



e-Bulletin March 2012

LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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



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Happy St. Patrick's Day!

This is the e-bulletin from the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society (L-AGS), provided monthly to those interested in the happenings of L-AGS. If you would prefer not to receive this bulletin, please contact us at the email address below in this box and your address will be removed.

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>.

L-AGS member, Mr. Thatcher, shared a quote for this election year. Some great advice!
"Why pay money to have your family tree traced; go into politics and your opponents will do it for you." ~Author Unknown

Welcome to our newest members:

* John Archer, Dublin * Danielle Forestier, Oakland * Judy Harvey, San Jose * Dorothy Nesbitt, Pleasanton * Frankie "Sue" Rider, Pleasanton * Frank Thomas, Livermore * Diane Thompson, Pleasanton *

Special Notices

❖ Past Speakers

By member request, a list of past speakers back to 1996 is now featured on the website, along with all but a few of the eBulletins. Please visit the website to explore the past! <http://www.L-AGS.org/eBulletins.html>

This Month's Contents

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Summary of Meetings

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

- ❖ **General Meeting: Researching the Valley Pioneer Martin and Related Families**
When: Tuesday, March 13, 2012 - 7:30 p.m.
Guest Speaker: Julianne W. Mooney
- ❖ **The Master Genealogist Group: *Census Reports – Part II***
When: Saturday, March 17, 2012 – 9:00 a.m.
Chair: Kay Speaks
- ❖ **Writing Group: *Personal and Family History***
When: Sunday, March 18, 2012 – 3:00 p.m.
Chair: Debbie Mascot
- ❖ **Board Meeting**
When: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 – 7:00 p.m.
Members are welcome to attend board meetings. Please contact the Membership Chair for location- <mailto:membership@L-AGS.org>

Where Do We Come From?

Curious about where the visitors to L-AGS website live?

You can find out by going to the bottom of our home page at <http://www.L-AGS.org> and viewing either the World Map or the Visitor's box. The Visitor's box is new and it displays the country flag of our visitors. Clicking on either image on the website will display more detailed information and statistics about our visitors.



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: Researching the Valley Pioneer Martin and Related Families

GUEST SPEAKER: Julianne W. Mooney

DATE: Tuesday, March 13, 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>

Julie Mooney of Burlingame, a Project Director at Cañada College, is the great granddaughter of John Charles Martin. In early 2004 Julie's interest in her family history was initiated by her daughter, Meghan, who was completing college at San Jose State.

She will share with us a general overview of the three Martin, Heligis and O'Hara pioneer families of Cottonwood Creek aka Doolan Canyon. Sadly, the original ranch was recently torn down.

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 Census Reports – Part II

Date: Saturday, March 17, 9:00 a.m – Noon

Lunch Meet Up, Noon: TBD (Rage Super Burgers has closed)

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:tvmtg.chair@L-AGS.org>

Instructors: Sue Johnston and Kay Speaks

In March, we will continue to create TMG census reports—one of the “List of...” reports that can be used in many ways, not just for census information. Don't forget to wear your green for St. Patrick's Day. Please be sure to check the L-AGS website, <http://www.L-AGS.org>, for possible change in future dates and times of our meetings.

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://tvmtgug.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:tvmtg.chair@L-AGS.org>.

The TV-TMG Users Group's public blog is located at <http://tvtmggee.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.

WRITING GROUP

Writing Your Personal and Family History

Date: Sunday, March 18, 3:00 p.m – 5:00 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 us via email!

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Lunch 'n' Learn

Join us for lunch in Pleasanton. We are going to learn about interviewing techniques, tools, and sample some questions. Eat, brainstorm, and learn!

First meeting: *Wednesday, March 21 at 11:45 a.m.*

R.S.V.P. to Debbie (<mailto:debbie@mascotmanor.org>)

Other Groups

Do you talk to another L-AGS member about your common Native American ancestry? Do you reminisce about your Timbuktu heritage? Do you share ideas with each other? Then guess what you have? **A special interest group!** Why not make it official and let others join in. No one needs to be an "expert". Just share ideas. To start a special interest group, all it takes is two.

SUMMARY OF L-AGS BOARD MEETING

February Board Meeting held on February 28, 2012

L-AGS currently has 124 renewed and 7 new memberships. At our February 14 general meeting, 47 members and 4 guests attended.

L-AGS assets are \$11,966.89.

Dick Finn continues to work with local heritage families. He recently found some references to Lafayette C. Baker, a former Tesla worker and Civil War soldier.

Plans are being formulated for a L-AGS Seminar in the fall or winter.

PRESERVE YOUR STORIES IN THE ROOTS TRACER

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

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.

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 May issue is the 1st of April, 2012. Patrick Lofft, Editor.

SPECIAL EVENTS IN AND AROUND TOWN

OTHER LOCAL GENEALOGY GROUP MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Quaker Ancestry, March 1, 1:00 p.m. Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum. For more information, see:

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cagsv/welcome.html>.

San Francisco History Expo, March 3-March 4, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Old Mint. For more information, see: <http://sfhistoryexpo.org>.

Beginner's Seminar, March 14 and March 31, 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Santa Clara Central Park Library. For more information, see: <http://scchgs.org/>.

Macintosh Genealogy Society: Workshop - March 14, 7:00 p.m. General meeting (Source Citations) - Saturday, March 24, 1:30pm. Oakland Regional Family History Center. For more information, see: <http://www.macgen.org>.

Los Shenanigans, March 17, 10:30 a.m. Grace Lutheran Church Hall, San Mateo CA. For more information, see: <http://www.smcgs.org>.

Superstitions and Other Irrational Beliefs that Guided our German Ancestor's Lives, March 18, 10:00 a.m. Albert Einstein Residence Center, Sacramento, CA. For more information, see: <http://www.jewishgen.org/jgs-sacramento/index.html>.

Jewish Refugees at Angel Island Immigration Station, March 18, 1:00 p.m. Rhoda Goldman Plaza, San Francisco, CA. For more information, see: <http://www.jewishgen.org/sfbajgs>.

Newspapers Online, March 20, 10:00 a.m. Danville Family History Center. For more information, see: <http://srvgensoc.org>.

Beginning Research in Norway, March 27, 7:00 p.m. Oakland Family History Center. For more information, see: <http://californiaancestors.org>.

Root Cellar Spring Seminar featuring George Morgan, March 31, 9:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church, Fair Oaks. For more information, see: <http://www.RootCellar.org>

Sonoma County Genealogical Society's Spring Seminar Featuring Connie Lenzen, April 21, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Wells Fargo Center for the Arts, Santa Rosa, CA. For more information, see: <http://www.scgs.org>

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

A L-AGS docent is available 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 study 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!

Study Group Leader. No experience necessary! Simply plan the date, time, place and focus of the meeting and the fun will follow! Contact Marilyn Cutting or another board member at the next meeting or send an email to: <mailto:President@L-AGS.org>.

Heritage Happenings Volunteers. No experience necessary! L-AGS will have events at the Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin libraries in October 2012. Training will be provided. Please sign up at a meeting or send an email to: <mailto:President@L-AGS.org>.

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

Proofreaders. Compare the original source to the publish-ready transcription for a L-AGS book to be printed. Contact Dick Finn at <mailto:rwoffinn@wecare.net>

Spies and Snoops! No experience necessary! If you know of someone who has happy news, is ill, or otherwise requiring L-AGS hospitality, please contact the corresponding secretary at: <mailto:Corresponding@L-AGS.org>.



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.

Topics of Future General Meetings		
<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Presenter</i>
April 10, 2012	Getting Ready for the 1940 Census	Steve Morse
May 8, 2012	Historyalogy	David Stevenson
June 12, 2012	Putting the Flesh on the Bones	Ron Arons

Regular Scheduled Events		
<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: http://www.L-AGS.org/maps/Pls-BethEmek.jpg
Tri-Valley TMG Users' Group Kay Speaks, TMG Leader	Third Saturday 9 a.m. - Noon	7077 Koll Center Parkway Suite 110 Pleasanton Map: http://www.L-AGS.org/maps/Pls-KollCenter.jpg
Writing Group Debbie Mascot	One Sunday a Month (TBD) 3 p.m. - 5 p.m	R.S.V.P. for address

Photos from the Banner on Page 1:







PHS F. GAN — Staff

David Abrahams helps roll out wife Jolene's 17-generation family tree at their El Caminito Way home in Livermore.

Finding family roots takes digging

By Jeff Irschly
STAFF WRITER

Tri Valley Herald
19 Oct '95

LIVERMORE — At 27, Joel Abrahams has his eyes fixed squarely on his future.

But when and if he decides to look back in time, the Pleasanton husband will run into some interesting characters from the history of his own family.

Thanks to his Livermore parents, both avid genealogists, the only child of David and Jolene Abrahams has most every limb of his family tree mapped out and waiting for the day he's ready to rediscover his roots.

There's his mother's great-great-great grandfather, Peetyman Marvel Knoles, who married in 1802, changed the family name after a spat with some relatives and moved his clan from Delaware to Evansville, Ind., where his descendants spawned and dispersed across the country.

On the other side of Joel's family, the more recent history finds his father's Jewish mother fleeing Hitler's Germany in the 1930s to marry Joel's grandfather in England. The couple then moved in 1947 to Boise, Idaho, where an unlikely but well-established community of relatives and other Jewish families welcomed them to America.

And though the younger Abrahams jokes to his parents that only retirees have time for genealogy, David and Jolene Abrahams insist that it's never too early to start digging for your roots and reuniting with long lost relatives.

"I want them to come alive," Jolene Abrahams said of the ancestors whose histories she traces.

For those curious about distant cousins, interested in history and eager to travel back to a time when their own flesh and blood lived without cars, electricity and CD-ROMS, a Saturday seminar is calling your name.

The Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society is hosting an all-day symposium that will introduce beginners to family tree tracing and hone the techniques of those already looking backward.

David Abrahams, who will be giving a lecture about immigration records at the upcoming seminar, said he likes to focus on the living in his ongoing search.

"Stories are part of the family history," said Abrahams, who periodically tape records conversations with his 85-year-old father.

Abrahams, a manager at Sundia National Laboratory, also has found that looking for stories and statistics about his dead relatives has brought together his living relatives.

The seminar will be held at the Pleasanton LDS Stake Center, 6101 Valley Ave. It will run Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with registration beginning at 8 a.m. The cost is \$10 at the door, with lunch provided.





