

# Saddleback Valley Trails

## South Orange County California Genealogical Society

Vol. 24 No. 1

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

January 2017

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 year, joint membership \$25. SOCCGS is not affiliated with the LDS Family History Center.



January 21, 2017

“ War of 1812”

Presented by Linda Serna

“War of 1812” tells the story of the War of 1812, one of America's forgotten wars, and broadens our understanding of this time in history. It includes people and places, as well as occurrences, and is rounded out with interesting trivia to make the story come alive. It is social history rather than how to research.

**About the Speaker:** Linda Serna has been involved with genealogy in researching and writing family stories for over 35 years. She was a consulting genealogist for the first season of the PBS Genealogy Roadshow program. She is currently Treasurer for the Southern California Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists (SCCAPG), and a member of the Genealogical Speakers Guild (GSG). Her interests include history, writing, and traveling. She is fascinated with seeing how individual family stories fit in and make up the fabric of history.

Meeting Place: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., 27976 Marguerite Parkway at Hillcrest Dr., behind the LDS Church, Mission Viejo.

**Mini-Class 9:15-9:45 before the January Monthly Meeting – Arlene O'Donnell will give a presentation on “Research tips on the road and at the library.” All mini-classes are held in the classroom to the left of the kitchen.**

### Membership Renewal

Please see your newsletter mailing label for the month and year your membership dues are payable. The date is directly after your name. **If your renewal date is 1/2017** (most of our members will have this date) then renewals are due by January 2017. For those members who joined after January, dues are payable by the anniversary of the month they joined. When your dues are payable, the label will be highlighted. (Disregard the date and T number in the upper right corner of the label as it is a postal code.) The renewal form is on Page 7.

## President's Message

By Bill Bluett

Well folks, the New Year is here! 2017 has arrived. I feel honored to be your president once again. I have to say that it is interesting as to how this came about. So, I'll briefly share that story with you. At our September monthly meeting, I overheard a couple of our "Nominating Committee" members talking about having a difficult time finding someone to serve as president for the 2017-2018 years. So, I thought I would make an amusing remark to them. I said "Well, if someone would like to take over as treasurer (not thinking that anyone would jump at the opportunity), I might consider the opening for society president". Little did I realize that they would talk to our current president, David Flint, and that he would accept the position as treasurer for the years 2017 - 2018. So, here we are! David Flint is your new treasurer and I will serve as your president for the next two years. It is a privilege to serve such a thriving organization. Our membership continues to hover around the 300 mark and so many of you are involved in our society functions, such as, serving as docents, attending Special Interest Group classes, assisting with our annual seminar, and some of you travel to Salt Lake City with our organized group for a week of rewarding research. These are just a few of the many areas that each of you support. Thank you all for helping to make our society such a success.

Now, I would like to challenge you with a few NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS for 2017:

1. Check your newsletter mailing label. Is your membership due in January - or later this year?
2. Visit our Genealogy Research Center at the Mission Viejo Library at least twice a month.
3. Use a historic newspaper website (at the library) to find an article about an ancestor.
4. Share that "find" at our monthly meeting or write an article for our newsletter.
5. Plan on utilizing one of our monthly "safari" trips to do genealogy research.
6. Write a story about an ancestor and share it with the monthly "Writing Class Group".
7. Sign up on the "hospitality" clip board to bring refreshments for a monthly meeting.
8. Attend one of our Special Interest Group classes (SIG) or the Legacy Users Group.
9. Consider becoming a "docent" or a "substitute docent" at the library.
10. Go to the SOCCGS website and join our Facebook Discussion Group.

Actually, I believe that each of you are capable of fulfilling all of the above. We have many classes of instruction that are offered to give you an opportunity to broaden your knowledge as it is related to genealogy research and to help you overcome any of those "brick walls" that may be lingering. Please take advantage of the areas that might be of interest to you. Taking all things into consideration, I believe this will be another exciting year for our society. I thank you and our Board of Directors thanks you for the continuing support that you provide as an active member. I hope that you have an enjoyable and successful year in all your research endeavors.

### Safari News

~Bill Bluett

On January 25th, 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 to find a listing of 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 across the street from the library. Don't forget to bring \$\$ for your driver. Make your reservation with Bill Bluett. [billbluett@cox.net](mailto:billbluett@cox.net)

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

There are some names that are used for towns in several different states. Is it possible that an informant on a record got the town right but the state wrong?

## December Holiday Meeting and Brunch

~Bill Bluett

Approximately 70 folks attended our annual holiday gathering and enjoyed hot cider, lemonade, meat and eggplant lasagna, bread, and salad. This year our meal was catered by “Fratello’s Italian Grille” in San Clemente. Servers in the kitchen were **Barbara Heebner** and **Bunny Smith**. **Marilyn Kowalski** and **Diane Wahrman** assisted in setting up the kitchen and the dessert and display tables that were located in the gymnasium. A wonderful assortment of desserts was provided by your Board of Directors. Many members brought canned goods to be delivered to the South County Outreach Food Bank. We thank the **Kowalski** family for getting these items to the food bank. There were a number of items on display for folks to look at including scrapbooks, a quilt, a painting, and our 2016 Society Historian Book. The displays included: the return of **Victoria Crayne’s** beautiful quilt depicting the scenic countryside her grandparents lived in as well as her husband **Ed’s** painting of a horse drawn sleigh in the woods. **David Flint** again shared his scrapbook collection of interesting Christmas cards from past years. **Sheryl Lyman** returned with her scrapbook she put together for “Aunt Ruby” – “the competitive cowgirl”. Also, **Sheryl** told us the story of her grandfather’s encounter with two brothers who had shot and killed a sheriff and his posse and were fleeing to Mexico. In the process, they ran into “grandpa” and needed money. So, he paid them cash for a 30/30 rifle they had in their possession and the two brothers were on their way. Later, the killers were caught before they made it to Mexico. **Sheryl** displayed a scrapbook she has depicting the whole story. And, the 30/30 rifle is now in her possession! She would have brought the rifle for “show and tell”, but, thought it might raise a few eyebrows if she walked into the LDS Church with it. Thanks to each member who brought items to share and display with our group.

Prior to all the activities and brunch, President **David Flint** hosted a brief General Meeting, then introduced **Francie Kennedy** to induct our “new officers” for the 2017-2018 years: **Bill Bluett**, President, **Arlene O’Donnell**, Vice-President, **Pat Weeks**, Recording Secretary, **Marilyn Kowalski**, Correspondence Secretary, and **David Flint**, Treasurer. Overall, a great time was had by all at our holiday gathering. Thank you to all who helped “set up” and “take down” all the tables and chairs for our holiday event. With that, I would like to wish each of you a “**Very Happy New Year.**” Hope to see you all at our January meeting.

### Gayle Meldau Appointed Publicity Chairman

~David Flint

At the December general membership meeting (our holiday luncheon meeting) the members voted to approve a change in the Society’s bylaws. The change eliminated the previous position of Public Relations/Webmaster on the board, and replaced it with two new positions of Webmaster and Publicity Chairman.

**Gayle Meldau** has been appointed to fill the new Publicity chairman position, and will join the Executive Board in January. Gayle has been a SOCCGS member since November 2015 after retiring from her position of Public Services Manager with the Mission Viejo Library. She is very familiar with the activities of our Society and has a good working relationship with the library. We welcome Gayle to the board in this new position.

### Are You Interested in English Genealogy?

On January 27 David Flint will present a special program on genealogy research in England for our Fourth Friday class. This program will provide an overview of the three main record groups you will most likely use when doing genealogy research in England: Census records, Civil Registration records and Church records. Each of these record types covers a different time period ranging from 1538 to the present, and each type of record can provide information about your ancestors in England. The program will compare the different types of records with illustrations of the content, historical context, and some websites to access them online. A printed handout will be provided.

If you have thought about starting work on your English ancestors, or are currently doing English genealogy research, why not come and hear this overview program presented by the leader of our England special interest group? **The class will meet on Friday, January 27 from 10:00 a.m. to noon in the Saddleback Room at the Mission Viejo City Hall.** Please register in advance with David Flint [davidflint@cox.net](mailto:davidflint@cox.net) if you plan to attend.

## **SOCCGS Research Center: Feature of the Month**

**New in the library:** The Genealogy Research Center in our Mission Viejo Library has beautiful and comfortable new chairs at the patron computer desks! Come on over and see how terrific they are. Helpers assembling them were **Mike Bresnan, Judy Davin, Herb Abrams, Gary Schwarz, and David Flint.**

### **On the Docent Desk:**

**“Early California Atlas, Southern Edition”** by R. N. Preston. This atlas has maps from 1830 to 1928 and early photographs. The 1885 Postal map is a postal route map showing post offices, intermediate distances and mail routes in operation in California as of October 1, 1885. Many changes are evidenced throughout this collection as one studies the development of California as a state.

**“Goin’ West: A record of some who went west 1830-1880,” Vol 1-11**, by Richard and Alice Nelson (copyright 1987). There are over 2000 emigrant diaries and journals that have been published or scattered in manuscript form around the country in public or private libraries. The purpose of “Goin’ West” is to accomplish a search of the sources and record emigrant names and some identifying information so that tentative family “matches” can be made.

### **2017 Salt Lake City Trip Update**

~David Flint

Now that the holidays are behind you, how would you like to spend a whole week immersed in your personal genealogy research? We still have some rooms available for our 2017 Salt Lake City trip (April 23-30, 2017). Why not make a reservation to join us on our week-long research trip to the Family History Library? The cost of the trip covers seven nights at the Salt Lake Plaza Hotel, right next door to the library. A deposit of \$100 per person will reserve your room, and final payment is due by February 15.

We have lots of things planned during our week in Salt Lake City. Full details about the trip, including a reservation form, are posted on the SOCCGS website. Check the website for additional information. Cost of the trip for 2017:

Double Occupancy: Standard Room - \$475 per person; Deluxe Room - \$525 per person

Single Occupancy: Standard Room - \$800 per person; Deluxe Room - \$875 per person

If you have any questions, please contact David Flint [davidflint@cox.net](mailto:davidflint@cox.net).

### **WORLD WAR II BENEFIT**

To Benefit the United Service Organization (USO) in Phoenix, Arizona

By Patricia Ann Dean Christiansen

Circa: June 1945 Locale: Westward Ho Hotel, Phoenix, Arizona, USA

When my mother, **Rebecca Irene Shultz Dean**, my sisters **Barbara, Nancy** and I moved to Phoenix, Arizona, in 1943 there was a drastic change in our circumstances. Mother was no longer a stay-at-home mom and was working at a military installation, Luke Air Force Base ... she drafted flight plans for the pilots and air traffic controllers. Each air strip needed a series of schematic drawings covering flights entering or leaving the jurisdiction, the time of day and the type of aircraft lifting off or landing. If an emergency situation erupted such as a plane crash, a damaged landing strip, or an aircraft on fire ... there had to be a go-to-plan in place.

For a time, my sisters and I attended different schools; Nancy, the youngest went to a primary school; and my sister Barbara and I were in the same elementary school. Schools ran from eight or eight-thirty in the morning to four o'clock in the afternoon. There was lag time between the end of school and the time that our mother came home from work. She was in a share-the-ride transportation program and was almost the last person to be dropped off ... not at our front door ... but over a mile away, rain or shine, at a designated pick-up/drop-off point.

After a few months, it became evident to our mother that my siblings and I had too much time on our hands and one or the other of us was not always sticking to the rules of the house. Hence, we were enrolled in dance classes. That was a fantastic windfall for us ... we loved this diversion and our time each week was spent in learning to tap dance, character dancing that included the Hawaiian hula, Russian Cossack, or Oriental, also acrobatics, and ballet classes.

By the time that I was in high school, I had been an assistant teacher for several years and worked mostly with the youngest students in the J.R. Wolfe School of Dance. Our classes were held in rented facilities in the I.O.O.F. Hall (International Order of Odd Fellows) in downtown Phoenix.

In 1945 (I had just graduated from eighth grade), **Gene Autry** of western cowboy movie fame, organized a charitable dinner and program at the **Westward Ho Hotel**. Autry owned property and businesses in Phoenix ... of those businesses one was radio station KOOL situated in a suite just off the lobby of the hotel ... and a part interest in the Westward Ho Hotel itself. This is the same Gene Autry who wrote "Here Comes Santa Claus" and recorded "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer." [Source: Wikipedia]

Because of Autry's prominence in the movie industry as well as the private sector, the ballroom of the hotel was filled to capacity with men and women of means and celebrity who had been invited, coerced or shamed into attending and were expected to donate the thousands of dollars needed to enhance the USO facility that was located in Phoenix. The military presence during World War II in Phoenix had created a need for a recreational venue where service personnel could spend some of their R&R. They could attend a religious ceremony on Sundays, get home cooked food to eat, make a three-minute long distance phone call to their family for no charge, and dance with a pretty girl ... many times to live music on the weekends.

Autry's staff arranged a program with **Lou Costello**, of Abbot and Costello fame, as the master of ceremonies and various performers ... some notable ... and others like me who were not ... were recruited to entertain. My mentor, Jerry Wolfe, director of the dance school I attended, was my accompanist. My specialty was a stylized Russian Cossack Dance that was traditionally performed by men. Put a slim, young girl in a glittery costume, have her perform an intricate-looking or different routine that appears challenging and you have something showy that gets the hands clapping and hopefully the donations rolling in.

There were two parts of the dance that took skill and stamina: The "wind-the-clock" step and kazotskys; the kazotskys came at the end of the routine and were extremely climatic. For the kazotskys I would look as though I was sitting on my heels as I did 32 kazotsky kicks and another 32 for an encore, if warranted. This particular evening, some of the front row, more inebriated male guests, in their tuxedos, tried to do the kicks and fell over to an uproar of laughter by others; Costello "fined" them for being disruptive. Anything that occurred was a cue for Costello to charge the offender a fine that garnered money for the cause. Ordering a drink too loudly, leaving your table to use the restroom, or failing to applaud enthusiastically enough for the act that had just performed put the offender in the spotlight and the only way out was a cash donation. As the evening wore on and the level of alcohol consumption elevated ... the penalties also continued to mount.

Lou Costello called me and Jerry Wolfe back to the stage and offered to donate 100 silver dollars if I could do 100 kazotskys (Cossack kicks). I assured him and my accompanist that I could ... and I did. After a nice four-bar entro, I "sat on my heels" and did my specialty kicks as the audience did the count. I'm glad that I was warmed up and young and foolhardy ... and could accomplish this fete. Some of the members of the audience threw silver dollars onto the stage at the conclusion to add to Lou Costello's donation. Costello took my hand, the one not holding my tambourine (used to emphasize each kick) and raised me to a standing position. He may have sensed that I was feeling the "pain" of the demonstration. Truth be told, I could hardly walk the next day.

The renovations and upgrading of the USO facility were completed and the war ended a few months later in September. There was and still is a need of a place where military personnel can go to have a place to relax when lay-overs occur during travel. Today, the Phoenix USO is a large room with comfortable chairs and vending machines holding complimentary snacks located at Sky Harbor Airport. The smell and taste of home cooked food and dancing with a pretty girl to live music are no longer available. The wartime, historic, USO is a memory but a brief respite from military travel at the airport is available for those who qualify.

### **Whittier Area Genealogical Society (WAGS) 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Seminar Saturday January 28, 2017**

**Speaker:** Michael D. Lacopo, DVM is a retired small-animal veterinarian. He takes a scientific approach to his research as he does to his profession.

**Topics:** 1) More Than the Census – Our Families Did exist Between Those Ten Year Intervals  
2) Estate Files: Are You Getting The Most Out of Them?  
3) Incorporating Social History Into Your Research  
4) Finding Dead Ancestors is Easy: Finding Living Relatives Can Be a Challenge!

**Registration** by January 21 – WAGS members \$35; Non-member \$40; Lunch \$12 [www.WAGSWhittier.org](http://www.WAGSWhittier.org)

## January Free Webinars

**Legacy** is presenting several free webinars in January:

**Jan 4** – Strategies to Find the Most Challenging Ancestors with Autosomal DNA Data – James M. Baker

**Jan 11** – Tips and Tricks to Organizing Your Genealogy – Shannon Combs-Bennett

**Jan 13** – Legacy Family Tree for Complete Beginners – Geoff Rasmussen

**Jan 17** – Writing Up Your Research – Michael J. Leclerc

**Jan 18** – Create a Free Google Earth Historic Map Collection for Your Research – Lisa Louise Cooke

**Jan 25** – Playing Nice in the Genealogy Sandbox – Thomas MacEntee

**Feb 1** – Photography for Genealogy – Nicka Smith

Register at [www.familytreewebinars.com](http://www.familytreewebinars.com). If you miss the live Legacy webinar, recordings are in the archives and free to watch for the first 7 days after the broadcast.

### **Southern California Genealogical Society:**

**Jan 7** – Chain Migration from Ulster and One Name Studies – Nick Cimino

**Jan 18** – Who Lived Next Door? Using the FAN Club in Your Research – Cari A. Taplin

**Feb 4** - Finding Dirk: Insanity in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century – Jill Morelli

Register at [www.scsgenealogy.com](http://www.scsgenealogy.com), click on programs and webinars.

### **Illinois Genealogical Society (ISGS)**

**Jan 10** – Finding Dirk: Records of Insane Asylums in Illinois – Jill Morelli

Registration: <http://bit.ly/ISGSWebinars>

**FamilySearch** – For a list of monthly classes and webinars visit:

[http://familysearch.org/locations/library\\_class\\_schedule](http://familysearch.org/locations/library_class_schedule)

**Ancestry.com** - Check out Ancestry Academy for free courses

## QUERIES

### **Subj: William Washington Kennedy and Elizabeth Davis Parks**

Seeking information on **William Washington Kennedy** b. 1820 VA, d. 1874 Saline Co. MO; and **Elizabeth Davis Parks** b. 1831 MO, d. Mar 1864 in Saline Co MO and/or marriage of William and Lizzie abt 1855 possibly Saline Co MO.

Patti Liebenow E-Mail [pbashor@hotmail.com](mailto:pbashor@hotmail.com)

Members can send queries by email to [SOCCGSNL@att.net](mailto:SOCCGSNL@att.net), please type “SOCCGS Query” in subject line. See the December 2016 Saddleback Valley Trails for guidelines.

**CORRECTION:** In the December 2016 “Queries” the e-mail address for Kathie Mauzey should be [famhistory@juno.com](mailto:famhistory@juno.com)

## Personal Civil War Documents Online

The James I. Robertson Jr. Civil War Sesquicentennial Legacy Collection documents the people of our nation and commonwealth during the Civil War era as told through **letters, diaries, photographs, and other manuscripts held in private collections**. Between 2011 and 2015, Virginians across the commonwealth eagerly shared their historic collections from the Civil War era through a free digitization and worldwide access project established by a partnership of the Virginia Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War Commission, Virginia's local Sesquicentennial committees, and the Library of Virginia. Originally known as the Civil War 150 Legacy Project, the collection was renamed at the close of Virginia's 150th commemoration in honor of the noted Civil War scholar and Commission member Dr. James I. Robertson Jr. <http://www.virginiamemory.com/collections/cw150>

### **Future Genealogy Events**

**Jan 6, 2017, 10-12:00** – Sue Naegeli - Genealogy Research SIG – Saddleback Room, MV City Hall

**Jan 7, 2017, 11:00 - OCCGS** – Barbara Randall – Nil SÁ© Blarney (Itâ€™s Not Blarney): Irish Records, Huntington Beach Library. For information: [occgs.com](http://occgs.com)

**Jan 9, 2017, 10-12:00**-David Flint - England SIG - Saddleback Room, MV City Hall

**Jan 18, 2017, 10-12:00**-Gary Schwarz – German SIG – Bill Price Rm, MV Library

**Jan 19, 2017 10-12:00**-Arlene O'Donnell - Beginning Genealogy Class – Bill Price Rm, MV Library

**Jan 19, 2017 10:00-12:00 New Time**-David Flint - Legacy Users Group - Sadlbnk Rm. MV City Hall

**Jan 20, 2017, 10-12:00**-Myrna Hamid - Ireland SIG – Saddleback Room, MV City Hall

**Jan 22, 2017, 1:30-3:30 – OCJGS** - Warren Blatt – Introduction to Polish Jewish Genealogy, Temple Bat Yahm, 1011 Camelback St., Newport Beach. For information [www.ocjgs.org](http://www.ocjgs.org)  
**Jan 24, 2017 -10-12:00**-Jim Thordahl - Writing Family History Stories - Sadlbc Rm., MV City Hall  
**Jan 24, 9:30 – NSDCGS** – Program Meeting with Mary Van Orsdol, Carlsbad, [www.nsdcgs.org](http://www.nsdcgs.org)  
**Jan 27, 2017, 10-12:00** – 4th Friday Class – David Flint – Overview of Genealogy Research in England  
**Jan 28, 2017 – WAGS Seminar** – Michael D. Lacopo, DVM, featured speaker, [www.WAGSWhittier.org](http://www.WAGSWhittier.org)  
**Feb 3, 2017, 10-12:00** – Sue Naegli – Genealogy Research SIG – Saddleback Room, MV City Hall  
**Feb 4, 2017, 11:00 – OCCGS** – Dick Humphrey – Expanding Facts Into Family History Stories & Find A Grave for the Family Historian, Huntington Beach Library. For information: [ocgs.com](http://ocgs.com)  
**Mar 4, 2017, 8:00-3:30, OCCGS Bash** – with CeCe Moore, Huntington Beach Library, [www.ocgs.com](http://www.ocgs.com)  
**Mar 11, 2017, 8:00-3:30** - Desert Genealogy Clubs Present Crista Cowan The Barefoot Genealogist. For info and registration: [gf797af@verizon.net](mailto:gf797af@verizon.net)

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 Activity Calendar – Pam Steube <[mzpam@cox.net](mailto:mzpam@cox.net)>

**SOC CGS Website:** [www.socccgs.org](http://www.socccgs.org)



**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](mailto:cmvgs@netzero.net)**

**SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY CALIFORNIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**  
Membership/Renewal Application

( ) New      1 Year:      ( ) Individual, \$20.00      ( ) Joint Membership at same address, \$25.00  
 ( ) Renewal      Membership Number \_\_\_\_\_      Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_      Make Check payable to: SOC CGS

Mail **with application** to: SOC CGS, P.O. Box 4513, Mission Viejo, CA 92690-4513

I do not wish to share my personal information with other members.