

Saddleback Valley Trails

South Orange County California Genealogical Society

Vol. 23 No. 012

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

December 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.
SOCCGS is not affiliated with the LDS Family History Center



"SOCCGS Annual Holiday Luncheon"

December 17, 2016

10:30 am - 12:30 pm

(Regular Meeting Location. Please Note Time Change)

Members are invited to bring:

Genealogy/Holiday Items and/or Stories to Share.

Canned or Non-perishable Food Items, which will be donated to the South County Outreach Food Bank.**

The Luncheon will be catered.

The Executive Board will provide Desserts.

Important! Please Note:

Please RSVP for luncheon to Barbara Hebner bheebner@cox.net by Monday, December 12, 2016. This is so we can plan for the correct amount of food. We don't want anyone to go away hungry. ☺

** Most needed items for Food Bank: Peanut Butter, Jelly, Canned Fruit, Canned Tuna, Cereal, Canned Meat, Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Oatmeal, Bagged Beans, Bagged Rice, Granola Bars, or monetary donation.

Membership Renewal

Please see your newsletter mailing label for the month and year your membership dues are payable. The date is directly after your name. **If your renewal date is 1/2017** (most of our members will have this date) then renewals are due by January 2017. For those members who joined after January, dues are payable by the anniversary of the month they joined. When your dues are payable, the label will be highlighted. (Disregard the date and T number in the upper right corner of the label as it is a postal code.) The renewal form is on Page 7.

President's Message

By David Flint

Hello, fellow genealogists! This will be my final message for 2016 and my term as President of SOCCGS. It has been a sincere pleasure to serve as President of our Society for the past two years. A lot of water has passed under the bridge during that time, and we have seen some important changes in our Society's programs, operations, and the composition of our Executive Board. I have learned a lot in that time and feel that I am a richer person for the experience, and I hope you feel that I have done a decent job. I'm not going anywhere, and will continue to play an active role in our group. I will continue to conduct my monthly Legacy Users Group and England SIG. And, if you will have me, I will continue to serve on the board as Treasurer.

By the time you receive this month's newsletter, you are all no doubt just recovering from Thanksgiving, and now busy getting ready for Christmas or Hanukkah. At my house, we have the Christmas tree decorated and we are looking forward to opening gifts on Christmas morning and having our son home with us for a few days. Perhaps like you, I have many special memories of Christmas time. Growing up as a boy in England I remember what a special time it was for my family living in London. Since both my parents came from poor families, Christmas was a time when they went all out to make sure my brother and I had the best they could afford. But it wasn't the value of presents or the trimmings that I remember, but the rich experience of traditions and doing things a bit differently than here in the U.S.

For my family, Christmas was a special time of the year, and it was always a treat to have my parents with us at Christmas time when they were still alive. Even today we have our English Christmas traditions, such as scones with Devon clotted cream and home-made jam on Christmas morning, Christmas crackers on the dinner table, and plum pudding for dessert. My son still looks forward to the English Christmas traditions at our house when he comes home to spend some time with us. Life is good.

Looking ahead to the SOCCGS holiday season in December, I hope you will attend our meeting on December 17. There is no speaker this month, and instead we will gather for a luncheon provided by the Society, with desserts prepared by the members of the executive board. Details for the time and location of the meeting are on the front page of this month's newsletter. Our meeting will start at 10:30 instead of our usual 10:00 a.m. meeting time.

You may have something at home that reminds you of your life's experience of Christmas or the holiday season – perhaps a scrapbook of Christmas memories, or a family memento of a past Christmas that you would like to share with others in the group. If so, please bring it to the meeting where we will have tables available to display your item. We will also have some time during the meeting to share with others about what you brought, or about your special Christmas memories.

Also, please remember to let Barbara Heebner know if you are coming to the meeting so that we can plan for the right amount of food for everyone. R.S.V.P. to bheebner@cox.net no later than Monday, December 12.

I look forward to seeing you at our December meeting, and send my sincere personal wishes to you and your family for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Safari News

~Bill Bluett

There will be no safari in the month of December. Our next safari will be to the Los Angeles Public Library on January 25, 2017. Watch for additional information in the January newsletter for this upcoming journey to L. A.

Special Interest Groups

There will be no meetings in December for the Genealogy Research SIG; Ireland SIG; and Writing Family History Stories.

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

Naturalization in the Newspaper? Posted 13 Nov 2016.

Is it possible that your relative's naturalization was published in the local newspaper? Not all newspapers published notices of this type—newspapers where my people lived unfortunately did not publish these notices. But you never know. In locations where local records have been destroyed, newspaper notices of legal activities can often be helpful.

Notice of Bylaws Change

By David Flint

The SOCCGS Executive Board will be implementing an organizational change that will require a change in the Bylaws. At its November 10th meeting, the board decided to make a change in the existing board position of Public Relations/Webmaster currently occupied by Herb Abrams. This change will split the publicity duties from webmaster duties to create two separate positions. In conjunction with that change, it is necessary to change the Bylaws to eliminate the current position and create the two new positions - Webmaster and Publicity Chairman. Herb Abrams will continue to serve in the new Webmaster position after the change takes effect.

The board has approved changes in the Bylaws to implement this organizational change on the board. A copy of the formal language for this change in the bylaws is posted on the SOCCGS website for your information. In accordance with the requirements of our Bylaws, the proposed changes will be submitted to the general membership for adoption at the December 17 meeting. The Executive Board recommends approval of the proposed changes in the Bylaws. If you have any questions about the changes, please contact Francie Kennedy, Parliamentarian, or David Flint, President.

2017-2018 Officers

At the November 19, 2016 general meeting, the following members were elected to serve on the Board for the 2017-2018 term:

President: Bill Bluett

Vice-president: Arlene O'Donnell

Treasurer: David Flint

Recording Secretary: Pat Weeks

Corresponding Secretary: Marilyn Kowalski

In December, at our holiday lunch, the new officers will be installed. The new president will then appoint all of the Committee Chairs, and the new Board will have their first Board meeting in January 2017.

November Meeting

~ Bill Bluett

This month's program titled "**A Potpourri of Genealogical Successes**" was presented by four of our very own members! They included **Francie Kennedy (Free Access to Paid Websites)**, yours truly (**Success with Historical Newspapers**), **Arlene O'Donnell (Missed Opportunities in Cemeteries and Funeral Homes)**, and **Barbara Taylor (Success Stories: Finding Family Heirlooms)**. The presentations seemed to be well received by our members in attendance. They even elected to stick around until 12:15 asking questions that the presentation team responded to. Maybe we'll do this again at some future time if any of you would like to share your genealogy successes with our membership in the form of a presentation. **Ask – and we'll even help you put it together!** Prior to our program, refreshments were served. They were provided by the following members: **Mike Bresnan, Pat Christiansen, Victoria Crayne, Marilyn Kowalski, Patti Bartlett Russell, and Joyce Van Shaack**. Many thanks go out every month to **Barbara Heebner** and **Sharon Keener** for coordinating this special refreshment time during our morning break. The mini-class before the meeting was presented by **Gary Schwarz** "Using RootsMagic's Certification with FamilySearch.org as a Frugal Man's Ancestry.com." Gary showed how FamilySearch gives hints in the RootsMagic program (a lightbulb instead of a shaky leaf) and how to access the information.

Membership Update

We had 80 members and 2 guests, one of whom joined and is included in the 80 count. The guest who joined was: **Jane Schrenzel**, Lake Forest – looking for Isaac Smith, born 1790 Massachusetts; Edwin Wilcox, born about 1800 New York; Betsey Arnold, born about 1800 Massachusetts. New members in October and November are **Connie Kennedy-Dismang**, San Juan Capistrano; **Karen Nixon**, Rancho Santa Margarita; **Rebecca Diaz**, Chino Hills; **Roz and Rich Bellante**, Lake Elsinore; and **Evelyn Chang**, Laguna Woods. We have over 300 members.

SOC CGS Research Center: Feature of the Month

Two Books Donated by: Denise Richmond 1) German Census Records 1816-1916. The When, Where and How of a Valuable Genealogical Resource by Roger Minert

In a new book, written in English, researchers can now learn where and when German census records were compiled, as well as why and how. The author also describes state by state the content of census records and explains how surviving census documents can be located.

2) The German Research Companion by Shirley Riemer

Contains details on hundreds of topics, including archive addresses; book, microfilm, and microfiche numbers; gazetteers; church books and inventories; German indexes of family history information; numerous German genealogical resources; military resource lists; German correspondence aids; passenger arrival and departure records; help with the old German script; and much, much more.

Donated by: Herb Abrams: World Atlas which includes U.S. History Atlas

The books are located on the genealogy docent desk at the Mission Viejo Library.

Whittier Area Genealogical Society (WAGS) 34th Annual Seminar Saturday January 28, 2017

Speaker: Michael D. Lacopo, DVM is a retired small-animal veterinarian. He takes a scientific approach to his research as he does to his profession. Researching since 1980, he has lectured internationally and written for numerous periodicals and journals. A self-described "all-American mutt," his research skills cover a broad range.

Topics: 1) More Than the Census – Our Families Did exist Between Those Ten Year Intervals
2) Estate Files: Are You Getting The Most Out of Them?
3) Incorporating Social History Into Your Research
4) Finding Dead Ancestors is Easy: Finding Living Relatives Can Be a Challenge!

Registration by January 21 – WAGS members \$35; Non-member \$40; Lunch \$12

After Jan 21 and at the door \$45 For information www.WAGSWhittier.org

December Free Webinars

Legacy is presenting several free webinars in December

Dec 7 – Becoming a Genealogy Detective – Sharon Atkins

Dec 14 – From the heartland – Utilizing Online Resources in Midwest Research – Luana Darby

Dec 16 – Tracing Your European Ancestors - Julie Goucher

Dec 20 – No, no, Nanette! What Negative Evidence Is and Isn't – Judy Russell

Dec 21 – An Introduction to BillionGraves – Garth Fitzner

Register at 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:

Dec 3 – The Case of the Broken Link: Decoding the URL – Cyndi Ingle

Dec 21 – Using Tax Records for Genealogical Problem Solving – Dr. Michael D. Lacopo

Register at www.scgsgenealogy.com, click on programs and webinars.

Illinois Genealogical Society (ISGS)

Dec 13 – Without the Hint – There is No Story – Bernice Alexander Bennett

Registration: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3458035909419848194>

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

http://familysearch.org/locations/library_class_schedule

Ancestry.com - Check out Ancestry Academy for free courses

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

NYC Area Real Estate Record 1868-1922 Posted: 13 Nov 2016

The Real Estate Record is a weekly report of building activity in New York City and its environs (it appears to include a variety of real estate transactions and activity). This website contains issues from Volume 1 (published in 1868) to Volume 110 (published in 1922). It has full text search capabilities.

<http://rerecord.cul.columbia.edu/rerecord/index.php>

THE MOSES CONNECTION

~Dottie Para

By the time I became interested in my ancestry in the late 1970s, my maternal grandmother had already passed on, but my three great-aunts were still with us.

At one point, my mother and several other family members, including my Great-Aunt Amelia, came to visit. I decided it was a good opportunity to broach the subject of the family history with my great-aunt, who was born in 1897. She enthusiastically told me a few interesting facts and stories, which I wrote down. Then she fell quiet for a few moments, her brow wrinkled in thought. Her face suddenly brightened, and she proclaimed, "On the Morris side, we're supposed to be related to Moses."

We all sat there, stunned. I finally found my voice and said, "*the* Moses?"

After she confirmed that she was speaking of the biblical Moses, I asked her how the family had come to this incredible conclusion. She just shrugged, and said, "It's what I've always heard." Although I didn't have a lot of faith in this rather dubious information, I jotted it down and tucked it away in my file for the Morris branch of the family. Over the years, every time I came across that scrap of information, I puzzled over what had prompted it and whether it might be at all credible.

Twenty-five years later, in 2004, with my Great-Aunt Amelia having passed on, my only surviving great-aunt gave me the address of a member of the Morris family, whose late mother was rumored to have had a family tree. I wrote a letter and soon received a bountiful packet of information. As I looked through this wonderful treasure trove, I was delighted to find, among other things, a direct ancestor named Reuben Morris, who had served as a private in the Middlesex, New Jersey Militia, during the Revolutionary War. And, lo and behold, when I looked at Reuben's family, my great-aunt's statement from twenty-five years ago about Moses suddenly became clear. It turns out that my family is, indeed, related to Moses. No, not *the* Moses, but Moses Morris, brother of Reuben, as well as Moses Morris, Reuben's son. It was one of those *ah ha* genealogy moments.

Great-Aunt Amelia lived to be nearly a hundred years old. I only wish she and I could talk over a cup of tea just one more time, so I could share with her all the family history I've discovered.

There's a lesson to be learned from this genealogy story. No matter how odd and improbable a piece of information from an elderly relative may seem, you should never completely disregard it. Because sooner or later, you might just be able to connect the dots, and end up with an interesting story to add to your genealogy.

QUERIES

We are launching a new queries segment for our *Saddleback Valley Trails* newsletter. The Queries column will give submitters and readers another path to follow to find that elusive ancestor, place, organization, or record. Those who are successful through "Queries" are asked to share that information for publication in a future issue. *Saddleback Valley Trails* is sent to several Genealogical Societies including the Allen County Public Library where articles are indexed into the Periodical Source Index (PERSI).

Queries are free to SOCCGS members and will be used as space is available. At this time, we request that you submit only one query at a time, which will be published in the next available newsletter issue. Queries should be limited to 150 words or less.

Begin your query with all surnames mentioned, capitalized, and listed alphabetically. At least one full name, date, and location should be included in each query. Be sure to include your name and email address in your query text. Members are to send queries by email to SOCCGSNL@att.net. Please type "SOCCGS Query" in the subject line so that your query or message may be easily identified. To write an effective query, the National Genealogical Society (www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/writing_a_query) has guidelines and a list of accepted query abbreviations.

QUERIES

Subj: Obediah BROWN and Nancy PORTER of NY, IA, MN

Seek parents of Obediah BROWN b. abt 1797 NY, died 25 Feb 1873, Pope Co MN; and Nancy PORTER b 16 Jun 1799 in NY, died 20 Nov 1876 in Olmsted Co. MN; and/or marriage of Obediah and Nancy abt 1820 possibly Sullivan Co. NY.

Seek information on Jonathan BROWN (died aft 1887) and Gideon BROWN (died bef 1873) children of Obediah BROWN and Nancy PORTER. Kathie Mauzey E-Mail famhitory@juno.com

Spotlight From the New England Historic Genealogical Society

Spotlight: Virginia Resources by Valerie Beaudrault, Assistant Editor

NEHGS The Weekly Genealogist, Vol. 19, No. 17, May 4, 2016

Notable Henricoans Database

Henrico County is located in east central Virginia. It is part of the Greater Richmond region. The Henrico County Public Library has made the Notable Henricoans Database available on its website. Originally developed in conjunction with the 400th anniversary of the founding of the Henrico County, the database provides biographical sketches of 285 individuals who were born, died, or resided in Henrico County or played important roles in its history. Click the Search the Notable Henricoans Database link to begin. <http://events.henricolibrary.org/nhdb/>

Handley Library Family and Local History Databases

The Handley Library, which is part of the Handley Regional Library System, is located in Winchester, Virginia. Winchester is in the north-central part of the Commonwealth and is the seat of Frederick County. The resources include:

Obituary Index: This alphabetical index to obituaries appearing in the *Winchester Star* from 1896 through 1914 is a work in progress. The data fields in the index are the full name of the deceased and the date of publication of the obituary.

High School Seniors Indexes: These alphabetical indexes to seniors from Handley High School (1921-1976) and James Wood High School (1951- 1964) are drawn from the schools' yearbooks. In addition, there is an online collection of more **than 20,000 local and historical photographs**.
<http://www2.youseemore.com/handley/contentpages.asp?loc=73>

Spotlight: Long Island Resources by Valerie Beaudrault, Assistant Editor

NEHGS The Weekly Genealogist, Vol. 19, No. 16, April 27, 2016

Long Island Resources, Stony Brook University Libraries, New York

<http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/libspecial/collections/local>

The Special Collections and University Archives at Stony Brook University include rare maps, atlases, manuscripts, and books. A number of Long Island-specific resources have been digitized and made available through the Long Island History & Genealogy Collections website. Scroll down the page to the Digital Collections Highlights to find them.

The Long Island Documents collection provides material on the history of Long Island from its settlement. Several Revolutionary War-era letters are presented, including two letters written by George Washington. The Washington letters document spy activities in Setauket, New York, during 1779 and 1780. To learn more about the George Washington and the Culper Spy Ring <http://guides.library.stonybrook.edu/culper-spy-ring>

The Long Island Book Collection contains thirteen "unique and scarce" volumes about Long Island in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

The Long Island Historical Journal, a peer-reviewed, scholarly journal published from 1988 through 2008, can be searched by keyword and browsed by author and subject heading.

The Long Island Historic Postcards Collection contains approximately 200 postcards from the 19th and 20th centuries featuring images of various locales in Queens, Kings, Nassau, and Suffolk counties.

Fourth Friday Class – January 27, 2017 Overview of Genealogy Research in England

In our January meeting David Flint will present a program that reviews the three main record groups you are likely to use when doing genealogy research in England: Census records, Civil Registration records and Church records. Each of these record types covers a different time period ranging from 1538 to the present, and each can provide key information about your ancestors in England. The program will compare the different types of records with illustrations of the content, historical context, and some websites to access them online. A printed handout will be provided. The class meets 10:00 a.m. to noon on January 27 in the Saddleback Room at the Mission Viejo City Hall. If you plan to attend the class, please register in advance with David Flint davidflint@cox.net.

Future Genealogy Events

Dec 2, 2016 – Genealogy Research SIG - No meeting scheduled for December.
Dec 12, 2016, 10-12:00-David Flint - England SIG - Saddleback Room, MV City Hall
Dec 16, 2016, 10-12:00- Ireland SIG – No meeting scheduled for December
Dec 18, 2016, 1:30-3:30 - Marion Werle –You Found the Records-Now What? Records Analysis for the Jewish Genealogist, Congregation B-nail Tzedek, 9669 Talbert, Fountain Valley info www.ocjgs.org
Dec 21, 2016, 10-12:00-Gary Schwarz – German SIG – Bill Price Rm, MV Library
Dec 22, 2016 10-12:00-Arlene O’Donnell - Beginning Genealogy Class – Bill Price Rm, MV Library
Dec 22, 2016 10:30-12:30-David Flint - Legacy Users Group - Saddleback Rm. MV City Hall
Dec 27, 2016 - Writing Family History Stories - No meeting scheduled for December
Jan 6, 2017, 10-12:00 – Sue Naegli – Genealogy Research SIG – Saddleback Room, MV City Hall
Jan 27, 2016, 10-12:00 – 4th Friday Class – David Flint – Overview of Genealogy Research in England
Jan 28, 2017 – WAGS Seminar – Michael D. Lacopo, DVM, featured speaker, www.WAGSWhittier.org
Mar 11, 2017, 9:00-3:30 - Desert Genealogy Clubs Present Crista Cowan from Ancestry.com

SOCCGS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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SOCCGS Website: www.socccgs.org



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

SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY CALIFORNIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY **Membership/Renewal Application**

() New 1 Year: () Individual, \$20.00 () Joint Membership at same address, \$25.00

() Renewal Membership Number _____ Date _____

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.