

# Saddleback Valley Trails

## South Orange County California Genealogical Society

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

September 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.

SOC CGS is not affiliated with the LDS Family History Center

## September 19, 2015

### "Homesteading that Little House on the Prairie"

Presented by

Jamie Mayhew

**Were your ancestors homesteaders? Did you know that homesteading in the continental United States did not end until 1976? Land records form the largest group of records for our ancestors and often leave the only clues to marriages, deaths, and relationships. How did this whole system of free land work?**

About the speaker: Jamie Lee Mayhew is a frequent speaker in Southern California on the subjects of beginning research, land records, homesteading, census records, and newspaper and book research. She was a member of the research team for season one of the PBS television program, *Genealogy Roadshow*. A native of the Los Angeles area, she has a BA in Sociology, MA in Educational Technology, and holds a Professional Learning Certificate in Genealogical Studies from the National Institute for Genealogical Studies

**Mini-Class 9:15-9:45 before the September Monthly Meeting – "The Snipping Tool" will be presented by Sheila Larson. All Mini-Classes are held in the classroom to the left of the kitchen.**

**Safari News**

~Bill Bluett

Come join us on September 23rd and take part in our safari. We will be traveling to the Los Angeles Family History Center on Santa Monica Blvd. in West L.A. Go to [www.larfhc.org](http://www.larfhc.org), where you can search for books, film and fiche available at this destination. This will enable you to better plan your day. The car(s) will leave the LDS parking lot at 9 a.m. Bring a brown-bag lunch, \$\$ for your driver, and then enjoy dinner on the way home at the "Earth, Wind, and Flour" restaurant.

### **Free Legacy Family Tree Webinars**

Legacy is presenting several free webinars in September: Break Down Brick Walls in Eastern European Research; Research Your Swedish Ancestors in Living Color; Researching Your Dutch Ancestors; Researching Your Ancestors in England and Wales; Maps Tell some of the Story for the African-Ancestored Genealogist; Using Periodicals to Find your Ancestors. Register at [www.familytreewebinars.com](http://www.familytreewebinars.com)

## President's Message Citing Your Sources By David Flint

When was the last time you sat down with your genealogy research for the specific purpose of bringing your source citations up to date? I'm guessing it has been awhile for most of us. Why is it that so many people tend to put off keeping their source citations current?

I don't actually have the answer to that, but my personal experience and observation tell me that most of my fellow genealogists are not as dependable in documenting their sources as they are in finding new ones to research. When we go to hear top speakers at conferences and seminars, they often remind us of the importance of completing sources for all of our genealogy research, and the longer we put it off, the harder it is to get it done. I don't want to sound like I'm nagging with this article, but it does seem like we tend to put that off as long as possible. When I ask in a class how many people have 100% of their source citations completed, there are typically no hands raised. Does that surprise anyone?

We have all heard variations of the theme: genealogy without documentation is mythology. So, why is it important to document our research? One simple answer is to remind ourselves where we found it. Elizabeth Shown Mills, acknowledged expert on source citation, explains that the two most basic questions we must ask of our information are: *Where did it come from?* and *Who produced it?* Another reason to carefully document our research is to demonstrate to anyone else who wants to know, that we are serious, responsible researchers, and can support what we have found with authoritative sources. Yet another reason is to leave a trail for our own research so that anyone else who wants to verify our work can find what we found where we found it. We all know that what you find on the Internet is not always reliable. When you analyze the information in a family tree on Ancestry.com, did the person who posted that information provide their sources? If not, how can you verify their work before you accept it? If you have a family tree posted on Ancestry, did you provide **your** sources?

I suspect that a common reason people don't keep up with their sources, if they document them at all, is that it's just not as interesting as finding more names, dates, and places as we continue working a particular family line. Another reason might also be that it often seems too complicated, and we are not sure of the correct way to cite a particular source. As genealogists we use many different types of records – newspapers, periodicals, books, census records, church records, court records, government records of all kinds, microfilms, internet websites, blogs, and so on. Who can master the correct citation format for so many different kinds of records? So we leave it for later, intending to come back another time and get it done; and then we don't.

In those cases, I hope you at least made a copy of the document you found that supports your work and the information you recorded in your notes. For example, did you keep a copy of that census page and note which census it was? If you found it on Ancestry.com, did you also copy the index page in Ancestry, which typically includes rudimentary source data at the bottom of the page? For books, did you make a photocopy of the page where your ancestor's birth date or military service was recorded? For that book, did you also copy the title page, and note the book's call number on the copy, as well as the name of the library where you found it? If your information came from a microfilm at the Family History Library, did you note the FHL film number and Item number, if applicable? All of these details are key pieces to complete source citations, and if you don't record those details at the time of your research, you may not have them when "later" comes around to document the source.

As for correct source citation format, there are lots of resources available to help us. Elizabeth Shown Mills wrote what is generally regarded as THE definitive work on the subject – *Evidence Explained* (Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 2007), now in its third edition. This is a ponderous tome of nearly 900 pages, and covers virtually every kind of source you can imagine. There are also less complicated resources available on the subject. For example, you can search *Cyndi's List* ([www.cyndislist.com](http://www.cyndislist.com)) using the search term "source citations" or "citing sources" and find lots of help. You can also consult the FamilySearch Learning Center for more resources. The important thing, however, is to cite your sources for future reference, regardless of how you figure out how to do it.

Personally, I think the discomfort many people feel with knowing the correct format for source citations is one of the main reasons they put off completing their sources. Some genealogy programs may include a feature to help with that. One of the reasons I am such a strong advocate for the Legacy Family Tree genealogy software is its built-in feature for sources. In 2008 Legacy introduced a new feature called SourceWriter™, a template driven sourcing system that makes it easy for you to select the correct input screen so that you enter all the pieces needed to correctly cite any source of information in the thousands of

formats that exist for them. The information you enter is correctly and precisely formatted to match the [genealogy industry standards](#) for source citations. This feature was developed by Legacy in consultation with Elizabeth Shown Mills, and based on her work in *Evidence Explained*. Using SourceWriter assures that you will have correctly formatted, professional looking citations for all of your sources. For my money, it's worth using Legacy for that reason alone, and I have found it easy to complete my sources on the fly during my research with this feature.

Over the past couple of Legacy Users Group meetings we took time for an in-depth review of how to connect digital media (such as photos, census images, digital copies of birth, marriage and death certificates, letters, wills, and other documents) to our individual family files in the Legacy program, including sources. In the next meeting or so we will do a similar in-depth review of Legacy's SourceWriter feature to encourage our members to fully document their sources, rather than putting it off for the "later" that never seems to come.

However you put some time and attention on catching up on your source documentation, I encourage everyone to try bringing the source citations for your genealogy research up to date. You will gain the satisfaction of knowing that your research is that much more complete, and you will have left a valuable trail for anyone who wants to discover what a great job you have done in documenting what you found in your research. Why not give it a try?

### **SOC CGS Privacy Policy by David Flint**

The executive board recently adopted a formal policy statement regarding the privacy rights of SOC CGS members and the use of their personal information by SOC CGS. It is the Society's policy to protect the privacy of its members from improper use of their personal information, such as name, address, telephone number and email address. Under the new privacy policy, such information is considered confidential and may not be provided to any outside entity or commercial enterprise without the knowledge or consent of the members. A copy of the full policy statement is posted on the SOC CGS website at [soccgcs.org](http://soccgcs.org).

The Society may, from time to time, share such information with other members to encourage and facilitate communication among the membership. However, the Society's privacy policy extends to individual members, who are not permitted to share personal information with non-members. The Society does not condone improper use of personal information by its members, and is not responsible for any such use by individual members.

Members will have the opportunity, at the time of joining our society, or upon renewal, to inform the Society if they do not wish to share their personal information with other members. This opportunity to "opt out" will be accomplished by adding a check box to our membership application and associated documents. The board believes that this new policy is appropriate for a private organization of our size, and we want you to communicate any privacy concerns you may have to a member of the board.

### **DOCENT PROFILE - Pam Steube**

I'd never had any experience as a docent until the Society was looking for substitutes for all the folks attending the Salt Lake [research] adventure last April. I met with Bunny Smith (SOC CGS Librarian) for an hour or so and she showed me all the ins and outs. She asked if I wanted to take a permanent position on Wednesday afternoons from 3:00 p.m. until 5:30 p.m.?

After thinking it over, I said, "Yes." Bunny was thrilled as she was looking for someone for that slot. Things do happen for a reason. So now, every Wednesday I walk into the library and I notice everyone is busy checking out books, looking through books, or writing notes while sitting at the tables and looking at the available computers.

I can feel all this brain power under one roof which makes me feel so smart. Most of the people that come into the genealogy area know the drill and sit down in front of one of the four computers and away they go. Every once in a while there is a person or two that walks up to me and sheepishly says, "Hi, I'm interested in getting started looking for my ancestors."

Well, I perk right up because that is like music to my ears. I love helping people; at that point in their search they are thrilled for any little glimpse of the past. The "newbies" are all so grateful for the help and I'm so happy to do it!

## Mystery in the Library

On a Saturday in June an anonymous donation was presented to our library docent. What to do with a six pound hardbound book, the genealogy of "The **Lind Family** of Lindgaard?" We have limited shelf space. Furthermore this book was in Danish and no members of SOCCGS have a connection to the Lind Family. We did find a connection on MyHeritage.com. Jim Thordahl notified his cousin, Hanne, a genealogist in Denmark, and she found the owner of the MyHeritage Lind tree. Jim lugged the heavy volume to Denmark during a scheduled trip in July, and the book now has a pleased owner. Christian has sent a note of gratitude. Of course, he would like to know who the man that brought this book to us was. Perhaps you can help solve this **mystery**.

## Membership Update

~Jack Naylor

At the August meeting we had 88 members and 3 guests in attendance.

**Linda Daniels**, who was a guest at the August meeting, has joined the Society. She lives in Mission Viejo, CA [daniels.linda@gmail.com](mailto:daniels.linda@gmail.com). Perhaps we can list ancestors she is searching for in a future newsletter. **Mary Jane Williams**, who joined in July, is looking for: the Morris family in Keswick Ridge, Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada in the 1830's or before. [maryjanew224@gmail.com](mailto:maryjanew224@gmail.com). New members who also joined in July, are **John & Lynda Zimmer**, Mission Viejo, CA [artzlyn@cox.net](mailto:artzlyn@cox.net)  
**Guests: Gladys Sherman**, Mission Viejo and **Charles Ryu**, Laguna Woods. Charles is the husband of member, **Judith Ryu**.

## Book of the Month

### "Spanish-Mexican Families of Early California"

On display at the docent desk.

~Judy Davin

I have a friend whose family comes from the Gabrieleno Indians here in Southern California. In the 1960's his family hired a professional researcher to prove his grandparents were descendants of the Gabrielino Indians. This research was partly related to the federal government giving money to the Gabrielino Indians survivors because the government took their lands many years ago. But the researcher didn't leave the family any records of proof. His DNA proves he is 21% Native American!

I have been doing research for my friend. His 2x great grandmother, Monica, a neophyte, is the connection. After looking everywhere for information, I discovered the Archival Center at San Fernando Mission. Their website suggested a 3 volumes set of information where I might find the connection. The name of the books are "Spanish-Mexican Families of Early California" by Marie Northrop. I looked at World Cat and found 2 volumes were at the Orange County Public Library/San Juan Capistrano. So I went there, but didn't find the information I needed. A few days later, while doing my docent duties at Mission Viejo Library, I went over to our Genealogy book section, California in particular, and guess what I found? All 3 volumes of the books that I have been looking for were right here! For some odd reason I didn't think to look there before, but when I did I found just what I needed!

Mission Viejo Library isn't on World Cat website and unfortunately our genealogy section books are not in the library catalog. So the bottom line is...look at our SOCCGS on line Catalog first.

## Ways & Means

~Jim Thordahl

**Ralphs Community Contribution Program:** SOCCGS received a check from Kroger in the amount of \$222.56 for the quarter of March through May. Thanks to all our participating supporters. Now it's time to **re-enroll**. Just present the scan-bar letter again the next time you shop or you can **re-enroll on-line**. Instructions are available on our website. Have you used our new link yet? (soccgs.com)

**CPK Fundraiser:** Mark your calendar (Thursday, **September 10<sup>th</sup>**) for our second fundraiser at the California Pizza Kitchen on Marguerite Parkway in Mission Viejo. Grab a flyer and present it when you place your order. Good all day and for all service except delivery. Look for an e-mail with the flyer attached.

**Totes:** The new totes are available. They are crisp and clean and only 5 dollars. They are great for toting your genealogy notes when you head to the library for research. The totes will be available at our general meetings.

**Salt Lake City Reservations for 2016 Now Open**  
**By David Flint**

Reservations for the 2016 SOCCGS research trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City are now being accepted. We have booked a block of 25 rooms at the Salt Lake Plaza Hotel, located on Temple Square, next door to the Family History Library. The dates for our second annual trip are April 17-24, 2016. The cost is \$450 per person (double occupancy) and \$750 per person (single occupancy). You must be a SOCCGS member to participate in this trip.

If you want to make a formal reservation, you need to complete a reservation form and submit it with a deposit of \$100 per person to the society. Reservations are for a full week – Sunday to Sunday. Airfare is not included, and you are responsible for your own travel arrangements to and from Salt Lake City. All reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Final payment of the full amount is due February 1, 2016.

The cost of the trip includes: seven nights at the hotel; orientation meeting at the hotel; a banquet on one evening with a speaker; a wine and cheese reception; all-you-can eat breakfast before check out; hotel shuttle service to and from airport; plus other special events with our group during the week. Before the trip we will conduct “getting ready” meetings to help you prepare for the trip and to plan your research when you arrive in Salt Lake City.

This trip is expected to fill up fast, so please make your reservation as soon as possible to assure that you get a room. The reservation form and full trip details are available on the SOCCGS website at [soccgs.org](http://soccgs.org) where you can download and print the form. Make your deposit check payable to SOCCGS and mail it with your reservation form to SOCCGS, P.O. Box 4513, Mission Viejo, CA 92690. If you have any questions about our 2016 trip, please contact David Flint at [davidflint@cox.net](mailto:davidflint@cox.net) or call 949-551-6300.



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Complete details below and return this form with deposit – make checks payable to SOCCGS – mail to SOCCGS, P.O. Box 4513, Mission Viejo, CA 92690

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Name (as you would like it on your Name Tag):

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a total deposit of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (@ \$100 per person) for the following reservation request(s):

Double(s)       Single(s)      How many total in your party? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a roommate? (Name)

\_\_\_\_\_

Is this your first time visit to the Family History Library?       Yes       No

## **OCTOBER SEMINAR REMINDERS!**

~Bill Bluett

### **Seminar Jewelry Table**

Jewelry Chairman, Jo Ann Minnig, is requesting "costume jewelry" to sell at the seminar. This has been a very successful Ways & Means Project in past years. She may be contacted at (949) 582-3682 or [jbminnig@earthlink.net](mailto:jbminnig@earthlink.net). Please bring donations to the September general meeting or they may be left in the Genealogy Section of the Library.

### **Seminar Opportunity Drawings**

Ways and Means Chairman, Jim Thordahl, is requesting donations for the seminar "Opportunity Drawings" Table. Items that may help the genealogist in their research will be appreciated. Anyone wishing to donate please contact Jim at (949) 492-5334 or [jimandbonniethor@juno.com](mailto:jimandbonniethor@juno.com).

### **Seminar Book Donations**

Book donations will be collected at the library. Cookbooks seem to be a popular item. But, any books will be accepted to build up our collection for the seminar.

## **Don't delay! Make your reservations for the October seminar with Dick Eastman ASAP!**

**Saturday, Oct. 17, 2015 - 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (Doors Open 8:00 a.m.)  
Mission Viejo City Hall, Saddleback Room, 100 Civic Center Drive**

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### **SOCCGS '2015' Seminar Registration**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Registration: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25.00

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

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

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

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

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

Information: (949) 492-9408 or at  
<http://www.soccs.org>

### **Special Program**

#### **Beyond Passenger Lists: Documenting 20<sup>th</sup> Century Immigrant Lives**

The Orange County Jewish Genealogy Society (OCJGS) is sponsoring a special program on Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm at the Huntington Beach Public Library. This program is presented by Zack Wilske, Historian with the USCIS in Washington D.C. Mr. Wilske is a recognized expert on U.S. immigration and Naturalization records. A modest charge of \$5.00 per person will apply and tickets can be purchased online, in advance, at the OSJGS website: [www.ocjgs.org](http://www.ocjgs.org). Advance purchase is recommended, as this program is likely to sell out. After September 30<sup>th</sup>, the charge is \$7.

**Genealogy Search Tip of the Day** Posted: 30 Aug 2015 <http://searchtip.genealogytipoftheday.com>

**Digital Wyoming Newspapers** The Wyoming State Library has over 800,000 pages of online digital newspapers--all full text searchable. <http://newspapers.wyo.gov/>

**Historic Oregon Newspapers** This portal on the University of Oregon website contains links to digital images of dozens of Oregon newspapers. <http://oregonnews.uoregon.edu/>

**Digital Library of Georgia** This portal on the University System of Georgia website contains links to digital images of newspapers across the State of Georgia. <http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/MediaTypes/Newspapers.html>

## Future Genealogy Events

**Sep 4, 2015**, 10-12:00-Mary Jo McQueen - Genealogical Research SIG - Sdlbk Rm, MV City Hall  
**Sep 5, 2015**, 10am – Free webinar – Michael L. Strauss, “The Great War: Researching Your World War I Ancestors,” <http://tinyurl.com/scgs-150905>  
**Sep 14, 2015**, 10-12:00-David Flint - England SIG - Saddleback Room, MV City Hall  
**Sep 17, 2015**, 10-12:00-Arlene O’Donnell - Beginning Genealogy Class – Bill Price Rm, MV Library  
**Sep 17, 2015**, 11-1:00-David Flint – Legacy Users Group, Saddleback Room, MV City Hall  
**Sep 18, 2015**, 10-12:00-Gary Schwarz – German SIG – Saddleback Room, MV City Hall  
**Sep 22, 2015**, 10-12:00-Jim Thordahl – Writing Life Stories – Saddleback Room, MV City Hall  
**Sep 25, 2015**, 10-12:00-Francie Kennedy – “How to get the most out of FamilySearch” MV Library  
**Sep 27, 2015**, 1:30pm-Warren Blatt-What’sNew on JewishGen, Temple Bat Yahm, Newport Beach  
**Oct 7, 2015**, 1:00pm – Beyond Passenger Lists: Documenting 20<sup>th</sup> Century Immigrant Lives, Zack Wilske, Historian USCIS, Huntington Beach Public Library, sponsored by OC Jewish Gen Society. \$5/\$7

### **SOCCGS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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**SOCCGS Website:** [www.socgs.org](http://www.socgs.org)



**SOCCGS Research Center, located at the  
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      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.