

# Saddleback Valley Trails

South Orange County California Genealogical Society

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July 2016

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.

SOC CGS is not affiliated with the LDS Family History Center



July 16, 2016

"Road Trip!"

Presented by

Hal Horrocks

There is nothing like going to a location where your ancestors lived and died. Why not go there and walk in their footsteps? What would you like to accomplish? Our speaker will focus on proper preparation for a road trip and what can be accomplished while traveling. He will present three (3) sample trips he has taken and share excellent tips for making our own trips as efficient and memorable as possible!

**About the Speaker:** Hal Horrocks is a native of Long Beach and a professional genealogist, teacher, author, and lecturer. He is current President of the Orange County California Genealogical Society (OCCGS) headquartered in the Huntington Beach Central Library. A graduate of California State University at Long Beach, he has been lecturing for many years on a variety of genealogical subjects. He has developed a website for the Horrocks surname that focuses on Horrocks researchers from around the world.

**Mini-Class 9:15-9:45 before the July Monthly Meeting – Gary Frederickson will give a presentation on Identifying Old Pictures. All Mini-Classes are held in the classroom to the left of the kitchen.**

## **President's Message**

By David Flint

Just how organized is all of your genealogy stuff? I have had organizing on my mind since attending Sue Naegeli's Fourth Friday class last month on Organizing Your Genealogy Using Colors and Ahnentafel Numbering. Sue's class was very well done and I learned from attending it. I wasn't particularly interested in colors or Ahnentafel numbering, and Sue knows that I already have my own organization system for my genealogy files. But it was a good class, and got me thinking more seriously about the general topic of organization as it relates to all of the "stuff" we tend to accumulate in the course of our genealogy research.

It seems that the longer we work on our genealogical research, the more bits and pieces we find relating to our ancestors and their lives and families. And, of course, the more successful we are in our research, the more stuff we find and save. Eventually, we all come to the conclusion that we need to get organized! It makes a difference if you start that process earlier than later.

So, how do you organize your genealogy stuff? Do you keep it in three-ring binders on open shelves, or in manila folders in a file cabinet? Do you organize your family files alphabetically, by family name, by direct line, by location, or combinations of those? Do you keep a family group sheet in each family folder and update it as you find more details? Do you keep your vital records for birth, marriage and death separately, or combine them in the family files for the individuals they relate to? How do you handle different family groups with the same name – for example when you have several John Smith's, in different generations, different locations, and perhaps even in different lines? When you have a family photo with several of your ancestors included in it, do you keep the photo in a single family file, or do you save a copy in the file for everyone who appears in the photo? (Same question for Census pages and other documents that include more than one ancestor.) Do you keep your family photos in photo albums, or put them in your family files along with other items about them? Do you keep only paper files, or do you also scan documents and keep them in digital format on your computer, or both?

In my view, it's not as important what kind of organization system you use for your genealogy files, as that you have one. It's also helpful if we are able to work out early in our research experience how we are going to organize all of that stuff we will inevitably accumulate. If we later discover a really cool organization system we wish we had seen earlier, and we'd love to start using, but we have so many files and papers it would take too much time and work to change to the new system, we often decide to continue with what we have. Again, it probably doesn't matter what system you use, but it is important that you have one – whatever it is.

Being organized in managing your family files, source documents, genealogical research projects in progress, notes and handouts from seminars, classes, field trips, and all the other stuff you gather over the years, is important for a number of reasons. The more pieces of your family history you discover, the more important it becomes to be able to organize how the pieces fit together. As you branch out into new parts of your family lines, being able to locate your previous work efficiently makes you a better researcher, and more likely to be successful in furthering your family history. For example, if you need to locate a particular source document you know you have somewhere in your files, and now need it for some related research, can you find that document quickly and efficiently? Or are you still in the "pile management" phase, and spending more time than you would like just looking for things?

Having a good organization system that works for you when you need it will save time searching through stacks of paper for something you have but can't find easily. Being able to check your source documents efficiently will also help you to remember what you already have and spare you from wasting time looking for the same item again.

This is why I decided to present my organization system at the Fourth Friday class in June. I don't consider that I have the best system there is, but it works for me, and I stick with it. I hope you have a workable, efficient system for organizing your family files and all of your other genealogy stuff. If not, I recommend that you spend some time researching what's available and find one that will work for you – then get organized. If you need more motivation than just being better organized in your genealogy work, consider that if you ever want to see your dining room table again, it might be the answer.

## **Safari News**

~Bill Bluett

There will be no safari in the months of July and August. We will resume in September with a trip to the Los Angeles LDS Family History Research Center.

## June Meeting ~ Arlene O'Donnell

Our June Meeting was held in the City of Mission Viejo Council Chambers where we partnered with the Friends of the Mission Viejo Library. Our general membership meeting featured quite a bit of sharing of our efforts to break down those brick walls. A number of our members found others willing to assist in their research efforts. Our speaker this month, **Phyllis Lawson**, author of “**Quilt of Souls**”, provided us with an amazing storytelling experience of her life being raised in the deep south by her Grandmother and learning of her ancestors through the sewing of a quilt that stitched together their stories. She enthralled our audience with amazing accounts of the lives of these relatives. We felt they had actually been present in our own lives, so good was the clarity of her storytelling! Not only has she published her memoir of these accounts, but also she has researched and through the use of DNA, located many descendants of her grandparents. So successful was the partnership of SOCCGS and the City of Mission Viejo for this event that we have been asked to partner with the City again next year. A big thanks to **Barbara Heebner** and **Sharon Keener** for assisting with registration of our members and guests.

### Membership Update

There were 71 members in attendance at the June meeting. Of the 4 guests at the meeting, 3 became members:

**Pat Ballard**, Mission Viejo, [Patlib.private@gmail.com](mailto:Patlib.private@gmail.com) – researching **Urban** in Prussia, Great Britain; **Spenser** in Spencer Park, Muskegon, MI and Europe; and **Ballard** in Great Britain, Ireland, East and West Europe.

**Esther Denn**, Laguna Hills, [esther@epm.occoxmail.com](mailto:esther@epm.occoxmail.com) – researching **Mendez, Hollingsworth** and **Byrd**

**Kathie Indovina**, Mission Viejo, [kathiei@cox.net](mailto:kathiei@cox.net) – researching **Walsh/Welch** in 1850's in Attleboro, Worcester, Massachusetts, Ireland and England; **Moran** 1850's in Attleboro and Roscommon, Ireland.

**Betsy Scherz**, Huntington Beach, was a guest at the meeting

### New in the Library

~Judy Davin

The Friends of the Mission Viejo Library received a “genealogy collection” from an anonymous donor. The Friends passed this collection to our Research Center. In this collection is a Family Pedigree Tree (which is on display at the Research Center) and 5 3” binders. In addition, 2 books were added to our book shelves. They are listed below.

Bunny and I were looking at the Family Pedigree Tree and she said, “Oh look, Jamestown is listed.” I replied “My 10<sup>th</sup> gr grandfather Dr. John Woodson arrived in Jamestown in 1619 on the ship “George.” We looked closely at the Tree and here we found John Woodson's name ! Along with about 10 descendants of his. What a fun find for me.

We have decided to keep this collection for 6 months for our members to look at and maybe some of your relatives are here. Some of the names are: **WOODSON, ARUNDEL, TARLETON, COCKE, FERRIS, MORTON, OVERTON, WARREN, KNIGHT, WHITE, PIERCE, PEABODY, STEARNS.....**and many more.

The collection is located on the docent area credenza where the atlas' are located and the Pedigree Tree is behind the four computers. **Come on over and have a look !!!**

### Donated Books:

German American Names by George Jones

New England Guide to Manuscript Collections of the New England Genealogy Society by NEHGS/Salls

**Genealogy Search Tip of the Day** <http://searchtip.genealogtipoftheday.com>

**Database of World War I Servicemen from Missouri** Posted May 10, 2016

This free database contains information on World War I servicemen from Missouri. The database and website is made possible by a Library Services and Technology Act Digital Imaging Grant funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and coordinated by the Missouri State Library.

<http://cdm16795.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/overthere>

## July Free Webinars

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

**July 6** – Navigating Naturalization Records - Lisa Alzo

**July 13** – A Genealogist's Guide to Heraldry – Shannon Combs-Bennett

**July 15** – Finding French Ancestors – Luana Darby

**July 20** – Organize Your Online Life – Lisa Louise Cooke

**July 27** – Researching Women—Community Cookbooks and What they Tell us About our Ancestors – Gena Philibert-Ortega

**July 30** – Solutions for Missing and Scarce Records – Tom Jones

**July 30** – The Germanic French: Researching Alsatian and Lorrainian Families – John Philip Colletta

**August 3** – Getting Started with Microsoft PowerPoint – Thomas MacEntee

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:**

**July 20** – Organizing Your Genealogical Research Process – Drew Smith

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

**Illinois Genealogical Society (ISGS)**

**July 12** – Special Delivery: Using US Postmaster Documents in Family History Research – Jean Hibben

Registration: <https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/2607347059774722305>

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

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

### Will You Tell Me Stories, Grammy?

~ By Dee Dee Prince

I've been teased (or accused) of being the family historian because I insist on taking pictures at gatherings and saving more paraphernalia than necessary. But it never fails that later, when I send the pictures out or I'm able to include details in a scrapbook, family members are thrilled, so I keep at it. I'm sure part of this passion is based on the fact I have so few pictures and memorabilia from my parents.

My genealogical interest can be traced back to about 15 years ago when my eldest granddaughter, Kendall, was 4 ½ years old. She sat on my lap and posed these questions to me.

"Your mom died before I was born, right?" "Yes, that's right, she died 3 days before you were born." "Then I'll never get to know your mom, unless you tell me stories about her. Will you tell me stories about your mom?"

How can a Grammy resist?

I told her stories about my childhood, but when she asked about her grandmother's childhood, I used my imagination to augment my limited knowledge. I created a scrapbook from the bits and pieces of information I had about my mother's life. The scrapbook was wonderful, but I longed to fill in more details about her life in England. My mother, Rhoda, was born in Hemsworth, Yorkshire, in northern England on September 28, 1920. My siblings and I never saw a picture of any relative, never saw a letter from her mother or sister, never held anything tangible from England that would trace her life back before she moved to America and ended up with my father.

A friend told me that the Mission Viejo library had a wonderful genealogy department, so I visited in early 2013. That was a fortuitous day for me. I met Jack, who scooped me up and convinced me that I needed to join SOCCGS, which I quickly did (best ROI on \$20.00 I've had in years!) I also took advantage of the Docents help at the library. I began that delightful, and sometimes frustrating, journey of discovery. I will never forget the feeling of elation - almost an electric charge to my system - on April 4, 2013, when I saw my mother's name on the New York Passenger list! Then I was able to verify whom she had married. She thought his name was Joe Martin – it was Martinez. They married February 12, 1945, in Salford County.

Joe went back into battle, the war ended and he was discharged. When Momma finally got word she would be getting on a ship, (approximately 70,000 British women became GI brides - they had to wait for a quota to be met as the soldiers had first priority), she took a train to South Hampton as Rhoda Martinez. There she boarded the USS Thomas H Barry on May 15, 1946, bound for New York as the dependent of her U.S. Army husband, to join him with his family in the San Fernando Valley. But Joe died en route (my mother said he died on a chicken bone, but I haven't been able to verify Joe's death).

Momma grieved with his family. The US government allotted three months for her to stay without an American husband. Joe's family lived only five blocks from where my dad Carl lived. He was the oldest of five children, born in Oklahoma. He had enlisted in the Navy in May of 1942, and was given an Honorable Discharge two days before Christmas in 1945. He made Chief Aviation Metalsmith and received the Victory Medal. My mother Rhoda and my dad Carl married and had three children. I haven't found that marriage certificate yet – that's a brick wall to be climbed.

I always wondered why my mother was so keen to stay here after Joe died, especially knowing the history of what she endured living with my father. My genealogical and historical research filled in some important pieces as to why and it also verified some of the stories she had told me about England. It held some surprises too!

I joined David Flint's England Special Interest Group and continued to find documents. I brought my grandfather Andrew Burdette's Irish Guards packet to the group to share how the documents contained a gold mine. Among the military documents was a handwritten letter from my maternal grandmother, also named Rhoda. My mother thought her father died when she was three. The letter explained what had really happened – he had abandoned them.

I started writing up summaries of these discoveries to send to my sister, brother, daughter and nieces. I also gathered up what I knew about my dad and researched his heritage.

The summaries led to writing more stories and talking with relatives to gather their stories. Writing my parents' history became a focal point of my life and led me to completing a memoir. My daughter is overjoyed that her daughters, including the one that sat on my lap all those years ago (now in college!), will have that legacy.

Using DNA, I have connected with cousins on my father's side of the family. I continue my genealogy research in the hopes of finding a living relative in England that might have pictures or stories...something tangible to connect to my mother's history.

### **North San Diego County Genealogical Society July Program Meeting with Special Speaker**

The July program meeting will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday (July 19) instead of the usual 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday. The speaker will be Jan Gow, a renowned New Zealand genealogist and speaker who will be visiting southern California that week. Jan is past president of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists and has lectured extensively including at RootsTech, Who Do You Think You are Live (UK), Family Search online and the Family History Library in Salt Lake.

The meeting will be held at the Faraday Administration Center, 1635 Faraday Drive, Carlsbad, in room 173B (instead of the Carlsbad City Council Chambers). The meeting starts at 9:30 with the speaker at 10:15 a.m. The topic is "Finding with Findmypast." For information: <http://nsdcgs.org/>

### **An Invitation from Canada October 21-23, 2016**

The Great Canadian Genealogy Summit (CANGEN) is pleased to announce their inaugural conference to be held October 21-23, 2016, at the Courtyard by Marriott, Brampton, Canada. Registration for the full weekend is just \$159cdn (\$125usd). Please see their website for further information at <http://www.cangensummit.ca/> Friday October 21, Research at Archives of Ontario or Loyalist Research Workshop; Saturday October 22, several sessions including Canadian Census, French Canadian, Scottish, English; Sunday October 23, Genealogy Methodology.

### **Floating Genealogy Seminar November 6-10, 2016**

Four days of family history with Jean Wilcox Hibben and Gena Philibert-Ortega on the Carnival Imagination, Long Beach to Catalina and Ensenada. Enjoy and learn from presentations by Gena and Jean. Receive consultation time with the experts. Network with other genealogists. Download flyer for information and registration: <http://genaandjean.blogspot.com>

## Paper Neighbors

Posted on May 11, 2016 by mjnrootdig

The declaration of intention for George Trautvetter was one of those documents I located early on in my research, probably before I was able to even drive myself to the courthouse. I did not take the time to look at the other declarations in the book. After all, I had found the person I wanted and I was excited at the discovery. I knew to be skeptical in regards to the accuracy of the information it contained and to use it to further my research, but I didn't think to leaf through the other declarations in the ledger.

I should have. There on the next page was another declaration made out on the exact same day (4 January 1855) for Johannes Herbert. Herbert was born in a different region of Germany, but he was related to Trautvetter. He was his son-in-law and had married Trautvetter's daughter in Germany before the family immigrated.

The proximity of the declarations in the book makes an excellent point about a type of "neighbor" researchers don't always think to look for: paper neighbors. People who appear in court on the same day, doing the same thing, and who had to travel a distance to do it, could have some connection to each other. The documents will not necessarily state that relationship; these records certainly have nothing to say about the connection between Trautvetter and Herbert.

It is always good methodology to think about what caused your ancestor to appear in a record and if it is possible that other people he knew may have appeared in that series of records as well. The clue would have been a little stronger if Trautvetter and Herbert had been from the exact same area of Germany and had owed allegiance to the same ruler, but that's not the way things always work out.

Other paper neighbors of our ancestor are often used as clues—nearby names on a census or tax list indicate geographic proximity as do other records.

The Bureau of Land Management tract books are another excellent place to learn of more paper neighbors. Certainly the geographic nature of that index makes physical neighbors easy to spot. But there's more.

The tract books indicate dates an initial claim was filed in the nearest land office. Which of those geographic neighbors are filing claims at the same time as your ancestor? If there are others filing the same day, they may have more of a connection to your ancestor than simple geography. Those "paper neighbors" may be worth looking into.

I certainly wish I had turned the page in that book of declarations of intention all those years ago when I first located George.

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

**Tracing the Children with No Children** Posted June 21, 2016

In our attempts to locate living relatives, we sometimes ignore those ancestral siblings and cousins who left no children of their own. After all they have no descendants with whom we can make contact. That is true, but records on the childless relative may provide more details on earlier family members and how the estate of the childless relative was disbursed may mention previously unknown relatives. And completely researching the relative without children is always advised in order to obtain a complete picture of the family.

**Those Wrong Places** posted 21 May 2016

Death certificates are notorious for having incorrect information. Given the circumstances under which the information is given that's not surprising. Just remember that those "wrong" places of birth may be clues as to where the family lived for a time and someone got where Grandma was born mixed up with where she grew up or where her parents were from.

**Did They Microfilm or Digitize Everything?** Posted June 19, 2016

When records are microfilmed or digitized, sometimes the occasional item is missed or filmed out of order. Find someone who is familiar with the original records in their original form. They may be able to tell you if there were issues with the filming or digitization of the records.

**Genealogy Search Tip of the Day** <http://searchtip.genealogtipoftheday.com>

**Moline, Illinois, Newspapers 1854-1969** Posted May 2, 2016

A variety of newspapers from Moline, Illinois, between 1854 and 1969 are available online through this site "The Digital Archives of the Moline, Illinois, Public Library."

<http://molinepublic.advantage-preservation.com/>

## Future Genealogy Events

**July 1, 2016**, 10-12:00-Sue Naegeli – Genealogy Research SIG – Saddleback Rm. MV City Hall  
**July 11, 2016**, 10-12:00-David Flint - England SIG - Saddleback Room, MV City Hall  
**July 15, 2016**, 10-12:00-Myrna Hamid – Ireland SIG – Saddleback Rm., MV City Hall  
**July 16, 2016**, Monthly Meeting and Mini Class, LDS Church Bldg, Marguerite & Hillcrest, MV  
**July 20, 2016**, 10-12:00-Gary Schwarz – German SIG – Bill Price Rm, MV Library  
**July 21, 2016**, 10-12:00-Arlene O'Donnell - Beginning Genealogy Class – Bill Price Rm, MV Library  
**July 21, 2016, 10:30-12:30 NEW TIME**-David Flint - Legacy Users Group – Sdlbk Rm., MV City Hall  
**July 22, 2016** – 10-12 – 4<sup>th</sup> Friday Class – Gary Fredericksen, Researching Places – Sadlbc Rm, City Hall  
**July 26, 2016**, 10-12:00-Jim Thordahl – Writing Family History Stories – Sdlbk Rm, MV City Hall  
**Jul 30, 2016** – Genealogy Seminar with Cyndi Ingle, Yorba Linda, [www.gsnocc.org](http://www.gsnocc.org)  
**Aug 5, 2016**, 10-12:00-Sue Naegeli – Genealogy Research SIG – Saddleback Rm. MV City Hall  
**Oct 12-23, 2016** – Great Canadian Genealogy Summit, Ontario Canada, <http://www.cangensummit.ca/>  
**Nov 6-10, 2016** – Floating Genealogy Seminar, 4 days of family history <http://genaandjean.blogspot.com>

## **SOC CGS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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**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(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Make Check payable to: SOCCGS

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

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