

Saddleback Valley Trails

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South Orange County California Genealogical Society

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

SOCCGS EVENTS

Monthly meetings are scheduled for the third Saturday of each month and are held from 10:00 AM to Noon at 27978 Marguerite Parkway in Mission Viejo, situated between Medical Center Drive and Hillcrest Drive. Visitors are always welcome.

Membership is open to anyone wishing to join. Membership fees are \$20 per year, January 1 through December 31.

19 July 1997 Our speaker this month is Dr Willard Blankenship of the South Coast Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, whose topic will be "Medieval Records"

16 August 1997 We are delighted to have Dee Semon back for another presentation. Her topic is to be "Surname Origins"

20 September 1997 Harry Drewry will speak on "Cemetery and Mortuary Records" and their effective use in research.

Other Local Events

19-21 July 1997 The Genealogical Society of Hispanic America, Southern CA Chapter hosts the annual conference at Seaport Marina Hotel in Long Beach. Friday's reception will be held at the Latin American Museum in Long Beach. This two day program offers speakers, net-working events and workshops.

5 July 1997 The Daughters of the American Revolution will hold an "Olde Fashioned 4th of July" pageant at the Mission San Juan Capistrano to commemorate the contribution of the mission's efforts in support of the American Revolution. Our SOCCGS will be in attendance on that day, so stop by and say hello. Cost is \$5 for adults and \$4 for senior citizens and those under 12.

13-14 September 1997 The San Diego Gen. Society will hold their second annual Genealogical and Family History Fair at the Scottish Rite Center, 1895 Camino Del Rio South, Mission Valley. For further information, call (619)588-0065

20-22 February 1998 SHHAR Annual Buscando Nuestras Raices conference will be held at the Autry Museum of Western Heritage in Los Angeles. This conference will host the quarterly meetings of both the CA Conference of Historical Societies and the CA State Gen Soc.

MEMBERSHIP

We welcome the following new members to SOCCGS:

Albert Benson
Art Greene

Bruce M. Jewett
E. Ethel Nielson
Karen Svendsen
Louise Shull

Guests at our June meeting were Jean Brown, Nell Fullerton, Maurita Lavy, Karen Holt, Elaine Hernandez and Shirley Menten.

THANK YOU

We wish to thank Lori Lee Mitchell for her donation of a book to be placed in the new library when ready. We remind the membership that we would very much appreciate it if you delayed donating any materials until after the library is ready. We are very short of storage at this time.

DEDICATION OF PLAQUE

TO THE MORMON BATTALION

On July 26, 1997 at 10:00 AM at Sycamore Park in Mission Viejo, the LDS Church, Mission Viejo, will dedicate a plaque to commemorate the presence of the Mormon Battalion who camped on this site in 1847 on their march from San Diego to Pueblo Los Angeles. The Mormon Battalion was formed in 1846 to help in stabilizing political and social conditions in the far West and provide assistance to the U.S. troops stationed in the West. Over 500 men were mustered into the U.S. military at Council Bluffs Iowa in July 1846, and by January 1847 they were camped at the Mission of San Diego. Their march of two thousand miles is one of the longest military marches in history. Following their discharge, many men reenlisted and volunteered in building mills and homes in California. Some were among the first to discover gold at Sutter's Mill. Others were responsible for opening the first wagon road over the southern route from California to Utah in 1848. The public is invited to attend this dedication.

"VIRTUAL U"

By George McInnis

There is a new way to go to school, called "Virtual U". VU is all done on your computer using e-mail. Courses are usually eight weeks, in weekly increments, and include homework for you to do, lesson material, and an opportunity to engage in "chat" sessions with the instructor and other students. Among the classes in the Spring session was "Introduction to Online Genealogy" taught by Marthe Arends, a prominent author and lecturer. The class will consume three or more hours of your time per week for eight weeks. It is excellent, and will get the student started in using the Internet for genealogy purposes. To get this "catalog of courses" and registration materials, e-mail to:

<<http://www.vu.org/register.html>>

In addition to genealogy, there are classes in: Web Page Design; PC Basics; Exploring the Internet, and more. VU is very good about finding FREE versions of any software you might need, and is worthwhile for this reason alone.

SLAVE DATA PROJECT

from Vknelson@webec.com

(Valencia King Nelson)

Attention to Roots users with slave data:

We would certainly encourage and support all researchers to share any and all slave data you encounter in your genealogical pursuits. We, African American Roots (aka:Afrigeas) have a project of some seven years duration to gather, compile and make available slave data to the African Ancestored researchers. Records kept by the slaveholder are frequently the only clue to our ancestors, particularly during the period 1619-1870. Such information provided is available to all researchers at our FTPsite and at our page on the web.

It is also made available to the subscribers of the Afrigeneas mailing list

<afrigeas@MaState.Edu. What format would we want the data? Well, in the final analysis, whatever is best for you, the sharer. A preferred format follows:

Slaveowners' name:

Name of Slave:

Age and Sex of Slave:

Physical description:

Source document, State County, year and how to access source document:

This info may be submitted directly to Afrigeneas@maState.Edu or to vknelson@webex.com (*from Three Rivers Chronicle, Three Rivers H.S., P.O. Box 811, Hemingway SC 29554, Spring 1997 via North San Diego Co G.S. June 1997 newsletter*)

DID YOU KNOW?

To draw Social Security when it started in 1935, a person needed to have been born in 1870 or later, so WPA soundexed the 1880 census for people that had children ages 10 and under, and all of the 1900 and 1920 censuses. For 1910 it

(only) indexed those twenty one states which did not have state vital records offices in existence at the time. (*North San Diego G.S. "Paths to the Past" June 1997*)

SCOTS-IRISH IMMIGRANTS

Migration of the Scots-Irish in the early 18th century had a significant effect on the English speaking countries of the world. Between 1718 and 1774, 120,000 Presbyterians, by conservative estimate, left the north of Ireland for the American colonies. By the time of the Revolution, over 30% of Pennsylvania's 30,000 inhabitants were of North Irish descent. A combination of bad harvests, exorbitant rents and the feelings of second-class citizenship in a country which they had defended on no less than three occasions in the seventeenth century drove many to a new life in North America. Most Ulsters came as indentured servants. In return for payment of their passage the emigrants signed an indenture agreement to serve the owner of the ship for an agreed period. On arrival, advertisements for their sale were placed in local newspapers. In the 1770's indentured servants were being sold on board vessels in Philadelphia for 15 pounds a term which varied from 2 to 4 years. The price of a horse was then 25 to 40 pounds.

(*From YVGS Family Finder, 4/96 via Past Finder 5/97, via Questing Heirs Newsletter, June 1997*)

NEW GENEALOGY LISTS

By Linda Merle, SOCCGS Member

Under the auspices of Rootsweb, I have started two lists to assist genealogists researching Scotch-Irish and Scots/English ancestors from the Scots/English border.

Scotch Irish List

The ancestors of the Scotch-Irish may have originated in England, Scotland, the Netherlands, or France as sizable populations from all these areas migrated to Ireland. Discussions include US migration patterns as well as methods of research in Northern Ireland and Dublin. We also discuss the ethnic heritage of these people and enjoy local color from cousins still in Northern Ireland.

The list is two months old and has over 600 members. It has a web page at <http://members.aol.com/Manus/ulsterref.html>, graciously provided by Phil Manus.

Why is the name of the list "Scotch-Irish"? This term has come to be used in the US to indicate all those who largely came from but are not confined to Northern Ireland who were not Gaelic Catholic Irish, though many of them had Irish blood, as well as Scots, English and French. It is "Scotch" not "Scots" because that is how other immigrants pronounced "Scots".

How to sub to this list Subscription is handled by a software program, not a human being. The following must be followed EXACTLY; otherwise the software will return an error to you. The list operates in two modes. In Mail Mode you receive each posting as an individual mail. In Digest mode the mail is collected and sent to you in one or two large emails a day.

Send the following command to Scotch-Irish-L-request@rootsweb.com

No subject in the body of the text, just the word *subscribe*

Do NOT sign your name or it will not work.

To subscribe to digest mode send a message to Scotch-Irish-D-request@rootsweb.com, with NO subject.

In the text put only the word *subscribe*. Do NOT type your name.

BORDER List

This is a brand new list. It is for the discussion of Border culture and genealogy. It may be of interest to "Scotch-Irish" whose ancestors emigrated to Northern Ireland from the borderlands. These surnames are extremely common in Ulster. Many "scotch-Irish" never bothered to go to Ulster first, but just came to the US direct from the borderlands.

Subscription is handled by a software program, not a human being. The following must be followed EXACTLY; otherwise the software will return an error to you. The list operates in two modes, Mail Mode or Digest Mode, just like the previous program.

Send the following command to BORDER-Lrequest@rootsweb.com.

No subject. In the body of the text JUST the word *subscribe*

Do NOT sign your name or it will not work

To subscribe to digest mode send a message to BORDER-D-request@rootsweb.com, with NO subject.

In the text put only the word *subscribe*. Do not type your name.

Hope to see you on line.

Linda Merle <merle@fia.net>

FRENCH CANADIAN RESEARCH

The Southern California Genealogical Society's French Canadian Workshop meets five times a year in Burbank to research our own French Canadian ancestors and to help others research theirs. We sometimes have special guests speaking on topics of interest. Some of our members bring their personal research material to share. We also find time to socialize. We have planned and made three trips to Quebec and one trip to France. We have met at local French restaurants and have attended French movies relative to our common ancestry. We are planning a one week Acadian trip to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island as a supplement to our two week Quebec trip in September.

Through our fund-raising efforts we have increased the French Canadian holdings of the SCGS library almost 100 fold. It is now one of the largest collections of French Canadian research resources in the Western United States.

One of our recent acquisitions was the 800 parish microfiche collection. This is a collection of Quebec and Ontario marriage records from the start of the parish up until the publication date, which is usually in the 1980s or `90s. This is a great resource for those of you having difficulty connecting into the earlier records.

Please join us for our meetings in 1997. We promise you a day of fact-finding, fun and fellowship. You can either brown-bag it. Or we order pizza for lunch. Coffee and other refreshments are usually available throughout the day.

All meetings are on Sundays from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm on the following dates: July 20, September 21 and November 16. Please mark your calendars now. If you have never been to one of our workshops please come and get acquainted with your genealogical "cousins et cousines". The workshops are held at the Southern California Genealogical Library at 122 S. San Fernando Rd., Burbank. (*From SCGS Searcher, March 1997*)

(Ed note: you can also visit the group at <<http://home.earthlink.net/~djmll/>> and if you want to attend a meeting, call Pat Weeks, who is a member and usually attends the meetings.)

Happy Fourth of July

USING THE 8870 FORMULA

(Oh so old, but tried and true)

Using the 8870 formula to ascertain a birth date can be a tremendous help to the genealogist when checking tombstone dates. If a tombstone records that a person died May 6, 1889 and was 71 years, 7 months and 9 days old but no date of birth is listed, you can quickly arrive at the birthdate by using the 8870 formula rather than taking time to count backwards.

Example: 18890506 Died 1889 May 6

Subtract - 710709 71 years, 7 months, 9 days

18179797

Subtract - 8870 Constant

18170927 Born 1817, September 27

(Los Angeles Westside Gen Soc Newsletter, June 1990)

NEW YORK CITY STUDENT RECORDS

The Central Board of Education (110 Livingston Street, Brooklyn) is said to have the names and addresses of everyone who ever graduated from the New York City Public School System. This could be a way to find out residences at time of graduation as well as, possibly, high school records, including parents' names and other information entered on the permanent record card. *(From Roots-Key Summer 96 via Whittier Area Gen Soc newsletter, April 1997)*



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