

Saddleback Valley Trails

South Orange County California Genealogical Society

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January 2015

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.

SOCCGS is not affiliated with the LDS Family History Center

**Please note: Annual dues are payable on, or before, 1/1/2015 or at the January Meeting.
Thank You.**

January 17, 2015

"BACKSTAGE" AT THE ORANGE COUNTY ARCHIVES

**Presented by
Chris Jepsen**

Come learn what's in the Orange County Archives from Assistant Archivist and historian Chris Jepsen. Even if you don't have kin in the area, this program may help you better understand archives generally, and give you an idea of the kinds of research materials you may find there. The Orange County Archives is a research center for the preservation and study of local history, and is charged with promoting knowledge and understanding of the origins and history of Orange County. The majority of the Archives' records come from county government, beginning with Orange County's separation from Los Angeles in 1889. However, the resolution that created the Archives also provides for the collection of "historical materials which are not official County records but which document the history of Orange County." This has allowed the Archives to build a collection that is not only extensive but diverse.

About the Speaker: Chris Jepsen is the Assistant Archivist at the Orange County Archives, where he collects and preserves historically significant materials and helps people discover the history of their families, homes and communities. He is also a local historian and president of the Orange County Historical Society. Chris has lived in Orange County almost all his life, and has been involved in local history work since high school. He currently also writes a blog dedicated to Orange County history: *The O.C. History Roundup*, and writes the "Ask the O.C. Answer Man" column for *Orange Coast* magazine. Over the years, Chris has been involved in many historical endeavors, such as organizing architectural tours and history seminars, writing articles, lecturing, developing museum exhibits, photo-documenting disappearing styles of architecture, and advising cities and non-profit organizations. He says he sometimes spends more time as a "history evangelist" or "history enabler" than an actual historian.

Mini Class – Francie Kennedy – “Using Excel in Genealogy”.

President's Message

~David Flint

Hello Fellow Genealogists! As your incoming President, I am looking forward to the opportunity to serve our society in a new capacity over the next two years. For the past four years I have had the privilege of serving as your Vice President and Program Chairman. That was a great learning experience for me, and a good opportunity to meet so many of you. I know that Arlene O'Donnell will do an excellent job in that role, and that she will bring some fresh, new ideas to our monthly speaker programs in the future.

I want to acknowledge the wonderful job that our outgoing President, Francie Kennedy, has done during the past two years. During that period we had unprecedented growth in our membership, expansion of some existing programs and the addition of new ones, and a continuation of the openness and friendliness of our society, for which we are so well known. I plan to continue in the direction set by Francie, and to build on the excellent foundation she has established for our organization. Francie will continue to play a role in the ongoing leadership of SOCCGS, and I look forward to having her advice as I figure out my new job. Please join me in thanking Francie for the great job she has done for all of us over the past two years.

During the month of January you will be introduced to one of Francie's legacies, our new Member's Handbook. She has been working on this new handbook over the past many weeks, and it will be available to all renewing and new members beginning in the new year. The handbook will serve as a comprehensive summary of everything that SOCCGS has to offer its members, and will be updated and published every two years. We hope you will use it and enjoy it. It's just one of many reasons to renew your membership promptly in January so that you can get your new member's handbook right away. Also, for those of you planning to join us on our first research trip to Salt Lake City in April, please remember that you need to maintain your membership to participate in our trip.

I'm looking forward to hearing from you if you have suggestions for improvements in what we do or how we do it. This is your society, and your comments are welcome. I wish everyone a Happy New Year for 2015, and welcome you support as we move ahead together for another great year. See you all on January 17.

Safari News

On January 28th, 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.

December Holiday Meeting and Brunch

-Bill Bluett-

Our meeting and brunch was larger than last year. At least 75 folks (or more) attended our annual holiday gathering and enjoyed hot cider, 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 to the South County Outreach Food Bank. Thank you all for such an outpouring of generosity!

Individuals who brought memorable items to share with our group were:

David Flint brought two scrapbooks; one regarding his own life and another with a collection of unique Christmas cards received during past years.

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

Jack Naylor brought the trinket box that he made out of his neighbors old walnut library table (which she was going to throw away). The old table dated back to 1888. He made the box with "Indian Head

Joints" and the handle on the lid was shaped in the same manner. His neighbor now has a special item that can remain in the family as a keepsake.

Pat Christiansen brought a collection of her **Samuel and Hannah Shultz** family items that included a marriage certificate, an old photo, and her genealogy binder for that family. Also, she brought our society Historian books to have on display.

Sue Lamond brought her Herbert Henry Head scrapbook to have on display.

Mickie Dirlam Dempsey displayed a 1957 photo that was printed in the Griffith Park News. Mickie was the oldest child of a family of 10. The newest addition to the family was in a bassinet with the other 9 and the parents shown in the picture. They lived in Atwater Village near downtown Los Angeles.

The reason we had so many scrapbooks on display is because of the classes that Mary Jo McQueen holds at the library on scrapbooking. Some of you might want to attend the next class in 2015!

A brief business meeting was conducted before the meal to install the new officers for the Board of Directors. David Flint is our new president for the next two years. Past present Francie Kennedy was given much applause for her great leadership during her 2013-2014 term. Thank you, Francie. Great job!

Pat Christiansen then shared photos and her story regarding her Christmas tree. She now keeps it up year round. During the Holiday Season, it serves as a Christmas tree. The remainder of the year it serves as a genealogy tree with pictures of family and ancestors hanging on the tree along with other items of family interest. Also, one photo displayed over 50 stockings hung with care for her 29 grandchildren and other family members. Pat has a lot to celebrate!

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.

"New Year's Resolutions Revisited"

~Bill Bluett

I put this article in the newsletter three years ago. But, maybe it's worth revisiting as we begin the year 2015. Some folks don't believe in it. Others give it a try and fail at some point during the year. Some make an effort to accomplish their goals. I located a list for genealogists on the internet titled TOP 10 GENEALOGY RESOLUTIONS. Kimberly Powell, a professional genealogist, wrote the article. Go to GOOGLE and type in, "Top 10 Genealogy Resolutions – About.com". You might want to read through it. There are 10 resolutions listed with a "Related Resources" list for each resolution that you can click on for additional information. The following is her list with brief descriptions:

1. Interview a Relative – Do not postpone any longer! Start with the oldest members of your family.
2. Take a Class or Learn a New Research Skill – Take a class, attend a conference, read a book, or learn some additional skills online. Our own society has a number of classes.
3. Get Organized – We know what this is all about. It may take a little time away from research. But, it needs to be done.
4. Don't Put Off Until Tomorrow – Plan and schedule ahead. A calendar or a daily planner may help.
5. Label & Store Your Family Photos – I know most of us have a stack of photos to go through. Be sure to use photo-safe marking pencils or pens.
6. Two Heads are Better Than One – You've joined a genealogical society. Now, you might consider a historical society or utilize genealogical message boards and/or online "chat" forums.
7. Keep Track of Correspondence – There are free correspondence record forms available online.
8. More Than Names & Dates – Go out and find at least one more additional record on each of your direct ancestors.
9. Put Your Research To Good Use – Share the things you find with other family members. A printout or e-mail just might be appreciated.
10. Volunteer to Help Others – Be willing to help others in our society. One way would be to become one of our docents or a docent substitute at our Research Center in the Mission Viejo Library.

You wouldn't have to tackle the entire list in 2015. But, you could select two or three items to focus on and see what you might accomplish during the year. This listing is only a suggestion. There might be others that would be more appropriate for your own personal method of research. It would be a nice gesture if any one of us would share any successes from this list with our group at the monthly meetings during the course of the year or you might provide an article for our monthly newsletter. **Our Newsletter Editor,**

Gary Schwarz, would be tickled pink (do you think?) to receive your stories. Any other tips or suggestions are welcome any time. Good hunting in 2015!

Once Upon a Christmas

~Donna Osterheus

I remember one Christmas several years ago when under the tree was a beautiful gift wrapped for me? When I unwrapped the paper, on the box was written "MOUSE". I never had a mouse before so I asked, "What do I do with a Mouse?" Well, there was so much laughter that no one could say a word. Then someone said, "Grandma, go to Cosco and get the attachments for the mouse". Then someone said, "This is a very special mouse so you will never get carpal tunnel." Well, that did it. Grandpa worked for almost fifty years without the use of a Mouse and now they think we need one.

To make a very long story short---we went to Cosco and started to get all the attachments for this mouse. A very young "kid" came to help us with the attachments. He was all puffed up, because we were such OLD folks and he was so young and knew so much and we were so dumb. We had never been in this department before as we had no need for any of these new modern attachments. Well, it was really lucky we got this young kid as he managed to get us everything that was needed. We started with a PC then a screen, a printer, a scanner and pair of speakers. Oh oyes! We needed a key board and our grandkids said to be sure we got a keyboard that was slanted (don't forget the carpal tunnel). Well, this young man felt he should also get us set up with paper and ink. I told Grandpa that these attachments were beginning to get very costly.

We got home with all of this "stuff" and believe me we looked for hours trying to find a place to set up this new monster that had come into our lives. I could not find a square inch in this house for our new friend. So we marched down to Office Depot as they were having a sale on desks. In the store they were all set up and looked great; however, we lucked out as ours came in a box. Wonderful! Before we left Office Depot we managed to get a comfortable office chair (it also came in a box). Getting all this stuff home and into the house was such a chore. Grandpa was so upset that my Mouse was costing so much time and effort, much less the money involved.

Well, I decided to hold a family meeting and have these "Wise Guys" put it all together. I might add it took three of them three hours to have it up and running. I never saw so many wires and plugs in one thing before in all of my life. After they got it up and running, they all left me to manage this monster on my own. I could not believe that I was so dumb. So off to Adult Education School "we" went (Yes, we as Grandpa went along with this gag).

We took over twelve different classes on how to do everything. That was really fun and we did enjoy our classes and met many wonderful people. But would you believe Grandpa would not touch our investment at home. He said it was all mine to do with as I pleased.

After ten years and tons of paper, ink and all the extras one pours into a lovely computer, I have managed to do many things that I would never have been able to do without this wonderful invention that came on the market. Then, a big day in my life came this last year. Grandma needed a new computer.

Now I knew everything, so back to Cosco I went to buy a top of the line computer. Got it home and set up. I sat down and tried to figure out the "New" system and I drew a blank. I felt that in time I could figure out all the new ways that it worked and stayed with it until midnight. At twelve o'clock the computer played "taps" after that was over it played a "lullaby". That did it for me! I managed to get it back into the box and the next day it went back to Cosco. I prayed all the way that the man would not ask me why I was returning my lovely computer. And he didn't. I managed to get my old computer all up and going again and I am living happily ever after.

Cape Horn Then and Now

~James J. McGuigan submitted by Myrna Hamid

Cape Horn, also known as "Old Cape Stiff", is legendary for its treacherous waters. Steady gales from the southwest made reaching the Pacific from the Atlantic difficult, if not impossible until the mid 1800's. Most sailors came around the horn in an easterly direction from the Pacific. Those who could not get through heading west had to turn around and sail east and around the Cape of Good Hope then through the Indian Ocean to reach the Pacific Ocean from the west. Sailors going either direction had

to carefully thread their way between the dangerous shore of the Cape and the Antarctic ice as there was no safe harbor to shelter in.

Family stories say my great-grandfather, Thomas Francis Russell (1834-1917), sailed around Cape Horn to come to California in 1860. The name and type of ship is yet to be discovered. It was most likely a clipper ship or a windjammer. The stories of his adventures sailing around the horn have been lost to time. The stories of others reveal that the journey was often perilous.

Thomas came to Canada from Dicks Grove, County Kerry, Ireland in 1848. It was during the famine and many of his 16 siblings had died. His father died shortly after the family arrived in Canada. His mother moved to Cambridge, Massachusetts with her seven surviving children. Thomas and his brother James went to work in the glass factories in Cambridge to help support the family in 1850. James worked in glass manufacturing for the rest of his life while Thomas decided to go to sea in 1852. He sailed to many ports over the next eight years.



Thomas arrived in San Francisco on 1 January 1860. He initially tried working in the mines in Tuolumne County but like many others he did not find his fortune. He returned to the sea in 1861 where he sailed between San Francisco and Puget Sound delivering ties for the San Francisco and San Jose Railroads.

In the fall of 1865 Thomas rented a tract of land in Mountain View, California. His knowledge of farming was limited and I found an article that told of the amusement of his neighbors the first time Thomas tried to hitch his team of horses. The sailing knots he used were insufficient to the task. He was quick to learn and he spent the rest of his life as a successful rancher and breeder of Percheron horses in Milpitas.

[German Barque "Pamir" – The last commercial sailing ship to carry cargo round Cape Horn, in 1949. Launched 1905, Sank 1957]

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One hundred and fifty four years after my great-grandfather sailed around the horn to San Francisco I had the opportunity to experience the journey myself. I began to think about what Thomas' journey might have been like. I wondered if my experience would give me a better understanding of what he had experienced.

This February, my wife and I flew to Buenos Aires, Argentina to begin our journey. Our ship was large and had all the modern navigation amenities on board. I needed to keep the probable size of Thomas' ship in mind during this voyage.

As we left the Falkland Island and began sailing toward the Cape the sea became increasingly rough. The winds were 40 knots and the waves kept increasing in height. The Captain announced that a severe storm from Antarctica would cross our path if we went around the horn. The wind at the Cape was already at 50 knots and the waves were 30 feet. Our ship changed course and entered the Straights of Magellan to sail the Inland Passage to the Pacific Ocean. The water was still rough but it was a great deal safer.

This trip helped me better understand what my great grandfather Russell may have experienced when he sailed around Cape Horn. I also have increased respect for his courage and fortitude.

The Act Under Which They Applied

Submitted by Kathy Mauzey from tipoftheday.blogspot.com Posted: 05 Dec 2014 12:29 PM PST

If your ancestor qualified for a military benefit (pension, bounty land, etc.) have you read the text of the act under which he qualified? There may have been certain service or age requirements that had to be met in order to qualify. The same is true if your ancestor's widow received a pension. Not all widows qualified and learning what widows did qualify under the act under which your ancestor applied may tell you something about your ancestor. Assuming that they weren't lying on their application.

GEALOGY RESEARCH SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

~Mary Jo McQueen <mcqueenmaryjo@aol.com>

Special presentation this month will be Barbara Taylor, who will give a demonstration on how to use Facebook for Genealogy.

The Genealogy Special Interest Group will meet on **Friday, January 9, 10:00 – 12:00**, in the Saddleback Room at the Mission Viejo Civic Center. This group provides a place for members to learn, share and “talk genealogy”. Here, members will be able to delve more deeply into their family research and, perhaps, scale a “brick wall”. Members are invited to attend one, some or all of the monthly meetings.

No need to make a reservation.

MAC USERS GROUP (MUG)

~Mary Jo McQueen <mcqueenmaryjo@aol.com>

The Mac Users Group (MUG) will meet on **January 16, 10:00 – 12:00**, in the Saddleback Room at the Mission Viejo Civic Center. We will meet monthly on the third Friday of each month. This interest group is for members with Apple Desk Top Computers, Laptops, iPads or iPhones. The main focus is genealogy research and software.

Member Newsletter Submission Acceptance

~Gary Schwarz - Editor

- Newsletter Article submissions should be received by the Wednesday after the monthly meeting.
- An article should be a text or MS Word document attachment, emailed to the editor and have a Subject line: “SOCCGS Newsletter Article – article title or description” e.g. **Subject: SOCCGS Newsletter Article – “Changing My Search Strategy Helped Me Find My Grandpa John”**.
- A typewriter hardcopy article will be accepted, but will be delayed for digitization.
- The use of “Georgia” font of size 11 is requested but not mandatory for acceptance.
- The use of special line spacing or boxes is discouraged, because it doesn’t fit the format of the newsletter and has to be removed to prevent problems with the print at the printer.
- Examples of typical acceptable articles received might include but are not limited to: information about a website new to a member that helped in their research; how a member made a new connection in their research; a one or two page biography of one of a members ancestors (An attached digitized image of a photograph, painting or drawing can be embedded in any submission); a description of a genealogical trip that proved to be fruitful to a members research; a special technique a member uses in their research that they feel might be beneficial to fellow researchers; a feature of genealogical software that helps a member in working on their genealogy.

Free California Newspaper Search Website (<http://cdnc.ucr.edu/>)

~Post by Barbara Taylor on SOCCGS Research FaceBook Page
Newspapers and Dates Searchable

[Amador Ledger (Jackson, 1900-1911)
Antelope Valley Political Observer (Palmdale, 2010-2012)
Beach and Bay Press (San Diego, 2007-2010)
Belvedere Citizen / Eastside Journal (Los Angeles, 1980)
Black Voice News (Riverside, 2006)
California Crusader News (Los Angeles, 2010)
California Farmer and Journal of
Useful Sciences (San Francisco, 1855-1880)
California Star & Californian (San Francisco, 1848)
California Star (San Francisco, 1847-1848)
Californian (Monterey, 1846-1848)
Coronado Tent City Daily Program (Coronado, 1903)
Corsair (Santa Monica, 1929-2011)
Daily Alta California (San Francisco, 1849-1891)
Eagle Rock Advertiser (Eagle Rock, 1933)
Eagle Rock Sentinel (Eagle Rock, 1910-1985)
Eastside Journal / Belvedere Citizen (Los Angeles, 1980)
El Sereno Star (Los Angeles, 1964)
Elevator (San Francisco, 1865-1898)
Highland Park Herald (Highland Park, Los Angeles, 1906-1907)

Highland Park News-Herald & Journal (Highland Park, Los Angeles, 1963-1988)
Highland Park Post-Dispatch (Highland Park, Los Angeles, 1941-1942)
Imperial Valley Press (Imperial, 1901-1911)
LA Downtown News (Los Angeles, 2011-2012)
La Jolla Village News Readers Choice Awards (San Diego, 2009)
La Jolla Village News (San Diego, 2007)
Livermore Herald (Livermore, 1877-1899)
Lompoc Journal (Santa Barbara, 1894-1918)
Los Angeles Herald (Los Angeles, 1873-1910)
Los Angeles Star (Los Angeles, 1851-1864)
Marin Journal (San Rafael, 1861-1920)
Marinscope (Sausalito, 2008)
Mariposa Gazette (Mariposa, 1861-1922)
Marysville Daily Appeal (Marysville, 1860-1876)
Marysville Daily Herald (Marysville, 1850-1858)
Mountain Echo (Fall River Mills, 2011)
Occidental (Los Angeles, 1952-1953)
Pacific Appeal (San Francisco, 1862-1880)
Pacific Rural Press (San Francisco, 1871-1922)

Peninsula Beacon (San Diego, 1999-2010)
Placer Times (Sacramento, 1849-1850)
Sacramento Daily Union (Sacramento, 1851-1899)
Sacramento Transcript (Sacramento, 1850-1851)
San Diego Downtown News (San Diego, 2009)
San Francisco Call (San Francisco, 1890-1913)
Santa Cruz Sentinel (Santa Cruz, 2008-2010)
Sausalito News (Sausalito, 1885-1957)
South Pasadena Journal (South Pasadena, 1988)
Trinity Journal (Weaverville, 2008)
Tulare County Record (Visalia, 1859)
Vestkusten (San Francisco, 1906-1916)
Visalia Weekly Delta (Visalia, 1859-1861)
Weekly Alta California (San Francisco, 1849)
Wide West (San Francisco, 1854-1858)]

Future Genealogy Events

Jan 05, 2015, 10-12:00-David Flint – English SIG – Saddleback Room MV City Hall

Jan 09, 2015, 10-12:00-Mary Jo McQueen- Genealogical. Research Sig; Sdlbk Rm, MV City Hall

Jan 10, 2015, San Diego Genealogical Society presents Josh Taylor Seminar, Info: <http://casdgs.org/>

Jan 15, 2015, 10-12:00-Arlene O'Donnell–Beginning Genealogy Class – Bill Price Rm, MV Library

Jan 15, 2015, 11-1:00-David Flint – Legacy Family Tree User Group – Sdlbk Rm, MV City Hall

Jan 27, 2015, 10-12:00-Jim Thordahl – Writing Life Stories – Sdlbk Rm, MV City Hall

Jan 31, 2015 – Geoff Rasmussen – WAGS seminar.

Mar 21, 2015 – Judy Russell, the “Legal Genealogist” – NSDCGS in Carlsbad.

Jul 15-19, 2015 – 45th Annual International Convention - German Russian Heritage Society – Bismarck, ND – Info: www.GRHS.org

Jul 12-19, 2015 – 2015 AHSGR International Convention – American Historical Society of Germans from Russia – Billings, Montana – Info: www.AHSGR.com

Truth is rarely pure and never simple.

~Oscar Wilde

-Like genealogical sources

SOC CGS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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SOC CGS Website @ <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~casoccg/>

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**SOC CGS Research Center, located at the
Mission Viejo Library, Marguerite Parkway at La Paz, (949) 470-8498
SOC CGS 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