

# Saddleback Valley Trails

South Orange County California Genealogical Society

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March 2015

Editor: Kathie Mauzey

Monthly meetings are held on the third Saturday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to Noon at the Main Mission Viejo LDS Church Building, 27976 Marguerite Parkway, Mission Viejo, between Medical Center Drive and Hillcrest Drive. Membership is open to anyone interested in genealogy. Individual membership fees are \$20 per calendar year, joint membership \$25.

SOC CGS is not affiliated with the LDS Family History Center

**Please check your Newsletter mailing label.**

**If the mailing label is highlighted, 2015 dues have not been received.**

**Please remit as soon as possible.**

Thank You.

**March 21, 2015**

**"Going Paperless"**

**Presented by**

**Mary Van Orsdol**

**This program will review how to organize digital items with a focus on directory structure. The speaker will also review attachment of metadata to your digital media items. This is not a "how to" on scanning, but rather how to label and organize all your scanned and other media materials. Mary will share various strategies on getting us better organized.**

About the Speaker: Mary Van Orsdol received her B.A. degree in history from University of California, San Diego, and her M.A. degree in American History from the University of Minnesota. She received her M.L.S. from UCLA and has worked as a librarian for over 30 years. For the past 20 years she has been head of the Genealogy Division at the Carlsbad City Library. Recently retired, she has returned to researching her own family history and wants to accomplish so much more!

**Safari News**

~Bill Bluett

The Southern California Genealogical Society Library in Burbank will be our destination on March 25th. We will leave the LDS Church parking lot at 9:00 A.M. You might bring a lunch with you. If you don't, there are a few eateries within short walking distance. This library has a large book collection as well as computers and CD's for researching. Also, this is an excellent location for French-Canadian research, German research, and many documents regarding Cornwall, England. Don't forget \$\$ for your driver. There will be plans for dinner on the way home. Contact Bill Bluett to reserve a spot. You can search their library catalog before the trip by going to: [www.scgsgenealogy.com/catalogMain.htm](http://www.scgsgenealogy.com/catalogMain.htm)

**Over the years, I've worked with about just everybody.**

~Joe Cocker (1944-2014)

*-Genealogists work with  
many people in their research.*

## President's Message

By David Flint

Those of you who attended the February 21 meeting already know that Kathie Mauzey, longtime SOCCGS member, is taking over as editor of our newsletter. Gary Schwarz decided he wanted to take a break after four and a half years as our newsletter editor. Please join me in expressing our thanks to Gary for a job well done. At the same meeting I also announced that Pam Steube will be taking charge of preparing our monthly activities calendar. You will find a printed copy of the calendar at the back table in our monthly meeting as well as posted on our SOCCGS website.

You can support Kathie in her new role as editor by sending her an article for publication in our newsletter. If you have something for the newsletter, you can send it to her at [SOCCGSNL@att.net](mailto:SOCCGSNL@att.net). This is a special email address for submitting newsletter material. The deadline for getting newsletter material to the editor is the Wednesday of the week following our monthly members meeting. Contact Kathie if you have any questions about the process.

Last month I attended the combined FGS and RootsTech Conference in Salt Lake City. This was my first time, and I was definitely impressed! This conference is attended by people from all over the country as well as from around the world. At one lecture I was sitting behind a woman from Australia, and sitting next to her was a woman from Wales. So we truly had an international audience at many of the talks. If you want to get a flavor of the conference, you can see recent articles about it on Dick Eastman's (free) Online Genealogy Newsletter at <http://blog.eogn.com>. Dick will be the featured speaker at our annual seminar next October. I met him at the conference and had a chance to chat with him about what he does and about his newsletter. I currently subscribe to the Plus Edition of his newsletter (for a modest charge) with access to more in-depth articles about genealogy topics not available on the free version. Since he will be our seminar speaker, you might want to check out his free newsletter and see the wide range of topics on which he regularly writes articles.

The whole first day of the FGS conference was dedicated to programs relating to genealogical societies. Curt Witcher, one of my favorite speakers, gave the statistic that over 80% of all the people doing genealogy work in the 21<sup>st</sup> century did not come to genealogy through societies. I suspect many of us think that most people doing genealogy research belong to a society, but not so. Curt says we are the "outliers" and need to be aware of the opportunities to be of service to other researchers and to expand our membership. He also reminded us that we are in the people business – helping living people find dead people. (Does that ring a bell with you?)

A common theme of conference speakers in Salt Lake City was the "joy of discovery" experienced by many of us when we started doing genealogy research. It's the emotional hook that gets beginners interested in pursuing genealogy further – solving the mystery of finding our ancestors and completing the jigsaw puzzle that makes up our family history. One of the prime conference sponsors, MyHeritage, captured the sense of that joy of discovery in a short video clip which you can view on YouTube at <https://m.youtube.com/user/MyHeritageLtd>. Give it a look, and see if you don't recognize the feeling expressed by those people on New York streets discovering for the first time that they can find their ancestors. I bet many of you have felt that same excitement when you discovered an ancestor you didn't know you had, or simply found one you had been seeking for some time. It was a special treat to have the opportunity to attend so many fine programs and hear such top-name speakers at this conference, and I'm glad I went.

## February Meeting

~ Bill Bluett

**Mary Anne Vincent**, our guest speaker, is a member of the Corona Genealogical Society and the California State Genealogical Alliance. Her topic was an overview of the Civil War years and the POW camps used by the Union and Confederacy. She reminded us that prisoner exchanges took place the first couple of years of the war. Then, the process broke down in 1863 when the Confederacy refused to treat black prisoners as equal to white prisoners. The number of prison camps multiplied on both sides and

conditions were terrible inside the camps. Thousands died as a result of the detestable living conditions. For example, Andersonville was built to hold 10,000 prisoners. At peak, it actually held as many as 33,000. Mary told us that you can find some POW information on the internet at ANCESTRY.COM, NARA, FOLD3, FAMILYSEARCH.ORG, and even on YOUTUBE. Also, she suggested reading a book titled ACROSS FIVE APRILS. Actually, this book was made into a movie 1990. It is a novel by Irene Hunt set in the Civil War era. We thank Mary for giving us an interesting and informative presentation regarding the Civil War years. Prior to her presentation, we had some great refreshments provided by some of our members. They were: **Mike Bresnan, Sue Lamond, Mary Jo McQueen, Kathie Mauzey, and Bob Reilly.**

### **Have You Seen Our QR Code?**

By David Flint



Have you seen the SOCCGS QR Code? If you got your copy of the new Members Handbook at our January meeting, it's on the back cover. It's possible that we may start putting our QR code on all our printed materials in the future. What's it for? If you scan it, this code will connect you directly to the SOCCGS website. No need to search for SOCCGS on Google, or enter our URL in your web browser – just scan the code and you are there! If you have a smartphone, iPad or Android device, you may already have one of the many apps that will scan barcodes and QR codes and connect you to a special website, or provide other information related to barcodes or QR codes. If you have the app, give it a try by scanning the QR code above. If you don't have the app, you can get one free wherever you typically go for new apps. Just search for "barcode scanner" at your app store and you will find several apps to choose from – most of them free. Give it a try. You can also use it to scan ads in your newspapers and magazines, and to read the barcode on products in a store.

### **Records at the Mission Viejo FamilySearch Center**

~Kathie Mauzey

At the January meeting Chris Jepsen had mentioned Orange County Naturalization records that were located at the OC Archives. I remembered that the Mission Viejo FamilySearch center had some of these films:

Orange County films on permanent loan at the Mission Viejo FamilySearch Center:

Film #1434106 - Petition for naturalization, Declaration of intention v. 2-4 1913-1922

Film #1434107 - Petition for naturalization, Declaration of intention v. 5-6 1922-1927

Naturalization of minors, 1889-1906

Certificates of citizenship, 1889-1902

Film #1434108 - Items 1-5 Certificates of Intention 1902-1903

Declaration of intention v. 1-3 & A, 1907-1919

Item #6 Index to naturalization records 1889-1944

Items 7-8 - Petition for naturalization 1927-1929

Film #1434109 - Petition for naturalization

Film #1433131 - Index to declarations of homestead 1889-1926

Film #1290113 - Death & burial permit master index 1889-1955

Film #977084 - Voting Registers - 1892, 1894, 1896

### **Legacy Announces 2015 Webinar Programs**

by David Flint

The 2015 Legacy Webinar program list was announced recently by Legacy Family Tree. The list of over 60 webinars covers a wide range of topics of interest to everyone doing genealogy research. Averaging more than one webinar every week for the whole year, each program is presented by an expert in the field, many of them nationally-known speakers – and, the webinars are free. Some folks think the Legacy webinars are only about the Legacy genealogy program, but the vast majority of them are about general topics of interest to all my fellow genealogists. You can view the new 2015 webinar list at [www.familytreewebinars.com](http://www.familytreewebinars.com). Click on the "Upcoming Seminars" tab for details on each program and to register for one that interests you. Of special interest is a new three-webinar series on beginning genealogy called "Genealogy 101". Those programs are offered on April 1, May 6, and June 3. It's worth a look!

## Grandma Worked at the Hollywood Tower

By Bill Bluett

The Hollywood Tower? The Tower of Terror? Not quite. It's the V-shaped apartment complex located at 6200 Franklin Avenue in Hollywood, California. Today, it backs up against the Hollywood



Freeway above Hollywood Blvd. It is a four story structure with 50 apartments and an additional three levels that are single penthouses located at the center of the structure. There is a subterranean garage and private as well as public roof gardens. It was built in 1929 and originally named the "**La Belle Tour**". It was listed on the "**National Register of Historic Places**" in 1988. Located in the heart of Hollywood, it became a favorite place of residence for entertainment industry employees when it first opened. A few of the early residents were **Humphrey Bogart, Stan Laurel, William Powell, George Raft, and Eugene Pallette**. It is presently known as the Hollywood Tower.

Why am I even mentioning this complex? Because, my grandmother, **Mildred (Paddock) Collins** worked there as a telephone switchboard operator when it opened.

Can you imagine the folks she must have seen as they strolled in and out of this elegant facility? Or, the phone calls or messages she must have taken working at the switchboard? That must have been very exciting during the "Golden Age" of Hollywood. It has been said that you could probably see the ocean from this complex in 1929. Think about it. There were no high-rise buildings to block your view. Smog was most likely not a major problem until a few years later. The top of the **Gruman's Chinese Theater** and the **Pantages Theater** were most likely visible from many of the apartments. And, of course, the towering "**Hollywoodland**" sign was about 1 1/2 miles directly north situated on Mount Lee in the Hollywood Hills.

My grandmother must have taken the streetcar or bus to get to work. Even back in those days, especially during the "Depression" years, you were fortunate to have a job and it may have taken at least an hour (or more) to get to work on public transportation. I don't believe grandma ever learned to drive that I remember. Plus the fact that this was about the time she was entering into a divorce. So, she needed a job. My mother, Betty Jane, told me that grandma mostly worked weekends as well as some week-days. Mom was about 9 or 10 years old when her mother got the job. So, on the weekends, my mother would go to work with her and "hang out" around the apartment complex. Some of the folks she saw coming to visit friends were **Jack Haley** (the Tin Man in the Wizard of Oz) and the **Ritz Brothers**. She said those brothers were a goofy group of guys that were always clowning around. They were mostly entertainers on the stage until "talky" movies came along. Then they appeared in over 20 motion pictures.

There were times that my mother would get bored just "hanging around" the lobby or roaming the building. On several occasions she was invited up to the apartment of William Powell's parents. You remember **William Powell**. He was in a half a dozen "Thin Man" movies with Myrna Loy. He made close to 100 movies during his career and his second marriage was to Carole Lombard from 1931 to 1933. William Powell's parents were named Horatio and Nettie and lived in apartment 401. They were in their late 50's about this time. Up mom went to their 4<sup>th</sup> floor apartment. She had lunch and tea with the Powell's and enjoyed every minute of it. I don't know if their son William ever popped in while she was there. But, for my mother, it was quite a treat to be invited up. I'll bet the view was pretty nice from the 4<sup>th</sup> floor in those days. I'm not sure how many years my grandmother worked at the **La Belle Tour**.

My wife Helen and I stopped by the **Hollywood Tower** in December of 2012 and decided to go in and have a look around. The place has been very nicely restored as it would have looked when it opened its doors in 1929. As we walked in and were looking around the lobby area, two women were on their way out and checking their mail box. We chatted with them a short time and they urged us to go ahead and look around. So, we took the stairs to each floor to see how the hallways and seating areas were decorated. I felt like I had drifted back into the 1930's. The ladies told us that the door to the roof patio area was at the end of the hallway on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor. We located the glass windowed door and went out onto the patio. There was a bar area, some gas barbecues, and some game tables and chairs. And, the view is still very nice. We looked

off to the north and, behold, there was the hillside Hollywood sign off in the distance. We were also told that the upper most penthouse is left available for renting to groups for special occasions and is still used for motion picture filming from time to time. Also, the manager of the building could be contacted for a small group tour. I would love to take my family and brother and sister up there some time to experience this special landmark where our grandmother once worked. It would be like jumping back in time. Every genealogist needs to experience that at least once in their lifetime – or multiple times if you have the opportunity.

Gosh. I almost forgot. What's with the "Tower of Terror" thing? Well, this is what Wikipedia says – for what it's worth: *"Though the architectural styles differ, the Hollywood Tower is "often cited as the inspiration" for the [Twilight Zone Tower of Terror attractions at Disney parks in Florida, California, Paris and Tokyo. Like the real-life Hollywood Tower, the "Hollywood Tower Hotel" structure at the Disney theme parks bears the same classic "Hollywood Tower" sign and spiraling towers. Disney also released a \[Tower of Terror movie in 1997 that the ride is based off of.\]\(#\)"](#)*

So, if you're ever up Hollywood way, check out the La Belle Tour "Hollywood Tower" and step back into time when Hollywood was in its "Golden Age".

### Corn Cob Usage

Circa: July, 1936 in Broadlands, Champaign, Illinois

~Patricia Ann Dean Christiansen

My mother had just delivered my baby sister, Nancy, and my next younger sister Barbara and I were staying in Broadlands, Champagne County, Illinois, at the home of our maternal grandparents, Samuel Earl Shultz (1872-1942) and Hannah Essie Potter Shultz (1874-1960).

The world had changed considerably for everyone ... prior to World War I ... my grandfather had been breeding horses and pigs ... when the war ended things became more mechanized and grandfather invested in a White Truck dealership. The White Company also made sewing machines ... one was given to my mother as a gift when my sister Barbara was born in 1934.

The Depression had entered my grandparent's agrarian world with a vengeance; neither draft horses nor cavalry horses were any longer in demand for the Army. Samuel Shultz was quite resourceful and in an attempt to keep his farm hands employed and busy he used his carpentry skills and began fabricating outhouses to shore-up his income.

1920 White Van Pickup Truck



www.toywonders.com

Grandfather's skills included the installation; this included digging the pits that went beneath and anchoring them to a concrete base (outhouse tipping was a common practice). A couple large bags of lye also accompanied the transaction to control odor, somewhat.

A spanking new four-seater was constructed in two parts and loaded onto the back of grandpa's 1920 White van pickup truck. A couple of workers were positioned in the back to steady the privies. Along with the outdoor toilets, bushel baskets of dried corn cobs were also being delivered to their destination, a school a few miles away.

As we drove through town, gatherings of out-of-work locals began hooting and hollering as we crept along. In retaliation, the farm hands in the back of the truck began throwing the dried corn cobs at the hecklers. As grandpa slammed on the brakes, at age four, I fell forward

and my head hit the windshield ... I had been standing up on the seat. Though somewhat diminished over seven plus decades, I still carry the knot on the right side of my forehead from that impact.

Those corncobs served a multitude of purposes: fodder for the pigs; potential outhouse bum wipes; and subsequently, retaliation missiles. Resourcefulness and recycling had been carried to the max!

**The Genealogy Research SIG Group** will meet on Friday March 6, 10-12, in the Saddleback Room at the Mission Viejo Civic Center. **Francie Kennedy** will give a demonstration on using Microsoft Excel. Reservations are not necessary. Questions: mcqueenmaryjo@aol.com

**Heritage Scrapbook Class/Workshop**  
**Friday, March 20, 1 to 4 pm**  
**Saddleback Room**

This is a fun and informative class. Start a new project, work on one in progress or come by to see what this is all about. Suggested items to bring: pictures, newspaper article, certificates, short story and any paper or supplies you may have. Some supplies will be provided. Reservations will be helpful, but not mandatory. Contact Mary Jo McQueen – [mcqueenmaryjo@aol.com](mailto:mcqueenmaryjo@aol.com)

**How to Write a Family History**

Hosted by Orange County Jewish Genealogical Society and presented by Dawn Parrett Thurston  
Time: Sunday March 22, 2015 at 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Place: Temple Bat Yahm, 1011 Camelback, Newport Beach, (714) 891-0788 Contact: [www.ocjgs.org](http://www.ocjgs.org) - [info@ocjgs.org](mailto:info@ocjgs.org) - (949) 423-3746

**Biggest Digitization of Irish Genealogy Records to Begin**

Submitted by Marcia Roy from [Dick Eastman post](#) · [December 1, 2014](#)

The National Library of Ireland is to digitize more than 400,000 images of Catholic Parish Register microfilms and publish them online for free. In what is being described as the most significant ever digitization project for Irish genealogy, the microfilms will be available online for free from the National Library of Ireland (NLI) by the summer of 2015.

The records are considered the single most important source of information on Irish family history prior to the 1901 Census. Dating from the 1740s to the 1880s, they cover 1,091 parishes throughout the island of Ireland, and consist primarily of baptismal and marriage records.

“This is the most ambitious digitization project in the history of the NLI, and our most significant ever genealogy project,” said Colette O’Flaherty, head of special collections at the NLI.

“We believe it will be of huge assistance to those who wish to research their family history. At this stage, we have converted the microfilm reels on which the registers are recorded into approximately 390,000 digital images.

“We will be making all these images available, for free, on a dedicated website, which will be launched in summer 2015.” Details may be found at <http://goo.gl/JYSTG6>.

**Ways & Means – “Mouse Pads”**

Jim Thordahl

Is there a mouse in your house? Yes? Then surely you will want to give him a nice home. SOCCGS has just the ticket – a **mouse pad** straight from Alaska. Our Webmaster, Herb, finally found a supplier, at a reasonable cost, for this essential computer item. Color it blue; add our Logo and you have a pretty mouse pad. Check them out at our computers in the Library. Then, pick yours up at the General Meeting this month. They are only \$3.00 each.

**Membership Update**

One new member joined SOCCGS this month: We welcome **Maggie Finnigan**, Rancho Santa Margarita, CA < [ladysutherlandoflorhan@gmail.com](mailto:ladysutherlandoflorhan@gmail.com) > Looking for: John **Sutherland**, Scotland to Canada 1813, Stephen **Bennison**, England to Canada 1850 and John **Stewart**, Scotland to India 1800. Guests were: Nick Douglas, Irvine and Robert & Jean McIntyre, Capistrano Beach.

**Docent Profile: Bunny Smith**

Most of you know me as the SOCCGS Librarian. But I really love my position as a volunteer docent at the Mission Viejo Library in the SOCCGS Genealogy Section. I have been volunteering there as a docent for over 10 years. I enjoy my time at the library because it gives me the quiet time to work on my family genealogy and to help others who visit the library. The genealogy programs that SOCCGS offers on the genealogy computers in the library are excellent. Not only do we have Ancestry, Heritage Quest and Fold3, but three newspaper archive programs, plus the hundreds of books on CD’s and on the shelves. In the time I have spent as a docent, I have become very familiar with most the programs. When visitors come to our section, I am happy to start them on their search or help others with the brick walls in their family research. I am also a member of the Mission Viejo Chapter DAR. As a volunteer at the library, I am able to help prospective members who are working on their lineage research and application for membership.

So, if you are interested in spending a few hours a week researching your family history or you love helping other with their genealogy research, call me. We are looking for someone just like you to help others.

### Future Genealogy Events

**Mar 06, 2015**, 10-12:00-Mary Jo McQueen- Genealogical Research SIG; Sdlbk Rm, MV City Hall  
**Mar 07, 2015**, 9-2:30 – OCCGS Annual Genealogy Book Faire< Huntington Beach Central Library  
**Mar 09, 2015**, 10-12:00-David Flint – English SIG – Saddleback Room MV City Hall  
**Mar 19, 2015**, 10-12:00-Arlene O’Donnell–Begining Genealogy Class – Bill Price Rm, MV Library  
**Mar 19, 2015**, 11-1:00-David Flint – Legacy Family Tree User Group – Sdlbk Rm, MV City Hall  
**Mar 20, 2015**, 10-12:00-Mary Jo McQueen- Mac Users Group (MUG); Genealogy Section, MV Library  
**Mar 20, 2015**, 1-4:00-Mary Jo McQueen – Family History Scrap Booking, Sdlebeck Rm, MV City Hall  
**Mar 21, 2015** – Judy Russell, the “Legal Genealogist” – NSDCGS in Carlsbad.  
**Mar 24, 2015**, 10-12:00-Jim Thordahl – Writing Life Stories – Sdlbk Rm, MV City Hall  
**Apr 18 2015**, 9-5:00- Family History Fair, Orange FamilySearch Library  
**Jun 5-7, 2015** – Southern California Genealogy Jamboree - Burbank  
**Jul 15-19, 2015** – 45<sup>th</sup> Annual International Convention - German Russian Heritage Society – Bismarck, ND – Info: [www.GRHS.org](http://www.GRHS.org)  
**Jul 12-19, 2015** – 2015 AHSGR International Convention – American Historical Society of Germans from Russia – Billings, Montana – Info: [www.AHSGR.com](http://www.AHSGR.com)

### SOCCGS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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SOCCGS Website @ <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~casocccgs/>  
Mail List: [SOCCGS-L@rootsweb.com](mailto:SOCCGS-L@rootsweb.com)



SOCCGS Research Center, located at the  
Mission Viejo Library, Marguerite Parkway at La Paz, (949) 470-8498  
SOCCGS E-mail: [cmvgs@netzero.net](mailto:cmvgs@netzero.net)

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### South Orange County California Genealogical Society Membership/Renewal Application

New  Renewal  Individual, \$20/yr.  Joint Members, same address, \$25/yr.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: SOCCGS    Mail with application to: SOCCGS, P.O. Box 4513, Mission Viejo, CA 92690