



Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society

Tree Tips

Researching the World

April 2011

Vol. 27, No. 4

American Red Cross Tracing Service Success Stories

Recently a local Santa Barbara woman learned that her mother's birth family had been searching for her mother for decades. She has now connected with a family that she never even knew existed thanks to the assistance of Sharon Eames, a volunteer for the American Red Cross International Family Tracing Services.

American Red Cross caseworkers at local chapters around the U.S. help families locate missing relatives by working with their partners—the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Red Cross and Red Crescent organizations in nearly every country around the world. Once a family member is found, the Red Cross helps them reconnect. Messages between separated families can be very brief, but the three short words "I am alive" may be all that is needed to ease the minds of distraught relatives half a world away. Red Cross messages can also be exchanged between families and their loved ones in refugee camps and detention centers to allow them to keep in contact and share family news.

This past year, the American Red Cross helped reconnect more than 860 families—bridging years of separation to renew critical links between new communities in the U.S. and their families around the world.

In our April program Sharon Eames will describe the program and share some of her more interesting experiences as a Red Cross volunteer.

One service the program provides is to assist U.S. residents searching for proof of internment, forced/slave labor, or evacuation from former Soviet territories on themselves or on family members.

The tracing services are free of charge, and are accomplished by using the worldwide network of more than 180 Red Cross and Red Crescent societies and the Magen David Adom in Israel. Volunteers also consult museums, archives, and international organizations to further facilitate tracing requests. Cases remain open, and if new information becomes available, it is immediately shared with the inquirer. Through the strength of the global Red Cross, and the assistance of local tracing volunteers around the world, families reconnect.

The American Red Cross International Family Tracing Services accepts tracing cases and traces the sought persons when families have been separated. The program does not accept requests when there is insufficient information to conduct a search or when it is for genealogical research; or tracing regarding legal matters such as wills, child custody etc; or the tracing of birth parents or third party requests.

Sharon Eames has been involved in many different tracings, using many different sources. She and her husband have researched their own family, but she has taken true delight in assisting others as a volunteer with

the Red Cross program. She will be sharing many different success stories, including many of the sources that she has used in locating loved ones, as well as sharing some priceless documents that she has been able to locate during her research. This promises to be a rewarding program, and one that introduces us to a little known service that is available when families are separated.



Special Interest Groups

You are welcome to the open specialty groups (SIGS) that meet prior to the general meeting:

9:30 AM **Beginning Genealogy Group** meets under the leadership of Arlene Doty.

9:30 AM **DNA Group** is for those interested in DNA as a genealogical tool. Look for the DNA sign.

9:30 AM **German Ancestry Group** will meet this month under the leadership of Cari Thomas.

9:30 AM **Scan Your Photos and Documents—*for FREE!*** Bring your photos and we'll scan them for you and discuss scanning tips and tricks; bring a flash drive to take your scans home with you. Thanks to Rosa Avolio, Kathie Morgan, and Dorothy Oksner for offering this SIG!

9:30 AM **Computer Genealogy Interest Group** meets under the leadership of Merna McClenathen.

10:00 AM **Coffee and Refreshments** will be served. Check out the Book-Nook with new publications and creative gift ideas.

- *Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society Meeting*
- *Saturday, April 16*
- *9:30 A.M. — Noon;*
Program at 10:30 A.M.
- *First Presbyterian Church*
at 21 E. Constance at State
Street

There is ample free parking in the church's lot and the facility is handicapped accessible

From the President's Desk

Are you registered for the Saturday April 9th "Two Experts, One Incredible Genealogy Seminar"? If you haven't yet registered you can always arrive the day of the seminar, but you'll appreciate the "fast pass" benefits of having pre-registered and paid. Go to our website (or click on the "register now" button on one of the Seminar e-mail reminders).

Having recently seen Lloyd Bockstruck – an early American records, church & migration practices, and all-around history expert – and spoken to Dr. Roger Minert – an unparalleled authority on Germanic genealogy -- on the phone a couple of times, we are in for a very special treat on April 9th. The opportunity to learn from family history experts and have them answer our genealogical questions, "real-time", is an increasingly unique and special opportunity.

You'll also have the opportunity to win a one-year subscription to Ancestry.com (World), a \$299 value, just one of over 2 dozen wonderful prizes, and purchase books (new & used) and other genealogical items. You do NOT want to miss this event!

Important core purposes of SBCGS

Offering educational and study opportunities (family history related) is one of the SBCGS's purposes, and one of the many reasons we hold an annual seminar. Preserving family histories and genealogical valuable records will increasingly be another area of focus for the SBCGS. Methods of preservation are varied, and going digital is not always the answer. "Perpetuation" -- "to prolong the existence of; cause to be remembered" -- of our family histories is also a SBCGS emphasis. We love to research, but achieving remembrance implies a form other than putting stuff in boxes.

The educational mission of the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society is fulfilled through not only seminars, but having access to our fantastic genealogical research library. But what's really exciting about the library expansion underway is the opportunity to have a space large enough to offer workshops and classes that help with preservation and perpetuation and other important topics, year-round!

As we approach the final few months of our year, we'll be re-visiting our Mission, in light of all the potentiality that our expanded library will bring, with consideration of our increasingly digital age, and – most importantly -- the needs of our members.

How can you help? Take the **Membership Focus Survey** when it appears in your e-mail box (or attend the April 16th General Meeting and take it manually). Contribute to the capital campaign! Tell your friends and family about our new "Friends of the SBCGS Sahyun Library Expansion" opportunity! Considering volunteering...we always need help (building book cases is especially rewarding).

Remember, the SBCGS is YOUR organization.

See you April 9th at the "One Incredible Genealogical Seminar" in Goleta! Mary Hall, President

DNA SIG Meeting

DNA Lunch & Learn

12:00 Noon - 2:30 p.m. Friday, April 22, Sahyun Library. Bring your lunch & DNA questions.

DNA One-on-One

Saturday, April 23, 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. By Appointment: e-mail events@sbgen.org or call 687-7403

2011 Membership Survey

This month you get a chance to tell us your genealogical interests and need...and we want to hear from you! When the survey arrives in your e-mail boxes, PLEASE take the time to open it and give us your feedback. The questions have been developed to give us the most bang for your time...meaning they are short & sweet.

For those who do not have e-mail, there are 2 options for telling us your interests: 1) Come to the April 16th General Meeting at First Presbyterian Church and hand fill a paper survey, or, 2) Call Mary E Hall at (805) 687-7403. She'll be happy to have the opportunity to talk to you about the SBCGS, put a survey in the mail for you, and tell you about volunteer opportunities.

New, easy way to support SBCGS Library Expansion!

The SBCGS has launched online fundraising to make it easy and fun for you to tell your friends and family about our wonderful library expansion. Simply refer them to our website: sbgen.org, locate the "Friends of SBCGS Sahyun Genealogical Library Expansion" button. Click on "Donate" button and help that thermometer rise! You can also enjoy images of "Friends of the SBCGS" that appear in the rotating picture show. We've already raised \$500!

Library Expansion Campaign Chairwoman Michol Colgan has given us a goal of \$55,000 which may seem like a lot of money to raise by June 30th. However, we have 550 members in the society, and if 10 of their friends/family give just \$10 we're there!

Of course, members can donate, too, and you might consider a "tribute" gift in honor of a favorite ancestor. A gift of \$25 honors an ancestor with their name; for \$50 we will include a photo image to be displayed.

Remember, 100% raised goes directly to the library expansion campaign to help fund library equipment, classroom and workshop aides, new subscriptions and research databases, and other miscellany that a top research library needs.

Encourage your friends and family to support our library — try it today and help spread the word!

Call for Photographs

Dorothy Oksner, Editor of *Ancestors West*, is preparing the next issue for Spring 2011 that will focus on pre-1940 Santa Barbara County Schools. High resolution class photographs with students' names are requested and can be emailed to Dorothy at <ox@silcom.com>. If outside sources of photographs are known, please email Dorothy with suggestions on how she can obtain scans. Schools will include public and private kindergarten, elementary, Jr. and Sr. High.

Membership

Welcome to our new members!

Individual:

Tom Hermann
Santa Barbara

Richard Kraemer
Santa Barbara

Renewing at higher levels are:

Patron (\$150):

Frederick Backman
Santa Barbara

Library Hours

- SBCGS Sahyun Library Hours
316 Castillo Street
Phone: 805-884-9909
Sunday: 1-4 PM
Tuesday: 10 AM-3 PM
Thursday: 10 AM-3 PM
Friday: 10 AM-3 PM

For Information, Call:

President: Mary Hall, 687-7403

Library Director: Kathie Morgan, 682-4456

Librarian Scheduling: Marsha Martin,
967-1146

Newsletter Address Corrections: Sue
Ramsey, 967-1670

Book Buy: Louise Matz, 967-7353

Vice President, Membership: Sue Ramsey,
967-1670

Ancestors West: Dorothy Oksner, 684-
3048, ox@silcom.com

Adult Ed Genealogy Classes:

Jan Cloud, 965-7423

Louise Matz, 967-7353

Cari Thomas, 964-5523

Sales Table: Kristin Ingalls, 682-3499

Vice President, Programs: Marie Sue
Parsons, 964-9176

Tree Tips: fjordhest@cox.net; Deadline:
3rd Sat. of the month

Half and Half Book Buy Program

Dictionary of Louisiana Biography, by Conrad. 2 Vols. Louisianians, past and present, (deceased) who contributed to the "flow" of LA's history. About 2500 made the cut. From all walks of life these men & women influenced the state of LA. Sources given. Cost: \$52; 1/2 cost: \$26. Needed: \$26.00.

The Wills of Amherst Co., Virginia 1761-1865, Davis. Abstracts of various court records, such as wills, bonds (variety) probates, inventories & accounts. Every-name index. Cost: \$44; 1/2 cost: \$22. Needed: \$22.00.

The Wampanoag Genealogical History of Martha's Vineyard, MA, by Segel. Over 1650 individuals in the database which gives family relationships, b-d, marriage, land or court records. Includes a Native New England chronology. Sources. Appendices. Cost: \$86; 1/2 cost: \$43. Needed: \$43.00.

Bibliography of Genealogies & Family Histories of the Province of Quebec, Roy. Alphabetical surname listing of books and articles about Quebecois families. Cost: \$24; 1/2 cost: \$12. Needed: \$12.00.

"Hollowed Ground" Copper Mining & Community Building on Lake Superior 1840-1990's, by Lankton. Many immigrants came to Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula to work the mines. This is a history of the area & mining in particular. Many photos and diagrams. Cost: \$24; 1/2 cost: \$12. Needed: \$12.00.

Genealogical Gazetteer of the Kingdom of Hungary, by Auslander. Interesting history of the region before the gazetteer begins. Then followed by an appendix list of contemporary town names. Because this country changed "hands" often, an excellent gazetteer was needed. Cost: \$50; 1/2 cost: \$25. Needed: \$25.00.

St. Louis Burials, Vols. 2 & 3, CD's by St. Louis GS. Over 500,000 burials in 230 cemeteries and 330,000 in 21 cemeteries! Most prominent, and many other religious cemeteries & family graveyards in the SL area! Huge! Two CD's = Cost: \$74; 1/2 cost: \$37. Needed: \$37.00.

Members pay 1/2 – Book Fund pays 1/2.

Please send contributions to:



SBCGS, c/o Louise Matz,
P.O. Box 6103, SB 93160



Suggestions welcomed!
Email: Lmgen2@cox.net

SPECIAL THANKS TO MEMBERS WHO MADE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE 1/2 & 1/2 BOOK BUY PROGRAM!

Deborah Winant Gwen Patterson

Alice Henry Mae Ware

Jane Honikman

Beginning Germanic Genealogy

This introductory course provides students with an in-depth study of sources and records used to document and verify family history and genealogies dealing mainly with the country of Germany. Students will learn the fundamental building blocks of genealogy research using the most current tools. Registration begins Mar. 21

10 wks • Tuition: \$65

Wednesdays 9:30 - 11:30 am • April 13 - June 15/Wake Center, Rm 26

Instructor: Cari Thomas, 964-5523

Cool websites to help in your research:

The 1911 Scottish census will be released April 5 !!!!!
www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk

Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System. This site is adding the names of those buried in the 14 national cemeteries managed by the Park Service. Also has a database of 6.3 million names from both sides of the Civil War.
www.itd.nps.gov/cwss

Free site with the official records of the Union and Confederate Armies. Has info on all the battles. Great info.
www.civilwar.com

Maps of the Civil War battlefields.
www.civilwar.org/battlefields

Pennsylvania Civil War Veterans Cards.
www.digitalarchives.state.pa.us/archive.asp

Library of Virginia site on the Civil War. Many different items plus it has indexed list of the Confederate Veteran magazine from 1893 to 1932. Everyone doing Civil War research will want to look at this site.
www.lva.lib.va.us/whatwehave/mil

Information on the Southern California Genealogy Jambo-ree to be held June 10-12, 2011 in Burbank, CA
<http://scgsgenealogy.com/2011jam-home.htm>

If you have a website to share please email **Sharon Wilson** at swilsons@cox.net. We need your help to keep this information exciting. Go to www.sbgen.org and click on the URLs - then you won't have to retype them!

Harry W. Brelsford, 1916 — 2011

SBCGS member Harry W. Brelsford passed away peacefully on February 11, 2011. His death predated his 95th birthday by two weeks and followed the celebration of his 70th wedding anniversary with his wife Elinor, by several months. Elinor is also a long-time member of SBCGS.

In 1942 he was commissioned as a Navy Officer and spent his war years at Berkeley with the Manhattan Project where he worked with the group that developed the isotope separator for uranium. Harry was active in city government and legal affairs, and was an avid outdoorsman, sportsman and naturalist. He and Elinor traveled and visited over 70 countries. Genealogy was a life-long interest and he was a member of the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society.

SBCGS extends sincere condolences to Elinor, family and friends.

Keep in Touch

SB County Genealogical Society Web Page: www.sbgen.org

SBCGS Blog: <http://sbcs.blogspot.com/>

Library e-mail address: info@sbgen.org

Updates on Our Library's New Wing <http://sbcsconstruction.blogspot.com/>

Calendar

Board Meeting: open to members

Friday, April 15, 8:30 a.m., at the Sahyun Library.

General Meeting Saturday, April 16, 9:30 - Noon, First Presbyterian Church, Constance at State

One Incredible Genealogy Seminar Saturday, April 9 (www.sbgen.org)

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Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society

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