



# e-Bulletin July 2014

## LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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



### Elected Leadership

President

.....Patrick Lofft

<mailto:patrick.lofft@l-ags.org>

First VP and Program Chair

.....Patricia Northam

<mailto:patricia.northam@l-ags.org>

Second VP & Membership Chair

.....Tom Mathews

<mailto:tom.mathews@l-ags.org>

Corresponding Secretary

.....Cheryl Palmer

Recording Secretary

.....Julie Liu

Business Manager

.....Duncan Tanner

<mailto:duncan.tanner@l-ags.org>

### Happy Independence 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>.

## This Month's Contents

- [Summary of Meetings](#)
  - [General Meeting](#)
  - [Tri-Valley TMG Users Group Meeting](#)
  - [Writing Group](#)
  - [Lunch `n` Learn](#)
  - [DNA Discussion Group](#)
  - [Summary of Last Board Meeting](#)
- [L-AGS Genealogy Library](#)
- [Roots Tracer News](#)
- [Special Events Around Town](#)
- [Cooperative Efforts](#)
- [Help Wanted](#)
- [Future Meetings](#)
- [Banner Photos](#)

---

### !!!IMPORTANT NEWS!!!

#### **CHANGE OF DATE FOR FUTURE L-AGS' GENERAL MEETINGS**

Our long-time host for the L-AGS general meetings, Congregation Beth Emek, has asked us to consider changing our meeting date from the second Tuesday of each month to the second Monday of each month. As we appreciate the opportunity to use their marvelous facilities, L-AGS has agreed to this change.

# Remembering George Serpa

A local fixture in the town of Livermore and a member of the Livermore Heritage Guild, George Serpa, passed away on June 13, 2014. George's family was a pioneer Livermore family and he was known for his storytelling of Livermore history. A link to his obituary is below:

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/contracostatimes/obituary.aspx?n=george-n-serpa&pid=171448708&#sthash.weWhuscX.dpuf>

## Summary of Meetings

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

- ❖ **General Meeting: Cemeteries Are Not a Dead Subject**  
When: Monday, July 14, 2014 – 7:30 p.m. **NOTE THAT THE MEETING IS MONDAY!**  
Guest Speaker: Virginia Kysh
- ❖ **The Master Genealogist Group: NO MEETING IN JULY**  
When: *NO MEETING IN JULY*  
Chair: Kay Speaks
- ❖ **Writing Group: Scrivener**  
When: Saturday, July 26, 2014 – 2:30 p.m.  
Chair: Debbie Mascot
- ❖ **Lunch 'n' Learn**  
When: On break until Fall 2014  
Chair: Debbie Mascot
- ❖ **Board Meeting**  
When: Tuesday, July 22, 2014 – 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. Your guests should also sign in. Before leaving the meeting site, kindly leave your nametag at the membership table.*

**TOPIC:** *Cemeteries Are Not a Dead Subject*

**GUEST SPEAKER:** Virginia Kysh

**DATE:** Monday, July 14, 2014 – 7:30 p.m. *NOTE: Meeting is on **MONDAY!***

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

**Map to the Meeting Site:**

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

A look at websites will teach you the Do's and Don't's of the care of headstones, symbolism, tricks to reading well worn headstones, and sites where you might find your family. Most list the names and dates, but there is so much more!

Virginia Kysh has been studying and doing research on her family since 1968 BC (before computers). She has done it the old fashioned way with typewriters and writing letters via snail mail. Currently, she also uses computers. Virginia has been teaching genealogy classes for more than 20 years at the Antioch Family History Center. She is currently working once a week at the Antioch Family History Center/FamilySearch Center. Virginia served two years on the Sacramento German Genealogical Society as the Special Event Director. She attends every conference she can: Roots Tech, UGA Institute, Southern California Genealogical Society Jamboree, Ancestry Day in San Francisco, FGS and NGS when West of the Mississippi.

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

# TRI-VALLEY TMG USERS GROUP

*The Master Genealogist Software*

**Topic:** No meeting in July

**Date:** No meeting in July

# WRITING GROUP

*Scrivener*

**Date:** Saturday, July 26, 2014 at 2:30 p.m.

**Location:** Livermore Civic Center Library- RSVP for room location

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

In addition to talking about our writing goals and our writing projects, we will discuss the use of the writing program Scrivener in our writing projects. To join the writing group email list, please send a note to <mailto:changes@L-AGS.org> with "Add me to the Writing list" in the subject line.

## LUNCH 'N' LEARN

*On break until Fall 2014*

**Date:** TBD

**Location:** TBD

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

## DNA DISCUSSION GROUP

Join this discussion Group to share information with others who are interested in DNA testing for Genetic Genealogy, designing DNA tests to solve genealogical questions, and learning how to understand and use your DNA results. For those members who would like to join the DNA mailing list, please send a note to <mailto:changes@L-AGS.org> with "Add me to the DNA list" in the subject line.

## SUMMARY OF LAST BOARD MEETING

*Board Meeting on June 24, 2014*

Heritage Happenings is tentatively scheduled for Oct. The exact times will be arranged with the local libraries. L-AGS will be needing volunteers to assist. This is a great opportunity to demonstrate to the public what can be found in the search for their ancestors. It is lots of fun to see the excitement in a budding genealogist's face when you show them some the possibilities . Pleasanton Times years 1934-1929 is almost completely transcribed. Anyone who has assignments out that have not completed, should complete them and return them as soon as possible. Thank you to all who participated!

## PLEASANTON GENEALOGY CENTER

A L-AGS docent is available at the Pleasanton City Library Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. or by appointment, e-mail: <mailto:docents.chair@L-AGS.org>. The library is located at 400 Old Bernal Avenue in Pleasanton. 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. Over 100 of the genealogy volumes may be checked out. Obtain information at the reference desk. The L-AGS genealogy reference book collection of 1,000 volumes resides in the Genealogy Section of the Pleasanton City Library. The L-AGS and the Friends of the Pleasanton Library provide access to the following subscription genealogy databases:

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

# LIVERMORE ROOTS TRACER NEWS

## August Issue

The theme for the August issue is summer related articles and photos. The photo above is from the Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Online Catalog. What did your ancestors do in the summertime? Write up a few paragraphs and share those stories with us. Send us your photos too. If you don't know what your ancestors did in the summertime, now's the time to find out. Select an ancestor. Think about what they did in the summertime. Where did they live? What did they do for a living? Do some research. Write up a few paragraphs and submit them for publication. **Please submit all articles for the August issue ASAP.**

In addition to summer related articles, we also welcome articles with the following subject matter:

- Updated previously published Livermore Roots Tracer articles
- Famous and Not So Famous Ancestors
- Overcoming Brick Walls
- Traveling to Find Your Roots
- Old House & Building Histories
- Family Heirlooms
- Technology Related Articles
- Book Reviews

## Submitting Your Article

You can easily submit your article as an email attachment to L-AGS editor at <mailto:rootstracer.chair@L-AGS.org>. Articles should be saved in either Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) or Rich Text format. Use footnotes to cite sources for facts that are not general knowledge. No need to worry about knowing how to cite history sources, our editors can assist you with this task. Photographs should also be emailed as separate files and labeled. Please include possible captions for each item. Photographs, when scanned, should be in either .jpg or .tif format. Finally, provide a short bio (50-60 words) with an email address. Your bio will be placed at the end of your article so that members, readers, and unknown relatives can easily contact you.

## Author's Rights

By submitting an article for publication in the Livermore Roots Tracer, you agree to grant the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society one-time print publication rights, and the right to publish the article on its website in the Roots Tracer Archive. All other rights not expressly granted in this agreement are fully reserved by you. In addition, you acknowledge that you are the original author and are free to grant publication rights and that your article does not contain material that is consciously libelous or defamatory.

Please feel free to contact L-AGS editor, Teresa Fraser via email <mailto:rootstracer.chair@L-AGS.org> or telephone (925) 361-7179 to discuss article ideas or to answer any questions you may have.

# SPECIAL EVENTS

## OTHER LOCAL GENEALOGY GROUP MEETINGS AND EVENTS

**Angel Island Family History and Reunion Day** will be on July 19 on Angel Island. For more information, please see: <http://www.aiisf.org>.

The **MacGen group**, a group for Macintosh genealogy users, meets the second Wednesday and the fourth Saturday in Oakland, California at the Oakland FamilySearch Center. Please see <http://www.macgen.org/> for more information.

The **San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society** meets the third Tuesday of every month in Danville, California at the Danville FamilySearch Center. Please see <http://srvgensoc.org/> for more information.

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.*

### TRI-VALLEY HISTORY COUNCIL EVENTS

A new page on the L-AGS Web site shows some of the upcoming history-related events being staged by member organizations of the Tri-Valley History Council (TVHC).

*History-Related Events:*

[http://www.L-AGS.org/History\\_Events/HC\\_events.html](http://www.L-AGS.org/History_Events/HC_events.html)

*Tri-Valley History Council:*

<http://www.L-AGS.org/HistoryCouncil>

### 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 Mocho Street FSC 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

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

**Proofreaders.** Multiple projects need proofreaders. Contact Dick Finn at <mailto:rwwinn@yahoo.com>.

# 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>
August 11	Western Migration During the Gold Rush Era	Sally Stevens
September 8	Where There's A Will: Probate Records Can Prove Family Connections	Janice Sellers
October 13	Land and Property Records	Vera Broyles
November 10	"It Becomes My Painful Duty..." Uncovering the Stories in Letters of Condolence	Susan Goss Johnston

<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 Patricia Northam, Program Chair	Second Monday 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 Saturday a Month (TBD)	R.S.V.P. for address
Lunch 'n' Learn Debbie Mascot and Kay Speaks	One lunch hour every other month (TBD)	R.S.V.P. for address



## Photos from the Banner on Page 1:



***L-AGS Book Donation 2006***



***L-AGS Seminar***



***Dublin Cemetery 2013***



***S. Mariani & Sons Hardware Fountain 2014  
(Aquatic Park, San Francisco, California)***



***S. Mariani & Sons Hardware Fountain 1891  
(Corner of 23<sup>rd</sup> and Florida, San Francisco, California)***