. This is now, the Special Fund, which still exists for special speakers, future speakers and events.

In May 1989, Bea O'Rand became our fifth President and Dorothy Stanton became our third Newsletter Editor. On this same day of our May Luncheon, Jean Blackmur was awarded our first Life Membership.

In 1990-91, Bea O'Rand served a second year as President. In December 1990, the Board decided to hold a cookie exchange in place of the Board Meeting which was never held in December. It was to be held in the home of Frances Lloyd, with an open invitation to all SRVGS members--but please bring two to three dozen cookies. Little did we know this would become a yearly event...a December tradition with much socializing. Oh, and those YUMMY, out of this world cookies!

In January 1991, our Society reached 100 members. A beginner's Roots 3 Special Interest group was started, with Bob Heacox as Chairperson.

In May 1991, Frances Lloyd became our sixth President for two years. In November, a newly published author was our speaker. In her later second book, our Society was most ungraciously included. We boycott all of her books.

In April, we took a huge leap and co-sponsored an all day seminar with the Contra Costa County Genealogical Society. The speaker was the ever popular and well known Arlene Eakle. It was an educational, but not financial success. And wouldn't you know, the rain poured down all day!

In May 1993, Shirley Terry was elected our 7th President. By September, Shirley and her husband were on their way to Louisiana due to a ►

job transfer. Carol Glover, being our Vice President, suddenly became our 8th President for the next two years. Do you suppose that is why the Vice President's position is still so hard to fill?

In October 1993, our own Publishing Interest Group, chaired by Jane Steiner presented their book, "Print, Publish, Preserve". Those involved were Marilyn Fullam, Barbara Johnson, Bea O'Rand, Dorothy Stanton, Jane Steiner, and Shirley Terry. The cost of a copy was \$7.00. This book was a huge success, and went on to a second printing and even to a revised edition. Unfortunately, 21st Century technology pushed our once successful, mighty little book to the back burner. It shone so brightly in its prime!

Again, in May 1994, we bravely co-sponsored an all day Seminar with CCC Genealogical Society. Lloyd Bockstruck was our very informative speaker. Yes, and again it was a rain drenching day! In another new venture our Society had a booth at the California Genealogical Society Family History Fair. We sold 50 copies of "Print, Publish, Preserve".

At our January 1995 meeting, we brown bagged it and had a wonderful day with Leland Metzler, who pulled in with his large motor home and his Heritage Quest Road show. We had two informative lectures, and browsed through all the books and pamphlets of Heritage Quest. Yes, we could purchase books.

Our big event of 1995 was the 10th Anniversary Founder's Day program and luncheon.

We had 173 members at this time. Priscilla Deitrich was our Mistress of Ceremonies and she introduced each phase of our program. Charter Members and Past Presidents were acknowledged. Our 10 year history presentation was divided into two, five year segments; the first was presented by Patty Erickson, and the second by Carol Glover. Our second Life Membership was awarded to Dorothy Stanton. There were many enthusiastic and hard working committee people who made this day so memorable. On this special day, Millie Freitas became our 9th President and Betty Vail our 4th Newsletter Editor.

For some time, we all knew our meetings at the Women's Club were getting uncomfortable; too cozy, squished, and scrunched was more like it. It became difficult to find a niche for our ►

HOW TO REACH THE BOARD MEMBERS

President: Barbara Dittig 925-648-9364
e-mail: president@srvgensoc.org

1st V.P. Ileen Peterson 510-651-7728

2nd V.P. Program:
Sherri Hedman 925-275-8123

3rd V.P. Membership:
Ed Mason 925-838-7848

Recording Secretary:
Lisa Cooke 925-831-8537

Corresponding Secretary:
Kathy Javdani 925-736-5464

Treasurer: Gail Roche Van Wye 925-253-1096

Parliamentarian:
Virginia Rood 925-937-8659

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Coordinator: Bob Venter 925-454-9919
e-mail: rjventer@comcast.net

Calendar Coordinator:
Vern Segelke 925-838-8570
e-mail: v.m.seg3@sbcglobal.net

Mailing: Lucy Carver 925-837-3146

Deadline to put information in the Newsletter is the Last Thursday of the month.

Members are encourage to submit articles for the Newsletter by mail or email to the Coordinator.

INDIVIDUAL HELP

Do you need individual help in overcoming a "brick wall" in your research? Go to the SRVGS web site at: <http://srvgensoc.org/>, click on RESOURCES, then click on INDIVIDUAL HELP FOR SRVGS MEMBERS.

Want to help someone who is having research problems in your area of knowledge? Call Harry Baggett at 925.837.7960 to have your name added to the SRVGS Individual Help list.

Harry Baggett trvrlr@sbcglobal.net

Tape Library, freebie basket, name tags, and even refreshments. In nice weather, we could move out onto the patio. We were constantly looking for new meeting places which were local, affordable, had very few steps, good parking, and no insurance.

As we look back, these are some of our favorite memories at the Danville Women's Club: our May Luncheons, library trips, the "Lunch Bunch" (lunch after our monthly meetings), Betty Kot's education classes, March meetings - always an Irish program (soda bread one year, green Shamrocks another, and green carnations). You would never guess 95% of the Board at that time had Irish ancestry.

In August of 1995, we had a large goodbye luncheon for Bea O'Rand, who was moving to North Carolina. Bea was awarded our 3rd Life Membership at this time.

And finally, we said goodbye to the Danville Women's Club, after 9 1/2 years of meeting there, and found a new meeting place!

Stay tuned, more to follow!

**San Ramon Valley
Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 305
Diablo, CA 94528-0305**

FIRST CLASS MAIL

IN THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER:

CALENDAR OF EVENTS	4
SRVGS EVENTS	4
SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS	4
OTHER EVENTS	5
CALIF.'S AB 130 SIGNED INTO LAW	7
CONTACT INFORMATION	9
EDUCATION	5
FAMILY HISTORY CENTER NEWS	7
LAST MONTH'S SPEAKER NOTES	1
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	3
SRVGS ANNIVERSARY - 25 YEARS	8
STORYCORP'S DAY OF LISTENING	6
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS	7