

Saddleback Valley Trails

South Orange County California Genealogical Society

Vol. 22 No. 07

P.O. Box 4513, Mission Viejo, CA. 92690

July 2015

Editor: Kathie Mauzey

Monthly meetings are held on the third Saturday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to Noon at the Main Mission Viejo LDS Church Building, 27976 Marguerite Parkway, Mission Viejo, between Medical Center Drive and Hillcrest Drive. Membership is open to anyone interested in genealogy. Individual membership fees are \$20 per calendar year, joint membership \$25.

SOC CGS is not affiliated with the LDS Family History Center

July 18, 2015

"Silent Traveler - Prejudices Arising from Diseases Brought from the Old Country to America"

Presented by
Dr. Stephen Baird

Dr. Baird's presentation will examine how various epidemics and diseases in 17th to 20th century America were thought to be caused by immigrants such as the Irish, Italians, Jews, and Chinese. We will discuss how these ideas arose, what the facts really were, and how research in infectious diseases and assimilation eventually and gradually lessened suspicion that these immigrants were causative agents in epidemic diseases.

About the Speaker: Dr. Stephen Baird graduated from Stanford University with a degree in Biology and received his MD from Stanford University School of Medicine. He is now Emeritus Professor of Pathology at UCSD School of Medicine and retired as Chief of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the Veterans' Administration Medical Center in La Jolla, CA. He has received the UCSD Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching, the Academic Senate Distinguished Teaching Award, and three Kaiser Teaching Awards. His interests in genealogy, besides his own ancestry, concern how family trees may be used to study inheritance of both normal traits and disease processes. He is a speaker at various Southern California genealogical societies on genetics, DNA, and the changing patterns of diseases and causes of death in our ancestors. He is an accomplished musician, composing and performing songs with his band, The Galapagos Mountain Boys.

Safari News
~Bill Bluett

There will be no safari in the months of July and August. We will resume in September with a trip to the Los Angeles LDS Family History Research Center.

Genealogy Search Tip of the Day

[German Abbreviations](#) Posted: 19 Jun 2015 04:45 PM PDT

This page of German abbreviations may be helpful to those translating documents from German.
<http://www.german-translation-tips-and-resources.com/german-abbreviations-1.html>

President's Message

By David Flint

Listening to Jean Wilcox Hibben's lecture at our June meeting about the devil in the details reminded me of my own genealogy experience. I don't know about you, but sometimes it seems that I'm getting smarter, or at least more careful, as I gain experience the longer I work at my own family history. Jean's lecture reminded me of how many times in my beginning research I eagerly studied a new birth, marriage or death certificate for one of my ancestors and copied down the important details -- that is, the details my limited knowledge at the time enabled me to take in. Often however, several years later, it frequently surprised me in a later review of the same document how I had missed a very important detail that was there all the time.

Have you had the same experience? Where you discover a detail such as an occupation, a street address, the name of a witness or family member, or a subtle change in the spelling of a surname that was there the first time you saw the document, but you just didn't notice it? Perhaps I'm giving away my inexperience as a beginner, but I suspect most of us made similar oversights when we started out. And as we kept at it, we got sharper, and started noticing more of those important details. Perhaps we studied more, joined a specialized group, or attended a class or seminar and improved our knowledge. Genealogy is a learning endeavor, and we need to keep expanding our knowledge to progress, and avoid those devils in the details that are so easy to miss. That's one of the reasons why our society keeps expanding the learning opportunities we offer, and I hope you are taking advantage of them.

Over the past few months I have had the opportunity to talk to groups at the Laguna Woods Village. One of our members, Bob Sellards, is doing a great job of promoting a renewed interest in genealogy there, and has invited me several times to come and speak to his group. They are a warm and friendly bunch, and they ask lots of good questions. I always invite them to come and visit our monthly meeting, and many of them have. In fact, over the past few months we have had several visitors from the Laguna Woods community. Four of those have become members of our society in just the last two months, and some are already participating in our special interest groups. I wanted to publicly acknowledge the good work that **Bob Sellards** is doing in his community there, as well as give a special welcome to our new members from Laguna Woods. I hope that you will all join me in making those folks feel welcome in our meetings and groups.

Don't forget that we will be voting in our July 18 meeting on some minor changes in our Bylaws relating to Memberships. You can view the proposed changes on our website at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~casocgs/Art3bylaw.pdf>. Those changes are related to the Standing Rules changes adopted by the members in our June meeting. There are two separate articles in this issue relating to those two matters. See you all in July.

June Meeting

~ Bill Bluett

The guest speaker for our June monthly meeting was **Jean Wilcox Hibben**. Her topic was titled "**The Devil Is In The Details: Missed Minutiae Can Create Lineage Limbo**". In her presentation, Jean pointed out the "pitfalls" that researchers can fall into from erroneous information in documents or other researchers' data bases. Verify as accurately as you can all information you collect for your ancestors. A person could be led down the wrong trail for many years to come and have to start over again. Also, Jean gave us a brief list of interesting abbreviations and acronyms that you may find on documents. Some examples were "dr" may not mean "doctor" but "debtor", "do" means "ditto", "oc" indicates "orphans court", "gnu" means "given name unknown", and "nmn" stands for "no middle name". Jean listed some Internet sources on her handout for determining meanings. Prior to the presentation, we enjoyed some excellent refreshments in the patio provided by some of our members. They were: **Jessie Ellison, Georgiana Emery, JoAnn Jones, and Dottie Para.**

Genealogy Search Tip of the Day <http://genealogysearchtipoftheday.blogspot.com/>

Index to 40,000 Bible Records at DAR Posted: 05 Jun 2015 09:36 AM PDT

The Daughters of the American Revolution has put an index to over 40,000 bible records on their website. This is an index only. Copies must be requested from the DAR.

http://services.dar.org/Public/DAR_Research/search/?Tab_ID=12

Brick Walls and Genealogy Research

~Bill Bluett

Arlene O'Donnell reported she had a breakthrough with a line in her Scott Family tree. In searching through Find-A-Grave, she located an ancestor during that search and left a "virtual flower" along with a notation "RIP dear cousin" on that person's Memorial page. The very next day she received an email from a previously unknown descendant who had seen her notation & flower. After a few email exchanges, he sent her multiple newspaper articles and obits for her descendant. He proved to be a real treasure trove of information. Yep, those little flowers work she reports!

Kathie Mauzey reported she found a newspaper article on Newspapers.com at the library regarding her grandfather, L. C. Doke, and three others forming the Creech-Doke Mining Company in Ottawa Co., Oklahoma. Under a lease agreement they took over the property of the Standard Zinc & Lead Company and had produced \$40,000 worth of ore. Next step is to find more information on the mine.

Membership Update

~Mary Jo McQueen

Eighty-seven members and six guests attended the June meeting. So far this month we have added three new members. We welcome: **Helen & John LaGourgue**, Dana Point CA; **Tom Kauwling**, Laguna Woods CA, tkauwling@gmail.com. Tom is looking for Karl Wilhelm Bachmann, immigrated from Bavaria, Germany about 1880. Also Minz and Margarethe Staal from Germany. Both Karl and Margarethe were single; **Lynn Lillard**, Ladera Ranch CA, grannylillard@yahoo.com. Searching for Fried, Freed or Freid. Emigrated from Czechoslovakia to Cicero, Illinois about 1890. Guests were: **Chuck Costello, Edna Reid, Nancy Soltes, Judy S. Rizzo, and David L. Manning**

Reservations are now open for our October 17th seminar featuring Dick Eastman!

Following are the topics that have been chosen for the 2015 seminar: "**MOCAVO: Comparing its Search Engine to GOOGLE**", "**Find Genealogy e-books For Free and For Pay**", "**The Organized Genealogist**", and "**Oh My Goodness, Where's My Data?**". A brief description of each topic will be included in an upcoming newsletter. In the meantime, use the form on page 7 to send in your reservation, or download the form from our website at www.socccgs.org

Seminar Jewelry Table

Jewelry Chairman, Jo Ann Minnig, is requesting "**costume jewelry**" to sell at the seminar. This has been a very successful Ways & Means Project in past years. She may be contacted at (949) 582-3682 or jbminnig@earthlink.net. Please bring donations to the July general meeting or they may be left in the Genealogy Section of the Library. Donations will be accepted at the meetings in August and September as well.

Seminar Opportunity Drawings

Ways and Means Chairman, Jim Thordahl, is requesting donations for the seminar "**Opportunity Drawings**" Table. Items that may help the genealogist in their research will be appreciated. Anyone wishing to donate please contact Jim at (949) 492-5334 or jimandbonniethor@juno.com.

Seminar Book Donations

Be thinking about book donations over the next few months. We will begin collecting them at the library starting in September. Cookbooks seem to be a popular item.

Genealogy Tip of the Day <http://genealogytipoftheday.com/>

What Is a Maiden Name? Posted: 03 Jun 2015 07:35 AM PDT Researching women in the United States is compounded by the fact that researchers need the woman's "maiden name," the surname of her biological father. In some cases what the researcher thinks is the "maiden name" may actually be a step-father's last name, the mother's last name, an adopted father's last name, or the last name of a previous husband. All things to consider

What Grandma Says... Posted: 05 Jun 2015 06:33 AM PDT Some of what Grandma tells you will be incorrect. Some of it will be correct. Most of it will rest somewhere in between the "truth" and the "untruth." Write it all down and make it crystal clear that it was what Grandma said—not information you "proved" in official records. The stories Grandma tells about her family say something about her. Record them. Then go and try and figure out what really happened.

Change in Standing Rules Regarding Dues

At its June 11 meeting, the executive board approved a change in the society's Standing rules relating to payment of dues and renewal of membership dues. The changes were requested by the Treasurer to simplify the handling of membership dues payments and renewals under the existing rules.

The current dues are \$20 for Individual Membership and \$25 for Joint Membership. The rules currently provide that if someone joins after the June meeting but before the October seminar, the dues are reduced to \$10 and \$15 respectively for the balance of that year. New members joining at the October seminar or after pay dues of \$20 and \$25 respectively, but the dues are applied to the next full year's membership. Renewal of membership dues is then payable on the following January 1st.

This sliding dues amount and different payment dates result in a lot of extra handling for everyone involved. To simplify the process, the board approved a single payment amount (still \$20 for Individual Membership and \$25 for Joint Membership) with no reduction based on when dues are paid. Payment of renewal membership dues will then be the anniversary date of the previous payment. For most current members that will continue to be January 1st. However, for all new members joining in the month of February 2015 and later, their renewal date will be the anniversary of their first membership month. For example, someone who joined our society in March of 2015 will pay their renewal dues on the anniversary of that date -- March 1 of 2016, and so on for all new members based on their individual anniversary dates.

This new procedure will result in "floating" renewal dates throughout the year, depending on when one paid their original membership dues. The renewal will be the same month in the next year, and each year thereafter. This will reduce the amount of "special handling" required by the Treasurer, provide a consistent 12-months membership year for everyone, regardless of when you joined, and avoid confusion about when dues need to be paid – it will always be your membership anniversary date.

In accordance with our Bylaws, these proposed changes in the Standing Rules, approved by the board on June 11, were submitted to the members and adopted on June 20, 2015. All members will be notified when your membership renewal dues are payable.

Proposed Bylaws Amendment

At its June meeting the Executive Board approved changes to the society's Standing Rules to standardize the annual dues amount and simplify the due date for payment of dues and renewal of memberships. (Please refer to a separate article in this issue of the newsletter for details about the changes in the Standing Rules.) It is also necessary to make minor changes to the society's Bylaws related to those changes in the Standing Rules. The Bylaws committee, chaired by Parliamentarian Pat Christiansen, is recommending these changes for approval by the membership. In accordance with requirements of the Bylaws, and as announced at the June 20 meeting, notice is given of the proposed changes, which will be put to a vote of the general membership at the meeting on July 18, 2015.

The Bylaws Committee is proposing to amend Article III-Membership, Section 4. Dues, subsections B. and C. The proposed changes will refer in the Bylaws to the dues payment dates and renewal payment dates in the Standing Rules, and provide that a member's name will be removed from the membership rolls if dues are not paid within 60 days of their renewal anniversary date.

A copy of the full language of the proposed changes in the Bylaws is posted for viewing on the SOCCS website at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~casocccgs/Art3bylaw.pdf>. The words proposed for deletion appear as ~~striketrough~~ type, and additions are printed in red. If you have any questions about the proposed changes, please contact Pat Christiansen, Mary Jo McQueen or David Flint.

Genealogy Research Special Interest Group

Genealogy Research SIG will not meet on July 3. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be August 7.

Genealogy Tip of the Day <http://genealogytipoftheday.com/>
Is the Will in the Paper?

There was a time when many American newspapers published summaries of what happened at the local term of the probate court. Details of your ancestor's will, property owned at death, final bills, and more may have been published in the local newspaper. If probate records at the local courthouse are not extant or the case you want cannot be found, local newspapers may be able to provide some clues. Generally speaking these notices became less frequent in the early 20th century. Newspapers can also be a good source in burned counties. The courthouse may have burned, but some newspapers may have survived.

Docent Profile: Patricia “Pat” Weeks

After retiring from teaching, I found a new career – [library] docent! The first thing I did upon retirement was to sign up to work one day a week at the Mission Viejo Family History Center. In that capacity I was influenced by other docents ... and soon became a docent ... at the National Archives site when it was in Laguna Niguel.

So it was logical for me to raise my hand when the SOCCGS was formed. One of their first projects was to establish a library somewhere, in which new members could participate.

It was natural for me to become involved, from donating and collecting books, to raising funds to buy books, to moving our 5-year stash of books to the new library site, to becoming one of the first docents there.

So, I have been a docent for over 25 years now, at one place or another. It is a fun day for me when I have patrons come into the library and beg, “Can you help me with my family research?”

I love to see people marvel that through a census or some other document they can have a rendezvous with their ancestors whom they are meeting for the first time.

Pat Weeks, Library Docent Volunteer

(Note: Pat Weeks was the first editor of the yet-to-be-named, SOCCGS Saddleback Trails Newsletter, at its inception in July 1994.)

SOCCGS Research Center: CD Highlight: #503 Virginia Colonial Records: 1600s-1700s

~Bunny Smith

Colonial Virginia’s first census list, compiled in 1623/1624, is just one of the valuable resources collected in the Family Archive CD. The great variety of records collected in this CD can help you construct a more comprehensive picture of your ancestors, establishing relationships, land holdings, and approximate arrival times in the colony. The fifteen volumes compiled in this CD hold more than 200,000 Colonial Virginians which were listed in land record abstracts, census records, militia lists, and immigration records. Think you have an ancestor who came to Jamestowne? You will find him here.

SOCCGS Surname List

~Herb Abrams

The SOCCGS Surname List has been updated. Check it out at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~casocccgs/surnames.pdf> or just Google SOCCGS and click on the link there. Since this list is online, someone with more information on your family may contact you. It’s a great way to get your information out there. If you would like to add your names to the list contact Herb at hvabrams@cox.net. Please limit the number of surnames to six and be sure to include the dates and locations that you have information on each family. For those members that have already added their names be sure to check to see if you have provided dates and locations. You can use the “Find” feature on your browser to search your email address on the site to find the names that you have submitted.

Newspaper Finding Aid

~by Kathie Mauzey

The Growth of Newspapers Across the U.S. 1690-2011

www.stanford.edu/group/ruralwest/cgi-bin/drupal/visualizations/us.newspapers

Click on Data Visualizations and Multimedia.

This site has a map of the U.S. with a timeline across the top. As you move the timeline slider along the top, dots appear on the map showing the westward movement of newspapers across the nation. Move the cursor over the state and the towns appear. Click on the town and information opens at the bottom of the map with the name of the newspaper and dates of publication. Click on the newspaper link for more information on holdings and format (original, microfilm, digitized).

www.newspapermap.com This site shows U.S. and International newspapers.

Future Genealogy Events

- Jul 10, 2015**, 10-12:00-Francie Kennedy - Beginning Methodology, **Class #3 is full**
Jul 11, 2015, Gen. Soc. No. Orange County, Family History Seminar: F. Warren Bittner, Yorba Linda
Jul 13, 2015, 10-12:00-David Flint - England SIG - Saddleback Room, MV City Hall
Jul 12-19, 2015 –AHSGR International Convention – American Historical Society of Germans from Russia – Billings, Montana – Info: www.AHSGR.com
Jul 15-19, 2015- German Russian Heritage Society Convention, Bismarck, ND, Info: www.GRHS.org
Jul 15, 2015, 6pm-Free webinar- James Beidler German Research Online, <http://tinyurl.com/scgs-150715>
Jul 16, 2015, 10-12:00-Arlene O'Donnell - Beginning Genealogy Class – Bill Price Rm, MV Library
Jul 16, 2015, 11-1:00-David Flint – Legacy Users Group, Saddleback Room, MV City Hall
Jul 17, 2015, 10-12:00-Gary Schwarz – German SIG – Saddleback Room, MV City Hall
Jul 24, 2015, 10-12:00-Francie Kennedy – Beginning Methodology, **Class #4 is full**
Jul 25, 2015, 9-5:00 - Polish Genealogical Society of California seminar, Weingart Senior Center, 5220 Oliva Ave., Lakewood. For information <http://www.pgscsca.org>
Jul 28, 2015, 10-12:00-Jim Thordahl – Writing Life Stories – Saddleback Room, MV City Hall
Aug 1, 2015, 10am - Free webinar - Cyndie Ingle, Remedies for Copy-and-Paste Genealogy, <http://tinyurl.com/scgs-150819>
Aug 7, 2015, 10-12:00-Mary Jo McQueen - Genealogical Research SIG - Sdlbk Rm, MV City Hall

SOCCGS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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SOCCGS Website: www.socccgs.org
Mail List: SOCCGS-L@rootsweb.com



**SOCCGS Research Center, located at the
Mission Viejo Library, Marguerite Parkway at La Paz, (949) 470-8498
SOCCGS E-mail: cmvgs@netzero.net**

South Orange County California Genealogical Society Membership/Renewal Application

New Renewal Individual, \$20/yr. Joint Members, same address, \$25/yr.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email address: _____

Make check payable to: SOCCGS Mail with application to: SOCCGS, P.O. Box 4513, Mission Viejo, CA 92690

South Orange County Ca. Genealogical Society

Mission Viejo, California
Presents

A Family History Seminar

Saturday, Oct. 17, 2015 - 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (Doors Open 8:00 a.m.)
City Hall, Saddleback Room, 100 Civic Center Drive,
Corner La Paz & Marguerite - Mission Viejo

"Search, Find, & Preserve Your Genealogy Data"

Featuring

DICK EASTMAN

Genealogy lecturer and founder of the "Eastman Online Genealogy Newsletter"

Topics

"MOCAVO: Comparing its Search Engine to GOOGLE"

"Find Genealogy e-books For Free and For Pay"

"The Organized Genealogist"

"Oh My Goodness, Where's My Data?"

Refreshments - Opportunity Drawings For Gifts -

Ancestry Subscription Drawing - Sales Tables and Displays

Pre-registration must be received by October 14 / Tickets will be \$30 at the door!

(Seminar information & registration form also available at www.socccgs.org)

SOC CGS '2015' Seminar Registration

Name(s) _____ Registration: _____ @ \$25.00

_____ Box Lunch: _____ @ \$9.00

Address: _____

City & Zip: _____ Total: \$ _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Mail to: SOCCGS, P.O. Box 4513
Mission Viejo, CA 92690-4513

Information: (949) 492-9408 or at
<http://www.socccgs.org>