

THE LIVERMORE ROOTS TRACER

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Associate Editor - Margaret Fazio

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TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO COOPERATIVE FAMILY RESEARCH

WITH THE

AMADOR GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Do You Know Who You Are and Where You Came From?

COME TO OUR NEXT MEETING AT THE LIVERMORE LIBRARY ON TUESDAY, June 24, at 7:30 p.m.

CALL: 455-0550 - 447-4216 - 447-5732

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A few thoughts about the Past and the Future of the Amador Genealogical Association:

An Association was formed in the Livermore, Pleasanton, and Dublin Valley in 1977, in order to have a cooperative study of the science of ancestor hunting. In addition to our personal family histories, the Association publishes a monthly genealogical newsletter and maintains its own library. It has a surname list of almost all the family names researched by members.

The Association's library is located at the home of Ken and Lucille White, 791 North "N" Street, Livermore, 455-0550. The Association holds information-swapping meetings at the Livermore Public Library on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

These are just a few of the reasons why we feel the Association has had a successful existence under the guidance of competent leaders. The Past has shown rapid progress and the Future looks even brighter than the Past.

I am sure that our new President, Fran Samans, will bring many new ideas and activities to our group. Not only will our family histories increase their rate of growth, but progress will also be achieved on many other fronts. Some of these other fronts are:

1. Increased genealogical information in our public and club libraries.
2. A growth in our club's surname list.
3. An increase in the family histories in the club library.
4. Equipment to duplicate printed matter for the club's library and our record preservation committee.
5. Continued publication of our monthly newsletter.
6. New active members.

The above six ideas are just a few of the growth objectives of our congenial club. Your ideas for achieving these objectives and other growth ideas will be needed and appreciated.

Acting President, Bill Wolcott

EDITORIAL

June has been an interesting and noteworthy period in the history of our organization. The microform reader-printer has arrived and is in use at the Livermore Library. The acquisition of this instrument has been a major goal of the Association since 1978; it's arrival represents a great accomplishment. It's rapid scanning abilities will speed up our research time.

We held our first White Elephant Sale; it was highly successful in raising funds and promoting friendship in the organization. If we start saving items now, we'll be ready for the next sale. This endeavor could be the major source of funding for our association.

We are beginning to get some excellent publicity. We had superior coverage for our part in obtaining the reader-printer. The major newspaper in Livermore is planning a feature story on the Association. It will probably be published before our next meeting.

EDITORIAL (continued)

We have started a tape library in conjunction with our genealogical book library. We have taped most of our meetings and can exchange tapes with other organizations. We can have available tapes on all phases of genealogy. Many college courses are now being given by tape for those who have difficulty getting to the campus. All of us spend many hours driving or doing other tasks that require the use of our eyes and our ears are available for work. This work time is being taken advantage of by many busy professionals through the use of tapes.

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Bill Wolcott has agreed to chair our meeting in the absence of our new President, Fran Samans.
2. We wish to express our thanks to the Clorox Corporation for the generous donation of \$1,000 toward the purchase of the reader-printer.
3. Margaret Fazio has kindly consented to act as Associate Editor of the Roots Tracer.
4. Plans are being made to purchase a duplicating machine that will allow us to publish our family histories and other genealogical information. Please let us have your ideas on this.

LIBRARY NOTES

Lucille White

Since there were no new additions to our library last month, I will write about my recent experience in a larger library.

The opportunity came up for me to get away for a few days so I went to Salt Lake City. I arrived there on the Sunday evening flight, got settled into a hotel room and was planning to be at the library early, when it opened at 7:30 a.m. It was not a nice surprise the next morning to find myself waking up at 9:30 and it was pouring down rain. After waiting a little while for it to quit raining, I decided that I had not made the trip to sit in a hotel room. Nor had I gone prepared for rain, so it was a long, wet walk to the library. It rained 18 hours that day.

I went first to the file room, to get a list of what was available for the searches I was interested in and made a thorough list of what they had and the film or book number. Finally, I was ready to go to work, but every microfilm viewer in the building was being used!! I wandered back to the book department and started going through the Maryland Archives.

These old Archives are a very good source to use and were indexed, as well. I was able to find that my immigrant ancestor in my Swift line had raised 300 pounds of tobacco in 1678 and had signed as a witness about that time, in the location I had been hoping to find him, in order to connect him with later generations.

North Carolina does not have Archives at that library but they do have a fine set of North Carolina Colonial Records which I found very useful. I was looking for something in my Helms line there and found the complete list of "Regulators", those brave men in North Carolina who uttered the first cry of protest against oppression and taxation by the English rulers. They signed a petition to that effect 9 October 1769, Only 301 signatures are on this list so I am very proud that my ancestor's name was among them. Art, a John Skinner, was also listed. I brought a complete list of these home with me for our library.

LIBRARY NOTES (continued)

That was enough for one day, so I went back to the hotel room, stopping on the way to buy an umbrella. That evening I made out a schedule with the film numbers I had taken down so the next morning I was there when they opened the doors and ready to go to work. That is really the best way to research because you don't have to take time to go back to the files or look up numbers. One old film of Quaker Records told me that my immigrant ancestor, "on his death bed requested to be laid in the Quaker burial ground," so I know when he died and where he was buried.

I spent a couple of days on the third floor, trying my hand at English research. I didn't appreciate our U.S. census and indexes until I got into the English records. In order to find anyone there you must know their street address. I wanted to find my husband's grandfather in 1871 and only knew they lived in the north part of Leeds. The attendant told me there were six rolls of film (3 hours per roll) I might have to go through in order to find them. I was lucky and found them in 30 minutes. That gave me enough information about the maternal line that I was able to trace them on back to 1841, way in the NE part of England on the North Sea, living at Land's End. With the census and TBI, which shows many births and marriages, I was able to take the family back quite a ways. His great grandfather was an alum miner.

In spite of problems, I was very happy with the information that I was able to find and look forward to going again, but with an umbrella and an alarm clock next time.

Although I was away all week, the library here was still available. You are always welcome to come and "help yourself". Please feel free to visit the library at any time, if only to browse.

RECORD PRESERVATION

At our May meeting, Ed Pyle gave an interesting report on methods of document preservation. Any documents sent to Salt Lake City will be duplicated, a copy placed in storage, and a copy returned to the sender. Microfilm will take up very little space and can be stored in a fire and waterproof repository. If the sender wishes, the records can be sealed for as long as desired. A micro-filming session is being planned for our September meeting.

Editorial Note: Acid from other papers as well as folders, can migrate to acid free paper and destroy valuable records. The next issue of the Tracer will present a detailed discussion on the physical-chemical techniques for paper preservation.

Edith Guido has submitted the following article on paper preservation, taken from the Family Circle, June 1980:

HOW TO PRESERVE OLD NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS

Are those old newspaper clippings that you've been holding on to for so many years turning yellow and threatening to crumble? Experts at the National Archives, who have the same problem, suggest the following method of preserving old newspaper: Mix two teaspoons of magnesium carbonate and a quart of club soda in a large plastic dish. Sandwich the clippings between two pieces of screen or PELLON, a material sold in most fabric stores, and soak for 30 minutes. Mop up the excess water with blotting paper and allow to dry overnight on more blotting paper. After using this preservation technique, store the clippings in a well-sealed flat plastic bag. They should keep forever.

MAPS AVAILABLE

The following topographic index maps are available from Ed Skinner:

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| *Connecticut | *California |
| Maine | *Arizona (Rosemaria) |
| *Massachusetts | *Idaho |
| *New Hampshire | *Montana |
| *Rhode Island | *Nevada |
| *Vermont | *Oregon |
| *New Jersey | *Utah |
| *New York | *Washington |
| *Delaware | *Wyoming |
| *Maryland | *Michigan |
| *Pennsylvania | *Ohio |
| *Alabama | *West Virginia |
| *Florida | *Illinois |
| *Georgia | *Indiana |
| *Kentucky | Wisconsin |
| *North Carolina | *Colorado |
| *South Carolina | Iowa |
| *Tennessee | *Kansas |
| *Virginia | *Minnesota |
| Arkansas | *Missouri |
| Louisiana | *Nebraska |
| *Mississippi | *North Dakota |
| *New Mexico | *South Dakota |
| *Oklahoma | *Hawaii |
| *Texas | *Alaska |

*Now Available

NEWS OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Speaking Relatively May-June 1980

Miriam Lundy has offered to search her copy of Marriage Records of Clermont Co., Ohio, 1800-1850, pub. 1979 in exchange for a SASE. Miriam Lundy; 5740 Ledgebrook Lane; Solon, Ohio 44139. A history of Pittsburgh based on the first three Will Books of Allegheny Co., Pa. (the first three vols. date from 1789-approx. 1830) includes an index that will be searched for a SASE by Ronna K. Bryant; 675 E. 240th St., Euclid, Ohio 44123. Dorothy Hamilton has timely suggestions for writing autobiographies. Anyone doing New York research will want to read the four pages of information on New York. Virginia, Halifax County families, but will accept items concerning V., especially Southside, and northern No. Carolina. There is no charge; write to "Halifacts, The News & Record, Box 100, South Boston, Va. 24502. Trumbull and Geauga County, Ohio deed index information. Adams Co. Gen. Soc.; P. O. Box 231; West Union, Ohio 45693 has published cemetery inscriptions for Monroe Township and Sprigg-\$3.00 ea. Euclid township records book 1, pg. 1 - April 1810.

Santa Clara Co., Hist. & Gen. Soc., Calif. May 1980

Have moved back to their regular meeting place in the new multi-purpose room of the Santa Clara City Library; 2635 Homestead Rd., Santa Clara, Ca.

Contra Costa County Gen. Soc., Concord, Ca. June 1980

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY PIONEER CEMETERY RECORDS, VOL. 1 available after July 15. Pre-publication prices - hardbound \$17.00 - softbound \$10.00 (Calif. res. add 6½% sales tax)., after July 15 add \$2.50. 161 pgs. with full name index, historical preface to each cemetery; several photos. Make check payable to Contra Costa County Gen. Soc.; P. O. Box 910; Concord, Calif. 94522. The newsletter includes a personal viewpoint on the problem of revealing/recording of known adoptions and illegitimacies.

NEWS FROM OTHER ORGANIZATIONS (continued)

Ohio Gen. Soc. Report - Spring 1980

Nicholas Riley Family-Butler Township, Knox County Ohio; Old people in Mechnicsburg, Champaign County, Ohio; Armstrong family bible; Lee/Darby cemetery-Gelhi Township, Hamilton County, Ohio; Monocacy Valley; The Ferrier & McConaughy Families; Thomas Caster and Mary Stanberg; Kershner, Harris & Gram Bibles; Highland Bend Cemetery, Scioto County, Ohio; William Head (1774-1841), Highland County, Ohio; Ohio-Connected Surnames in the Book of Detroiters, 1914; John Stevens Strong Bible; Eleven pages of five generation ancestor charts. Book reviews.

Be sure to read original newsletters in our library.

Searchers in the states of Nebraska and Iowa:

Place a free query in the "Family Trails" column of the Omaha World Herald. Must be on an early resident of Nebraska or Iowa, one ancestor only, limited to 60 words and should have an approximate date and place of residence of the ancestor. The same instructions apply to placing a free query in the "Collecting Ancestors" column of the Sioux City Journal. Send queries to: Mrs. Lesta Westmore, P. O. Box 4244, Omaha, Neb. 68104; or to "Collecting Ancestors" c/o Earl Belt, 2657 S. Palmetto St., Sioux City, Ia 51106

GENEALOGICAL AIDS: Federal Census (Part I)

by Margaret Fazio

The Federal Census records are divided into two categories: The early records (1790 through 1900) and the later records (1910 through 1980). The early records are open to the public and are in the custody of the National Archives and records Service, Washington, D.C., 20408, and available for lending through the various state branches and also private institutions. The office handling requests for information from the 1910 through 1980 Federal Census records is located at the United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Personal Census Service Branch, Pittsburg, Kansas 66762.

The Pittsburg Branch does not perform genealogical research, as such, on the Federal Census records. They will search for the record of an individual, but will not compile family histories. The information furnished is the data recorded for one individual on a census date which includes the name, relationship to the head of the household, age, place of birth, and citizenship data. The name of the head of the household may be shown; however, the names of other members residing in the household cannot be listed unless we receive the required authority for each. An authorization and fee must be furnished for each person for whom information is desired, even though it pertains to members of the same family. Instructions for requesting the searches and information regarding the fees are explained on the application.

The personal information contained in the 1910 and later Censuses maintained at the Pittsburg Office is confidential and may be released only when certain conditions are met. To release census data, they must receive the written request of the person to whom it relates, if living; or, if the request pertains to a deceased person, the application must be signed by a member of the immediate family (such as parent, brother, sister, or child), a surviving spouse, or a direct bloodline relative (such as grandchild or great-grandchild) and accompanied by a death certificate. When a death certificate cannot be obtained, other evidence they can accept as proof of death includes an obituary notice, cemetery record or tombstone picture which shows the name and date of death. The person signing the application must state their relationship to the deceased on the form and must be 18 years of age or older.

GENEALOGICAL AIDS (continued)

For genealogy purposes, the Pittsburg Office can also furnish information in the form of a full schedule, if specifically requested to do so and a fee of \$2.00 is received in addition to the \$8.50 search fee. A full schedule is the complete one-line entry of personal data recorded for one individual on the census date; that is, in addition to name, relationship to the head of household, age, place of birth and citizenship data, the complete one-line entry may also show the place of birth of parents, race, sex, marital status, education and occupation information, depending upon the questions asked by the enumerator on the particular census date.

It has been the experience of the Pittsburg Office in searching the Federal Censuses that in many instances information they locate lists an individual's direct bloodline relatives (parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, etc.) living in the same household. This is often the data family genealogists are seeking. Since they recognize that record searching can become costly, their policy is to charge one fee of \$8.50 for each family in two census years and provide a transcript of personal data (name, relationship, age and place of birth) for one member of the family. The full schedule, as indicated earlier, requires an additional \$2.00 for each individual. Consequently, for one search fee, they can provide the complete one-line entries of personal data for more than one member of the family when they receive the following: (1) authority to release each individual's census data; and (2) a \$2.00 payment for each individual's complete one-line entry of personal data. As they are a self-supporting operation, it is necessary that they charge a fee to persons requesting information from their records. They do, however, strive to provide their service as economically as possible.

I have a couple application forms if anyone is interested.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, June 24 at the Livermore Library, 7:30 p.m. Our speaker will be Sarah "Sally" Gray, new Director of Library Services for the City of Livermore. Sally is an excellent speaker and will discuss:

The Livermore Library as a genealogical resource
New improvements in library services
Use of the new reader printer
The Bayliss System - an interlocking communication system between libraries which permits the rapid location and loan of books requested by patrons.