

SAN RAMON VALLEY

GENEALOGICAL

SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 305

Diablo, CA 94528-8308

President: Marilyn Tanner

Coord. Editor: Dorothy Baker

Meetings: 10:00 a.m.

3rd Tuesdays of the Month

(Except August & December)

Alamo LDS Church

Stone Valley & Smith Rds - Alamo

SAN RAMON VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Vol. ~~XXIX~~ No.2 July - 2004

THIS MONTH - July 20, 2004

Bringing Your Family History to Life:

Preserving Your Photos and Creating a Heritage Album

You have invested countless hours researching, interviewing and compiling your family genealogy. Where are you going to showcase all your efforts? A heritage album can safely preserve pictures, memorabilia and the stories that make the names and dates of your family history come to life. Learn the basics of photo preservation, story telling, and album making. Sample albums will be on hand for viewing.

Prof. Leticia Russell teaches Latin Studies at Pacific Union College, Angwin, California in addition to her interests in preserving family history through properly preserving previous photos, letters and other memorabilia in albums.

Becky Westernrider is an active and enthusiastic genealogist and as an avid interest in medieval history. She is a member of both the Coventry Family History Society and The Hispanic Genealogical Research Center of New Mexico.

JUNE MEETING

Accessing The National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections (NUCMC)

And The PERiodical Source Index (PERSI)

Speaker: Pamela Dallas

Reported by Jean Hunt

Mrs. Dallas did a fine job condensing two very large subjects into a ninety minute period. Starting with NUCMC or National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections, Pamela says it is a gold mine of information for genealogist. This cooperative cataloging program operated by the Library of Congress, catalogs collections in the custody of small to large repositories located throughout the US and it's territories. The repositories must be unable to contribute their own cataloging to a national computer database such as RLIN or OCLC and must be open to researchers on a regular basis.

The collections include materials on all subjects, in all languages and from any time period. The materials

are mostly unpublished and may be computer generated, handwritten, typed photo reproduced, micro-filmed, taped or photographed and many consist of any number of pages or size.

The collections include: Oral Histories, Diaries, Correspondence, Photography, Minutes, Church Registers, Family Histories, Business Papers, Personal Papers, Tax Lists, Maps, Research papers, Journals, Business Records, Scientific Notes, Drawings, Scrapbooks, Genealogies, Biographies, Ledgers, Surveys and more.

Cataloging began in the early 1950's with the first issue of NUCMC published in 1959. The printed volumes of NUCMC are available from 1959-1993.

Indexes were added every three to five years. There is no cumulative index you must check every issue. Indexing is by topical subjects as well as family, corporate and geographical names. Geographical entries may be indexed by city, country, township, village and state.

Printed volumes of NUCMC are available in most major research libraries such as large public libraries, state libraries, university libraries, etc. The index for the printed volumes will show a hyphenated number of numbers next to the indexed name. The first number is the year of the volume (i.e. 65 is 1965) and the second number is the entry number or a sequence number which indicates the order that the indexing was done. Neither is a page number.

In 1965 NUCMC began using the RLG data base to produce the catalog. From 1986 forward the NUCMC catalog may be searched online. Search the online catalog at the NUCMC page on the Library of Congress website.

www.loc.gov/coll/nucmc/nucmc.html

You may search both the RLG and OCLC databases on the NUCMC site free of charge. Search the Archival and Mixed Collections (AMC) in the RLG database and Mixed Materials file in the OCLC database. Since the two databases may differ you should search both. It is recommended to always start with the "easy search" form until you are more experienced and feel familiar with the search database.

In the handout Mrs. Dallas shows a sample of an RLG database online listing for Harrison County Tax Records found at Yale University. The location of the material is located at the bottom of the listing. If no location is listed look at "control no." at the bottom of the display. The first four characters are the RLG identifier. The identifier may be search on the RGL page of the site. If no repository location is listed on the first display of the OCLC database click "tagged display". Locate the 040 field toward the top. Check the letter code located after \$a and before \$c on the Participating Institutions search page on this site.

Once you find an entry of interest, you need to contact the repository. NUCMC does not house any of the collections; they provide the cataloging service. If a collection is housed at The Library of Congress

contact the appropriate division.

Each facility has its own policy. Contact the repository directly to determine how to access the information. You may phone, email or write to the facility. If you live out of the area you may not be able to visit the repository in person and may need to hire a researcher or request photocopies of the material. Request an inventory of the selected items you are interested in. Once you receive an inventory you will be able to determine if the material is of value to your research.

Many repositories have materials on microfilm and participate in interlibrary loan programs. Cost for research, inventories and copies vary from repository to repository. Pamela suggested that when contacting these places and requesting items, identify yourself as a Family History researcher and not as a genealogist. You will receive more respect and cooperation as a "serious" researcher.

Moving on to PERSI or the Periodical Source Index, a project of the Allen County Public Library in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. We are told their intent is to provide a subject index for all genealogical and historical periodicals from North America, Great Britain and some eastern European countries. It is the largest, most widely used index of its kind in the world.

The project was started in 1985 and continues today. The printed version of PERSI spans more than 32 volumes. In 1996 the index was offered on CD and today PERSI is available online, on CD and the earlier information is still available in print. Types of publications indexed include genealogical society publications, historical society publications, ethnic society publications and special interest group publications.

PERSI is available on CD (from Ancestry), several internet sites, usually by subscription and at most Family History Libraries.

Keep in mind that the search style may vary between the CD and the online versions, in fact each online version may differ in style.

PERSI is a subject index and will accommodate searches by Name, Locality and Methodology (subject). Only the title of the article is indexed. This is not an every name index. The best results are

achieved by being creative in your searches; broaden or narrow your search as needed. Change your search parameter as needed.

Periodicals are indexed as the staff receives them. Periodicals received prior to 1985 are being indexed with the goal of indexing all periodicals. If you are conducting your search on microfiche or in book form you must check every volume as it is not cumulative. Search by Location (city, county, state, country, township, etc.), Surname, Subject (record type, particular military action, research type, etc.). Make sure you do not limit your search to just surnames. Be creative, Search by cemetery and your geographic location or bible records and your surname. You can of course search by just a biographic location, subject or surname. The possibilities are endless. To obtain copies of the article or periodical of interest, check your local genealogical library, write to the publisher of the periodical, use interlibrary loan, go to a Family History Center, go or write to the Allen County Public Library, Genealogy Dept., 900 Webster Street, P.O. Box 2270, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 46801.

Web sites of interest are: Allen County Public Library www.acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy/persi.html The Persi page has a link to search Heritage Quest. Ancestry www.ancestry.com Heritage Quest www.heritagequestonline.com

Mrs. Dallas's presentation and handouts were of great interest to all members and guests attending and enjoyed by all.

The above article was written with the permission of Mrs. Pamela Dallas

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Coordinator: Dorothy Baker 925-427-4883
DJBDorothy@cs.com

Calendar Coordinator: Vern Segelke 828-8570
Vmseg3@greaterbaynet.com

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.

President's Message - July, 2004

By Marilyn Tanner

Our new membership renewal form asked you to submit surnames you are researching, where they lived and what years they lived at that location.

Now you just know there's no one researching your surnames in our Society. But how about those collateral relatives? It's a small world. It's very possible.

I think the most important common ground is location. Carefully check the state, county and township and country columns. Get in touch with anyone who is researching areas you are interested in. Are they presently researching there, have they researched there or haven't they gotten up the courage to tackle that area? I have one of those! Has there been success in getting copies of vital records, court records, and land records.

Have either of you hired a research for that area? Discuss your experience. How did you find the researcher?

How successful has your internet experience been in this area? Have either of you purchased CD's or books that you can exchange? Have either of you tried Random Acts of Kindness in this area? Does the Danville Library or Family History-Alamo have materials that you found helpful? Have microfilms from Salt Lake Family History Library been helpful?

Once you've found someone who is researching on of your areas, get together. Compare current research. Not only is it more fun but it keeps you researching. Have lunch together. There's nothing like researching over a cup of tea.

On a humorous note -- "The Chicago Inter-Ocean" in 1877 carried an article regarding sitting for pictures: If a lady wanted to present a serene expression, she should say 'Bosom,' while a distinguished look could be obtained by saying "Brush." Saying "Cabbage" would make the mouth appear larger, "Flip," smaller. "Kerchunk" was suggested for those wishing a mournful look.

Quoted in the IrishAmericanList@Rootsweb.com

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**SRVGS CALENDAR - JUNE 2004**

6 Tuesday - 10:00 a.m. The Board Meeting
will be at the home of Patty Erickson, 10 Ridge Place in Pleasant Hill. Phone (925) 229-0889 or e-mail russpat@comcast.net

20 Tuesday - 10:00 a.m. 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.

27 Tuesday - 9:00 a.m. The Library Trip
will be to the new Santa Clara Central Library, 2635 Homestead Road in Santa Clara. Tel. (408) 615-2900 Sign-up can be made at our general meeting. Drivers and passengers meet behind Albertson's in Danville. Please call Library Trip Coordinator Louise Ford at 925-376-4587 if you wish to join the group or find it necessary to cancel (please call by 5:00 pm the day before the trip).

Carpools will meet BEHIND Albertson's off Diablo Road in Danville and leave promptly.

No trip is scheduled for August. In September it is planned to go to the National Archives, 1000 Commodore Drive in San Bruno.

AUGUST 2004

**Meetings are NOT held during
the month of August**

SRVGS Special Interest Groups
JULY - 2004

COMPUTER INTEREST GROUP - They plan to meet Tuesday, July 20th after the general meeting at about 12:30 p.m.. They will meet at the home of Dorothy Stanton, 501 El Capitan Drive in Danville. Her phone number is 820-3757. Bring a bag lunch. This is a genealogy software users group for PC's and will focus on the use of Master Genealogist. For other group information, contact Peggy Dearman.

GERMAN - This group will NOT meet during July and August. For other group information, contact Fran Schweitzer (925) 935 -5744 or e-mail FranSchw@pacbell.net

IRISH - This group will NOT meet during July and August. For other group information, contact Patty Erickson (925) 229-0889 or e-mail russpat@comcast.net

SOUTHERN - They will meet July 13th (second Tuesday) at 10:00 am at the home of Peggy Dearman, 749 Morninghome Road in Danville. For other group information, contact 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.

Include the following members as users:

John Lemak johnlemak@astound.net
Ed Mason edmason@sbcglobal.net
Jerry Martin jermar39@yahoo.com
Shirley Terry siemsterry@comcast.net

CALENDAR OF OTHER EVENTS

16 July, 2004 Friday 9 am to 1 pm
Military Records, Part I. Rev. War to Civil War
This class/workshop will be given at National Regional Archives, 1000 Commodore Drive in San Bruno. For information contact Rose Mary Kennedy (650) 238-3488. The fee is \$ 15 payable in advance.

17 July, 2004 Saturday 10:30 am
The San Mateo County Genealogical Society will hold their general meeting at the Peninsula Community Foundation, 1700 South El Camino Real in San Mateo. Mitch Postel will speak about San Mateo County following the split from San Francisco County and the changes following the 1906 earthquake.

8-14 August, 2004 The California Genealogical Society is sponsoring a 6 day research tour to the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, IN. For further details and info, visit their web site at www.calgensoc.org.

20 August, 2004 Friday 9 am to 1 pm
Military Records, Part II Spanish American War to Viet Nam This class/workshop will be given at National Regional Archives, 1000 Commodore Drive in San Bruno. For information contact Rose Mary Kennedy (650) 238-3488. The fee is \$ 15 payable in advance.

17-18 September, 2004 Friday-Saturday
The Conference of Calif. Historical Societies will have a symposium in Fremont at the Newark/Fremont Hilton, 39900 Balentine Drive in Newark.

9 October, 2004 Saturday L-AGS is sponsoring a one day seminar featuring Leland Meitzler and Cath Trindle at the Radisson Hotel in Dublin. A \$25 registration fee includes a buffet lunch. For further details visit their web site at www.l-ags.org

"Ask Genie"

Dear Genie

I'm searching for my g-grandfather, Emil Achteburg/Achterberg). My grandmother's Michigan 1896 birth certificate says her parents were Mary Achteburg (Michigan) and Emil Achteburg (Germany). I haven't located marriage, divorce or death records for Emil. A marriage record request to the State of Michigan came back "no record." The obvious internet indices (Ancestry, Genealogy, Rootsweb have produced nothing other than one remote lead for a Wisconsin marriage. My grandmother, Lillian Achterberg Martin, was raised by her aunt, Emma Gums Frederickson, and did not know about her birth parents until the 1930's when Emma told Lillian that her real father had died. The family bible pages completed by Emma in 1939 do not mention Mary and Emil's marriage although Lillian is listed as Achterberg. Obviously, desertion, divorce, non-marriage would be something the family would not like to discuss.

This is what I know to date:

I - Emil Achteburg/Achterberg b. _____
Germany; d. before 1930's; m.??

Mary _____ b. _____-Michigan; d. Sept 1900
Michigan. 1880 census, Mary was living with the Charles Gums family (where?)

1900 census, White River, Muskegon, MI shows Mary as "w" (wife, living with Emil?)

Sept. 1900 death certificate indicates Mary was divorced. Marriage record not found in Michigan. Remote lead in Wisconsin - ???

1.1 - Lillian Achteburg b. 1896 MI, raised by her aunt, Emma Gums Frederickson

Any suggestions would be appreciated

Ileen Peterson >ileenpeterson@comcast.net>

Dear Ileen,

1. Check early census records for both Emil and Mary prior to their marriage? "Genie" aka Barbara Dittig
Dear Barbara,

Although I can answer many of your questions, I think I had a major breakthrough when I went over the census records again & stopped assuming that Emil was born in Germany. I found an Achterberg/ Achteberg family listed in Portage (Columbia) Wisconsin in the 1880 census (with their name spelled Ochterberg!). This family shows up at least through the 1920 census in Portage.

If the Emil born in 1875 in Brown Co, WI pans out (there is an 1891 Wisconsin marriage listed for Emil but not Mary Gums; he would have been 16 at the time of marriage and about 21 at the time of Lillian's birth in 1896, which would be unusual but not impossible), I may have found my man. I am requesting the marriage record and am trying to locate sources for obit lookups. Thanks for helping me 'think outside the box.'

Ileen

Problems? Email: Bdittig@comcast.net
(Subject Line - "SRVGS "Genie")

HOW TO REACH THE BOARD MEMBERS

President:

Marilynn Tanner 925-376-6733
Email: jtanner@nothingbutnet.net

1st V.P.:

Patty Erickson 925-229-0889
Email: russpat@netvista.net

2nd V.P. Program:

Pat Denton	Ed Mason	Sandra Burns
735-8419	838-7848	648-4653

3rd V.P. Membership:

Dorothy Humpal 925-735-3310
Email: DLHumpal@aol.com

An Eighth Grade Test

Remember when our grandparents, great-grandparents, and such stated that they only had a grade 8 education? Well, check this out. Could any of us have passed grade 8 in 1895? This is the eighth-grade final exam from 1895 Salina, KS. It was taken from the original document of file at the Smokey Valley Genealogical Society and Library in Salina, KS and reprinted by the Salina Journal.

Grammar (Time, one hour)

1. Give nine rules for the use of Capital Letters.
2. Name the Parts of Speech and define those that have no modifications.
3. Define Verse, Stanza and Paragraph.
4. What are the Principal Parts of a verb?
Give Principal Parts of do, lie, lay & run.
5. Define Case, Illustrate each Case.
6. What is Punctuation? Give rules for principal marks of Punctuation.
- 7-10 Write a composition of about 150 words and show therein that you understand the practical use of the rules of grammar.

Arithmetic (Time, 1:25 hours)

1. Name and define the Fundamental Rules of Arithmetic.
2. A wagon box is 2ft. Deep, 10 ft. long, and 3 ft. wide. How many bushels of wheat will it hold?
3. If a load of wheat weighs 3942 lbs., what is it worth at 50cts. A bushel, deducting 1050 lbs. for tare?
4. District No. 33 has a valuation of \$35,000. What is the necessary levy to carry on a school seven months at \$50 per month and have \$104 for incidentals?
5. Find the cost of 6720 lbs. Coal at \$6.00 per ton.
6. Find the interest of \$512.60 for 8 months and 18 days at 7 percent.
7. What is the cost of 49 boards, 12 inches wide and 16 feet long at \$20. Per meter?
8. Find the bank discount on \$300 for 90 days (no grace) at 10 percent.
9. What is the cost of a square farm at \$15 per acre, the distance around which is 640 rods?
10. Write a Bank Check, a Promissory Note, and a Receipt.

U.S. History (Time 45 minutes)

1. Give the epochs into which U.S. History is divided.
2. Give an account of the discovery of America by Columbus.
3. Relate the causes and results of the Revolutionary War.
4. Show the territorial growth of the United States.
5. Tell what you can of the history of Kansas.
6. Describe three of the most prominent battles of the Rebellion.
7. Who were the following: Morse, Whitney, Fulton, Bell, Lincoln, Penn, and Howe?
8. Name events connected with the following dates: 1607, 1620, 1800, 1849, 1865

Orthography (Time, one hour)

1. What is meant by the following: Alphabet, phonetic, orthography, etymology, syllabication?
2. What are elementary sounds? How are they classified?
3. What are the following and give examples of each: Trigraph, subvocals, diphthong, cognate letters, linguals?
4. Give four substitutes for caret 'u.'
5. Give two rules for spelling words with final 'e.' Name two exceptions under each rule.
6. Give two uses of silent letters in spelling. Illustrate each.
7. Define the following prefixes and use in connection with a word: Bi, dis, mis, pre, semi, post, non, iter, mono, sup
8. Mark diacritically and divide into syllables the following, and name the sign that indicates the sound: Card, ball, mercy, sir. odd, cell, rise, blood, fare, last.
9. Use the following correctly in sentences: cite, site, sight, fane fane, fair, feign, vane, vain vein

Geography (Time, one hour)

1. What is climate? Upon what does climate depend?
2. How do you account for the extremes of climate in Kansas?
3. Of what use are rivers? Of what use is the ocean?
4. Describe the mountains of North America.
5. Name and describe the following: Monrovia, Odessa, Denver, Manitoba, Hecla, Yukon, St. Helena, Juan Fernandez, Aspinwall and Orinoco.
6. Name and locate the principal trade centers of the United States.
7. Name all the republics of Europe and give the capital of each.
8. Why is the Atlantic Coast colder than the Pacific in the same latitude?
9. Describe the process by which the water of the ocean returns to the sources of rivers.

This gives the saying of an early 20th century person that "she/he only had an 8th grade education" a whole new meaning! The exam took 6 hours to complete.

LIBRARY HIGHLIGHT

The brand new Santa Clara City Central Park Library at 2635 Homestead Road, Santa Clara has recently opened their new facility. The genealogy collection is located on the second floor in an area called the Santa Clara Heritage Pavilion. The Pavilion will feature not only the genealogy collection, but also a "Santa Clara History Center" collection plus the California history book collection (previously shelved in locked cases). Family Association Newsletters and general periodicals older than 1990 have come out of storage for researchers. They also have a very good international collection. There is one dedicated computer for which a library card is needed (can be easily obtained at the time of your visit.) Visit their website for details and a picture of their new library. Phone: 408-615-2900

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http://www.negenealogy.com/il/il_county.htm is a great site for information on all the counties... It takes you to Illinois but you can go back to Home and choose the state and counties you are interested in.

SOME CONTINUING**EDUCATION SUGGESTIONS--**

There's a valuable education resource in our community. It's the Rossmoor Computer Club. With class space located in Walnut Creek and "partnered" with the Acalanes Union High School District, the club offers many basic hands-on computer classes (6 class sessions, 2 hours each) as well as seminars that are two hour sessions, lecture/demonstration in style; also free workshops are scheduled. Membership and fee schedules for members and non-members are explained on the club's web site:

<http://www.rossmoorcomputerclub.com>

An example of seminars offered in July include titles like Digital Cameras, Downloading, Burning CD's and Backups, Introduction to Genealogy, Trouble Prevention and more. Visit the web site or call (925)256-8537.

In addition to the above, Ron Frye of the Family History Center (FHC), Alamo, is available for one-to-one "Windows" instruction. You may contact him most Mondays at the FHC, 10 am to 1 pm, to schedule an instructional session. (925) 552-5920

If you are planning a trip to the National Archives and would like to become proficient in Soundex and the use of 16 mm film readers, Millie Freitas offers to pass on her skill in one-to-one sessions in her home. Phone (925) 837-2483.

Bob Dougherty will be following up on Scanner Classes in the fall. If you have an idea for a class, wish to pass on your own expertise, or are seeking help in a specific genealogy topic, please let me know. Carol Huvane _tomcarhuvane@aol.com_ (mailto:tomcarhuvane@aol.com) or (925) 947-5669

LDS Family History Center/Alamo

The Center will be CLOSED the entire month of August.

Volunteers are needed to assist fellow Genealogists in their research. If you can donate a few hours a week to help at the Center, please call 925-552-5920. Added benefit - you can work on *your* research while you are there if your help is not needed during your "shift".

I AM ADDICTED TO GENEALOGY!*

- * When you are in a different city do you look through the phone book to find people that have the same surname as one of your ancestors?
- * Do you get excited when you drive by a Cemetery?
- * Do you talk about your deceased ancestors as though they were still a live?
- * Does your librarian or the person that works at the archives know your whole life story?
- * Do you check the obituaries everyday?
- * Does your spouse call the library to see when you are coming home?
- * Do you spend your vacation tracking down ancestors in county courthouses?
- * Can you remember the date an ancestor died but you can't remember to feed the pets?
- * Instead of an emergency kit in your car you have a research kit.
- * Does your boss call the library or archives to see when you will be coming back from lunch?
- * Are your friends afraid to say the word "genealogy" for fear you will go on for hours about your latest discovery?

If you said YES to one or more of these YOU ARE an addicted genealogist.

*<http://home.earthlink.net/~howarddorjeff/addicted>

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

FIRST CLASS

SRVGS "Surname/Country Searcher" (File)

We (SRVGS) would like to reinstate our surname/country file. We have over 100 members who are searching records for various surnames and in various countries. I am sure we are crossing paths and not knowing it. We might be researching the same area as someone else and thus we can help each other through this *Surname Searcher*. Please complete the following form to help us get started setting up this file (return with your membership) This is how the file will work.

The *Surname Searcher* will be divided into three sections. The first is an alphabetical list of the surnames submitted by members. The second section lists the location of the surname by country, state or province, County and time period. The third section is the membership of the SRVGS by a membership number system.

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Member</u>
Eggers	Germany	Hamburg		1834-1868	B-2

Your Name _____

Surname _____ Area _____ Time Period _____

Surname _____ Area _____ Time Period _____

Surname _____ Area _____ Time Period _____

(Use back of paper to submit more names)

SRVGS Membership Application

2004-2005

It's time to renew your membership and pay your annual dues which support our educational programs, and provide knowledge to find our ancestors. Please fill out this form and send it with your check made payable to SRVGS to P.O. Box 305, Diablo, CA 94528-8308

*Deadline
July 30th*

NAME: Mr./Miss/Ms./Mrs. _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL _____ PHONE _____

\$ _____ Dues: ☐ \$15 Single ☐ \$20 Family

\$ _____ Donation for Library resources, additions, if desired.

\$ _____ Donation for National Archives Records Admin. (NARA) Records
microfilming project (\$1.00 suggested)

\$ _____ \$2.50 added please, if you desire a handbook/directory sent to your address
and cannot pick one up at the meeting.

\$ _____ Total amount of check

☐ Please - Check here if you DO NOT wish a Handbook/Directory, so we won't print unneeded copies.