



Sonoma County Genealogical Society Newsletter



June 2003

President's Message

by Evelyn Ross

A Mindful Genealogist

A friend and I recently completed a six-week class, offered by our HMO, entitled "Mind/Body Medicine" which focused on being 'mindful' of thoughts, behaviors and actions that will reduce stress in the body and improve health.

This got me to thinking about being a "Mindful Genealogist" and the behaviors and actions of family history research that would lead to improved results. So here's my list. See if you can add to it:

1. Be mindful of keeping your worksheets and record notes organized so you can locate them quickly.

2. Be mindful of the resources, available locally, that can help you with your research.

3. Be mindful of the questions you ask others. Are they specific and to the point?

4. Be mindful to answer questions that may come to you, promptly and accurately. You don't have to share all your research but make sure what you do share is correct and documented.

5. Be mindful of what you share with others so errors and misinformation are not cast to the four winds of the internet

6. Be mindful of the accuracy of the

information you take off the Internet. It's a good idea to use this information as clues not facts.

7. Be mindful of the history of the areas where your families lived. This will give you a better picture of their daily lives.

8. Be mindful of collateral families (brothers, sisters, aunts and uncles, cousins, etc.) of your direct ancestors. They can be very helpful to your research.

9. Be mindful of what's new for research tools and techniques. Attend the monthly meetings and classes that will help you stay current.

10. Be mindful to show your gratitude to those who have been a help to you.

Which reminds me...I need to show my gratitude to the wonderful members of the board, the seminar committee members, and all of you who have been such tremendous help to me this past society year. I appreciate all of you and wish for each and everyone a good and productive summer.



June 28th
Meeting:

Society
Pot
Luck
and

Show
and Tell

Visit Our Web Site at: <http://www.scgs.org>

The Sonoma County Genealogical Society is a Nonprofit Organization which Encourages Interest in Genealogy and Family History

Volume 13, Number 7

New Members

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Enid Macken of Santa Rosa who is interested in Special Interest Groups about English, Scottish and Welch families.

Mrs. Gene Anderson lives in Petaluma and is interested in researching her families from the British Isles and Germany.

Pat Ashurst (Ohlson) is from Hopland and has various family interests.

Welcome!



Show and Tell

Next Meeting

by Janet Mobley

I can "show" but I don't have any "tell" as I don't know who my ancestor was who's hair was woven into this jewelry.

To learn about hair and mourning jewelry go to:

<http://www.myantiquemall.com/AQstories/mourningjewelry/MourningJewelry.html>



The Other Ellis Island Site

Sent by Susan Simons

Stephen Morse is a database detective. He knows how to wring every shred of information from the Ellis Island database. His "Short Form" website virtually obsoletes the Ellis Island Foundation search site at

<http://ellisland.org>

according to knowledgeable genealogical web-surfers.

The Short Form utilities have a home at

<http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/eidb>.

Don't let the "jewish" in the URL fool you into thinking you don't need these utilities if you have no Hebrew ancestry.

You can search for an ancestor's first name as "Starts With," "Is," or "Contains". Last name can be as above and also "Sounds Like." Town name can be all of the above. The Arrival Year can be made a range, and so can Age at Arrival and Year of Birth. There are three different short forms to use for your search. Each puts a different priority on the search criteria, and any one may turn out to be the best for your purpose.

You can now search for missing ship manifests (broken links) at this web site, so if you tried to get an image of the manifest and failed, try again here.

--Extracted from the UGANews, Nov-Dec 2002

Condolences

Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Edith Blumberg who passed away on April 7, 2003.



June Meeting: *Pot Luck Lunch*

by Fawn Hill (Interim VP)

General Meeting for June

Mark your calendar for a special event! Our last General Meeting for the year will be June 28th. We've planned the annual pot-luck, but with a twist—you are the program!

This will be an opportunity for anyone who wants to, to share an old family treasure, a research technique or form that has worked for you, and for the truly ambitious among us, those wonderful family histories you've written. The pot-luck could even provide you with an opportunity to share an old recipe that's been a family favorite.

The meeting will be from 12 Noon to 3 PM on June 28th at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on Badger Road. So come and share whatever you'd like (family history related of course)!

Directions: Highway 12 east to Calistoga Road for about 1 mile, then left on Badger Road. The church is on the right in the second block. See you there!

Now...where did I put that old rocking chair and sewing basket???



SCGS Projects Progress Report: May 2003

by Carmen J. Finley

An index to the 1930 School Census of Sonoma County has been posted at:

<http://rootsweb.com/~cascgs/1930.htm>

This 1930 database contains information on 9,500 minors in Sonoma County including birth date, birthplace, race, school, grade, residence, names of parents, birthplace and citizenship of parents, and more.

The book will be published by Heritage Books, Inc., probably sometime this winter. Also available online is Court Records for Pueblo de Sonoma, 1841-1849 at:

<http://rootsweb.com/~cascgs/ranch>

This lists deeds that reaffirmed ownership to the early California Rancho in the northbay counties of Sonoma, Napa, and Marin. The book is now available at Sonoma County Annex in Santa Rosa, Petaluma Library, and most Historical Societies in Sonoma County, as well as the California State Library, Sutro, and Family History Library in Salt Lake City.



*Evelyn says,
"We need you! Be a volunteer"*

Sonoma County
Genealogical Society

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PENNINGTON RESEARCH ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL REUNION/MEETING REGISTRATION FORM

July 24 – 26, 2003
San Rafael, CA

(Please Print)

First Name	
Last Name	
Spouse or Guest's First Name	
Spouse or Guest's Last Name	
Street Address	
City	
State	
ZIP	
Telephone	
E-Mail Address	

Tell us how you wish to be identified on your name badge (check one).

PRA MEMBER	GUEST	BOARD MEMBER	OFFICER	HONORARY MEMBER

Tell us how your spouse or guest wants to be identified on their name badge (check one).

PRA MEMBER	GUEST	BOARD MEMBER	OFFICER	HONORARY MEMBER

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Includes admission to all conference presentations on Thursday and Cyndi Howells presentation on Saturday. Lunch NOT included.

	QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL
Number of Persons		\$ 30.00 Each	Total: \$

S. F. GIANTS BASEBALL GAME

If you are a baseball fan, you'll enjoy attending a 7:15 pm game at Pacific Bell Park. We'll see the Giants take on the Arizona Diamondbacks on Wednesday (7/23/03). ***Please contact Gene Pennington (genepenn1@attbi.com or 415-479-1491) for ticket availability. As of 5/6/03, only Club Level single seats were available at \$68.00 each.*** Final price includes tickets plus transportation on the Golden Gate Ferry (\$12).

	QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL
Number of Persons		\$ TBA	Total: \$

Netting Your Ancestors by Cyndi Howells

Presented by the
Pennington Research
Association, Inc.



www.PenningtonResearch.org



Cyndi Howells, a genealogist for more than 20 years, is the creator of *Cyndi's List*; author of two books for genealogical research on the Internet; a member of the board of directors for the National Genealogical Society and active member in several other genealogical groups.

Sessions:

- The World Wide Web - Quit Surfing and Start Researching
- U.K. Research Without Ever Leaving the Colonies
- Question and Answer

Saturday, July 26 2003

10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Embassy Suites Hotel, 111 McInnis Parkway,
San Rafael

Contact person: Gene Pennington
837 Estancia Way, San Rafael, CA 94903
Phone: (415) 479-1491
E-mail: genepenn1@attbi.com

Highlights

- Hear the BEST speaker on Genealogy Research on the Internet
- Box Lunch Included
- Price is \$35.00 per person
- A \$5.00 donation will be made to your Genealogical Society for EACH member of a participating society who registers and attends.
- Register NOW! Use Registration Form Posted by this Flyer OR register online at www.PenningtonResearch.org

New at the Library

by Maggi Andrews



HeritageQuest Online is an amazing resource that is now available to us all!! You can use the Library's high-speed internet connection at any branch location or you can now access the collection from the comfort of your own home...all you need is an internet connection and a Sonoma County Library Card. It is found through the Library's Web page; Special Collections; Local History & Genealogy. If you have any questions, call Tony Hoskins at the Annex (545-0831, ext. 562). Thanks Tony, for all your efforts to make this dream a reality!

HeritageQuest Online currently consists of two main sections - the Genealogy & Local History Collection and the Census Collection. To quote their description:

HeritageQuest Online includes the following content:

1. *ProQuest's Genealogy & Local History Collection* of 25,000+ family and local history books, every word searchable. Every page of each book is presented and can be easily downloaded or copied. ... These titles have been digitized from *ProQuest's* microfilm collection, *Genealogy & Local History*, which assembles genealogies, local histories, primary source materials, and genealogical and local history serials including material from all 50 states and Canada. Titles are included from libraries nationwide including the Newberry Library (Chicago), the Widener Library (Harvard University), the New York Public Library, the Sutro Library, the University of Illinois at Urbana, and others." [As an interesting aside, Tony was on staff at the Newberry when *ProQuest* was there to film the collection.]

2. Complete U.S. Federal Census, 1790-1930. The page images and corresponding indexes for the entire census, 1790-1930

[will be] included in *HeritageQuest Online*. These are completely new indexes created by *HeritageQuest*. In addition to the ability to search by name, our census records can be searched by place of birth, age, ethnicity and other variables making this the most versatile census searching available online."

ProQuest is in the process of loading the Census images and indexes. The current collection includes 1790, 1800, 1810, 1820, 1860, 1870, 1910 and most of 1920.

ProQuest will also be adding other materials from their vaults, such as their Newspaper Obituaries, the Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files, and the Freedman's Bank Records. See the icon What's New to keep up to date.

Coming Soon at the Library

May 15, 2003

The following items have been ordered and will be arriving soon :

Oregon Vital Records: Deaths, 1903-1998 on CD; requested in memory of Gene Brantley

Irish Place Names, by D. Flanagan; requested in memory of William Murray

Sources for Irish Family Genealogy, by J. Ryan; requested in memory of William Murray

Irish Church Records, by J. Ryan; requested in memory of William Murray

Heritage Books Archives: Virginia, CD 1 & 2; requested by SCGS Book Raffle winner Carmen Finley

Continued on page 7

Special Interest Groups



British Group

For information, call Susan Simons, 527-7191 or e-mail to: suesimons@aol.com.



German Group

For information about the German Group, contact Jim Cochran at telephone 526-7331, or by e-mail at [<cougars@sonic.net>](mailto:cougars@sonic.net)



Computer Group

For information, call Susan Simons, 527-7191 or e-mail to: suesimons@aol.com.



Italian Interest Group

For more information e-mail me at inesw@attbi.com Come join us.

Book Review

by Audrey Herman

Locating Your Roots: Discover Your Ancestors Using Land Records

by Patricia Law Hatcher. Betterway Books, 2003. \$21.99 ISBN: 1-55870-614-3

Available from Betterway Books at 1-800-448-0915 or

<http://www.familytreemagazine.com>

If you want to use land records, but don't know how, this is the book for you. It tells why you should use land records, what kinds of land records exist, how to prepare for doing the research, and where to find the records. There is an explanation of how land in the colonies was acquired, as well as an explanation of the public land system.

The use of tax records, city directories, maps, atlases, and gazetteers is discussed. Metes and bounds land platting is explained in terms even I can understand. References and on-line sources are given for each state. There is a list of land offices in each state, with the date they opened. A bibliography and extensive glossary is included.

The book is well arranged, easy to read and understand. I highly recommend this title to anyone who wants to use and make sense of land records.

Important!

If you have moved, changed your phone number or your email address, please inform 2nd Vice president in charge of membership, Annie Conley. You will get an email reminder of the meetings in your email inbox... that is, if we have your correct email address.

[Continued from page 6](#)

Tanquay - Dictionnaire Genealogie Que de Familles Canadienne, 2 CDs; requested by SCGS Book Raffle winner Claire Miller

Earliest Tennessee Land Records & Land History, by I. Griffey; requested by SCGS Book Raffle winner Audrey Phillips

Kentucky Court and Other Records V.2,





CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE

October 18, 2003

Crown Plaza

Foster City, CA

Workshops and Field Trips

Friday and Sunday

Vendors on Saturday

Raffles

http://users.lmi.net/catch/ca_conf

email: CAConference@aol.com

General Meeting

*June 28th Meeting:
Society Pot Luck*

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P.O. Box 2273

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Dues:

\$20 per year individual or family (one household)

\$25 contributing (\$5 to book fund)

\$200 lifetime

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