

# Saddleback Valley Trails

South Orange County California Genealogical Society

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Editor: Gary Schwarz

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

**Please check your newsletter label.  
If it reads 2014, dues are payable in January.**

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**General Meeting - 18 January 2014**

**"Genealogy as Detective Work"**

Presented by

**Linda Serna**

**This program highlights the skills used by both detectives and genealogists to solve mysteries, and explores how to reason through a genealogical challenge by using the tools of a detective and using indirect evidence. It includes specific examples as well as case studies showing how to find and put together information that at first seems elusive.**

About the Speaker: Linda Serna has been involved with genealogy in researching and writing family stories for 30 years. She worked as a genealogist for the PBS Genealogy Roadshow program. Currently, Linda is a member of the Southern California Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists, the Genealogical Speakers Guild, the California State Genealogical Alliance, the Polish Genealogical Society, and the Genealogical Society of Hispanic America, and serves as Vice President of Programs for the Orange County California Genealogical Society (OCCGS). Over the last 5 years, she has written and given several presentations on various topics for different groups in California and New Mexico, as well as teaching the Intermediate/Advanced class at her home group in Huntington Beach. Her loves, in addition to public speaking, include history, writing, and traveling. She especially likes seeing how individual family stories fit in and make up the fabric of history.

## ***Safari News***

On January 22<sup>nd</sup>, we will journey to the Los Angeles Public Library. Since we make this trip just once a year, you will want to make a special effort to go along. In order to prepare for this fact-finding excursion, you can go to the LAPL website and peruse the genealogy books available. Also, it is always a good idea to make a list of research goals. We will leave the LDS parking lot promptly at 9 a.m. This will be an all day and into the evening foray. You may bring your lunch, eat in the library food court, or in one of the nearby restaurants. We will have dinner on the way home. Don't forget to bring \$\$ for your driver. Make your reservation with Bill Bluett.

## **“SOCCGS Saddleback Valley News” Project**

~Herb Abrams

There are 86 rolls of microfilm in the Mission Viejo Library covering the issues of the “Saddleback Valley News” from 1969 to 1989. We are asking for volunteers to record birth, marriage and death records from those films. A microfilm reader is being moved into the genealogy section of the library for that purpose. Contact Herb Abrams [hvabrams@cox.net](mailto:hvabrams@cox.net) if you want to help with that project. He can assign a film to you and provide spreadsheets for recording the information. You can either bring your laptop to the library and record the information or you can bring your digital camera, ipad or iphone and take pictures of the information on the film and then enter it into the spreadsheets at your leisure.

At the conclusion of the project the information will be put online on the SOCCGS website. The library will then provide a link from their website to our site. The database will be searchable by name and will be useful for people researching local vital records.

## **SSDI Access Restriction Legislation**

~Peggy Rossi - CSGA Legislative Watch Chair

This message was sent to Genealogical Society Representatives of CSGA subscribed to the csga-soc email list. If you have questions or concerns about messages on this list please contact the List Moderator at [webmanager@csga.com](mailto:webmanager@csga.com) Visit us at [www.csga.com](http://www.csga.com).

Congress passed the budget yesterday [Dec 2013] and included in it is a restriction on access to the Social Security Death Index (SSDI). The bill reads: "The Secretary of Commerce shall not disclose to any person information contained on the Death Master File with respect to any deceased individual at any time during the 3-calendar-year period beginning on the date of the individual's death, unless such person is certified under the program established under subsection (b). . ."

It could be worse as access was not completely cut off but it will make it more difficult to find folks who died recently, particularly for those who do heir searching, etc. Read a daily entry for more details at: <http://www.legalgenealogist.com/>.

I went on to FamilySearch this morning and copied off all SSDI entries for deaths from 2010 to 2013 for my more unusual family names (obviously Smiths would be too much). There is nothing in the bill that says what is already out there must be removed but it could end up being interpreted that way so it might be good idea to access what you can now. This bill will take effect immediately upon the President's signature.

## **Windows XP Users and MS Office 2003**

Windows XP is now more than 12 years old but according to data from Net Applications, it is still used on more than 31% of desktop and laptop computers around the world. Those tens of millions of PC users could be in for a very rude awakening next year [2014] once Microsoft cuts off support for the aged operating system. Microsoft itself even warned users of the imminent tsunami of viruses and other malware that will inevitably wash over XP stragglers once it stops issuing updates and fixes for the OS. Microsoft Office **2003** is also ending support on the same date. Now, a recently discovered critical zero-day flaw has been acknowledged in a Microsoft support document that could cause serious problems for XP users.

“The vulnerability is an elevation of privilege vulnerability,” Microsoft said in a recent security advisory. “An attacker who successfully exploited this vulnerability could run arbitrary code in kernel mode. An attacker could then install programs; view, change, or delete data; or create new accounts with full administrative rights.”

Microsoft confirmed that it is working on a fix for the flaw, but let this serve as a warning — after April 8th next year, critical flaws like this one (and worse) will go unfixed, thus leaving gaping holes in Windows XP that are just begging for malware to exploit them.

If you're still using XP on any computer that is used to connect to the internet, you should strongly consider upgrading to Windows 7 or 8, or better yet a newer or new computer with Windows 8 on it.

**If you keep marrying as I do, you learn everybody's hobby.**

~Joan Fontaine (1917-2013)

*-Marriage fits into every genealogist's hobby.*

## ***December Holiday Meeting and Brunch***

-Bill Bluett-

Over 60 folks attended our annual holiday gathering and enjoyed hot cider, lemonade, lasagna, rolls, and salad. Our wonderful desserts were provided by your Board of Directors. Once again, the McQueen's and their neighbors, Jim and Sue Lamond, helped prepare the great lasagna and salad we all enjoyed. Servers in the kitchen included Mary Jo McQueen, Barbara Heebner, Sharon Keener, Bunny Smith, and Sue Lamond. An overwhelming number of our members brought canned goods to be delivered by Bob McQueen to the South County Outreach Food Bank. Bob's vehicle was completely filled to the brim. Thank you all for such an outpouring of generosity!

After a brief General Meeting (prior to the brunch), Mary Jo read a letter from Donna Hobbs, an active member who moved to Tennessee this year. A silent movie was shown that was created to accent different volunteer groups at the Mission Viejo Library which included Mary Jo McQueen and Bunny Smith in the cast. Jackie Hanson donated her latest book which was given to Barbara Taylor as a door prize in a drawing conducted by Jack Naylor. Karyn Schumaker's niece and nephew talked about their grandmother's Nutcracker that Karyn brought to share. Mary Jo McQueen told of her most memorable Christmas when her family received baskets of food and toys from the community. Verl Nash and Bill Bluett told several stories which brought rounds of laughter from those present. Bill Bluett introduced the individuals who brought memorable items to share with our group:

**Verl Nash** brought a large glass covered frame displaying the photographs of at least four generations of ancestors.

**Mary Jo McQueen** brought an example of one of her fine scrapbooks for folks to look through.

**Herb Abrams** had a collection of his father's items from World War I. Included were his father's photograph in uniform, some service medals and a postcard from that era.

**Pat Christiansen** had our Society's historian book available to look through. It includes many photos taken from past meetings and events.

**David Flint** had copies of a British punch recipe that dates back to the Charles Dickens era.

**Judy Davin** shared a copy of an ancestor's Civil War Journal with us.

**Jo Ann Minning** had a book opened to a page that featured a 1920's photo (or earlier) with her great aunt behind the wheel of a convertible sedan filled with men in suits.

**Arlene O'Donnell** shared some books and photos from some of her genealogy vacations in the East and Southeastern part of the country.

**Hal Horrocks** shared some information regarding the upcoming Genealogy "Bash" Seminar in Huntington Beach on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014. Hal is currently the OCCGS President.

Then, a few members shared some brief stories with the group – including a few light-hearted tales (thank you Verl Nash) - before we began serving our "brunch".

**Bill Bluett** closed out our time of sharing with the announcement of our seminar speaker for October, 2014. **D. Joshua Taylor** has been selected. You may have seen this young man on segments of the "**Who Do You Think You Are**" series and also as one of the key researchers on the PBS pilot series "**The Genealogy Roadshow**". We are excited to have this gentleman as our keynote speaker for next year. More information will follow in the next several months.

Overall, a great time was had by all at our holiday gathering. With that, I would like to wish each of you a very "Merry Christmas" and a "Happy New Year". Hope to see you all at our January meeting.

### ***Ralphs Community Contribution Program***

Check your *Ralphs Rewards* account, among other information; you can see what your share of this amount is. Then take a bow as we all applaud to render a big "Thank You."

**SOCCGS welcomes new members and new participants in the Ralphs Community Contribution Program. If you have a question, e-mail or call me:**  
[jimandbonniethor@juno.com](mailto:jimandbonniethor@juno.com), 949 492-5334.

**There is more fun than golfing.**

-Genealogy!

~Tom McLaughlin

**Remember, John, this was built by the lowest bidder.** -Check your sources, lowest bidder may match NASA quality.  
~Scott Carpenter(1925-2013)

## Widow of the North

~Naomi McCabe



Richard Claiborne Talley      Emma Jane (Fields) Talley  
This is their wedding photograph. They were wed 04 Jan 1872 at  
Lees Summit Missouri. She was about 26 years old.

**Elizabeth Fields (1800-1865)** was my paternal great-great grandmother and this is her story.

She was born in 1800, **Adams County, Pennsylvania** to **Maria de Grafft** and **John Hagerman** – their first child, only daughter and sister to eight brothers. Her Dutch parents came from a long line of early New Jersey settlers. In 1817, the family wagon-trained to **Fayette County, Pennsylvania**, where in **1820** she **married Nathaniel Fields ( -1853)**, a blacksmith, farmer and descendant of the English Fields line in New Jersey.

After 20 years of farming and raising 8 children in **Washington County, Pennsylvania**, they joined her parents and siblings in who had relocated to **Jefferson County, Ohio**. By 1842, Elizabeth and Nathaniel bought a large farm in **Carroll County, Ohio** and with the help of their 5 sons, built it into a thriving operation. My great grandmother, **Emma Jane Fields (1846 - )**, born 1846, was the youngest and last child.

Nathaniel Sr. died in 1853, leaving Elizabeth to direct the farm in Carroll County and raise the children as a sole parent. By 1860, practically all the children had moved to **Jackson County, Ohio or Owens County, Indiana**

and established their own homes with the exception of son **David Fields and wife Mary** who helped operate the farm. Fourteen year old Emma Jane was sent to the Harlem Springs Academy in Carroll County, Ohio to be educated as a teacher, a skill that was used frequently during her adult life in **Missouri and Kansas**.

But then, the Civil War came, and with that, three of her sons, **Samuel Fields, 36, Thomas Fields, 24** and **Nathaniel Fields Jr. ( - 1864), 22**, enlisted together in the Indiana 171<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment on August 19, 1862. Her son **John ( - 1865), 39** -soon after- enlisted in Company K, 172<sup>nd</sup> Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Four of five sons, gone to War!

Within 10 days and no military training, Samuel, Thomas and Nathaniel were in the thick of battle at **Richmond, Kentucky**. Surrounded and out-numbered, Thomas was killed and probably buried in haste without a marker. The other two sons were captured and eventually released, something that was not done later in the War. They immediately rejoined their Regiment but now in the 6<sup>th</sup> Cavalry. Samuel was given the rank of sergeant. They fought in many **Tennessee and Virginia** battles until July, 1864 when Nathaniel was recaptured, sent to **Andersonville** where he died, September 9, 1864.

Fourth brother, John, contracted a camp disease and died at home just months after discharge in 1865.

One can only imagine the sorrow and suffering a mother had to endure with these losses and would understand any bitterness she might have as a result. But I have learned a valuable lesson in compassion through the rest of my great-great grandmother's story. Sometime in 1864, Elizabeth and



Elizabeth Fields sons  
I, Naomi McCabe, believe man on right is David, one seated  
is Nathaniel and man on left Thomas. The latter two  
died in the Civil War.

Emma Jane found a confederate soldier hiding in a log in the forest on their farm. He had been wounded by a pitchfork thrust through a haystack where he was hiding from a search party. These women cared for him through his recovery, giving him a chance to see his home again.

Elizabeth Fields died on September 16, 1865, just days after son John's death.

Post Story: This year, I decided to do whatever possible to honor Elizabeth's sons for their sacrifices. Any genealogy researcher with similar histories can do so.

- Investigated whether Thomas Fields remains were removed from Richmond, Kentucky Battlefield and reinterred in Camp Nelson National Cemetery. Results show probably not. I am hoping to have him put on the Roll of Honor for Indiana.
- Nothing required for Samuel Fields since his military service produced an honorable discharge record.
- In May, 2014, will visit Andersonville Cemetery where Nathaniel Jr. is interred and on the Indiana Roll of Honor. This is for his mother who never had the opportunity to do so.
- Contacted the Jackson County, Ohio Wall of Honor Project to place John Field's name on it. Note: My great grandmother's journal citing her brother's camp illness after discharge was proof enough for the Project director.

**It always seems impossible until it's done.**

~Nelson Mandela(1918-2013)

*- Those brick walls can be broken,  
world big or personal big.*

### ***GenealogyInTime.com***

Mary Jo subscribes to the newsletter from the blog below and suggests that we might take a look at it. It has suggestions for breaking brick walls, research help and other genealogical aides.  
<http://www.genealogyintime.com/>

### ***23andMe Lawsuit - DNA***

WASHINGTON (AP) -- Genetic testing company 23andMe is facing a class action lawsuit alleging that the Silicon Valley startup misled customers with advertising for its personalized DNA test kit.

The test is marketed as a tool to help users predict their risk of developing various diseases.

The lawsuit was filed in U.S. district court of California last week. It came days after the Food and Drug Administration ordered 23andMe to halt sales of its personalized test, saying the company has failed to show that the technology is supported by science.

23andMe sells its \$99 test online. Customers receive a small tube in the mail, which they return to the company with a saliva sample for DNA analysis. The company claims the analysis provides insight into users' ancestry and future health risks, including 240 conditions and diseases...

Elsewhere, the complaint notes that 23andMe compiles customers' genetic information which it then markets to scientists for research. 23andMe has acknowledged that it hopes to pool the information from millions of customers to eventually create databases that can be mined for medical research...

A spokeswoman for Mountain View, Calif.-based 23andMe said in a statement Tuesday that it would not comment on legal matters. The company said it stopped advertisements via TV, radio and online last week. But the company's test kit is still prominently displayed on its website. When asked if the product is still being sold the spokeswoman declined to provide further comment...

23andMe was co-founded by Anne Wojcicki, who recently separated from her husband, Google co-founder Sergey Brin. Both Google and Brin have invested millions in the privately held company over the years.

From [WWW.23andme.com](http://WWW.23andme.com) Welcome to 23andMe.

At this time, we have suspended our health-related genetic tests to comply with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's directive to discontinue new consumer access during our regulatory review process. We are continuing to provide you with both ancestry-related genetic tests and raw genetic data, without 23andMe's interpretation.

If you are an existing customer please click the button below and then go to the health page for additional information, including information about refunds.

We remain firmly committed to fulfilling our long-term mission to help people everywhere have access to their own genetic data and have the ability to use that information to improve their lives.

Upon entering the site, please confirm you understand the new changes in our services.

### ***Beginning Genealogy***

~Arlene O'Donnell

**Location:** Mission Viejo Library - Bill Price Room. **Dates:** Dec 12<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Bill Price Room (due to holidays). **Class Size:** 4 Maximum

**Requirements:** Bring one document e.g. birth/marriage/death certificate, obituary, or any document pertaining to your family. This is a class for those interested in starting their search for their ancestors.

This class is given by the South Orange County California Genealogy Society. There is no charge for the class; however, we request that you RSVP. There is also a signup sheet at the docent's desk in the Genealogy Room. Call for details: 949-466-7178; email: [silkberry@aol.com](mailto:silkberry@aol.com)

### ***Writing Life Stories***

~Jim Thordahl

About twenty SOCCGS members have participated in orientation meetings for The Writing Group Process. Now they are ready. All SOCCGS members are welcome to join the group and begin "Phase II" – getting to work. The first monthly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 8th at 10AM to noon in the Saddleback Room. Some time will be devoted to organization and then attendees will be invited to read their first life story. Please contact Jim Thordahl for further information – [jimandbonniethor@juno.com/](mailto:jimandbonniethor@juno.com/) or ph 492-5334.

### ***The Family Tree Maker User Group***

~Sheila Larson

The Family Tree Maker User Group meets on the first Sunday of the month from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the Bill Price Room of the Mission Viejo Library (across from the public computer area). The next meetings will be on Sunday, January 5 and February 2, 2014. The purpose is for users to share their collective knowledge of the program and pick up some tips.

Bring your laptop, your questions and become a part of the group. You can just show up or call/email Sheila Larson at 949-436-0500 or [lighthouse1212@yahoo.com](mailto:lighthouse1212@yahoo.com).

### ***Legacy Beginners Class***

~David Flint

A new beginner's class on how to use the ***Legacy Family Tree*** genealogy software program will be starting up in January 22, 2014. This is an eight-hour class presented in four two-hour sessions. The class will provide a detailed overview of the Legacy Family Tree program, with lectures, live demonstrations, printed handouts, and question-and-answer sessions. Dates for the class meetings are being scheduled now, so if you are interested in this class, please contact David Flint at [davidflint@cox.net](mailto:davidflint@cox.net) for information. More details will also be supplied in the January Newsletter.

### ***Legacy User's Group***

~David Flint

The next SOCCGS Legacy User's Group will meet on Thursday, January 16 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The meeting location is the Saddleback Room 1 in the Mission Viejo City Hall, directly across the plaza from the library. (The group usually meets on the third Thursday each month.) This monthly meeting provides a regular forum for anyone interested in learning about the Legacy Family Tree program -- whether you are a beginner or you are already using Legacy genealogy software. It is an informal meeting where you can share ideas and learn from other people who use Legacy. The meeting includes live demonstrations on how to use the Legacy program, as well as discussion of specific questions or problems from those attending the meeting. Feel free to drop in and out of the group as you like. Bring your laptop computer to the meeting to get the full benefit. For questions or more information, contact David Flint – [davidflint@cox.net](mailto:davidflint@cox.net). See you there.

**The common denominator of all my friends is that they're dead.**

*-Most subjects of genealogy research are dead and become "old friends."*

~Peter O'Toole (1932 – 2013)

**Salt Lake City Trip with Fellow SOCCGS Members**

ROAD SCHOLAR Presents: Genealogy at the World Famous Family History Library. Check out Road Scholar's programs for 2014 at [www.roadscholar.org](http://www.roadscholar.org), program # 7031RJ. Contact Marilyn Kowalski for information on attending with your SOCCGS family at [ma\\_kowalski@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ma_kowalski@sbcglobal.net) or (949) 586-7257.

**Future Events**

**Jan 26, 1:30-3:00 pm -OC Jewish GS** – How To Navigate the IAJGS Annual Conf., call [\(949\) 423-3746](tel:9494233746)

**Feb 6-8, 2014**; Registration open for **RootsTech 2014**, at the Salt Palace Convention Center in Salt Lake City, Utah. This is an annual family history conference hosted by FamilySearch

**Help Wanted at the Library!**

~Bunny Smith

Your Library is in need of a volunteer in the Genealogy Section to take one of two Sunday's, the second and fourth, from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. We are also looking for volunteer substitute docents who can sit in for a permanent docent who is on vacation or can't make their shift.

The Library also needs volunteer docents to cover the Monday through Thursday evening shift (4:00pm to 7:00pm). Currently only the Tuesday shift has a docent until 7:00pm. So if you are able to drive in the dark and want to volunteer, my contact information is on page seven of the newsletter.

**SOCCGS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- President – Francie Kennedy <writefrancie@gmail.com>
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**SOCCGS Website @ <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~casocccgs/>**

**Mail List: [SOCCGS-L@rootsweb.com](mailto:SOCCGS-L@rootsweb.com)**

**SOCCGS Research Center, Mission Viejo Library, Marguerite Parkway at La Paz, (949) 470-8498**

**SOCCGS E-mail: [cmvgs@netzero.net](mailto: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**