

# Saddleback Valley Trails

South Orange County California Genealogical Society

Vol. 20 No. 08

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

August 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.

SOC CGS is not affiliated with the LDS Family History Center

## AUGUST 17, 2013

### GIVE ME LAND - LOTS OF LAND!

Presented by

**Denise Spurlock**

**Many of our ancestors came to this county because of the availability of land—it was the original American dream! This program will explore the basics of land research, including terminology, legal descriptions (metes and bounds vs. rectangular survey), and deed research.**

About the Speaker: Denise Spurlock has over 20 years of experience in family research. She holds a Certificate in Genealogical Research from Boston University's Center for Professional Education. She offers a variety of research services to clients. Denise is a member of several local and regional genealogical societies, as well as the National Genealogical Society, the Genealogical Speakers Guild, International Society of Family History Writers and Editors, and the Association of Professional Genealogists. She is also a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War. In addition to writing several blogs, she writes a genealogy column for Examiner.com and is the newsletter editor for the Southern California Chapter of the APG.

### ***Safari News***

~Bill Bluett

There will be no safari in August. We will resume on Wednesday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, with a trip to the Los Angeles Regional Family History Center on Santa Monica Boulevard. Check your September newsletter for more information.

### ***Programme de Recherche en Demographie Historique (PRDH)***

~Pat Weeks

A program for doing French-Canadian research is now available on our library computers. It is called the Programme de Recherche en Demographie Historique, or PRDH. This internet database is the compilation of marriages, births, deaths from 1600 to 1799 which were originally printed in 47 volumes in 1976.

Putting this information into an internet database has made this unique in that it is fast, can be read in either French or English, and is the most comprehensive and up to date record source for this population. The Burbank library has this database available but I do not know of any other library in Southern California offering it besides us.

## ***Proposed Changes to the SOCCGS Bylaws.***

This proposed change will be voted on by the members at the September 21, 2013 general meeting:

### ***Article VII*** –Nominations and Elections

#### ***Section 4.*** Term of Office

**A.** The term of office shall begin immediately following the installation of officers at the December general meeting and shall continue for a period of one year or until successors are appointed as provided.

Change “Article VII, Section 4, A.” to read:

**A.** Beginning 2012, the term of office shall begin at the start of the January executive board meeting following the installation of officers at the December general meeting and shall continue for a period of two years, or until successors are appointed as provided.

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Thus, the current officers will serve until the end of 2014.

*Patricia Christiansen, Parliamentarian*

### ***Meet Your Board***

~David Flint, Vice President

Hello, fellow genealogists! I have been a member of SOCCGS since 2008, and have enjoyed serving the society as Vice President and Program Chairman for the past three years. I have been doing genealogy work since 2002, and have more time for serious research since I retired in December 2008. In my work life I spent 40 years with the County of Los Angeles, the last 25 of those as Assistant Director for Finance and Planning with the County of **Los Angeles** Public Library. I like to cook, enjoy good wines and cheeses, and read as often as I can.

I got started in genealogy after meeting two men in the vendor exhibits at a Public Library Association conference in Phoenix, Arizona. I remember being dumbstruck when one of them was able to find my mother’s family in County **Durham, England** in just a few minutes. It turned out that he was a British Isles research specialist for FamilySearch, and it was an easy find for him. The other man had been head of the British Isles Reference Section at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, and both of them really knew what they were doing. It was a great introduction to genealogy for me, and I was hooked!

I was born in **Uxbridge, Middlesex, England**. Most people have no idea where that is, so I am used to saying I was born in **London** (close enough). I lived in London until the age of ten, when my family moved to **Canada**. We lived in **Ontario and New Brunswick** before moving to the United States - first to **Ohio**, then **Indiana**, and eventually to **California**. My brother and I thought the ocean voyage from England to Canada was exciting, but when we took Route 66 across the U.S. a few years later with our parents, that was a real adventure! You have to understand that young boys from England are nuts about cowboys, so coming across all of those cowboy states like Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Arizona was a big deal!

When we reached California we settled in **Santa Barbara**. My father was a custom tailor and opened a little shop in Santa Barbara, eventually moving his tailor shop to **Montecito**. I went to high school and college in Santa Barbara and moved to Los Angeles after graduating from UCSB. After my wife Nancy, son Geoffrey and I had lived in Los Angeles for a number of years we moved to Orange County and bought our first house in **Irvine**. After retiring I was able to reduce my annual driving mileage for work from over 20,000 miles a year to less than 4,000. I definitely don’t miss that commute from Irvine and driving to meetings all over L.A. County.

I have always been called David, named after my maternal grandfather. My mother especially did not want my name shortened to Dave, although I occasionally answer to that when people don’t know I prefer David. I have several cousins in England who are about my age, and I have enjoyed visiting them in recent years since retiring. My genealogy research is entirely in the British Isles where my heritage is. I have done only beginning work on my wife’s family history, which is **German** and **Danish**. One of my genealogy goals is to develop my own specialized collection of British Isles reference material, and I have made a good start with many books about English genealogy research. I always carefully check used book sales at genealogy seminars, as well as used book shops.

Genealogy has been a real avocation for me since retiring. It certainly keeps me occupied, keeps my mind sharp, and it keeps me off the streets at night. I attend genealogy lectures and seminars around Southern California as often as time allows. Over the past year I have presented two beginner classes for the Legacy Family Tree genealogy program, which is the one I use for my personal genealogy work. I also lead a Legacy Users Group that meets once a month.

In my English genealogy work I am researching the following family names and locations: **Flint - Hertfordshire** 1720s-1840s; **Morecroft - Lancaster** 1830s; Fear - **Hertfordshire** 1770s; **Bell - Northamptonshire** 1850s; **Hawkins - Surrey** 1810-1820; **Bedford - Hertfordshire** 1780-1820; **Knight - Northamptonshire** 1800-1850; and **Northend - Yorkshire** 1800-1850.

### ***The Life and Times of Pat Weeks Recording Secretary 2013***

Way before I came into the world, my grandfather had given me the name of “Paddy” because his daughter, my mother, had married an Irishman with holes in his socks. Well, the socks got darned and my name got altered to **Patricia, and/or Patty Hennessy**.

I grew up an only child but with enough cousins to keep me company. My Dad worked for Fluor Corporation in **Kansas City, Missouri** and when I was 8 we were sent on assignment to **Philadelphia**, then back to KC, then to **Montreal, Canada**, and finally out here to **Los Angeles**. After I left home my parents continued their moves for the company, ending up by spending five years in **Holland**.

After becoming a mother, I hit on the idea of returning to college to become a speech therapist. I followed that career for 27 years, working with the **Long Beach** School District and the **Saddleback Valley** Unified School District. I loved my job but after many years a new love came along, that of genealogy. It started interfering with my work commitments, so in 1989 I took early retirement.

I immediately adjusted to that wonderful position of “retired”. Soon I began volunteering at the **Mission Viejo** FHC and also the National Archives in **Laguna Niguel**. In 1994 when SOCCGS was formed, I became a founding member, and soon was given the chore to develop and publish a monthly newsletter. The “Trails” was established, but what a chore that was for me. PCs were just coming into general use, and many an hour I spent just learning how to format, or make new columns, etc. I struggled along for five years as the editor, finally, (and gladly) relinquishing that job to another member.

It seems I have been attending our board meetings forever. After the editorship, I was the recording secretary, then corresponding secretary, and now back to recording secretary. And since the opening of the library I have been a docent.

My research goes on today, although I do feel I have dredged out about all there is to find. Researching my French Canadians has been a real gift to me. I call them French-Canadians, but they all were settled within present day US borders by 1700. I am particularly interested in those who came into the **Illinois Pays d'en Haut** [Upper Country] and married Indian maidens. As for my Hennessy line, those rascals can only let me trace them back to 1840, somewhere in **Ireland**.

### ***Membership***

A large turnout of eighty nine members and seven guests attended our July meeting. One new member joined at the library this past month. Her name is:

**Renaë Gonzalas**, Lake Forest, [renaegonzales@sbcglobal.net](mailto:renaegonzales@sbcglobal.net). She is looking for: **McElwaine** – Kansas/New York; **Weiner, Weimart** or **Weymer** – France/Germany. They came to America in the 1700's.

### ***Ralphs Community Contribution Program***

~Jim Thordahl, Ways & Means Chairman

“Oh my!” was all Mary Jo could say, when she opened the envelope. The letter did not arrive by “special delivery,” but it did contain something **special** to SOCCGS: a check for \$275.88. Each quarter we get a check from Kroger for our participation in Ralphs Community Contribution Program. This quarter, the check earned Mary Jo's “Oh my!” because the amount was almost ten dollars higher than any prior check. So, a big thank-you to Ralphs and a big THANK YOU to all our participants.

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

**Maureen Witte** is on Facebook, but, is having trouble linking to our society Facebook web page to see the information that is posted. Hopefully, someone in our group has helped her out.

**Victoria Crayne** knew her husband's grandfather was in the Spanish American War, but, could not find any pension information. Recently, she found pension record information in Missouri records that are accessible and found the information she has been looking for.

**Arlene O'Donnell** shared about her planned family reunion that took place in Palm Desert on April 28<sup>th</sup> of this year. It was a great success! 6 other folks were SKYPED during the reunion that could not make the trip. A cousin in the group had a slightly damaged photo of Arlene's great grandmother as a young woman. It has since been restored and shared with all. And, Arlene's last uncle (on either side of the family) passed away recently. He will be buried August 2<sup>nd</sup> at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors. He was 92. All eight of the 1<sup>st</sup> cousins will be in attendance.

**Barbara Taylor** shared that DNA has been submitted for her son and ex-husband. As soon as it was posted, there were nearly 5000 matches for her husband's DNA which included many cousins. Barbara submitted her DNA to Family Tree and her DNA matches Leon Smith, the husband of Bunny, our Librarian. How about that!

**Verl Nash** finished our "brick walls" segment with a story about two boys that were together in a hospital room. One was having his tonsils out. The other boy was having a circumcision performed to which the first boy replied, "Boy, I had mine done when I was born and I couldn't walk for nearly a year!" Thank you, Verl, for that great transition into our break for refreshments.

### ***July Meeting***

~Bill Bluett

**Dr. Stephen M. Baird** gave a most interesting presentation regarding "***Diseases That Ravaged Our Ancestors***". He covered the history of mankind from the earliest days to the present and outlined diseases that were the most prominent during different periods of time. The Industrial Revolution brought about new diseases that challenged the medical profession to find cures for many severe outbreaks that occurred. His historical timeline gave us a better understanding as to how our ancestors were affected. Dr. Baird's five page list of diseases we received gives the old name or term for the disease with today's more common term listed to the right. This will help researchers identify terms indicated on older death certificates and give us a better understanding of what took the life of our ancestor.

We had a total of seven guests at our meeting. They were: **Wendy Goodall**, **Bill O' Bryant**, **Kathy Richardson** and her mother, **Gary** and **Ardyn Fredericksen** (Note: Gary is President of the Genealogy Club, Sun City, Palm Desert, California), and **Robert D. Breton**, Chairman, Community Services, City of Mission Viejo.

**Kathy Mauzey**, **Charlene Clark**, **Ginny Jenkins**, and **Diane Hearne** provided the wonderful "goodies" we consumed during our refreshment break. Thank you all!

### ***How to Use Print Screen To Make a JPG Image***

~Herb Abrams

Many people wonder why nothing happens when you push the Print Screen key on your keyboard. Of course the answer is that it just stores the image in that invisible place called the "Clipboard" and then you have to paste it somewhere. The best place to paste it is into a program like Paint.net which you need to download. But be careful and download it from a secure site like CNET or you may get a lot of adware on your computer. I suggest you Google "Paint.net and CNET" and download the program from there. It will put an icon on your desktop.

Now here are 6 easy steps to making a jpg image from anything that is on your screen:

1. Adjust the view so that everything that you want is on the screen and then press the "Print Screen" key.
2. Now minimize the screen you are in so that you can find that Paint.net icon and double click on it.
3. In the Paint.net program click on "Edit" and "Paste" and then "Expand Canvas". Your image should now appear.

4. Now click on "Tool" and then "Rectangle Select". Make a rectangle around the part of the screen that you want to save by holding the mouse button down from the upper left corner to the lower right corner and then release the button.
  5. Click on "Image" and "Crop to Selection". Your cropped image will now appear.
  6. Click on File and then "Save". In the file type choose jpg and give it a name with the extension .jpg and make sure that you know what folder you are saving it in. Then click "Save" and "OK" at the bottom of the screen. **Be sure to click OK or it will not save it.** That is all there is to it. If you have any problems email me at [hvabrams@cox.net](mailto:hvabrams@cox.net).
- Come to a mini class on this subject on Saturday, Aug. 17 before the SOCCGS meeting for live demo.

***New CD for British Researchers***  
by David Flint

If you are researching ancestors in the British Isles, you may want to know about a new CD recently added to our SOCCGS collection at the library - the NATIONAL BURIAL INDEX for England and Wales (Third Edition). The National Burial Index (NBI) is a database of burial entries recorded in the English and Welsh registers - parish, nonconformist, Roman Catholic, Quaker and cemetery registers. Over 18.4 million records are indexed in this edition, covering the years 1538-2008 and it includes the 13 million records from the Second Edition. The NBI is produced by the Federation of Family History Societies in England. The coverage for entries included is not complete for all areas - it is an ongoing project, and does not include all burials.

Each entry provides surname, forename(s), date of burial, age (where given), the parish or cemetery where the event was recorded, and the family history society, group or individual who extracted the record. There are complete written instructions provided with the CD, as well as built-in guides within the CD itself. These include instructions for conducting a name search on the NBI, surname search strategies, and how to limit the search by county, place and date.

For example, I did a simple search for my family name in Hertfordshire, the county where I do a lot of research. It returned a list of 106 names ranging from 1800-1888. I was able to refine that search list by parish name, and did a refined search for the parish of Berkamsted, and further filtering the list in ascending order by date. It was very easy to reduce the first sort list to 17 names in my preferred parish in date order. That is a very manageable number to do further review of the individual entries.

This new CD might be just the resource you need to find that elusive ancestor buried in England or Wales. Check it out at the library.

***Legacy User's Group***  
~David Flint

The next SOCCGS Legacy User's Group will meet on Thursday, August 15 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The meeting location is the Saddleback Room 1 in the Mission Viejo City Hall, directly across the plaza from the library. (With the meeting in August we are returning to our regular meeting schedule on the third Thursday each month.) 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 genealogy software. It is an informal meeting where you can share ideas and learn from 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. Bring your laptop computer to the meeting to get the full benefit. For questions or more information, contact David Flint - [davidflint@cox.net](mailto:davidflint@cox.net). See you there.

***Who Do You Think You Are***  
~www.Examiner.com

New episodes of Who Do You Think You Are began on July 23, 2013 on network TLC. Celebrities will include Kelly Clarkson, Chelsea Handler, Cindy Crawford, Chris O'Donnell, Christina Applegate, Zooey Deschanel and two others who have not been announced yet. Other genealogy based shows are also in production. "Finding Your Roots" and "Genealogy Roadshow" will both air on PBS in 2014.

## **The Family Tree Maker User Group**

~Sheila Larson

The Family Tree Maker User Group meets on the first Sunday of the month from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the Bill Price Room of the Mission Viejo Library (across from the public computer area). The user group meeting will resume on Sunday, August 4, 2013. The purpose is for users to share their collective knowledge of the program and pick up some tips.

Bring your laptop, your questions and become a part of the group by calling or emailing Sheila Larson at 949-436-0500 or [lighthouse1212@yahoo.com](mailto:lighthouse1212@yahoo.com).

### **Beginning Genealogy**

~Arlene O'Donnell

**Location:** Mission Viejo Library - Bill Price Room. **Dates:** Jul - Oct: The 4th Thursday of the month; 10:00 a.m. -12:00 noon; Nov/Dec: **2nd** Thurs/mo 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Bill Price Room (due to holidays). **Class Size:** 4 Maximum

**Requirements:** Bring one document e.g. birth/marriage/death certificate, obituary, or any document pertaining to your family. This is a class for those interested in starting their search for their ancestors.

This class is given by the South Orange County California Genealogy Society. There is no charge for the class; however, we request that you RSVP. There is also a signup sheet at the docent's desk in the Genealogy Room. Call for details: 949-466-7178; email: [silkberry@aol.com](mailto:silkberry@aol.com)

### **The Storytellers**

~author unknown [from an email by Pius D Waldman]

We are the chosen.

My feelings are in each family there is one who seems called to find the ancestors. To put flesh on their bones and make them live again, to tell the family story and to feel that somehow they know and approve.

To me, doing genealogy is not a cold gathering of facts but, instead, breathing life into all who have gone before. We are the story tellers of the tribe. All tribes have one. We have been called as it were by our genes.

Those who have gone before cry out to us: Tell our story. So, we do. In finding them, we somehow find ourselves. How many graves have I stood before now and cried? I have lost count. How many times have I told the ancestors you have a wonderful family you would be proud of us? How many times have I walked up to a grave and felt somehow there was love there for me? I cannot say.

It goes beyond just documenting facts. It goes to who am I and why do I do the things I do? It goes to seeing a cemetery about to be lost forever to weeds and indifference and saying I can't let this happen. The bones here are bones of my bones and flesh of my flesh. It goes to doing something about it.

It goes to pride in what our ancestors were able to accomplish. How they contributed to what we are today. It goes to respecting their hardships and losses, their never giving in or giving up, their resoluteness to go on and build a life for their family.

It goes to deep pride that they fought to make and keep us a Nation. It goes to a deep and immense understanding that they were doing it for us. That we might be born who we are. That we might remember them. So we do. With love and caring and scribing each fact of their existence, because we are them and they are us.

So, as a scribe called, I tell the story of my family. It is up to that one called in the next generation to answer the call and take their place in the long line of family storytellers.

That, is why I do my family genealogy, and that is what calls those young and old to step up and put flesh on the bones.

### **Local Events**

**August 25 - 1:00 pm–3:00 pm** - Cemetery tombstones and the Jewish Online Worldwide Burial Registry Project - Temple Bat Yahm, 1011 Camelback St., Newport Beach, CA 92660, RSVP to Sandy Bursten ([sandybee1@cox.net](mailto:sandybee1@cox.net))

**September 28** – Grand Opening of San Diego Genealogical Society's ne location, 330 Park Boulevard, San Diego - [www.casdgs.org](http://www.casdgs.org)

**South Orange County California Genealogical Society '2013' Seminar Registration**

Saturday, October 19, 2013 - 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (Doors Open 8:00 a.m.)

City Hall, Saddleback Room, 100 Civic Center Drive, Corner La Paz & Marguerite

**"Settlers, Soldiers, & Overcoming Brick Walls" featuring Lloyd Dewitt Bockstruck**

**Pre-registration must be received by October 16 / Tickets at the door \$25.00, no lunch.  
(Seminar information & registration form also available on SOCCGS website.)**

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**Name(s)** \_\_\_\_\_ **Registration:** \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$20.00

\_\_\_\_\_ **Box Lunch:** \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$9.00

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

**City & Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Total:**  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: SOCCGS, P.O. Box 4513      Information: (949) 492-9408 or Mission Viejo, CA  
92690-4513                      <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~casocgs/>**

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**SOCCGS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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

**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)**

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**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**