



# e-Bulletin May 2012

## LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Web: <http://www.L-AGS.org> Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/lagsociety>



### Elected Leadership

President

.... Marilyn Cutting

<mailto:president@L-AGS.org>

First VP and Program Chair

.... Cheryl Palmer

<mailto:program@L-AGS.org>

Second VP and Membership Chair

.... Teresa Fraser

<mailto:membership@L-AGS.org>

Corresponding Secretary

.... Anne Les

<mailto:corresponding@L-AGS.org>

Recording Secretary

.... Patricia Northam

<mailto:recording@L-AGS.org>

Business Manager

.... Duncan Tanner

<mailto:business@L-AGS.org>

### Happy Mothers' Day!

This is the e-Bulletin from the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society (L-AGS), provided monthly to our members. If you would prefer not to receive this e-Bulletin or other information, please send a message to <mailto:membership@L-AGS.org> and your address will be removed from our distribution list

Please share your photos and stories of the photos. If you would like the banner to include any of your photos or if you have a story about one of the photos, please send them to Debbie at: <mailto:bulletin.manager@L-AGS.org>. There are large versions of these photos located on the final page.

If you have a special genealogy or local history event or announcement you would like to see included, please submit via email to: <mailto:bulletin.manager@L-AGS.org>.

## Welcome

*Welcome to our new members:*

*\*Leora Frise, Livermore\*Eugenia Paine, Concord\*Richard & Beverlee Taylor, Pleasanton\**

## This Month's Contents

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# Summary of Meetings

*Visitors are welcome free of charge to each of these meetings.*

- ❖ **General Meeting:**  
When: Tuesday, May 8, 2012 - 7:30 p.m.  
Guest Speaker: David Stephenson
- ❖ **The Master Genealogist Group: *Creating Database Subsets***  
When: Saturday, May 12, 2012 – 9:00 a.m. **NOTE DATE CHANGE**  
Chair: Kay Speaks
- ❖ **Writing Group: *Personal and Family History***  
When: Sunday, May 20, 2012 – 1:00 p.m.  
Chair: Debbie Mascot
- ❖ **Lunch 'n' Learn: *Brickwalls***  
When: Thursday, May 24 – 11:00 a.m.  
Chair: Debbie Mascot
- ❖ **Board Meeting**  
When: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 – 7:00 p.m.  
Members are welcome to attend board meetings. Please contact the Membership Chair for location- <mailto:membership@L-AGS.org>

## GENERAL MEETING

*NOTE: Members please sign in at the membership table upon arrival at the monthly General Meeting. Please have your guests also sign in. Before heading home, please remember to leave your nametag at the membership table.*

**TOPIC:** Joseph Adcock Wilkes, Danville's Civil War Union Soldier in the Context of American History

**GUEST SPEAKER:** David Stephenson

**DATE:** Tuesday, May 8, 2012 - 7:30 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton

**Map to the Meeting Site:**

<http://www.L-AGS.org/maps/Pls-BethEmek.jpg>

The presentation will cover David's historical search using genealogical, military, census, family, newspapers and other records for identification and confirmation of a Civil War soldier from Danville. Who was that lone Civil War soldier? Joseph Adcock Wilkes.

It will also cover the ancillary identification of slaves and slave owners in antebellum San Ramon Valley and the quest by their respective descendants for the truth about events that occurred in our valley during the War of the Great Rebellion.

For additional information contact: Cheryl Palmer, Program Chairperson, email: <mailto:program@L-AGS.org>.

# TRI-VALLEY TMG USERS GROUP

*The Master Genealogist Software*

**Topic:** TMG Reports- Creating Subsets of Your TMG Database  
**Creating TV-TMG Reports**

**Date:** Saturday, May 12, 9:00 a.m – 12:00 p.m. **NOTE DATE CHANGE**

**Lunch Meet Up, Noon:** Habit, Bernal & Valley, Pleasanton

**Location:** 7077 Koll Center Parkway, Suite 110, Pleasanton, CA 94566

**Map to the meeting site:** <http://www.L-AGS.org/maps/Pls-KollCenter.jpg>

**Chair:** Kay Speaks, <mailto:tvtmg.chair@L-AGS.org>

**Instructors:** Sue Johnston and Kay Speaks

Have you wanted to share parts of your database with other researchers? Going on a research trip and want to isolate the reports to specific locations and/or family branches? There are numerous reasons you might want to create subsets of your TMG database for sharing and researching.

**AS WE HAVE TV-TMG ATTENDEES FROM MANY CITIES, PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR SUBSEQUENT MEETING DATE AND TIME CHANGES AFTER THE FIRST OF THE MONTH (If you are on our TV-TMG e-mail list you will receive a personalized e-mail notification of change.)**

Kindly R.S.V.P. if you plan to attend the meeting and indicate if you will bring a laptop. Do not forget to check our blog, "Tri-Valley TMG User Group" at <http://tvtmgug.blogspot.com>. This is a great place to record our citation decisions, post notes and ideas from the meeting, and ask and answer questions. Learning assignments and challenges are posted on this website. If you have not received an invitation to join the blog readership, please e-mail Sue Johnston at <mailto:tvtmg.chair@L-AGS.org>.

The TV-TMG Users Group's public blog is located at <http://tvtmgee.blogspot.com/>. Here is where you will find more information about publishing and sharing our TV-TMG source templates that approximate Mills' *Evidence Explained*. These templates may be downloaded for personal use by individuals. Societies and groups of individuals wishing to use our templates should contact the L-AGS's TV-TMG chair at <mailto:tvtmg.chair@L-AGS.org>. We are researching options for publishing our templates online.

Resources: A free demo version of the software may be downloaded at <http://www.whollygenes.com>. Mills' book may be purchased online from any of the following websites, plus many other websites: Amazon, Wholly Genes, Footnote and Ancestry. For additional information contact: <mailto:tvtmg.chair@L-AGS.org>. The user group e-mail address is <mailto:tvtmg@L-AGS.org>.

## WRITING GROUP

*Writing Your Personal and Family History*

**Date:** Sunday, May 20, 1:00 p.m – 3:00 p.m.

**Location:** R.S.V.P for meeting location

**Chair:** Debbie Mascot, <mailto:writing.SIG.chair@L-AGS.org>

Are you thinking of writing about your family history or your personal history? Join us for the writers' special interest group. Long-distance or otherwise unavailable members may join via email!

## LUNCH 'N' LEARN

*Brainstorming Brickwalls*

**Date:** Thursday, May 24, 11:30 a.m – 1:00 p.m.

**Location:** R.S.V.P for meeting location

**Chair:** Debbie Mascot and Kay Speaks

Join us for lunch in Pleasanton on May 24 at 11:30. We'll be helping each other brainstorm picks and shovels to break down our brick walls. For more information and to R.S.V.P., contact Debbie at <mailto:debbie@mascotmanor.org>. The number of attendees will determine the place, so that will be announced later.

## SUMMARY OF L-AGS BOARD MEETING

*April Board Meeting held on April 24, 2012*

L-AGS now has 173 memberships and 213 members.

At the April 10 general meeting Steve Morse attracted over 68 attendees. Many are now using Steve's three techniques to locate family members in the 1940 Census. Refer to his website for more information:  
<http://www.stevemorse.org>

As of April 24, L-AGS volunteers have indexed 6,050 names in the 1940 Census.

L-AGS docents are available to assist patrons with 1940 Census lookups at the Pleasanton Library.

## PRESERVE YOUR STORIES IN THE ROOTS TRACER

*"Publish or Regret" Will your descendants regret your failure to publish?*

Hopefully you are putting the finishing touches on your first article for The Roots Tracer. If you need assistance composing your story, the Roots Tracer staff <mailto:tracer@LAGS.org> and/or <mailto:managing.editor@L-AGS.org> is willing and able to help you. Written articles should be approximately 300 to 1,000 words. Photos and lineage charts always

increase the reader's interest in your revelations. The quarterly deadline for the August issue is the 1st of July, 2012. Patrick Lofft, Editor.

Begin now with a small article. A few paragraphs are a beginning. Your initial success will be your springboard for braver future articles. Tell all of us the tale of your favorite research discovery. Which of your findings filled you with awe, surprise and pride?

Our Roots Tracer offers all members the opportunity to preserve their family chronicles in print and on the Internet. Some generations don't care, but other generations will. We want to make sure that, when someone is interested, even 100 years from now, the basic information will be there for them in the Library of Congress as well as on the World Wide Web. Our memories are a library of information that could be irretrievably lost. We can honor the struggles that our ancestors went through...they shouldn't be forgotten, especially the women, who are less frequently found in public documents.

## SPECIAL EVENTS IN AND AROUND TOWN

### *OTHER LOCAL GENEALOGY GROUP MEETINGS AND EVENTS*

**Genealogy Software Comparison**, May 9, 10:00 a.m. Solano County Genealogy Society Library, Vacaville, CA. For more information see: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cascgsi/>

**California and the Civil War**, May 9, 7:00 p.m. Citrus Heights Community Clubhouse, Citrus Heights, CA. For more information see: <http://www.rootcellar.org/>

**Passenger Arrival & Naturalization**, May 11, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Leo J. Ryan Federal Building, San Bruno, CA. For more information see: <http://www.archives.gov/pacific/archives/san-francisco/workshops.html>

**Bounty Land and the War of 1812 Soldier**, May 19, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. California Genealogical Society and Library, Oakland, CA. For more information see: <http://californiaancestors.org/>

*Note: This class is taught by our own Susan Goss Johnston!*

**The Great Migration and Migratory Patterns**, May 19, 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Dimond Branch, Oakland Public Library, Oakland, CA. For more information see: <http://www.aagsnc.org/>

**Mac Tips, 1940 Census, Entering Events in Reunion**, May 26, 1:30 p.m. Oakland Regional Family History Center, Oakland, CA. For more information please see: <http://www.macgen.org>

**Southern California Jamboree**, June 8-10, Burbank, CA. Many L-AGS members will be attending. Please contact Debbie at [Debbie@mascotmanor.org](mailto:Debbie@mascotmanor.org) if you would like to be part of some sort of "To Be Determined" L-AGS meet-up during the Jamboree.

### **FGS 2012 Conference**

The Federation of Genealogical Societies and the Alabama Genealogical Society invite you to their 2012 Conference entitled Indians, Squatters, Settlers and Soldiers in the "Old Southwest." The conference takes place August 29 - September 1, 2012, in Birmingham, Alabama. Check the FGS 2012 Conference Website at <http://www.fgs.org/2012conference/> for program details and registration. Register by July 1st and save \$50.00 off the full conference cost. Want to be up-to-date on the news, special events, lectures, exhibit hall, and people connected to the FGS 2011 Conference? It's easy! The conference blog takes care of this. We are continually posting lots of breaking news, more details on the lectures, speakers, vendors, special offers, conference events, places to research, shopping, getting to hotels and the convention center, and about the beautiful area around the conference location. This conference will have some special elements never seen before at a FGS conference. Bookmark <http://www.fgsconferenceblog.org> and visit often to view the updates.

You may visit our L-AGS website for a listing of other local societies: <http://www.L-AGS.org/lagslinks.html#GenealogicalSocieties>

The San Francisco Bay Area Genealogy Calendar blog also features a number of meetings and events within 75 miles of San Francisco: <http://sfbagenealogy.blogspot.com>

## **COOPERATIVE EFFORTS**

*In an effort to provide the local area with the best possible resources and capabilities in genealogy, L-AGS participates in ongoing cooperative endeavors with several organizations.*

### **PLEASANTON GENEALOGY CENTER**

*1940 U.S. Census is available through the Pleasanton Library. Genealogy docents will assist with locating your ancestors.*

A L-AGS docent is available at the Pleasanton City Library Wednesday 10 AM-1 PM and 6 PM - 9 PM, or by appointment, e-mail: <mailto:docents.chair@L-AGS.org>. The Pleasanton Genealogy Center, jointly supported by L-AGS, the Friends of the Pleasanton Library, and the Pleasanton Public Library, contains the largest collection of genealogy books, CDs and online databases in the Tri-Valley. The L-AGS genealogy book collection resides in the Genealogy Section of the Pleasanton City Library. The Pleasanton Library provides access to the following subscription genealogy databases:

- Ancestry.com
- New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS)
- Fold3.com (previously Footnote)
- Heritage Quest (in Library & at home)

### **LIVERMORE LDS FAMILY HISTORY CENTER**

L-AGS is not affiliated with the Mormon (LDS) Church. L-AGS does however partner with the Livermore LDS Family History Center (FHC) for various non-denominational genealogical events such as educational seminars, guest speakers, indexing projects and special interest groups. LDS facilities at their Mocho Street, Livermore complex are often used for these. Several L-AGS members, both LDS and non-LDS, volunteer as docents at the FHC. They are available to assist you in your genealogy research. The FHC has several subscription research sites not readily available elsewhere. The FHC is open Mondays 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday evenings 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. and Saturday 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. For further information please contact the center at (925) 443-2750 during these hours.

Center location map: <http://www.L-AGS.org/maps/Liv-FHC.jpg>

## **HELP WANTED**

*Here are some ways you can get involved and stay connected with L-AGS. L-AGS needs you!*

**Library Docent.** Docent needed one Wednesday morning a month from 10am to 1pm. Contact the docent chair at <mailto:docents.chair@L-AGS.org>.

**Typists.** Transcribe all or part of 33 pages of a source document into a word processor. Contact Dick Finn at <mailto:rwfinn@wecare.net>.

## **This and That**

Did you know that the L-AGS website is a plethora of fantastic information? Please visit and explore and send your favorite parts to me at <mailto:bulletin.manager@L-AGS.org>.

This month when I explored, I found that many of our members are authors! Here is a link to the L-AGS member publication page: <http://www.l-ags.org/mempubs.html>.

# FUTURE L-AGS GENERAL MEETINGS AND OUR REGULAR SCHEDULE

*Note: Some meetings have special schedules and locations during summer and holiday seasons. Check the specific listings above for details or contact the meeting Leader.*

<b>Topics of Future General Meetings</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
June 12, 2012	Putting the Flesh on the Bones	Ron Arons
August 14, 2012	ABCs of DNA	Steve Danko

<b>Regular Scheduled Events</b>		
<i>Note: Some meetings have special schedules and locations during summer and holiday seasons. Check the specific listings above for details or contact the meeting Leader.</i>		
General Meeting Cheryl Palmer, Program Chair	Second Tuesday 7:30 p.m.	Congregation Beth Emek 3400 Nevada Court Pleasanton Map: <a href="http://www.L-AGS.org/maps/Pls-BethEmek.jpg">http://www.L-AGS.org/maps/Pls-BethEmek.jpg</a>
Tri-Valley TMG Users' Group Kay Speaks, TMG Leader	Third Saturday 9 a.m. – Noon <b>(PLEASE CHECK THE SCHEDULE AS THIS FREQUENTLY CHANGES)</b>	7077 Koll Center Parkway Suite 110 Pleasanton Map: <a href="http://www.L-AGS.org/maps/Pls-KollCenter.jpg">http://www.L-AGS.org/maps/Pls-KollCenter.jpg</a>
Writing Group Debbie Mascot	One Sunday a Month (TBD) 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.	R.S.V.P. for address
Lunch 'n' Learn Debbie Mascot and Kay Speaks	One weekday a month (TBD) 11:30a.m.–1p.m.	R.S.V.P. for address



# Photos from the Banner on Page 1:



# Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society

**Ancestor Chart**  
Person No. 1 on this chart is the same as No. \_\_\_\_\_ on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_

**FAMILY GROUP NO.**  
This information Obtained From: \_\_\_\_\_  
Husband's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

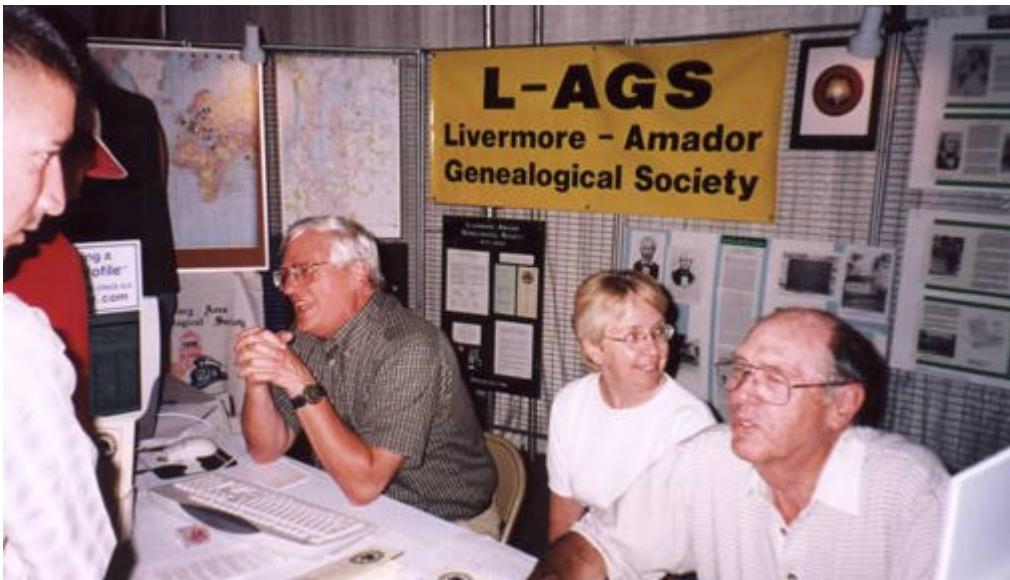
**Pedigree Chart**  
Person No. 1 on this chart is the same as no. \_\_\_\_\_  
Distances are completed

**Land Description**  
Township: \_\_\_\_\_  
Section: \_\_\_\_\_  
Acre: \_\_\_\_\_  
A square six miles on a side. Contains 36 square miles.  
A square one mile on a side. Contains one acre each.  
Measure 20 rods

**Military Service Records**  
in the National Archives  
of the United States

**Census Record**  
Administration

Members' Handbook  
May 1, 1906



JUNE 27, 2002

An advertising supplement to the Valley Times

DISCOVER LIVERMORE 13

## Local genealogist works with others to care for their family trees

BY LINNEA SMITH JESSUP  
SECTION EDITOR

A genealogist is part detective, part secretary and part family historian. And, with the advent of many computer-based resources, today's genealogists are also likely to be electronically connected to their counterparts and to hundreds of data banks around the world.

Dick Finn, a Livermore resident since 1959, and current president of the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society, has spent the last 10 years immersing himself in family history. He became a member seven years ago after a relative introduced him to the joys of genealogy.

"My aunt, now 99, decided that I was the one to carry on the family scrapbooks. She gave me two books," he said, and on his quest as "keeper of the journals" he's connected with distant family members from Denmark to Wisconsin to California. Finn has worked on family history for both sides of his family and he and his wife Wanda, also a L-AGS member, are also tracing her family roots.

"Since I retired six years ago we've traveled annually to England," he added. There they found a house in County Kent dating to 1570 where his grandfather once lived. Last year they took an Elderhostel class in Denmark, and while traveling the country were able to gather information on both of their families.

In his search for family history, he posted the name "Kitchingham" on the Web and mentioned that his relatives had come from

Hartlip, County Kent. To his surprise, responses came from literally around the world, and 75 folks gathered for a reunion in England, coming from Australia, New Zealand, Scotland, Louisiana, and, of course, Livermore. The group plans to travel to Livermore for another reunion in 2003.

But genealogists now travel via the Internet as well as physically visit worldwide destinations in their quest for family information. Recently, he said, he met a man who had actually found a tiny farm in Denmark where a relative had lived several generations ago;

today it's a large and thriving dairy operation.

L-AGS was started in 1977 by a group taking an adult education class. Today it has over 225 members. Electronic connections are key to genealogy, and the L-AGS members all use computers in their research, usually bringing their laptops to meetings and participating in other subgroups within the organization.

A monthly general meeting — held the second Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at Congregation Beth Emek at College

and M streets in Livermore — draws 50 to 70 members. Many of the meetings include speakers who share history of the Livermore Valley. Recently a 90-year-old doctor spoke on the hospitals and families who were involved in the early days of Livermore and members learned that at one time Livermore had 12 hospitals, including several that treated tuberculosis patients. In July, Charles Huff of Pleasanton will speak about old Pleasanton families and Malvert Sweet will share Altamont area 1800's history at the August meeting. Jim Concannon will join the group in September to talk about how the Concannon family immigrated from Ireland and settled in the Livermore valley. Visitors and guests are welcome at all these meetings.

The group also plans field trips to historical sites or repositories of historical information.

Annual dues are \$18 per individual or \$25 per family, and include a quarterly journal that covers a wide variety of topics. Members also serve as computer mentors to each other and encourage beginners.

Like Finn, many of the members are in their 50s and 60s. "People don't seem to get the 'bug' until their in their 50s," he said. There are nearly equal amounts of men and women members.

Subgroups of L-AGS include:  
■ Study group, which studies a variety of resources and methods, from tracing



DICK FINN

See GENEALOGY, Page 14

