

Saddleback Valley Trails

South Orange County California Genealogical Society

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November 2012

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, 27967 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

Please check the mailing label on this newsletter.

If the date is 1/1/2013 dues are payable by January 1.

November 17, 2012

ARMCHAIR GENEALOGY

Presented by

Nancy Huebotter

Connecting with family (both living and deceased) is what genealogy, or family history research, is all about. After spending time looking at the sources available within your own collection of family memorabilia, the next step is to look at those resources and records your ancestors created throughout their lives. But how is that accomplished? Actually, this step in the research is becoming easier with each passing day. Knowing what types of records have been created and where they are filed is important. Then it is a matter of searching the internet or writing to county clerks and other repositories for helpful documentation - all from the comfort of your home!

About the Speaker: Nancy Huebotter, a nationally recognized lecturer on various genealogy topics, has spent over 36 years researching her family history. Along with her parents, Nancy researched, wrote, and published a family history book entitled, Ancestors and Descendants of Thomas Carroll and Ellis Miller (1610 - 2005), a 395 year history of her mother's lines. She is currently writing her father's biography, Not for a Nickel, especially highlighting his military service and subsequent imprisonment in a German POW camp during World War II. Nancy is a principal technical writer and an instructor for Raytheon, where she has been employed for more than 35 years. She spends her free time engaged in family history research, volunteering at St. Jude Medical Center, reading, knitting or crocheting, or pursuing her dream of becoming a novelist.

Safari News

There are no safaris scheduled during the months of November and December. On January 23rd, 2013, the safari destination will be the Los Angeles Public Library.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

~Bill Bluett

I was going through some family files stored in my garage last month when I ran across a packet that was filled with information regarding my wife's great grandmother's funeral. **Clara Belle Osborne** nee **Jones (1871 – 1948)** died in California in 1948. She was originally from Iowa, but, came to the Los Angeles area after her husband died. Clara lived with some of her children who were living out here with their husbands. Several of them worked many years for Wallace China in Los Angeles. Helen (my wife) and I were given quite a collection of this china from family members when we were married in 1965. Clara died in Camarillo according to the funeral information. I don't know for sure if she was at the Camarillo State Mental Hospital (which opened in 1936) or another hospital in the area. But, the funeral was held in Los Angeles and her body transported back to Iowa so that she could be buried next to her husband in the Oakland Cemetery located in Iowa City.

The packet from the funeral home contained a booklet with the names of all who attended the funeral. This prompted me to go to Ancestry.com and see if I could find Clara's parents. I knew her maiden name was Jones. Oh, no, another Jones! My great grandmother's maiden name was Jones. And, she was born in Iowa. But, to my knowledge, they were not related. I did find Clara's parents in the 1870 census in the Iowa City area. Her father's name was **Rial M. Jones (abt 1852 – 1872)**. Her mother was **Mary Elizabeth Tyler**. But, the most interesting piece of information that came up in Ancestry was the fact that Rial Jones served in the military during the Civil War. He served with the **Iowa 22nd Infantry Regiment** during the war. Now, wait a minute! Didn't they participate in the campaign throughout **Virginia's Shenandoah Valley**?

Last year, I shared with you the fact that my wife and I had great-great uncles that fought together in a number of key battles in the **Shenandoah Valley**. Helen's great grandfather's brother, **Bryant Reynolds**, served with the **28th Iowa Infantry Regiment**. My great grandfather's brother, **Joseph Bluett**, served with the **2nd Massachusetts Cavalry**. In October of 1864, they both fought at the "Battle of Winchester" and the "Battle of Cedar Creek" under the command of General Philip Sheridan. Major General George Custer was the cavalry commander in those battles. Could it be possible that we now have three ancestors that fought together in the same battles? And, sure enough, the Iowa 22nd Infantry Regiment did serve in that location and participated in those battles. What a coincidence! Now, I'm wondering. If I continue researching deeper into Civil War records, I may find that there were even more family members that fought together in numerous battles. How far do I go with this type of research? This could be a whole new project. I'll have to think a little more about this one.

Rial Jones was not a young man when he joined the military. He was about 33 years of age and had been married for 10 years when he entered the service in July of 1862. He even had two children at this time. His service was completed in July of 1865. Clara Belle Jones was born in 1871. But, her father died in 1872. His Civil War Pension form is on Ancestry.com and indicates that his widow filed for a pension in June of 1872. I do not know the reason for his death at this time. Also, Ancestry.com gave me a link to a website that had a photo of his grave marker. **IowaGraveStones.org** had a picture of Rial's military headstone and verified that he is buried in the **Oakland Cemetery in Iowa City, Iowa**.

So, I guess this particular find indicates to me that I need to go back into my stored files from time to time and pull out those little nuggets of information that I glossed over the first time. I'm sure that there are still clues still hidden away in those files that may help me to overcome "brick walls". Be sure you revisit those stored away files and documents wherever they may be!

Grand Prize Winners at the Seminar

The winner of our grand prize – **a one year Ancestry World Deluxe subscription** – turned out to be a woman who joined our society on the day of the seminar. **Susan Lirette** of Mission Viejo was our grand prize winner. Congratulations, Susan! This prize was a gift provided by our guest speaker Lou Szucs – compliments of her employer, Ancestry.com.

The winner of our second "surprise" drawing – **a one year Ancestry U.S. subscription** – was **Lee Kraft**, another member of our society. Congratulations, Lee! This gift was provided by our society, SOCCGS.

For a gallant spirit there can never be defeat ~Wallis Simpson - *The East Coast will repair itself.*

October Seminar Wrap-Up
Bill Bluett – Seminar Chairman

Our 11th Annual Family History Seminar was once again a rousing success! We were so privileged to have Loretto Dennis (Lou) Szucs from Ancestry.com as our guest speaker. We had 131 folks join us for this event. The four topics that Lou presented were loaded with great research ideas and tons of valuable information for all genealogy enthusiasts. This woman is such a knowledgeable person having had years of experience with the National Archives and the Ancestry organization. Lou Szucs commented that our society was one of the most hospitable and friendly groups she has ever worked with. I told her how much we appreciated the compliment. During the course of the day, lucky tickets were drawn for nearly 40 door prizes. Congratulations to all the winners. There was a wonderful display of complimentary food and refreshments for all in attendance thanks to the superb crew that sets this up each year. Our “Corner Bakery” lunches were excellent as they always have been in past years. Also, there was much activity around the vendor tables. Our society would like to thank the “Association of Professional Genealogists” (Jean Wilcox-Hibben and Alice Volkert) for having an informational table. Butch Hibben hosted his “Legacy Stories” at another table. Claire Santos-Daigle had her “Photos Made Perfect” display again this year. David Flint demonstrated the Legacy software at his table. And, our own Jackie Hanson, author of many wonderful books, was present at a table location as she has been each year. Our costume jewelry tables (three in all) were beautifully displayed. Our SOCCGS table, DAR/SAR table, and our Book Sale table rounded out the displays at our event. Finally, I can’t even begin to give all our volunteers enough thanks for all they do. They all pitched in and did an excellent job in setting up and hosting this event. And, I would like to give a big “THANK YOU” to all who assisted in helping to plan our seminar. It just wouldn’t happen, if we didn’t have such a great group of volunteers. Each year gets better. Keep up the good work!

Ralphs Community Contribution Program

~Jim Thordahl – Ways & Means Chairman

Thanks to your participation in this generous program, during the last quarter (ending in August) our SOCCGS treasury has been enriched by \$247.44. We had 48 households participating – a new high. In keeping with Ralphs privacy policy the names of the participating households are not being published. You’re welcome to join this program at any time. If you have any questions, please see me at the next meeting, or you may call me at (949) 492-5334 or send an e-mail to jimandbonniethor@juno.com.

Legacy User’s Group

~ David Flint

The SOCCGS Legacy User’s Group meets at the Mission Viejo Library from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month in the Bill Price meeting room. This monthly meeting provides a regular forum for anyone interested in learning about the Legacy Family Tree program -- whether you are a beginner, or you are already using Legacy. This is an informal meeting where you can share ideas with other people who use Legacy. The meeting includes demonstrations on how to perform various functions with the Legacy program, as well as time to address specific questions or problems from those attending the meeting. Feel free to drop in and out of the group as you like. The next meeting is at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 15 at the Mission Viejo Library. See you there.

Membership

We welcomed six new members in October: **David English, Linda Stucker, Donna Rathman, Patricia Okura, Susan & Ray Lirette. Diane Wahrman** reinstated her membership.

David (dav-eng@att.net) is searching for Henry **Counts**, VA 1760-1840; Adam **Bowyer**, VA 1740-1800; Abraham Gottlieb **Deschler**, GE, VA, PA 1740-1800; Patrick **Lindsey**, IRE, PA 1760-1820; Marty **Witherspoon** IRE, P,A 1760-1820; **Ralston**, James IRE, OH 1760-1830; **Lyons**, Esther IRE, PA, OH 1760-1830; **Andrews**, William IRE, PA, OH 1780-1850; Jane **Kennedy**, IRE, PA, OH 1780-1850; John **Inglis**, ?, PA, OH 1790-1830; Levi **Yeo**, MD, 1780-1820; Arthur **Ingrahm**, MD 1700-1760.

Lirette (suslir@cox.net) Susan is looking for surnames **Canchola**- Guanajuato, Mexico before 1905, **Caballero** from Sonora, Mexico-before 1835 , **Mendoza** from Sonora before 1871, Mexico, **Orantes** from California (1812). **Ray** is researching for **Lirette**, which was spelled a variety of different ways before they crossed over from France in the 1600's. He has the info from the ship leaving La Rochelle, France in the 1600's.

Lizzie May Hammond Bailey Homan "Mayme" 1886-1967

~Diane Hearn

Before her marriage in 1908, Mayme apparently either was quite an enthusiastic cook or she knew some well. Here is a recipe from THE FORSYTH COOK BOOK, edited by the Ladies Aid Society of the First Presbyterian Church:



Lizzie May Hammond Bailey Homan
"Mayme"
1886-1967

"To Cook Wild Game - Boil one hour then add an onion; add two or three potatoes, cut in small bits, season with salt, pepper and a lump of butter; cook until tender; thicken gravy. This is the western bachelor's way of cooking antelope, venison, sage-hen and rabbit. - Mayme Hammond"

Even when he was a western bachelor, my husband Pat never fixed this recipe for me, but he does recall his grandmother Mayme making wonderful jars of piccalilli, a kind of relish.

Mayme grew up on the wonderful ranch of her father **Thomas "Tommy" E. Hammond**, and we think went to school in Bozeman, Montana as a teenager. I know from census records that at age 22, she married **George James Bailey** in the town of **Forsythe, Montana**. Articles from the October 28, 1908 society section of the local paper describe the event:

"The event was a happy one, not only to the principals, but in all its arrangements. The bride wore a magnificent wedding gown, trimmed in real imported lace and she carried a splendid bridal bouquet of white roses...During the week previous to the wedding many events were given in honor of Miss Hammond. **Mrs. F.V.H. Collins** entertained about thirty of the bride-to-be's friends at progressive whist, serving refreshments in course...After the wedding the happy couple did their utmost to meet the westbound train without being entertained by numerous but strenuous well-wishers, but this was not to be, as the cargoes of scattered rice next day indicated. Mr. and Mrs. Bailey left for Hunter's Hot Springs, and after visiting several other western Montana points, will be at home to their friends in **Pocatello, Idaho.**"

We now own their beautiful wood silver chest which Pat refinished to a lovely luster.

In 1918, Mayme and her daughter, Virginia, moved from Pocatello, Idaho to **Santa Ana, California**. This move and its results comprise one of my favorite family stories. The following discussions show all Pat and I knew from his mother and grandmother until I became an amateur genealogist some years later:

"What was my grandfather's name," Pat would ask Mayme.

"Mr. Bailey."

"You called him Mr. Bailey?"

"Yes."

"All the time?" teenaged Pat would ask with a grin.

"Yes."

"What happened to your father, Virginia?" I asked Pat's mother after I became a part of the family.

"He died when I was three years old," replied Virginia.

"How sad. How did he die?"

"He was duck hunting, the water filled his boots and he drowned. So I never had a father growing up."

"But you had a stepfather," (**F. J. Homan**, her stepfather from approximately 1927-1933).

"Yes, and he had three sons whom I had to share a house with."

"What did George Bailey do? "

He was a pharmacist, born in Iowa."

Before I could really quiz Mayme and Virginia, they had passed on and I was on my own with the story.

The 1920 census shows Virginia, age 10, Marvel, 20 and Mayme 33, a "widow" (my quotes), living with Adelaide, age 50, a widow. This would be T. E. Hammond's granddaughter, two daughters and wife.

By 1930, Virginia, 19, was living with her mother and stepfather, F.J. Homan, and two of his three sons: **Chuck Homan**, 21 and **Earl Homan**, 20.

One would assume Mayme was divorced from George, but I've never found divorce certificates from either George Bailey or F.J. Homan (or a marriage certificate) and I'm a pretty good researcher by now.

I searched: I checked Iowa census records, (take a guess how many George James Baileys there are – lots.) I found some pharmacy schools and checked to see if they'd had a student named George Bailey – no luck. I could only guess at his age. I checked death records for Idaho. If Virginia was three when he died, the accident would have occurred in 1912. I'd found him, Mayme and Virginia, age 10 months, in the 1910 census in Pocatello, but, naturally I didn't look for him in 1920 because he was dead by then, Right?

Desperate to find a picture of George to complete a genealogy game for my grandchildren, Alex and Kate, I took advantage of a website I'd heard of called *Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness*. Volunteers in various parts of the world did research for other people. I wrote to a volunteer in Pocatello and sent him my query. He asked for my address and a week later, a large manila envelope arrived in the mail, thick with copies of newspaper articles.

This is what I discovered from the articles and glaring headlines: George Bailey and two other men died in a storm in a lake in *another* Idaho county in 1928. George, 49, *divorced*, lived at the Elks Club. For pity's sake! He didn't drown duck hunting; he drowned while fishing in a lake. His daughter, Virginia, 19, lives in Los Angeles, California according to the articles. She actually lived in Santa Ana; we can forgive the newspapers, but can we forgive Mayme and Virginia who having passed away, aren't here to defend their prevarication? The papers carried the story for several days as the bodies were not found immediately.

Now that I had an approximate birth date and a definite death date, I could begin finding information about Pat's grandfather. He was, in fact, born in Iowa and called himself a "prescription druggist, working on his own account" in 1910. He was an employer, a retail merchant of drugs, books etc. in 1920 and was listed as divorced (with his *widowed* ex-wife living in Santa Ana in a houseful of women.)

In a batch of clippings, we discovered a telegram, dated September 11, 1918 sent to Mrs. George G. Bailey in Pocatello, Idaho from T. E. Hammond. There were no "stops" in this telegram implying extreme worry. What could have happened? We'll never know that part of the story.

I've traced George's family, early farmers, to Massachusetts and England before that. One brother traveled to Idaho to escort the body back to Iowa. I've tried in vain to get in touch with the Iowa relatives. I want a picture!

Compounding the mystery, we never knew much about Mayme's second husband, F.J. Homan, except that he had those three sons. Virginia told us once that Chuck and Earl were "fashionable," they wore dirty moleskins, but Roger (her future husband) wore clean clothes.

One day in the 1970s, Virginia came back from the school where she taught and related that a boy on the playground said to another boy: "Mrs. Hearne used to live with my father." This would have been one of the Homan boys.

Some years later, Virginia told her second husband, **Jim Tibbetts**, that she didn't like elevators because her stepfather had died in one. I'm not crazy about elevators either – so confining – but I decided to check out this story. It appears that Mayme was F.J.'s third "wife." The first, the mother of the boys, either died or he divorced her in Colorado. His second, **Ida Belle**, is buried in Santa Ana. F.J. died in 1939 in **Santa Clara, CA**, age 53, married to a **fourth wife named Catherine**. I have his death certificate. Cause of death: "dumbwaiter fell on deceased causing paralysis of left arm and leg and fractured dislocation of 6th and 7th vertebra." That's one kind of elevator, I guess. Mayme listed herself as divorced in the 1940 census.

Mayme was animated and candid. Once early in our marriage, during a discussion of fabrics, I said I'd like to make a dotted Swiss dress for a little girl sometime. "When," was the reply? She worked at an exclusive women's clothing store named Patricia's, adored by her customers. She elegantly wrapped Christmas presents and appreciated receiving them that way too. She enjoyed a celebratory drink at each location visiting friends on Christmas Eve.

She loved to go out for cocktails and drinks in the evenings; Glendora recalls seeing her with friends' Zimi and Mac in the bar and restaurant at the Savoy on Birch and 4th in Santa Ana. Now called The Bistro, Glendora and I lunched there the other day after our research in the old courthouse. Loving baseball, she attended all the Dodgers' games, knowing the names of all the players. She complained, in the nursing home where she lived towards the end of her life, that "they always give me the ends of the tomatoes." Her son-in-law was as devoted to her as her daughter was. Every time they prepared to go on vacation Mayme became "ill" and they didn't go.

When You Can't Find the Vital Record...

~Ancestry.com

“Learning Center” dropdown/”Family History 101” tab/ “How-To Articles” link/....

Looking for a birth, marriage, or death record but coming up short? Here are some places – and techniques – you can turn to for answers when the usual sources don’t pan out.

Birth Dates

- While it’s important to remember that these are not primary sources for birth information, both **marriage and death records** often include birth dates and places.
- U.S. federal censuses records for the years 1850–1930 include ages for everyone in the household. With a little math, this will help you close in on a birth year. Enumerators used fractions to record ages for people born within the census year (e.g., 1 month = 1/12, 2 months = 2/12, etc.). The 1900 census asked for the month and year of birth, as well as ages.
- Military records will often include birth information for the person who served, and occasionally you’ll also find birth details for family members. **World War I Draft Records** and the **World War II “Old Man’s Draft”** are two good examples of military records that include birth dates.

Marriage Dates

- Since churches began recording marriages before counties and states did, they are an obvious choice as an alternative to a civil marriage record. Determine what churches were around at the time you think your ancestors married; then search those closest to where your ancestor lived or that shared an ethnic affiliation with your relatives. (You may find reference to church affiliations in death and other records.) Once you have determined what church your ancestor attended, a call to the church may be all it takes to find where the records are located, but if the church no longer exists, it may take a little digging. Many denominations have their own archives, while records for others may be held at a local or state historical society. And don’t overlook the possibility that a local group has made the records available online. Plugging the church name into a search engine could bring you an unexpected surprise. Don’t forget to search collections like the new **Pennsylvania, Church and Town Records, 1708–1985**, which include records from many Pennsylvania congregations.
- Local newspapers may have run notices of your ancestor’s engagement or marriage. Look for tidbits in social columns, as well as in sections that regularly listed marriage announcements and engagements. You can search **historical newspapers on Ancestry.com**. Also look for notices of anniversaries, especially memorable ones like 25th and 50th, in local newspapers. You may find details about the original marriage, including the date and names of witnesses, or a guest list of anniversary party attendees that will likely include other family members.
- When marriage records can’t be found, estimate the marriage date based on the age of the first child (subtract a year, just to be safe). As with any estimation you include in your research, be sure to note it as such. And bear in mind that there are a number of factors capable of throwing this estimate off.

Death Records

- New York, Death Newspaper Extracts, 1801–1890 (Barber Collection), is just one example of a collection that can be invaluable for finding information about New Yorkers, people who died in New York while visiting, or even individuals who did not live in New York but whose relatives did.
- An obvious alternative to a death certificate can be found at the cemetery, whether on a tombstone or in the records of the cemetery sexton. Millions of cemetery records have been transcribed and indexed by genealogical societies. **Find-a-Grave.com** includes photographs of several million graves with death and other information.

If your ancestor lived in a city, city directories can be especially useful. When someone who has been listed in a directory for several consecutive years suddenly disappears, it might be that he or she has passed away. When a man died, his wife may be listed in subsequent years as “widow” or “widow of...” Ancestry.com has directories for many cities and years.

[At Ancestry.com this article contains links to many databases at Ancestry. If you are a subscriber or use the subscription at the library, you can access the article and use these links to help you find some additional non-primary sources as evidence for your data.]

Get your facts first, then you can distort them as you please. - *This is why genealogists look for ‘reliably’ cited sources.*
~Mark Twain

Southern California Genealogical Society Webinars

03 Nov 2012 - Sat 10am PST D. Joshua Taylor; Online Resources for Colonial America.

01 Dec 2012 - Sat 10am PST Daniel Horowitz; Sharing and Preserving Memories in a Digital Era.

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

Info: <http://www.scsgenealogy.com/JamboreeExtensionSeries2012.htm>

Schedule: <http://www.scsgenealogy.com/storage/Extension/ExtensionSeriesTrifold.pdf>

Surname List



<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~casocgs/surnames.htm>

Members, please check your information on the SOCCGS Surname Website. If corrections and/or additions are necessary notify Herb at hvabrams@cox.net or (949-581-6292). New and old members are encouraged to add information by sending an email to Herb listing surnames, locations and years being researched.

Be obscure clearly.

- How many write biographies before busting their brick walls.

~E.B. White

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

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