

June 2013

Discover Your Family History



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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.

June 8, 2013 Monthly Meeting

Speaker: Rick Crawford

The new San Diego Public Library will be the focus of Rick Crawford's presentation. He will give the history of the library and provide context to our current library and its collections. Rick will show some historical photos and current photos of the new building.



Rick will discuss the Special Collections, which will include images of the new genealogy area. Though books and materials are not scheduled to move into the building until late July, Rick will show the reading room, the shelving and work areas, and talk about volunteer opportunities.

Crawford is the Supervisor of Special Collections at the San Diego Public Library. He is the former Archives Director at the San Diego Historical Society, where he also edited the *Journal of San Diego History*. Born in Long Beach, he has been a San Diegan since 1973. He has degrees in history from San Diego State University and library science from San Jose State University. As a historian and archivist, he has written extensively on local history, including articles for the *San Diego Union-Tribune*, and the books *Stranger Than Fiction: Vignettes of San Diego History* and *The Way We Were in San Diego*. □

**Ice Cream Social****July 13 meeting****Sundaes \$2.50****Please bring cookies.****Review of May Meeting**

by Del Ritchhart

The speaker for our May meeting was Daniel Libby. The major point of his very entertaining presentation was that most cyber criminals exploit the human element in the digital world, not necessarily the electronic security barriers. They prey on eight weaknesses of their human targets: sex, greed, vanity, trust, compassion, sloth, urgency, and convenience. His anecdotal experiences provided good examples of how this is accomplished by the bad guys. He then explained how they use Phishing (broad audience), Spear Phishing (specific individuals), Whaling (phishing for senior officials in the target organization), Pharming (an attack aiming to redirect a website's traffic to a bogus site), and Credit/Debit card skimming to gain access to digital information. He wasn't shy about pointing fingers at the Russians and Chinese for much of this cyber-crime.

Interestingly, when asked what computer security software he recommended, he commented that he believes that Microsoft's built-in security software is as good as any.

His major means to prevent falling victim to these attempts to gain access to your sensitive information was "awareness." We need to know about the methods used by these criminals and then constantly be alert to detect such attempts.

Daniel answered questions from the audience throughout his presentation, most dealing with ways to avoid being a victim of these crimes or instances where attendees had experienced Phishing or other techniques. Although his talk did not deal directly with genealogy, in their evaluations most of the attendee thanked us for having him speak because the information was so valuable and relevant to everyday life in today's electronic world.

Daniel is a 24 year Navy veteran, having served in the Navy Security Group and with
(See Page 4)

President's Message

Nineteen members traveled by bus to Las Vegas and to the National Genealogical Society conference. Others drove by car or flew by airplane. We timed our bus arrival to be able to register that evening. The plenary meeting topic was People, Policy and Records: *The Importance of Historical Background*, by Marian Smith. The remainder of the sessions I attended were on the topics of technology, Mac, and Apps (applications), and Ohio expansion research. In the exhibit hall, I checked in on Genealogy Bank, My Heritage, and Treelines.com. I had previously posted a photo and story on Treelines.com, which won the 2012 RootsTech Developer Challenge. I posted a photo and story on Treelines.com.



In the session with David Rencher of Family Search he discussed the society issue of how to make the society relevant to distant members. He encouraged officers of a society to survey their distant members and ask "What has your society done for our distant members and what resources can they provide as well?" Another session was Rev. David McDonald's *Lutherpalians and Presbygationalists: Where did Grandma's Church Go?* An instructive, and humorous way to look at how religion affected family history. Many liked Shamele Jordon. I attended two of her sessions.

Once I put this issue of the newsletter to bed, I repack and head for the June 7-9 Jamboree in Burbank, California. I remind folks that Jamboree is as national as any national genealogical conference. Many of the speakers at NGS and FGS speak at Jamboree. Consider joining the group of SDGS members who will travel by train and back for the three day conference in Burbank at Jamboree. One New York speaker at NGS said to me, "Oh you are from California where they hold Jamboree!"

After Jamboree, I repack for the August 21-24 Federation of Genealogical Societies in Fort Wayne, Indiana; Yes...the city of the Allen County Genealogical Library. Sessions throughout the conference will focus on six strands that cover *Society Success, Technology, Volunteers, Society Projects, Planning For The Future and How To and Lessons Learned, the Society in the Twenty-First Century*. All of this following an opening plenary by Cyndi Ingle Howells. Yes...Cyndi of Cyndi's List.

Lastly, applause and thanks to all the volunteers and the library staff who made the duplicate book sale a success. The books will be packed for sale at Jamboree June 7-9. Members may still buy duplicate books up to this date. Books not sold at Jamboree will again be offered for sale at our July monthly meeting.

Dr. Diane McClure-Lott

Wednesday Library Classes 10 am

- June 5 Digital Scrapbooking with Dona Ritchie
- June 12 Computer Basics with Dave Tooley
- June 19 Researching your Irish Ancestors Using Magazines, Journals and Newsletters with Mary Russell
- June 26 Brick Walls 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

Elizabeth Rietow
Dawn Scully
Pauline Jimenez
Mary Mueller



SDGS Library Duplicate Book Sale by Chris Christensen

The Society from April 23-27 had its first stab at reducing our duplicate book numbers with a sale at the library, which was a success. So far we added \$1500 to the Society treasury. This was a typical multi-day event, with the first day bringing in about \$750. These books are from our library shelves which will not go to the new San Diego Public Library. As Heidi, the San Diego Public Library cataloger, continues her work she will identify more duplicates which we will then sell. Society members can continue to buy our duplicates.

As of May 3 we have seventeen shelves of books for sale. If you are interested in buying books come into the library and we will sell them to you. All books are priced approximately 33 percent lower than the cheapest price we could find on the internet so you won't find a better deal anywhere. We will take cash, checks, and credit card. Miriam, Carole or Chris are at the library during the week.

The remainder of the books will travel to Burbank, California for the Southern California Genealogical Society's Jamboree to be sold. □



Reflections on the NGS Conference in Las Vegas



SDGS Members who attended NGS in Las Vegas. Group Photo arranged by J.Paul Hawthorne, Historian SDGS.

In the very first session of the conference, I had the good fortune to sit next to someone who turned out to have some very special expertise I'd been looking for. Let me set the stage: After conversing with my seatmate (Linda Harms Okizaki) for several minutes, I learned that she was married to a Japanese-American man whose parents were interned during WWII. When I heard this, I began telling her about how I'd been trying for years to locate some former internees so I could reunite them with a 12-page letter sent by the young mother of the family—who was at the time interned at Topaz, Utah—to my parents. I knew the first names of the mother, father, and two children, but didn't know the surname. I had their address in Topaz, too, but without a surname, all of my efforts to find surviving family members had been stymied. Linda graciously offered to help me if I would forward the information to her. Within an hour of sending her what I had, she wrote back, having identified Jobu and Ann Ichiyasu and their children Joanne and Diane as a perfect match for the family I was seeking. Talk about serendipity! Sometimes you learn more by networking than you do from a lecture. From what I've been able to find on the Internet, one of the daughters (Diane) is still alive. I will be contacting her soon to see if I can deliver this family artifact to her. **Jonnie Wilson**

One of the nicest experiences that I had was in finding a cousin who shares the same Palatine ancestor with me. The Bresslers/Preslars came to the states in 1710. **Fran**

I loved all the top name genealogical speakers who were there and all the different topics presented. The vendor hall was quite large with a variety of different products available. I liked that you could talk to each vendor to get a more in-depth knowledge of their product. Lots of new people to meet was another

highlight. I finally got to meet two genealogists I only knew through social media. **J.Paul Hawthorne**

It's hard to pick just one. I think the conference overall was excellent, and I plan to attend another. There were two sessions that stand out because of the topics and speakers.

1) Borders and Boundries: Creating Locality Profiles for Research" by D. Joshua Taylor. Josh is an engaging speaker, with a good balance of information and examples. His process of developing a dynamic profile is thorough and complete. There are two good reasons to do this. One, it gives context to your ancestors—more than the dates and places. Second, it might help understand more about the FAN (family, associates, and neighbors), and that might help solve mysteries about your ancestor. The profile needs to be dynamic, so that you can add information as you learn more about the area and your families. This is an area where my research has been lacking. Josh persuaded me I need to begin creating locality profiles.

2) Google Search Strategies for Common Surnames: Quality Results in Less Time! by Lisa Louise Cook. Lisa talked about the problem of searching for a surname that is common either as a surname or a common word in the English language, such as Lincoln or White or Black. I am searching for Lambs, and I get Google Alerts when there is a new recipe for lamb and mint. I have used Google Alerts for a couple of years on two of my problem names. Lisa talked about how to customize a search, something that is timely, since Google has changed some of their search parameters. She showed us how to drill down into the data in your use of keywords. I learned that you can add date spans (not just a specific year) to your keywords. I will now go back and customize my Google Alerts. Also, she pointed out that you can have up to 1,000 Google Alerts going, so I have work ahead of me. **Nancy Sprotte**

(NGS Conference in Las Vegas continued)

I was one of the thirty or forty attendees (at least) from San Diego County who attended the National Genealogical Society Conference in Las Vegas last week. (I met an attendee who is a Lone Wolf and has never attended any genealogical society event in the county! I encouraged him to visit our Society's events.) I enjoyed the Conference and particularly liked the sessions on Evidence--direct and indirect offered by distinguished authors and lecturers Thomas Jones and Elizabeth Shown Mills, who discussed interesting examples and case histories. Elizabeth Shown Mills gave a particularly interesting session on wills and deeds and what they say (or imply) and don't say (or imply). The classes on New York research were also helpful, as I am researching my ex-husband's New York families (for the kids, you know!)

At the Friday evening banquet, I had the opportunity to meet, sit next to and visit with Dr. Ronald Hill, one of the Conference presenters, who is also my distant cousin. He had published a four-part article in *The American Genealogist* journal on our mutual Ball family and later expanded it into an award-winning family history book. The article had given me four additional generations on my Ball family, their migrations, and some fascinating insights into some of the personalities (including one litigious ancestor who was able to make the rest of his family furious at him!). For various reasons I had never purchased the book, but now my new cousin is going to arrange for me to obtain a copy. This was an extra bonus I had not anticipated when I registered for the conference. **Marilyn Hoffman**

The Las Vegas conference was the first genealogy conference that I have attended. Really enjoyed all of it. The classes were very good and so many to choose from. At the end of each day my head was spinning. The exhibit hall was fun and it was nice just to be immersed in nothing but genealogy. Met nice people from all over the U.S. and all of us just talked genealogy. I attended the first timers breakfast and I think that I had anticipated some sort of talk regarding the classes, speakers and exhibits, in other words, a guide. Turned out to just be breakfast at a table with strangers with all of us talking to each other. In hindsight I should have skipped it. Food was delicious and gambling was great. **Julia Zuffenetti**

It was a fun week. I had a great time. I enjoyed conversations with members from many different states; Washington, Florida, Indiana. In the exhibit hall, vendors were so eager to help you to learn to use their Web Sites. All the speakers were very professional. I especially enjoyed Barbara Nuehring's lecture concerning "Writing Your Family History" Her enthusiasm was contagious. **Joyce**

As we entered her session at NGS, we ran into a friend who immediately said, "I'm so excited, it's almost like meeting a celebrity." She was talking about Megan Smolenyak of course. We'd come to hear her session on DNA. A story teller

extraordinaire, she has much to say on how DNA can help solve brick walls, adoption blockages, parental disappearances, and even identify long dead remains from past wars. The lesson you learn from her session and her books is that genealogy is not for the lazy or fainthearted. It's hard work! It takes persistence and doggedness. So why do we do it? Because the results can be extremely satisfying. We live for the moment when we can say (often uncontrollably loud). "I found them!" Eureka!

Megan most often researches for others in her professional genealogy career. She researches for *Who Do You Think You Are?*, NCIS, and the FBI, among many others. As genealogists we often find ourselves discouraged and frustrated. In our blue moods, when our vocabulary ventures into the four letter category, we might want to chuck it all. At times like these, I recommend picking up a Megan Smolenyak book and reading a few of her adventures because this is what they seem like. She is one tenacious lady. She tackles insurmountable problems with enthusiasm and uninhibited joy, almost glee. The harder the better. I can picture her cracking her knuckles before she begins. After reading and wiping away a tear or lightly chuckling you find yourself renewed. If Megan can solve the unsolvable then I can solve my more mundane problem. As you guessed, we are fans, as if you couldn't tell from the



left to right Ken, Megan and Sharon

picture, and yes we were excited to meet a celebrity. If you want to know the significance of our signs, you will just have to read her latest book, *Hey America Your Roots Are Showing*. **Sharon and Ken Robison** □

(Review continued from page one) the National Security Agency. Upon retiring from the Navy he attended the Information System Forensic program at UCSD and in 2001 formed Digital Forensics, Inc. Beside performing information security services for business clients, Daniel also serves as an expert witness for government, corporate and legal clients. The title of the presentation was "Trans-National Organized Crime--Exploitation Through Information Systems," which in short, addresses the increasing role of organized crime in cyber-crime and cyber warfare. □

BIGRA Notes by Marilyn Hoffman

Irish researchers take note: Mary Russell, probably the most knowledgeable Irish researcher in San Diego County, will be holding an Irish Interest Class Wednesday, June 19, at the San Diego Genealogical Society Library. She will demonstrate the tremendous amount of help for Irish and Canadian genealogical research that can be obtained from the Irish magazines and journals that are held in the SDGS library. She will also answer Irish research questions.



English and Irish researchers will be interested in the Twenty-Fifth Annual 2013 Seminar being offered by British Isles Family History Society (BIFHS) USA, Saturday, September 7, Whittier Masonic Lodge, 7604 Greenleaf Avenue, Whittier, California. Michael Gandy, a renowned British genealogist whose lectures are both entertaining and informative, is the former Chairman of the (UK) Society of Genealogists and edited their journal for ten years. His topics include *How English Records Work: What There is and What There isn't*; *Short Cuts for Family Historians*; *Records of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries*; and *English Records for Irish Research*. The deadline is August 10. Optional lunch is \$10. For more information call Jessie Tait 310-670-9611 or Lydia Jeffrey 626-359-1729. Walk-in registration is available with no lunch. See schedule at www.bifhsusa.org/seminar. Also, a notice will be posted at the SDGS Library on Ronson Road.

Experienced members of the BIFHS society will provide free genealogy assistance at the LA Family History Center on Friday, September 6. BIFHS society, based in Los Angeles, presents excellent seminars. □

Name Origins

by Julie Helen Otto NEGHS genealogist

CLEMENTINA (f): Derived from the Latin clemens (mild, merciful) with addition of productive suffix -ina to the adjective root, this name has long been used in England. In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, the female name had strong Jacobite connotations; one of the fabled romantic stories of that era was the journey across much of Europe, of [Maria Casimire] Clementina Sobieska, Princess of Poland, to meet and marry James Francis Edward Stuart, the Jacobite James III). Her namesake, Clementina Maria Sophia Walkinshaw, mistress of their son Bonnie Prince Charlie (Prince Charles Edward Stuart, the Jacobite Charles III), bore him several children. In Samuel Richardson's *Sir Charles Grandison*, one of whose two heroines is the noble Italian Clementina della Porretta, the name was favored by readers across the political spectrum. Clementine was a variant form which gained great currency with the popular song *Oh, My Darling Clementine*, which requires no previous knowledge of Richardson. □

I Have My Family Tree Back to Adam and Eve (Parts 1 and 2)

Family Search blog by Nathan W. Murphy

Have you ever heard these words uttered, "I Have My Family Tree Back to Adam and Eve"? When asked if it is possible for living people to extend ancestral lines back to Adam and Eve, Robert C. Gunderson, Senior Royalty Research Specialist, of the Church Genealogical Department, stated: "The simplest answer is no. Let me explain. In thirty-five years of genealogical research, I have yet to see a pedigree back to Adam that can be documented. By assignment, I have reviewed hundreds of pedigrees over the years. I have not found one where each connection on the pedigree can be justified by evidence from contemporary documents. It is not even possible to verify historically a connected European pedigree earlier than the time of the Merovingian Kings (c. a.d. 450–a.d. 752)."

"Every pedigree I have seen which attempts to bridge the gap between that time and the biblical pedigree appears to be based on questionable tradition, or at worst, plain fabrication. Generally these pedigrees offer no evidence as to the origin of the information, or they cite a vague source."

Readers then asked (1) has additional research conducted since 1984 improved the situation and (2) isn't it possible for European royalty to trace their lineage back to Biblical genealogies? François Weil provides authoritative answers in his new book *Family Trees: A History of Genealogy in America* (2013) published by Harvard University Press.

Weil, Chancellor of the Universities of Paris, states: "Genealogy was the prerogative of kings and princes. The oldest surviving royal genealogies in Europe go back to the sixth century A.D. for Gothic sovereigns, to the seventh century for their Irish, Lombardic, Visigothic, and Frankish counterparts, and to the eighth and ninth centuries for Anglo-Saxon and Carolingian kings." Thus Weil and Gunderson agree European royal pedigrees cannot be verified before the 500s A.D. □

Mocavo Announces Genealogy Karma

Mocavo genealogy blog 04 May 2013

by Alex Lindsey

In 1999, a fantastic resource was established to bring together members of the genealogy community all around the world. The brainchild of Bridgett and Doc Schneider, Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness (RAOGK) was created to help genealogists collaborate with the genealogy community to document their research, while also offering genealogists a way to give back to a community that had helped them in the past.

The ROAGK website went offline in 2011. At Mocavo, we announce the launch of Genealogy Karma. Modeled after Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness, we hope to empower the Mocavo community and connect researchers all around the country. If you're looking for documents, records, or photos from an ancestor who lived far away, we will connect you with family history volunteers who can do this research for you in other cities. Likewise, if you'd like to give back to the Mocavo community and have a little time to donate, you can sign up as a volunteer. □

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

June 1	Family Tree Maker User Group 10am Contact: Dave Tooley DJSJ21643@aol.com
June 3 and 17	Writers Group: 10am Contact Diane Altona daltona@san.rr.com ,
June 4	Reunion User Group 12–2pm Contact: Anne Alves fansv@cox.net
June 5	Class: 10am - Digital Scrap Booking with Dona Ritchie
June 7	Family Tree Maker for Mac: 10am Contact Carol Jackson cjnest@cox.net
June 8	10:00 am Monthly Meeting St Andrews Lutheran Church Speaker: Rick Crawford San Diego Public Library Genealogy Education 9am Vital Records with Anna Acosta
June 12	Class: 10 am Computer Basics with Dave Tooley
June 19	Class: 10am Researching your Irish Ancestors Using Magazines, Journals and Newsletters with Mary Russell
June 19	German Interest Group 1pm Family History Library Contact: Miriam Gitchoff mgitch@cox.net
June 22	Roots Magic User Group 10am Contact: Chris Christensen rjchris47@yahoo.com
June 26	Legacy Computer User Group 6pm Contact: Reuben Marchant rmarchant@gmail.com
June 26	Class: 10 am Brick Walls Brainstorming with Kitty Taylor
June 27	Ancestry.com User Group 10am Contact: Carole Sobke cjsobke@cox.net
June 28	San Diego County Ancestry Group 10 am, Contact: Martha Stead mstead2@cox.net
Save the Date: Upcoming Events	
September 8-15	Family History Library Salt Lake City 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 at Marina Village



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San Diego Genealogical Society Salt Lake Research Trip Discover Your Roots at the Family History Library September 8–15, 2013

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 pizza party featuring a one-hour seminar with a professional genealogist. If you are interested in a private one hour consultation the price is \$50.00 extra. Heritage Consulting is giving us a break on their regular price.

Research Lodging

\$760.00 Single
\$445.00 Double
\$355.00 Triple
\$294.00 Quad

Non-members add \$10.00

Library Resources

220+ computers
515 microfilm readers
15 book copiers
2,290 visitors daily
Research classes

A \$50.00 nonrefundable deposit holds your reservation. The balance may be paid in installments, if desired. The total balance is due by September 1, 2013. No refunds after the September 1, 2013.

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 provide me with roommate's name. Let me know if you are staying extra days. For additional information contact Gloria Osborn at 619-298-2447 globob31@gmail.com.

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Mail registration, this form and check (payable to SDGS) to Gloria Osborn 1997 Alameda Terrace San Diego CA 92103

NAME: _____ TOTAL _____

Street Address: _____ City _____ Zip _____

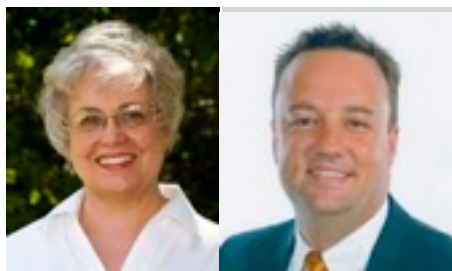
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Provide flight information by September 1, 2013.

A Family History Seminar
For the Benefit of SDGS Education/Scholarship Program

Sponsored by
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Discover Your Family History
www.casdgs.org



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**

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Special Dietary Requirements: Vegetarian, Vegan, Other _____