



e-Bulletin September 2014

LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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



Elected Leadership

President

.....*Patrick Lofft*

<mailto:president@L-AGS.org>

First VP and Program Chair

.....*Patricia Northam*

<mailto:program@L-AGS.org>

Second VP & Membership Chair

.....*Tom Mathews*

<mailto:membership@L-AGS.org>

Corresponding Secretary

.....*Cheryl Palmer*

Recording Secretary

.....*Julie Liu*

Business Manager

.....*Duncan Tanner*

<mailto:business.manager@L-AGS.org>

Back to (Genealogy) School!

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>.

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The loss of L-AGS member, Harriet Anderson, will leave a large hole in many of our hearts. Harriet always greeted newcomers and old timers alike with her smiles, humor, and listening ear. She will be greatly missed by all of us.

A service in honor of Harriet will be held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, September 3, at Graham-Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First Street, Pleasanton.

PASSING OF HARRIET ANDERSON
From The Independent online

http://www.independentnews.com/obituaries/article_df9aa92a-292a-11e4-a8c7-001a4bcf887a.html



Our beloved Harriet passed away at 4:30 Friday afternoon, August 8, age 88. In her last hours, she was held in the fond embraces of all six members of her immediate family.

Harriet was born Harriet Alvina Martinson, daughter of Lawrence and Alvina Martinson, in LeHillier, a suburb of Mankato, Minnesota. She grew up there, the second of four siblings and the last to expire. Her future husband, George Anderson, also grew up in Mankato, but attended a different high school. They didn't meet until later when they were introduced through the good offices of her older sister, Lorraine. They married in Minneapolis in 1949. They had just celebrated 65 years of marriage this year.

Harriet worked as a cashier to support her husband in graduate school, then in 1953 they moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico, where George began employment with Sandia National Laboratory. In Albuquerque, Harriet made a large number of life-long friends from among the wives of other Sandia employees. There she volunteered as a "Gray Lady" in the local VA hospital, the first instance of many to come in which she gave of her time to help others.

In 1961, George transferred to the Sandia branch in Livermore, partly because of two frightening episodes of hyperventilation that Harriet had suffered in Albuquerque. They believed that some particular allergens in the New Mexico air caused these attacks. During their 52 years together in California, she became active as a volunteer in many community organizations. She joined the Children's Home Society, which funded a non-profit adoption agency, and served as president one year. They joined the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society, and she served on the board of directors and as co-president with Bev Ales one year. For over a year, they traveled to the National Archives branch in San Bruno every week to

volunteer as mentors to less experienced researchers. She volunteered for 4-H and helped her group win prizes at the county fair. They joined the Youth for Understanding foreign exchange society and she "mothered" students from Chile, Switzerland and Greece for a year. In turn, Eric spent six months in Sweden and Gail spent a year in Switzerland, in the family of the student Harriet mothered.

She and George helped found the Friendship Force of the San Francisco Bay Area, a new branch of the international foreign exchange group for adults that has the motto, "A World of Friends Is a World of Peace." FFSFBA sends delegations of members to other countries where the visitors spend one or two weeks in the homes of the hosts, comparing notes about the problems and joys of each other's family. Surprisingly strong friendships are built during such short visits. They traveled with FFSFBA to New Zealand, The Netherlands, Chile, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. They have hosted visitors from these countries and others.

One of Harriet's special joys in her younger days was acting in amateur theatricals, both in Albuquerque and in Pleasanton. She was a member of Cask and Mask during their years at the May School theater. She especially enjoyed her many years with The Claypipers, a Bay Area troupe that performed weekend melodramas at Drytown in the Gold Country. For instance, in "Dirty Work at the Crossroads," she played the pure and wholesome maiden, Nell Lovelace, who set the audience awing and sighing, against the dastardly and loudly-hissed-and-booped villain, Munro Murgatroyd, and was always saved to great cheers by the handsome and stalwart hero, Adam Oakhart. She and her sister, Lorraine "Naine" Bakke, also performed duet olios between acts, while George and Naine's husband, Hans, tended bar.

Harriet and George became members of the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society in 1984, and were active members for 30 years. They became addicted to the fulfilling pleasures of genealogy when Harriet discovered some documents in Danish among her mother's papers. Building on these documents and learning the techniques of family history research, they reconstructed the lives of their ancestors back through time. In pre-Internet days, such research was time-consuming, involving hundreds of postal letters and frequent travel to archives throughout the US and overseas. The results of their studies were published in over 20 books and booklets which they gave to relatives to help strengthen family ties.

On the Martinson side of her ancestry, her grandfather and great-grandmother were pioneering immigrants to Minnesota from Norway. On the Hansen side, both grandparents were born in Denmark. One of the delights of her life was to conduct genealogical research that led to re-establishing long-lost contacts with living relatives in both countries. She

visited them seven times, including once with her namesake, Aunt Harriet Martinson Sybilrud, and once with daughter Gail who was ending a study-abroad year in Germany. Research also led to the discovery of Danish cousins in New Zealand and a Norwegian cousin in Tasmania. She and George traveled to both places to visit them. The same pattern of discovery and travel occurred with George's relatives in Northern Ireland and England.

The cause of Harriet's death was COPD, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, resulting from long term asthma. This cruel disease gradually robs its victims of the ability to get enough oxygen from the lungs to sustain life. The family wishes to acknowledge the compassionate care of Drs. Veena Jayaram-Chou, Michael Abdel-Malek and Raafat Zmary, Caregiver Gliceria Magat, Occupational Therapist Mary Mello, and the staff members of Hope Hospice, Valley Memorial Hospital and the Pleasanton Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. She was especially moved by the love shown to her by her nieces Bronwen Bakke, Kristi Peterson and Margit Chapman.

Harriet was preceded in death by her parents, brothers Richard and Dale Martinson, and sister Lorraine Bakke. She is survived by husband George of Pleasanton, son Eric of Pleasanton, daughter Dr. Gail Dressler and husband Donavin Dressler of Fremont, grandson David Dressler of Fremont, and grand-daughter Sarah Dressler of Redwood City. She loved them all. She is also survived by sister-in-law Leah Martinson of Hopkins, Minnesota, brother-in-law James Anderson and wife Aileen of Tucson, Arizona, sister-in-law Mary Ellen Heine and husband George of Burlington, Iowa, sister-in-law Mildred Wolfe of Coon Rapids, Minnesota, and sister-in-law Marjorie Nash and husband Gary of Chanhassen, Minnesota.

A service in honor of Harriet will be held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, September 3, at Graham-Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First Street, Pleasanton. Her ashes are being preserved in the columbarium of Alta Mesa Cemetery in Palo Alto, in a niche next to the niche of her brother Dale. Inurnment services were private. Her parents and her sister Naine are also buried at Alta Mesa.

Donations in remembrance of Harriet may be made to the charity of your choice.

PHOTOGRAPHS!

Calling your favorite ancestral photos. Please submit to debbie@mascotmanor.org with the following information. The pictures will be featured in the L-AGS e-bulletin banner and photo pages in the back.

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| L-AGS Member: | |
| Relation: | |
| Name(s): | |
| Location: | |
| Year: | |

Summary of Meetings

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

- ❖ **General Meeting: Where There's a Will: Probate Records Can Prove Family Connections**
When: Monday, September 8, 2014 – 7:30 p.m. **NOTE THAT THE MEETING IS MONDAY!**
Guest Speaker: Janice Sellers
- ❖ **The Master Genealogist Group: To Be Determined**
When: To Be Determined – 9:00 a.m.
Chair: Kay Speaks
- ❖ **Writing Group: Genealogy Software**
When: Saturday, September 27, 2014 – 2:30 p.m.
Chair: Debbie Mascot
- ❖ **Lunch 'n' Learn or Study Group**
When: On break (see notes)
Chair: TBD
- ❖ **Board Meeting**
When: Tuesday, September 23, 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: *Where There's a Will: Probate Records Can Prove Family Connections*

GUEST SPEAKER: *Janice Sellers*

DATE: Monday, September 8, 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>

Records created when a person dies can be very useful for genealogists, as they often describe family relationships, but there are pitfalls too. This class will discuss all estate records and also touch on guardianship records.

Janice M. Sellers is a professional genealogist who specializes in Jewish and newspaper research. She is the publicity director for the San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society and the editor of three genealogy journals. She is also a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, the Genealogical Speakers Guild, the California Genealogical Society, and the African-American Genealogical Society of Northern California, among others. She has been on the staff of the Oakland FamilySearch Library since 2000.

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

TRI-VALLEY TMG USERS GROUP

The Master Genealogist Software

Topic: *To Be Determined*

Date: To Be Determined, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

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:tvmtmg.chair@L-AGS.org>

Instructors: Sue Johnston and Kay Speaks

Our new blog (<http://tvmtmgadventures.blogspot.com/>) provides the detailed prompt, samples and ideas, and an opportunity for questions and sharing. Visit our website—even if you use a genealogy program other than TMG, try this exercise!

WRITING GROUP

Genealogy Software

Date: Saturday, September 27, 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 some genealogy software including Family Tree Maker, Roots Magic, GenDetective and Personal Historian (and maybe some others!). Bring notes about your favorite genealogy software (or your computer to share). 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/STUDY GROUP

On break

Date: TBD

Location: TBD

Chair: TBD

Because we've changed the structure of the writing group to include a study group item, Debbie will no longer be leading the Lunch 'n' Learn. If you wish to take this over (doesn't have to be lunch time), please let Debbie know at <mailto:debbie@mascotmanor.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 postponed to September 2. Summary of notes will be in next month's eBulletin.

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

We are actively seeking articles and photos for the Roots Tracer. Some items we are looking for are short, entertaining updates about your current genealogy activities. Who are you researching? In what locations? What time period? What other genealogy related activities are you pursuing? Are you travelling? Indexing? Writing? Speaking? Instructing? Volunteering? Let us know. Please submit all articles, updates and columns to <mailto:rootstracer.chair@L-AGS.org>.

We welcome articles the following subject matter:

- Updated, previously published Livermore Roots Tracer articles
- Your 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, Poems, and Photographs

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, please provide a headshot and short bio (50-60 words) with an email address. Your headshot and 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 "Terri" Fraser via email <mailto:rootstracer.chair@L-AGS.org> or telephone (925) 361-7179 to discuss your article ideas or to answer any questions you may have.

SPECIAL EVENTS

OTHER LOCAL GENEALOGY GROUP MEETINGS AND EVENTS

NEHGS Comes West: Navigating New England and New York Resources.

September 13, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Berkeley, California. Contact California Genealogical Society for more information:

<http://www.americanancestors.org/Event.aspx?id=30470&dt=9%2F13%2F2014>

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.

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>.

Oak Knoll Cemetery. The Oak Knoll Cemetery Project needs some help. Dick Finn and his cousin in England, Peter Kitchingham, are working on identifying all of the people buried at the old Oak Knoll Cemetery at the corner of Stanley and Wall St. in Livermore. This project will conclude with a book listing all these people and something about their families including photographs of gravestones where available. We have a listing of articles about these people in local newspapers. It would be a great service if a few people would take the time to look up and copy these articles for the project. Microfilm of the papers are at the Livermore Library and the Livermore Heritage Guild. If you can help please contact Dick at <mailto:rwoffinn@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.

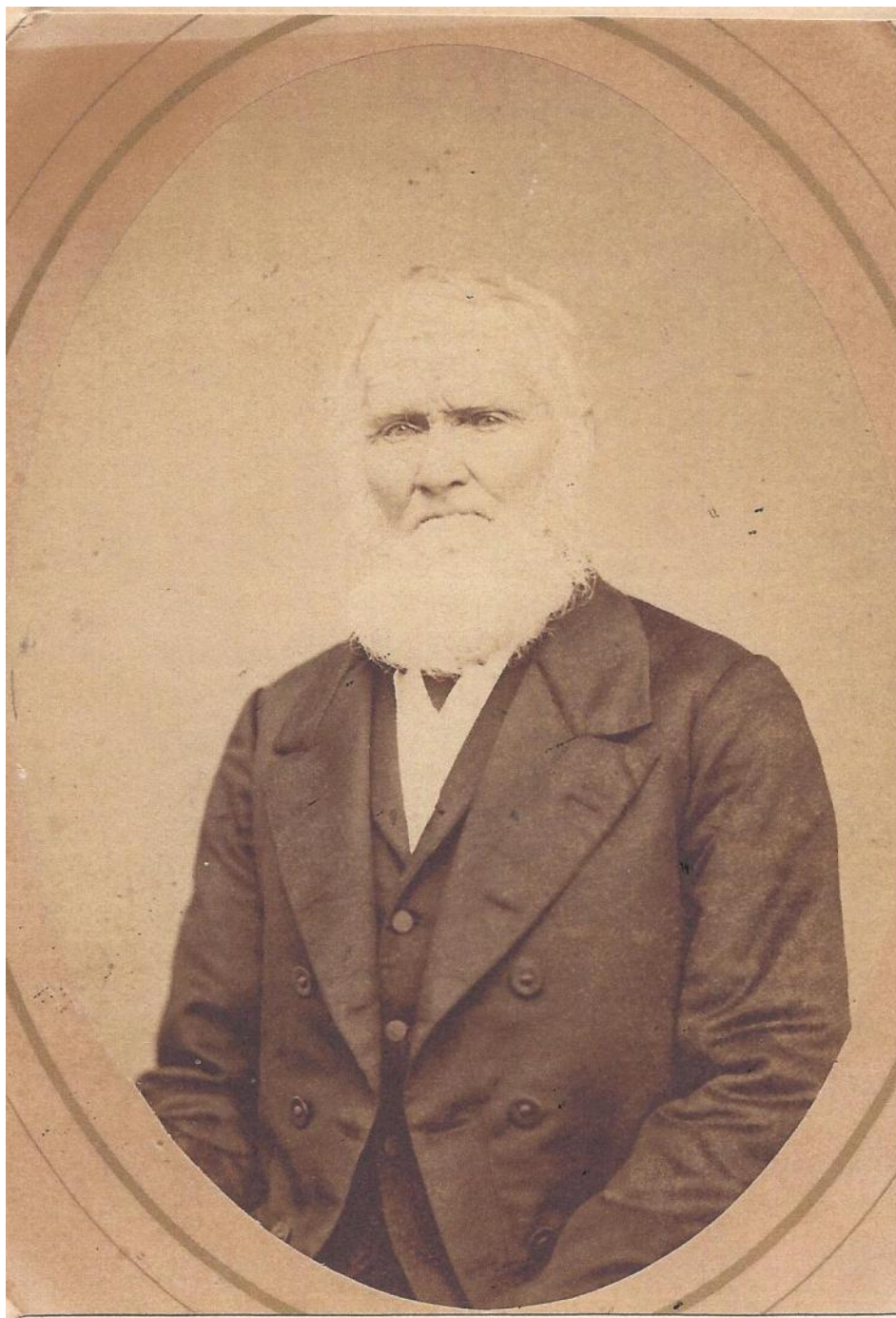
| Topics of Future General Meetings | | |
|--|---|-------------------------|
| <i>Date</i> | <i>Topic</i> | <i>Presenter</i> |
| October 13 | Land and Property Records | Vera Broyles |
| November 10 | “It Becomes My Painful Duty...” Uncovering the Stories in Letters of Condolence | Susan Goss Johnston |

| 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 Patricia Northam, Program Chair | Second Monday 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 (PLEASE CHECK THE SCHEDULE AS THIS FREQUENTLY CHANGES) | 7077 Koll Center Parkway Suite 110 Pleasanton Map: http://www.L-AGS.org/maps/Pls-KollCenter.jpg |
| Writing Group Debbie Mascot | One Saturday a Month (TBD) | R.S.V.P. for address |

Photos from the Banner on Page 1:



Harriet Anderson- October 29, 2012



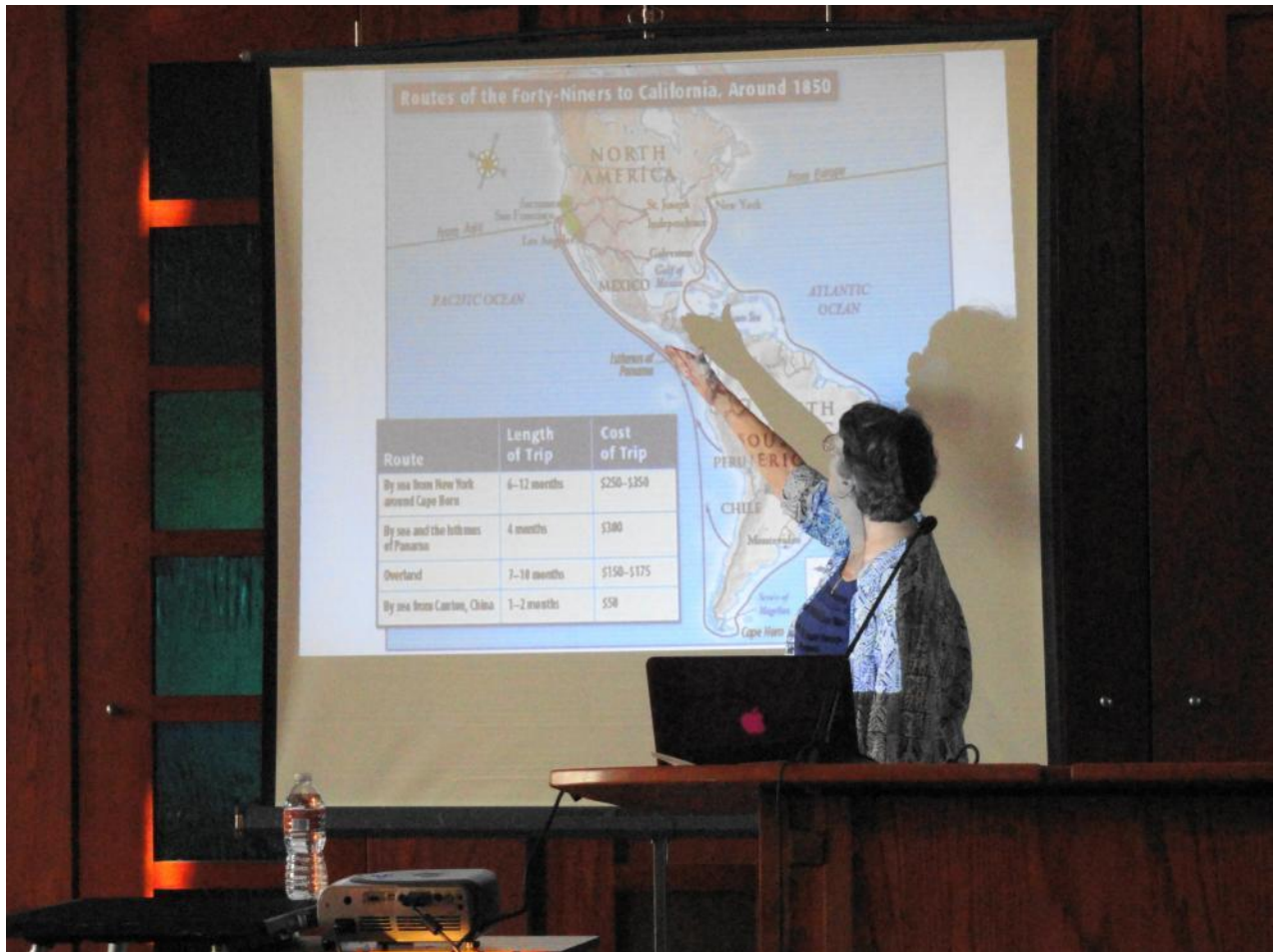
| | |
|----------------------|---|
| L-AGS Member: | Leslie J. Steuben |
| Relation: | Fraternal 3rd Great Grandparents |
| Name(s): | Jonathan Arnold-Steuben and Lucy Porter Steuben |
| Location: | The Town of Steuben, Onieda County, New York |
| Year: | unknown [between 1800-1836] |
| Comments | Jonathan was a Revolutionary Soldier, serving 12 April 1777 to 8 June 1783. Photos found in June 2014 in the possession of a long lost 2nd cousin. |



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August 2014 General Meeting:
Migration During the Gold Rush Era by Sally Stevens



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