

San Diego Genealogical Society Newsletter

“Discover Your Family History”

<http://casdgs.org/>

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William Zeigler – Newsletter sdgs.newsletter@gmail.com



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SDGS

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



There are several items that I would like to bring to your attention and in turn would ask for your comment.

We welcome the merger of CGSSD with SDGS. As genealogical researchers we all work with many skills and a computer has become a significant tool and skill. Our two Boards will meet 9 May to work on merger issues to the benefit of both societies. We will invite CGSSD to celebrate this merger at the 11 July monthly meeting, our yearly ice cream social.

Our society, at the recommendation of the SWOT Team (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats evaluation and restructuring committee), the subcommittee conducting website analysis, and SDGS's Social Media Coordinator, has approved a 30-day free trial of the website design company Wild Apricot. This company, used locally by the SD Horticultural Society and the Chula Vista Genealogical Society, comes highly recommended.

The Board will consider this move at the 9 May Board meeting. Three SDGS members attended an informational meeting about this design company and were supportive of a move to Wild Apricot. Visit SDGS's trial website at <https://sdgs.wildapricot.org>.

Since 2013 our current website design firm, ENS, has been asked to provide an electronic membership renewal option, and as of today we do not have this option. Wild Apricot can handle this capability and MORE! I ask that you visit the site under construction and give us your comments.

The Nominating Committee has been formed and charged with seeking individuals to fill the positions of President, Second Vice President of Membership, and Secretary. The nominating committee members are Richard Palmer (rlpalmer@umich.edu), Anne Marshall (asmarshl@hotmail.com), Louise Strawhun (l_strawhun@yahoo.com), and Vickie Fermil (fermils@cox.net). If you feel you can volunteer in one of these positions, please contact one of the Nominating Committee members.

Join us on one of our research trips to the Allen County Library 4-9 October or the Salt Lake Family History Library 15-22 November.

That's all for now,

Diane



NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our new members!

Valerie Mendez

Presious Crespin



IMPORTANT DATES:

See the website, <http://casdgs.org/>, for information on all SDGS events.

MONTHLY GENEALOGY CLASSES

Genealogy Classes will meet March through October in 2015 and will be held at 9am in the classrooms one flight above the meeting hall before each monthly meeting. Please email your intention to attend to sdgsclasses@gmail.com.

9 May	Computer Resources for Genealogy	Peter Steelquist
13 June	Land, Lots of Land – Everyone Wants Some	Anna Acosta
11 July	Using Social Media for Genealogy	Diane Hall
8 August	Genealogy on Your Mac	Anne Alves



MAY 2015 MONTHLY MEETING

Join us on 9 May at 10:00 am as Nancy Loe presents “Coming to America: Castle Garden, Ellis Island, and Immigrant Ancestors” at our May Monthly Meeting.

Follow in the footsteps of your immigrant ancestors who approached America's "front doors to freedom" through Castle Garden or Ellis Island in the 19th and 20th centuries. Learn about their experiences as they moved from entries on a ship manifest to an inspector's record book in the massive Registry Room. Even if your ancestors arrived at other U.S. ports, these sessions will help you discover what life was like for new immigrants, what records survive, and what you will find if you visit Castle Garden and Ellis Island today.

Nancy Loe, MA, MLS, is a professional archivist, librarian, and genealogist. Nancy has managed archives and genealogy collections in public and academic libraries, including serving as director of special collections and archives at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo for nearly three decades. In addition to directing NEH projects to digitize archives for researchers, Nancy has appeared on PBS's *American Experience* and *California Gold*, and at Rootstech and Jamboree.

Her Web site, sassyjanegenealogy.com, features blog posts and genealogy guides on search strategies, primary sources, and organizing genealogy research. Nancy is working on her own family tree in Norway, Sweden, Scotland, Austria, and Prussia, as well as the United States.



2015 MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE

SDGS has lined up some great speakers for the 2015 Monthly Meetings; don't miss out!

13 June	Hal Horrocks	Road Trip Resetting Your Research
11 July	Ice Cream Social with Randy Seaver	Researching Your Pennsylvania Ancestors AND The Best Ten FREE Genealogy Websites
8 August	Ron Arons	Understanding Our Families, Understanding Ourselves AND What's in a Name? Trouble
12 September	Maureen Taylor	Fall Seminar Identifying and Dating Family Photographs; Preserving Family Photographs – 1839 to the Present; Buns, Beards, Bodices, and Bustles: Understanding Ancestors Through Clothing; The Perfect P.O.P.: Photo Organizing Plan
10 October	Karen Cordova	TBD
14 November	Judy Brooks	Researching Scottish Ancestors AND High Road or Low Road – How and Why the Scots Migrated



MAY WEBINAR WATCH

Join us for our May Webinar Watch!

The Florida State Genealogical Society will host Peggy Clemens Lauritzen, who will present “Ticked Off! Those Pesky Pre-1850 ‘Tic Marks’” at 5pm on Thursday, 21 May 2015.

Go to the Florida State Genealogical Society website, <http://www.flsgs.org/cpage.php?pt=253>, scroll down the page, and click on **CLICK HERE** next to Registration. A new window will open up. Fill in the form and click on Register; you should receive an immediate email confirmation of your registration as well as follow up emails. Contact sdgs.webinars@gmail.com if you have any issues.

The following information comes from the FSGS website:

Webinar Abstract: It’s exciting when we are able to find our ancestors on every census they appeared on, until we reach 1840 and beyond. Those pesky tic marks seem to get in our way as we work to extend our pedigrees. Just what do they mean, and how can they help me? Are they throwing us into a dead end, or can they tell us more? This lecture provides a case study following an eastern Kentucky family back into the area of Germantown, Pennsylvania.



Presenter: Peggy Clemens Lauritzen, AG, has been involved in family history research since the days of her youth. A favorite snapshot is of her mother getting ready to transcribe in a cemetery just four days before Peggy was born. All four of Peggy's grandparents were born in the 1880's. She can recall their stories of epidemics, funeral customs, weddings, wars, the Depressions, and the joys and hardships of life. They, along with her parents, were born in the days of mules and buckboards, but lived to see men walk on the moon. Peggy and her husband, Kerry are Family History Center Directors in Mansfield, Ohio.



BEGINNING GENEALOGY CLASS

Our next “Introduction to Genealogy Workshop” will be held 9 June from 1:00-3:00 at the Allied Gardens/Benjamin Branch Library located at 5188 Zion Ave. Peter Steelquist will be the instructor. The workshop is open to the general public so please spread the word! Reservations are not required; however planning the correct number of handouts is easier if we hear from you. Email your plans to attend at sdgsclasses@gmail.com.

“Introduction to Genealogy Workshops” are held at different locations around San Diego County. In January, Del Ritchhart had a large, enthusiastic group attend a workshop at the Central Library. Topics covered in all workshops include How to Get Started, Census Records, Helpful Forms & Charts, Online Research, Identifying Resources, Popular Software Programs, Tips for Getting Organized, and more! Handouts are provided. Hope to see you there!

Keep an eye on the SDGS website Calendar of Events for future workshops. We would be happy to bring one to your neighborhood! Just let us know!



GENEALOGY DAY 2015

Save the date, 10 October 2015!

The History Center and the San Diego Genealogical Society will present a half-day family history seminar with Ce Ce Moore as our keynote. With only two-hundred attendees, this will be a HOT ticket! Keep an eye on the newsletter and website for further updates.



SALT LAKE CITY, NOVEMBER 2015

Join members of the SDGS as we take Family History on the Road! Our next Salt Lake City Family History adventure will be 15 to 22 November 2015. Contact Gloria Osborn, globob31@gmail.com, for more information and see the attached flyer.



JANUARY ANNUAL MEETING AND SEMINAR 2016

What are you doing 9 January 2016? Going to the January Annual Meeting and Seminar, that's what!

We've got a great speaker: John Philip Colletta (www.genealogyjohn.com).

We've got great presentations planned: U.S. Passenger Arrival Records, 1820-1930s: Sources and Strategies for Challenging Cases; Erie Canal Genealogy: The Peopling of Upstate New York and the Midwest; Discovering the REAL Stories of Your Immigrant Ancestors; and How to Prepare for Successful Research in European Records.

So SAVE that date!

Watch the newsletter and website for more information.



MEMBER QUERIES

Every month we will publish the queries that were posted at the previous monthly meeting. Please be sure to include name, contact information, and your query. And let us know if you get a response, sdgs.newsletter@gmail.com.

- **DELAWARE/CHENANGO COUNTIES, NEW YORK AND SLIGO COUNTY, IRELAND**

Interested in connecting with other researchers in these areas; Jane Morrow, J.E.Morrow@att.net

- **DUTCH SURNAMEN OF NEW AMSTERDAM**

Diane Lott, jefflott01@cox.net

- **SYMBOLS ON IRISH RECORDS**

Interested in anyone who might know about symbols in Irish records; one of the symbols look like a water wheel and the other one looks like Bridget's cross; Kathleen Porter-Nielsen, P1N@aol.com

- **WILKINSON**

Looking for the name Wilkinson that moved to Rancho Santa Fe in early 1960s; originally from Chicago circa late 1800s; Paula Harrison, paulavol@san.rr.com



APRIL 2015 MONTHLY MEETING SKETCH

by Randy Seaver

Dave Tooley provided a photographic overview of the early history of photography and the Civil War photographers in his presentation titled “The Photograph Record of the US Civil War – My 45 year fascination with this visual record...” at the 11 April SDGS meeting.

Dave started by saying “and now for something different” – which turned out to be the early history of photography. From Niepce to Daguerre to Talbot to Archer, he showed us images of the very first photographs taken in France and America. Then it was Matthew Brady, an entrepreneur with a gallery in Washington DC, Edward Anthony, who provided materials to photographers, and Timothy O’Sullivan, who Dave believed was the best photographer of the Civil War.

Starting with an early photograph of Abraham Lincoln, the iconic photos from the Civil War era were shown – Dave knew the people and the settings of each photograph.



He mentioned that the Library of Congress has thousands of Civil War photographs in the public domain – use www.loc.gov and click on “Prints & Photos” then the “Civil War” tab.

The Civil War photographs shown were often from the field, whether rural or in the towns, and showed bodies and damage. The photographs often included Matthew Brady in a background part of the photograph. There were also photographs of pistols, rifles, and artillery weapons.

Dave used the IrfanView program (<http://www.irfanview.com/>) to show the photographs, and often used a snipping feature to zoom in on a part of the photograph to see more detail.

Be sure to see Dave's list of Civil War Photograph websites on the SDGS website (www.casdgs.org) in the Members Only > Documents and forms > Monthly Meeting Syllabus list. You can save the syllabus or print it out.

This presentation was different – I learned a lot about the Civil War and the early days of photography.



JUDY RUSSELL AT THE NORTH SD COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY SPRING SEMINAR

by Bill Zeigler

The sun was shining and family history was in the air – another perfect day in San Diego County! And just to make it better, Judy Russell, the *Legal Genealogist*, was on hand to speak to the North San Diego County Genealogical Society at the Carlsbad Senior Center, 21 March 2015.

Russell brought humor and a wealth of information in her four talks connecting legal matters to the family history researcher. Her first discussion on making a trip to the county courthouse was worth the \$25 entrance fee that NSDCG charged for the day; her tips on what to bring and how to prepare for the visit were priceless. She suggested checking the program Animap to discover county boundary changes that may have affected where your ancestor's records were kept; doing your due diligence with FamilySearch to glean any information already available; and to remember that you represent EVERY family history researcher when you go to the courthouse – be sure to be polite and send a thank you note to the boss! Russell also recommended Christine Rose's books on courthouse searches, which can be found on Amazon (use the SDGS link to support the Society).

Russell's other presentations on Chancery Courts, Bonds, and Widows and Orphans were just as helpful, defining terms that were unfamiliar and making the mysterious understandable.

Judy Russell is a great speaker and I look forward to other presentations by her in the future, either through podcasts, conferences, or maybe even back in San Diego at a SDGS seminar!



NOTES FROM THE APRIL WEBINAR WATCH

by Bill Zeigler

Michael Lacopo, D. V. M, reminded us in April's webinar from the Southern California Genealogical Society to tell a story with our research. His presentation, entitled "Incorporating Social History into Your Research," encouraged us to be historians, using the context of our ancestor's history to fill in the gaps left by the somewhat sterile facts that we have uncovered in our research.

Lacopo, a gifted and talented speaker known to many through his popular blog "[Hoosier Daddy?](#)," illustrated his point with his own research in Germany. Using pictures and information from social history research on the internet and elsewhere, Lacopo was able to tell a much more complete story regarding marriage customs and lives in sixteenth-century Hattenhofen, a small village in the Duchy of Württemberg.

One benefit of listening to the monthly webinars is that it gives us a chance to "try out" speakers, ones that we may want to see in the future. Michael Lacopo should be added to that list. Members of the Southern California Genealogical Society will be able to watch this entertaining and informative webinar when it is posted to their member's section.



SDGS WRITERS GROUP

by Diane Altona

The Writers Group welcomed eight eager writers at the meeting on 3 April and six at the 17 April meeting. We shared what we had written, then listened to helpful comments. From each other we are learning techniques of research for background material and how to avoid some of the fumbles of a beginning writer. So many different styles of writing have emerged, bringing ancestors to life through our words. We also write about our own lives, experiences, and adventures.

Something new has emerged, genealogical poetry from at least two of the writers. Poets, you're also welcome to join this prolific writers group. We meet at 10:30 am on the first and third Fridays of each month at the Family History Center, 4195 Camino Del Rio South, San Diego, CA 92108



GRANDMA'S BLOOMS BY HEIDI MARC-AURELE (2015)

Letters sent half-way 'round the world
were the seeds that grew into
a love of the hand-written missive.

Stories of old photos, jewelry, family heirlooms
grew into a love of history and genealogy.

Watching the hours spent with a project in her
hands,
making items with love for family,
and others she would never know,
raised in me an appreciation of the hand-made
and a longing to do the same.

My beloved Grandmother
tended in the fertile garden of my heart
many of the same blooms found in hers.

I bide my time, hoping to cultivate
the same desires in another generation.



Heidi Sirois and her beloved Grandmother Florence Morgen Sly 1997



NEWS FROM THE GERMAN INTEREST GROUP (GIG)

by Anne Lambert

Members appreciated Judy Ross' presentation about message boards and mailing lists in April. Also, Del Ritchhart reviewed the latest features of Ancestry DNA and members discussed their own success stories and brick walls.

The May 20th GIG meeting will feature Dawn Scully's "Beginning Social Media with an emphasis on Facebook." In June, Dona Ritchie will talk about German church records.

The SDGS German Interest Group (GIG) meets the third Wednesday of the month from 1:00-3:00 in Mission Valley at the San Diego FamilySearch Library, 4195 Camino del Rio South. German-Americans are the largest self-identified ancestry group in the United States. New members are welcome.



NEWS FROM THE BRITISH INTEREST GROUP (BIG)

by Marilyn Hoffman

Articles for British Isles researchers in March/April issue of *Your Genealogy Today* magazine (formerly *Family Chronicle Magazine*):

“Searching for Ancestors in the British Department of State” by Ed Storey tells where to locate records for British subjects, both home and abroad. Great Britain had extensive holdings of colonies, dependencies, and possessions. In another article, “Why Guernsey?,” George Matheson, whose ancestors came from this small island (a British possession part of the Channel Islands) gives visitor information, research resources, accommodations, and restaurants.

See also a short article on “genealogical tourism” or “ancestral tourism” by Lisa Alzo, “Tips for Planning a Dream Trip to your Ancestral Homeland.”

A must-read is this issue’s article on “A World of Good Websites” listing a number of Scottish, English, and Irish internet resources. New resources are coming out all the time. For example, the “Genealogy Insider,” the e-mail newsletter of *Family Tree Magazine*, just announced that FindMyPast recently added Poverty Relief Loan records from ten Irish counties dating from 1821-1874.

An ad by Genealogical Publishing Company in the same issue announces publication of two new books on Ireland research: a fourth edition of *Tracing your Irish Ancestors* by John Grenshaw and a second edition of *A New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland*. The latter has been a key resource on Irish genealogical research since 1986 and it is better than ever. Call 1-899-296-6687 or contact www.genealogical.com. If you are not currently on their e-mail list, I recommend you do so. I have been on their list for several years, have ordered from them, and have been very satisfied.

Upcoming conferences: local Irish genealogy expert and SDGS member Mary Russell announced that Ulster Historical Foundation’s popular “Tracing Your Family History Conference” in Belfast, 6-12 September 2015, is sold out but a reserve list in case of cancellations is available. To register your interest e-mail enquiry@uhf.org.uk with “September Conference Reserve List” in the subject field. A possible additional conference with the same topics might be arranged for 4-10 October if there is sufficient interest. E-mail enquiry@uhf.org.uk with “October 2015 Conference” in subject field. Mary Russell has attended previous conferences and says they are excellent. Her e-mail is maryrussell29@aol.com if you would like to discuss this with her.



SDGS LIBRARY NEWS

by R. J. “Chris” Christensen

The SDGS docent program at the San Diego Central Library is not restricted to helping a patron find their link to Queen Mary, Charlemagne, or Genghis Khan. Just finding grandparents can be rewarding.

One day last week a gentleman asked if we could demonstrate *Ancestry.com* to his Little Brother. The gentleman and the young boy were part of the Big Brothers Big Sisters of America program. The Big Brother asked if we could find any information on his Little Brother’s family.

The little brother was only 11 years old so I thought it might be difficult to find records on his immediate family since they would not be very old in genealogy terms.

We started with him but he was born in 2004 and the California Birth Index only goes to 1995. However a search on his mother found her birth in 1984 which listed her mother's maiden name.

In a matter of an hour we had found his mother's marriage, his maternal grandparents' marriage in San Diego, a ship manifest arriving in Honolulu, and by now we were far enough back to start finding censuses in San Diego and North Dakota. We found this young man's family history that listed names and birth information back to 3G grandparents, and since the information came from a census we even had the birthplace of his 4G grandparents.

This young man was able to fill one side of a pedigree chart and add two more generations on the back!

As the Big Brother and the Little Brother walked out the door I heard him say to his Big Brother, "That was fun."

These are the moments that make being a Genealogy Docent fun. If you want to have fun at the San Diego Public Library please consider becoming one of San Diego Genealogical Societies' docents. Contact Chris Christensen at rjchris47@yahoo.com.



NEWS FROM HISPANIC SATURDAY

by Ceasar Castro

The April meeting of Hispanic Saturday was originally scheduled for 4 April. However, the Padres had scheduled Fan Day on 4 April and a wedding was scheduled at the Library, so the meeting was rescheduled to 18 April. Carlos Yturralde was originally scheduled to give a talk about the Hispanic Heritage Project, which he oversees, and his genealogy research. Due to the change of date and his travel schedule he was unable to make our 18 April meeting. He plans to talk at our next meeting on 20 June.

Eleven people attended the meeting. I gave a short talk about the Irish in Baja. As result of a number of Irish men arriving in Baja before, during, and after the Mexican-American War, there are now McDonoughs, Dowlings, Collins, Crosthwaites, and other English and Irish surnames in Baja.

Ralph Munoz shared his collection of old Tijuana area postcards from 1910 to 1950.

We rounded out the meeting with time spent talking about the roadblocks that some of the attendees had and coming up with solutions.



NEWS FROM THE FAMILY HISTORY WORLD

by Bill Zeigler, Editor

Genealogists should not feel a lack of educational opportunities; there's so much on the web and much of it is free.

Check out the article on [family history daily](#) about "7 Places to Find Free Genealogy Courses and Webinars Online." Many groups and paid services can be found on [YouTube](#), but don't forget [BYU's](#) independent study programs or the [FamilySearch Learning Center](#). In addition, Ancestry has recently released a series of videos in its [Academy](#) to join its previous videos on [YouTube](#).

The Board for Certification of Genealogists has released its series of [webinars](#) online, including presentations by Judy Russell and Thomas Jones.

There's lots of free education out there – just grab it!



Have you heard [StoryCorps](#) on NPR radio? It's a great series of recordings by regular people about their families and their lives. Folks have been able to go to StoryCorps booths set up around the country, there was one in San Diego, and record an interview; most of these have been archived in the Library of Congress. It's just a natural for family historians.

Well there's a new Apple and Android app for StoryCorps, aptly named StoryCorps. You can sign up for an account and use the application to record an interview. The app gives you possible questions to ask for different situations. You can also upload the interview to the national organization to be archived. Go to iTunes or GooglePlay and download the free StoryCorps app.

The app should be a boon for family historians and a great base for any family interviews.



Lisa Louise Cooke's Genealogy Gems podcast and website has added a new book for the quarter, *The Lost Ancestor* by Nathan Dylan Goodwin, a genealogy crime mystery. More information on the book can be found through the SDGS Amazon link!



CALL FOR ARTICLES

What amazing treasure have you uncovered? What fantastic speaker did you hear? What major disaster did you learn from? What new blog/podcast/article have you discovered? What family history adventure did you take and what did you gather? What did you learn on your last misadventure?

It can be as small as that last family puzzle piece or as large as a whole new branch! And pictures, we want pictures!

If you have something to share, we would all love to learn from it! Contact the editor, Bill Zeigler, at sdgs.newsletter@gmail.com.





San Diego Genealogical Society
Salt Lake Research Trip
Discover Your Roots at the
Family History Library
November 15 to 22, 2015

Your genealogy research adventure includes 7 nights lodging in Salt Lake City at the Salt Lake Plaza Hotel (next door to the Family History Library) and a Monday night lecture featuring a one-hour seminar with a professional genealogist. If you are interested in a private one hour consultation, please let me know and I will find a consultant for you. On Saturday night we will have a sit down dinner at the Plaza Hotel, which is all inclusive in the price.

Research Lodging

\$765.00 Single

\$450.00 Double

\$360.00 Triple

\$299.00 Quad

Non-members add \$10.00

Library Resources

220+ computers

515 microfilm readers

15 book copiers

3754 visitors daily

Research classes

A \$50.00 non-refundable deposit holds your reservation. The balance may be paid in installments, if desired. The total balance is due by October 17, 2015. No refunds after November 7, 2015.

To register, send this form, together with a check payable to **San Diego Genealogical Society to: Gloria Osborn, SDGS Special Events, 1997 Alameda Terr. San Diego, CA 92103**

Please indicate if you need a roommate or roommate's name, and if you are staying extra days. For additional information, contact Gloria O. at 619-298-2447, globob31@gmail.com

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Mail registration form & check (payable to SDGS) to Gloria Osborn, 1997 Alameda Terr. S. D. CA 92103

NAME: _____ TOTAL _____

Street Address: _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail _____

Roommate's Name _____