



September 11, 2011 Pam Wiedenbeck
Project Management Professional; Past President of SCGS

Researching Your Catholic Ancestors
The evolution of church records for the sacraments including
Catholic, German Lutheran, & Church of England

Library open 12:00 till 5:00 Program starts at 2:00 p.m.
PLACE: Immigrant Genealogical Society, 1310 W. Magnolia Blvd., Burbank, CA

Immigrant Genealogical Society

Library open 12 noon-5pm
1310 Magnolia Blvd., Burbank, CA

SUNDAY'S 2 PM/Program

October 9, 2011 Joint IGS/PSIG Meeting
Tom Underhill
Publisher

How to interview and be interviewed

November 13, 2011-Annual Meeting
Crossing a Continent: Migration Between the
Revolution and the Civil War (1783-1861)
Kathleen Roe Trevena

Retired computer document writer; 30 year genealogist

December 11, 2011- Pot Luck 1PM!
"Good King Wenceslas"
Bring an entrée, salad, or dessert,
drinks, paper goods etc. provided

SCGS Jamboree 2011

Did you miss the Southern California Genealogical Society's June "Jamboree"? Your IGS Library didn't, and it has the conference lecture notes to prove it!! The SCGS, located in Burbank, has Research Teams devoted to Germanic, French-Canadian and Cornish research, as well as Hispanic and Irish interest groups. Here are the titles of some of the more interesting, immigrant-related presentations -- just waiting for you to visit your Library to have a look at the notes to the lectures:

- "Elusive Immigrants!" -- F. Warren Bittner, CG (European)
- "The Seventeen Million Stories of Ellis Island: What's Fact? What's Myth?" -- John Philip Colletta, Ph.D.
- "Central Mexico: Genealogical Research Outline" -- John P. Schmal (Zacatecas, Jalisco, Guanajuato, Michoacán, Aguascalientes)
- "Finding Your Elusive East European Ancestors"
- Lisa A. Alzo, M.F.A.
- "Finding Your Irish Ancestors - Are There Really Any Records?"
- Margo McKinstry, AG (shows "census substitutes")
- "Born Irish, But Where?" -- Cath Madden Trindle, CG
- "They Became Americans: Finding Ancestral Origins"
- Loretto (Lou) Dennis Szucs, FUGA (contains suggested web sites)
- "Fingerprinting Our Families: Using Ancestral Origins/Ethnicity As a Genealogical Research Key" -- Curt B. Witcher, MLS, FUGA, IGSF
- "Scotland Online" -- Cath Madden Trindle, CG
- "The High-Tech Trip to Visit Ancestral Home Places" -- Leland K. Meitzler
- "Dead Language/Dead People: Translating Latin Records from the Catholic Church" -- Jean Wilcox Hibben, Ph.D., M.A., CG
- "Immigrant Cluster Communities: Past, Present & Future"
- Lisa A. Alzo, M.F.A.
- "Destination Canada" -- Dave Obee (Canadian passenger lists, 1865 - 1935)

KALENDAR

September		
3-4	CLOSED	Labor Day
11	General Meeting/Program	2PM
14		Mailing
October		
9	PSIG/General Meeting/Program	2PM
18		Mailing
26	Board of Directors	7PM

"How to Create an Awesome Family History Tour with Google Earth" -- Lisa Louise Cooke, of the Genealogy Gems Podcast

"National Archives Website for Genealogists" -- The National Archives at Riverside

"German Gothic Handwriting: Anyone Can Read It" -- F. Warren Bittner, CG

"Finding Your English/Welsh Ancestors" -- Margo McKinstry, AG

"French-Canadian Research: Online Help and Other Resources" -- Louise J. St Denis

"The German Connection: How to Track Down Your German Immigrant Ancestor in 6 Steps" -- Rick Crume

"British Intelligence: Smart Strategies for Tracking Down English, Scottish and Welsh Ancestors" -- Rick Crume

"Indigenous Mexico: An Introduction" -- John P. Schmal (racial makeup of Mexico) Gordon Seyffert

Roman numerals

I was just trying to convert the Roman numerals in an old family Bible. But it's been so long that I'd done that, I wasn't sure that I'd converted MDCCXCIV correctly to 1794.

I found a great website <http://www.novaroma.org/via_romana/numbers.html> which had, as well as the explanation of how to, a handy little thingie that will do it for you. (I was pleased that this confirmed that I had done it correctly on my own. I was always a horrible math student, though I loved algebra and trig when I was in high school. Jean Snow

Irish Polar Bears?

Did you see the various news stories about the DNA results of polar bear studies? Ancient DNA studies are mostly different in scope from the DNA research you pay for today to find your near relatives and ancestors, to solve certain branch-identity issues or disprove possible linkages suggested by document trails, or even to determine racial mixtures within one's extended pedigree. The DNA research in question compared bear lineages from current strains with bears that died almost 12,000 years ago. Most of us feel fortunate to sort out our heritage of the last four centuries!

This bear research conflicts noticeably with earlier research based exclusively on fossils and on other genetic analysis. Those studies had pointed to brown bears based in Alaska as the probable ancestors of polar bears, but now the experts tell us that they most likely come instead from the brown bears of Ireland. The one common element between bear research and people research is that this work was based upon mitochondrial DNA studies - the same mother-to-child connections that allow us to seek links to some of our pre-historic human migrations.

A "take-away" for those more interested in humans than bears is that DNA research is constantly developing, and new insights are becoming available all the time. So keep abreast of articles you see on the topic and attend the informational sessions provided by the societies to which you belong. You may come away with some new avenues for breaking through those "brick walls" that have long frustrated you. Gordon Seyffert

And on to German-Polish DNA...

There's an interesting documentation of one woman's DNA search-by-email in the Summer issue of "The Searcher." Michelle Chavez, a board member of the Genealogical Society of Hispanic America - Southern California Chapter, "has been researching her German/Spanish family history since 1992." In a brief article she shares her correspondence with a DNA-match individual found through FamilyTreeDNA. This exchange allowed her to trace her maternal great-grandparents beyond the mere knowledge of their names from family records. The brief page-and-one-half "read" is worth your time when next you find yourself at the IGS Library. Look for: "The Searcher," the newsletter of the *Southern California Genealogical Society* (Volume 48, No. 3, Pages 112-3). Gordon Seyffert

British Isles Family History Society - U.S.A.

This organization is offering a Saturday, October 22nd seminar at the Whittier Masonic Lodge (7604 Greenleaf Avenue, at Mar Vista) on "Treasures, Travel, & Technology." The featured speaker is Darris G. Williams, who began working at the Family History Library as a British Reference Consultant in 1991. Currently he is working to develop FamilySearch™ as a manager of the Community Catalyst Team that promotes their Wiki and Forums, having previously worked on the acquisition and indexing of records for digitalization. His four topics are: "Hidden Treasures in FamilySearch™," which highlights some of the less-known resources available through this important on-line offering; "The FamilySearch™ Community: Wiki and Forums," dealing with free repositories for research advice; "British Records Online: Past, Present and Future," a straight-forward presentation; and "Touring the British Isles Online: 18th - 19th Century Travel Accounts," which shows how you can move your research beyond names, dates and places to a greater understanding of the lives led by your British ancestors. Participants are also invited to spend the following Sunday in a day of research at the Los Angeles Family History Library, using the insights of the previous day to best advantage. See: <www.bifhnsusa.com/seminar> for additional information. Gordon Seyffert

The National Archives at Riverside

Have you been to NARA since the branch serving Southern California, Las Vegas and Arizona moved east? Here's how to get there if you live in L.A.:

Take US 101 south to CA 60.

Take CA 60 east toward Pomona.

Take I-215 south toward San Diego.

Exit at Cajalco Expressway and turn right onto Cajalco Expressway.

Turn left on Harvill Avenue.

Turn right on Cajalco Road and proceed to the end of the street.

You'll find yourself in Perris, CA -- but the branch is identified as NARA at Riverside. And they have much from U.S. records beyond the 3-state region; some 80,000 film reels of microfilm give you access to holdings from Archives I and Archives II, as well as other NARA branches. Thanks to July 10th speaker and NARA

IGS ANNUAL MEETING 2011

The Annual Meeting of Immigrant Genealogical Society has been set by the Board of Directors for Sunday, November 11, 2011 at Society Headquarters, 1310 W. Magnolia Blvd, Burbank, CA at 2:00 p.m. In addition to reports, five members will be elected to serve terms on the Board from January 2012 through December 2014.

The following five members have been nominated and have agreed to serve if elected: Ron Grider, Johannes Linning, Marilyn Deatherage, Eloise Haldeman and Gordon Seyffert

Continuing Board Members are: Eldon Kneuth, librarian and German resource; Warren Weimer, librarian; Lura Perkins, Corr. Sec'y, research & librarian.

Lura Perkins
Lura Perkins
Secretary, Board of Directors

Archives Specialist Kerry Bartels for this info!! Reach NARA at Riverside at 951-956-2000 or by email at Riverside.Archives@NARA.gov; reach Mr. Bartels directly at kerry.bartels@NARA.gov. Gordon Seyffert

Reconstruction of Revolutionary War Pension Records

Whether your RW ancestor was an immigrant or not, if you have one you'll want to take notice of a new book by the renowned genealogical speaker Lloyd de Witt Bockstruck. The short title is Revolutionary War Pensions, and it covers "for the first time all the data from federal and state sources used to reconstruct Revolutionary War pension records." Notice the word "reconstruct." Fires in 1800 and during the War of 1812 effectively destroyed all pension files that existed up to August 1814, but nevertheless some 16,500 pensioners have been identified in this book through the use of other sources. The data given is: the pensioner's name, service state, residence, service details (as known), death date, and survivors. Notice the phrase "for the first time." You'll want to check this volume for your surnames of interest; even if your ancestor wasn't a fighting patriot, perhaps he had a brother or cousin who was.... Thanks to "*The Door*," the newsletter of the La Porte County Indiana Genealogical Society (Volume XXVIII, No. 2 - June issue, page 3), for this item from their "At The Library" column.

Gordon Seyffert

"Genealogy Gems"

We're further indebted to "*The Door*," (Volume XXVIII, No. 1 - March issue - page 9), for a reminder that the Allen County Public Library's Genealogy Center publishes an electronic newsletter of the above-listed title that "is intended to enlighten readers about genealogical research methods as well as inform them about the vast resources of the Allen County Public Library." The library encourages wide distribution of "Genealogy Gems" through forwarding to societies and individual fellow genealogists. To subscribe, go to: www.genealogycenter.org and click on "E-zine" at the bottom of the page to fill out an enrollment form. Gordon Seyffert

Pennsylvania Archives

This is one of the free databases provided by Footnote.com, in case you weren't aware and have early immigrant "Pennsylvania Dutch" in your pedigree. Take your browser to: www.footnote.com/documents/185749/pennsylvania_archives/ and explore church records, diaries, journals, land warrantee records beginning in 1730, militia records, oaths of allegiance, naturalization records, passenger records, tax lists and much, much more. Thanks for this item to "*Twigs*," the newsletter of the Northwest Indiana Genealogical Society (Volume 35, No. 1 - July issue - page 7). Gordon Seyffert

Irish Pension Records

For a database that indexes these records, see: www.ireland-genealogy.com for free browsing. There is, however, a charge for ordering the record(s) you find there. The web site maintains: "Our researchers have spent two decades transcribing these handwritten pension application forms (green forms) that give essential information from the 1841 & 1851 censuses for the whole of Ireland." Our thanks for this news to Carolyn Johnson Burns and "Family Tree," the newsletter of the *Ohio Genealogical Society's Montgomery County Chapter* (Volume 31, Issue 7 -- July issue -- page 79).

Gordon Seyffert

Open Invitation from Escondido Gen. Soc.

Saturday, September 24, 2011 the Escondido Genealogical Society and the Southern California Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists will present a panel discussion on professional genealogy: when to hire a professional, how to find a professional, what to expect and more. The moderator will be Jean Wilcox Hibben and the panel will consist of members of the So. Cal. Chapter of the APG. Questions from the floor will be welcomed. Meet upstairs at the public library in Escondido, 239 South Kalmia St., at 10 a.m.

There is no fee to attend. Contact: Barbara Wickham, President, at (760) 489-7760 or BW4662@aol.com
Gordon Seyffert

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Fall Seminar: The Immigrant Experience

The North San Diego County Gen. Soc. is hosting an all-day seminar on Saturday, October 1st, which offers case studies concerning immigrants. It is being held at the City Council Chambers, 120 Carlsbad Village Dr., Carlsbad, CA 92008 with registration beginning at 9 a.m. For further info, contact Tom Gordinier at 760.435.2536 or tgordinier@roadrunner.com. For reservation info, contact Carolyn Hoard at 760.729.1983 or gchoard@roadrunner.com.

Presidents Column

This month I wanted to ask for your help in containing our mailing costs for the newsletter.

For those of you currently receiving either a "First Class" mailing or Email, you are unaffected. Thank you for selecting one of these options.

For those of you receiving your newsletter via "Bulk Mail," please be advised that we've now fallen under the required number of pieces to sustain this mailing. Please help us by either furnishing us an Email address so that we can switch you to email, or paying for First Class when you renew. That's an extra \$5/year.

Not much for you, but a big help to your society when added up in total.

Not only will it reduce the complexity of our mailings, but we can do it much faster and cut out Bulk mail entirely which has become a "thorn" in our side with the post office.

Thank you for your help and support. It's appreciated more than you know.

The Week in Germany

Aug 19, 2011

Click here to view the Newsletter online

Immigrant Genealogical Society

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Immigrant Library Hours

Wednesdays . 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm
1st & 3rd Saturdays .. 10:00 am to 5:00 pm
2nd & 4th Sundays ..12:00 noon to 5:00 pm
Closed for major holidays.
Permission to quote if appropriate credit is given.
Annual Membership, \$25, Family \$30
If publications desired by 1st Class mail \$35.00

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<[http:// www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/newsletter/ The__Week__in__Germany/TWIG__110819.html](http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/newsletter/The__Week__in__Germany/TWIG__110819.html)>

Germany, France and UK Call on Syria's Assad to Step Aside. "Our three countries believe that President Assad, who is resorting to brutal military force against his own people and who is responsible for the situation, has lost all legitimacy and can no longer claim to lead the country."

Joint Statement on Syria: <http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/__pr/P__Wash/2011/08/18__Syria__State__PR.html>