



# HI-DESERT GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER

# *DESERT DIGGINGS*

### POINTS OF INTEREST

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### President's Message



Hi!

My name is Monika Hall, and I am the new President of Hi-Desert Genealogical Society. It is my pleasure to be a part of the genealogy society. I will cherish each moment being the president and I look forward to working with everyone.

We have wonderful people in our society, and I am willing to work with everyone. I will definitely need help from everyone.

Remember that genealogists are great people and valuable to their families.

Don't keep your research in a private reserve, spread it around to your family.

Have you had your daily dose of genealogy? Don't pass it over, it should be like a best friend to you and should be shared.

I relish the time when I find something in my research.

*Monika Hall*



### **VICTOR PRESS NEWSPAPER BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES - 1937-1938**

**Compiled by Lois Polson, Edited by Lorraine Moffat**

**Continued - Remains of the following who were moved to the New Cemetery in 1917**

**Turner, Susie**, moved 16 March, mother of J. C. and Miles Turner, Victorville

**Turner, Frank**, moved 16 March, J. C. Turner, Victorville, son.

**Berward, Thos.**, moved 16 March, J. C. Turner, uncle.

**Cooney, J. D. Mrs.** Moved 19 March.

**Hooper, Richard**, moved 19 March.

**Mullholland, Wm.**, of Lucerne Valley, moved 19 March. Notation: See Goulding.

**Spragg, Ella**, died February 1915. Moved 19 March, C. H. Griffith, Los Angeles, relative.

**Dillon, Thos**, moved 19 March.

**Forbes, Norman**, colored, moved 20 March. He was agent in Victorville, his brother is Frank Forbes.

**Hargraves, Margaret**, moved 20 March, buried with baby Alice Hargraves.

**Hargraves, Herbert**, moved 20 March, no information.

**Clark, Mrs.**, moved 22 March.

**Leahy, Henry D.**, baby, moved 24 March, nephew of J. C. Turner.

**Brown, Wm. J.**, moved 24 March, Wife Linney?

**Kaufman, Al**, moved 26 March. He used to be saloon keeper in Victorville.

**Friend, J. B.**, moved 26 March. Mrs. Annie Friend, Victorville, relative.

**Kirkman, Jno. J.**, moved 26 March. Cora E. Kirkman, Canyon City, Colo. Relative. Notation: See Mrs. Miles Turner.

**Liseaga, Ylario**, Mexican baby, died or buried 14 January 1916, moved 26 March.

**Burris, Anna**, died or buried 1 October 1915, moved 26 March.

**Chapman, Jonas, A.**, colored, moved 27 March.

**Walker, Thos.**, died or buried 30 May 1914, moved 27 March, Stonecutter. Jas. Hargraves, relative.

**Root, Fidrlia**, died or buried 8 October 1915, moved 27 March. R. A. Sherwood, Los Angeles, relative.

**End of the remains who were moved to the New Cemetery in 1917.**

The following is something I rarely do as an editor, but this information is very important. I want to thank Genealogy Gems: News from the Fort Wayne Library, No. 87, May 31, 2011 and John D. Beatty for this item. There are Dewey Decimal numbers referred to in this article-they refer to books on the shelves at the Fort Wayne Library Genealogy Center, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

#### **Ohio Public Land Records by John D. Beatty**

The sale of public land in Ohio has a complex history, and no single source lists all of the original purchasers. Many genealogists are familiar with the online database of General Land Office Records at [www.glorerecords.blm.gov](http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov), which indexes public land sales in various states and includes images of the original land grant certificates.

While Ohio is represented, the database does not contain the names of those who bought land on credit before 1820.

**Continued on page 3**



### On The Web:

Ireland's archive collections are now available at the website which follows. They have a wide range of Irish archives available, including the Irish Film Archive, the Guinness family archives, archives from University College Cork's Boole Library, and a great number of city and county council archives. I found a great number of interesting possibilities in this database and think you will find it equally interesting, especially if you are researching Cork city. It is a fabulous collection of data.

<http://www.iar.ie/>

<http://www.augustana.edu/>

The **Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center** can be found by inputting this link. Find the Information tab and when you have clicked on that, find "Swenson Center" and click on that link which has the following information: The Swenson Center is at Augustana College and is a national archives and research institute providing resources for the study of Swedish immigration to North America, the communities the immigrants established, and the role the immigrants and their descendants have played in American life.

<http://www.youtube.com/user/usnationalarchives#g/c/9C64D8D2FD4C281D>

A big thank you to Lisa Louise Cooke for the following 1940 Census Training online: There's still another way to prep for the big release, and that is to learn more about the 1940 enumeration process and the national Archives has released four short videos created by the US Census Bureau prior to 1940 that were used to train enumerators on their general duties and responsibilities, as well as the correct procedures for filling out the 1940 census. See the 1940 census playlist at the national Archives channel at YouTube.

<http://www.lib.chattanooga.gov/>

While this website is merely your avenue to the public library of Chattanooga, Tennessee; once you are there, you will find an amazing amount of information in two different directions. At the top of the page, where you will find "buttons," click on the link to Local History where you will find several links to fascinating finds. On the left of the main page are two items that are *not* to be missed: Genealogy and Programs. At the bottom of the Local History page, you will find the following: "Genealogy and Local History Website Resources." Be sure to follow that if you are researching in Hamilton County and the surrounding area.

### **Ohio Public Land Records by John D. Beatty** *Continued from page 2*

The records of Ohio's public land sales, including those omitted from the GLO database, are available on microfilm in The Genealogy Center in a series titled "Ohio Land Records" (cabinet 80). The set includes records of the Virginia Military District, as well as the land offices at Cincinnati, Chillicothe, Marietta, Steubenville, and Zanesville.

The Virginia Military District comprised a large, irregularly-shaped block of land north of the Ohio River between the Little Miami and Scioto rivers. Surveyed through a system of metes and bounds, it was reserved by Virginia to pay its Revolutionary War soldiers with bounty land warrants. Many of the soldiers who received the initial bounties later sold or reassigned their claims to others. These reassignments can be found in the records of this district. The distribution of land proceeded differently at the federal land offices, where land was offered for public sale after a new rectangular survey. Purchasers could buy on credit at \$2 per acre, though any tract not completely paid for within a year could be offered to others.

*Ohio Public Land Records Continued on page 4*



### **Ohio Public Land Records by John D. Beatty** *Continued from page 4*

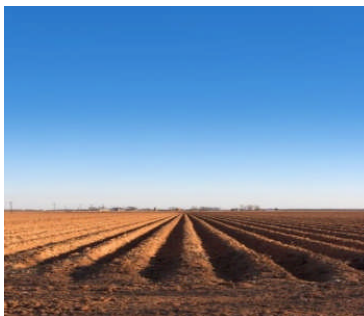
Land grant records can sometimes provide important genealogical clues.

Purchasers usually provided their addresses, and while these were often in Ohio, they will occasionally list some other place outside the state. Sometimes, members of the same family purchased land jointly, allowing one to speculate on possible relationships not found in other records. Thus, when Andrew and John W. Edgar purchased land jointly in Champaign County at the Cincinnati Land Office on 10 October 1811, the resulting record leads one to speculate that they may have been brothers, even though the documents do not spell out their relationship. Types of records featured on the microfilms include Homestead Entries, Registers of Certificates, Tract Books, and Auditor's Records.

To find whether an ancestor purchased land on credit and was not included in the GLO database, one should consult Ellen T. and David A. Berry's three-volume "Early Ohio Settlers" (GC 977.1 B45e, B45ea, and B45eb). These volumes present the records by land office and provide indexes of names, sometimes in more than one alphabetical sequence.

Volume one includes land sales in southeastern Ohio as recorded at the Marietta Land Office in Washington County. Volume two contains an index to purchasers at the Cincinnati Land Office in southwestern Ohio, while volume three includes purchases made in eastern and east-central Ohio through the Steubenville and Zanesville offices.

Grants in the Virginia Military District are indexed in Clifford Neal Smith's "Federal Land Series" (GC 973.004 Sm5f). Researchers should check all of these volumes first before examining the microfilms. The Genealogy Center's Microtext Catalog provides a detailed listing of the microfilm set, showing the land office or district, record type, and inclusive dates found on each roll of film. A helpful search strategy is to identify the date of an ancestor's purchase and then search the records of purchases for that date. If you have an ancestor who purchased federal land in Ohio or received military bounty land for service in the Revolutionary War, these records are well worth examining.



<http://www.antiquusmorbus.com/Index.htm>

You will find Rudy's List of Archaic Medical Terms at the above link. Check the column running down the right side of the page for the term you seek. This site offers three/four language links. They sell a cd, book or a glossary can be downloaded. This link will be a "go to" site for helping you interpret your certificates of death.



## *The Printing Press:*

*Ann Minter*

You might start running into a few problems doing your genealogy research. I do hope you vote, because those votes are becoming a necessity, as you will read.

The Ancestry Insider's blog noted that at the BYU Family History Conference in July, Ransom H. Love made the following comments: Georgia's state archive has closed its doors to the public because they have no money. Volunteers can't help; archives are down to skeleton crews too thin to manage them. Contributions can't help; state laws prohibit accepting donations. North Carolina State Library has closed the Genealogical Research Services section of the Government and Heritage Library on Mondays. This change is effective September 12, 2011. Check under "News & Events" at this link: <http://statelibrary.ncdcr.gov/> I think this will become a problem nationwide. You must be prepared for it, especially when you travel.

On the DearMYRTLE blog, someone requested help in acquiring information regarding parking their motorhomes near the library...Here is the somewhat abbreviated response: there is motorhome parking Downtown Salt Lake, it is on North Temple about 1 1/2 miles from downtown. There is free transportation from the park to Temple Square through the Temple Square Van which travels every hour. Many visitors to the RV park use it to go to the library. The RV park is the KOA Park at 1400 West North Temple. Their phone number is 801-328-0224.

The GraveyardRabbit blog has an online journal that covers a variety of items. If your people attended St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Brooklyn, you might be interested to read "Disaster Fills The Cemetery" in which is covered the fire onboard the steamboat General Slocum which was carrying 1,358 passengers to the 17th Annual Sunday school picnic.

Needless to say, I am still encouraging you to find and read genealogy blogs. It's not something you have to do every single day, in order to keep up with the latest news. It's something you do simply because you may find information you can use while doing your own research.

From the current issue of the Yucaipa Valley Finders (newsletter of the Yucaipa Valley Genealogical Society) comes the following, relative to the above discussion.

Learn about RSS feeds. You don't have to understand how RSS feeds work to reap their benefits. However, if you want to know, here are articles from Wikipedia and What is RSS? Basically, without utilizing RSS feeds, you would need to visit web sites and blogs individually to see if they have been updated. If you subscribe to RSS feeds using a feed reader, the latest updates come to you. Two of the bigger names in feed readers are Bloglines and Google Reader. You do not have to sign up for either of these, the task is just to read about them and know they exist. If you are familiar with RSS feeds, then this is an easy challenge. Genealogy bloggers are encouraged to share their experiences. If you use a particular feed reader, discuss it and you organize your feeds.

On 25 June 2011, the Social Security Administration changed the way they will Social Security numbers are assigned. Numbers after 25 June are not going to be issued in the old formatting rules. This new method will help protect the integrity of the social security number by randomization of the assignment process. It will eliminate geographical significance of the first three digits of the nine-digit number, currently referred to as the "area code." See more here:

<http://www.smartcredit.com/blog/2011/07/06/social-security-numbers-will-be-randomized/>

***No Dues, No Newsletter***  
**All dues not paid by June**  
**30th are now delinquent.**  
**If you have not yet paid,**  
**you will be reinstated**  
**upon payment.**

*Placed to the right is a Japanese Crest.*



The Hi-Desert Genealogical Society Library is currently undergoing a cleaning and reorganizing project, under the leadership of our Librarian, Jackie Fielder. The dust is being removed and the books are going to be placed under the Dewey Decimal System for ease of locating those books you need. This will take some time as the Committee hours to work have to conform to those of the library, which, thanks to the County Library System of the County of San Bernardino have been shortened. According to the main County Library website {<http://www.sbcounty.gov/library/home/>} they have changed their hours to help serve us better! The hours the Apple Valley Library are now open have been changed. I would like to have posted their new hours here, but their web site is down (the day I am looking at it), so here is the phone number for the library: **760-247-2022**. Please call for the hours before you make a trip over there.

My thanks to Michael John Neill and his Genealogy Tip of the Day for this comment: "What's one assumption you made about a family or ancestor that was totally WRONG"? I was recently looking over a list of problems in one of my family databases and started working on one family where I had made assumptions, instead of checking with my cousins about specific data. I had a lot to clear up once I started asking questions again. Have you inadvertently done this sort of thing also?

At the Louisiana State University in Shreveport, Louisiana, the library has incredible holdings. Be sure to check the archives for photographs, manuscripts and newspapers. For those with families in Louisiana and the Lower Mississippi Valley, this could be a valuable repository. Their link: <http://www.lib.lsu.edu/special/archives/>

Also from Genealogy Gems: News from the Fort Wayne Library, the No. 86, April 30, 2011 edition comes the following Melissa Shimkus article, which can be found at the above University Library:



### **The Cotton Bureau**

The Trans-Mississippi Department, created in 1862, directed the Southern war effort in Arkansas, Missouri, Texas, and the section of Louisiana west of the Mississippi River, as well as in the Indian and Arizona Territories. In March 1863, the Department began seizing supplies, including slaves and crops, for the Southern campaign.

Lieutenant General E. Kirby Smith, head of the Trans-Mississippi Department, recognized that the seized cotton could be a financial bonus for the Confederacy and ordered agents to begin selling the cotton to Northern traders.

Smith created the Cotton Bureau in August of 1863 to regulate the sale of Southern cotton to Northern firms. "Records of the Cotton Bureau of the Trans-Mississippi Department of the Confederate War Department, 1862-1865" is a fifty-reel microfilm set that includes documents and correspondence of the Cotton Bureau. The set does not have a comprehensive index, but some individual sections of the records include indexes on the films. For example, the general correspondence of the Cotton Bureau's headquarters office in Shreveport, Louisiana is on Rolls 1 through 9 of the set, and the index to those papers is on Roll 10.

Besides general records of cotton commerce during the Civil War, the Cotton Bureau records include gems that illustrate the history of the time and can provide important nuggets of genealogical data. For example, an 1863 letter from W. H. Darnum describes John Harrison, Sarah Chitton and Mary Lou Harrison fleeing to Selma, Alabama. There is also documentation for the 1864 court martial of Andrew W. McKee, convicted of selling Confederate cotton for his own use in Rapides Parish, Louisiana, and sentenced to be "shot to death with musketry."

Those researching African Americans can find listings of slaves, as well as information on slave owners who conducted business with the Cotton Bureau, such as William J. Tolbert who was due \$30.60, in 1865, for the hiring of his slave Henry under the Impressment Act.

The value of the Cotton Bureau records is threefold: They are a source of data about the cotton industry during the Civil War, provide general historical information on life in the western regions of the South during this time period, and may include genealogical tidbits for particular families who were directly involved with this organization.



## LOOK WHO'S TALKING

August 17, 2011-Brenda Danielson: *What's on the Land Records*

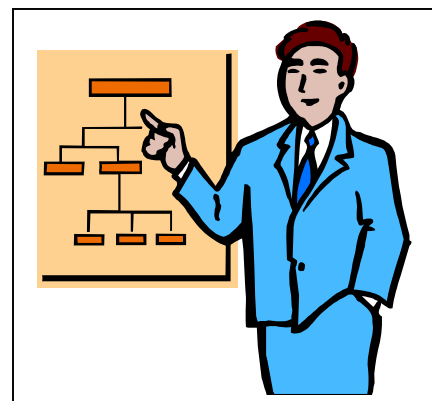
September 21, 2011 - Bill Luther: *Digital Photos & Your Genealogy*

October 19, 2011 - Gena Philibert Ortega: *Death Records & Cemeteries*

# SPEAKING ~ ELSEWHERE

## August 19-August 21, 2011

Family Tree University is hosting the 2011 Virtual Conference with the following instructors: Nancy Hendrickson, Thomas MacEntee, Lisa A. Alzo, Lisa Louise Cooke, Maureen Taylor, Diana Crisman Smith, Rick Crume, Sunny Morton and Jim Beidler. For additional information see this link: <http://www.familytreeuniversity.com/>



## September 11, 2011

Pam Wiedenbeck will speak for the Immigrant Genealogical Society on *Researching your Catholic Ancestors; The evolution of church records for the sacraments including Catholic, German Lutheran & Church of England*. This will be in Burbank at 1310 Magnolia Boulevard at 2 p.m.

## September 21, 2011

Thomas MacEntee will be hosting a live webinar: *Illinois Genealogy Crash Course* covering resources, libraries, essential state history, vital records and immigration in the state, ethnicity-based records available, and the best websites. Additionally there will be a Q&A session and PDF documents for future reference.



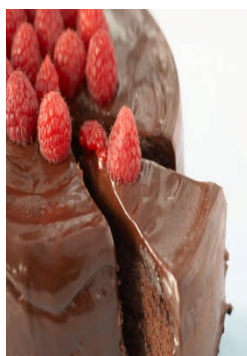
We need 3-ring notebooks suitable for our Library. They should be clean and without the imprint of a company. Some of our books need to be to be put in new notebooks or divided into smaller sizes for easy handling. If you have any questions, please give me a call [-760-246-7033](tel:760-246-7033) or email me [jackie1154@gmail.com](mailto:jackie1154@gmail.com) Thank you for your help.

*Jackie Fielder*



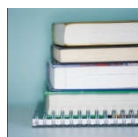
I don't have a complete list of member birthdays but would like to wish all of you with birthdays in July, August, and September, a very happy birthday and a wonderful year. Any of you that would specifically like to have your names mentioned – I would be happy to include them, if you\* will please share. I specifically am going to wish those at the end of the list a Happy Birthday, because you don't normally appear in my list. Hope you have a great year!

- |                         |             |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| Kelly Bergstrom         | July 1      |
| Sharol Goates           | July 4      |
| Marvin Schultz          | July 4      |
| Beverly Hodges          | July 12     |
| Peggy Hardy             | July 13     |
| Don Dorn                | July 16     |
| Miriam Davies           | July 13     |
| Helen Lainz             | August 2    |
| Nick DeRose             | August 29   |
| Camilla Wareing         | September 6 |
| <b>Beverly Erickson</b> | *           |
| <b>Mary Gaborko</b>     | *           |
| <b>Odena Jones</b>      | *           |
| <b>Lois Polson</b>      | *           |
| <b>Marion Relkoff</b>   | *           |
| <b>Gene Wilkerson</b>   | *           |



## Library Update

If you have books of a genealogical nature that you think might need a new home, please donate them to our library.



Check the top of page 6 for recent activity at the library.

**HDGS LIBRARY** – The genealogy books belonging to the Society are located in the

**Newton T. Bass**

**Apple Valley Branch Library**

**14901 Dale Evans Parkway**

**Apple Valley, CA 760-247-2022**

The Society Library is available every day and is staffed two days a week to assist those who need help.

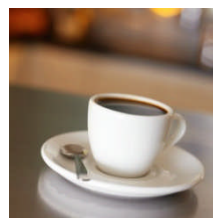
Hours:

Tuesday: 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Thursday: 10:00 a.m. to 12 Noon

The books may be seen at any time the Public Library is open. *They **may not** be checked out as they are for research only.*

**VOLUNTEERS ARE WELCOME TO TAKE ADDITIONAL SHIFTS AND IT DOES GIVE YOU AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET IN SOME QUALITY RESEARCH TIME.**



A Very Special Thank You to Dianne Irwin and Betty Rhoades for all you do for us!  
We do love our treats!

**Thank You**



<b>COUNCIL MEMBERS 2010– 2011</b>			
President	Monika R. Hall	h:760-951-2961 c:760-524-8566	monigibbs@hotmail.com
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Historian	Cherie Volger	760-247-0373	CEVolger@aol.com

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**HDGS –Meetings *EVERY THIRD WEDNESDAY***  
**7:00 p.m.** (except November and December)  
 Victorville Elk's Lodge #1877, 14041 Hesperia Road  
 Victorville, California



The Hi Desert Genealogical Society is a non-profit organization. **Membership** is open to anyone who is interested in genealogy and researching their family history. Non-members visitors are welcome at all meetings.

The **Hi-Desert Diggings Newsletter** is issued quarterly and is received by the members as part of their dues. The dues have been raised to \$20.00 for new members, \$30.00 for couples and organizations are \$25.00.

Please make checks payable to HDGS. For further information contact Pam Jackson, Membership Chairperson: 760-243-3673.

**HI-DESERT GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
P. O. BOX 1271  
VICTORVILLE CA 92393**



<http://www.historicmapsrestored.com>



## BOOKS FOR SALE

Mountain View Cemetery, Barstow, California  
1926 – 1993 \$12.00 plus \$4.00 S/H

Cemeteries of Victor Valley:  
Desert View, 1979 – 1993  
Victor Valley Memorial Park, 1916 – 1993  
\$12.00 plus \$4.00 S/H

Mail Requests to: Hi-Desert Genealogical Society  
P. O. Box 1271, Victorville, CA 92393-1271

