

SAN RAMON VALLEY

GENEALOGICAL

SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER

P.O. BOX 305
Diablo, CA 94528-8308
President: Virginia Rood
Coord. Editor: Dorothy Baker
Meetings: 10:00 a.m.
3rd Tues. Of the Month
(Except August & December)
Alamo LDS Church
Stone Valley & Smith Rds - Alamo

Vol. XVIII No. 7

February 2004

THIS MONTH - February 17, 2004

"Treasures in a Trunk"

The speaker at our February meeting will be Kathleen Castro. Kathy is a member of the Contra Costa Genealogical Society, NEGHS, and the DAR. She has been a frequent speaker at local genealogical society meetings and seminars. She will be speaking to us on the subject of *"Treasures in a Trunk: What to do with the documents and other family treasures you beg borrow, steal or inherit"*. The objective of her talk is to show how to methodically examine family documents in order to determine their value, how to organize them, and how to authenticate the information they contain. The talk is based on the Kathy's personal experience with over 500 family documents and heirlooms. It includes some "show and tell" and has proved entertaining as well as formative. The talk is designed to appeal to both beginning and advanced genealogists.

JANUARY MEETING

"Finding and Using Probate Records"

Speaker: Margery Bell

Reported by Lee Schlenker

Our speaker in January was Margery Bell who has been doing genealogy for the past 30 years. She is the author of *Line Upon Line*. She teaches genealogy at seminars and to genealogical societies, as well as working at the Oakland Family History Center for more than 20 years. She is now in charge of getting a new automated card catalog at the FHC up and running. She was an extremely interesting speaker. I'm sure, she could have gone on forever speaking on this subject as well as all of us listening forever!

Probate records are public knowledge. There are no privacy rules on these papers. It is often better to go to the actual courthouse (or record holder) and read the printed or written record. These records are not always accessible on the internet. The internet may not be the greatest for what you are looking for. But you can obtain microfilm copies on interlibrary

loan in any LDS Family History Center. Or you can go to www.usgenweb.org and click to your state, then your county page. Look for online indexes and look for researchers willing to do local searches for a nominal fee. But if you can go, do it in person. That's half the fun of the "chase"!

You must remember why people came to America - for religious freedom (church records) and for land (land records). Thus, probate records were created upon death. After the death, an executor is appointed for the deceased's will. The will is admitted for probate. Letters Testamentary are issued. The will is recorded. The executor does an inventory of the estate and pays debts and distributes estate. Executor then notifies court that the process is completed. This is called "testate".

"Intestate" (without a will) means that when

an individual dies, heirs/creditors petition court for estate settlement. The court appoints an administrator (who accepts or rejects the appointment), inventories estate, pays bills and distributes according to state law, then notifies court of final settlement.

It is these probate records which can be invaluable with names, relationships, dates and places. But there are limitations: not everyone's estate was probated; may have names but not their relationships, may contain names of living children but not names of predeceased parent (i.e. a "wife" may not be the mother of the children), actual date of death may not be given, indexing may be on a county basis, and usually only decedent is indexed.

Your first question when you arrive at the courthouse would be, "How do you *index* your wills intestate and probate (testate) records? And "Where can I find the loose packets?" Records can be bound in huge books (2'x18"x3") or they can be loose. These "loose papers" are miscellaneous papers having to do with the estate settlement (i.e. bills, inventory, list of heirs/addresses) usually created by the Executor and are numbered to correspond with the probate record.

Margery says she always goes through the local newspapers as well as the records if she is still looking for information. There may not always be a probate record if land changes hands within one family. A "Last Will & Testaments" means leaving the personal property to whomever. The administrator is appointed by the court. Often you may find letters of renunciation with a will.

Wills of 1760 will usually be handwritten. Reading these can be difficult since there are odd abbreviations to many of the names. Sometimes you may find that the first name of your ancestor is actually sounding like somebody's last name. This person may have his/her mother's maiden name as their first name. So you need to be very familiar with your genealogy records.

Margery covered Guardianships. There are Three types of guardians: 1) named in the parents will, 2) an "Elected Guardian" - chosen by a child and 3) an "Appointed Guardian" - appointed by a judge. Note: 14 is the pivotal age -(under 14 is

considered an infant without a say. Over 14 is old enough to have a say in who is chosen.)

Usually the guardianship records will reside in the child's place of residence and not the guardian's. Several records may be kept: appointment, inventory, periodic accounts, termination when child comes of age, dies or marries. You may find parents, death dates of parents, age of child, relationship of guardian, and/or siblings. Being appointed guardian may not mean both parents are deceased - in some area and times it was felt a man needed to be in charge, so even a non-family member or male neighbor might have been appointed.

A few pointers:

A "Holographic Will" is a will in the deceased own handwriting.

Reverse indexing was done in North Carolina wills (by who inherited from the probate)

Often times the term "in-laws" may mean something else (i.e. a wife's brother, half-brother, sister's husband).

In New England wives lived only about 12 years in marriage.

Always LOOK at your genealogy records to make sure that they make *logical* sense.

Spelling didn't become "uniform" until after the Civil War.

1732 - there was a calendar change: New Years used to be March 25th by the Julian Calendar (now our 3rd month in the year), in 1752 England changed their calendar to the Gregorian Calendar (loosing 11 days) and making it necessary for double dating Jan. thru Mar. for a long time. Often you might see 11/22feb 1665/6. Or you might see O/C after the date meaning "other calendar."

There are Orphan Court probate and Guardianship records in PA.

We were given a handout containing a vocabulary list of probate terms used. There was a short Q and A session. Margery Bell was so knowledgeable on this subject. She was a very interesting speaker. Plan to hear her the next time she speaks or visit her at the Oakland Family History Center if you need some help.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

SRVGS CALENDAR FEBRUARY 2004

3 **Tuesday- 10:00 a.m. The Board Meeting**
will be at the home of Jack & Barbara Johnson,
616 Camino Amigo, in Danville (925)-837-2153.

10 **Tuesday 10:00 a.m. Member Education**
Class will be presented by Ron Frye at the Family
History Center on Stone Valley Road. The topic will
be "Genealogy Resources on the Internet".

17 **Tuesday - 10:00 a.m. General Meeting**
at LDS Church, 2949 Stone Valley Road at Smith
Road, in Alamo. From I-680 freeway, take Stone
Valley Road east 2 & 1/2 miles.

24 **Tuesday 10:00 a.m. Member Education**
Class will be presented by Robert Dougherty at his
home, 11606 Amarillo Court in Dublin. The topic
will be "Scanning Your Family Photos". Please
sign-up at the general meeting and directions will be
provided.

25 **Wednesday 9:00 am The Library Trip**
will be to the National Archives, 1000 Commodore
Drive in San Bruno. Phone (650)-238-3501. View
the website at "National Archives, Pacific Region"
(www.nara.gov) for details of their holdings. The
Pacific Region Branch in San Bruno has microfilm of
U. S. Census Records, 1790-1930 (excluding 1890),
various military service records, and early pension
and bounty land warrant applications. For viewing
(on site) archival holdings of regional records of
Northern Calif., call ahead for instructions about how
to obtain a researcher's ID card.

Carpools will meet behind Albertson's, off Diablo
Road in Danville and leave promptly at 9:00 am..
Please sign up at the general meeting or call the
Library Trip Coordinator, Louise Ford (925)376-4587
by 5:00pm day before trip to add your name. If you
need to cancel, please call her.

SRVGS CALENDAR MARCH 2004

2 **Tuesday - 10:00 a.m. The Board Meeting**
will be held at the home of Jack & Barbara Johnson,
616 Camino Amigo, in Danville.

16 **Tuesday - 10:00 a.m. General Meeting**
at the LDS Church on Stone Valley Road.

22 **Monday - 9:00 a.m. . The Library Trip**
will be to Sutro State Library in San Francisco.
(415)-731-4477; or visit their web site at -
www.library.ca.gov

A Member Education Session is being planned for
March.

SRVGS Special Interest Groups
FEBRUARY - 2004

COMPUTER INTEREST GROUP - They will
meet Tuesday, February 17th after the general
meeting at about 12:30 p.m.. The meeting will be at
the home of Peggy Dearman, 749 Morninghome
Road in Danville. Bring a bag lunch. This is a
genealogy software users group for PC's and will
focus on the use of Master Genealogist. Peggy
Dearman is also the contact person for the group.
Phone 837-1621 or e-mail dearman@pacbell.net

GERMAN - - A home group meeting is scheduled
for Wednesday February 25th (the fourth
Wednesday) at 10:00 a.m., at the home of Helen
Odegard. Their address is 1408 Entrada Verde Place
in Alamo. Please let the hostess know if you do not
plan to attend or if you need directions. For other
group information, contact Fran Schweitzer (925) 935
-5744 or e-mail FranSchw@pacbell.net

IRISH - Their meeting date will be February 11,
(second Wednesday) at 10:00 a.m. at the home of
Patty Erickson, 10 Ridge Place in Pleasant Hill.
Phone (925) 229-0889 or e-mail
russpat@comcast.net

SOUTHERN - This group will not meet on Tues. Feb 10. In February (only) we will go to a presentation on "Louisiana & the Southern States" by Sue Seiverson at the Oakland Family History Center on Wed. Feb 11 at 10:00 am. Meet behind the FHC on Stone Valley Rd in Alamo by 9:15 to carpool. Contact for the Wed. trip is Suzanne Johnston 838-8682.

The March 9 meeting will be at the Alamo FHC at 10am.

The contact person for this group is Dorothy Stanton, Phone 820-3757 or email dpstant@hotmail.com.

INTERNET - Interested SRVGS members that are also Internet users communicate via e-mail. The coordinator is Jack Johnson. Phone 837-2153 or e-mail jackmj@earthlink.net
Member Internet users may join this group by sending an email request. Please use "SRVGS Internet User" as a subject line.

CALENDAR OF OTHER EVENTS

10 February, 2004 Tuesday
At 7:30 p.m. The Livermore-Amador GS will hold its regular meeting at Beth Emek, 1866 College Avenue at M Street in Livermore. Linda Garrett will speak about Researching Collateral Lines.

12 February, 2004 Thursday
At 7:30 p.m. The Contra Costa County GS will hold its regular meeting at the Concord LDS Church, 3700 Concord Blvd.. A Shadelands presentation will be given by Primo Facchini.

20 February, 2004 Friday
9 a.m. till noon A workshop will be presented by Rose Mary Kennedy at the Regional National Archives in San Bruno. The topic will be "Census Records Research". Fees are \$ 15 payable in advance. Phone (650) 238-3488

21 February, 2004 Saturday
2 till 5 p.m. This will be the 4th of ten lectures about English Genealogical Research. Military, Immigration, Maritime and Port Records will be the focus for this lecture by Dr. Inge Harding-Barlow and John Gleed. The location will be at the

LDS Church at 1105 Valparaiso Avenue in north Menlo Park. There is no charge. Phone the San Mateo Co. GS at (650) 572-2929 for info.

24 April, 2004 Saturday

Elizabeth Shown Mills will hold all-day seminar in Sonoma County at Rohnert Park, CA. The Sonoma County Genealogical Society will sponsor it. Details are available at:

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~cascgs/mills.htm>

19-22 May, 2004 The National Genealogical Society will hold its annual national conference in Sacramento at the Sacramento Convention Center.

**** **Welcome to Our** ****

New Member

Lynn Rennison
2163 Myrtle Beach Lane
Danville, CA 94526-6213
Tel: (925) 837-0804
E-mail: LynnR22@aol.com

Surnames: Eaton family of Iowa
Roberts family of Minnesota
Cassidy family of New York

HOW TO REACH THE BOARD MEMBERS

President:

Virginia Rood 937-8659
E-mail: VSRood@aol.com

1st V. P Marilyn Tanner 376-6733
E-mail: jtanner@nothingbut.net.net

2nd V.P. Program:

Bob Venter	Pat Denton	Pat Levy
454-9919	735-8419	938-3301

3rd V.P. Membership:

Dorothy Humpal 735-3310
E-mail: DLHumpal@aol.com

Recording Secretary: Mary Wright 287-8254

Corresponding Secretary:

Sherri Hedman 275- 8123

Treasurer: Bob Dougherty 556-3302

Parliamentarian: Barbara Ditting 648-9364

President's Message - February, 2004

by Virginia Rood

February is the month to especially think about loved ones, so in relating this to my genealogy I remember two wonderful experiences I have had in the past four years.

First was a meeting in Sweden with "cousins" who I met as a result of early genealogy correspondence. My cousin, Olof Petersson, wrote to me a few years ago as a result of finding an old letter of mine, written probably as far back as the late 1970's. He was cleaning out a closet and discovered my letter. Subsequently we communicated for two or three years before I decided to plan a visit to Sweden to meet he and his family. The trip and the visit with he and his daughter's family was beyond anything I could ever imagine, as they met us at the airport, entertained us, reviewed their family history and photos and showed us many of the home sites of my ancestors, including giving me a gift of an antique coffee pot from my great, great grandmother's childhood farm. I will always remember my Swedish family and the gift of their love and friendship.

The second experience occurred in late September, 2001. I had spent most of the year planning a DAR ancestor grave marking in Northfield, Vermont for my Revolutionary War ancestor. The ceremony was held at a small family cemetery in Northfield on a beautiful warm fall day with a handful of local people in attendance. Due to local publicity four of the spectators who attended turned out to be descended from my ancestor also. As a result I met "cousins" who have given me information on family that I did not have. We have kept in touch and even had a small reunion this past June when I returned to Vermont. One of these cousins and I correspond by email and are working together on finding some of our elusive ancestors. We have become friends, sharing what we know. I imagine most of you have had like experiences meeting family as a result of your research and know how meaningful and thrilling these connections can be. If not, I hope you will find ways to make them happen for you.

"They were Born in Canada"

The name Canada can mean several things, depending on the time period and circumstances. In 1791 the Constitution Act divided Quebec (the former New France) into Upper and Lower Canada. Each had its own legislature and its own unique civil law codes and rules of land tenure. Upper Canada was largely English-speaking and Lower Canada was almost entirely French-speaking. In 1841 the Act of Union united Upper and Lower Canada as the Province of Canada with two halves - Canada West and Canada East - collectively known as "The Canadas."

Then in 1867 the British North American Act created the Dominion of Canada and Canada East and Canada West became separate provinces known as Quebec and Ontario. Also that year the Province of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick agreed to join together. These dates are important to family historians because references to Upper and Lower Canada indicate a date before 1841: references to Canada West and Canada East means sometime between 1841 and 1867, and any reference to Ontario implies a time after 1867. When someone born before 1867 told an American census taker that they were "born in Canada" they usually meant Ontario, but might mean Quebec.

Additional Legacy tips can be found at:
www.LegacyFamilyTree.com/Tips.asp

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Coordinator: Dorothy Baker 437-4883
DJB Dorothy@cs.com
Calendar Coordinator: Vern Segelke 828-8570
Vmseg3@greaterbaynet.com
Special Contributor: Pat Isom 820-2660
Mailing: Lucy Carver 837-3146
Deadline to put information in the newsletter is the last Thursday of the month. **Members are encouraged to submit articles for the newsletter by mail or e-mail.**

LIBRARY HIGHLIGHT

By Louise Ford, Library Coordinator

The San Francisco Public Library, 100 Larkin Street (at Grove), (415)557-4400. On the 6th floor of this Library you will find the History Center where the official archives for the City and County of San Francisco are kept. If you have internet go to San Francisco Public Library for the home page. For those of you without internet I quote from their web page: "The Daniel E. Koshland San Francisco History Center contains a research collection of books, newspapers and magazines, photographs, maps, posters, archives and manuscript collections, and ephemera, documenting all aspects of San Francisco life and history." From browsing their internet page you find much more of interest to the genealogical researcher. The Center is open Tues.-Thurs. and Sat. 10-6; Friday, 12-6, and Sunday 12-5. A call to 415-557-4567 will verify hours. Getting there by BART is convenient since the Library is located just a few steps from the exit of the Civic Center Station.

Family History Day

On March 13th, the 5th Annual Family History Day will be held at the California State Archives at 1020 "O" Street in Sacramento.

This is a free event and is open to the public. The event features an open house, displays by genealogical and historical societies, and mini-classes on a variety of subjects, including beginning genealogy, what's available at local institutions, computer software and demonstrations, preservation techniques, and much more.

See: http://www.ss.ca.gov/archives/level3_fmhistday.html [More information later.]

This is a worthwhile, free event.

* * * *

Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept on trying when there seemed to be no help at all.

By Dale Carnegie

Odd and End

The URL for the military photo site mentioned by Pat Isom is

<http://www.carlisle.army.mil/usamhi/photodb.html>

Ordering instructions are on the site. Note the Home page where they mention closing for a period to move.

* * * *

The following websites were provided by Marilyn Tanner:

From the NARA Website:

1. State Summary of War Casualties from WWII for Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard Personnel:

www.archives.gov/research_room/arc/wwii/navy_marines_coast_guard_casualties/table_of_contents.html

2. World War II Honor List of Dead and Missing Army and Army Air Forces Personnel:

www.archives.gov/research_room/arc/wwii/army_aaf_honor_list/table_of_contents.html

also, for the WWI folks, the Stars and Stripes paper is now online at:

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/srgphtml/sashtml/sashome.html>

Family History Center

2949 Stone Valley Road, Alamo, CA

Hours: Monday, Wed., Thurs. 10a.m. to 4 p.m.

Tuesday: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Phone: 925-552-5920

Website:

<http://www.geocities.com/dsfho@sbeglobal.net>



Some of our members are unable to drive to meetings and functions. If you need a ride or can give a ride, PLEASE contact one of our Board Members

San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 305, Diablo, CA 94528-8308

Questionnaire

In order to better serve the members of our Society, we would like to know what your needs are regarding your research. Will you please fill out the questions below? This will give us useful information for planning education classes, programs, purchase of books, etc.

Member's Name _____ Phone _____
 E-mail _____

Your Research

Who are you researching? Where? When? Where have you checked already?

	Research Surname	State, county, town, country of research	What years are involved?	Researched areas
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

If you need more space, please add a separate sheet to this questionnaire.

We offer many educational classes during the year. Often in our research we know what we need to find but have little idea of how to find that deed or tax record. Our education classes will help solve the mystery of researching. Please check the following list and circle subjects that would benefit you in your research. We will consider them for classes, programs, books and tapes purchases.

Education

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Beginning research | Deeds | Probate Record |
| Organizing your data | Death Certificates | Published Histories |
| Citing your sources | Fraternal Organizations | Railroad Records |
| Ask living relatives | Funeral Homes | School Records |
| Archives | Land Records | Social History of ethnic group |
| Cemetery records | Military Records | Tax Records |
| Census: Fed, State | Naturalization Papers | Town, County History |
| City Directories | Newspapers | Vital Records |
| Courthouse Records | Passenger Lists | Voter Registration |
| Coroner's Files | Pension Records | Wills |

Would a small group of members benefit from your knowledge of one or more of these subjects? If yes, indicate the subjects: _____

A speaker for the General meeting is selected each month by the Program Committee. These speakers have been recommended by other genealogical societies or by our members having heard them speak elsewhere. Have you heard someone you think would be interesting and add to the education of our group? Tell us about him/her and the availability of this person.

Are there topics you would especially be interested in hearing more about? Please list:

Programs

The 4th Tuesday of the month we schedule a field trip to various libraries in our area. We car-pool making it a fun day as well as educational. The libraries chosen are large enough to sustain interest for the day. This is an opportunity not only for effective research but to make new friends and talk over research problems while we travel.

Are you interested in going on field trips? Yes / No

Bay Area locations you would recommend _____

The books we buy with your donation to the Library Fund are available at the Danville Library. Please check your Handbook for listing. If you have a recommendation for the purchase of a book please list it below:

The Danville Library has purchased many CD's on genealogy for our use. These are available at a special computer. Reserve time with the Reference Librarian. Call a library committee member if you need help in using the computer/CD.

Cassette Tapes are available for rental at the general meeting in our ongoing effort to continuing education. The tapes are usually purchased from national conferences on subjects given by noted genealogists. These tapes are listed in your Handbook. After perusing the list, do you have any suggestions for new subjects, information on researching in specific states, or other criterion that we should consider when adding to our collection?

As in all organizations, we need volunteers who will give a little extra time to keep our Society active, to advance new ideas, but to also keep the basic principle of furthering the education of our researchers. Please note what area you have the most interest in and would like to serve at some time in the future.

Audit
Cassette Library
Corresponding Secretary
Field Trip Coordinator
Freebie Basket
Historian
Hospitality

Library Committee
Member Education
Membership
Newsletter Calendar
Newsletter Editor
Nominating Committee
Program Committee

President
Publicity
Parliamentarian
Recording Secretary
Treasurer
Vice President

We have Special Interest groups formed that meet on a regular schedule to help resolve problems and exchange information. These groups have been helpful to those attending. Would you be interested in joining an ongoing group?

Irish / German / Southern research / The Master Genealogist software / Publishing. Circle your choice.

Would you like to form a new interest group? If so, what? _____

We would appreciate an early reply to this questionnaire. Please return the completed form to the Membership Table at the door or mail to SRVGS, P.O. Box 305, Diablo, CA 94528. Your input will enable us to better respond to the needs of you, our members, in your continuing research into your ancestors lives.

????? QUESTIONNAIRE ?????

First - we thank those of you who turned in their questionnaire either by mail or by bring it to the meeting. Second - IF you have not completed the Questionnaire, you still have one more opportunity to do so. You will find a copy of said Questionnaire in this newsletter. **PLEASE** take a moment and complete it, then either mail or bring it to the next meeting on February 17th.

At the March SRVGS Board Meeting the names of those who have returned the Questionnaire by then (excluding the Board) will be place in a "hat" for a drawing. The winning name drawn will be rewarded with a complimentary SRVGS **Member-ship** for one year.

Don't miss out. Complete those Questionnaires and return them today. **THANKS**

Kansas Family Group Sheet (FGS) Project

The URL for this special project page is [tp://www.rootsweb.com/~usfgs/kansas/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~usfgs/kansas/). The page is easy to read and use. Any family group that lived in Kansas, even for a short time, can be posted. The **ONLY PERSONS WHO CANNOT BE POSTED ARE THOSE WHO ARE LIVING**. Each family group sheet provides space for basic information about father, mother, and children; so if you only know about one family unit, you know enough to put the information up. If you know more, you can add more family group sheets. If you've traced the family into other states, you can post your group sheet in those states as well as Kansas. But just one family sheet in one state can be enough to make new and exciting connections.

The USFGS home page (<http://www.roots web.com/~usfgs/>) links to all the states.

Charles Garnum, KS FGS manager

I started my genealogy research in Kansas about 40 years ago.

* * * * *

About half of all Americans live within 50 miles of their birthplace.

From Contra Costa Times

"On the Lighter Side"

"Jack and Jill"

Dear Jack;

Remember that book you lent me? Well, I lent it to my mother, and she lent it to her sister, who gave it to her son-in-law, who thought his wife's maternal grandfather would like it. He did, and lent it to his wife, who gave it to her son, John. Last night John dropped in and asked me to return it to his son. So here it is. Jill

How are Jack and Jill related?

Answer at bottom of page.

* * * * *

Recently Overheard:

"Please trace my genealogy back to Noah, and do you know when the Flood passenger lists will be on-line?"

"Back up my hard drive? How do I put it in reverse?"

"There's smoke coming from the back of my monitor. Do you think there's a fire in Salt Lake?"

From SBCGS Newsletter Jan/Feb 2003

* * * * *

Answer to "Jack & Jill" problem.....

Jill's mother's sister is Jill's aunt, and the aunt's son-in-law is the husband of Jill's cousin. The cousin's maternal grandfather is also Jill's grandfather, whose wife is Jill's grandmother. Grandma's son John is Jill's uncle (not her father, since in that case Jill's parent would be brother and sister), and John's son, whom the book is being returned, is therefore Jill's cousin!

(Jim Strickland CCC Genealogical Society 18 Jun 1998)

*The Genealogists Psalm**



Genealogy is my pastime, I shall not stray.
It maketh me to lie down and examine
half-buried tombstones.
It leadeth me into still courthouses;
It restoreth my ancestral knowledge.
It leadeth me in paths of census records &
ship's passenger lists for my surname's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the shadows of
research libraries & microfilm readers,
I shall fear no discouragement.
For a strong urge is within me; the curiosity
& motivation they comforteth me.
It demandeth preparation of storage space
for the acquisition of countless documents.
It annointeth my head with burning mid-night
oil; my family group sheets runneth over.
Surely birth, marriage, & death dates shall
follow me all the days of my life;
And I shall dwell in the house of a family-
History seeker forever.



By Wildamae Brestal

* Copy found on Cyndi's List

San Ramon Valley
Genealogical Society
Box 305
Diablo, CA 94528-0305

FIRST CLASS