

The Livermore Roots Tracer



Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 901, Livermore, California 94551-0901

<http://l-ags.org> & <http://twitter.com/lagsociety>

Membership Report

February, 2016

New Member Information

Jean Amick, Annette Breingan, Eileen Dowell, Linda Ethier, Karen Amick Gildea,
Ken & LaDonna Jenson, Arnold & Nancy Koslow, Craig Mullins, Jim & Sandra Aberer

Thanks to the generosity of the following L-AGS members:

Patrons

Dick & Jean Lerche, Bill & Marlene Silver, Kay Speaks, Duncan Tanner
& 1 anonymous patron

Benefactors

Kristina Ahuja, Linda Driver & Walt Crawford, Gail Fairfield, Richard & Wanda Finn,
Cindy McKenna, Patricia Moore, Peggy Weber & Bob Whitlock

Total L-AGS Members as of February 3, 2016: 92 Memberships and 109 Members

Meeting News

General Meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. [Map: http://tinyurl.com/BethEmek](http://tinyurl.com/BethEmek)

Pleasanton Genealogy Center is jointly supported by L-AGS, the Friends of the Pleasanton Library, and the Pleasanton Public Library. A L-AGS docent is available from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton, California. Or by appointment, e-mail: docents.chair@L-AGS.org.

The L-AGS Writing Group — Meets monthly in Livermore. The encouragement to write your ancestors' stories and your own comes from this enthusiastic group. To join the email list, please

send a note to mail to: changes@L-AGS.org with "Add me to the Writing Group list" in the subject line.

Let's Talk Genealogy — Meets monthly in Livermore. To join the email list, please send a note to mail to: changes@L-AGS.org with "Add me to the Let's Talk Genealogy list" in the subject line.

The Master Genealogist Group usually meets on the third Saturday of the month, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Location: Contact the group chair for directions (tvtmg.chair@L-AGS.org).

TV-TMG Chair (Kay Speaks)

tvtmg.chair@L-AGS.org

TV-TMG Forum

tvtmg.group@L-AGS.org

L-AGS Leadership for 2016

| | | |
|------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| President | president@L-AGS.org | Julie Liu |
| First VP and Program Chairs | program@L-AGS.org | Marilyn Glass and Diane Wiedel |
| Second VP & Membership Chair | membership@L-AGS.org | Tom Mathews (Temp) |
| Corresponding Secretary | | Nancy Southwick |
| Recording Secretary | | Leora Frise |
| Business Manager | business.manager@L-AGS.org | Duncan Tanner |

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A Message from our President

We are starting the year 2016 with hopefully renewed spirit and energy. I would like to extend a thank you to the wonderful support I have received as I navigate my way through my first few months. One of my first duties was to discuss with a newspaper reporter what we do at L-AGS. We were fortunate to receive some wonderful coverage. Beth Jensen of the Contra Costa Times wrote a wonderful article detailing some of the efforts that Dick Finn and Kay Speaks are making. For those of you that missed it, there is a very thoughtful picture of Dick. Some tips on getting started and a prominent mention of our meeting times and the docent work at the Pleasanton Library. You can't pay for that kind of publicity!! http://www.contracostatimes.com/news/ci_29405219/sleuths-on-the-hunt-for-clues

Sometime this spring there will be a remembrance of our friend George Anderson. He was a dynamic and influential volunteer for our organization. His vision was always how to make it easier for as many people as possible to find, explore and share genealogy. We will keep you all informed.

When you look at how you have benefitted from your participation in L-AGS, I hope you will consider what you might be willing to do to help us on the L-AGS board. We have informative seminars, special interest small group meetings and the help of 5 docents at the Pleasanton Library. That just names a few of the things some of our members are doing. To provide all of that, it takes volunteers. We can't do it alone. Right now we need someone to take over the 2nd VP membership duties. Tom Mathews has been in this position for 2 years and this will be the beginning of his 3 year. He has graciously agreed to continue but it would be better for another volunteer to assume some of those duties. Dick Finn has agreed to assist by making our visitors welcome. If entering data in an Excel file is above your pay grade, Tom will continue maintaining the roster. So please think about it and email Tom Mathews membership@L-AGS.org or Julie Liu president@L-AGS.org.

One of the things that I enjoy the most is showing a person new to genealogy what is available. To help them find one of their ancestors, it is the wonder of it all. With that in mind, it makes this next event so exciting to tell you about. The board is currently looking into the possibility of having a Spring Heritage Happenings. For those of you that participated in the Livermore Library event last October 2015, you are aware that there was a lot of interest. Some individuals couldn't get to see a L-AGS volunteer as there just wasn't enough time. We will let you know more as information becomes available at the meetings or in the e-Bulletin.

If you need some assistance, L-AGS has some smaller groups set up to help you out. You might go by the Pleasanton Library on Wednesday from 10 am until 1 pm and ask a docent. Debbie Mascot has 2 small group meetings. Let's Talk and a Writing group that meet usually on the 3rd Saturday. But contact her at talkgenealogy.chair@L-AGS.org or writing.chair@L-AGS.org because the date is subject to change. With that said, I hope that you are able to make some inroads into your own family story this spring.

Seriously consider contacting Patrick Lofft rootstracer.chair@L-AGS.org to request assistance with preparing a paragraph or two describing one or more of your successful genealogy research finds. Also consider telling Patrick about the ancestor whom you are experiencing difficulty locating. Patrick may ask you to recommend opportunities when the two of you may confer on the phone. We are proud of our L-AGS motto, "Members Helping Members."

Sincerely,
Julie Liu

The Livermore Roots Tracer

The Roots Tracer is the quarterly publication of the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society. The mission statement of the Roots Tracer is:

“Instruct. Inspire. Inform.”

We encourage members to submit articles for publication. Material can be e-mailed to:

rootstracer.chair@L-AGS.org or mailed to L-AGS, P.O. Box 901, Livermore, CA 94551-0901.

Want ghostwriting help? Just ask!

The Roots Tracer Staff

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Printing and Distribution
..... Jean Lerche and Susan Davis

G.R.O.W. Columnists
..... Susan G. Johnston, Kay Speaks

New at the Pleasanton Genealogy Library

Courtesy of Tim Johnston, Administrative Librarian

1. 362.734 CARANGELO.
The ultimate search book: U.S. adoption, genealogy, & other search secrets / by Lori Carangelo from the files of Americans for Open Records (AmFOR.net). Carangelo, Lori.
2. 389.15094 CHAPMAN.
Weights, money and other measures used by our ancestors / Colin R. Chapman. Chapman, Colin R., 1939-
3. 728.80941 KNIGHT.
The Irish country house / by the Knight of Glin and James Peill ; photography by James Fennell. Knight of Glin, 1937-
4. 929.10893 BAXTER.
In search of your German roots : a complete guide to tracing your ancestors in the Germanic areas of Europe / Angus Baxter. Baxter, Angus, 1912-
5. 929.20973 MAYFLOWER.
George Soule of the Mayflower and his descendants for four generations / originally compiled by John E. Soule and Milton E. Terry ; revised by Louise Walsh Throop. Soule, John E.
6. 929.341 BURKE.
The Roll of Battle Abbey / annotated by John Bernard Burke. Burke, Bernard, 1814-1892.
7. 929.374 NEW.
The New England historical & genealogical register.
8. 929.37448 DAVIS.
Genealogical register of Plymouth families / by William T. Davis. Davis, William T. (William Thomas), 1822-1907.
9. 973.524 ROSTER.
The Roster of the General Society of the War of 1812 (1989) ; and, Supplement to the 1989 roster / compiled and edited by Dennis F. Blizzard. General Society of the War of 1812.
10. 973.524 SOCIETY.
Register of the General Society of the War of 1812 / Edited by Frederick Ira Ordway, Jr. Society of the War of 1812.
11. 979.4218 MEAMBER.
Sawbones in Siskiyou : the story of my family / Donald L. Meamber ; [compiled and edited by Jeff Sonas, Caroline Earhart and Barbara Hull]. Meamber, Donald L.
12. Mystery GOODWIN, N.
The Lost Ancestor / by Nathan Dylan Goodwin. Reviewed in Roots Tracer of May 2015, page 11. http://www.l-ags.org/tracer/vol_35_2.pdf Goodwin, Nathan Dylan.

Brief Reviews of some new books in the Pleasanton Library

By Patrick M. Lofft

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| <p><i>Roster of Soldiers from North Carolina in the American Revolution: 973.345 ROSTER</i></p> <p>with an Appendix containing a collection of miscellaneous records</p> <p>Reprinted by Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, Maryland</p> <p>Originally published by the North Carolina Daughters of the American Revolution Durham, 1932</p> <p>Names, names & more names!</p> <p>Partial listing of Contents:</p> <p>22 page Pierce's Register</p> <p>151 page Roster of the Continental Line from North Carolina</p> | <p>Listing Name and Rank, Company, Dates of enlistment and commission, Period of Service</p> <p>53 page North Carolina Revolutionary Army Accounts</p> <p>79 page Military Land Warrants, Continental Line (Part I)</p> <p>A list of Warrants for lands granted the officers and soldiers in the Continental Line</p> <p>Including Location and to whom deeded and date of warrant.</p> <p>40 page List of Soldiers names taken from vouchers, and the District</p> <p>52 page North Carolina Pension Roll by Counties</p> |
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New Books, *cont. from page 4*

80 page every name, every spelling, index

The Ultimate Search Book: U.S. adoption, genealogy, & other search secrets / by Lori Carangelo; 2015 edition

The *Ultimate Search Book* has had several updated and revised editions, as an ongoing project of the author's and Americans For Open Records (AmFOR). The previous "Worldwide print edition" includes both "how to" information as well as resource listings for every state and country. This "U.S. Edition" provides the "how to" guide for searching nationwide. It is an excellent beginning source book for persons seeking vital records. It is not as all-inclusive as the earlier edition which remains on the Pleasanton Library's shelf. Presents numerous questions for adoptees, page 28, or parents, page 29, to ask Agency and Court officials. Also provides up to date information regarding current Internet resources.

The Ultimate Search Book. 2011 Edition. Worldwide Adoption, Genealogy & Other Search Secrets from the files of Americans for Open Records (AmFOR) 2011 ed. Edition by [Lori Carangelo](#) (Author), 306 pages, is available from Amazon and others.

The Roll of Battle Abby, 14 October 1066, (aka The Battle of Hastings).

From the library of **Robert A. Ware**, (November 10, 1925 – July 21, 2013) former L-AGS member.

Includes 4 accounts of the battle and annotations descriptive of the various families descended from the Normans. Names, names and more names.

Beatitudes of a Family Genealogist

Blessed are the great grandfathers, who saved embarkations and citizenship papers,
For they tell when they came.

Blessed are the great grandmothers, who hoarded newspaper clippings and old letters,
For they tell the story of their time.

Blessed are the grandfathers, who filed every legal document,
For this provides the proof.

Blessed are the grandmothers, who preserved family bibles and diaries,
For this is our heritage.

Blessed are fathers, who elect officials that answer letters of inquiry,
For -- to some -- the only link to the past.

Blessed are mothers, who relate family tradition and legend to the family,
For one of her children will surely remember.

Blessed are relatives, who fill in family sheets with extra data,
For to them we owe the family history.

Blessed is any family, whose members strive for the preservation of records,
For theirs is a labor of love.

Blessed are the children, who will never say,
"Grandma, you have told that old story twice today."

St. Louis Genealogical Society Quarterly,
December 1969
by Wilma Mauk

Submitted by Beverly Schell Ales
January 28, 2016

The Donlon Families in Alameda County

By Mary Caroline Chunn

Let's start with **John Donlon** (1832-1899). Donlan Point [Mountain Peak from Google Earth By pauline8228] and Donlon Way [west Dublin] are two places in Dublin, California named after him.

I got this information from Alameda County Place Names at the Pleasanton Library. He and all his siblings and half-siblings were born in Cashel Parish, County Longford, Ireland, in a townland called Derryshannoge (old spelling). His parents were James and Margaret McGrath Donlon (or Donnellon).

They had at least six children. The firstborn, Catherine, died very young in Ireland, and is buried with her parents in the Killashee Cemetery. John was next, then Thomas who fell to his death from the roof of St. Raymond's in Dublin in 1859, and is buried in the pioneer cemetery behind the church. Donlon Way was named after Thomas, and so was Donlon School in Pleasanton. The next sibling of John Donlon was Margaret Donlon. She married Peter Murray. They lived in Dublin at first, but settled in Livermore. After Margaret came Elizabeth Donlon. She joined the Daughters of Charity and became known as Sister Constancia. Her name, Eliza, appears on the tombstone of her brother, Thomas, possibly because she purchased it. She lived in Santa Barbara for a number of years, then went to Los Angeles, and is probably buried there. The last child born to John's mother was Peter Donlon. Peter either owned or managed the Amador Valley Hotel in Dublin, or both. One of the builders of this hotel was his brother Thomas. These details come from Donlon family historians, Tom Breslin and Bert Donlon. Peter married Kate Cloyne Donlon in Benicia. She was born in the townland of Derrygowna, near Derryshannoge. At some point they acquired livestock: probably sheep, possibly cattle. They also bought land in Ventura County. Kate's brother, Thomas Cloyne, drove the sheep or cattle, to southern California in 1868. Peter and Kate arrived in 1869 with their first two children, born in Dublin, James and Charles.

John Donlon's mother died, and his father remarried. His second wife was Mary McCormack. They had four children. The first half-sister of John was Bridget. She married Dominick McGrath in Dublin. He was from Derrygeel, not

very far from Derryshannoge, although a different parish. They also moved to Ventura County. John's half-sister, Mary, married James Clyne who was the brother of Kate Cloyne Donlon and Thomas Cloyne. James dropped the "o" from his surname. He married Mary Donlon in San Jose, but they lived in Benicia. Their descendants are still in the same beautiful Victorian house to this day. The next half-sister was Catherine Donlon. She married Thomas Gill in Ireland, but they ended up in Ventura County. John's final half-sibling was James Donlon. He married Kate Hanly, sometimes spelled Hanley. They remained in Ireland. At least three of their children came to California, and lived in Ventura County. One of them, John H. Donlon, has his picture hanging in the Derryshannogue Room (modern spelling) in the Roche Winery Tasting Room in Sonoma. The photo was taken upon the occasion of his arrival at Ellis Island. His daughter was Genevieve Donlon Roche. His son and grandson, Shane and Kevin Donlon, are agricultural realtors in San Joaquin Valley where their shamrock-spangled signs are seen along the highways and country roads.

John Donlon (not to be confused with his half-nephew, John H. Donlon) had six children with his wife, Margaret McGowan. The first two, James and Mary Ann, were born in New York. The next four, Margaret, Elizabeth, Thomas and Catherine, were born in California. Mary Ann married Judge George Stephen FitzGerald. His caricature appears in Vasco's Livermore, 1910 by Anne Homan and Richard Finn. At least seven children were born to Mary Ann and George. One of them, Frank FitzGerald, married Ida Nevin. They had eight sons. The last one still alive at this time is Ed FitzGerald. He played for the Pittsburgh Pirates, Washington Nationals, Cleveland Indians and more. One of Mary Ann and George's daughters, Ida FitzGerald, married James Gill, the son of Catherine Donlon Gill mentioned above. George and Mary Ann Fitzgerald are buried in St. Michael's Cemetery in Livermore.

Without mentioning any dates or the names of fellow travelers, I will simply say that **John Donlon** left Ireland, arrived in New York, stayed there a number of years, took a ship to the Isthmus of Pana-

ma, crossed that by mule, took another ship to California and settled in Dublin. The details from various sources (see below) are not plentiful. His obituary states that he “resided near Dublin....for the past twenty years.” That can't be right. It was probably closer to forty years. He is in the 1870 census for Murray Township with his wife and six children. His wife's name is shown to be Mary, and indeed her name is Mary “Margaret” McGowan Donlon in the family tree. In her obituary her name is Margaret Donlon. In John’s obituary his name is Thomas Donlon! According to a burial record (index card) at St. Michael's Cemetery, Margaret is definitely buried there, but there is no record of John's burial, even though he died four and a half years after her. So I requested a death certificate from the county clerk-recorder. By postal mail I received a Certificate of No Record. I had better luck with the Superior Court where I requested his probate record. I've only read it once. If it reveals the location of his grave, then I missed it. In St. Michael's Cemetery, the grave of Mary Ann Donlon FitzGerald (she was John and Margaret's daughter) has a tombstone in an area surrounded by a curbstone (I think that's the proper term). The name Donlon is engraved on that stone. I'm 99% certain that John is there. The next step is to look for a church record, if one exists. And reread the probate tome. And after that, think of another way. I'm also looking for the grave of John's sister, Elizabeth Donlon, aka Sister Constantia.

John Donlon had at least two cousins named John Donlon. Their fathers were very probably brothers whose father's name was John. They had no known older brothers, so the traditional Irish naming pattern was probably at work here. They are all in the same generation and all from Derryshanogue. One of those cousins also emigrated. He stayed a short time in New York and then sailed around the horn to San Francisco. He lived and worked in San Francisco, San Jose and Alameda County before moving to Ventura County in 1875. His parents were Peter Donlon and Bridget Clyne. He had eight siblings. Michael and Ellen stayed in Ireland. The other six, all sisters, settled in California. The oldest was Elizabeth Donlon Kenney. She

| | |
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| James Donlon b. 1805 Cashel Parish, County Longford d. 1855 County Longford | |
| m. 1st Margaret McGrath b. 1805 County Longford d. 1841 County Longford | m. 2nd Mary McCormack b. 1810, County Longford d.? |
| Catherine Donlon b. 1831 Cashel Parish, County Longford d. 1841 County Longford | Bridget Donlon b. 1845 Cashel Parish, County Longford d. 1888 Ventura County m. 1867 Dominick McGrath, Dublin, California |
| JOHN DONLON b. 1832 Cashel Parish, County Longford d. 1899 Dublin, CA m. Mary "Margaret" McGowan b. 1834 Ireland d. 1895 Dublin, California | Mary Donlon b. 1846 Cashel Parish, County Longford d. 1904 Benicia, CA m. 1871 James Clyne, San Jose, California |
| Thomas H. Donlon b. 1833 Cashel Parish, County Longford d. 1859 Dublin, California | Catherine Donlon b. 1848 Cashel Parish, County Longford d. 1912 Ventura County, California m. Thomas Gill, Ireland |
| Margaret Donlon b. 1834 Cashel Parish, County Longford d. 1909 Livermore, California m. 1860 Peter Murray | James Donlon b. 1854 Cashel Parish, County Longford d. 1938 County Longford m. Catherine Hanley |
| Elizabeth "Sister Constantia" Donlon b. 1835 Cashel Parish, County Longford d. after 1900, California | |
| Peter Donlon b. 1837 Cashel Parish, County Longford d. 1888 Hueneme, Ventura County, California m. 1867 Catherine Cloyne , Benicia, California | |

helped pave the way for her younger siblings. Elizabeth and another sister, Annie Donlon, died young in San Francisco. Bridget Donlon Hussey ended up in Madera. I learned that from an obituary for Patrick Croak. John's sister, Catherine Donlon, was a domestic servant in San Francisco who worked her way up to being the cook. She married John Flanagan. They lived in Dublin and are buried in the Dublin Pioneer Cemetery. There's a Flanagan Court in Dublin. Mary and Margaret Donlon married two Croak brothers, Thomas and Patrick. They are buried at St. Michael's in Livermore. Croak Road is named after those families. John Donlon married Mary Caroline Forrer in El Rio, near Oxnard, in Ventura County. Tom Breslin nicknamed him John "El Rio" Donlon in order to distinguish him from the others, although it doesn't work with John H. Donlon (mentioned in the first paragraph) because he farmed in El Rio also, and may have

lived there too. One of the twelve children of John and Mary Caroline was Theresa Donlon. She was the sister of my grandmother, Mollie Donlon Flynn. She married John Cronin of Dublin. Theresa and John and their children are buried in the Dublin Pioneer Cemetery. There are innumerable descendants from marriages between a Donlon and a Murray or a Croak or a Gill or McGrath or Flanagan or Cronin or Clyne and more. Organizing them into one tree is a never-ending, colossal task.

Today the Donlon families in Derryshanogue are happy to show their California cousins where to put our feet so we can walk in the footsteps of our ancestors.

About the author: John Donlon of Dublin, California is her third cousin three times removed. John Donlon of El Rio is her great-grandfather and Mary Caroline (Forrer) Donlon is her great-



Donlan Point [from Google Earth by Pauline8228]

grandmother. Quite a few farmers left the Tri-Valley for Ventura County back in the 1800s because land was advertised as plentiful and cheap. Then after WWII it was the land in San Joaquin Valley that was plentiful and cheap. Plus the lima bean played a role. It can be grown consistently successfully in only a very few places. Two of them are Ventura County and San Joaquin Valley. That bean caused a financial bonanza in Ventura County way back when. I was born in Ventura, but grew up in Vernalis which had a population of 200. I think it's about 400 now.

References:

- 1) The Donlon Family (2010) by Bert Donlon and Tom Breslin and other contributors (shown at the L-AGS meeting in June 2011)
- 2) The Donlon Family (1969) by Cynthia Donlon
- 3) Oral histories given by Nazarene Donlon and her brother, Peter Donlon (recorded by the Museum of Ventura County) <http://venturamuseum.org/>
- 4) Livermore Herald Newspaper (via the marvelous Barbara Bunshah Index) http://www.l-ags.org/obits/obits_all.html
- 5) San Francisco Call Newspaper (via the terrific California Digital Newspaper Collection) <http://cdnc.ucr.edu/cgi-bin/cdnc>
- 6) Legendary Locals of Oxnard, California (2013) by Jeff Maulhardt. [Available from Amazon etc.]
- 7) Alameda County Place Names by Page Mosier and Dan Mosier; in the Pleasanton Library: Local History, 979.465 MOSIER, LIB USE ONLY
- 8) Vasco's Livermore, 1910: portraits from the Hub Saloon, (2010) by Anne Marshall Homan and Richard W. Finn; in the Pleasanton Library: Non-Fiction; 979.465 HOMAN
- 9) Tom Breslin's research notes on paper and in cyberspace (via thousands of emails, yes thousands)
- 10) Carmelita Murphy Slaughter's research notes on paper
- 11) Conversations with relatives and genealogists



Tombstone of James and Margaret McGrath Donlon and their daughter Catherine. Mary Caroline Chunn holding it up (2013)

Using Lateral Lines to Solve a Mystery

By Caye Johnson

In 1952 my mother and father visited my father's cousin in Toronto, Canada. For the next 30 years my mother tried to trace how my father, Walter B. Collins, and that cousin were related. In her diary all my mother mentioned was that the grandmothers of my father and the cousin were sisters and that their maiden name was Bradley. However, she did not write the cousin's name. After my parents died in 1990 I found among my mother's belongings a letter from a Norma Ketchen, whom I assumed was the cousin they had visited. From the letter, I could deduce that Norma was born in 1906, i.e., she mentions she is going to be 80 on her next birthday and the letter is dated Jan 7, 1986. So she was about the same age as my father. I now, at least, had her given name, the surname of her husband and an approximate birth date.

Fortunately, I won a one year subscription to Ancestry Worldwide from Anne Gillespie Mitchell at the May 11, 2015 L-AGS meeting. I used that to do the research. To be honest, I think I just typed in the names of the persons for whom I was searching and where they lived. I used that information to track down marriages and to find them in the census. I thoroughly examined all the documents which Ancestry suggested. I entered all the data in my computer program, Ancestral Quest published by Incline Software. It is no longer supported by FamilySearch. [Both the UK and Canadian census are now available on Ancestry Library Edition.]

However, Canadian vital records are sealed for 100 years, unlike the US records which are only sealed for 70 years. Hence, I could not locate Norma's marriage record which would tell her maiden name, or her birth record which would tell her parents' names. Therefore, I had to trace how a Bradley got to Canada. Her birth record has recently become available.¹

Fortunately, I had previously researched the Bradley family in Sedgley, Staffordshire, England and knew that my great-grandmother, Sarah Bradley Meredith, had three sisters: Mary Ann, Louisa, and Hannah. However, I had not researched any of the three sisters and did not know their married names. So, the first step was to search the English marriage records² and identify

whom they had married. I did not find a marriage record for Louisa, but I did find one for Mary Ann and one for Hannah. Mary Ann married John Rowland and Hannah married George Guest. Now, which of these two sisters was the one who emigrated to Canada?

By searching the English census, I was able to discover which of the two sisters was no longer listed in the English census. I found George and Hannah Guest and their children in the 1871³ and 1881 English census, but not in the 1891⁴ census; whereas John and Mary Ann Rowland were still enumerated. Moreover, I also found the Guest family in the 1891 Canada census⁵ living in Toronto. George Guest was a butcher in England and continued that profession in Canada. They had 9 children: Albert, William, George, Laura, Lillian, Frederick, Arthur, Beatrice, and Emily, but no Norma. I knew from the letter written by Norma, that it was through her mother, Beatrice Guest, that she was related to my father. In the

¹Ancestry.com. Ontario, Canada Births, 1869-1913 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc., 2010.

²Ancestry.com. England, Select Marriages, 1538-1973 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2014. Original Data: England, Marriages, 1538-1973. Salt Lake City, Utah: FamilySearch, 2013.

³Ancestry.com. 1871 England Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc., 2004.

⁴Ancestry.com. 1891 England Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2005.

Original Data: Census Returns of England and Wales, 1891. Kew, Surrey, England: The National Archives of the UK (TNA): Public Record Office (PRO), 1891.

Data imaged from The National Archives, London, England. 2,131 rolls. The National Archives gives no warranty as to the accuracy, completeness or fitness for the purpose of the information provided. Images may be used only for purposes of research, private study or education. Applications for any other use should be made to The National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU.

⁵Ancestry.com and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. 1881 Census of Canada [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2009.

1881 Canada Census Index provided by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints © Copyright 1999 Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved. All use is subject to the limited use license and other terms and conditions applicable to this site.

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| <p>William BRADLEY r. 1794 St. Thomas, Dudley, Worcester, England sp: Rosanna HUGHES r. 1792 St. Mary's, Hanley Castle, Worcester, England m. 1816</p> | | | |
| <p>Sarah E. BRADLEY b. 1838 Gornal, Staffordshire, England d. 1925 Cleburne, Texas sp: Benjamin Franklin MEREDITH b. 1832 The Straits, Sedgley, Staffordshire, England m. 1855 d. 1906 Cleburne Texas</p> | <p>Hannah BRADLEY b. 1842 England d. 1937 Toronto, York, Ontario, Canada sp: George GUEST b. 1841 Sedgley, Staffordshire, England m. 1861</p> | <p>Mary Ann BRADLEY r. 1835 sp: John ROWLAND</p> | <p>Louisa BRADLEY r. 1827 Gornall, Staffordshire, England</p> |
| <p>Louisa Eleanor MEREDITH b. 1864 Sedgley, Staffordshire, England d. 1919 El Centro, Imperial Co, California sp: Charles Walter COLLINS b. 1857 Demopolis/Necropalie, Greene Co., Alabama m. 1892 d. 1926 San Bernardino, San Bernardino Co., California</p> | <p>Beatrice Elizth GUEST b. 1879 England sp: George Thomas DOMELLE b. 1877 Toronto, York Co., Ontario, Canada m. 1904 d. 1960</p> | <p>letter she also mentioned that her mother had a younger sister named Emily, so that narrowed it down a little as to which of George and Hannah's daughters was Norma's mother.</p> <p>The next step was to search the Canada marriage records.⁶ Laura married her first cousin Bernard Bradley and moved back to England, Lillian did not marry, Beatrice married George Domelle, and Emily married John Nicholson. And Beatrice and George had a daughter named Norma! Mystery solved. Hannah Bradley Guest was my father's great-aunt, and the cousin they visited in 1952 was her daughter Beatrice Guest Domelle, Norma's mother.</p> <p>In my mother's diary from 1952, it mentioned that the cousin's daughter had gone to England to attend the coronation of Queen Elizabeth I. And I actually found the ship records⁷ of Norma</p> | |
| <p>Walter Benjamin COLLINS b. 1900 Los Angeles, Los Angeles Co., California d. 1990 Brawley, Imperial Co., California sp: Violet Ethel THURSTON b. 1904 El Paso, El Paso Co., Texas m. 1937 d. 1990 Los Altos, Santa Clara Co., California</p> | <p>Norma Beatrice DOMELLE b. 1906 Toronto, York Co., Ontario, Canada sp: William KETCHEN</p> | | |
| <p>Catherine (Caye) Harriet COLLINS b. Brawley, Imperial Co., California sp: Richard Damerau JOHNSON b. Zanesville, Muskingum Co. Ohio m. 1969</p> | | | |

⁶Ancestry.com and Genealogical Research Library (Brampton, Ontario, Canada). Ontario, Canada, Marriages, 1801-1928 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010. Original Data: Ontario, Canada, Select Marriages. Archives of Ontario, Toronto

⁷Ancestry.com. UK, Incoming Passenger Lists, 1878-1960 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc., 2008. Original Data: Board of Trade: Commercial and Statistical Department and successors: Inwards Passenger Lists. Kew, Surrey, England: The National Archives of the UK (TNA). Series BT26, 1,472 pieces.

Domelle going to and from England and the hotel where she stayed in London. It was exciting to find documenting evidence of what my mother had written in her diary.

This may sound straight forward, but it wasn't. There were numerous transcription and spelling errors in the records, e.g., Hannah was spelled Anna, Hanna, Nonna and most frustrating were the numerous different transcriptions of Domelle (Dornelle, Donielle, Domette, Dowelle, Donelle). Only by looking at the original records, could one discern how things had been poorly transcribed. Whenever possible, look at the original record. Do not depend upon the transcription to be correct.

Along the way, I found many more distant cousins who lived in the Toronto area and were buried there. I probably added at least 50 more people to

my data base and even learned the names of some who are still alive. However, I never did find Norma's marriage record, but I am confident that I have connected all the dots correctly.

About the author: Caye Johnson grew up on a farm in the Imperial Valley in southern California. She has a BA in Biology from Stanford University and worked at NASA-Ames Research Center in Mountain View, California from 1964 to 1997. Her career spanned looking for life in the returned lunar samples, developing water purification and solid waste management technology for manned space craft, and the design of a Life Sciences Research Facility for the International Space Station. Her interest in genealogy began after she retired from NASA and was based on research begun by her mother. Caye now lives with her husband, Richard, in Pleasanton, California.

Genealogy Challenges Facing L-AGS Members

Please consider how L-AGS can work with you to match your talents with the needs of L-AGS. We rely on our members to step forward and initiate articles for the Livermore roots Tracer. Contact Patrick Lofft at rootstracer.chair@L-AGS.org.

My challenge is finding the parents and grandparents of my ancestor George Finn/Finne/Ffinne b. about 1620 in Chilham, Kent, England. George d. about 1660. He was married to Ann Page b. before 12 Aug 1621 in Chilham and d. after 1660. George might have been the grandson of John Finn/Fynne b. before 1550 and d. 1612, the "weaver of Charring".

Dick Finn

I am trying to trace the family of my Swedish-Finn grandfather, Werner Martin, who came to the US from Finland in 1902. His family is particularly challenging for me. He died in 1953 and all the family members I was aware of in Northern California either do not respond or have also passed away.

Recently, I connected with a cousin who is the granddaughter of my grandfather's brother, who died in a railroad accident in Placer County in

1920. In so doing, I also found good information on the family in Finland on Ancestry, FindaGrave, and MyHeritage.

Although I have researched my Icelandic line, which uses patronymics, I am just now learning about the Swedish-Finn system. In addition, everybody seems to have three or four given names, the farm name and sometimes the military name. The family documents and on-line researchers use different given names for the same individual.

My short term goal is to sort this out with limited Swedish language ability.

Ileen Peterson

My primary objective, presently, is learning more about SARAH J. FOLSOM, my great-grandfather's sister. Sarah aka "Doughnut Sal," was born in Groton, New Hampshire in 1833, died in SF 1906. She was a Barbary Coast "regular" and was well known by police and jailers in San Francisco. What a surprise it was to learn of her.

Marilyn Cutting

Genealogy Challenges Continued on page 14

Small Memories...

By Linda A. Driver

Don't you wish that you knew some personal snippet of information about your great (or great-great) grandparents? It is fine to have all those census records, birth and death certificates, even newspaper articles. But what were these people—our ancestors—really like? We are grateful to those ancestors who took the time to record their thoughts in diaries and journals. One hundred years from now, who will be grateful for you—for the time you took to write down your memories?

A memory about my 3rd-great-grandmother was recorded by a distant cousin in *The Sweet Family Saga, 1530-1960*.¹ Jane Hunter, daughter of Lodowick Hunter and James Gillmore, married Benjamin Sweet of Sweet's Corner, Nova Scotia. As the story goes, Jane was forever misplacing or losing her purse. Because she suspected others of taking it, the "finder" would put her purse in an obvious place, so as to avoid suspicion of being the "culprit." One time, at a funeral, she did not want to leave her bag on the bed all day, so she put it under a pile of blankets in a clothes press. By the end of the day, she had forgotten its location. Mourning was soon given over by everyone in the family in order to hunt for Jane's purse, until Jane, herself, remembered where she put it.

The story—
one small
memory about
her purse—

reveals more about the character of Jane Hunter Sweet than all of the official records that I've found for her. I'm grateful my distant cousin took the time to record the incident.

Sometimes, our memories seem so trivial that we don't bother to write them down. We wait for an "important" event. But small memories may be more significant. For me, those small memories are hankies. Little squares of material.

When my father's sister, Dorothy "Dottie" (Driver) Pittenger, passed away, among her possessions were many dainty vintage handkerchiefs, probably from the 1940s. You can't find them in stores anymore—small squares of printed material, some with flowers, some with embroidery, all beautiful.

¹Available from: West Hants Historical Society, based in Windsor, Nova Scotia, Canada



Aunt Dottie's Hankies

As a child, I remember them stuffed into her purse, colorful wads of cloth that would spill out like sunshine. I loved looking at all of the decorations. Now those hankies spill out from my pockets and I think of her each time I use one.

Hankies also remind me of my father, George Cockerton Driver, who passed away of cancer when I was three years old. When I went off to college, my mother gave me three of my father's nearly new handkerchiefs that she had lovingly tucked away in a drawer. It was probably hard for her to part with them, but she wanted me to have



Dorothy Mae Driver 1932

something that belonged to my dad. Those hankies have been used and washed so many times the material is all but worn away. Occasionally, one will go missing and I will panic until I find it again. I don't want to lose anything that belonged to my dad. I have so few memories, those three hankies have always been something I could hold and keep close to remind me of him.

Find the time to record your memories—happy or painful. And keep a hanky handy!

About the author: Linda is a frequent contributor to the Tracer. She is a retired librarian who continues to research her Cockerton and Sweet families in the Livermore Valley.

Genealogy Challenges *Continued from page 12*

My Search for the Mystery Boy

I have a sweet photo of my grandmother, Ann Marie Ryan, at age two or three and her older brother (according to family). He looks to be two to three years older. Unfortunately, no one knows his name.

My grandmother was born in Pleasanton in 1886 at her parents' farm on Rose Ave. Her mother, Bridget O'Donnell Ryan, died in 1891 and is buried at St. Michaels Cemetery in Livermore. According to the family story, soon after his mother's death this boy drowned in the Pleasanton Creek.

In a state of depression my great grandfather, Thomas Ryan, left Annie with family (Carroll - Ryan) and returned to Ireland. At some later date these families were unable to care for Annie and she was placed at St Joseph's orphanage in San Francisco. My grandmother had little in the way of family treasures except this photo.

Thinking a drowning in the creek would be news worthy, I have spent many hours at the Livermore Library reading old newspapers. There is no record of his burial in the family plot at St Michael's. So I remain wondering about a little boy whose photo has touched my heart.

Diane Wiedel

When I find the spare hour I am writing about my coming to California and the history of our financial history and how it started with the small house and 20 acres in my brother-in-law's death and the history of our properties and how my children have benefited in this history. Not genealogy.

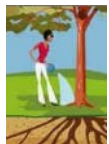
Beverly Schell Ales

To have my grandmothers' mother's ancestors in readable, accurate (!) and well sourced shape in my database. That would be 1/8 of my family!

Danielle Forestier

When I get back to my genealogy research I will continue researching one of my Revolutionary War ancestors, John Kirk. John was born 8 June 1745 in Ireland. John was from Montgomery Co (now Stanly Co.) N.C. He was in the 4th regiment and served under Capts. Griffith, McRee, and Nelson and Col Clark. He died 9 June 1828 in Stanly Co. N.C. I would like to locate where he is buried and hopefully one day be able to place a marker stating he served in the American Revolution on his headstone.

Marilyn Glass



G. R. O. W.

Genealogy Resources On the Web —
The Page That Helps Genealogy Grow!
Compiled by Susan Johnston and Kay Speaks



Temporarily
bookmark your original search results be-
fore you start clicking on links. You can
easily get back to the original search results.

FOREIGN IMMIGRATION & EMBARKATION RESOURCES

Use these examples as a learning tool—substitute your ethnic locations and see what original databases you find using the *FamilySearch's Family History Research Wiki*. If you don't have a LDS member login, you may need to conduct your research at a local Family History to get full access to all available record groups because these results include records from *FamilySearch* and their partners *Ancestry*, *Find My Past* and *My Heritage* which are only available through church member accounts or at the LDS research centers. Use *Bing* or *Google* translate to convert foreign languages into another language. Family Search has announced a forthcoming change to their *Wiki* website look. The results will show record groups displayed by resource groups: *FamilySearch*, *Ancestry*, *My Heritage* and *Find My Past*. LDS member accounts or computers in FHC's can access files from within *FamilySearch.org*. If you have personal access, use FS to locate files and login to your software to access.

FAMILYSEARCH.ORG WIKI SEARCH TECHNIQUE:

Step #1: Google Search El Salvador Records

Format: "familysearch wiki [insert country] records" i.e., "familysearch wiki el salvador records" will take you to this link:

<http://tinyurl.com/qj5kpc3>

Step #2: Explore Search Results El Salvador

4,570 records (0.45 seconds). Choose the option:

• **El Salvador Genealogy | Learn.** Read all LEARN information as it describes the record groups and which partner company's website provides the database records. Do not miss valuable data—take time to **LEARN**. Beginners Corner: Topics are standard list for all countries, BLUE font linked to data results. RED font indicates no data for this country from this website. El Salvador search provides "Civil Registration, 1704-1977" with 1,381,210 images.

- The Wiki list is a standard form used for all countries. Note the "El Salvador Online Records" button. Resist temptation and **read the page options first**, then click the "Online Records" button.

•Argentina Wiki Record Group:

Google: "familysearch wiki argentina records" <http://tinyurl.com/js5hkl7>. Church, vital records, census, compiled genealogies, emigration and immigration records.

•Scotland Record Selection Table

<http://tinyurl.com/jahnfna>. "How to" research table to help you decide which type of Scottish records to search. Table headings: What are you looking for? Try these records first. Other useful records at bottom, lists links for other Scotland related articles. Use for the countries you research.

•FamilySearch Browse by Country Records

<http://tinyurl.com/jd2xwns>. Provides a link for a List of Extinct States. When available, links appear for Other Collections resources. Please explore this Wiki resource to see what other data links and history are available. This is a worldwide resource.

•Library & Archives Canada:

<http://tinyurl.com/canada-immigrationrec/>. Besides immigration records, also includes "Home Children Records, 1869-1930", for juvenile migrants from the British Isles' Child Emigration Movement. These records included orphaned, abandoned and pauper children, as well as some other country database named indexed, archival or published sources.

Check out: Home > Discover the Collection > Immigration > *Thematic Guides-Deportation from Canada, 1893-1977*.

Future General Meetings

Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton

Visitors are always welcome.

March 14, 7:30 p.m.

Pamela Dallas

Help! The Courthouse Burned

Now I Can't Research My Family

April 11, 7:30 p.m.

Patrick Lofft

Exploring the L-AGS Website

May 9, 7:30 p.m.

Cat Nielsen

Camera as a Tool

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Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society

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