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7343 Ronson Road, Suite O San Diego, CA 92111 858-279-SDGS (7347)

casdgs.org

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The SDGS Newsletter is published each month except January. Submissions are welcome. The editor reserves the right to edit for space, clarity, and succinctness.

San Diego Genealogical Society Newsletter

Discover Your Family History

August 10, 2013 Meeting Speaker: Mary Van Orsdol

Mary Van Orsdol is Senior Librarian for Genealogy & Carlsbad History at Carlsbad City Library. She received her B.A. in history from the University of California, San Diego, and her M.A. in American history from the University of Minnesota. She received her M.L.S. from UCLA and has worked as a librarian for over 30 years. Mary has been the head of the Genealogy Division at Carlsbad City Library since 1997 and head of Carlsbad History Collection since 2012. She researches her own family and has a strong research background in New Netherland.

Library Skills for Genealogists or How to Use the Carlsbad City Library Genealogy Collection Effectively The Genealogy Collection of the Carlsbad City Library is nearly forty years old and includes over 25,000 books. Unlocking its secrets can be challenging. Genealogy Librarian Mary Van Orsdol will discuss how to use the collection effectively and provide tips and advice on search strategies.

New Netherland Research Although New Netherland as a political unit lasted only about 60 years, its influence on the developing American society significant. Researching New Netherland ancestors is exciting and challenging and requires an understanding of both Dutch and English record groups. Mary will discuss several important concepts, including personal naming names. patterns, and patronymics, and explore the various record groups needed to construct a family history of these early American colonists. She has prepared an extensive bibliography of New Netherland resources that can be used as a checklist for research.□

Thank you to Joan Carter for the ice cream social. Thanks to her helper Shirley Bracey and to all those who brought cookies.

Register for the September Family History Seminar.

Click here: <u>Seminar</u>

Review of July Meeting by Del Ritchhart

Ancestry recently announced that they are doing away with the old search in favor of a new search. Randy is a supporter of new search and demonstrated why he believes it provides everything provided by old search, plus more. Randy pointed out that in new search there are two hot buttons r and n, that enable you to revise (r) your search or to start a new (n) search by just hitting the respective key. Ancestry introduced a new viewer for looking at images of documents, such as census forms. It shows the titles for each column of the census form, even if you have scrolled to the bottom of the form and the column headings are no longer in view. Randy cautioned users to remember that search filters and selections are sticky—the system remembers the settings and will use those settings until you change them intentionally.

Randy prefers the new search versus the old search, category view over records view in new search results, exact matches not exact matches, use of wild cards for names, and specific databases versus searching the term "all."

In his second presentation, Growing Your Ancestry Member Tree, Randy discussed the pros and cons of uploading your family tree to Ancestry—the major advantage being the fact the tree serves as great cousin bait for finding new relatives and getting existing family involved. He also discussed the three ways to place a tree on ancestry. The 2012 version of Ancestry introduced the ability to synchronize a tree between your computer and the on-line tree. You cannot, however, also have it on a second computer and sync. The stories feature has been added by Ancestry and many people convert their notes to stories. Stories can be seen by all viewers of your tree; but notes can only be seen by editors of the tree. Randy discussed in detail how to navigate through the member tree and adding/deleting information from a tree. Ancestry has an app for both Apple and Android mobile systems and you can sync them to the on line tree.□

President's Message

President's travels

I have located another relative on my mother's side and they have invited me to Croatia but within a certain time frame due to their vacation plans so you will not see me at the August monthly meeting. Following my visit with my Croatian

relatives, I will be traveling by car down the Dalmatian Coast and then to visit my family in Budapest, Hungary.

Following my visit to Croatia and Hungary, instead of coming directly home to San Diego I will represent SDGS at the Federation of Genealogical Societies in Fort Wayne, Indiana. I hope to come



home with a plethora of suggestions and information about society administration. As I said in my previous message, besides genealogical sessions, there will be an entire day (all 6 strands of sessions) dealing with genealogical society business.

Library Update

The movement of our library books and holdings to the San Diego Public Library is taking place as you are reading this newsletter. Thank you to so many of our members who volunteered with organizing the library for this move. The grand opening is September 28, 2013.

There will be a need for volunteers at the new library. Watch the website and newsletter for upcoming plans for volunteers.

We have consulted a financial advisor concerning the divesting of the facility's physical assets. This includes all left over duplicate books and furnishings. The board has approved the statement to sell or donate books and furnishings on a timeline which was approved by the Library Transition Committee and Board. The profits of these sales will go into the general fund. Moving Sale is September 7-8, 2013

Your Library Committee and Board of Directors have approved and are working on a plan for closure of the 7343 Ronson Road facility for 2014. Classes and meetings will remain at the library but locations are being researched for the convenience of our members at area libraries or other facilities for classes, SIG, and user groups. We want these activities convenient for members wherever they live in the city and county.

Can You Help?

We are looking for a reasonably priced storage unit for material and equipment needed to be stored when we vacate the 7343 Ronson Road Suite O facility. If you have storage that we can use or know of storage, would you please let any of the officers and directors know. Storage contributed will allow income to be spent on research and education activities rather than on a monthly expense for a storage unit.

Dr. Diane McClure-Lott

Wednesday Library Classes 10 am

August 7 Ten Tips for the Beginning Genealogist with Del Ritchhart -

August 14 Computer Basics with Dave Tooley

August 21 Using Online Library Resources with Peter Steelquist

August 28 Brick Wall Brainstorming with Kitty Taylor.

There is no charge for these classes. Donations are accepted to cover expenses. Space limited to 15 participants. Please call (858) 279-7347 to register.

Welcome New Members

Daniel McLaughlin Joseph Nichols Romana Segal Sharon Connnor Jeanne Courval "James Hann Cheryl Singleton Saralyn Borboa

New members as well as established members are asked to fill in surnames, locations, and dates on the surname link on the SDGS website. The more we add to the surnames page the better to share research options.

San Diego County Interest Group Visits Leo Carrillo Ranch



Members and friends who attended the tour

On Friday, September 27 we will tour the Coronado Museum. On Friday. October 25 we will tour the National City Heritage Park and/or National City Library. On Friday, January. 24, 2014 we will meet at SDGS Library for sharing of 2013 genealogy trip successes and plan our 2014 schedule.

In Memory

We share with you the notice of death of Elva Colbeth a member of SDGS. Her obituary could be found in the July 7 edition of the *San Diego Union* newspaper.

Life Member Joyce M. Menard passed away on April 20, 2013. Her son Henry says, "She enjoyed being a member of your society but couldn't attend meetings due to illness. She looked forward to receiving the monthly newsletter."

Why Reinvent the Wheel?

From Dick Eastman's blog By Betty Lou Malesky

When starting to research a family line we usually check first to find out whether anyone has ever compiled and published a genealogy of that line. Why reinvent the wheel if the work has already been done?

Several steps enumerated below will help in evaluating the worth of a compiled genealogy. As with any work, its value is based on the degree of accuracy on which the information inside is based.

- 1. Start by reading the title page. Who was the compiler—a family member, a professional hired by the family, or another interested party? What are his credentials? Is he certified or accredited? Has he published other works? What is his educational background, his reputation in the genealogical world?
- 2. Is the work published by an established genealogical publisher or has it been privately published by the author. Today anyone can easily and cheaply self publish on paper or on the web whether a work is valid or not.
- 3. Has the book been reviewed by a competent professional? Most of the professional journals regularly feature reviews of recent publications that will help you in evaluating a compilation.
- 4. Is the work validated with footnotes or endnotes for each fact presented? Is every fact based on primary information, or are many facts derived from secondary information? Compare the sources for consistency in relation to each other, not just as independent facts.
- 5. Does the work meet current genealogical standards? Genealogies published in the 1800s are seldom up to today's standards. Even many produced in the 1900s are lacking documentation. A book published in the past 15 years should conform to the Genealogy Proof Standard.
- 6. Genealogy Today: logical Proof Standard formulated in 1997 and adopted by the Board for Certification of Genealogists in 2000, www.bcgcertification.org/.
- 7. What is the author's intention? Be sure to read the introduction or forward to determine why the book was written, what it is meant to accomplish. If written to prove a particular relationship or event, is enough evidence provided to support assumptions made?
- 8. Is the work credible? Does it appear to be historically accurate? Any writer can make an error, but obvious errors are red flags. With the ease of finding information on the internet today, it is not difficult to verify historic facts, dates and incidents.
- 9. Are living persons treated respectfully? Is their privacy considered in discussing touchy family issues, such as genetic disease or illegitimacy?
- 10. Was information derived from public records or were individuals invited to submit information and pay for inclusion in the book. If the book relied on subscriptions, it may not be as objective as it should be. A family might not submit data they would prefer not be made public.

These are just a few of the points to consider in evaluating a compiled genealogy. You may be able to think of a few more, especially as you begin to consider a particular work about your family.

Book Review: the Unofficial Family Archivist

The following book review was written by Bobbi King:

The Unofficial Family Archivist A Guide to Creating and Maintaining Family Papers, Photographs, and Memorabilia.by Melissa Mannon.

When I started doing genealogy, Dear Myrtle on AOL Genealogy Forum was my beacon for organizing my papers. To this day, I follow her instructions for organizing all my notes. At least I got that much right.

Now we have Family Archivist to start us out doing things right. It's the beginner who will benefit most from this book, but if you're a senior historian, there's something for you, too. "Chapter One: Your Story." is for us, old-timers. Have we recorded our stories? When I was a kid, my father used to rake, pile up, and burn the autumn leaves in our back yard. I'd sit and watch the embers magically sparkle as night closed in. The closest my kids ever got to that experience was watching the artificial gas logs in my fireplace go dark when I flipped the electric switch.

We have life stories as remote from our children and grandchildren as our grandparents' stories were from us, but now, don't we relish and value the words our ancestors left behind, trivial to them at the time but so treasured by us now? Ms. Mannon offers ideas to get our own recordings finished.

Family Archivist focuses on the care of personal papers, photographs, and memorabilia. Ms. Mannon speaks to diaries, health records, and cookbooks, "...I write down a memory about when I served the food." She writes about the value of personal memorabilia, "the value of this item is the memory it elicits of a special event...the comfort of being with...the interest I had...the excitement I felt..." that expresses the reasons for keeping the ephemera of our lives. She counters the reasons for keeping the good stuff against the reasons for throwing stuff out. She helps us figure out the difference between the good, the bad, and the ugly.

Ms. Mannon coaches us about the collection of personal papers, conserving damaged materials, and disaster planning. "Within every home is a treasure trove of information" writes Ms. Mannon. She's going to help us take very good care of it.

SDGS Book to be put on eBay for sale

974.7R462-*Husdon-Mohawk Genealogical and Family Memoirs* 4 vol. set by Cuyler Reynolds1999 reprint listed for \$150

943 G8533g *Germans to Americ*a vol. 1 Jan 1850-1855 by Ira A. Glazier 1988 listed for \$40 and vol. 31 Dec 1873-Dec 1874 1993 listed for \$40

973 C696t *Founders of Early American Families* by Meredith B. Colket Jr. 1985 listed for \$100

975.287 H726 Names in Stone: 75,000 Cemetery Inscriptions from Frederick County, Maryland 2 vol. by Jacob Mehrling 1966 listed for \$150

Four Sneaky Genealogy Pitfalls to Avoid At Any Cost

From Mocavo Blog July 8

Abstract: There are challenges in genealogy that can hinder your research or send you down the wrong path in the future. Make sure you understand the sneaky pitfalls that you may encounter so you can be on the lookout throughout your journey.

As you conduct your research, there are a few genealogical pitfalls that you will want to avoid in order to help make your search successful. Be on the lookout for circumstances that can potentially hinder your search or send you down the wrong path in the future. Many of these situations center on an important point: the broader you make your search, the more success you may have. If your search is too specific, then you limit yourself to far fewer results to evaluate. This, in turn, leads you to far fewer paths for investigation in the future. Keep these pitfalls in mind so as to avoid any unnecessary confusion or frustration throughout your research.

The Meaning of Words

Throughout history, many different words were used to describe relationships among family members. Records of the



past often used words describe relationships that would not have the same meaning we attribute to them today. For example, in the past, the word cousin was used to refer to any member of a family

that is not a brother, son, sister, or daughter, including distant relations. Today when we refer to a cousin, we are usually indicating a first or second cousin.

Another common change is with the term in-law. Today we refer to an in-law as a relative of one's spouse. Historically, however, the word in-law was also used to describe step and adoptive relationships as well.

The terms brother and sister have also changed. In older documents, brother or sister can refer to a wide variety of relationships, including full siblings, step-siblings, adoptive siblings (and those of one's spouse). The term is also used to describe brothers and sisters in the church, and is sometimes used as a term of affection for close friends.

Another example is the use of the title "Mrs." While today the title is used to assume marital status, in the past it was commonly used as a sign of respect and did not necessarily denote marital status.

When evaluating the information in your records, ensure that you validate any relationships that use terms such as these. Research the meaning of the words used at the period in which the documents were written. Validating your evidence may seem like a cumbersome part of the research process, but it will save you precious time in the end, by ensuring you are following the correct clues down the right paths.

All Books at the October 12 Meeting will be 50% off.

Hello My Name Is

Usually the research process starts with an ancestor's name. Names, however, can also be the first piece of information that can lead a genealogist astray.

For those with roots in England, surnames are carried from father to child. Those with ancestries from other countries may find other traditions. For example, some countries have patronymic surnames. John, son of Samuel, is John Samuelson. But when John has a son Stephen, the child is Stephen Johnson.

Those from Spanish cultures will find that people have two surnames, one carried from each parent. The patrilineal surname comes first. The matrilineal surname of the husband is dropped and replaced with the patrilineal surname of the wife when a couple has children. Thus, the child of Juan Carasquillo López and Maria Férnandez Ruiz would be called Edouardo Carasquillo Férnandez.

Another problem arises when people change their names. Getting past such a roadblock can be very tricky. Although a legislative process was often in place, in times past it was also possible to change your name simply by using another name for a period of time. As long as it wasn't for illegal purposes, the change would become legal.

One place to look for clues is in newspapers. The name change may have been done through petition, but it may have taken place in a place other than you think it did. As part of the petition process, the petitioner would usually have to place announcements in newspapers to give people the opportunity to bring to the court's attention any potential illegal reasons why the petitioner might be trying to change his or her name.

Compiled family histories also may provide clues. Children taken in by other families may have left a family tradition of their original name. These traditions were sometimes recorded in the compiled genealogy.

The Problem with Colloquialisms

When our ancestors migrated, especially across great distances, their place of origin can be difficult to identify.

Unfortunately, colloquial place names may make this task even more difficult. Often colloquial names are used instead of the official name of the location. While some colloquial names survive through time, others fall into disuse and are lost. Modern inhabitants



may have no idea of previous colloquial names. When dealing with place names, take into account that the information you have on an ancestor may include a colloquial name. Be certain to check gazetteers and maps (especially older ones) as well as modern databases. If you know what state it should be in, then try contacting the state library or state historical society. They might be able to help you identify the place.

Another potentially confusing situation is when a location can both change names and boundaries during the course of history. This is important to remember when you encounter a brick wall and cannot seem to find a solution to a question.

When this situation occurs, make sure you check to see if a name or boundary change took place in the region that you are researching. If so, you may have found one piece to your genealogical puzzle.

Finally, keep in mind that your ancestor may also be accidentally leading you to the wrong location. For example, people who migrated across long distances might say that they were from the nearest well-known populated place, when in fact they lived in a smaller village nearby. So, when looking for records, you might also check the smaller surrounding villages if you cannot find your family in the larger location. You may be surprised of what you find!

Julian Vs. Gregorian: The Battle of the Calendars

Did you know that Miguel de Cervantes and William



Shakespeare both died 23 April 1616, but they did not die on the same day? How is that possible? Easily. Cervantes died in Spain while Shakespeare died in England. These two countries were using different calendars at the time.

Calendar Julian was completely accurate in measuring the length of a year. As a result, the vernal equinox had changed by 10 days by the

late sixteenth century. This change was interfering with the date of Easter and causing problems for the Catholic church. In 1582 Pope Gregory XIII changed the length of the year slightly to account for the problem. In order to reset the vernal equinox to the proper time, 10 days were removed from the calendar. Finally, he set the start of the New Year as January 1.

With the Protestant reformation, however, not all countries were swift to adopt the Gregorian Calendar. In England, for example, while the New Year festival was celebrated on January 1, the new civil year began on Lady Day, March 25. When using parish registers, you will see that the new year begins after March 24. After the adoption of the Gregorian Calendar in other countries, you will notice that dates between January 1 and March 24 are often written with a dual year, such as January 15, 1631/2.

In 1752, Great Britain finally switched to the Gregorian Calendar. December 31, 1751 was followed by January 1, 1752, with the New Year now official starting on January 1. By now the calendar was eleven days off, so September 2, 1752 was followed by September 14, 1752.

Thus, this is how Cervantes and Shakespeare, while both died on the same date, died ten days apart. Spain was on the Gregorian Calendar while England was still using the Julian Calendar, thus there was ten days difference between the dates in the two countries.

While researching and confirming the dates in your family history, be sure to check if they fall within the time span that the Julian and Gregorian Calendar were both in use, between the years 1582-1752. As stated above, a quick way to recognize these special dates is to notice that the date is accompanied by a dual year, for example, January 15, 1631/2. When you

recognize this information, be sure to record the date including both years.□

British Isles News by Marilyn Hoffman

British Isles researchers will want to consider the Annual Seminar presented by British Isles Family History Society USA on Saturday, September 7 in Whittier, California. Renowned British genealogist Michael Gandy will be the speaker. Fee is \$50 to \$75, depending upon membership status and the Early Bird registration postmarked by August 10. Optional lunch is \$10. Questions: call 310-670-9611 or 626-359-1729. (Also see June SDGS newsletter for a fuller

description of this event). Contact Marilyn Hoffman at 760-476-9289 or email mfhoff@msn.com if you wish to carpool with her to this

event.

Another conference "Settlers, Soldiers, and Overcoming Brick Walls," presented by renowned author and lecturer, Lloyd Dewitt Bockstruck, past director of Genealogy at Dallas Public Library.on Saturday, October 19, for South Orange County California



Genealogical Society. One of the four sessions is titled, *The* Scots and the Scots-Irish Preregistration (due by October 16) is \$20. with box lunch for \$9. Tickets at the door of City Hall, Mission Viejo will be \$25. with no lunch. For more information call 949-492-9408 or contact www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/ ~casoccgs/.

Got Cornish ancestors? See the article in the June/July 2013 issue of Internet Genealogy entitled, Cornwall Online Parish Clerks: An Invaluable and Free Genealogy Resource, by Scott Phillips. This free, powerful and online source (OPC for short) is made up entirely of volunteers from around the world and covers all 259 parishes in Cornwall, offering free genealogy help. (The concept has expanded to other counties in the United Kingdom, but this article focuses on Cornwall). The mission statement as found on their website, is for each volunteer "to collect, collate and transcribe records of a chosen specific parish in Cornwall. The data originates from as many sources as can be accessed, including census, parish registers, cemetery records and parish histories--OPC may not yet have full data for all these sources." The website address is www.cornwallopc.org. There are specialized maps, a search database where you can do an all-encompassing search for one person, A resource tab which hold 88 links to additional valuable resources on Cornwall, and an extra searches tab which includes Apprentice Indentures, Bastardy Bonds, Hearth Tax, and many other records. You can even e-mail OPC volunteers for free advice with your questions. I have Cornwall ancestry, so I'm excited to check out this website! (Internet Genealogy

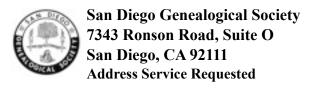
> Epitaph at Leeds Here lies my wife, Here lies she: Hallalujah! Hallelujee! From Sunny Side of Genealogy by Fonda Baselt

Visit SDGS website casdgs.org

View San Diego County genealogy events at: www.cgssd.org/events.php3

Events Calendar Unless noted, classes held at SDGS Genealogy Center 7343 Ronson Road Suite O, San Diego, CA 92111

August 2	Family Tree Maker for Mac 10am Contact Carol Jackson cjnest@cox.net		
August 3	Family Tree Maker User Group 10am Contact: Dave Tooley DJSJ21643@aol.com		
August 5 and 19	Writers Group 10am Contact Diane Altona daltona@san.rr.com,		
August 6	Reunion User Group 12–2pm Contact: Anne Alves fansv@cox.net		
August 7	Class: Ten Tips for the Beginning Genealogist with Del Ritchhart 10 am		
August 10	10:00 am Monthly Meeting St Andrews Lutheran Church Speaker: Mary Van Orsdol		
	9:00 Genealogy Education Class:Understanding Census Records with Mary Card		
August 14	Class: Computer Basics with Dave Tooley <u>DJSJ2143@aol.com</u> 10am		
August 14	Lost Treasures 1:00pm Contact Bonnie Fago ribbonbear@gmail.com		
August 21	German Interest Group 1pm Family History Center Bonnie Cosgrove sakdog@hotmail.com.		
August 21	Class: Using Library Resources with Peter Steelquist 10am		
August 22	Ancestry Group (Note: time and location change) 11am Family History Center Contact: Carole Sobke cjsobke@cox.net		
August 23	NO MEETING of San Diego County Interest Group		
August 24	Roots Magic User Group 10am Contact: Chris Christensen rjchris47@yahoo.com		
August 28	Legacy Computer User Group 6pm Reuben Marchant rnmarchant@gmail.com		
August 28	Class: Brick Walls Brainstorming with Kitty Taylor 10 am		
Save the Date: Up	ocoming Events		
September 8-15	Family History Library Research Trip Contact: Osborne Gloria globob31@gmail.com		
September 21	Fall Seminar Speakers: Karen Clifford and Geoff Rassmussen		
November 2	Research Trip to Los Angeles Public Library Contact: Chris Kramer chriskramerart@yahoo.com		
January 11, 2014	Annual Meeting Speaker:		

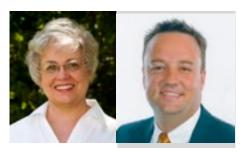


Dated Material Deliver Immediately

San Diego Genealogical Society A Family History Seminar For the Benefit of SDGS Education and Scholarship Program



Register online now using your credit card. Click here. http://events.constantcontact.com



Karen Clifford, President, Genealogy Research Associates Geoff Rasmussen, Legacy Family Tree Program Developer

> Saturday, September 21, 2013 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Marina Village—Captain's Room 1936 Quivira Way

Registration Fee: \$40 Members/\$45 non-Members Includes seminar, welcome coffee/tea/ danish, Door Prizes and Buffet lunch. *Free Parking*

Presentations

Digital Imaging Essentials

Legacy Family Tree Insights

The Research Cycle—Successful Genealogists' Secret to Success

Pre-1850 U.S. Research Methodology

Checks payable to: San Diego Genealogical Society
Mail lower portion to: SDGS C/O Del Ritchhart, 17544 Plaza Otonal, San Diego, CA 92128

Name(s):	;;			
E-mail Address:				
Amount Enclosed:	Phone #			
Special Dietary Requirements: Vegetarian Vegan Other				

San Diego Genealogical Society Research Trip to the

Los Angeles Public Library Saturday, November 2, 2013

Register Now. Click Here: http://events.constantcontact.com/register/

Michael Kirley genealogist and librarian has agreed to work this date especially for our group's visit. Join us to explore the extensive family history resources of the Los Angeles Public Library!

Depart 7:30am San Diego Veteran's Administration Building
(8810 Rio San Diego Drive)

Depart 8:00am Carlsbad Cole Library (1250 Carlsbad Village Drive)

Arrive 10:00am Los Angeles Public Library

Depart 4:30pm Los Angeles Public Library

Arrive 6:30pm Carlsbad Cole Library

Arrive 7:00pm San Diego Veteran's Administration Building

Cost

SDGS Members: \$40.00 Non-Members: \$45.00 Registration must be received by October 10, 2013.

We need 22 people for the trip.

No refunds after October 10, 2013

For more information:

Contact: Diane Lott at jeff01@cox.net

Make check payable to: San Diego Genealogical Society
Mail completed registration form to: SDGS c/o Diane Lott
2161 Clematis Street San Diego, CA 92105

Name	
	Cell Phone #
Email	
Amount enclosed \$	
Depart/arrive at Carlsbad Cole Library [] che	eck for yes