

# *The Livermore Roots Tracer*



*Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society*

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

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

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## Membership News

### *Welcome New Members*

**Thanks for the generosity of the following L-AGS members:**

#### *Patrons*

Sandra Clark, Madelon Palma, Cheryl Speaks, and Duncan Tanner

#### *Benefactors*

Kristine Ahuja, Sandra Caulder, Marilyn A. Cutting,  
Linda Driver & Walt Crawford, Richard & Wanda Finn,  
Richard & Jean Lerche, Cindy McKenna, Ileen Peterson, Peggy Weber

Total L-AGS Members as of April 9, 2013: 119 Memberships and 139 Members

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## Meeting News

**General Meetings** are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Map: <http://www.L-AGS.org/maps/Pls-BethEmek.html>

L-AGS Genealogy Docents are available at the **Pleasanton Library** to assist all researchers every Wednesday between 10 am and 1 pm and from 6 to 9 pm.

**Study Group Chair** *Vacant*

**Study Group Forum** *study.group@L-AGS.org*

**The Master Genealogist Group** usually meets on the third Saturday of the month, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, at 7077 Koll Center Parkway, Suite 110, Pleasanton. <http://www.l-ags.org/maps/Pls-KollCenter.html>

**TV-TMG Chair** (Kay Speaks)  
*tvtmg.chair@L-AGS.org*

**TV-TMG Forum** *tvtmg.group@L-AGS.org*

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## L-AGS Leadership for 2013

<b>President</b>	president@L-AGS.org	<b>MarilynCutting</b>
<b>First VP and Program Chair</b>	program@L-AGS.org	<b>Patricia Northam</b>
<b>Second VP and Membership Chair</b>	membership@L-AGS.org	<b>Helen Benham-Gallagher and Deborah McMenamin</b>
<b>Corresponding Secretary</b>	corresponding@L-AGS.org	<b>Cheryl Palmer</b>
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	recording@L-AGS.org	<b>Julie Liu</b>
<b>Business Manager</b>	business@L-AGS.org	<b>Duncan Tanner</b>

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## A Message from our President

Greetings Everyone,

By the time you read this spring will be in full force, which takes me away from the computer and doing research, but out into the garden dead heading, weeding and enjoying the beauty. I must tell myself to stay focused on research!

We have had very informative speakers so far this year and my hunch is we will continue to be inspired for the remaining months.

Please remember that Patrick Lofft is always seeking articles for the *Roots Tracer* and is willing to assist you with writing a story. Send your first draft to him at [Rootstracer.chair@L-AGS.org](mailto:Rootstracer.chair@L-AGS.org)

I recently acquired a treasure trove of old letters (earliest dated 1852), historical documents and many photographs of my Cory and Louttit ancestors. What an exciting time this has been! Old documents and records not only feed one's obsession, but make us hunger for more. Genealogy brings meaning to our lives in so many ways, we can't often explain it. My kids just roll their eyes, when I tell them of something I have recently learned. Genealogy is a path, a journey, and has its own strange practices, routines and rewards. Genealogy helps us to understand who we are in a fundamental way. By studying our past, we gain insight into our present and future.

So the bottom line is keep chipping away at those brick walls.

*Marilyn Cutting*

### *Hats off to Doug Mumma, the "Web Master"*

Doug is a behind the scenes kind of guy. He is L-AGS "Web Master" and recently performed a monumental task in switching our website and e-mail system from one server provider to another provider. In my opinion, this was a monumental task! So, kudos to you Doug from all the members in L-AGS.



### *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](mailto: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*

**Editor** ..... Patrick Lofft

**Reporters** ..... George Anderson, Lois Barber,  
..... Katherine Bridgman, Linda Driver,  
..... Marie Ross, Jane Southwick, Kay Speaks

**Web Editor** ..... Vicki Renz

**Compositor** ..... Andi Winters

**Printing and Distribution** ..... Sandra Caulder

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

## There's Gold in Them Thar Cousins

by Linda A. Driver

In 2007, my third cousin once removed sent me several Driver family photos, including ones of my great-great-grandmother Charlotte (Wilkinson) Driver, my great-grandfather John Henry Driver, and his sister Elizabeth Jane Driver, known as Lizzie. Among the family photos was a mysterious one labeled Aunt Lizzie's cousin. I knew the photo held a valuable clue to the Driver family, but I could not figure out the cousin connection. Until now...



*Lizzie (Elizabeth Jane) Driver  
- Sister of John Driver*

Aunt Lizzie (1856-1934) was my great-great-aunt, daughter of Joseph Driver (1820-1857) and Charlotte Wilkinson (1825-1893). I found her through census records but never found a picture of her among our family photos. Nor did I have any younger pictures of her brother, John Henry Driver (1848-1936), or his mother, Charlotte.

In 2006, I set out to find out why.

If John Driver did not pass along the pictures to his son, then perhaps they went to Aunt Lizzie. According to census records, Aunt Lizzie and her husband, Ephraim Chase, had an "adopted" daughter. I tracked down the daughter's son, who was just 3 years old in the 1930 census, and had a wonderful conversation about Aunt Lizzie, including a few clues as to where the family pictures might have gone. He mentioned two nieces who came to take care of her before she died. Although he only remembered the first names of Irma and Emmy Lou, I was able to determine that they were descendants of Lizzie's half-sister, Mary Ann. After Joseph Driver died in 1857, Charlotte married John Joyce and had three more children, one of whom was Mary Ann (Joyce) Saxe.

It took almost a year and quite a bit of research, but I was able to trace Mary Ann's descendants. It turned out that I had a third cousin who lived just minutes away. I left a voice mail message saying, "You don't know me but..." When she called back, she said, "Of course I know the name Driver. It's written on our family pictures!"

My third cousin had passed many of those pictures to her niece, my third cousin once removed, who kindly sent me a picture of Charlotte, my great-great-grandmother, probably taken in the 1870s, plus pictures of Lizzie and John Driver when they were young. Included was a picture of the once historic Joyce/Driver home in Irvington (which has since burned down). What a treasure!

I knew that I would never find pictures of my 3<sup>rd</sup>-great-grandfather Joseph Driver since he died in 1857. However, I always wondered what happened to his mother and two half-siblings. I had a copy of Joseph's naturalization papers and knew that he came to the United States in 1842. An 1842 passenger record listed Joseph Driver, Elizabeth (his mother), and Martha and Ann (his younger siblings), whom I was able to trace back to Huddersfield in Yorkshire, thanks to an 1841 England census record. Joseph was born to Elizabeth Berry (out of wedlock). Elizabeth married Jonas Driver eight years later and had two



*Webb Nicholson Pearce at  
age 19 in 1873—  
Aunt Lizzie's cousin*

Paternal Lineage of Linda Ann Driver	
<b>Elizabeth Berry</b> c. 1799 Horbury, Yorkshire, England d. Wisconsin m. 1828 Horbury, Yorkshire, England	<b>Jonas Driver</b> <i>Children of Elizabeth Berry and Jonas Driver:</i> <b>Martha Driver</b> c. 1829 Ann Driver c. 1831
<b>Joseph Burton Berry (later Joseph Driver)</b> c. 1820 Horbury, Yorkshire, England d. 1857 Washington Township, Alameda, California m. 1845 Mineral Point, Iowa, Wisconsin	<b>Charlotte Wilkinson</b> b. 1825 Huddersfield, Yorkshire, England d. 1893 Irvington, Alameda, California <i>Note: Charlotte Driver married John Joyce in 1858.</i> <i>Children of Charlotte and John Joyce:</i> Emma Joyce (1859-), <b>Mary Ann Joyce</b> (1861-1924), Darius Joyce (1863-1912)
<b>John Henry Driver</b> b. 1848 Mineral Point, Iowa, Wisconsin d. 1936 Alameda, Alameda, California m. about 1875 Alameda, California	<b>Martha Higgins</b> b. 1850 Missouri d. 1920 Oakland, Alameda, California
<b>George "H." Driver</b> b. 1876 Irvington, Alameda, California d. 1964 Walnut Creek, Contra Costa, California m. 1905 Oakland, Alameda, California	<b>Mabel Esther Cockerton</b> b. 1885 Livermore, Alameda, California d. 1962 Contra Costa, California
<b>George Cockerton Driver</b> b. 1908 Berkeley, Alameda, California d. 1955 Alameda, Alameda, California m. 1930 Sacramento, Sacramento, California	<b>Grace Symmons</b> b. 1911 Orinda Crossroads, Contra Costa, California d. 2005 Castro Valley, Alameda, California
<b>Linda Ann Driver</b> b. Alameda, Alameda, California m. Castro Valley, Alameda, California	<b>Walter Charles Crawford</b> b. Modesto, Stanislaus, California

girls, Martha (born 1829) and Ann (born 1831). Joseph arrived in Wisconsin by 1845 where he married Charlotte Wilkinson. Joseph, Charlotte and two sons were present in the 1850 census in Wisconsin. But what happened to his mother and younger siblings?

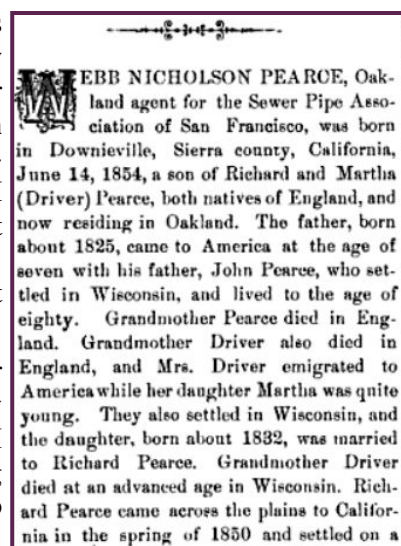
Recently, I tried again to find Martha and Ann. The usual genealogy sources yielded nothing new. However, when I did a Google search for "Martha Driver" and Wisconsin, I got a hit! We can thank Google Books for this one: *Bay of San Francisco: the metropolis of the Pacific Coast and its suburban cities: a history, Volume 1* (Lewis Publishing Company, 1892). The book contained a short biography of Webb Nicholson Pearce whose mother was Martha Driver Pearce. The biography stated that Martha came to Wisconsin from England with her mother when she was young. Martha married Richard Pearce and the two set out for California in 1850, settling in Downieville where their son, Webb, was born in 1854. The excerpt gave Martha's

birth year as about 1832. My Martha Driver was born in 1829, so I wasn't positive I had the right person (although it seemed likely).

That night, after shutting off my computer, I kept thinking about Webb Nicholson

Pearce, Martha's son. Why did the name sound so familiar? And then

the light dawned. I had seen his name on a photo. It was the photo sent to me five years ago by my third cousin once removed; on the back was written: "Webb Nicholson Pearce, aged 19 years, June 14, 1873, Aunt Lizzie's cousin." I knew the photo would prove to be valuable and, indeed, it was. It was the evidence I needed to prove that Joseph



*Webb Nicholson Pearce biography in Bay of San Francisco, the metropolis of the Pacific Coast, v1 p 615*

Driver in the 1841 England census record and the 1842 passenger record was my Joseph Driver. That photo validated all of my past research into the Driver family from Yorkshire. The short biography also gave me a clue as to what happened to Elizabeth (Berry) Driver, Joseph's mother. It stated that "Grandmother Driver" died at an advanced age in Wisconsin.

These connections could never have been made without the tidbits of information provided by my third cousins. Regarding cousins, I have been very fortunate. A second cousin once removed gave me a picture of my 3<sup>rd</sup>-great-grandfather, Elijah Wiltfong, taken about 1875. Another sec-

*But sometimes they are just a phone call away.*

ond cousin provided me with a picture of the old Cockerton home up in the Altamont. Another third cousin once removed provided me with a picture of my great-great-grandmother with her third husband. And the list goes on.

Cousins—even very distant cousins—can be worth their weight in gold (and at today's market value that is quite a sum of money!). Sometimes those cousins, such as Webb Nicholson Pearce, are hanging off a branch in the family tree waiting to be discovered. But sometimes they are just a phone call away.

## Collecting Penny Postcards— Mary Magdalen Scharenbroch

By Gloria Lotten

Consumption is an archaic term for tuberculosis, for which there was not an effective treatment or cure until 1946 with the development of the antibiotic *streptomycin*. Unfortunately, my grandmother, Mary Magdalen Scharenbroch, died a miserable death from this dreaded disease when she was 41 years, 4 months and 21 days old.

Mary was born on Thursday, November 4, 1880. She was the fourth child and third daughter born to the German immigrants, Christian and Mary Magdalen Scharenbroch, née Herr. Her father had been in America for 26 years and her mother had been here for 19 years. Mary was a very attractive young woman and didn't lack for beaux. Somehow the big, scrappy Norwegian, Oscar Lotten, won her heart. He sent her a few penny postcards expressing his feelings in very simple English. Schooling had not been his favorite pastime.



Before marriage, Mary had a passion for collecting penny postcards which were the fashion at the turn of the twentieth century. She kept them in two special scrapbooks that were made for this hobby. Her girlfriends, beaux, cousins, and sisters would send each other a card with a simple greeting of not much more than, "How are you?"

Many had been sent by those who lived in the same small community. However, the fronts of the cards displayed beautiful artwork of flowers, seasonal themes, jokes, historical themes, etc. Some were actual photographs of cities, as were those sent by her sister, Margaret, who lived in Dodge, Nebraska. Margaret's postcards had real messages on them; however, they were all written in German.

Mary and her husband, Oscar Lotten, and their three oldest children, Edward, Arthur and Marcel-



*Mary's children (left to right) Edward, Arthur, Marcella, and Alice*

la were enumerated as living in Medford<sup>1</sup>, Walsh County, North Dakota in the 1920 Census on January 23, 1920. The youngest child, Alice, who had been born a few days earlier on January 5, was not listed in the census as children born after the census date, January 1, 1920, were not recorded. Shortly thereafter, they moved to 268 Spring Street, Pleasanton, Alameda County, California. The house is just a few steps from Main Street and, at that time, a half a block in the other direction from the edge of town. About two years ago, the house was very nicely remodeled and is now occupied as a home. The Lotten family's move from North Dakota to California may have been precipitated by the hope that a milder climate would be a cure for consumption. It's very likely that they moved in the spring or summer of 1920 or 1921.

Mary died on Feb 25, 1922. She had to be isolated from the rest of the family as consumption is highly contagious and with four small children there had to be special precautions. Her body

<sup>1</sup>Historical Medford is now a school district within Fordville, North Dakota.

was shipped back to Wisconsin to be buried in School Hill<sup>2</sup> at the Holy Trinity Catholic Cemetery. Four and a half years later, her father, Christian Scharenbroch, was buried in the same cemetery and her mother, Mary Magdalena Herr, followed two years after. In the later years of his life, her son, Arthur Lotten, my father, could still remember being a 10-year-old boy seeing his mother's casket put on the train and then watching the coffin-laden train leaving the Pleasanton station. Her brother, Peter, said that her casket arrived during the worst ice storm he could remember. Today, this storm still stands out as one of the worst ice storms ever experienced in Wisconsin.

When Mary died, she left four young children: Edward, age 12, Arthur, age 10, Marcella, age 8, and Alice, age 2. Mary came from a very close-knit family which was very fortunate for her young children. Mary's spinster sister, Anna, came to California before Mary died to nurse her and take care of her children. Anna stayed and devoted the rest of her life to raising and loving Mary's children.

<sup>2</sup>School Hill is an unincorporated community in the town of Meeme located in Manitowoc County, Wisconsin

## Then I heard My Name at RootsTech 2013

By Vicki Renz

I'd heard about RootsTech before, but this time it was different. Dick Eastman wrote an article about it in his newsletter last December telling about the new track of classes called "Story@Home," where the emphasis would be on preserving and sharing your family's stories. This

was very intriguing for me because last February (2012) I began sending "memory joggers" to 15 people, family and friends, to encourage them to write down their memories of growing up – things that I didn't know about my own parents and grandparents and that I wanted to start writ-

ing down for my grandchildren. Then the L-AGS Writing Group started with the same objective, so I had lots of interest in the subject.

I went to the RootsTech web site ([www.rootstech.org](http://www.rootstech.org)) and started reading about the conference.

The opening statement says, "It is a conference with a unique emphasis on helping individuals learn and use the latest technology to get started or accelerate their efforts to **find, organize, preserve and share** their family's connections and history." The conference truly lived up to that statement! There were topics of interest for everyone, no matter what their level of genealogical expertise, from beginner to very advanced. The class topics ranged from researching basics to in-depth presentations on specific research; various ways of sharing your family history; using the new FamilySearch web site; and even a day of classes for developers of genealogy programs and web sites.

Some of the presenters were well-known to me and the descriptions of all the classes were very informative, helping me to decide which presentations to attend. True to being a technology-oriented conference, the syllabus and class handouts were available on the web site as PDF files or Word documents before the conference even started. They are still available, as are videos of the keynote speeches and several classes that were streamed live during the conference. For example: **I've Never Done a PowerPoint!**

<http://www.rootstech.org/schedule/thursday/BW1>

There were four or five class sessions each day, with at least eight to ten or more choices for each time slot. The venue in the Salt Palace was well set-up: a very large hall with three giant screens for the keynote addresses; large rooms with computers and large presentation screens set up for labs; smaller rooms for some classes and larger rooms for others. All the classrooms were convenient to each other and to the Expo Hall. The Expo Hall was also well laid out, with major and minor vendors intermingled together. All the major software producers were there as well as some very new start-up companies. Many vendors had drawings for various giveaways to conference attendees, and all had the usual handouts of flyers

and promotional gifts (blank family tree chart, umbrellas, pins, tote bags, etc.) Every registrant received a nice laptop/document carry case with the RootsTech logo on it.

I contacted my friend and fellow L-AGS member, Joyce Siason, to see if she was going to attend this year – and she was, so we were able to meet up and see each other again after about 10 years!

I chose classes that were about ways to share my family's history, from making PowerPoint presentations, to displaying heirlooms, to writing about the people that I know from my family.

I put my name in for prize drawings at various vendors – Genealogy Wall Charts (didn't win the TV), Genealogy Gems (didn't win the set of books and software), Personal Historian (didn't win the software), and Roots Magic, among others. Drawings were held at various times on Saturday and I made sure I would not be in a class at a drawing time. I was most interested in the drawings from RootsTech itself and from RootsMagic – one of the prizes was an iPad.

I was a little late to the RootsMagic booth, so I had to stand in the back of the crowd and couldn't see anything. I decided that I didn't really need to see anything; I just needed to be able to hear my name. The fellow drew the name for the software package, but it wasn't me. Then he announced that he would be drawing for the iPad – a moment of silence – then I heard MY NAME! I had just won an iPad!! I was so excited I was nearly crying!

My drive to Salt Lake and attending RootsTech 2013 will be one of the best trips I've ever made! I saw Joyce again, I am inspired to create displays with the heirlooms in my possession and get serious about writing down my memories, and I am now the owner of a brand new iPad! Maybe I will meet you at RootsTech 2014, February 6–8, 2014, Salt Lake City, [www.rootstech.org](http://www.rootstech.org)

*My drive to Salt Lake City and attending RootsTech 2013 will be one of the best trips I've ever made!*



## That was the Beginning of my Schooling

By John C. Walden

I had just started the first grade when my father along with many other employees lost their jobs. He, Herbert C. Walden, was a civil engineer for the state of Ohio in the early 1930's. My parents took me to my maternal grandparents' home in the Banks District, Upshur County, West Virginia for the last half of my first school year.

My grandparents along with a half a dozen of my aunts and a couple of uncles lived in the mountains, kind of in the center of West Virginia, if a state shaped like that has a center. Their house had no running water, gas or electricity. The closest school was a one room school with no utilities. That was the beginning of my schooling. By the next year my father was employed and I spent the rest of my schooling wherever his company had a road job or building an earthen dam. I attended 14 schools by the time I graduated from high school. One year I attended 3 different schools in two different states.

Over many years while in school I was allowed to spend part of the summer vacations with my grandparents.

All of the farm work was done by man/woman power with only a team of horses. There were no tractors in the area. During the summers I have helped shell corn to take to the mill to have ground into corn meal. My grandmother and her daughters made either biscuits or cornbread three times a day. I walked to the country store one mile away and take eggs in a basket to trade for sugar or some other staple not grown on the farm. The huge garden was taken care of by Grandmother and daughters after it was plowed in the spring. Everything grown in the garden was canned for food over the winter. There was a large copper kettle on a tripod to cook large quantities of various foods for canning. I was never much good in churning milk into butter.

Later I watched Granddad cradle his wheat field and make the sheaves and shocks for threshing. I turned the blower on the forge when he shaped horse shoes to shoe his horses. I turned the grindstone for him to sharpen the cutter bar on the mowing machine or other tools until my arms just

Paternal Lineage of John C. Walden
Lee B. Brake b. 1885 Banks District, Upshur, West Virginia d. 1967 Buckhannon, Upshur, West Virginia m. 1904 Lewis County, West Virginia Nevada Catherine Crawford b. 1883 Wolf Pen, Lewis, West Virginia. d. ?
Herbert C. Walden b. 1898 Buckhannon, Upshur, West Virginia d. 1986 Fairmont, Marion, West Virginia m. 1928 Steubenville, Jefferson, Ohio Loretta Belle Brake b. 1905 Rock Cave, Upshur, West Virginia d. 2005 Fairmont, Marion, West Virginia
John C. Walden b. Steubenville, Jefferson, Ohio m. Greenup, Greenup, Kentucky Vera Marie Calhoon b. Centerville, Gallia, Ohio

gave out.

I watched him scoop out a basement with a scoop and the two horses. I watched him make his own shakes for the roof of the semi-buried building, maybe that was a root cellar.

In the latter days of winter and early spring I observed them tap the sugar maple trees, boil down the sap to make maple sugar and even maple candy.

One of my favorite jobs, as I got older, was helping with cutting down trees and splitting the wood for the cook stove in the kitchen. The cook stove and grate in the next room were the only source of heat during the winter.

The well outside the kitchen was 80 feet deep and I have drawn many gallons from it over the years. Maybe my biggest help to them was to stay out of the way.

Now as I think back over my life, I went from a one room school to a path to a career working with nuclear weapons. Quite a change.

## Thomas White, DAR Ancestor #A124323

Had a family of 21 children, (13 lived to adulthood)

By Sharon Garrison

Born: March 19, 1739/41, Kilkenny, Ireland

Died: September 13, 1820, Huntingdon Co, Pennsylvania

Thomas White came to America about August 1755, although some records indicate it was a number of years later that he arrived in Philadelphia. It was in Philadelphia that he met his future wife, Elizabeth Jones. Elizabeth's great grandfather was Jonas Nilsson, who is one of the earliest Swedish immigrants to America and arrived at Fort Christina (the first Swedish settlement in North America and located near present downtown Wilmington, Delaware) on February 15, 1643. He lived most of his life in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and donated the land on which the Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church was built.

Thomas White married Elizabeth Jones about July 1770 in Philadelphia and they later moved to Boston. Thomas was a member of the Masonic Order and it is quite likely that he joined St. Andrew's Lodge from which the Sons of Liberty was formed after he arrived in Boston. He was an active participant in protests against the tyranny of the Crown. While no membership list exists for the Sons of Liberty, their most effective protest was the Boston Tea Party on December 16, 1773. Thomas White's participation in this historical event is documented on the Boston Tea Party Museum website: <http://www.bostontepartyship.com/>

Pennsylvania also recognizes Thomas White's participation with a historic marker on the road near his final resting place at the Evans Cemetery, Broad Top, Huntingdon Co, Pennsylvania.

### *Fighting In The Revolution*

The next we hear of Thomas, he is in Pennsylvania and participating in the Revolutionary war he helped to start. His record is that of a soldier of the Continental Army of the Second Pennsylvania Regiment. He served from 1771 to 1781, part of that time as a member of Capt. John McTeer's Company of Cumberland County Militia. He also served as a member of Capt. John Horrell's Volunteer Company from Cumberland County against the Indians in August 1782. He lived in

what is now part of Perry County, which at one time was part of Cumberland.

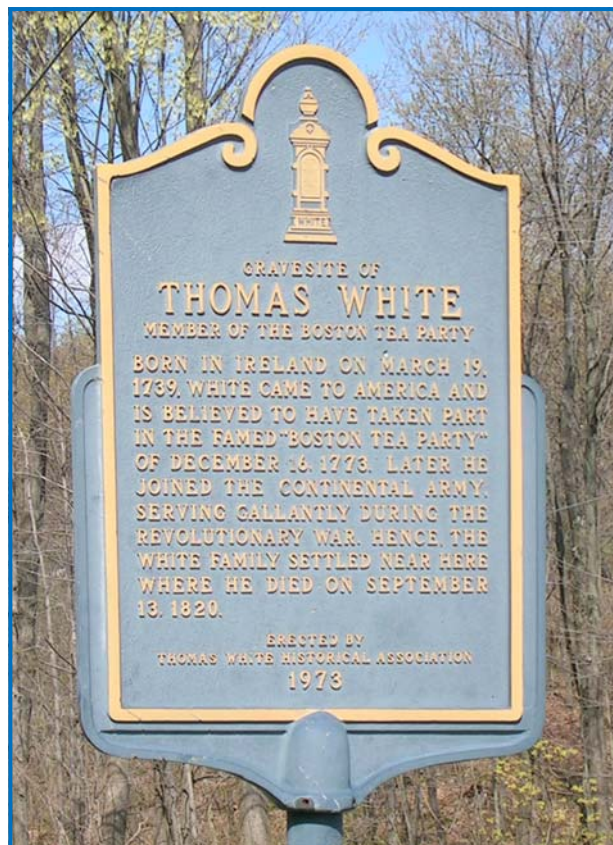
After the war, Thomas and his family migrated to the West. They settled in what is now part of Huntingdon County, on a tract of land which he cleared and developed a farm. Their home was near the present town of Robertsdale. They had a very large family, twenty-one children, (thirteen are known to have lived to adulthood) including three sons who served in the War of 1812.

### *Monument at Grave*

Thomas White died in his frontier home at Broad Top City, Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania on



*Thomas White, grave marker*



Thomas White road side marker

September 13, 1820, and was buried in a cemetery known as the “Evans Cemetery” located in Coal-dale, Bedford County, Pennsylvania. His descendants and members of patriotic societies created a monument to his memory at the gravesite which was unveiled on July 4, 1889. The inscription on the monument reads:

*“In Memoriam of Thomas White one of the brave heroes of the Boston Tea Party, December 16, 1773 and a Revolutionary Soldier and Patriot for American Independence, was born in Ireland, March 19, 1739, Died Sept. 13, 1820, aged 81 y’rs, 5 mo’s, 24 days. Soldier, Rest thy warfare o’er, Dream of fighting fields no more. How sleep the brave who sink to rest, By all their country’s wishes blest.”* On the other side of the monument is the inscription in honor of Mrs. White. *“Elizabeth, wife of Thomas White, Died Feb. 2, 1844, Aged 88 y’rs, 7 mo’s, 28 days. The mother of 21 children, three of whom fought in the War of 1812-14.”*

### Maternal Lineage of Sharon Garrison

Thomas White  
 b. 1739 County Kilkenny, Ireland  
 d. 1820 Broad Top, Huntingdon, Pennsylvania  
 m. 1770 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
 Elizabeth Jones  
 b. 1755 Douglassville, Berks, Pennsylvania  
 d. 1844 Broad Top, Huntingdon, Pennsylvania

George Washington White  
 b. 1795 Amity Township, Berks, Pennsylvania  
 d. 1872 Wells Valley, Fulton Pennsylvania  
 m. 1816 Huntingdon, Pennsylvania  
 Catharine Horton  
 b. 1798 Huntingdon, Pennsylvania  
 d. 1867 Wells Valley, Fulton, Pennsylvania

James A White  
 b. 1821 Huntingdon, Pennsylvania  
 d. 1876 Austin, Cass, Missouri  
 m. 1846 Pennsylvania  
 Rebecca Broadstone  
 b. 1826 Hopewell, Bedford, Pennsylvania  
 d. 1913 North Liberty, Johnson, Iowa

Ella White  
 b. 1859 Broad Top, Huntingdon, Pennsylvania  
 d. 1955 Monterey Park, Los Angeles, California  
 m. 1880 North Liberty, Johnson, Iowa  
 John William Bridenstine  
 b. 1857 North Liberty, Johnson, Iowa  
 d. 1926 Santa Ana, Orange, California

Elsie Bridenstine  
 b. 1889 Barnard, Lincoln, Kansas  
 d. 1977 Glendale, Los Angeles, California  
 m. 1910 Holtville, Imperial, California  
 Willard William Hunt  
 b. 1886 Davenport, Thayer, Nebraska  
 d. 1974 Glendale, Los Angeles, California

Mildred Eloise Hunt  
 b. 1917 Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California  
 d. 2000 Glendale, Los Angeles, California  
 m. 1942 Glendale, Los Angeles, California  
 Raymond Christopher Williams, Sr.  
 b. 1912 Donora, Washington, Pennsylvania  
 d. 1978 Glendale, Los Angeles, California

## Three Early Pioneer Families of Cottonwood Creek/aka “The Canyon”

By Julianne Mooney

I am a descendant of the last member of the Heligis, Martin and O’Hara pioneer families to be born on the Martin ranch of Cottonwood Creek. The Martin Ranch is located on what is now Doolan (Canyon) Road, a little more than a mile and a half north of the intersection of Airway Boulevard with I-580.

My mother, Alice Wallmann, was born in September 10, 1911. Her mother, Anna L Martin, was married to Austin Morris Wallmann, of another, but later arrival, Livermore Family.

You will find Martin’s name along with his brothers’s names on the National Guard Memorial outside the Library in Livermore. They lived at 5th & M in a house that has been enjoyed and shared with me by George Overturf and his lovely wife. When I met the Overturfs I was welcomed as family. It has been a wonderful experience.

My grandfather, Austin Morris Wallmann, became a farm implements salesman for Sloss & Brittan in San Francisco. His brother, Bodo, became the Chief of Police of Oakland in the 1930s

and their younger brother Joe began establishing some of the first traffic regulations in the state for the Oakland Police Department.

One of my childhood memories is that when my grandfather died, the cellar (on 31st street in Oakland) was full of Wente, Concannon and other Valley wines that had been given as gifts to him. My mother kept a few bottles and gave the rest to the church!

When I was a child and we came from San Francisco to Livermore (for the customary Catholic wakes, and weddings) I recall my parents pointing vaguely in the direction of the Martin Ranch...but we never visited it. We did of course go to St. Michael’s Cemetery. I recall their pointing out the various family graves in the front section among the pepper trees. I was also told that my grandmother, Anna, and her sister, Aunt Fanny Gallagher, had taught at one-room school houses in the area.

It was not until I was researching the family and met with Jayne Archer from St. Michael’s that I could see all the connections to Livermore and its



Top: Doolan Road and I 580 from Google Earth

Left: Cottonwood and Collier Canyons 1878, Sites (north to south) George Heligis, John C. Martin, John & Anne O’Hara, Site of Inman School.

early history. And as a result I have reunited with many members of my mother's family from all over California and finally in Ireland!!

I developed a binder of research findings which I hope will be enjoyed by future generations in Livermore. I have been aided in this quest by Gary Drummond and Dick Finn from the local history group and Eleanor Cardoza and her family who were the last residents of the Martin Ranch.

On the 1874 map of the canyon, available at the Livermore History Guild, right on the Contra Costa county line is the ranch owned by George Heligis. George Heligis came via the steamship/schooner, Cordelia, to San Francisco sometime after the gold rush. He appears on the census in 1860 as Heiligist. The San Francisco City Directory of 1864 lists him as Helligas. By 1869 he is a crew member on the steamship/paddleboat, Julia, traveling from San Francisco to Stockton and Sacramento.

George works his way up on those vessels until 1874 when his two sons, George and John, died (likely of influenza) within three weeks of one another in San Francisco. He then moves his remaining family to property purchased in the Inman tract of Murray Township. You will find him listed in The Faulkner Business Directory in 1887.

George's wife was named Maria O'Hara. The remaining children are Frank Jesse Heligis (b. 1858 in Berne, Albany County, New York) and Anna Heligis (b. 1861 or 1864 in San Francisco). It appears as if George worked off their passage from New York on a steamer sometime in 1860. Unfortunately, this cannot be verified. Maria O'Hara is buried on the east side of St. Michael's close to her son Frank (d. 1926). Neither grave is marked; they likely had wooden markers at that time.

We assume that George Heligis settled in the Inman Tract at the suggestion of his brother-in-law, John O'Hara who owned a ranch just above where the Inman School was eventually located. And, in fact, Annie and Fanny did teach there after completing their education at San Francisco Normal School, now known as San Francisco State University. As a widow, Fanny Gallagher taught all over the area including, among other places, Altamont.

John O'Hara was married to Anna. We found

## Maternal Lineage of Julianne Wall Mooney

Jesse Heligis  
b. ?, Berne, Albany, New York  
d. ?  
m. ?  
Eunice (Unknown)  
b. ?  
d. ?, Berne, Albany, New York

George Nathan Heligis  
b. 1825 or 1832, ?  
d. After 1890, ?  
m. ?  
Maria O'Hara (?)  
b. 1828, ?  
d. 1897, ?

Anna Heligis  
b. 1868, San Francisco, California  
d. 1923, St. Francis Hospital, San Francisco, California  
m. 1883,  
John Charles Martin  
b. 1845, Longhrea, County Galway, Ireland  
d. 1912, Livermore, Alameda, California

Anna Loretta Martin  
b. 1886, Martin Ranch, Livermore, Alameda, California  
d. 1923, Saint Francis Hospital, San Francisco, California  
m. ?  
Austin Morris Wallmann  
b. 1888, Livermore, Alameda, California  
d. 1951, San Francisco, California

Alice May Wallmann  
b. 1911, Martin Ranch, Livermore, Alameda, California  
d. 1970, San Francisco, California  
m. 1940, Sacred Heart Cathedral, Oakland, Alameda, California  
Richard Albert Walla  
b. 1907, Graniteville, Middlesex, Massachusetts  
d. 1993, San Mateo, San Mateo, California

Julianne Wall  
b. Mary's Help Hospital, San Francisco, California

them along with brother, Hugh O'Hara, on the ship Guy Mannering, which arrived at Castle Garden in the 1850's. John and Anna purchased the property in what is now known as Doolan Canyon in approximately 1870.

There is currently a metal gate to that property off

Doolan Road. Beyond the gate, a road crosses Cottonwood Creek and winds around a knoll where the ranch house was located. This was verified by Eleanor Cardoza who had spent her life in the canyon.

John and Anna had one child, Mary Susan. We believe she was in one of the first graduating classes at San Jose Normal school. She is listed as a witness at the marriage of her cousin Anna Heligis to John Charles Martin in June 1882. Mary Susan died sometime after 1890 and is buried at the O'Hara plot at St. Michael's. It is adjacent to the Martin plot in the pioneer section.

John C. Martin came to the US in the early 1870's. We cannot document the exact date but believe he was part of a group of Fenians<sup>1</sup> sent from Australia in 1868. Family lore tells us that he "jumped ship" at El Granada in Half Moon Bay, California, but this is not documented. He became naturalized in 1874. His story is amazing and documented by a series of letters "home" that are in the binder which I hope will become part of the historical archive here in Livermore.

It is likely that John C. Martin was introduced to Anna Heligis by her brother Frank Jesse. I like to think of Frank as kind of "a scamp" as he is mentioned (not so very reverently) in the Hihn-Younger archive of UC Santa Cruz.

Frank had a lumber company, Toft & Heligis (they were spelling the surname consistently that way at this point) in San Lorenzo/Santa Cruz roaring camp area. John C. Martin was hauling redwood trees (confirmed in his letters) at that time and that is most likely how Frank and John met. Frank took John C. home to meet his marriageable sister in Murray Township.

John's letters indicate that he was well educated (he had attended Agricultural College in Dublin), politically aware and had no interest in ever returning to Ireland. He urged his family to come and explained the value of "hard work" and that there was no class disparagement for women to work in this new country. His brother Joseph Martin did come, but returned to Ireland in 1930s.

<sup>1</sup>In Australia Fenian is used as a pejorative term for those members of the Australian Labor Party (ALP) who have Australian Republican views similar to those who support Irish unification.

When the Martin family visited from Ireland (a long and wonderful story) in the spring of 1998 they took one look at the canyon and could see why he chose the property...why they all did. And when I went to visit them I understood too.

So, John Charles Martin married Anna Heligis, who was the niece of John and Anne O'Hara and daughter of George Nathan Heligis and Maria O'Hara Heligis. The marriage was witnessed by Patrick Croke and Maria Susan O'Hara. John C. Martin built the ranch with the help (we assume) of Hugh O'Hara. He also had a servant, a "chinaman," listed in the 1880 census as Ah Sing.

As a result of that union 11 children were born. The relationships are as follows.

1. Born: 1883 Frances "Fanny" Mary Martin; married Joseph Gallagher. Joseph M. Gallagher is the son of James Patrick Gallagher 1837-1918 and Bridget Moy 1848-1933. Baptismal sponsors: Joseph Martin, who had come at his brother's request from Ballinasloe, County Galway, Ireland, and Caroline Moy. Aunt Fanny taught in one-room schoolhouses all over the area.
2. Born: 1884 My grandmother, Anna Loretta Martin; married Austin Wallmann. Baptismal sponsors: Francis Heligis & Maria O'Hara. She taught at Inman School and later at Valle Vista in Hayward – see letter 1907 regarding SF earthquake.
3. Born: 1885 Joseph Martin; married Jewel Kottinger. Baptismal sponsors: Patrick Kelly & Helena Nevin. He has a master storyteller, lariat maker, saddler and cowboy. He and Jewel divorced and she married Elmer Robinson, who was the Mayor of San Francisco in the 1950's
4. Born: 1887 Carolyn Martin; married Lee Jacker. Baptismal sponsors: Hugh O'Hara & Maria O'Hara. Jacker was a descendent of a Civil War vet – documented by Gary Drummond.
5. Born: 1888 John Martin; Baptismal sponsors: Joseph Martin & Maria Helena Doolan. Never married – Rodeo rider who lived at the rodeo grounds, tended horses, somewhat of a recluse.
6. Born: 1890 William Martin; married Mary Josephine O'Neil. Baptismal sponsors: Uncle John O'Hara & Mary Susan O'Hara. A banker, CFO of Oakland Bank of Commerce. Handled rental and sale of Martin properties (as confirmed by E.

*As a result of that union  
11 children were born.*

Cardoza).

7. Born: 1893 Elizabeth “Lloyd” Martin; married George Dellwig; baptismal sponsors: Patrick Kelly & Maria F. Martin (we think this is a transcription mistake and it is Mary Susan again!)

8. Born: 1895 James Richard “Dick” Martin; married Helen O’Neil; baptismal sponsors: Thomas McMurray & Margarita McMurray. Not certain of career, possible engineer.

9. Born: 1897 Charles Francis Martin; married Val Christen; baptismal sponsors: Miles Lesham & Susanna Gibbons. Horsetrader, salesman, took after Uncle Frank Heligis by all reports. Charming, storyteller. Daughter Carolyn Martin became the first Miss Livermore in 1950’s

10. Born: 1899 Henry R. Martin; engaged to Ruth Bigelow. Died of appendicitis shortly before the intended marriage date.

11. Born: 1908 Eleanor “Girlie” Martin; married Charles Crohare. No baptismal info. Son, Charles Crohare, is the last of the descendants to remain in Livermore. Eleanor worked at Olivina Ranch and Tri-Valley Bank.

I want to thank all of the folks at the Livermore Heritage Guild for their assistance with this project, beginning with my first contact, Gary Drummond, who met me at the Dublin Historical site as we tried to identify the “one room schoolhouse” I was searching for. My cousin, Don Gallagher, and Joe Madigan (another Livermore family!) had many family photos and the only letter remaining from Ireland to the family. And many thanks to Dick Finn for much assistance

over the years, including a visit to the Martin Ranch at 5000 Doolan Road. Dick also joined me on a small tour of the canyon as I pointed out the locations identified by Eleanor Cardoza, the last tenant on that property.

Also thanks to my cousin, Charles Crohare, for introducing me to Mrs. Cardoza and her wonderful family. And for the Cardozas, who thoughtfully gifted me with a Martin branding iron which was found in the bunkhouse, an oil painting of the ranch circa 1960 (by a woman named Dominguez, a local artist) and some garden decorations and pots made from many shards found in the dumping area at the ranch. And for their gracious hospitality – inviting me to their farewell to the ranch party when Mrs. Cardoza left her tenancy after a lifetime in the canyon.

At some point in time I would like to erect a marker on the O’Hara plot, indicating those interred there, and also a marker for the Heligis family. Maria O’Hara Heligis is buried in another section and George cannot be found. He was not a catholic and was likely buried on his ranch.

And a final thank you to my cousin, Caroline Martin Sinnott Mullan, an Irish archivist who made the initial contact with the American family in 1996 and proceeded to research each and every one of them. She is in possession of the Martin Letters Home and they will be included in the Irish American historical section at the Dublin National Archive.

I hope you have enjoyed this article and that you will have the opportunity to see my binder at the Carnegie Library. Thank you.

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## Local FamilySearch Centers Publicize Research Opportunities!

L-AGS member, Sandy Clark, Director of the Livermore FamilySearch Center (LFSC), announces that research assistance is available Mondays, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.; and Saturday 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. L-AGS members who would offer to serve as docents at the Livermore FSC may call 925-447-0299. The LDS FamilySearch Center in Livermore is at 950 Mocho Street. The entrance is from the large parking lot in the rear of the church building.

[www.l-ags.org/maps/Liv-FHC.html](http://www.l-ags.org/maps/Liv-FHC.html)

L-AGS member, Sue Caraway, Director of the Pleasanton FamilySearch Center advises that the Pleasanton center can no longer maintain scheduled hours. Going forward the FSC will be available by appointment only. L-AGS members who would offer to serve as docents at the Pleasanton FSC may call 925-461-1641. The Pleasanton LDS FamilySearch Center, 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz, is on the corner of Valley and Paseo Santa Cruz. The entrance is from the large parking lot on the east side of the church building.

[www.l-ags.org/maps/Pls-FHC.html](http://www.l-ags.org/maps/Pls-FHC.html)

## My Doctor Opened the Door to my Birth Records, An Epilogue

By Joyce Tafoya, A Grateful Adoptee

I am an Adoptee and for 30 years from 1980, the time I learned I was adopted, I have wanted to have my birth records opened and to know, like Andy Rooney says, the whole story.

The adoption unit at the Oakland Court house where my records are stored advised me to obtain a request from my doctor which I did in 2012. He typed a wonderful letter as I was also visiting him for an examination. I am ever so grateful to my doctor who went the extra mile to help me obtain the last part of information that I needed for my identity.

I petitioned the Alameda County Courthouse through the Adoption Union in August 2012. The Judge honored my request and advised my original birth certificate would be sent from Sacramento for which there has been some delay with the many cutbacks by the State of California.

In October 2012 I received a large manila envelope that had the court papers from the event. My biological mother and my adoptive parents underwent the adoption proceedings at the Oakland courthouse. My mother mentioned my father and confirmed his name. I had obtained his name from my birth records from the Records Supervisor in San Diego ....just waiting now to see also if his name is on my original birth certificate.

My next and last part of my genealogy search is to have the DNA of my uncle in Texas and mine done to determine if my Uncle Bud and my mother, Elizabeth, had the same father and if so I add German heritage along with Irish and Italian.

California being a closed state to adoptees I never gave up hope that someday I would jump the hurdle and now it's completed and all my prayers were answered and YES THERE IS A GOD.

### Roots Redux

## Significant Articles from Past Issues of the Roots Tracer

By George Anderson

Our Roots Tracer will be 35 years old next month! That is a remarkable record among genealogy magazines, whose life expectancy (and that of their sponsoring societies) are often much less than that. Even more remarkable is the fact that all the issues from those 35 years are currently available in digital form, to be perused online on our Web site,

<http://www.l-ags.org/tracer/archives.menu.html>

thanks to the efforts of Patrick Lofft, Doug Mumma and Vicki Renz. That certainly must be a rare achievement among genealogical societies. All of the issues from Volume 1, Number 1 in May 1978 up through present are now on our Web site.

We hope to include Roots Redux as a short article in all future issues of the Roots Tracer. The purpose is to provide a link to an especially interesting and important article that has appeared

in print in the Tracer – an article that is worth re-reading today, and can now be read online.

It is fitting that the first item to be cited is not a single article but the entire first issue of the Roots Tracer in May of 1978 – all seven pages of it. It can be found at:

[www.l-ags.org/tracer/vol\\_01\\_01.pdf](http://www.l-ags.org/tracer/vol_01_01.pdf)

If this link is not clickable for you, copy and paste it into the Go To box in your browser.

All 29 members are listed in this first issue. Of course, many are no longer living. One charter member who is still living, and very much so, is Shirley Terry, the first president, and later, twice more president. She and her fellow founders of L-AGS created a stable society that has continued to grow in size and in stature among other societies. We are greatly indebted to them. [Thanks also to George in whose gentle repository all those early issues were delicately preserved.]





## G. R. O. W.

### Genealogy Resources On the Web —

### The Page That Helps Genealogy Grow!

Compiled by Susan Johnston and Kay Speaks



## Focus on: University Libraries

Are you looking for maps or newspapers? What about an account book, a diary, or background information? Maybe it's time to go back to school. Find similar sites by searching keywords *university name* and *digital collection*.

### Penn State University:

<http://tinyurl.com/64pulnj>. Plat maps, journals, manuscripts, newspapers, and Sanborn Fire Insurance maps just scratch the surface. Take the time to explore this rich collection.

### Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis: <http://tinyurl.com/IUP0513>.

Indiana maps and plat books, city directories, War of 1812 and Civil War records highlight the valuable resources found in this library's digital archives.

### UC Berkeley:

<http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/collections/>.

The Bancroft Library's impressive digital archive reflects California's multi-ethnic heritage: Spanish, Chinese, and Japanese collections include manuscripts, maps, and photographs.

### Swarthmore College:

<http://tinyurl.com/SFHL0513>. Got Quakers? The Friends Historical Library is a must. In addition to various manuscript collections, this site is an excellent place to learn more about the Quakers and their history.

### Brigham Young University:

<http://lib.byu.edu/digital/>. Newspapers, early 1800's maps, photographs, missionary diaries, and Mormon biographies are just a few of this site's digital offerings.

### University of Vermont:

<http://www.uvm.edu/landscape/menu.php>. Vermont is not noted for online collections. This site includes almost 70,000 Vermont images covering 400 years of the state's history. Use them to bring your ancestor's story to life.

### Washington State University-Vancouver:

<http://tinyurl.com/WSUV0513>. This collection focuses on Clark County and the Columbia River Basin and includes maps, photographs, newspapers, documents, and oral histories.

### University of Tennessee:

<http://www.lib.utk.edu/digitalcollections/>. Photographs, letters, diaries, and scrapbooks are just a few of the treasures that can be found in this university's digital collections.

### Cornell University:

<http://rdc.library.cornell.edu/>. Might there be witches among your ancestors? Tompkins County residents? Abolitionists? These are among the many possible reasons to visit this site – and don't forget "Making of America."

### University of Minnesota:

<http://tinyurl.com/ch4rogr>. This isn't a genealogy collection, but if you loved the *Wizard of Oz*, you must visit this university's "Oz Collection." The site includes photographs, maps, and other relevant collections, but the "Oz Collection" is a unique treasure.<sup>1</sup>

### WHAT'S NEW AT ...

**FamilySearch:** If you have Italian ancestors, you must investigate the collection of civil registrations that *FamilySearch* added (or updated) on March 21<sup>st</sup>. These records are *browse only* and are arranged by *provincia* (province), then by *comune* (municipality), and finally by year range. Use the *indici decennali* (ten-year index) to find individual records.

**Ancestry:** Researching early Tennessee families can be difficult. 71 of Tennessee's 95 counties are represented in the new database and image collection, "Tennessee, Early Tax List Records, 1783-1895." Studying patterns in tax list entries through the years is time-consuming, but it may be the best method of identifying individuals and proving relationships in early time periods.

<sup>1</sup>Some universities allow a "guest account," such as the Univ. of Minnesota, which also has an East Asian Library & Ming Gazetteer

## James Maze Burbank, well known English Artist and Resident of Pleasanton

By Richard W. Finn

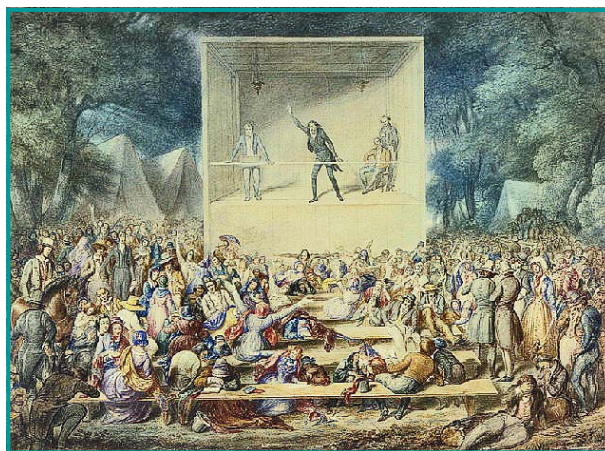
Some of our readers will remember that we wrote, in the November 2011 issue of the Roots Tracer, about information that had been found on the famous English watercolorist, James Maze Burbank, aka J. Maze Burbank who lived for about 20-25 years in Pleasanton. Now we have found new information on Burbank and the people in Pleasanton with whom he associated.

But first a recap of what we wrote previously. Shortly after George Anderson posted the contents of the L-AGS publication, *The Pleasanton Presbyterian Church Early Birth, Marriage and Death Records*, on the L-AGS website I received a query from Jasmin Leuthold of Switzerland who thought her family might be related to James Maze Burbank and wanted to know about his life in Pleasanton.

I had an entry for James M. Burbank in the Tri-Valley Heritage Family Project database but had spent little time researching him. After the query arrived I got to work finding out what I could about him. I first found that the woman from Switzerland who had contacted me had put some information about Burbank on Ancestry.com.

From that start we were able to find that James Maze Burbank was born 5 May 1805 in Chelsea, London, Middlesex, he was baptized on 15 June 1805 in St. George, Hanover Square, London, he most often was listed as an artist in census records; he was known for the subjects of his art (caricatures, human activity, religion, mysticism and spiritualism; as an artist he was best known at J. Maze Burbank); in 1838 at least one painting was shown at the Royal Academy in London; his work was also shown at the National Academy of Design, and in 1839 he painted a well known watercolor painting titled *Religious Camp Meeting*. The painting shows a camp meeting or religious revival meeting in America. These were very popular in the early 1800s. It is thought this painting may show a Presbyterian or Methodist meeting. This painting is very often shown in articles about the Second Great Awakening of the 1830s.

It has been written that from these crusades important movements were formed such abolitionism, humanitarian, temperance, and suffrage. The original Burbank painting is on display at the Old Dartmouth Historical Society-New Bedford Whaling Museum in New Bedford, Massachusetts.



*Religious Camp Meeting - An Oldtime Camp Meeting*

Some updated information: As was pointed out, Burbank was born in England; on 20 June 1836 he arrived in New York on the ship Samson (another source names the ship Larson) from London; on 30 September 1850 he married Julia Hanington at the Dutch Reformed Church on Madison Avenue in New York City; in 1851 he was living in Lambeth, Surrey, England and his only child Eleanor was born; on 29 July 1852 the family arrived in New York on the ship American Eagle from London; on 24 August 1858 he arrived in New York on the ship Victoria from London; 1861 he was living in Bloomsbury St. George, Middlesex, England; on 16 April 1867 he married his second wife Elizabeth Herrick Sanders at St. James church, Upper Edmonton,

<sup>1</sup>The Second Great Awakening was a Protestant revival movement during the early 19th century in the United States. The movement began around 1790, gained momentum by 1800, and after 1820 membership rose rapidly among Baptist and Methodist congregations whose preachers led the movement. It was past its peak by the 1840s.

Enfield, Middlesex, England; in 1871 he was living in Tottenham, Middlesex, England where his occupation was listed as Professor of Drawing and his second wife Elizabeth as a Principal of Ladies School; in September of 1876 his painting *The Angel Delivering Daniel from the Lions* (called by some the greatest water color painting in the world – it was the largest watercolor ever as it was 20 feet wide and 12 feet high) was on exhibit at the Snow & May's Art Gallery in San Francisco; by the mid to late 1870s he seems to have been living in Pleasanton; in 1880 he was in Pleasanton; on 30 March 1889 he died in Pleasanton and is buried at



*James Maze Burbank, Artist, March 30, 1889*

what is now named the Pleasanton Pioneer Cemetery on Sunol Boulevard. It must be noted that the Smithsonian Institution's American Art Museum's website has Burbank dying in 1873. So it seems that Burbank was more or less lost to the art world after the early 1870s. I sent a note of correction to the Smithsonian but have yet to hear back from them. Burbank's wife Elizabeth bought Plot 66 a

few days after he died. Since I took a photograph of the Burbank gravestone in late 2011 it appears it has been cleaned a bit and straightened out as shown in this new photograph by Patrick Lofft.

We are not sure what happened to his first wife, Julia. Their daughter Eleanor Leonora Burbank was baptized on 16 May 1852 in the parish of West Hackney, North East London, Middlesex. We do know that as late as 1860 Julia was living in Muncie, Indiana with the family of Thomas J. Sample (related?). Eleanor married Francis G. Bent. She died in 1931 and is buried at the South Cemetery, Brooklyn, Connecticut. The second wife Elizabeth died 12 December 1898 in Alameda County, California. We think in Oakland. We are not sure where she is buried. James is buried next to the Hewitt family at the Pleasanton Cemetery. Mrs. Elizabeth Hewitt was a recipient of valuables after the death of Elizabeth Burbank as was Miss L. Mackenzie also of Pleasanton. We are now very confident that Mrs. Hewitt was Elizabeth Dennerly, 1851-1905, wife of Pleasanton sheep raiser Andrew Hewitt. Miss Mackenzie must have been beloved Pleasanton teacher Louise McKenzie. Louise had a nephew, Lawrence Hay, who was a painter. Had Burbank taught him?

There was the question of whether James Burbank was related to the famous botanist and horticulturalist Luther Burbank who had lands in the Tri-Valley where he was experimenting growing spineless cactus. My cousin, Peter Kitchingham of London, has been helping research J. Maze Burbank and has found no link to L. Burbank.

We still have not found why James Maze Burbank left New York and London and moved to Pleasanton, a town of perhaps a few hundred people in the late 1870s? Pleasanton was not even incorporated until 1894. Perhaps he knew someone there or might have been attracted by the great climate? Was he related to the Hewitt or McKenzie families? We continue to look for answers.

We had high hopes that at least one of the Burbank paintings would be found somewhere in Pleasanton but so far not one has been found. A lot of questions remain and we will keep looking for answers on this interesting person.

## *Future General Meetings*

Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton

Visitors are always welcome.

June 11, 7:30 p.m.	Janice M. Sellers	Grandma, Who Are You? Finding Women in Your Family Tree
July 9, 7:30 p.m.	Vera Broyles	Tips and Tricks for More Accurate Genealogy
August 13, 7:30 p.m.	Ralph Severson, Oakland FSC	Family Tree on FamilySearch.org

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*Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society*

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