



# Sonoma County Genealogical Society Newsletter



September 2003

## President's Message

by Evelyn Ross

Just about the time I started thinking about what to write as a message for this issue of the newsletter, a friend gave me a copy of "Life's Little Instructions".

Amid such homilies as "Compliment three people everyday", "Floss your teeth" and "Sing in a choir" the one that registered with me was "Always accept an outstretched hand".

The Sonoma Genealogical Society was organized to encourage interest in genealogy and family history research. We do this by extending outstretched hands to people interested in learning more about their family background. Our outstretched hand is in the form of monthly General Meetings with excellent speakers who address a wide variety of topics to assist you in your research efforts. Special Interest Groups meet on a regular basis to help members with more specific areas (see a list of these groups in this newsletter). Twice a year we devote a whole day to speakers and workshops promoting family history research, the Family History Fair in the fall and our annual Spring Seminar.

When the outstretched hand of the Society is combined with the Public Library's Annex and the local Family History Center, our local area becomes rich in resources.



Other thoughts from *Life's Little Instructions*, "Take responsibility for every area of your life" and "Live your life as an exclamation, not an explanation". Shouldn't we take the responsibility to write a history of ourselves and our ancestors that is interesting as well as accurate and documented, leaving no room for future speculation or misinterpretation? Well, guess what? That's the purpose of the Society!

Join your hands with ours by attending the general meetings and being active in one or more of the Special Interest Groups. And have a great and productive genealogy year.



September  
27<sup>th</sup>

Meeting:

Breaking  
Down  
Brick  
Walls:  
Illustrative  
Case  
Studies

Speaker:  
Tony  
Hoskins

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

## September Meeting

by Fawn Hill (Interim VP)



“*Breaking Down Brick Walls: Illustrative Case Studies*”. Speaker, *Tony Hoskins*

Anthony Hoskins is a widely published genealogical scholar, author of some 15 articles, one book, and presenter in a genealogical research video series. For eleven years he was the reference librarian of the genealogical collection at Chicago's Newberry Library where he also taught courses in beginning and advanced genealogical research for nine years. He has spoken at genealogical conferences all over the Midwest and has appeared frequently on radio and television; being interviewed on *NBC Nightly News* with Tom Brokaw and also on BBC Radio. He has been featured in articles in Chicago, Fort Lauderdale, Miami and London newspapers and has been cited in major national magazines. He is the subject of an entry in *Who's Who in Genealogy and Heraldry*.

For four years Anthony Hoskins was also involved in public relations, literacy, management of the reference departments, and customer service training in South Florida libraries.

Mr Hoskins currently heads Sonoma County Library's unique History and Genealogy Library in Santa Rosa, California. In this position he is jointly History and Genealogy Librarian and Sonoma County Archivist. He is Vice-Chair of the Sonoma County Historical Records Commission and is President of the Sonoma County Historical Society.

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## Special Interest Groups



### British Group

No Sept. meeting. For information, call Susan Simons, or e-mail to: [suesimons@aol.com](mailto:suesimons@aol.com).



### German Group

The German Interest Group will be meeting as follows: Saturday, 6 September 2003, at 10 AM at the home of Jim Cochran, 1658 Tarkenton Court, Santa Rosa, phone 526-7331. This will be our organizing meeting for the next year. Part of the meeting will be devoted to sharing of research experiences during this past 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](mailto:suesimons@aol.com).



### Italian Interest Group

Meet at the home of Ines Williams on Saturday, October 18th. (Ines is going to be in Italy in Sept.) For more information e-mail [inesw@comcast.net](mailto:inesw@comcast.net). Come join us.

## Important

If you have moved, changed your phone number or your email address, please inform 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice president in charge of membership, Annie Conley., [anniec@sonic.net](mailto:anniec@sonic.net). You will get an email reminder of the meetings in your email inbox...that is, if we have your correct email address.

## NCMUG Starting GenSIG

Macintosh computer users might be interested in the Genealogy Special Interest Group starting Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> 10:00am-noon at St. James Church in Petaluma. Leaders are Fran Murray and Carol Tisnado. Janet Moble is the coordinator, and can be reached at: [editor@ncmug.org](mailto:editor@ncmug.org).

## Change to Jeremy Nichols Book

*Cemeteries of Sonoma County, California* has an error that the author wants changed. It should read:

"Mason (Cloverdale) Catherine and Josephine Mason died and were buried in San Francisco. Their graves were moved to Colma a century ago when most San Francisco cemeteries were closed. The original stones ended up with a monument maker in Colma and were subsequently given to the current owner, who placed them on his property on Dutcher Creek Road. More information may be found in the Sonoma County Library."

Josephine C. Mason, Feb. 1890-April 1891.

Catherine E. Mason, April 1884-Dec. 1886.

## New Members

Welcome to new members, Michael and Norma Trump of Cloverdale who joined in June



# Annie Conley Wins CSGA Award

The CA State Genealogical Alliance gave Annie Conley the Award of Merit for 2003 for her work as the Project Coordinator for the 1930 School Census Project for SCGS.

Barbara Edkin, CSGA President, writes,

"This project has been an enormous job, spanning over three years. Your willingness to assume the responsibility for coordinating the fifteen other volunteers who entered and proofread the data for over 9,500 minors registered in the 1930 Sonoma County

School Census is significant because it gives so much information concerning the minors in your county.

The fact that data including birth date, birth place, school attended, residence, name and citizenship of parents, and whom the minor lived with at that time will not only aid in locating these families in the 1930 Federal Census, but in *fleshing out the bones for family historians.*"

*("Way to go, Annie! Congratulations! Ed.)*



## New at the Library

by Maggi Andrews

031 D, *Colonial Georgia Genealogical Data 1743-1783*; by Dumont

729.3762 H, *Mississippi Court Records ... High Court of Errors and Appeals 1799-1859*

929.3 M, *Genealogical Abstracts from Newspapers of the German Reformed Church 1830-1839*; by Manning

929.343 S, *American Families of German Ancestry ... Vol. I-IV*; by Schlegel

929.3746 B, *Barbour Collection of Connecticut Town Vital Records; Vol. 50-55 Waterbury-Windsor*

929.3748 S, *Early Lutheran Baptisms and Marriages in Southeastern Pennsylvania / The Records of Rev. John Casper Stoeber from 1730 to 1779*

929.3751 A, *Atlas of Historical County Boundaries*  
\*\* see separate article

929.3755 H, *Virginia, Ancestors and Adventurers*; by Hamlin

929.3755 V, *Virginia County Records / Abstracted ... Consolidated Index A-Z [4 vol]*

929.3764 G, *New Homes In a New Land / German Immigration to Texas 1847-1861*; by Geue

929.379432 S, *Sites and Cemeteries / Butte Co., California: Books 3-5*

929.379432M, *Magalia Cemetery 1857-2000*

### It's not just an Atlas, it's a Treasure Trove!

On the New Books shelf at the Library Annex is a special collection of 14 volumes of the *Atlas of Historical County Boundaries*. If you are lucky, a state you are researching is included -- stop by and check them out anyway, so you can look forward to the next publication. I am just starting research in a state that is new to me; my great-grandfather was born in New York and later moved to Illinois where my father was born. I did a quick preview of the New York volume and will definitely have to schedule some more time. The Atlas begins

with an introduction which includes the History of this Atlas, the Sources and Procedures used, and Special Topics and Problems for the particular state, including Base Maps, Dates and a list of Abbreviations used. Following that is a Table of the County creations, and a Chronology of the State and County boundaries. The main section of the book includes a detailed chronology for each county and a series of maps showing each change in boundary. Also included is a Table of all the censuses held in the state and even Census Outline Maps! The book finishes with a great Bibliography.

The current volumes include the following states : Alabama, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, New Hampshire, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Wisconsin. Each volume averages over 300 pages of useful information. They are the product of an ongoing project of the Dr. William M. Scholl Center for Family & Community History, a division of the Newberry Library.

## F H Center Expands Computer Use

To keep up with demands for on-line genealogical research The Family History Center has added three more computers. There are now seven computers available for patron use.

All computers feature full access to FamilySearch.org, Ancestry.com, and the US census collection portion of Genealogy.com.

When all computers are in use there may be a one-hour time limit imposed to assure everyone has an on-line research opportunity.

The FHC is located in the LDS Church at 1725 Peterson Lane in Santa Rosa and the hours are:

Monday 1-5 PM

Tuesday & Wednesday 1-9 PM

Thursday 9 AM - 5 PM

Saturday 9 AM - 1 PM

Phone number: 525-0399. Everyone is welcome.

## Sonoma County Genealogical Society

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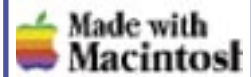
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## Coming events

### *Family History Fair, October 25th*

The annual Family History Fair, sponsored by the Society and the Family History Center is set for October 25<sup>th</sup> and will be held at the LDS Family History Center from 9am to 4pm. The FHC is located in the LDS Church at 1725 Peterson Lane in Santa Rosa. More next month

### *San Mateo Genealogical Society Fall Seminar*

Saturday, November 1, 2003, 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM, First Presbyterian Church, San Mateo. Hank Jones, Genealogist, Author, and Renowned Lecturer. Space at this seminar will be limited to 120 persons. Please contact SMC GS, P. O Box 5083, San Mateo, CA 94402. for a form. Cost for the seminar is \$25.00 for members, \$30.00 for non-members and \$40.00 at the door.

### *Irish Research Trip, 2004*

This is to announce our Irish Research Trip to Dublin in 2004. The dates are 28<sup>th</sup> March – 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2004. Nora Hickey, noted Irish historian and genealogist from Kinsale, will be the research director and personal consultant. Don-Em Travel Center of San Francisco (1-800-453-6636) are recommended by the organizers of this research week. There are many activities in and around Dublin for non-researching companions. Contact Sally Warren at 415- 435-1038 or [www. saw33@msn.com](http://www.saw33@msn.com) for a brochure and registration form.



### **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/calca/ca\\_conf](http://users.lmi.net/calca/ca_conf)

email: CA Conference@aol.com

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

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ORG  
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*General  
Meeting  
September 27<sup>th</sup>  
Meeting:*

*“Breaking Down  
Brick Walls:  
Illustrative  
Case Studies”  
Tony Hoskins*