



San Diego Genealogical Society

Newsletter

Nov. 2006



Vol. 39, No.10

Your Donations Really Help

As we approach the year-end and plan for tax time, please consider making a donation to your Society. They go a long way and do so much good to help support our ongoing operations and quality programming. See President's Message.

Please, give what you can. It is so needed and most appreciated. Thank you.



Annual Luncheon Coming

Our Annual January Luncheon Seminar will be on Jan. 13th at the Handlery Hotel in Mission Valley. The program this year will feature nationally known speaker and author, Nancy Ellen Carlsberg. Many of you probably already know her from attending national genealogical conferences. Her wit and humor as well as her in-depth command of her subjects will keep you spellbound. You certainly do not want to miss this event.

She is the author of numerous books, some of which will be available for sale at the meeting. In addition to being listed in Who's Who, she has the distinction of having worked with Alex Haley on his monumental book, *Roots*. In addition to her genealogy topics, she will share with us some of her unique experiences in working with Mr. Haley.

The registration form and complete list of topics is included with this Newsletter. Be sure to fill it out and mail it today with your check to reserve your place at this 'not to be missed' seminar.

Come and show your support for our new board members. They all work so hard to provide you the best the Society has to offer. See you there.

Nov. 11th Monthly Meeting St. Andrew's Church, noon

Finding Your Elusive Ancestors in the Census Haystack

Have you found ALL of the census entries for your ancestors? If not, why not? -- probably because they were not enumerated or indexed correctly -- and they are lost in the haystack of millions of census entries. The chances of finding your elusive ancestors in the census has improved since the days of printed name indexes, Soundex card searches and microfilm cranking at the Archives or FHC.

This presentation will briefly survey the available census records, discuss the census taking process, examine the change from microfilm to online access to the census records, and describe methods to effectively search for your elusive ancestors using online census indexes and images.

Randy Seaver is a San Diego native, a retired aerospace engineering manager and an avid genealogist. His ancestry includes many colonial New England, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania families of English and German heritage. Since 1988, he has found thousands of his ancestors and produced two self-published books. He is a SDGS member and is currently serving as 1st VP for the Chula Vista Genealogical Society. Randy also enjoys helping others with their genealogy. His "Genea-Musings" genealogy blog has received wide recognition. If you haven't visited it, go to <http://randysmusings.blogspot>.

See you at the meeting!

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.

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



PERSI Updated

PERSI (Periodical Source Index -- see June 2004 Newsletter) has had a major update with the addition of 235,000 articles published from 2004 and 2005. It now contains nearly 2 million citations from over 6,500 periodicals published in the United States, Canada and abroad.

In a collaborative effort, the Allen County Public Library and ProQuest Information and Learning recently announced this new major release. PERSI is the standard for periodical research in local history and genealogy. This comprehensive subject index covers genealogy and local history periodicals written in English since 1800.

If you have not searched PERSI lately, this update should be a mandatory 'call to action' to search the index again for your surnames, localities and research methodologies. PERSI can be accessed through Ancestry.com (free at the FHC) or other major libraries as a key component of HeritageQuest.



The Meaning of Life.....

There are two lasting gifts we can give our children. One is roots, the other wings.

President's Message.....

As the end of the year approaches and we begin to think about the holidays, we should also be thinking about tax time and what we should be doing to get our 'financial house' in order.

Part of that process is to make sure we take all our eligible deductions. After all, we shouldn't pay more in taxes than we need to. Part of your legitimate deductions are your contributions to tax exempt, non-profit organizations -- like the San Diego Genealogical Society.

Just stop for a moment and think where your financial support could be doing the most good. While there are a lot of worthy, needy organizations out there vying for your money, SDGS promotes and supports what you believe in -- education and research in family history. Since 1946, we have been the most significant force in the San Diego community. We are, and always have been, an all-volunteer organization made up of dedicated genealogists who's only desire is to make teaching the highest standards of our craft to more and more people.

All of our revenue -- whether from dues or fund-raising -- goes back into the Society to support our excellent library and programs. We purposely keep our dues low to attract new members. But, we are facing a dilemma. Our revenue is not keeping up with our expenses. We have undertaken many new activities and projects to raise money. While very successful and helpful, they have not been enough.

This is where we need your help. As you plan your end-of-year tax strategy and giving plans, please include your Society in your gifting. It is all tax deductible and you know it will go a long way in helping support the ongoing operations and programming you value so much. I would hate to think that we should ever have to consider cutting back on our services and activities.

We have so many dedicated, long-term members who have donated so much time and money over the years to make our organization the quality experience it is. It is a legacy we owe to them as well as to current members and future family historians.

So please, do your part and do what you can to help support your Society by mailing in your donation check today. While any amount is most helpful and appreciated, please consider giving the most you can. With gas prices falling almost a \$1 a gallon, everyone has a little more money than they had planned. So, please be generous. Mail to SDGS Treasurer, 1050 Pioneer Way, Suite E, El Cajon, CA 92020. Thank you very, very much.

Peter Steelquist, President

Researching Masonic Records



At some point in your research, you may find that one of our ancestors was a Mason - and no, that is not to say they were a bricklayer. You may find mention in their obituary of their affiliation with Freemasonry, sometimes just by the inclusion of some unusual initials. Or, you may find some unique symbols on their gravestone that, at first, seems to have little meaning. These clues will often stimulate the genealogical researcher to question what is Freemasonry, why did my ancestor join and what information can Masonic records provide to your research.

Well, first of all, Freemasonry is the world's oldest and largest fraternity. It has existed in its current form since 1717 and has attracted men 'of good character' throughout the last 300 years. Membership is not solicited but rather individuals of high character and moral standards petition to join. It is usually because they have friends who are already members. Their backgrounds are investigated and if they are living a life consistent with the high purposes and aims of the organization, they are voted in.

Realize that these organizations were originally very 'secret' and members were only known to one another or by special handshakes or 'winks'. Also, many of their rites, symbols and activities are closely held secrets -- sworn by oath to never be divulged. Sometimes member's families are not even aware of their affiliation. So, how do you know if your ancestor may have been a Mason? The obituary may simply have some initials -- "F&AM" (Free and Accepted Mason), "AF&AM" (Ancient Free and Accepted Mason), "AUM" (Ancient Order of Mysteries), KM (Knights of Malta), KT (Knights Templar), "SR" (Scottish Rite) -- just to name a few. Or perhaps the services are listed as 'held under the auspices of the order. The grave marker may have some symbolic reference Masonry (see www.symbols.net/masonic/ for more detailed discussion).

So, what information can you expect to find from Masonic records? Keep in mind that this is not a religion and unlike a church, they have no official or unofficial record keeping responsibility. And as a quasi-secret organization, how much do you think they are ready to divulge about members. Moreover, the people working there are usually unpaid volunteers who are not in the business of answering genealogy queries. Thus, information from Masonic sources will likely be slow in arriving if at all or be totally unavailable.

That said, there may be worthwhile opportunities in pursuing such research particularly if your ancestor was more than just a 'rank and file' member. Chances are they would have to have been very involved in the organization to warrant mention in the local lodge meet-

ing minutes. But, if they were a "33rd Degree Mason" or a "Grand Master", there is likely to be quite a bit of information about them. Attaining this level of responsibility attested to their leadership and management skills and also meant that they were probably a pillar in the community.

The local lodges are chartered by the state Grand Lodge. The later usually handled organizational matters and published annual 'Proceedings'. These documents listed activities conducted, officers and sometimes obituaries of officers and reported deaths of members. Some Grand Lodges published histories that included more information regarding officers. These materials can usually be found at the Masonic libraries. A list of these can be found at: <http://bessel.org/maslibs.Ma>. Reference sources can be found at the local lodge as well, so check them also. If you have an early affiliation, check Ancestry.com's Masonic worldwide database with the names of more than 10,000 people listed in the 1860 Universal Masonic Lodge Directory. It includes name, lodge location and occupation.

When writing for genealogical information, keep the questions brief and specific (e.g. don't ask for 'everything you have') and supply as much known information that would assist them in locating records (birth dates, when they were in the locality, degree of Masonry, date of death, burial place, etc.). And, of course, include a SASE and be prepared to wait.

In short, Freemasonry does not compile genealogical information and what information they have may only be incidental to our genealogical needs. Some lodges may be very helpful while others lack the staff to assist. But remember, many 'brick walls' are broken down by information found in the most unexpected places. Good luck.

10 Cent Funeral

"A respectable funeral costing only 10 cents is a novelty, but was secured in the case of Mrs. Marie A. Hubert, who was buried yesterday. Recently an organization known as the National Co-operative Burial Association was formed in this city. A thousand members were secured, who paid an initiation fee of 10 cents, with the understanding that they could pay an additional 10 cents whenever a member of the association died. The total initiation fees amounted to \$100, the price of the funeral. Mrs. Hubert was the first member of the association to die, and having paid her initiation fee of 10 cents, was entitled to all the benefits of the association. When the news of her death was announced the association undertaker was notified and he took charge of the remains, doing the proper embalming, furnishing the casket, hearse and all other necessities. He also conducted the funeral."

Dateline: Dubuque, Nov. 8, 1902 as published in the Evening Times-Republican, Marshalltown, IA

GenealogyBank Launched

NewsBank, the company that brings us 'America's Obituaries', has launched a new subscription service called 'GenealogyBank'. The new collection of databases contains images of millions of documents of genealogical interest. Ninety-nine percent of these documents have never been available before in electronic format and many have never even been available on microform.

These millions of documents, the equivalent of 100,000 books are fully indexed and every-word searchable. You are able to view images of the original online documents on your computer screen.

So, what does this collection contain? You will find historical newspapers from 1690 to 1977, including obituaries, marriage notices, birth announcements, etc., published in more than 500,000 issues of over 1,300 historical U. S. newspaper.

It also has more than 17,000 historical books spanning 1652 to 1900. These include genealogies, biographies, local histories, pamphlets and other printed items. You will also find historical documents from 1789 to 1930 that includes military records, casualty list, war pension requests, land grants, widow's claims and orphan petitions. It contains all the American State Papers (see Dec. 2005 Newsletter) and all the genealogical content from the U. S. Serial Set. It boasts more than 81,000 reports, lists and documents.

In addition, the site contains the 'America's Obituaries' database which has over 22 million obituaries from more than 800 U. S. newspapers from the 1980s forward. It also has the Social Security Death Index.

The GenealogyBank is a 'work in progress' with 10,000 new records added daily. While some of the databases are available elsewhere (Godfrey Library, local libraries, other Internet subscription sites), this is the first time they have all been available in one place. Best of all, searching the site is free. You can search by name (last, first and/or middle, with keywords and with date limitations. It will list possible matches and even display thumbnail images of the original documents. However, to view the full document you will need to subscribe to the service for \$19.95 per month. But even without a subscription, it provides an invaluable finding aid.

The service boasts -- "climb beyond the names and dates on your family tree to the recorded details of their daily lives. Find the facts in four centuries of fragile, rare newspapers, books and documents." Check it out at www.genealogybank.com.

Aluminum Can Recycling

Remember to recycle your aluminum cans and to donate them to the Society. Bring them to the library or our monthly meetings. The environment and everybody benefits!

Meeting in Review..... October 2006

Researching WW II casualty records has never been easy but in his presentation, **William Beigel** provided a background of what is available and the genealogical rewards that can be found. Like our brave veterans today, many of the soldiers who survived may have seldom spoke of their harrowing events and there may be few personal accounts in our family records. For these, and all those who died, this research is critical to understanding their lasting contributions and legacy.

He started by reviewing a list of WW II articles that have made the news in 2006. To help define the scope of records, he noted that over 16 million had served in the U.S. Military during the war. Included in the casualty lists are 405,399 who died (292,113 in combat, 115,185 non-combat), 670,846 wounded and 130,210 prisoners of war. If you have relatives that are included in these numbers, chances are good there is significant information on them. Many of these records were declassified in the 1980s making research much easier.

So, what kind of information can you find? Through a number of case studies, Mr. Beigel explored the "293" file, Missing Air Crew Reports (MACR), Aircraft Accident Report, Escape and Evasion (E&E) Report and some State Archive reports. He noted that one of the problems in researching these records is the profusion of acronyms and military jargon. In looking at these records it is equally important to look at what is said as well as what isn't said.

He then used several 'case studies' to help point out some the problems and issues in researching these records. Some of the records he looked at were personal, handwritten letters from the servicemen, military letters written to the family members of the soldiers, National Service Insurance records, lost plane report with listing of crew, addresses and next-of-kin, soldier's physical examination reports and autopsy reports among others.

He pointed out that the families of military casualties often received very little information, often just 'we regret to inform you' letters. Furthermore, military records for this period were not written with the general public in mind but rather were prepared to serve immediate military purposes and thus can be bewildering to relatives.

In addition to the military records directly related to and naming your relative, there is a great amount of additional information about the men they served with, their unit, the day-to-day actions and engagements in which they fought. More background information on the specific battles, troop movements, enemy actions, POW camp conditions, etc. is valuable to fully understand the context in which they served, fought and perhaps gave the ultimate sacrifice.

His web site is at: www.ww2research.com

Finding Unmarked Graves

You've walked the entire cemetery looking for your ancestor's headstone. You looked at every marker yet none bore their name. But you are certain they were buried there. Is all hope lost? Well, perhaps not. After all, there could be a number of reasons for 'missing' graves. First, of course, is to make sure you have the correct cemetery or burial ground. Obituaries will often name the cemetery. Some will identify the church or pastor conducting the service - check with them. Most death certificates list the mortuary and place of burial. Some localities issue burial permits that will have the information. Don't overlook the possibility of a corner's inquest or report. Check local and hometown newspapers for published accounts. Is there a family plot? Check to see where other family members are buried.

Sometimes cemeteries have changed their names or have even been relocated. If there is an office or sextant, check with them. If not, check the county histories, historian, recorder's office, churches, and mortuaries -- anyone that might know the local history. Perhaps some graves could have been relocated for road widening or other reasons. Again, find out who has the cemetery records and see if plot maps or burial records reveal anything. Check with the county for possible land record entries as well as with local historians.

Could it be the correct cemetery but the marker is missing? Keep in mind that many people are buried without headstones or markers ever being placed. Sometimes they couldn't afford it or just never got around to it. Check the cemetery burial records for unmarked graves. And check with close and distant relatives, particularly those living close to where your relative died. They may be able to help or even have photos of the grave site.

Some markers may have been removed by the cemetery because the pre-paid maintenance period (e.g. 25, 50 years) has expired. The stones could have been moved to another part of the cemetery for storage or even discarded. The casket is usually still in the original location with new burials placed beside (or even on top of) the old one. Check cemetery records for this possibility.

Another major reason for 'missing' markers is vandalism. Some stones are stolen or broken beyond repair and removed. Others may become excessively worn with age or were made from materials that have not survived. Here again, check the cemetery records. Also check with the local historical society for copies of old cemetery photographs.

Still can't find their grave? Check with local historical and genealogical societies. Perhaps they have published cemetery indexes, many of which go beyond just headstone inventories. Don't forget to check the Internet for cemetery sites (US Genweb, Interment.net, Find-A-Grave, Cemetery Junction, etc.). Some of these have

user-contributed citations that may not be found elsewhere [also consider contributing burial information from your own files].

Still at a loss? Unfortunately, we need to face the reality that burials are sometimes poorly marked and cemeteries suffer from poor or non-existent record keeping. Some old graves are found only when new grave sites are being dug - not having known that someone was already buried there. This leads to a whole different approach to finding graves sites; that of physically inspecting the ground. Most of these searches can only be done by cemetery officials and trained professionals. Keep in mind that graves older than 150 years may be protected and require state intervention. Here are some techniques used to search for unmarked graves.

Rod probing involves penetrating the soil with a thin, blunt rod to find resistance when a coffin or vault is encountered. Similarly, soil coring takes a 1 inch core sample where soil is examined for evidence of disturbances when compared to surrounding soil samples. Formal excavation (as opposed to exhumation) is the systematic removal of soil in a controlled fashion to locate suspected graves. Minimal damage is caused to the site or remains.

Going more high tech, with ground-penetrating radar (GPR), a radio or microwave signal is sent into the ground and the reflected signal is recorded. The relative strength of the returning signal reveals the type of material the signal has passed through. It creates an image of the subsurface. Resistivity is a different approach that uses electricity to determine differing moisture retention properties of the soils. A small electric charge is run through the soil measuring different resistivity. Conductivity is another means that uses magnetic fields to record the differences in soil density, noting where soil has been disturbed. Likewise, magnetometry measures minute changes in the magnetic properties of the soil, identifying where soil has been disturbed.

Yet another common way to search for graves is dowsing (called 'witching' in the Midwest). Like with its water finding counterpart, it involves using copper wires or rods bent in a 'L' shape. Dowsers believe the wire will cross when over a grave. While some have been very successful at locating graves, discounters claim that it is simply operator 'common sense' and showmanship.

While some grave sites may never be found, others are just waiting to be re-discovered by the persistent family historian. Whether it involves determined research of the paper trail or high tech examination of the burial ground, the rewards can be truly 'groundbreaking'. It could finally 'lay to rest' the eternal unanswered question regarding their last remains and provide you and your descendants the final answer to their life on earth.

The Meaning of Life.....

Growing old is mandatory, growing up is optional

Library Notes..... by Anna Acosta

NARA Donation - - What is it??

Its time for us to renew our yearly membership dues - in fact many of you have already done so. Just thought I'd mention an item on the renewal form that is rarely filled in but deserved your attention. For those of us who have been members since the early 1980's and earlier, this has always been an important contribution for us. However, some of our newer members may wonder about this donation request.

In 1983 the Malcolm H. Stern NARA Gift Fund was established (named after the first chairman) through the Federation of Genealogical Societies. Only societies are members of FGS (not individuals) and our very own San Diego Genealogical Society is a charter member. FGS was founded in 1976 as a non-profit organization comprised of genealogical/historical societies and libraries.

The Federation actively represents and protects societies as well as monitoring events that are critical to the future of genealogy. Contributions made to the Fund goes to the National Archives and Records Administration to create finding aids and produce microfilms of interest to the genealogy community. It is funded by \$1.00 contributions from you, the family researcher, through the commitment of your society to contribute \$1 to the fund for each member who makes this donation. At times we have almost contributed 100%. Some of us contribute more than \$1 to help those unable to make a donation. To date over \$100,000 has been sent for the Documents drive.

I am personally thankful to be able to help every time I read a microfilm, especially the military, land and ships records. Before these films were available we had to go to Washington, D.C. or hire a professional to go for us -- as I did in the 1960s.

So, when you mail in your membership renewal form, please consider a gift to NARA. It will go a long way in continuing to provide us with needed microfilm resources that would otherwise be unavailable. Thanks.



Remember, Your Society is an Ancestry.com Affiliate

Whenever you make a purchase from or subscribe to a new Ancestry.com database, please be sure to log on to the San Diego Genealogy Web site (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 you friends about this too as any purchase through our web site counts.

Dad's Family Tree Tattoo

Mike Holpin, 47, from New Tredegar, South Wales, has his family tree tattooed on his back -- all 20 children. He first became a father 30 years ago and has 16 children of his own and 4 stepchildren. He started the tattoo in 1997 and has added the latest names as they were born. He has had the children with four different women and has left enough space on his back in case his latest wife, Petrina, is willing to have another child.

Asked why he had so many children, he replied, "I love kids", adding "and because I can". He doesn't believe in contraception whatsoever, noting "I love miracles and every birth is a miracle in itself". Mr. Holpin, who is a registered alcoholic and dependent on sickness benefits because of his epileptic condition, lives in a three bedroom house with his wife and nine of the children.

Mr. Holpin is the subject of a recently opened photography exhibition at the Chat Gallery in Cardiff. Photographer Betina Skovbro decided to document his life after meeting him when he saved the life of a teenager being stabbed in an assault. Over the years, he had lost contact with a number of his children, some of whom had been told he was dead. Ms. Skovbro has helped him find all but one of them. He has vowed never to lose touch with them again. By having these photographs taken, including his tattoo, he hoped they would see them and say "that's my old man".



Discount Genealogy Books and Software

Why pay full retail price when you can buy thousands of genealogy books and software online at substantial discounts. Genealogy Books (www.genealogybooks.org) claims to have over 75,000 genealogy books from recent best sellers to rare manuscripts. Furthermore, purchases from their website helps support free online genealogy from such sites as Access Genealogy and Family Tree Guide.

Order fulfillment (ordering, payment, shipping, etc.) for most items is through Amazon.com. There, you can also find used copies of many books offered through other retailers. Software titles include all the major genealogy programs as well as graphic programs (scrapbooking, photo albums, etc.) and organizational software. (Double check to be sure you are getting the latest version).

Check it out. But remember, your Society is an Ancestry.com affiliate so order through them whenever possible as we benefit from your purchases.

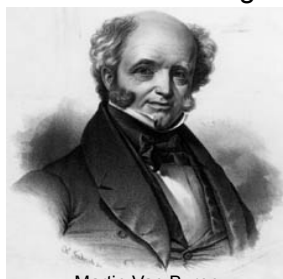
Year of Destiny.....

The Panic of 1837 wasn't just an economic depression, it was one of the most severe financial crises in the history of the United States. The Panic was built on a speculative fever. The bubble finally burst on May 10, 1837 in New York City, when every bank stopped payment in specie (gold and silver coinage).

Leading up to this, commercial failures began in New York about April 1. By April 8 nearly one hundred failures had occurred in that city -- five of foreign and exchange brokers, thirty of dry-goods jobbers, sixteen of commission houses, twenty-eight of real-estate speculators, eight of stock-brokers, and several others. Three days later the failures had reached one hundred and twenty-eight. Provisions, wages, rents, everything, as the New York Herald announced on that day, were coming down. Within a few more days the failures were too numerous to be specially noticed; and before the end of the month the rest of the country was in a like condition. In all, 618 banks failed nationwide. The Panic was followed by a five-year depression and record unemployment levels.

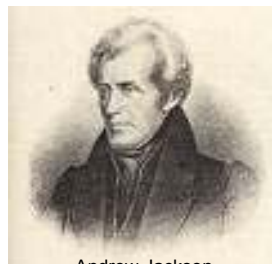
Like most economic collapses, this was preceded by the boom period of prosperity. It was led by the construction of new canals and schemes that would eventually provide the first network of railroads. The Federal government encouraged the speculative fever by selling millions of acres of public lands in western states like Michigan and Missouri mostly to speculators with ready cash, who resold and bought, in hopes of assembling well-located parcels that would quickly increase in value -- both real value as well as paper value -- once the turnpikes and canals and the promised railroads brought settlers looking for land, who would drive the prices up. They set in motion local economies by settling, farming, and buying supplies from newly-sprung towns, usually located on those railroad lines and canals, and sometimes created more demand for some things than there were supplies, and more demand than supply causes inflationary prices as well. Soft (paper) money, issued by banks of problematical reputation, overheated the nation's economy.

The root causes included a reduction in the flow of British capital investment as well as the economic policies of President Andrew Jackson who created the Specie Circular by executive order and also refused to renew the charter of Second Bank of the United States, resulting in the withdrawal of government funds from that bank. Martin van Buren, Jackson's hand picked



Martin Van Buren

heir apparent, who became President in March 1837, just five weeks before the Panic engulfed the young republic's economy, was blamed for the Panic. His refusal to involve the government in the economy was said by some to have contributed to the damages and duration of the Panic.



Andrew Jackson

Democratic Jacksonians blamed bank irresponsibility, both in causing rampant speculation and by introducing paper money inflation. This was caused by banks issuing notes -- paper money -- they couldn't redeem in gold or silver coin (known then as "hard money"); these notes then lost value over time, so that more were needed to buy the same thing as had been bought before for less. There were many 'scraps of paper' in circulation with each owner anxious to redeem them as soon as possible for "real" (i.e., hard) money.

Even businesses were issuing their own script. In Chicago, merchants would write out notes for "Good for ten cents", "One loaf of bread at our store" or "Good for a shave", etc. The public soon realized that many notes were over-issued, outstripping the supply. Their confidence in the system collapsed and many soon refused to take these notes. And people soon realized that with the extreme redundancy of paper money, they had been over extravagant and had bought things they did not need and had run up debt for a larger amount than they were able to pay.

As a result of all these excesses, the country's total money stock -- specie, banknotes, and bank deposits -- declined by one-third during the next four years, and prices plummeted 42 percent. But the impact took an even more personal toll. Over 39,000 Americans went bankrupt and many thousands of people lost their land. Even more were facing economic hardship and even starvation... The economic depression that began in the United States spread to England and Europe. The depression became known as the "Hard Times of 1837-1843."

So, as you look at your ancestor's lives during this period, try and imagine how they were influenced by these events. Many were uprooted just to stay employed while others were forced to move west for cheaper farm land. Because they had fewer economic options and little in the way of state or national resources, its economic impact was significantly greater for them than it was for those during the Great Depression of the 1930s. Our ancestors, just like us, were profoundly impacted by the economic cycles of their times. Knowing when and where they happened can help bring new insight to your family's historical narrative.

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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

Nov. 4 -- FTM Users Group, Society Library, 10 a.m. to noon

Nov. 8 -- Board Meeting, Society Library, 7 p.m.

Nov. 11 -- RootsMagic Users Group, 10 a.m. to noon, St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

Nov. 11 -- Monthly Meeting, Census Records, Randy Seaver, noon

Dec. 2 -- FTM Users Group, Society Library, 10 a.m. to noon

Dec. 3 - 10 Salt Lake City trip to the Family History Library. See flyer

Dec. 6 -- Board Meeting, Society Library, 7 p.m.

No Monthly Meeting in December

Jan. 6 -- FTM Users Group, Society Library, 10 a.m. to noon

Jan. 10 -- Board Meeting, Society Library, 7 p.m.

Jan. 13 -- Annual Luncheon & Seminar, see flyer.

View All San Diego County Genealogy Events at: www.cgssd.org/events.php3