



**British Isles Family History Society-U.S.A.**

# Newsletter

Sep/Oct-2003

Editor: Jim McNamara

## **GENERAL MEETINGS:**

**This Month** – Sunday, 28 September 2003, 1:00-3:00 PM

### **The Hunt for William Mitchell**

Darlene McClain

### **Welsh Study Group 3:30-5:00 PM**

Led by: Annie Lloyd

Mini Workshop on Welsh records (including censuses, wills and probates, deeds and other interesting materials). This workshop will be using records written in the English language. There will be a question and answer session as well.

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**Next Month** – Sunday, 26 October 2003, 1:00-3:00 PM

### **Probate & English Records on the Internet**

Janet Thomas

### **Show & Tell 3:30-5:00 PM**

Bring an item to show, or tell us about your latest find, 5 minute limit each person

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#### **Notice:**

All classes and monthly meetings are free. There is plenty of free parking. Everyone is welcome. You are welcome to do your own research at any time. Unless otherwise stated, all events are held at:

**Los Angeles Family History Center** (310) 474-9990  
10741 Santa Monica Blvd  
Los Angeles, CA 90025

Please contact a board member if you have any other questions.

Visit BIFHS-USA Website at: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~bifhsusa>

**Editor's Note:**

**"One for sorrow, two for joy, three for a girl, and four for a boy. Five for silver, six for gold, and seven for a secret that's never been told."** So goes the superstitious rhyme oft quoted in part by people when magpies fly up when startled on the road in UK. Luckily, each single magpie seen was followed by at least one more, thus there was no immediate danger of a sudden onset of sorrow on my recent UK-Ireland trip. [See: <http://www.tljones.co.uk/magpie.htm> - a site of magpie folklore]

Although the UK visit was business, and we did work hard, the hospitality of my UK colleagues will not soon be forgotten. A trip to Cambridge for the river punts. The Cambridge University Crew Team makes money punting us tourists down the river. It takes some skill to propel a punt full of people down the river in a straight line, all the while relating the history of bridges, buildings, events. One bridge was called 'The Mathematician's Bridge', which was assembled by the local math and science teachers many years ago, completely without fasteners or mortar. Modern professors just had to know, so this bridge was disassembled and reassembled. The rebuilding part was unsuccessful until mortar and fasteners were used. Definitely there is a lesson or two to be learned here.

Leaving UK (Heathrow Airport) was extremely chaotic. The British Airways baggage checker's strike had just started and my co-worker waits 26 hours on the floor there. I could not even see the Aer Lingus check-in counter anywhere. A very tall bobby leads the way and in a few hours I was landing at Dublin Airport. I can't explain it, but as soon as the green is seen from the taxi window, I am calmed, it feels like I am home again.

In a few days I am at the National Library of Ireland. After much red tape, a passport photo, a detailed application, and a small fee, I am granted a reader's ticket and after another interview I am given another ticket to access the manuscript collection. The people are nice and helpful here, but the only manuscript I am interested in seeing has been lost. It would have been a Stackpoole estate record of McNamara families who leased land in famine times. A review of the manuscript holdings shows no other manuscripts of interest. I browse the shelves and it is near noon and my cousin Jim will soon drive by to take me to lunch.

We visit with Jim's lovely daughter Deirdre and her three children, all sons. Deirdre is visiting from Mozambique. After lunch Jim takes me to the park where Pope John Paul visited in 1979. One million people from all over Ireland came here to hear his sermon, to hear him celebrate mass. A large cross and a memorial commemorating the Pope's visit still stands atop a small hill there. For dinner Deirdre has insisted that Jim make his special stew. It is quite good. We are joined by another cousin Betty (Jim's sister). Betty is a retired nurse, and is soon put to work mending a fallen child. The Irish have a way with children, and it's not long before the tears are dried and young Max is smiling again.

In a few days, I am in Clare and calling my cousin Míchéal. He tells me of a 'Yank' cousin named Joe that just left not a half-hour ago, and did I know him? Joe's grandmother is a sister of my grandmother. When I get back to California, I get a call from my new cousin Joe, Míchéal has given him my work number. We exchange information and we each learn a few new things. Joe emails me some pictures showing the CLEARYS in 1930s, amazing.

When I visit Míchéal, he takes me to visit Sean Allen, the elder of the townland. Sean produces a notebook, and insists I keep it as long as I need. It is written in red ink, is 13 pages long, and I photograph it. It has marriage and baptismal records as old as the 1840s. I thank him, and transcribe it when I get back. It shows all the baptismal sponsors (Godparents) and shows many CLEARYS and ALLENS, and many other surnames, incredible. The night before I leave, my Dublin CLEARY cousins throw me a small party. My cousin Betty gives me a copy of a memorial card of my great-grandfather Michael Cleary who died in 1921 aged 65 years. I thank her, and in the morning I am on the plane, wishing I was still in Ireland. And now I have been back six weeks, it seems forever, and I am feeling just a little homesick, so am signing off with my full Irish name...

James Patrick McNamara

Any and all comments, information, URLs, event notices, are welcome.  
Please send to: [JPMTCC@aol.com](mailto:JPMTCC@aol.com)

## President's Message:

Hello from the President,

Many thanks to those bringing in refreshments (we could really use more sugar cookies and drinks, as well as other goodies of course).

Glen Knoblock, our vice-president of programs, would like to see our family displays have more people sign up. Do you have family heirlooms, and family group sheets for the family who owned the items, that you could display? Does any one have items the family brought from the British Isles or received from the relatives? Any one doing a scrapbook of their trips to find relatives? (If not, you might want to get started). Use your imagination and bring in something to display.

Jamboree next year is the 16th and 17th of April so get your taxes done early, and put Jamboree on your calendar to come help out (this is a Friday and Saturday).

We have had a request from England for articles in our journal on how a British person can find relatives in America. Do you have some ideas that we can suggest? You don't have to write an article, but you can do that too. Just send (or bring them to the meeting) in the suggestions or e-mail them to me.

Hope to see a lot of you at our meetings. Let me know if you have special requests for the newsletter, journal, or meetings and workshops. We need your ideas.

Nancy Ellen Carlberg, President, BIFHS-USA, [n\\_carlberg@hotmail.com](mailto:n_carlberg@hotmail.com), (714) 772-2849

## CLAN CHIEF GIFTS CUILLIN MOUNTAIN RANGE TO THE NATION

Three years ago the Clan Chief of MacLeod of MacLeod put the Cuillins on the market for 10 million to help raise money for repairs to the clan seat, Dunvegan Castle.

The Cuillins are situated on the Isle of Skye and along with Dunvegan Castle have a long history as the home of Clan MacLeod.

After putting the Cullins up for sale three years ago John MacLeod had failed to find a buyer for the much loved mountains and has instead taken the decision to gift the mountain range to the nation. In return, the public trust, the owner of the mountain range, will pay for repairs to the castle.

Read more at the [BBC News website](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/3052525.stm) <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/3052525.stm>

## FAMILY HISTORY TABLE

A presentation of the Family History Table will be provided at all monthly meetings unless otherwise notified. This table will define information about the family history of one of our members who has compiled records and pictures concerning their family. The presenter may be available for any additional information that might be requested.

The presentation will be available for viewing before the main speaker, (approx. 12:30 PM to 1:00 PM), and later after the main speaker and during the afternoon break for refreshments, (approx. 2:30 PM to 3:00 PM), and will end prior to the Study Group presentation.

Members who have provided a Family History Table presentation may wish to assist others in organizing their family history in preparation for a future Family History Table Presentation. Please contact Glen E. Knoblock (Society Program Chairman) to schedule your Family History Table presentation.

**MEET THE BOARD, [Dorothy Losee]:**

Dorothy writes:

“I was born in Los Angeles almost 80 years ago, a rarity for someone of my age. The first few years of my life I lived in West Covina, as my father was Principal of Rosemead Elementary School. At five my parents bought our home in West Los Angeles and I really spent most of my life in that area. I attended Westwood Elementary School, Emerson Jr. High School, University High School and UCLA. I finished UCLA with a General Secondary Credential to teach in secondary school.

I took my last final exam on a Friday and started teaching the next Monday at Delano Joint Union High School. Growing up in Los Angeles, I didn't know that there was such a thing as year-round school, but I soon found out that I was replacing a teacher who had been “run” out by the students and I took over in midstream. My first class was a nightmare. It was a typing class and made up of football players. These were farm boys and their fingers were big enough to cover two keys at a time. I survived!

I met my husband at Delano where he also was a teacher. We were married for 45 years before he passed away. He was somewhat interested in genealogy, but did very little research. He made one trip to Laguna Niguel, but he was always delighted when I found a member of his family. We had one daughter and I have one grandson, of whom I am so very proud!

My parents were both born in Kansas. My grandparents were also born in U.S. – in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana. I have to go back another generation when almost all of my ancestors were born in the British Isles—England, Scotland, and Wales. I am researching Allen – still in U.S.A. (Pennsylvania), Hicks in Gloucestershire, England, Robertson in Scotland, Thomas in Wales plus some others that I'm not sure yet from where they were from.

My mother was the greatest influence on my life. She was a ‘doer’ and I hope I have followed in her footsteps. I taught high school for 37 years—mostly Business Education, but a bit of Physical Education in my early years (believe it or not). For 4 ½ years I taught in Delano, then 1 year in Torrance and 32 years at Venice High School in Los Angeles, with several summer school sessions at University High School in L.A.

I knew all of my grandparents—even a couple of great-grandparents. One grandfather who I have yet to find as a boy lived with us for several years. I have always been active in organizations. In the early years, I was a member of the Campfire Girls and later served as a professional. I was a member and much later (when my daughter became

a member) served as Bethel Guardian of Job's Daughters for 10 years; I was and still am active in Delta Kappa Gamma, a Women's Educators group. I served my chapter in many capacities, including President. Then I worked at the State level as Area Coordinator, on the Finance Committee, and as Budget Chairman for 2 years. I am also active in my church.

I was the older child in my family—my sister is 12 years younger than I—with one child lost in between. My family called me “Dorsh,” because my sister couldn't pronounce Dorothy. As a camp counselor at a Campfire Camp, my nickname became ‘Sammy’. That was because at an early costume affair I dressed up as Uncle Sam, with red striped pajamas. Before marriage, I spent one summer directing a summer camp, another summer driving all over the U.S., another summer in Panama, and one summer in Hawaii. I could tell some interesting experiences from each of these trips!

Crime wise, I was mugged a few years ago, right in front of my home. I was getting into my car when someone pulled alongside. That is rather common in the area in which I live—people get lost. I lingered because I thought he was going to ask for directions. The next thing I knew, my purse was taken and I was slightly injured. Fortunately, I had the keys to the car and to the house in my other hand. I memorized the license plate and called the police immediately. He was apprehended when he pulled a similar heist, and in his attempt to get away, he ran into a police car. I had to appear in court at his trial and he was a ‘three-strike’ felon, and I presume he is now locked up.

When I became a member of BIFHS, a plea was made for someone to serve as treasurer. Since I had been either treasurer or secretary of every organization I belonged to I volunteered. That lasted for 12 years—until I finally decided this year (2003) that I had been on the job long enough. I still serve as Corresponding Secretary and pick up the Society mail almost daily.

I have only had one opportunity to go to England—and that was strictly as a tourist—with no time for research. Earlier opportunities were lost because of illnesses. I have thoroughly enjoyed my association with the people in BIFHS, and I consider many of them my close friends. Hopefully, I will now have time to return to some research—there is much left to do!”

Thanks to my Internet friend John Kerley for granting his permission to post this important information about the latest nasty MS Blaster virus. If you get hit, don't panic. If you haven't been hit, please heed this warning to keep your virus definitions up to date, scan frequently, and don't open attachments you receive even from folks you do know. Even if you get a mail from someone you know, some viruses can spoof other users, and appear to be from someone other than the sender, and guess what, these email addresses can come from address books of infected computers, so if your name is on someone else's address book, some 'spoofed' mail viruses may appear to come from YOU !

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### **MS BLASTER VIRUS UPDATE**

By: John Kerley

Many of you are probably aware of this latest problem hitting Windows computers. I hope to be able to help those that have been hit by it and have enough time to read this mail.

My company was hit hard today because they haven't keep up with the critical Windows updates. This particular worm/virus is different than others in that it is not e-mail related. Computers have ports that it uses to communicate with other computers. Most all should be closed. This hacker found one that is open and is exploiting it. It specifically targets computer/servers that are running Windows NT/2000/XP/2003. There is a patch for all versions. For those running XP there is a patch to close this port but, you have to have already installed what Microsoft calls service pack 1 (XP-SP1) for the patch to work. Other versions I am not sure what the prerequisites are.

This is truly a nasty one and you want/need to protect yourself. It will install a executable program on your computer that will continue to shut it down. You must have an up to date virus scan program on your system to get rid of it. The problem most will run into is the worm/virus will shut you down before the scan can locate it and eliminate it. Also, if you are able to eliminate it, if the port is still open, you will be re-infected right away.

To give yourself time for the virus scan to work you can disable the shutdown process. It gives you 60 seconds before it restarts your computer. In this time

you can go to what is called a command prompt. Click on the Start button as soon as the shutdown process begins. You will see a icon called Run in the lower right hand corner. Click this and a little dialog box will appear. In the box type cmd and click OK. Another box will open that is mostly black with some typing in it. You don't have to do anything other than start typing "SHUTDOWN /A". Press <ENTER>. You don't have to capitalize it or use the ". This means abort the shutdown. You will then have the time needed to get virus updates and run them as well as go to the windows update site and get the needed patches.

This is highly critical for all to do that are running the previously mentioned versions of Windows. A couple of my co-workers have been so completely damaged they may have to have their hard drives completely rebuilt which would mean they will lose all data on their computers.

If anyone has comments or questions you can write me personally or through the list.

John Kerley [jjkerley3@yahoo.com](mailto:jjkerley3@yahoo.com)

### **The Wisconsin Name Index, from the Welsh-American Genealogical Society**

Did your Welsh ancestors travel into Wisconsin or reside there? The Wisconsin Historical Society possesses a large genealogical collection and recently added an online research tool to help genealogist research ancestors who lived and/or died there prior to 1970. Named 'the Wisconsin Name Index,' it begins about 1870.

The Society's staff made a catalog card for every biographical sketch in each new Wisconsin county history, and they made a similar card for every obituary added to the scrapbooks they called the 'Wisconsin Necrology.' They frequently added cards for magazine and newspaper articles about Wisconsin residents.

After more than a century of such work, the data on the original cards was typed into a database that you can search online today.

For more information about this Internet tool, visit [www.wisconsinhistory.org/wni](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/wni) Note: fees do apply.

## **BIFHS-USA Surnames List**

Don't forget to update any new surnames of interest. And for those of you who have not submitted surnames at all, don't pass up this opportunity.

Submit via snail mail or email:  
Sue Wilson  
308 Danimere Ave.  
Arcadia, CA 91006  
[105224.356@compuserve.com](mailto:105224.356@compuserve.com)

## **Thanks to Annie Lloyd for this information:**

### **BEWARE OF THE SOURCE HOAX**

This is being done every day and all of you may not be aware that there are many bad sources out there that are being picked up as factual when in reality they will cause great problems when proving your lines.

The URL for this page is:  
<http://www.linkline.com/personal/xymox/fraud/hoax.htm>

And, even though Nevada isn't the UK there were lots of miners, both Cornish and Welsh, who went to the silver mining areas of Nevada.

The state of Nevada recently put all of its federal manuscript census data for the years 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910 and 1920 online at:  
<http://dmla.clan.lib.nv.us/docs/shpo/NVCensus>

## **Thanks to Marilyn Hoffman for the following NSDCGS update:**

North San Diego County Genealogical Society  
Program Meetings, held at 10:00 AM (Social Hour 9:30) in the Carlsbad City Council Chambers, 1200 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad 760-476-9289

Tuesday, September 23, 2003

## **Tracing Your Family Tree in the 21st Century** -Barbara Renick

Renick is a professional genealogist and a frequent speaker at local, regional, and national genealogical conferences, writes computer columns for several genealogical publications, and is the author of several genealogical books and instructional videos. Free, visitors welcome. For information call 858-453-8469 or 760-630-5720.

Tuesday, October 28, 2003  
Carlsbad City Council Chambers

## **Research Using Newspaper Records** - Anita Cheek Milner

Anita Cheek Milner's experience as a genealogy teacher and lecturer led her to become a professional speaker. She now presents as a humorist who enjoys laughing at herself as well as at others. Anita had to have a sense of humor to get through law school in her 40's. She passed the California Bar Exam at 50 and is now known as the "Change of Life" attorney. Anita appears not only as a humorist but as a standup comic, and has performed at the Improv, the Comedy Store, on the cruise ship Pacific Star, and on TV's "American's Funniest People." She was interviewed by Paula Zahn on "CBS This Morning," and celebrated her 60th birthday by performing standup comedy in Debbie Reynolds' Lounge Show in Las Vegas. Her double-book, *The Tub and Other Ramblings and Fifty Is Nifty*, is found in hundreds of bathrooms in America.

Tuesday, November 25, 2003  
Carlsbad City Council Chambers

## **How to Locate U.S. Naturalization Records** - Elaine Alexander

This, as promised in August, is the second (of two) of the talks by this speaker on locating and using United States. Naturalization records.

Elaine Alexander has served at the Los Angeles Family History Center since 1992 as teacher, supervisor, Assistant to the Director of Passenger Lists collection and Head of the Naturalization Records Project. She has been an Instructor of Basic Genealogy and an Instructional Materials Developer at UCLA Extension Division at California State University at Northridge and at Los Angeles City College. She has two texts in process: *23 Ways to Naturalization Records*, and *Passenger Arrival Records: What You Can Expect to Find*.

## The Voyage of Erin-go-Bragh

A web page regarding the Erin-go-Bragh's disastrous voyage into Moreton Bay, Qld. A work in progress, from Internet friend Bev Kerlin:

<http://www.angelfire.com/folk/bevkerlin0>

## Thanks to Nancy Bier for the following on Newgate Calendars:

- Absolutely fantastic website and cannot be missed. May be only slightly related to family history but certainly a superb website for those with an interest in social history, and possibly a taste for the macabre! This website is a reproduction of the Newgate Calendars, from the mid-sixteenth century to the nineteenth there is plenty of gory details about murderers, forgers and many other wrongdoers. Each entry has a potted biography of the guilty and a detail of their crime. Completely fascinating, easy to browse for hours:

<http://tarlton.law.utexas.edu/lpop/etext/completewgate.htm>

And:

- A full index and abstracts of prison records of "Old Bailey" in England:

<http://tarlton.law.utexas.edu/lpop/etext/completewgate.htm>

## GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

The September 2003 issue of the monthly newsletter of the Genealogical Society of Ireland, "The Genie Gazette" is now posted on the Society's Website:

<http://www.gensocireland.org>

## FROM British Consulate General, Chicago, 7 August 2003

"The Battle of Minden took place during the Seven Years War. The six British regiments at Minden were part of a 43,000 strong Anglo-Hanoverian army, led by Ferdinand of Brunswick, which defeated a French army of 60,000 led by the Marshal de Contades.

Contades bitterly remarked, "I never thought to see a single line of infantry break through three lines of cavalry ranked in order of battle, and tumble them to ruin." The British troops lost 321 (killed or wounded), with Kingsley's [20th Foot] suffering the heaviest casualties, and so Prince Ferdinand issued the following order:

*"Minden 2nd August 1759*

*Kingsley's Regiment [XXth] of the British line, from its severe loss, will cease to do duty."*

The reply came:

*"Minden 2nd August 1759*

*Kingsley's Regiment, at its own request, will resume its position of duty in the line."*

Minden is located on the River Weser, not far from Hanover, Germany. It is still a garrison town, and the British Army is billeted there in some strength. Each year the battle is commemorated with a joint British and German wreath-laying ceremony with a suitable reception usually hosted by the local British brigade commander afterwards. Following reorganization of the British Army post World War II, the old regiments were amalgamated as follows:

- the Suffolk Regiment, now part of the Royal Anglian Regiment,
- the Lancashire Fusiliers, now part of The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers,
- the Royal Welch Fusiliers,\*
- the King's Own Scottish Borderers,\*
- the Royal Hampshire Regiment, now part of The Princess of Wales Regiment,
- the Yorkshire Light Infantry, now part of The Light Infantry.

\*These regiments still hold their original names. "

See their website for the entire story:

[http://www.britain-info.org/culture/xq/asp/SarticleType.1/Article\\_ID.4009/qx/articles\\_show.htm](http://www.britain-info.org/culture/xq/asp/SarticleType.1/Article_ID.4009/qx/articles_show.htm)

## FROM PEEBLESSHIRE NEWS:

"Saying it with roses in Iraq for KOSB

Published on: **August 01, 2003**

Page 1

INTERFLORA stepped in this week to maintain an historic tradition of one of the Army's most famous regiments.

Traditionally, the King's Own Scottish Borderers mark Minden Day, today, August 1, with a parade where each soldier is presented with a rose to mark that famous victory back in 1759.

But therein lay a problem — how to get the roses to Iraq where the regiment is currently based following the war.

The flowers were required to ensure that a traditional ceremony went ahead to mark the Battle of Minden over 200 years ago.

But to the rescue came Interflora, well known for sending millions of flowers across the world each year and who willingly agreed to deliver 700 roses to soldiers serving in Iraq."

See the rest of the Peeblesshire News' article at:  
[http://adserver.pressflex.com/popupad\\_serve.php?id=41&c=447&r=1063251052](http://adserver.pressflex.com/popupad_serve.php?id=41&c=447&r=1063251052)

### **Thanks to Jean Rice for granting permission to publish her articles, ON WALT WHITMAN, Part 1 of 4:**

SNIPPET: During the Civil War, while working as a volunteer throughout the conflict in Washington DC's overcrowded, understaffed military hospitals, American poet Walt WHITMAN wrote in a notebook, "One of the finest nurses I met was a red-faced illiterate old Irish woman. I have seen her take the poor, wasted naked boys so tenderly up in her arms."

Whitman was born in West Hills, Long Island, NY, in 1819, and grew up in Brooklyn. He was a printer and journalist in the NYC area, very patriotic and a great observer of people. As a hospital volunteer in his 40s, he did what he could to make the sick and wounded more comfortable -- writing letters, reading to them, bringing them oranges, or merely sitting quietly by so they didn't have to die alone. He wrote his observations regularly in several notebooks. After suffering a stroke in 1873, Whitman spent the rest of his life in Camden, NJ, where he continued to write poems and articles until his death in 1892. His poem, "When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd" was written on the occasion of the death of Abraham LINCOLN.

Interestingly, he received literary acclaim from English writers long before American critics recognized him as a great poet.

### **RECONCILIATION**

Word over all, beautiful as the sky,  
Beautiful that war and all its deeds of carnage must  
in time be utterly lost,  
That the hands of the sisters Death and Night  
incessantly softly wash again, and ever again, this  
soil'd world;

For my enemy is dead, a man divine as myself is  
dead,  
I look where he lies white-faced and still in the coffin  
- I draw near,  
Bend down and touch lightly with my lips the white  
face in the coffin.

- Walt Whitman (1865-6)

### **YEAR THAT TREMBLED AND REEL'D BENEATH ME**

Year that trembled and reel'd beneath me!  
Your summer wind was warm enough, yet the air I  
breathed froze me,  
A thick gloom fell through the sunshine and darken'd  
me,  
Must I change my triumphant songs! said I to myself,  
Must I indeed learn to chant the cold dirges of the  
baffled?  
And sullen hymns of defeat?

- Walt Whitman (1865)

### **A SIGHT IN CAMP IN THE DAYBREAK GRAY AND DIM**

A sight in camp in the daybreak gray and dim,  
As from my tent I emerge so early sleepless,  
As slow I walk in the cool fresh air the path near by  
the hospital tent,  
Three forms I see on stretchers lying, brought out  
there untended lying,  
Over each the blanket spread, ample brownish  
woolen blanket,  
Gray and heavy blanket, folding, covering all.  
Curious I halt and silent stand,  
Then with light fingers I from the face of the nearest  
the first just lift the blanket;  
Who are you elderly man so gaunt and grim, with  
well-gray'd hair, and  
flesh all sunken about the eyes?  
Who are you my dear comrade?  
Then to the second I step -- and who are you my  
child and darling?  
Who are you sweet boy with cheeks yet blooming?  
Then to the third - face nor child nor old, very calm,  
as of beautiful yellow-white ivory;  
Young man I think I know you -- I think this face is  
the face of the Christ himself,  
Dead and divine and brother of all, and here again he  
lies.

- Walt Whitman (1865)

**ON WALT WHITMAN, Part 2 of 4**  
**- Jean Rice**

Walt WHITMAN described his impressions of the American Civil War in many fine poems. As you know, thousands of Irishmen fought on both sides of the conflict:

**AS TOILSOME I WANDER'D VIRGINIA'S WOODS**

As toilsome I wander'd Virginia's woods.  
To the music of rustling leaves kick'd by my feet, (for 'twas autumn,) I mark'd at the foot of a tree the grave of a soldier; Mortally wounded he and buried on the retreat, (easily all could I understand.) The halt of a mid-day hour, when up! no time to lose - yet this sign left,  
On a tablet scrawl'd and nail'd on the tree by the grave,  
"Bold, cautious, true, and my loving comrade."  
Long, long I muse, then on my way go wandering,  
Many a changeful season to follow, and many a scene of life,  
Yet at times through changeful season and scene, abrupt, alone, or in the crowded street,  
Comes before me the unknown soldier's grave, comes the inscription rude in Virginia's woods,  
"Bold, cautious, true, and my loving comrade."  
- Walt Whitman (1865)

**THE ARTILLERYMAN'S VISION**

Entitled "The Veteran's Vision" in "Drum-Taps"  
While my wife at my side lies slumbering, and the wars are over long,  
And my head on the pillow rests at home, and the vacant midnight passes,  
And through the stillness, through the dark, I hear, just hear, the breath of my infant,  
There in the room as I wake from sleep this vision presses upon me;  
The engagement opens there and then in fantasy unreal,  
The skirmishers begin, they crawl cautiously ahead, I hear the irregular snap! snap!  
I hear the sounds of different missiles, the short t-h-t! t-h-t! of the rifle-balls,  
I see the shells exploding leaving small white clouds, I hear the great shells shrieking as they pass,  
The grape like the hum and whirr of wind through the trees,  
(tumultuous now the contest rages,)

All the scenes at the batteries rise in detail before me again,  
The crashing and smoking, the pride of the men in their pieces,  
The chief-gunner ranges and sights his piece and selects a fuse of the right time,  
After firing I see him lean aside and look eagerly off to note the effect;  
Elsewhere I hear the cry of a regiment charging, (the young colonel leads himself this time with brandish'd sword.)  
I see the gaps cut by the enemy's volleys, (quickly fill'd up, no delay.)  
I breathe the suffocating smoke, then the flat clouds hover low concealing all;  
Now a strange lull for a few seconds, not a shot fired on either side,  
Then resumed the chaos louder than ever, with eager calls and orders of officers,  
While from some distant part of the field the wind wafts to my ears a shout of applause, (some special success),  
And ever the sound of the cannon far or near (rousing even in dreams a devilish exultation and all the old mad joy in the depths of my soul,)  
And ever the hastening of infantry shifting positions, batteries, cavalry, moving hither and thither, (The falling, dying, I heed not, the wounded dripping and red I heed not, some to the rear are hobbling.)  
Grime, heat, rush, aides-de-camp galloping by or on a full run,  
With the patter of small arms, the warning s-s-t of the rifles, (these in my vision I hear or see.)  
And bombs bursting in air, and at night the vari-color'd rockets.  
- Walt Whitman (1865)

**A TASTE OF FOLK MUSIC**

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2003, 10 AM - 5 PM, Encino Park

A Free Folk Music Festival held in conjunction with the Encino Chamber of Commerce's "Taste of Encino". Seven hours of non-stop music on each stage, international dancing, arts and crafts, and Bluegrass, Celtic and Old Time jam areas.  
- 10:45am Blue Ghillies, songs & tunes from Ireland  
- 12-1pm Michael Patrick Breen's LA Irish Set Dancers performance & participation  
- 2pm Atlantic Crossing with tunes from Ireland  
- 4:20pm Crannog with Michael Patrick Breen LA Irish Set Dancers

See: [www.ctms-folkmusic.org/calendar.asp](http://www.ctms-folkmusic.org/calendar.asp)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

September – 2003

- 28 **BIFHS-USA, general meeting, WELSH STUDY GROUP** led by Annie Lloyd, Mini Workshop on Welsh records (including censuses, wills and probates, deeds and other interesting materials) This workshop will be using records written in the English language. There will be a question and answer session as well.
- 29 UHF Tour of Ireland, contact Nancy Bier

October –2003

- 4 Ulster Historical Foundation Tour of Scotland Contact Nancy Bier at [nbierirish@aol.com](mailto:nbierirish@aol.com)
- 4 Arlene H. Eakle will be speaking at the Clark County Nevada Genealogical Society. For more information see their website: [www.rootsweb.com/~nvccgns](http://www.rootsweb.com/~nvccgns)
- 17 All Clan Picnic, Craig Regional Park, 10AM - ? 3300 N. State College Blvd., Fullerton CA, contact Ralph Day (760) 535-2407, Park Fee is \$4.00
- 26 **BIFHS-USA, general meeting - See cover.**

November – 2003

- 1 Nancy Bier will speak at OCCGS general meeting on "A Comparison of Land and Tax Records of England, Ireland and Scotland" Part 1 from 11-12 and Part 2 at 12:30-1:30 PM.
- 15 English day at the Los Angeles FHC, all day seminar 9:00AM to 5:00PM. This includes a program designed by the staff at the Salt Lake City Library, lectures on English Royalty and How to Trace Yours; The Wealth of the Parish Chests and more. Lecturers include Joe Wolfe and Nancy Bier and associates.
- 23 **BIFHS-USA, general meeting, Jan Cloud on English Research on the Internet, more fun all the time!** Followed by a movie made in Ireland on the Great Famine for the Irish Study Group.

December – 2003

- 5 **BIFHS-USA, Holiday Party, 5:30PM**

January – 2004

Look for the annual research trip to Salt Lake City for research with Nancy Bier and Nancy Carlberg, genealogists as the guides. Check next calendar for dates.

April – 2004

April brings a fully guided genealogical and sightseeing tour of Ireland, England, & Wales. Brought to you courtesy of Nancy Bier, genealogist and Ginger Aarons, of Time Travel Tours.

- 16-17 **Jamboree** in Pasadena, CA

May – 2004

Look for the guided tour for those studying the history and genealogy of the Scots-Irish in America. Travel through PA. & VA up the Shenandoah and experience their lives as they

struggle to settle the east coast of our land. Nancy Bier & Linda Jonas.

- 16 Sail on the QE2 with Nancy Bier and Ginger Aarons and include the Chelsea Flower Show, lectures on history on board the ship and on to Ireland for a week of fun, gardens filled with flowers, and history.

September – 2004

- 8-11 The Federation of Genealogical Societies, Texas State Genealogical Society, and Austin Genealogical Society are inviting lecturers and researchers to submit lecture proposals for a combined conference to be held in Austin, Texas, Sept. 8-11, 2004. The deadline for submissions is June 15, 2003. The theme of the 2004 conference is, "Legends Live Forever: Researching the Past for Future Generations." Details at <http://www.fgs.org/fgs-speakerpolicy.htm>. **BIFHS-USA will have a booth here and volunteers are needed.**

**CELEBRATE THE LIFE OF OUR FORGOTTEN HERO: GENERAL BERNARDO DE GALVEZ**

[At the time of the American Revolution, almost all the United States today, west of the Mississippi was part of Spain, as was Mexico. The Governor of Louisiana was one General Bernardo de Galvez, and he controlled the mouth of the Mississippi. He allowed tons of supplies to be shipped up that river to patriot forces in the north. In 1779, with a patchwork army of Creoles, Indians, free African Americans and his own Spanish regulars, he marched on the British-held forts at Baton Rouge and Natchez, then Mobile and Pensacola. They immobilized British forces in the South, resulting in the eminent British defeat. The American Revolution would not have been won without these victories!!!! Today, Galveston, Texas bears honor to our long forgotten hero and his men.]

- **Saturday, Oct. 11, 2003, 2:00-4:00 PM**---FREE Public Opening reception of Suenos y Encuentros at Long Beach Museum of Art (2300 East Ocean Blvd, Long Beach).
- **Sunday, Oct. 12, 2003, 11:00-4:30 PM**---FREE---Bernardo de Galvez Gala Celebration at the Long Beach Performing Arts Center (300 East Ocean Blvd, Long Beach).
- Schedule: **11:00 AM-2:30 PM**--- Outside exhibits, booths, re-inactors, bands, choirs, dancers, colonial activities and displays, military re-inactors maneuvers, lone/duet/chamber musical performances.
- 1:00 PM**---Historical lectures inside by renown scholars, including our own OCCGS honorary life member, Professor Granville Hough.
- 2:00 PM**---Pre-concert music starts and includes a brass quintet and choir.
- 3:00 PM**---FREE --Special performance by the Long Beach Symphony Orchestra. Under the direction of Music Director, Mexican maestro, Enrique Arturo Diemecke, the program will premiere two new arias, commissioned and composed especially for this event!!!

## URLs

### British Isles:

- Courtesy of the Ontario Genealogy Society, National Archives of the United Kingdom: [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk)
- Brings together the Public record Office and the Historical Manuscripts commission.
- And, British Data Archive website, British censuses, in process: [www.thegenealogist.co.uk](http://www.thegenealogist.co.uk).
- Lists of denominational churches/chapels in Victorian London: <http://www.gendocs.demon.co.uk/churches.html>

### Ireland:

- **Corned Beef & Cabbage - The Feeding of A Myth**, by *Bridget Haggerty*:  
<http://www.irishcultureandcustoms.com/2Kitch/aCBeefCabge.html>
- International Living Newsletter (Free): <http://www.internationalliving.com/>

### Pennsylvania:

- From the Western PA Gen. Society: Methodist Church: <http://www.methodist.org.uk/links/index.html>

### USA – Armed Services and related sites:

- Air Force: <http://www.af.mil/>
- Army: <http://www.army.mil>
- Coast Guard: <http://www.uscg.mil/uscg.shtm>
- Navy & Marine Corps: <http://www.navy.mil>
- Vietnam Veterans: <http://www.vietvet.org>
- National Archives NATF 80 form, military records search request: [http://www.archives.gov/research\\_room/genealogy/](http://www.archives.gov/research_room/genealogy/)
- Veterans' History Project is collecting stories of the WWII veterans: <http://www.loc/folklife/vets>

### Libraries with Genealogical Collections or Resources:

- Southern California Genealogical Society Library: <http://www.scsgenealogy.com/>
- Sante Fe Springs City Library: <http://www.santefesprings.org/libindex.htm>
- National Archives & Records Administration: [http://www.archives.gov/facilities/ca/laguna\\_niguel.html](http://www.archives.gov/facilities/ca/laguna_niguel.html)
- Immigrant Genealogical Society Library: <http://feefshs.org/igs/frg-igs.html>
- Sons of the Revolution Library: <http://www.walika.com/sr/library.htm>
- UCLA – Young Research Library: <http://www.library.ucla.edu/>
- Long Beach Public Library: <http://www.lbpl.org/>
- Huntington Beach Central Library : <http://www.hbpl.org>
- Los Angeles Public Library: <http://www.lapl.org/central/history.html>
- Carlsbad City Library: <http://www.ci.carlsbad.ca.us/cserv/genealog.html>
- Pasadena Public Library: <http://www.ci.pasadena.ca.us/library/>
- Pomona Public Library: <http://www.youseemore.com/pomona/>

### Medieval records: [www.genealogics.org](http://www.genealogics.org)

- On Walt Whitman: [http://www.fttrain.com/grandfather\\_rahin.html](http://www.fttrain.com/grandfather_rahin.html)
  - On women & mother: <http://www.uapress.ua.edu/authors/ceniza.html>
  - The Church of Latter Day Saints wishes to sell the church, which dates back to the Civil War era, and its grounds, where Walt Whitman's mother is buried, because the property has gone unused, and demographics in the religion are very minimal in the area: <http://www.antonnews.com/syossetjerichotribune/1997/11/21/news/landmarks.html>
  - The earliest known photograph of Mary Todd Lincoln (DAG no. 1223) [[picture](#)]
  - A portrait of women's rights advocate Lucy Stone (DAG no. 1201) [[picture](#)]
  - Among its rare occupational portraits, an evocative portrait of an unidentified woman sitting beside a sewing machine, ca. 1853 (DAG no. 1204) Many other daguerreotypes came to the Library with the manuscript collections of prominent Americans and document women from elite circumstances, including:
    - Members of the Alexander Graham Bell family from the Grosvenor Family Papers
    - Walt Whitman's mother from the Charles E. Feinberg collection
    - Members of Frances Benjamin Johnston's family
  - Prints photographs and **Daguerreotypes**: <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/awhhtml/awpnp6/daguertype.html>
- Please contribute sites & info to: [JPMTCC@aol.com](mailto:JPMTCC@aol.com)*

From:

**British Isles FHS –USA**

2531 Sawtelle Blvd., PMB #134

Los Angeles, CA 90064-3124

Sept/Oct – 2003 Newsletter

**"First Class"**

To:

Please look at mailing label for your membership expiration date. Renew promptly to save the Society money. Individual membership is \$25; family membership is \$30. Thanks, Editor

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**BRITISH ISLES FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY – USA**

2531 Sawtelle Blvd. PMB#134, Los Angeles, CA 90064-3124

ALL MAIL MUST BE ADDRESSED TO: British Isles FHS-USA,

attention: person you wish to receive the correspondence.

"The PMB#134" and Zip+4, must be used.

(We use the "#" instead of "Box No" in order to receive UPS Deliveries)

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