

Saddleback Valley Trails

South Orange County California Genealogical Society

Vol. 22 No. 06

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

June 2015

Editor: Kathie Mauzey

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

SOCCGS is not affiliated with the LDS Family History Center

June 20, 2015

"The Devil Is In The Details: Missed Minutiae Can Create Lineage Limbo"

Presented by
Jean Wilcox Hibben

It is easy to accept the information on most types of documents, believing it to be thorough, accurate, and containing all the necessary data. Don't be fooled. Our speaker will guide us through our research process and show just how easy it is to get on the wrong track! The meaning of abbreviations can change over time. Is the index the same as the original source? Come find out!

About the Speaker: Jean Wilcox Hibben, PhD, MA, CG, is the Director of the Corona Family History Center. She is Vice President of the Southern California Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists. Jean served as lead researcher for the 2013 season of the PBS television program *Genealogy Roadshow*. As a Board Certified Genealogist, with a Master's degree in speech communication and Doctorate in folklore, she is one of the most sought after speakers on genealogy.

Mini Class 9:15-9:45 before the June Monthly Meeting - Pat Weeks will talk about French Canadian research and how it affects American research. All Mini-Classes will now be held in the classroom to the left of the kitchen .

Safari News
~Bill Bluett

The **Huntington Beach Library** will be our destination for the June 24th safari. We will leave the LDS Church parking lot at 9:30 a.m. This library has a nice genealogy collection of over 18,000 books, maps, some micro-fiche, etc. They do not have computers for searching online in the genealogy area. So, you might bring a laptop if you have one. You may bring lunch or utilize the library sandwich, snack, and beverage area. Don't forget \$\$ for your driver. There are no plans for dinner on the way home. Contact Bill Bluett to reserve a spot. Go to their research page on the internet to find out additional information regarding their holdings at: www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/government/departments/library.

President's Message

By David Flint

One down, and many more to go. Our first trip to Salt Lake City as a society is now behind us, and I think it was a real success. With 40 members going to the Family History Library for a week-long research visit, a full half of them first-time visitors, we covered a lot of ground. Even some of the seasoned veterans of previous trips to Salt Lake City learned some new things about this clean, modern city and its world-famous library. We spent lots of time together at planned times during the week, although we did not all see each other every day. Each of us was scattered throughout the library building pursuing our own personal research goals. We were there to do genealogy research, but we also had some fun as well as work -- and many new friendships were formed. Our old friend, and long-time member Donna Hobbs flew out from Tennessee to join us, and it was good to see her again.

We had very good support from the library staff, volunteers, research specialists and consultants. They knew we were coming and seemed willing to do everything they could to help our members with their research. Some of the members had major breakthroughs in their research and came home satisfied with the progress they made. Several of our 2015 group are already thinking about their research plan for the next trip in 2016 -- our "Second Annual" trip. If you are considering going next year, talk to me or someone else who went this year to get their impressions about the trip, and especially about the rich, extensive resources available to you at the Family History Library. We have 25 rooms booked for next year, and I will announce in a couple of months when we plan to start accepting deposits to make formal reservations for the 2016 trip. The dates for next year are April 17-24, 2016.

I'm sure you noticed that we had no mini-class before our May meeting. That's because we had no one volunteer to present one -- and we may be in that position for the next several months. Perhaps you had not noticed that with few exceptions, nearly all of our previous mini-classes were presented by board members. That's not because the board members are all "experts", or they love the limelight, but because they were willing to step forward and offer a 30-minute talk about a subject where they had some knowledge or experience and were comfortable telling others about it. That's all it takes, and we need some other members to come forward and offer our next series of mini-classes. Think of it as an extension of the chatting you are already doing with other members of our society when you get together at breaks or in other meetings. I'm sure that many of you know a lot about a topic that others in our society would love to hear about.

I am appealing to you to consider doing a mini-class and sharing your knowledge and experience with others. We have enjoyed good attendance each month at the mini-class when we have one, regardless of the subject matter. It does not have to be a formal program -- you don't always need a slide presentation or handout, and we have members who can help you with the technology stuff if you need that. So, please give some thought to helping our fellow members expand their knowledge by sharing yours. You won't find a friendlier audience, and we are all in this together.

May Meeting

~ Bill Bluett

The guest speaker for our May monthly meeting was **Gena Philibert-Ortega**. The topic she presented was "Walking Amongst the Dead: Becoming a Cemetery Expert". Gena's handout gave us a list of more than 15 resources for finding burial information or locations. Additional websites to search for death and burial information included: **internment.net**, **billiongraves.com**, **deathindexes.com**, **vitalrec.com**, **theancestorhunt.com**, **genealogy.com**, and the **U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs at www.va.gov/**. Of course, Gena interjected some humorous stories regarding some of her trips to cemeteries. We thank Gena for a most informative presentation. Prior to her presentation, we enjoyed some excellent refreshments provided by some of our members. They were: **Gil Gillis**, **Cheryl Lyman**, **Diane Wahrman**, and, yours truly, **Bill Bluett**.

Brick Walls and Genealogy Research

~Bill Bluett

Donna Rathman - had some exciting news from her days of research on the trip to Salt Lake City. She found military service information for two grandfathers. Both great wars (WWI and WWII) were involved in the time of service as well as information regarding "military medals" received. There was service time spent in England as well. Donna was elated to have found this significant piece of information.

I even found my 3rd great-grandparents (John and Ann Bluett) wills in Cornwall in 1839 and 1843 respectively. And, I located my Irish great-great-grandfather's Naturalization Records in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania. I have the "Letter of Intent" (1833) and the "Oath of Allegiance" (1836) with the signature of John Fallon on each document. So, I can attest that everyone in our group thoroughly enjoyed their weeklong trip to the LDS research facility. **Hats off to David Flint - our trip organizer!**

My Salt Lake City Genealogy Adventure

~Mary Jo McQueen

I had great expectations for my research trip to Salt Lake, thus I went armed with family group sheets with many blanks yet to be filled in, a list of microfilms and books to peruse. Time spent the first two days was in crossing off questions, which I was not able to answer. One family group sheet was left, that of my Norwegian great-great grandparents, John Matheson and Guro (maiden name unknown). So, on the third day I went to the International Floor searching for Norway Bydeboks (farm books), which our Monday night's speaker had mentioned. Using this amazing resource I was able to trace my Norwegian grandparents back several generations. The books are written in Norwegian, however I was able to find translators in the Nordic area of the Family History Library. I now know my great-great grandmother's maiden name was "Torgilsdtr" (Torgil's daughter).

ScotlandsPeople Record

~Herb Abrams

My big find in the Salt Lake City trip was my 3rd g-grandfather Neill McFadyen b. abt 1770 on the island of Islay, Argyll, Scotland. I found a marriage record for him in 1792. I looked at the microfilm first and could not find him because it was not indexed. Upon talking to an expert on Scottish research he advised me to sign up with ScotlandsPeople because they have indexed the records. I did that and found him right away. It costs 7 pounds which is about \$12 and they give you 30 credits. It costs 1 credit just to see your matches and another 5 credits to look at the image. I used 21 credits but it was well worth it. It was in the Old Parish Records and it showed the wife's maiden name which I didn't have. I wasn't even sure that he came from that place until I found that record.

Editor's Note - Herb sent this additional information on May 8: Check out this episode of 60 minutes that was aired last week. It is about the island of Islay, the place that my 3rd g-grandfather came from. Just click on Whiskey Island. <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/picking-up-the-pieces-of-bob-simons-unfinished-story/>

Membership Update

There were 96 members and four guests at the May meeting. Membership Chairman Jack Naylor reports that we now have 281 members, 19 to go to meet President David's goal of 300 in 2015. New members in May are: **Janina Rezler**, Laguna Woods, searching Leon Surwillo (born 1909) in Latvia and Maria Holubowicz (born 1907) in Poland. Her email is lnkarez@gmail.com and **Janice Anderson**, Mission Viejo. Guests: **Linda Parsons, Catherine Gillette and Alexa Maude Johnson.**

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

Please Copy Posted: 02 Apr 2015 10:24 PM PDT

It is not unusual in pre-1900 newspaper articles to see the phrase "please copy" at the end of the article along with a name of a newspaper or city. That was a notation that the story would hold some interest for the readers of that paper as well. That phrase "please copy Warsaw Signal" could be a clue the person mentioned in the article would be known to readers of that paper. And that could be a clue.



SOCCGS Docent Spotlight

Christina 'Chris' Hurst-Loeffler

Genealogy Section • Mission Viejo Library

Chris holds an M.A. in Anthropology with an emphasis in Archaeology from Cal State Fullerton and has been a professor of anthropology at Irvine Valley College for 20 years teaching courses including Cultural Anthropology, Physical Anthropology, and native American Cultures. She has conducted pre-historic and archaeological research in the Great Basin, Southwest and Great Plains culture areas of North America while working for the Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service and Crow Canyon Archaeological Research Center.

Besides SOCCGS, Chris holds memberships in multiple organizations: Mission Viejo Chapter, DAR (current Regent); Emma Sansom Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy (current Registrar); Elizabeth Hill Mills Tent, Daughters of Union Veterans (current Historian); Archaeological Institute of America, Orange County Society (current VP); Mission Viejo Heritage Committee (member); Southern California Genealogical Society (member), National Trust for Historic Preservation (member), Colonial Williamsburg Foundation (member) and Smithsonian Institution (member).

She has been an avid traditional quilter for 25 years creating reproduction quilts from the late 1700's to the late 1800's and researches the lives and histories surrounding the women living during this crucial time in American history. Chris has been married to her husband Rob, a geologist, for 25 years and they have two children: Ayden (20) and Meaghan (15).

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

Event Date Versus Record Date Posted: 19 Apr 2015 03:47 AM PDT

When using record copies of documents, make certain to distinguish between the date the document was drawn up and the date it was filed and recorded. The dates are usually different. The person signing the document would have been alive on the date it was signed but not necessarily on the date it was recorded.

SOCCGS Docent Spotlight

Bob Lozano

Genealogy Section • Mission Viejo Library

After years of “thinking about it,” I finally embarked into some serious genealogical research about four years ago. This was right after I retired. One day I asked the Information Desk at the Mission Viejo Library if they had any books on genealogy. Their reply included leading me to the SOCCGS Genealogy Section and an introduction to Jack Naylor. Shortly thereafter, I became a member of the Society.

After about three years of participation in the Society and making good use of the library resources that we have to offer, I felt that it was time to give something back for all of the help and knowledge I had received. So, I volunteered to become a substitute Docent. To any of you contemplating this, rest assured that you'll get a good start. I'm thankful to Bunny Smith for doing a great job of indoctrination training and providing a “Docent Handbook.”

My first stint as a docent was on a Friday, when I opened and closed the desk that day. It was very satisfying helping people that showed up and asking questions about genealogical researching. I encourage anyone to participate in this, and get that same feeling of satisfaction. It feels great!

Seminar Presented by Genealogical Society of North Orange County

Family History Seminar, Saturday, July 11, 2015. Speaker F. Warren Bittner, CG, Specialist in Research Methodology and German Research. Seminar held at Danish Church and Cultural Center, 16881 Bastanchury Road, Yorba Linda, CA 92886 (between Prospect & Rose Dr.). Topics are Complex Evidence: What It Is, How It Works, Why It Matters; German Historical Maps and Territories; Using the 1880 Census to Solve a 1770 Research Problem; Finding Unusual Sources to Solve Brick Wall Problems. Register by July 3rd. For more information call 714-319-5994 or go to www.gsnocc.org.

Newly discovered on “American Ancestors” at the SOCCGS Research Center: The Settlers of Beekman Patent [Dutchess Co., NY]

~Mary Jo McQueen

Check out this paid site on SOCCGS computers: The Settlers of the Beekman Patent series, by Frank J. Doherty, contains data on over thirteen hundred families who settled in the Beekman Patent, an original land grant given to Col. Henry Beekman in 1697 by the English Crown and the second largest patent in present-day Dutchess County, New York. Many emigrants from New England lived in and passed through the Beekman Patent on the way west. Others, such as the Palatines and Quakers (almost all from New England), were early settlers and remained for several generations or more. This database currently includes volumes 1-8, and it holds approximately 240,000 records. Volumes 9-12 will be forthcoming.

Stitching Lives Together

~Arlene O'Donnell

On the recommendation of our April speaker, CeCe Moore, I read a brand-new book, “Quilt of Souls” by Phyllis Lawson.

As the pages flowed, I found myself in my own childhood and wondered of the story of my own Great Grandmother's quilt that she had begun for me. This beautiful yet powerful story shares the coping skills gained through trusting in those who have had the greatest impact on a person's journey through life. I felt transformed as if I was there with Grandma Lula helping stitch each person's life story together into this quilt “of Souls”. It enveloped me with great warmth as only a quilt can provide!

Few books have had the impact that this one has had on me and I have already recommended this lovely memoir to so many others. For those of us enthralled with family history and seeking the answer to the age old question of “Who am I?” this inspires us to continue our genealogical quest. The author and her Grandmother Lula teach us how to transcend that journey.

From the back cover: Born in 1883, Grandma Lula lived to be 103 years old and overcame the ugliness of racism through creating beautiful quilts. She quilted as a way to bring healing to the world.

Since finishing her book, I have been in touch with the author who is every bit as inspiring as her Grandmother. She would be a wonderful speaker for our society!

Quilt of Souls by Phyllis Lawson, copyright 2015, is available through Amazon.

Jasper Cummins McKern
October 19, 1856 – May 5, 1937
~Kathie Mauzey

This obituary was given to me by my husband's grandmother, Anna Schaade Mauzey, the wife of Jasper Mauzey, one of the nephews listed. The obituary was from the Portland, Oregon newspaper. If all obituaries were this informative, it would break down a lot of brick walls.

Jasper Cummins McKern was born in Decatur County, Iowa, October 19, 1856, and died in McMinnville May 5, 1937, at the age of 80 years, 6 months and 16 days. With his parents he crossed the plains by means of an ox team in 1862 going to Walla Walla, Wash. In 1868 he took up his abode near McMinnville with his father, his mother having died the previous year.

Although he obtained only a limited formal education, through extensive reading, experience and observation, he became an exceptionally well informed man. In 1882 he came to Yamhill and for three years served as apprentice at the blacksmith trade, opening a shop of his own in 1885 and continuing in this line of work for over a quarter of a century. While thus engaged, among other things he built two of the stage coaches used in the service between Yamhill and Tillamook.

Mr. McKern was united in marriage to Miss Martha F. Hunsaker on January 28, 1885. He ably served as city treasurer of Yamhill for sixteen years and for several years was president of the city council. Together with his wife he managed the Yamhill Mutual Telephone company, maintaining the switchboard for over 30 years.

Fraternally he belonged to the following organizations: Lafayette lodge No. 3 A. F. & A. M.; Fraternity lodge No. 56 I. O. O. F; and McMinnville lodge No. 1283 B. P. O. E. Most prized by him however was his membership in the Christian church, to which his wife also belongs; and which in Yamhill they have faithfully served for more than 40 years.

Over the record of his entire career there fell no shadow of wrong-doing or suspicion of evil, but on the contrary his example is one worthy of emulation as a true Christian gentleman. He was honored with a biographical sketch of his life being published in "The Centennial History of Oregon." The whole community and many friends from far and near mourn his passing and extend their sympathy to his bereaved widow.

Among the relatives mourning his loss are 17 nephews and 11 nieces: The nephews—J. P. Wells, Klamath Falls; Walter Mauzey, Burns; Jasper Mauzey, Portland; Homer Mauzey, Marshfield; Wilber Maddox, Cottage Grove; Edgar and Leonard Mauzey, Pacific Grove, Calif.; Frank, George and Jasper Millis, Zillah, Wash.; William Millis, Wn; George Maddox, Colorado; Orin Maddox, Los Angeles, California; Spencer McKern, San Diego, Calif.; Frank Waldrup, California, and Carlton McKern, Chicago, Ill.

The nieces: Mrs. Alpha Harrington, Marshfield; Mrs. Edna Ackley, Klamath Falls; Mrs. Stella Payne, Ashland; Mrs. Katherine Talmage, Portland; Mrs. Pearl Carpenter, Zillah, Wash.; Mrs. Emily Maize, Willets, Calif.; Mrs. Katherine Cole, San Francisco; Mrs. Mabel Tipper, Carmel, Calif.; Mrs. Mamie Black, Langlois; Mrs. Mabel Paige, Bellingham, Wash., and Mrs. Hattie Peters, Seattle, Wash.

Note by Kathie Mauzey: When my husband, Duane, and I were in Tillamook, Oregon, several years ago, we went to the Pioneer Museum. One of the exhibits in the basement was a coach built by Jasper C. McKern in 1906. It was used on the mail route from Yamhill to Tillamook on the Trask River Toll Road until December 31, 1911. What a surprise, we had no idea it was there. In asking about the coach, we were told that it was taken out once a year and used in the Dairy Days parade. In visiting the museum last year, the coach was still there and in good condition.

Genealogy Search Tip of the Day <http://genealogysearchtipoftheday.blogspot.com/>
[United States Passport Applications](#) Posted: 04 May 2015 07:12 AM PDT
United States passport applications from 1795-1925 are online free at *FamilySearch*.

[1964 Missouri State Death Certificates](#) Posted: 16 Apr 2015 06:09 PM PDT
The Missouri Secretary of State has added [1964 death certificates to their site](#).

[Missouri State Archives Digital Newspapers](#) Posted: 04 Apr 2015 10:03 PM PDT
The items included here are hit and miss, but the Missouri State Archives has digital copies online of some newspapers in their state.

Future Genealogy Events

Jun 5-7, 2015 – Southern California Genealogy Jamboree - Burbank
Jun 5, 2015, 10-12:00- Mary Jo McQueen-Genealogical Research SIG; Sdlbk Rm, MV City Hall
Jun 8, 2015, 10-12:00-David Flint – England SIG – Saddleback Room, MV City Hall
Jun 12, 2015, 10-12:00-Francie Kennedy-Beginning Methodology, **Class #1 is full**
Jun 15, 2015, 10-12:00-Mary Jo McQueen-Mac Users Group (MUG), Sdlbk Rm, MV City Hall
Jun 17, 2015, 6:00 pm-Free webinar Lessons from a Snoop: Collaterals & Associates by Debbie Mieszala, sign up at: <http://www.scgsgenealogy.com/>
Jun 18, 2015, 10-12:00-Arlene O'Donnell–Beginning Genealogy Class – Bill Price Rm, MV Library
Jun 18, 2015, 11-1:00-David Flint – Legacy Family Tree User Group – Sdlbk Rm, MV City Hall
Jun 19, 2015, 10-12:00-Gary Schwarz – German SIG – Sdlbk Rm, MV City Hall
Jun 23, 2015, 10-12:00-Jim Thordahl – Writing Life Stories – Sdlbk Rm, MV City Hall
Jun 26, 2015, 10-12:00-Barbara Taylor & Arlene O'Donnell-DNA for Genealogy, Sdlbk Rm. MV City Hall
Jun 26, 2015, 10-12:00-Francie Kennedy-Beginning Methodology, **Class #2 is full**
Jul 11, 2015, Gen. Soc. No. Orange County, Family History Seminar: F. Warren Bittner, Yorba Linda
Jul 12-19, 2015 – 2015 AHSGR International Convention – American Historical Society of Germans from Russia – Billings, Montana – Info: www.AHSGR.com
Jul 15-19, 2015 – 45th Annual International Convention - German Russian Heritage Society – Bismarck, ND – Info: www.GRHS.org

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SOCCGS Website @ <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~casocccgs/>
Mail List: SOCCGS-L@rootsweb.com



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

South Orange County California Genealogical Society Membership/Renewal Application

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

Name(s) _____

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