
DESERT DIGGINGS

NEWSLETTER OF THE HI-DESERT GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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Apr-Jun 2013

President's Message

Monika Hall

It's Spring time now. Summer is approaching soon. Any members planning to take any trips have fun and stay cool.

Family Tree Quotes - Genealogists' sayings:

If you' are lucky enough to be a genealogist, you are lucky enough. Genealogy: Tracing yourself back to better people. Friends come and go, but relatives tend to accumulate. Genealogists never die, they just loose their roots. Genealogy: A hay stack full of needles. It's the threads I need. Research: What I'm doing, when I don't know what I'm doing. Take nothing but ancestors, leave nothing but records. When we die we become 'stories' in the minds of other people. A family tree can wither if nobody tends its roots and When you search for ancestors, you find great friends!

A quote from Alex Haley - In every conceivable manner, the family is link to our past, bridge to our future.

Thank you,

Monika

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Editor

Two year term ending.

As our Fiscal year begins to wind down and the New Year approaches in June, I would like to take a moment to thank those who served as Officers and board members over the past two years, Monika, Pam, Jackie, and Ann.

Thank you Ladies! Monika, for your compassion, words of encouragement, cards and prayers during difficult times; Pam, for getting the word out, keeping us informed, and getting our word out in the Newspaper; Jackie, for taking on the difficult task of updating and protecting our Library; Ann, for keeping us and the record straight.

Thanks also to our Committee Chairs; Sharol, for providing great speakers as well as the handouts; Ralph, for all the opportunity drawings; Cherie, for all those pictures and scrapbooks, and of course Diane, for all the great deserts. These individuals not only dedicate their time but the material and food provided as well.

As your outgoing treasurer, I can assure you that our fiscal house is in good order. Our status as a "Not For Profit Organization" with the IRS has been reinstated. The Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elk's, Lodge 1877 provide us with a generous donation each year. Our fundraiser at Oggi's was a great success and we have high hopes for the upcoming Recipe Book, thanks to the hard work of Barbara Richey-Romero and the staff that put it together, Bobbi Thrugstad, Nancy Werger, and Sharol Goates. Thanks too to all those who contributed recipes and stories.

People make an organization and we have been blessed with some selfless individuals who give freely of their time and resources in order to make The Hi-Desert Genealogical Society a successful organization, helping individuals discover their heritage and ancestry.

Bill Luther

E-mail me at ancesgen@verizon.net. 

Library Update

Changing of the guard !!

Jackie Fielder



With my term of office coming to an end, I will be turning over the shelves of books to Ann Minter our newly elected Librarian.

Please give Ann your support in helping as you have with me.

New Books on the shelves:

Genealogical Guide to Tracing Ancestors in Germany

The Palatine Families of Ireland

New England Families

Our Hi-Desert Genealogical Staff will be at the Apple Valley Library on Tuesday's 1-3 pm and Thursday's 10-12. Come by and sign -in at the table in the back. Usage maintains and justifies our section of the Library. Drop by say Hi, bring your research notebooks.

The Apple Valley Library remodeling date has been changed to start the end of September. Will keep you posted.

If you have any questions please feel free to email Ann.Minter@gmail.com or call: 760-490-3222
fielderj@verizon.net or call:
Phone 760-246-7033 ☎

New Officers Elected

New Term

During the General Meeting held on 17 April, new officers were unanimously elected by a show of hands for a one year term beginning June 2013. Those elected are as follows:

Bill Luther	President ancesgen@verizon.net
Bobbi Thrugstad	Vice-President/Membership cahus4118@verizon.net
Barbara Ritchey-Romero	Secretary rombl@aol.com
Caroline Simons	Treasurer simplesimons@verizon.net
Ann Minter	Librarian ann.minter@gmail.com

Thanks to all those who volunteered to work for us over the next year.

Free Confederate Records on Fold3 in April

As a former Account holder I received this from Fold 3 on 10 April

This month (April), in the spirit of paying tribute to those who fought for the South, Fold3 is offering free access to its rich collection of Confederate Civil War records. Although, seven of the eleven former Confederate states observe Confederate History Month in April, Fold3 simply wants to use this as an opportunity to feature content connected to the Southern position. Records include:

- **Confederate soldier service records**
- **Southern Claims Commission records:** claims filed by Southern citizens for property seized by Union troops
- **Confederate Amnesty Papers:** Confederates' applications for pardon to President Andrew Johnson
- **Confederate Citizens File:** claims filed with the Confederate government by Southern citizens
- **Union Citizens File:** Union Army records of provost court papers, orders, passes, paroles, claims for compensation, etc.
- **Civil War subversion investigations**
- **Confederate Casualty Reports**
- **Confederate Navy Subject File:** papers including paymasters' vouchers relating to ships, personnel and more.

You'll need to register for a free Fold3 account in order to view the records. Start searching the Confederate records collection at Fold3's.

More Book Donations

From the Benton Collection

Mrs. Blanche Benton has donated more books to our Library. Included in the collection are:

- *Records of the Reformed Dutch Church of Albany NY 1683-1809;*
- *Early Settlers of New York Vol 1 and 2;*
- *The History of Albany New York;*
- *Records of the Reformed Dutch Church in New Amsterdam and NY;*
- *The History of New Paltz NY and its Old Families from 1678-1820;*
- *Essentials of Swedish Grammar;*
- *German English Genealogical Dictionary*

Also included were several periodicals. Thank You, again Mrs. Benton.

Upcoming Speakers

Bios and topics

Sharol Goates

May 15, 2013; Nancy Carlberg on *Tracing Your Royal and Medieval Ancestors*. Nancy Ellen Carlberg has been a professional genealogist for 31 years, and an amateur researcher for 45 years. She has written 55 books including, *Crash Course in Genealogy and Tracing Your British Royal and Medieval Ancestors*. She has a Master's Degree in Library Science and a California Elementary Teaching Credential. She feels that genealogy research is very important, especially for young people, because, by finding out how our ancestors actually lived, we will discover that life is getting better rather than worse and that there is not a single ancestor with whom we would trade places.

June 19, 2013; Alice Volkert on *Naming Children in Colonial New England*. Alice Colby Volkert is a professional genealogist who is involved in many aspects of genealogy. She specializes in New England, particularly Massachusetts, as well as general United States family history work. But can research in any part of the United States. Alice enjoys being a coach, helping people make their own discoveries and organizing their data. She guides and assists people who want to 'do-it-themselves' or can do as much for anyone as they require. Alice is on the board of the Southern California Chapter of the Association for Professional Genealogists.

July 17, 2013; Joanne Williams on *Family Search Updates*. Joanne is a past president of HDGS and worked at the family history center for years. She is currently serving in the family history department in Salt Lake and has for almost six years now. She answers genealogy questions for people all over the world. She is fun and a great person to know. Her knowledge is enormous.


Shareholders OK sale of Utah's Ancestry.com

By Tom harvey | The Salt Lake Tribune • Last Updated Apr 08 2013 11:34 pm

CEO Tim Sullivan said Thursday he expects almost no changes in the company's operations after shareholders approved the sale of the Provo company to the European private equity firm Permira and other investors.

Ninety-nine percent of total votes cast, representing about 75 percent of the total shares, were in favor of

the sale, Ancestry.com said. Voting took place at a hotel in Provo, where the company that sells access to family history databases and other genealogical services is based.

"In terms of operating the business, really nothing is going to change," said Sullivan, who is staying on as CEO, while Howard Hochhauser will remain as chief financial officer. "I think we're really fortunate to be a partner with Permira because they are very much buying into our growth strategy." 

Membership

Pam Jackson

Happy Spring All HDGS Members:




As the days get longer and warmer one always seems to have more energy and enthusiasm for projects and hobbies. I have been reflecting on our passion for genealogy and why we enjoy it so much. Is it because we love mysteries and we get to be the detective finding that long lost relative, is it our love of history and wanting to discover how our family may have participated in our country's important events or is it just wanting to know who had the red hair and where did they come from? We each have our individual reasons why we love genealogy.

Another "perk" of genealogy is the connecting with distant (and maybe not so distant) family members that we meet throughout the country. I know some of you have branched out across the "pond" – and that is exciting. People we would never have come in contact with if it weren't for our common interest in genealogy. We form relationships via the telephone and email, sometimes planning to meet but most often the friendships have to remain long distance.

But I think the most important reward of genealogy is the friendships that we make amongst ourselves. We come from different perspectives in our everyday world, yet we all have the common bond of love of family and history. We are so eager to share our discoveries and help each other with research, ideas and helpful hints. I think of the saying "Many hands make light work" and equate that to HDGS – the contribution of the group helps the individual not feel quite so overwhelmed. I think that is our "Mission Statement" – supporting each other and continuing the work others before us started.

Pam Jackson

Membership VP 

Historic Newspaper, UK

pages go online in new archive

by Helen Lambourne, last updated on March 7, 2013

<http://www.holdthefrontpage.co.uk/2013/news/historic-newspaper-pages-go-online-in-new-archive/>

A regional publisher will open up thousands of historic newspapers pages to readers with the launch of an online archive this month.

The KM Group has created the free online archive which features tens of thousands of pages of The South Eastern Gazette, the forerunner of the Kent Messenger Series, which were published from 1852 to 1912.

This period covers arguably the greatest period of social and industrial revolution in British history and the newspapers have been digitized thanks to a Your Heritage grant and a group of dedicated volunteers.

The archives are fully searchable and will go live on 22 March with a launch event at the Historic Dockyard in Chatham, which will be attended by 200 Kent schoolchildren and members of local history groups.

Project manager Lesley Bellew said: "I hope this is just the start of creating a seamless archive of KM Group newspapers for the next generation.


"It is a great resource and should prove invaluable to all age groups from children studying Key Stage 2 to family and local history societies."

KM Group editorial director Ian Carter added: "This is the culmination of a huge amount of work from Lesley and the team of volunteers, and we are immensely grateful for the time they have put in."

The volunteers spent more than 1,000 hours cataloguing, cleaning and repairing the pages.

The archive will be accessed via the Messenger's website www.kentonline.co.uk, which was recently named News Service of the Year at the Shepherd Neame Kent Media Awards.

In 2009, the KM Group launched an online archive of its wartime stories from the Second World War.

From Ann Minter (via *Rootsdiggers* email) 

From Family Search.org

New Additions

Idaho marriage FamilySearch.org has added an additional 132,000 records to its collection. The

marriage records span the years from 1947 to 1961 and come from the Idaho Bureau of Vital Records and Health Statistics.

Iowa birth records. FamilySearch.org has created a new indexed collection of some 1.3 million This collection covers about 80% of the birth records for the years from 1880 to 1935. Access is free. [Historic Iowa Birth Records]

Maine marriage and death FamilySearch.org has added additional records to its existing collections. A total of 857,000 new marriage records have been added that cover the years 1892 to 1966 and 1977 to 1996. The new Maine death records (some 402,000 new record additions) spans the period from 1960 to 1996. Neither collection has data for 1967 to 1976. Access to both collections is free. [Maine Marriage Records] [Maine Death Records]

Customs immigration cards FamilySearch.org has created a new collection of individuals entering the United States through Detroit. This new collection contains some 845,000 records and spans the years 1906 to 1954. This collection can be searched by first and last name.

A typical record lists the following information: port and date of entry, name of ship, name of passenger, country of passenger, age, gender, marital status, occupation, place of birth, place of last permanent residence, final destination, name and address in the United States and a physical description. People crossing at Detroit would have come from Canada and many would have been moving to Michigan to work in the automotive industry.

One of the interesting things about this record set is that it lists the date and port of entry of the person when they immigrated to Canada. This could have occurred many years previously, as seen in the example in the image below. Access is free. [Detroit Customs Immigration Records]

World War I FamilySearch.org has added almost 2 million additional draft registration records for the United States. These latest additions cover the years 1917 and 1918. This collection now contains some 24 million records. It is approximately 54% complete. A total of some 38 million images are online and can be searched by state if you cannot find the record you are looking for by searching by first and last name. Men aged 18 to 45 are in the collection. Access to this collection is free. [World War I Draft Registration Cards]

Historic Union Cemetery, Redwood City, California

NEHGS Article

by Valerie Beaudrault, Assistant Editor

The Historic Union Cemetery, Redwood City, Ca.


The Union Cemetery is located in Redwood City, California, which is on the San Francisco Peninsula. It is the county seat of San Mateo County. The cemetery was established by May of 1859. By 1878 there had been nearly 400 interments, and specific large lots were designated for fraternal organizations and the Grand Army of The Republic (GAR). On the website's main page you will find questions about an individual buried in the cemetery. Click on the Answer link to open the burial record page containing the answer to the question.

People: Click on the People link to open a new page to search for individuals buried in the cemetery. Then click on the Search the People Database. The database may be searched by first name, last name, year of death, and burial plot identifier. The search results include the name of the deceased, date of death, burial/plot identifier, and source of the information in the record. The date of death information varies. In many cases you will find only the year of death. Click on the name link to open a new page with more detailed information. The view location link will take you to a map showing the location of the plot. You will also find a list containing the names of individuals buried nearby and a list of individuals with the same last name buried there. In some cases you will find a transcription of the deceased's obituary, links to external sites, photographs, and stories.

There are a number of other links on the main People page. These include People with Stories, People with Pictures, People with Find-A-Grave pages, and "All the People with Extra Information." Click on the links to access lists with name links. Click on an individual's name to view his or her webpage. The Find-A-Grave list includes links to each individual's Find-A-Grave page. You can use the Fraternal Groups with Plots in the Union Cemetery link to access the following organizations: Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF), People in the Free and Accepted Masons (Masons), United Ancient Order of Druids (Druids), and Improved Order of Red Men (RedMen). Clicking on these links will take you to each group's pages, which contain a description of the organization, photographs, and name

links for the members. Click on the link to view the members' webpages.

Markers: This database catalogs many of the markers in the cemetery. The data fields include marker name, exists, photos, plot, people listed, and source. The data can be sorted by any of the fields just by clicking on the heading. Click on the "P" in the photos column to view the photograph. Each "P" is a link to a different image of the gravestone.

Archives: The Archives page contains links to a variety of resources, including maps of Redwood City, burial lists, newspapers and research, documents, *The Journal of Local History*, stories, and photographs. 

Genealogy Insider



Tuesday, March 26, 2013

by Diane Haddad

Archives.com Launches Millions of Lutheran Church Records

Subscription genealogy site Archives.com has released its collection of Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) birth, marriage and death records, which genealogists have been anticipating since Archives.com announced the digitization project nearly a year ago.

The collections, appearing online for the first time, total nearly 4.6 million records from about 1,000 rolls of microfilm. The records date from the mid-1800s through 1940 and include births, baptisms, confirmations, marriages, deaths, and burials.

You usually have to know which church your ancestors attended in order to request the record from the church or find it on microfilm. Because these ELCA records are indexed by name, though, you don't have to know the church before you start your search.

Details in the records vary by church, but they often include parents' names, dates and places of the event, and other biographical details. Many of the churches have concentrations of immigrants from Norway, Sweden or Germany as members—so the records could be the key you need to start researching ancestors in Europe.

You'll learn how to find additional records of Lutheran ancestors—including congregational histories, communion lists, synod publications and more—from our guide *Religious Records: Researching Lutheran Ancestors*, available in ShopFamilyTree.com.

From NGS



NGS 2013 Family History Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada

Hi-Desert Genealogical Soc:

Registration is now open for the NGS 2013 Family History Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. The conference will take place 8–11 May 2013 at the Las Vegas Hotel and Casino. As an NGS organizational subscriber, you are entitled to register three organizational officers or directors for this conference at the member registration rate. To find out more about how to register at this discounted rate, please contact Courtney Holmes at: cholmes@ngsgenealogy.org.

The hotel and conference center are under one roof. The LVH is ten minutes from McCarran International Airport and is convenient to I-15 and I-515. Visit <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/accommodations> for detailed information about the hotel.

The conference will include programs for all skill levels of research experience and will feature tracks on DNA, ethnic research, the law, migration, methodology, the West, women, and more. More than seventy-five nationally recognized speakers will provide over one hundred and fifty lectures on a wide variety of topics. The conference registration brochure, with complete details, is online as a pdf file: (http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/attendee_registration) and the lecture schedule is available on the NGS website in a searchable format: (<http://members.ngsgenealogy.org/Conferences/Program2013.cfm>).

We would appreciate your help in spreading the word about the conference, whether it is in your newsletter, on your website, or in one of your other publications. Promotional materials for the NGS conference, including press releases, brochures, fliers, and ads, can be found on the NGS website at: <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/media>.

For more detailed information and regular updates, view the conference blog at: <http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/>.

We look forward to seeing you in Las Vegas.
Regards, NGS Staff and Board

Early 2013 Events



What's on tap?

May 8-11, 2013; NGS 2013 Family History Conference will be held at the **Las Vegas Hotel and Casino** (formerly the Las Vegas Hilton). Hotel Registration open: the LVH is accepting reservations for attendees for NGS 2013.

June 6 - 9, 2013; SCGS 44th Annual Jamboree "Travel the Path to the Past." Thursday through Sunday, June 6 through 9, 2013 at the Los Angeles Marriott Burbank Airport Hotel, Burbank, California. Thursday will be a day of hands-on workshops. See the blog for more information. <http://genealogyjamboree.blogspot.com>

Poem

Forwarded from Lorraine Moffat

Dear Ancestor

Your tombstone stands among the rest
Neglected and alone
The name and date are chiseled out
On polished marble stone
It reaches out to all who care
It is too late to mourn

You did not know that I exist
You died and I was born
Yet each of us are cells of you
In flesh and blood and bone
Our blood contracts and beats a pulse
Entirely not our own

Dear Ancestor. the place you filled
One hundred years ago
Spreads out among the ones you left
Who would have loved you so
I wonder how you lived and loved
I wonder if you knew
That someday I would find this spot
And come to visit you.

It appears this poem has been attributed to Walter Butler Palmer (1868-1932) and was written in 1906. Walter Palmer was a family historian, breeder of trotting and show horses, and an accomplished poet. Much of his poetry was written about horses, but some about genealogy and his interest in family history.

Family History Center

In the LDS Church located on the corner of Bear Valley Road and Ridgecrest. For more information call 760-243-5632

Library hours (call to confirm):

Tuesday; 9 am to 5 pm, Thursday; 9 am to 8 pm
Friday; 9 am to 1 pm, Saturday; 10 am to 2 pm

Hours provided by answer machine
Classes on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings to be announced. ☺

Genealogical News



From Ann Minter

Boyle Heights Historical Society

Visit their website to view photographs and read stories by current and former residents...and think about adding your own story if you have a connection to Los Angeles' historic Boyle Heights:

<http://www.boyleheightshistoricalsociety.org/>

California State Death Index 1905-1939 from FamilySearch. As of mid-February this project is nearly done.

Contra Costa County Court Records Available at the Contra Costa Historical Society, History Center.

This is the link to the volumes available:

<http://www.cocohistory.org/frm-resources.html>

Fallbrook Historical Society

This free museum includes a research building and a collection of artifacts. Their research materials include files and photographs on early Fallbrook families.

Visit their website to get more info:

<http://www.fallbrookhistoricalsociety.com/>

Central Library of the San Diego City Public Library

This new library opens in June 2013 and will house the largest genealogical collection in San Diego County and is promised to be one of the best in Southern California. It merges the collections from the old San Diego City Public Library and the San Diego Genealogical Society. Material that was once inaccessible in a basement, will soon be available to patrons.<http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library/about-the-library/newcentral.shtml>

SCGS Library Catalog Searchable Online—Burbank

The Southern California Genealogical Society has launched its online library catalog. This catalog also contains the GSHA-SC reference library titles. The SCGS's library holds items from all fifty states and several countries, including Germany, Canada (French Canada), England, and Ireland. Although the Library's collection does not circulate, the SCGS professional research team will be happy to do lookups. Try searching the new catalog today! You'll find it on the SCGS Website: <http://www.scsgsgenealogy.com/>.

SCGS Webinars – available on your home computer!

Unable to attend conferences or genealogical meetings? If you have a computer, webinars are your answer. SCGS hosts their Jamboree webinar series. Family historians from around the globe log in to their bi-monthly programs. The initial live webcast is open to the public at no charge. However, if you are a non-

member and miss the live webcast, all is not lost. Become a member of SCGS for a \$35 one-year membership. The webinar archive has been updated and now houses dozens of hour-long presentations. Included in the list are the 2013 sessions (identified in italics) that will be added to the archive throughout the year. SCGS members are able to watch webinars at their convenience, day or night. It's one of the most valuable benefits of SCGS membership. Where else can you get access to over 50 hours of genealogy education, provided by the leading genealogy speakers available today. 📖

NEHGS Database News

by Sam Sturgis, Digital Collections Administrator, and Christopher Carter, Digital Collections Coordinator

Great Migration: Immigrants to New England, 1634–1635, Volume VII, T–Y

This volume, covering surnames beginning with the letters T through Y, is the final volume of seven in a series documenting the watershed immigration years of 1634 and 1635. Each alphabetical entry for a family or individual includes: place of origin; year of arrival and the ship on which they arrived in New England; earliest known record of the individual or family; first residence and subsequent residences; return trips to their country of origin, whether temporary or permanent; bibliographical information such as birth, death, marriage(s), children, and other important family relationships, church memberships, and civil and military offices held.

This database provides an index to 203 sketches and the 6,863 name references contained within those sketches. The images of the original book pages are available from the search results pages.

The American Genealogist, vols. 78–82

Newly updated on AmericanAncestors.org, The American Genealogist database now includes volumes 78 through 82, publication years 2003 to 2007. This update adds more than 33,000 name records to the database.

The journal now known as The American Genealogist (TAG) has been published quarterly since 1923, and represents an important body of scholarly genealogical research covering the breadth of the United States (with an early preference for New England). The current TAG database covers volumes 9–82. Volumes 1–8, covering the years 1923–1932, are already available on AmericanAncestors.org under the name Families of Ancient New Haven. 📖

HI-DESERT GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Membership

New and renewing members; \$20.00 Couples; \$30.00
Corporate memberships; \$25.00
Please make checks payable to HDGS.

Available Resources

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 92307

Website

<http://www.cagenweb.com/hdgs/>

Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/ancesgen/>

HDGS Meeting

The HDGS meets at 7:00 pm on the third Wednesday of
every month except November and December at:
Victorville ELKS Lodge, No. 1877
14041 Hesperia Rd., Victorville, CA 92392
Non-member visitors are welcome at all meetings.

Council Members are:

President	Monika Hall	monigibbs@hotmail.com
VP/Membership	Pam Jackson	djandpj@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Bill Luther	ancesgen@verizon.net
Secretary	Ann Minter	ann.minter@gmail.com
Librarian	Jackie Fielder	fielderj@verizon.net

Committee Chairs are:

Programs	Sharol Goates	kicsusa@msn.com
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Hospitality	Diane Irwin	thirwin@aol.com
Newsletter Ed.	Bill Luther	ancesgen@verizon.net
Book Reviews	Need Volunteer	
Historian	Cherie Volger	cevolger@aol.com
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Mailing Address Label