



## *El Cajon Cemetery Project Complete*

The Society's survey of the El Cajon Cemetery that was started in 1999, was completed on June 3rd. Thanks to the efforts of many Society volunteers we were finally able to do the final gravestone comparisons and resolve the remaining conflicts. Our database contains over 9,000 burials and is the only existing comprehensive index of the cemetery. The Society's work is the only such project to compile and preserve these valuable records. Without our efforts, it simply wouldn't have been done.

We would like to thank the following members who came to the cemetery in the final weeks to help finish this project -- Shirley Bracey, Barbara Cogburn, Pam Journey, Shirley Lamendola, Twila Moore, Bill Orsborn, Lynne Robinson, John Scott, Bridget Slatten, Robert Stuebing, Audrey and Ed Ward, Karna Webster, Alberta White, Sharlene Porter-Williams, Clifford Williams and Charlotte Zaino.

A special thanks to Sharlene Porter-Williams for her extra dedication to this project and to Marna Clemens and Karna Webster for their ongoing work to locate and transcribe the records. It wouldn't have gotten done without their personal commitment to this most worthwhile project. Thanks again to everyone involved for the time and effort to make it happen.

The Society plans to publish this work for sale in bound paper format for libraries and other archives as well as in an every-word searchable pdf format on CD. Later plans may include publishing excerpts in *Leaves & Saplings* and possibly on the Society's web site. This is a unique opportunity for the Society to offer original research and preserve these records for future generations.

## **July 8th Monthly Meeting St. Andrew's Church, noon**

### *"Some Crazy San Diego Place Names..... And Where They Came From"*

Have you ever wondered where some San Diego County place names came from? We have all probably heard that La Jolla means 'The Jewel' and that Pomerado is named for the tropical fruit -- but both are incorrect.

You may know your way around San Diego County, but how well do you know the origins of local place names? Do you know where the Normal in 'Normal Heights' came from? How about 'Dictionary Hill'? Can you name two places named for U. S. Presidents?

While many names in San Diego County are Indian or Spanish others are just plain unpredictable. In fact, Americans after 1846 made up most of the odd ones. Do you have a place name you have always wondered about? If so, come and ask the expert. Do you know some little known fact about some San Diego place? Then come and see if you can stump the expert. Arguments are always welcome.

Author of "*San Diego County Place Names A to Z*", **Leland Fetzer** is a linguist, having taught at San Diego State University for nearly 30 years. He was born in Salt Lake City and graduated from the University of Utah with a degree in history. He received his Ph.D in Russian at UC Berkeley. Since retiring in 1992, his chief interest has been in the history and natural history of the Julian and Cuyamaca areas.

Should be a great program! See you there.

The Newsletter is published monthly, except January, by the San Diego Genealogical Society and mailed to all current members. Submission deadline for articles and announcements is the 15th of the month for the following month. Inclusion is based solely on the discretion of the Editor and/or Board of Directors. Members are encouraged to submit materials for publication, subject to copyright provisions. Please contact the Editor for guidelines.

### 2006 Board of Directors

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Comments and suggestions can be e-mailed to the editor at [steelquist@aol.com](mailto:steelquist@aol.com) or left on the Library answering machine, 619-588-0065.



### *Library Notes*.....by Anna Acosta

I want to thank all of you for your words of kindness and your expressions of support during my time of loss. This may not be the most appropriate place to do this but hopefully most of you read this column. I have been overwhelmed and deeply touched by your messages. Thank you.

At the library we have been finding books misfiled. Please do not refile the books that you remove from the shelves. Our shelf monitors will do this if you will put them on the blue cart. Some have even been filed back in reverse order by their Dewey Decimal Numbers. Oops!

Also, some books have turned up missing and I would like to once again remind you that we are not a lending library nor do our books circulate from our location. That's why we have a copy machine. If you have borrowed a book, please return it, put it on the blue cart -- no questions asked. I'm sure many of you have been annoyed to search for a book that has information important to you and been unhappy not to find it on the shelf. Please be considerate of your fellow researchers.

If you are going on a trip this summer, I wish you happy hunting for your family tree branches. Otherwise the library is a really 'cool' place to be. Perhaps I'll see you there .....Anna

## President Message

In last month's Newsletter, we thanked and acknowledged our many volunteers who keep the Society running so smoothly. We couldn't operate without them. Our thanks to all of them once again.

This month I want to give special THANKS to our board members. They make a two year commitment to serve in their jobs and to look after the business interests of the Society. After all, we are an ongoing business (since 1946) here to support and meet the needs of our members. And like running any business, it requires many skills and talents. Each board member brings their own strengths to the table to help run the Society. While there is a lot of work involved, it doesn't seem like too much when everyone pitches in. We also have a lot of fun in the process.

My thanks to 1st VP, Elaine Foulger, for all her efforts to promote the Society -- press releases, flyers, etc. -- so we may continue to grow. Joan Carter, 2nd VP, has revitalized our fund raising. Great job of selling and promoting! Our Secretary, Tim McMaster, not only keeps the minutes but is always helping out in so many ways (and is a proof reader, par excellence!). Treasurer, Phyllis Quarg, stepped in to take over after the death of our last Treasurer -- not an easy thing to do. Most appreciated Phyllis. Our Program Director, Gloria Osborn, has the awesome job of finding speakers for our monthly meetings. Its not easy to find new speakers and fresh topics -- and what an excellent year so far. Thanks. Our Special Events Director (also Parliamentarian), Phyllis Newton, takes charge of our trips and other special events. She stepped in to take over after a resignation. Great SLC trip. Jackie McMaster, Membership Director, came in and had to learn how to manage a database program. Not an easy task but what a wonderful Yearbook. Thanks. Our library would not be what it is without Anna Acosta. It certainly carries her mark of success. Thanks to our Director at Large, Candace Booth, for making sure our equipment is at the meetings and also for helping out in so many other things. And lastly, but not least, to Shirley Lamendola, Historian, who keeps the continuity of the Society going for future boards and members.

To all, THANKS for making my job so much easier. And to our members, please consider volunteering your time to serve on the board. After all, we are only members like yourselves -- genealogists who are committed to learning and teaching the best principles of our 'art' to the San Diego community.

When our Nominating Committee contacts you, please say "Yes" -- you and everybody wins.

Peter Steelquist, President

# *Using the Pre-1850 U. S. Census Records*

Having the U. S. Federal Census records online has made them one of the most significant resources for genealogical research. However, the pre-1850 census enumerations, which only mention the head of household, remain underutilized or ignored by many researchers. This is a brief explanation on how to get the most out of these valuable records.

The 1790 to 1840 census schedules furnish only the names of the free heads of family, not of other family members. They included counts of other family members in varying configurations, depending on the year. The age categories increased each year, from two age groups for free white males in 1790 to twelve age groups for free white and six age groups for slaves and free colored persons in 1840.

So, with so little family information, how can these records help you? First, they can help you track ancestors movements prior to 1850. With the ability to do online searches for the entire U. S., finding their possible migrations every ten years is now possible. By following family groups and clusters, you can identify parents, siblings, in-laws and other relatives. Even if you have a common names, by tracking relatives or neighbors with uncommon names, you can potentially track your elusive relative.

By using these census records as a group, you can follow ages of parents and children through each enumeration. William Dollarhide's book, "The Census Book" (see page 5 of this newsletter), has an excellent form in which you can write in the ages at each census and it plots them to line up the ages by group. You can even use this tool to narrow the ages of children from different censuses. This visual tool can easily help you identify individual family groups. Keep in mind, however, that some children may have died or married and moved between census years and you may need to make allowances for some differences.

If you know the names of the children, it also helps to write them out for each census to help identify even suspected children. Also, keep in mind that Sr. and Jr. may not signify father and son, only persons of same name with different ages and may not be even related.

These censuses can also be used to determine possible deaths of parents. While sometimes a male head of household or a wife may be listed as 'wid.' others may just be noted by their absence in the enumeration, although this may only result in an assumption requiring confirmation from probate or other records.

These census records can become much more valuable when used in conjunction with other documentation. In tracking family groups or to simply determine

one family from another, obtaining a signature of the head of household can be critical. Court or land records will often have specimen signatures which can be compared. Even if only extracted or copied from originals, they can contain detailed information that can help distinguish between two different families.

Church records are also valuable where witnesses are cited for baptisms and marriages. If you are lucky enough to have Quaker ancestors, entire family migrations are tracked in the Monthly Meeting records.

Another source to help make distinctions are county histories. They often contain early historical accounts that include family arrival dates that can confirm the census records.

In short, if you have not been using the early census records, you are missing out on a valuable resource. Just because they are not as detailed as those of 1850 and after, you should not diminish their importance. Now, perhaps with a greater insight, you can more effectively use these records and find your families during this important time in our country's history. Good luck and happy hunting.



## *Free eBooks*

From July 4 to August 4, 2006, you can access and download over 300,000 online texts for free! Project Gutenberg and WorldeBook Library are sponsoring the first World eBook Fair to mark the 35th anniversary of Project Gutenberg. They will make "a third of a million" e-books available for free. The majority of the books will be contributed by the nonprofit World eBook Library which otherwise charges \$8.95 a year for access to its database.

This will be the first free offering, with half a million made available during the fair in 2007, 3/4 million in 2008 and one million in 2009 with more appearing in subsequent years. Their aim is to give the most books to the most people possible to encourage ever increasing levels of literacy and reading.

The books, in pdf format, include classics ranging from "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" to "Old Indian Legends", as well as dictionaries and thesauruses. Over 100 languages are represented. In addition to being able to read these on your computer, you can print them out, save them on CDs, and download them to a PDA for a transportable library.

So, mark your calendars and plan on devoting a little more 'screen time' this July to building your library.

## *The Meaning of Life.....*

If you can smile when things go wrong, you have someone in mind to blame.

# Channel 10 Calls For SSDI Removal

In a recent news story on identity theft, KGTV, channel 10 in San Diego, has asked the Social Security Administration to consider taking the Master Death Index off its web site. The broadcast news story also mentioned the indexes located on Ancestry.com and FamilySearch.org.

The video news story (which can be viewed online at [www.10news.com/video/9332142/index.html](http://www.10news.com/video/9332142/index.html)) titled "Identity Thieves Prey On The Deceased" is a general 'scare' piece with no specific citations of actual theft. It mentions how thieves glean names of deceased from obituaries and then match them up with Social Security numbers posted on the Internet sites.

Channel 10 also approached 53rd District Rep. Susan Davis, who has introduced the Identity Theft Protection for the Deceased Act. It would require the federal government to inform all credit reporting agencies about a person's death, making it tougher for someone to open up credit in the deceased person's name.

While everyone opposes identity theft, this type of irresponsible and sensational reporting only helps to confuse and confound the issues. The story failed to mention the legitimate uses of the SSDI and the benefits that obituaries play in community notification and historical, biographical and genealogical research. There was no attempt to present a balanced story explaining the real issues.

If you would like to express your views on these issues and KGTV's reporting, please e-mail them;

General Manager, Derek Dalton  
[derek\\_dalton@10news.com](mailto:derek_dalton@10news.com)

News Director, Michael Stutz  
[michael\\_stutz@10news.com](mailto:michael_stutz@10news.com)

Viewer Feedback  
[kgtv\\_10viewertalkback@10news.com](mailto:kgtv_10viewertalkback@10news.com)

Be sure to let them know that you have switched to watching channel 7, 8, or 9 for local news coverage. If fair reporting isn't meaningful to them perhaps ratings will be.



## Welcome to Our New Members

We want to welcome the following new member to the Society. Please make Joy feel welcome and introduce yourself at our next meeting.

**WALSH, Joy** -- Aguilar, Udade, West, Rockie, Jester, McLain, White.

## Meeting in Review.....June 2006

In "Our Inventive Ancestors", Kathleen Trevena discussed how major inventions and technology of the day changed the lives of our ancestors. She focused on the period from 1790 to 1870 and looked at ways their lives became more efficient the areas of manufacturing, transportation, communications, weaponry, agriculture and home life. Noting that, until this time, few changes really impacted their lives -- they farmed the same way, cottage industry was unchanged and transportation was still mostly limited.

The steam engine was the first revolution that began in 1774 with the first practical commercial application. This sparked the industrial revolution and changed the division of labor and brought about interchangeable parts, the large factories and mills and cheap consumer goods that replaced the craftsmen's trade.

The building of roads (Lancaster, Cumberland, etc.) drastically brought down the cost of travel -- but more importantly, the cost of bringing goods back to market. New canals further reduced this cost. Freight rates were \$100 per ton by road but \$10 per ton by canal. The volume down the Erie Canal went from 3,640 bushels of wheat to 1million in 1841, making New York our largest harbor.

Steamboats also revolutionized travel and freight on inland waterways and opened up westward settlement. Steamships, which became common by the 1840's, further changed the transatlantic commerce -- first for mail and then passengers.

She further cited the impact of the telegraph, transatlantic cable and transcontinental line. She related the changes in weapons (rifling, breech loading, cartridges) and their impact on war. In agriculture, she explored how the cotton gin and the reaping machine improved harvest yields and impacted labor needs.

In "Crossing a Continent" Kathleen first set the stage by talking about world politics. She mentioned a few key laws that had been enacted that dealt with land and migration.

With the use of map overheads, she explored the US geography and what controlled the migration routes. She noted that migration was by water when possible and that settlers usually were looking for familiar soil and climate conditions as well as culture.

She examined internal migration patterns, noting that moves were often relatively sort but frequent. She concluded by discussing the particular immigration traits for the Scottish, Irish, German, Dutch, Welsh, Danish Finnish and French settlers. From 1820-29, there were 128,502 immigrants and by 1850-60 it was 2,814,554!

There were separate handouts for each presentation which contained a brief bibliography. A great talk that really provided a historical perspective.

## WWII Draft Cards Online

While we have reported on WW I Draft Card Registrations before (Dec 2004, Jun 2006), Ancestry.com has now made available a limited selection of WWII Draft Cards available online.

Included are the following states; Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia and West Virginia. While there were a number of registrations as a result of President Roosevelt's first peacetime selective service draft in Oct. 1940, only the fourth registration, on 27 April 1942, is available. It covers men who were born between 28 April 1877 and 16 February 1897 and not already in the military. This 'old man's registration' covers men between 45 and 64.

Information on the draft cards includes; name of registrant, age, birth date, birthplace, residence, employer information, name and address of person who would always be the registrants whereabouts, physical description and board registration information. Search criteria includes; first, last name (with Soundex option), residence state & city, birth state & city, birth date, race and key words.

The database is available to paid subscribers, at the FHC and many public libraries. Ancestry.com will be updating the database as more records become available.



## PAF Tutorial Online

If you have been doing genealogical research for more than a few years, you have probably used PAF (Personal Ancestral File). It is the free and widely used program from the LDS Church.

A team of Brigham Young University students and faculty members have created a new free online tutorial for PAF. Tutorial participants can pick and choose which areas of PAF they need to know more about by clicking on either a step-by-step textual guide or an interactive demonstration for each point of reference in the menu. Because of audio components, the interactive demonstrations require speakers or headphones to listen to instructions.

The tutorial covers the entire PAF program, from importing information from other family history programs to exporting information to the church's TempleReady program.

To access the tutorial, go to <http://paf tutorial.byu.edu/>. For more information about PAF and family history, visit <http://familyhistory.byu.edu/>.

## Glass Tombstones



In past issues, we have tried to keep you current on the latest trends in tombstones -- video, computer chip, etc. Here is yet another one that appears to be catching on -- glass.

Lundgren Monuments in Seattle, WA, makes a frosted green 'standard model' that weighs 200 pounds. The slab is made from fused windowpane glass and is 4 to 5 inches thick. It won't corrode or stain and is more resilient than granite, though both contain high levels of the mineral silica and can chip. It won't crack in cold weather or melt when its warm.

Other headstones they have made include a blazing pink, three-dimensional heart with smoky, violet swirls that light up the inside like rose petals. The company, started in 2004, makes about 50 tombstones per year in addition to other memorial pieces and artworks. Prices start at \$8,000. To find out more, visit their web site: [www.lundgrenmonuments.com](http://www.lundgrenmonuments.com). And please, no jokes about those who live in glass houses.



## 'Natural' Cemetery Dedicated

In May 2006, nearly 100 people showed up for the dedication of the Greensprings Natural Cemetery Preserve in Newfield, New York. It is now the fifth 'green burial' cemetery in the nation.

The idea is that burials must be natural -- without embalming fluids, coffins and gravestones. Simple wooden or cardboard boxes are to be used. Small metal markings will be used to identify the plots (or small stones flush with the ground). Gravesites can also be dedicated with the planting of native trees and shrubs.

Greensprings is located on one-hundred acres of rolling hilltop meadows south of Cayuga Lake in New York's lovely Finger Lakes region, on Irish Hill is bounded by 4,000-acre Arnot Forest and 4,000-acre Newfield State Forest. "Through natural burial, you create a legacy of enduring stewardship and renewal, a legacy that provides a place of peace and beauty for generations to come". It is envisioned as not just a place to be buried but also for weddings or other affirming activities. They are hoping to even get picnic tables. The plots cost about \$500 each, though there is a discount for purchasing multiple gravesites. Visit their web site at: [www.naturalburial.org/index.php](http://www.naturalburial.org/index.php)

If the idea takes off, future generations of family historians, may find metal detectors a required cemetery research tool.

# Thanks For The Memories

by Diane Altona

[Editor: Last month we published member Diane Altona's 2nd place winner in the short story category in the Southern California Genealogical Society 2005 Family History Writing Contest. She also was a finalist in the 'family stories' category with this entry. Congratulations, once again, Diane. Way to go!]

Email jokes and quizzes arrive almost daily in my Inbox. One recent arrival that reminisced about the changes in our world from 75 years ago until now triggered a flood of nostalgia that has compelled me to write this for my grand-kids. Come back with me to my life in the late 1930s, 40s and on into the 1950s.

In 1936, my father bought our wood-siding white-painted house for, if I recall correctly, \$900. It was the Great Depression, which wasn't so great for the people who'd lost the house Pop bought, probably at sheriff's auction. It seemed to me then to be a big house with steep stairs that led to the second floor, stairs of varnished red-brown wood and no carpeting, too slick to walk up or down in sock feet. In 1993 when I wandered through the house after my father died, the first I'd been in it since I left Toledo in 1954, the place had "shrunk" to a modest house with small rooms that bore little resemblance to my memories of where I grew up. My folks had had one front bedroom, I had the other front bedroom, and my kid brother got the little one over the stairs. Upstairs was where the bathroom was, black and white hexagonal tiles on the floor, wall-hung washbowl with all the plumbing showing -- Mom hated that.

We had no car for many years and took the city bus everywhere. I was allowed to ride downtown to the library alone by the time I was 10. There were no branch libraries that I knew of in Toledo. I read all the books in the children's section for my age level and beyond and had to start over again because we weren't allowed to borrow from the adult section. Even in the early 1960s when our son Erick was in elementary school and was bored with kids' books, I had to write a permission slip for the library to keep on file so he could borrow adult books. Now I never reread a book and live in panic that I'll never have time to read all that I own, even for the first time.

Instead of pizza, we'd heard of "pizza pie," but I can't recall when I had the first one. For sure it was not while I lived at home because my father would give Mom scarcely enough grocery money to cover basic needs, much less allow for going out to eat pizza.

Sweet Ohio corn was 25 cents a dozen ears, and no store-bought corn on the cob has ever tasted as good as those, eaten the same day the farmer picked them. However, Pop also bought beef from the farmer, the

cheapest, toughest that old steer had produced. I couldn't chew it up enough to swallow it. Many's the meal when I remained at the table long after dinner, still chewing a miserable mouthful, not permitted to leave the table until I'd cleaned my plate. It's a wonder I even like to eat, and I still am not a beef eater unless it's cut into tiny --and few -- pieces!

When my brother and I were big enough, we walked with Mom to the A&P, about a mile away, maybe more, and helped carry the big bags of groceries home, enough for the month. Fresh produce came from our garden in summer and fall, and from the "fruit cellar" in the winter and spring. Jars of peaches and sour cherries, applesauce, grape jelly, strawberry jam, tomatoes, rows and shelves of all that Mom had "put up," much from the garden and the fruit trees, but some that Pop bought at a bargain price because it was about to spoil. Mom then had to drop everything to process and can bushels of squashy fruit before it "turned." I can still see her eye-roll expression behind Pop's back.

Whole milk, and not homogenized, came in bottles delivered to our back door in the still-dark hours of the morning before we were up. The milkman put it into an insulated box to protect it in the meanwhile from souring in steaming Toledo summers or freezing in cold Toledo winters. However, some still froze, the cream on top emerged in a frozen cylindrical plug, the little cardboard bottle cap sitting on top like a flat beret. At Thanksgiving, Mom skimmed the cream off the top and made whipped cream to top the pumpkin pie. Otherwise, we drank milk with all the cream, shaking the bottle first to mix in the cream that always rose to the top again when undisturbed for a time.

Even though we were city people, it was long after most of our neighbors and friends had a telephone that we finally indulged. Lawndale 5981 was our number, dialed simply L-A-5981. It was a party line, four parties in pairs so that we each received only one of the others' rings besides our own, something like three short rings was ours and the other person's was a one-long, one-short sequence. For a kid, the one-long one-short signaled it was time to silently pick up the receiver and eavesdrop. My big dream was to overhear a murder plot and save the victim's life, my fantasy due no doubt to a diet of too many Nancy Drew mysteries!

Not everyone subscribed to the Toledo Blade newspaper, but we did, probably because Pop was rabidly Republican and so was the Blade. In eighth grade, I entered a contest to sell the most Blade subscriptions. Those kids who sold a specific number, ten as I recall, won a trip to Washington D.C. I begged reluctant neighbors and a cousin, explaining how educational the trip would be, and managed to sell exactly enough. It was to be my very first time away from my parents and my excitement knew no bounds. I didn't sleep the night before. That almost was my undoing because the trip

consisted of an overnight train trip, an all-day tour of the highlights of D.C., and the next night back on the train. All the way going, I held hands with the boy in the seat behind me. Nobody slept. The tour dragged us sleep-deprived kids all over, educating us about our capital. By the time we pulled back into the Toledo station the group had taken on the appearance of the cast of Night of the Living Dead.

Saturday matinee movies cost a dime until I turned fourteen and then suddenly I had to pay a quarter. I remember writing a letter to the manager of the Colony Theater in protest, because my allowance hadn't inflated to cover the increase. The letter apparently didn't move him. When I was younger, I went with my parents to Bank Night. They bought me an adult ticket then because the only numbers on the adult ticket stub might win us a jackpot of money. We never even came close. We had much better luck on Dish Night because every adult came home with a free dish. Oh, they were cheap dishes, but that they were free gave them a higher status in our house.

There was no TV in my life until I bought my own after I'd moved out, a very "modern"-looking one with a turquoise and white case, black and white picture. We had that one for awhile after Hans and I got married, too. I resisted getting color and still like black and white because my imagination can make things any color I want.

Good old days? Maybe, maybe not, but they are good topics of conversation, a way to let my grand-kids shake their heads in disbelief, and certainly one way to acknowledge our places in a constantly evolving history.

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"You obviously have no idea whose great-great-great-granddaughter you're ticketing!"

## Mickey Mouse Family Tree

Mickey Mouse, that American icon created by Walt Disney in 1928, is alive and well and now has his family heritage preserved.



There a complete family tree of his entire family -- all the cousins, aunts, uncles and ancestors -- that appeared in the cartoons and comics. In addition to a pictorial pedigree chart, there is a database reference to when and where each character appeared. You will not only find Mickey and Minnie but also Mortimer, Minerva, Manfred and the rest of the gang. Check it out at: [http://goofy313g.free.fr/calisota\\_online/trees/mymousetree.html](http://goofy313g.free.fr/calisota_online/trees/mymousetree.html).

In addition, you will also find Mickey and Minnie (nee Dott) Mouse in the IGI (International Genealogical Index), a worldwide index of over 200 million names created by the LDS Church. They are listed complete with temple ordinances. Don't believe me? Go to [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) and see for yourself.

Apparently, when you are famous (and even a mouse at that), you don't need to do your own family history research.



## Dollarhide's 'The Census Book' Free and Online

ProQuest has posted the entire volume, including forms, of Bill Dollarhide's *"The Census Book: A Genealogist's Guide to Federal Census Facts, Schedules, and Indexes"* online in PDF format. The 183 page book, published in 2001, is the comprehensive guide to census research. It provides many unknown facts and peculiarities about census records that will help you better understand the data. The 'Navigating the Census Book' section following the 'Welcome Page' explains how to use the PDF version.

It contains all the census forms, including veterans, slave and mortality as well as a chapter on non-population census schedules. Don't miss his excellent form (pg. 181) for comparing the 1790 to 1840 census records in determining family continuity.

We are indebted to ProQuest and Mr. Dollarhide for making this available for free. You can find it at: [www.heritagequestonline.com/prod/genealogy/html/help/census\\_book.html](http://www.heritagequestonline.com/prod/genealogy/html/help/census_book.html). Now there is no reason for not becoming a census expert.

# Cluster Genealogy

Traditional genealogical research focuses on the individual -- being able to distinguish one individual from another to form our direct line family groups. We doggedly search out that one person, almost as though we have blinders on to the rest of the people around them. However, like us, our ancestors did not live in isolation. They formed extended family and social groups that included siblings, cousins, in-laws and other relatives as well as neighbors, classmates, co-workers, fellow countrymen, church members, etc. in relationships that often lasted years and even lifetimes.

When we get 'stuck' in our direct line research, a proven research technique is to step back and look at the whole or extended family genealogy in order to make the connections we need to prove our relationships. It's called "cluster genealogy" and involves expanding your genealogy search beyond your direct line ancestors to find all the records and published citations of each person associated with your ancestor.

In the course of our research, we have all found neighbors who turned out to be relatives and seemingly unrelated families that migrated together from place to place. Often the same people appear as witnesses on deeds and at baptisms and marriages. In cluster genealogy, we capitalize on these seemingly random occurrences to collect information on much larger groups than our direct lines. It involves checking all the same records you do for your own ancestors and then looking at the connections - both direct and implied.

Census records and estate records are especially useful in identifying extended family members. Land deeds, newspapers and church records are useful in pinpointing neighbors and friends. Probate and obituaries of others can be rich in information on your ancestor. While your direct line may not be mentioned in a county or family history, spouses of siblings and their families may be and can lead to unexpected finds. Just knowing and recognizing names and naming patterns can help identify relationships. Even finding other genealogists researching allied lines can lead to significant new information for your line - if you take the time and make the contacts.

In cluster genealogy, a useful technique is the use of timelines (see Nov. 2004 Newsletter). By mapping out the sequence of events, you can readily see any gaps in your research. You can also match up different individuals on timelines to help confirm (or dispel) suspected connections.

Cluster genealogy opens the possibilities of finding additional records by increasing the pool of individuals you are researching. Think of it as throwing out a bigger research net in order to find more answers. Look in places you normally wouldn't if it were just for your direct line ancestor. Even looking in neighboring town-

ships or counties can lead to surprises and success.

While there is no guarantee of success, you will certainly discover a lot more about your ancestors and have a better understanding of how they lived. So, take off the blinders and envision their world as they lived it. It will definitely be worth the effort.



## Academic Genealogy

The Newsletter has looked at a number of mega portals for genealogical research (Cindi's List, Linkpendium, ePodunk, etc.) and there is another that should be on your list: *The Genealogy and Family History Internet Web Directory*. It can be found at [www.academic-genealogy.com](http://www.academic-genealogy.com).

It promotes itself as "an improved professional genealogy and family history world wide humanities and social sciences mega portal". It is connected to thousands of related sub-sets, with billions of primary and secondary database records that can be found at its new domain site hosted by Yahoo!® SBC.

The brainchild of Tom Tinney and V. Chris, its mission is to promote scholarly educational access to all key worldwide Internet genealogical and family history databases and resources. It boasts "free coverage of the genealogy world in a nutshell."

Unlike the other mega portals which focus more on research, this one takes a more academic approach. It has links for the professional genealogist, teachers, archive, museum and library resources, computer, internet and software. But don't be fooled by its broad categories on the home page. Clicking on one link opens a vast array of additional links and sub-categories. You really need to take your time to explore all the categories and nuances of this site. Their approach will reveal possibilities you may not have thought of before and take you to new sites that can open your research to new horizons.

So, take the time to explore this site or revisit it - acquaint yourself with its vast resources. You will certainly want to book mark this for future reference and make it a major jumping off site for your Internet



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Whenever you make a purchase from or subscribe to a new Ancestry.com database, please be sure to log on the San Diego Genealogy Web site ([www.rootsweb.com/~casdgs/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~casdgs/)) first and go through our link to Ancestry.com. In this way, your Society receives a commission on what you purchase and it doesn't cost you a penny more! Be sure to tell your friends about this too as any purchase linked through our web site counts.

## New At The Library

The following items have been cataloged since last month's newsletter and are now available in the library. Our sincere thanks for the many generous donations. Thanks, also, to our library catalog volunteers.

TITLE	AUTHOR	CALL NUM.	LOCATION
The Houghtalings: A Dutch-American Family	Beecher, Raymond	929.2 H838	File Cab.
Loughmans Across America :Searching Your Heritage		929.2 L887	Shelf
Alden Williamson Genealogy	Alley, Joseph W.	929.2 W729	Shelf
New York State Censuses & Substitutes	Dollarhide, William, and M	974.7 D665	Shelf
Even More Palatine Families "18th Century Immigrants to the American Colonies and the	Jones, Henry A., Jr., and F	974.7 J77p	Shelf
Southampton (PA) 1685 - 1985 A Tricentennial History		974.821 S726	Shelf
Genealogists' Arkansas Address Book	Allen, Desmond Walls	976.7 A425a	File Cab.
Origin and Evolution of Illinois Counties	State of Illinois	977.3 I29h	File Cab.
California, The Golden State	Collings, Randy, Editor	979.4 C711	Shelf
Memories of the Mendocino Coast	Ryder, David Warren	979.415 R992	Shelf
The Oregon Country Censuses & Substitutes for Oregon, Washington, Idaho & Montana	Dollarhide, William	979.5 D665	File Cab.
The Whitman Massacre A True Story by a Survivor of this Terrible Tragedy which took Pl:	Saunders, Mary	979.5 S257	File Cab.

### *A Place Called California.....*

Most people think the name California is Spanish or perhaps from Native American sources. But neither is correct.

The first recorded use of the word California that has been found to date is 1541 in documents related to a breach-of-contract suit brought by Juan Castellon against Hernan Cortes. In a letter by Franciscan Father Antonio de Meno introduced as evidence in the trial, Father Meno referred to the "Isla de California." Father Meno had accompanied Francisco de Ulloa on one of his expeditions in the Sea of Cortes in 1539 and so it is possible, even probable, that the name was in use at that earlier date.



Cortes, having lost his position in New Spain, needed an island of riches to renew his financial fortunes. In 1533 he commissioned Diego Bezerra de Mendoza to search the Pacific for islands. Bezerra's pilot, Ortuna Ximenes, murdered his captain and took over the expedition. Ximenes discovered the southern tip of what is today known as Baja California and thought that it was an island. Ximenes went ashore with a landing party and was killed by a party of natives. The survivors aboard the ship returned to the mainland with word of their discovery. On May 3, 1535 Cortes landed on his "island," claimed it for Spain, named it Santa Cruz, and laid out the town site that would become La Paz. On May 10, 1535 he proclaimed himself governor.

The name California is most likely a reference to a fifteenth century Spanish romance in five volumes entitled *Amadis de Gaula* by Garcia Ordonez de Montalvo. The subject of the work was the conflict between Christian and Moslem forces in the Crusades. The fifth volume contains the exploits of the very powerful cavalier Esplandian, son of king Amadis de Gaula, who's adventures took him to an island called California ruled by a beautiful black Amazon Queen named Calafia. The Moorish Amazons were more sinister than in their traditional portrayal. Their steeds, the griffins, were fattened on the men seized on their forays. No man was allowed inside their island fortress on pain of death. Their carnal unions took place only in the countries of the adversaries during temporary truces. Male offspring were killed and fed to the griffins.

California fit the myths then circulating in all respects. It had gold in plenty, free-loving amazons living in caves, strange beasts, and was very difficult to reach. While the name California stood for dreams, it also was imbued with dread, which contributed its enchantment as well as to the delay in its development.

San Diego Genealogical Society  
1050 Pioneer Way, Suite E  
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### **SDGS Event Calendar**

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings held at;

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, 8350 Lake Murray Blvd. (at Jackson Dr.) San Diego

July 1 -- FTM Users Group, Society Library, 10 a.m. to noon

July 5 -- Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Society Library

July 8 -- RootsMagic Users Group, 10 a.m. to noon, St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

July 8 -- Monthly Meeting, San Diego Place Names, Leland Fetzer, noon

Aug. 5 -- FTM Users Group, Society Library, 10 a.m. to noon,

Aug. 9 -- Board Meeting, Society Library

Aug 12 -- RootsMagic Users Group, 10 a.m. to noon, St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

Aug. 12 -- Monthly Meeting, Meet Abraham Lincoln, noon

**View All San Diego County Genealogy Events at: [www.cgssd.org/events.php3](http://www.cgssd.org/events.php3)**