

# Saddleback Valley Trails

## South Orange County California Genealogical Society

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

March 2013

**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: If your newsletter label is highlighted we have not yet received payment of your 2013 dues. Payment must be received no later than the March meeting in order for you to continue receiving the newsletter.

**March 16, 2013**

### **Gadgets and Tools Helping This Genealogist - Part II**

Presented by

**Gary Schwarz**

Look at gadgets or tools that you may already have in new ways to aid in genealogy research. Have you missed getting digitized images from a distant relative who has those old family photos or documents? See ways to not miss those opportunities again. How to make DVDs for sharing interviews with family from videos made with your camcorder or video camera. What gadgets can help you plan and make your genealogical research trips? See some demos of a few gadgets and tools that you may wish to use in the future to capture, document, and help gather and record sources for your research.

About the Speaker: Gary Schwarz is the current editor of the SOCCGS Newsletter and a docent at the Mission Viejo Library Genealogical Section. Gary is a member of SOCCGS, OCCGS, GRHS, and AHSGR and has been doing family genealogical research for twenty-five years.

**Safari News**

~Bill Bluett

Our destination on Wednesday, March 27th, will be the Orange Family History Center located on South Yorba Street in the City of Orange. You can check out their website for information regarding their collection holdings, [www.orangefhc.info/coll.html](http://www.orangefhc.info/coll.html). We'll be leaving the LDS Church parking lot at 9:30 A.M. Keep in mind that it is a couple of miles distance for eating out if you do not bring a lunch. We will not stop for dinner on the way home. Don't forget \$\$ for your driver. Contact Bill Bluett at (949) 492-9408 to reserve a spot.

**I developed this incredible guilt about not being your usual little housewife, and my sinuses started acting up.**

~Bonnie Franklin (1944-2013)

*-Genealogists sinuses act up from musty books as well as guilt about procrastination in citing sources.*

## **Presidents Message**

~Francie Kennedy

Have you visited FamilySearch lately?

Since I haven't cleaned off my desk yet, I've been headquartered on the couch with my laptop for genealogical research. I have had DSL wifi for a year – I think I was the last person on my block still using dial-up – so I am free to sit anywhere now!

[FamilySearch.org](http://FamilySearch.org) and the jillions of new records put online each week always gets a mention by the Genealogy Guys (Guys) in their [podcast](#), and it had been a while since I checked it out, so I did some exploring recently. To sum it up: if you were not on this website yesterday, check it out today! Some of the features of the site are only visible if you sign in. Click on the link in the top right corner and follow the steps to create a free account. Besides checking the wiki for information about the state or country of interest, look at books, browse record collections by location, and explore the newly-accessible family trees! [Note! [FamilySearch.org](#) and [podcast](#) above and FamilySearch Blog in the last paragraph are hyperlinks in this month's Newsletter accessible at the SOCCGS Website in the Newsletter Archive.]

The newest of these categories for non-LDS users is the ability to look at family trees. Once you sign in as a registered user, a [new link](#) will be visible at the top of the home page: "Family Tree". For the past several years, this database has been available only to church members, who have been verifying, merging and tidying the trees before a general public release. As always, use these for clues, and verify the leads you get through other sources. (Another link on the home page is "Genealogies", which used to be a link called "Trees". These are linked pedigrees submitted by users over many years, and include the former Ancestral File and Pedigree Resource File.) You can keep busy for quite a while just exploring these new Family Trees!

I investigated the enormous book collection being digitized by FamilySearch last year when I gave the presentation about online books to our club. I just heard from the Guys that the books and microfilm at the Family History Library will be included in Worldcat's catalog. One advantage of this is, if you find a book of interest in the Family History Library catalog, and it has not yet been digitized, you can look for a copy in a library collection closer to home. Needless to say, books are being scanned at a rate of knots, so check the "Books" link frequently.

To see what record collections are available by location, scroll down to the bottom of the home page and click on the country or continent of interest, and then use the lists on the left side to narrow down the place and time. This is a quick way to see what has been added, updated, or indexed recently. Don't be intimidated by collections that have a link saying "browse images" – you won't have to look at every page of thousands. Collections are subdivided into logical increments, so you can zoom in to a section that interests you very efficiently.

To stay informed about records of interest to you, and be inspired by new developments on the site, check the [FamilySearch Blog](#) available through a link at the top of any page at familysearch.org. It is rich with good stories, fascinating detail, rich history, and lists of juicy records being put up online!

### **February Meeting**

**CeCe Moore** demystified DNA for us at the February meeting! She clarified the types of DNA, who has them, and how they are used in genealogy. So many advances have been made in this science in just the past four years that "genetic genealogy" has grown in applicability to include us all! CeCe is an engaging expert who regaled us with anecdotes and personal discoveries along with a review of the biology behind it all. CeCe's information was so compelling that the audience stayed in the room for questions long after the presentation was finished. You can keep up with CeCe and the entire topic through her web site: [www.yourgeneticgenealogist.com](http://www.yourgeneticgenealogist.com).

**Tina Murtha, Karyn Schumaker, Pat Weeks and Barbara Taylor** supplied delicious refreshments for our break, which were enjoyed very much. Thank you very much!

### **2013 - Southern California Genealogical Society Webinars**

The live broadcast of each session is open to the public and FREE to all (space is limited to 1000 attendees). Webinars are recorded, archived, and available for the next twelve months day or night to SCGS members, in the members-only section of the SCGS website.

Info and Schedule: <http://scsgsgenealogy.com/extension-series/jes2013.html>

## **Brick Walls & Genealogy Research Suggestions**

~Bill Bluett

**Patti Jo Liebenow** asked how to go about getting any birth certificates from Italy. Someone suggested checking GOGGLE first for possible guidance.

**David Flint** shared the name of a definitions book with the group that could be a handy tool for genealogy research. It is "A to Zax - A Comprehensive Dictionary for Genealogists and Historians" Third Edition by Barbara Jean Evans published by Hearthside Press. I think I got it on Amazon but it might have been on Leland Meitzler's website. \$14.95.

**Barbara Taylor** has a photo with handwriting on the back in German. She would like to have it translated. Jack Naylor suggested contacting our member Christina Hurst Loeffler.

**Melissa Cattell** wanted to know if there is any way she could find her great-great grandmother's school or teaching records. She was born around 1820 and was from New York.

**Karyn Schumaker** has been able to acquire ancestor school records from North Carolina and other locations. She said it is amazing the records that some schools, colleges and universities may have available.

### Legacy User's Group

~ David Flint

The SOCCGS Legacy User's Group meets at the Mission Viejo Library from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month in the Bill Price meeting room. 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. This is an informal meeting where you can share ideas with other people who use Legacy. The meeting includes demonstrations on how to perform various functions with the Legacy program, as well as time to address specific questions or problems from those attending the meeting. Feel free to drop in and out of the group as you like. The next meeting is at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 21 at the Mission Viejo Library. See you there.

### **Membership**

Former member **Mary Jo Vincent**, who lives in Fullerton, recently reinstated her membership. Welcome back Mary Jo. New member, **Mike Bresnan's** name was misspelled in the February newsletter. Sorry, Mike.

Five guests attended the February meeting: Vanda Bresnan, Mission Viejo; Angela Grillo, San Juan Capistrano; Larry and Penny Irion, Laguna Woods and Resendo Velderrain, San Clemente.

We extend to them an invitation to join SOCCGS, so that they may take advantage of all we offer to those searching their family history.

A total of 71 members signed in at the meeting.

### **Library Docent**

~Bunny Smith

Attention Anyone Who Wants to Volunteer at the Library!

This is a great way to get your genealogy on track with a regular schedule at the library. It doesn't matter if you have not been trained, that can be arranged. If you are interested please contact Bunny Smith (See Newsletter page 7 for contact info.)

#### GENEALOGY DOCENT SCHEDULE

Sunday	1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Monday	10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday	10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday	10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Thursday	10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Friday	1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Saturday	10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
(3rd Saturday)	1:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.)

## Happy Times at GenealogyBank.com

~Sheila Larson

One Saturday recently I decided to check out the Genealogy Bank subscription at the Mission Viejo Library. I wasn't looking for anything in particular that day, but my great grandparents, **Amos and Lelia Lee**, lived in **Boise, Idaho** from about 1880 to 1915 and I wanted to see what I could find. I had copies of several articles from the "Idaho Daily Statesman" newspaper already that I had found through Ancestry.com. Also, a few years ago I had visited the Idaho State Archives and found all kinds of documents and newspaper articles on my family.

I was aware from reading the court documents that my great grandparents had a rather nasty divorce. Okay, very nasty. Really juicy stuff. If our ancestors only knew how much we are finding out about their lives (that they never wanted us to know).

Anyway, the search engine is really simple, and I started by typing in "Amos Lee," and asked that it search a 20-year time frame in Idaho newspapers. I got page after page of hits and they were legitimate. Plus, right off the bat, I was able to focus my search on the state where my person lived. I'm sure everyone has had the experience of searching newspapers on Ancestry.com and looking at "hits" that don't really apply at all (wrong name, wrong time frame). For whatever reason, their search engine isn't as good as Genealogy Bank and hasn't found near the amount of articles I was able to find that day.

Granted, this couple had more written about them in the newspaper than most, not only because of the scandalous divorce, but also because this Lee fellow was a gold miner, had a big strike and purchased several properties in Boise. So I ended up with a number of articles about him buying and selling properties and about each time he came to town with more gold to assay. I think my great grandmother read all these articles about the gold and set her sights on him. She got him, too, for awhile anyway. After the divorce, there was another article about how my great grandmother answered an ad for a bride in a Washington newspaper and was on her way to marry her 5<sup>th</sup> husband.

I also searched for my grandfather, **Hugo Larson**. He emigrated from **Sweden** in 1906 and married my grandmother, **Lelia Lee** (not the same Lelia Lee as above; it's her daughter) in 1915. I found a great little story describing how he appeared in court because he "just blew in from **Minnesota**," bought a bicycle and didn't realize he needed a light on his bike so he was fined one dollar. This great article provided the exact date he arrived in Boise and that he had come from Minnesota (like all good Swedes). I found another article about pickpockets making the rounds at the State Fair and my grandfather was relieved of \$25. As he was a baker in 1915, \$25 must have been a healthy sum in those days.

So, because the search engine is so good, I found articles I would never have thought to search for and didn't have to search through hits that weren't relevant to my family. I came away with 68 copies that day!

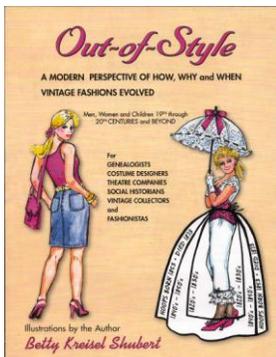
For the cost of 10 cents per page and a couple of hours at the library, it's well worth your time to do some searches on Genealogy Bank.

### New Book at Our Research Center

The author of this book, **Betty Kreisel Shubert**, has graciously donated a signed copy to SOCCGS. The book entitled, **Out-of-Style** is "A Modern Perspective Of How, Why and When Vintage Fashions Evolved". It includes information and sketches of clothing and hair styles for "Men, Women and Children 19<sup>th</sup> through 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries."

A testimonial for this book comes from Loretto (Lou) Szucs, who was our 2012 seminar presenter: "Your book will be a wonderful help to genealogy researchers everywhere."

Visiting the SOCCGS Genealogy Research Center to peruse this book may help you identify some old photographs



## **Subscription Genealogy Websites Available at the Mission Viejo Library Free of Charge**

~Bunny Smith

**Ancestry** - <http://www.ancestry.com> - A subscription-required database which searches many databases. Census records online for all census years, with an all-name index for 1850-1940, head of household index for 1790-1840. *Ancestry can be accessed, free of charge, by all computers on the library wifi network including, your laptops and the SOCCGS Computers (Service paid for by the Mission Viejo Library).*

**Heritage Quest** <http://www.heritagequestonline.com/hqoweb/library/do/index>- A subscription-required database available to Libraries, Schools and Societies. Census records 1790-1940. Head of household index for 1790-1820 & 1860-1920 with a partial index for 1930 and 1940. Over 25,000 books that can be read online, and then portions printed. This site also includes PERSI (The Periodical Source Index) and the Revolutionary War Pension Records. *Free of charge, on the SOCCGS Computers (Service paid for by SOCCGS).*

**WorldVitalRecords** - <http://www.worldvitalrecords.com> - A subscription-required service which includes multiple databases. *Free of charge, on the SOCCGS Computers (Service paid for by SOCCGS).*

**New England Ancestors** - <http://www.newenglandancestors.org/> - A subscription-required service hosted by The New England Historic Genealogical Society. Rich source of New England genealogy information. *Free of charge on the SOCCGS Computers (Service paid for by SOCCGS).*

**Vitalsearch** - <http://www.vitalsearch-worldwide.com/> - Birth, Death and Marriage records from various states. Early California records not available on Ancestry . *Free of charge, on the SOCCGS Computers (Service paid for by SOCCGS).*

**British Newspaper Archives** - <http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/> - A subscription-required service which has British newspapers mainly from the 18th and 19th centuries. *Free of charge, on the SOCCGS Computers (Service paid for by SOCCGS).*

**Newspaper Archive** - <http://www.newspaperarchive.com/> - A subscription required service which has newspapers from all 50 states & 10 international countries, some dating back to the early 1800s. The world's largest online newspaper database featuring over 120 million newspaper pages. Fully searchable. *Free of charge, on the SOCCGS Computers (Service paid for by SOCCGS).*

**GenealogyBank.com** - <http://www.genealogybank.com/> - A subscription required service which has Historical Newspapers (1690-2007). Also have an extensive Newspaper Obituary Collection (1977-current) as well as Historical Books (1801-1900) and Documents (1789-1984). The Social Security Death Index (1937-current) is also available on this site. Fully searchable. *Free of charge, on the SOCCGS Computers (Service paid for by SOCCGS).*

**Fold3.com** - <http://www.fold3.com/> - A subscription-required service which has scanned images of a huge number of documents. *Free of charge, on the SOCCGS Computers (Service paid for by SOCCGS).*

### **Articles for Our Newsletter**

~Gary Schwarz

Newsletter Article submissions should be submitted by the Wednesday after the monthly meeting. The articles should be a text or MS Word attachment, emailed to the editor and have a Subject line: "SOCCGS Newsletter Article – article title or description" e.g. "SOCCGS Newsletter Article – "Changing My Search Strategy Helped Me Find My Grandpa John". If you have a typewriter hardcopy article, I will accept that too, but it may take a while to get it digitized to go into the newsletter. Typical articles might include: information about a website new to you that helped in your research; how you made a new connection in your research; a one or two page biography of one of your ancestors (I will also place pictures in your article, if you attach a digitized image of photograph, painting or drawing in your submission); a description of a genealogical trip that proved to be fruitful to your research; a special technique you use in your research that you feel might be beneficial to fellow researchers; a feature of genealogical software that helps you in your genealogy.

### **Family Search News**

Family Search has a Beta Site open to church members only which may open to the general public sometime in the future which is linked to their Family Tree site: <http://familysearch.org/photos/>. The software has a great interface to store photos and identify people in them. Take a look at some good stuff to come.

## ***Genealogy on Your Smart Phone***

~David Flint

At our January 2013 meeting Gary Schwarz presented a program on technology tips and gadgets for the genealogist. One of the items that caught my interest was his demonstration of the Families app on his iPhone. My wife and I recently bought the new iPhone 5, and I was curious to see if I could actually get my genealogy files working on my new smart phone.

This operation has three steps. First, I downloaded the Families app from iTunes (or the App Store which is already on your iPhone) for \$14.95 and installed it on my iPhone. That took care of getting the app on my smart phone. Next, I needed to download an additional item on my PC to make it all work with my genealogy program. In step two - on my PC - I went to the Families website [www.telgen.co.uk/families](http://www.telgen.co.uk/families) to download Families Sync. This program is needed so that you can transfer your genealogy program files from your PC to your smart phone. Once this step was completed, it was a fairly simple process to get my Legacy family files on my iPhone. That is the third step - after you have the app on your smart phone and the download sync on your PC, you need to do a sync operation to transfer a copy of your genealogy files to the smart phone.

You can actually do the first two steps from the website by first connecting to [www.telgen.co.uk/families](http://www.telgen.co.uk/families) and following the instructions there. You can connect to the App Store from the website to download the Families app on your smart phone. You can then return to the website and click on "Download Families Sync" a little further down the left side of the page to complete the second step. Then you just complete the sync operation from your PC with your smart phone connected to the computer.

This app was developed by Malcolm Green in the U.K. and the website has a webinar you can watch on your computer to learn all about how to use this app. The app will run on iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad, and Android. It was developed to use the Legacy Family Tree program on a smart phone. Legacy users are familiar with the Sample family file that comes installed on Legacy for demonstration purposes. In Families there is also a sample file on the Kennedy family, which is interesting to view in its own right.

On the Families website there is a lot of helpful information to get you started. On their home page is a "How To" link that provides detailed instruction on "How to install Families Sync on your PC", "How to transfer your family file from the PC to iPhone, iPod Touch or iPad", and "How to transfer your family file from the PC to an Android device".

I found it very easy to get this app up and running on my smart phone. It transferred all of my photos and documents that were included in my Legacy program on the PC. And - for those of you who were interested in trying Legacy, but could not run it on Mac equipment - this may be the solution if you have the iPod Touch, iPad, or iPhone. I am having fun knowing that I have my full Legacy family file on my phone in my pocket. I am still learning how to use this new app and I will report back at another time on how it goes. Many thanks to Gary for introducing it to me.

## ***Ways and Means – Ralphs Community Contribution Program***

~Jim Thordahl

With apologies to David Letterman, here are the top five reasons I shop at Ralphs grocery store: (5) Ample parking; (4) Good food; (3) Nice people; (2) Great cookies; and the number **one (1)** reason I shop at Ralphs: Ralphs contributes to SOCCGS through their Community Contribution Program. Are you signed up? Contact Jim Thordahl at [jimandbonniethor@juno.com](mailto:jimandbonniethor@juno.com) or 949 492-5334.

## ***January Meeting***

**Gary Schwarz** presented a well thought-out program at the January meeting, with lots of step by step detail, titled "Technology Gadgets for Genealogy". Gary covered technology, equipment and gadgets ranging from cameras to scanners, and introduced us to optical mice and microscopic memory cards. We enjoyed hearing about all the ways Gary uses the equipment, including about a dozen apps for his smart phone! One tip he shared for getting sharp photos of documents, is to use the 2-second timer delay on your digital camera, so you can click the shutter and then hold very still, to avoid a blurry shot. Clever!

Refreshments were generously provided by **Margaret Luckman**, **Mary Jo Nuttall**, and **Patricia Yocky**, and facilitated by **Barbara Heebner** and **Sharon Keener**. Thank you to all!

**Corresponding Secretary Note**

~Marilyn Kowalski

Greeting and best wishes to all our SOCCGS folks! Do you know someone in our society family whose day would be a little better by receiving a card or a note to let them know we are thinking of them? As your Corresponding Secretary I invite you to call me: Marilyn Kowalski 949 586 7257 or email me: >ma\_Kowalski@sbcglobal.net< with the recipient’s name and address (if different from the SOCCGS membership roster) and reason for the card. I’ll send them a greeting from SOCCGS to meet their situation. **Friendship isn’t a big thing....It’s a million little things .**

**Animated Atlas**

~Jim Hill and Mary Lou Hill

This came around to us somehow many years ago. Now a friend has sent it to us again. We liked it so much that we transferred it to each new computer and even used it at a genealogy meeting at Mason City. Hope you like it as well!!! <http://www.animatedatlas.com/movie.html>

**2013 Seminars**

**16 March, 8:30am-4:00pm** – “Ulster Irish”, <http://scgsgenealogy.com> Seminar Southern California Genealogy Society- Burbank

**20 March, 7:00pm-9:30pm**- Pat Chavarria, “Using Maps for Genealogical Research”, Genealogical Society of North Orange County, <http://gsnocc.org>

**13 April, 8:00am – 3:30pm** – Spring Seminar - North San Diego Genealogical Society presents Thomas MacEntee on “The Traditional and the Technological”; email Tom Gordinier for more info: [tgordinier35@gmail.com](mailto:tgordinier35@gmail.com)

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**SOCCGS Website @ <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~casoccg/>**

**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