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The Livermore Roots Tracer



Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society

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

Welcome to Our New Members

Ann Spediacci, Livermore, CA; **Dan Dawson**, Pleasanton, CA.

We are grateful for the generosity of these members of L-AGS:

Patrons

Anonymous, Cheryl Kay Speaks, David E. Steffes, Duncan Tanner

Benefactors

**Jolene & David Abrahams, Kristina Ahuja, Sandra Caulder, Ralph J. Crouse, Marilyn A. Cutting,
Gail & Ted Fairfield, Wanda & Richard Finn, Patricia R. Hansen, Jean & Dick Lerche, Cindy McKenna,
Madelon Palma, Ileen J. Peterson, Betty Ryon, Carl Webb, Peggy Weber, Rhett Williamson**

*Total membership as of July 19, 2010:***236 individuals**

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>

The Study Group meets on the fourth Thursday of every month except November and December at 7:30 p.m., at the LDS Church, 950 Mocho Street, Livermore.

Map: <http://www.l-ags.org/maps/Liv-FHC.html>

Study Group Chair (Kay Speaks)

study.chair@L-AGS.org

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

The Master Genealogist Group 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*

L-AGS Leadership for 2010

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Richard Finn

Second VP and Membership Chair

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The Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society is exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501(3)(c) (public charity) of the Internal Revenue Code and California Taxation Code 23701g

A Message from President Barbara Huber

I know I said in my May President's message that I wanted warm weather so I could put away my sweaters and coats, but I really didn't want it to get too HOT. I hope everyone is managing to stay cool as our weather reaches 90 plus degrees.

I hope everyone is finding new ways to research family genealogy. If you are a beginner our Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society is available to help you in a number of ways.

At the Pleasanton Public Library, we have many genealogy books and CDs plus computers and volunteer docents ready to help you get started or develop crevices in your brick walls. Attend our General Meeting on the second Tuesday of every month and learn new ways to research genealogy from our excellent guest speakers. Also, if you need help with computer usage our Master Genealogist and Study Group meetings are very informative.

I began my family's research at the Sutro Library many years ago when the library still had the old card catalog. I was searching for my father's family name and to my surprise; I found a complete book on his family dating back to 1635. My second surprise was when they let me check it out and take it home. With the help of my father's sister, I was able to find my great grandfather in the book, thereby completing my research to the immigrant ancestor.

Since then I have found books to be an important research tool. When I worked at Goodenough Books years ago I found Higginson Book Company which had thousands of Genealogy and History books, and they would make you a copy for a reasonable price. If you want to look at a book before purchasing it, you could try to borrow it from the library.

Recently, the Pleasanton Library added the 2009 edition of *Evidence Explained: Citing History Sources from Artifacts to Cyberspace* by Elizabeth Shown Mills. Ms. Mills has been recognized as "the genealogist who has had the greatest impact on American genealogy in the post-Roots era."

I like to search the Internet using Genealogy as a subject or History of (and the name of a town and state) and see what I can find.

We have some excellent guest speakers lined up for the coming months, so I hope to see all of our L-AGS members there, as well as many guests.

P.S. We also have good refreshments.

*[Editor's Note: **Requesting materials from other libraries***

If you search the catalog for a book that is not owned by the Library you will be given the option of searching for it in other library collections. A button labeled **LINK+** will appear in the upper right corner of the search screen when this option is available to you. Click this button to search for the same title, author, or subject in the collections of LINK+ member libraries. LINK+ is a consortium of public and academic libraries with 14,000,000+ items. LINK+ is a request service for books only. You must have a library card to place requests. In most cases, requested books will arrive within 2 to 5 days.]

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: **tracer@L-AGS.org** or mailed to L-AGS, P.O. Box 901, Livermore, CA 94551-0901. We offer ghostwriting help when requested.

The Roots Tracer Staff

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Looking for Descendants of Alfred B. Shuler

By Gail Bryan

A shoebox full of letters and pictures was bought at an auction in Richmond, CA over 30 years ago. The box was in a larger box of tools, etc. that "attracted" the purchaser at the auction. But now, clean out has begun from the belongings of the now deceased person who bought the tools. This shoebox can be quite a jewel for the unknown genealogist looking for ancestors, if that ancestor is Alfred F. Shuler.

Alfred was born on October 3, 1859 in Anoka, Minnesota. He died on January 2, 1958 in Millbrae, California, at age 98. He is buried at the Lakewood Cemetery in Minneapolis, Minnesota. In checking census records, Alfred appeared to have had only daughters, Florence (b. 1886), Mildred (b. 1892) and Elsie (b. 1902). His wife and mother of the girls was Etolia Walkup. Etolia died sometime after 1910. In the 1930 census, Alfred is married to



*Alfred F. Shuler passport photo, 1920.
From Ancestry.com.*

Lorraine (b. 1882 in Canada). He moved to California sometime after 1941. Florence's married name was "Lampman". Mildred's married name was "McMillan". Some of the contents of the shoebox include letters written to "A.F." in the 1870's and 1880's from Totsie (Etolie) where she appeared in shows at the Yankton Opera House and other theaters. A birth announcement from Richmond, CA and a map of the cemetery lot in Minnesota where he is buried are also part of the collection, as are the two pictures of Florence Shuler Lampman shown here.

Anyone having any information or interest in these records may contact Gail Bryan via email at gailmbryan@comcast.net or via postal mail at L-AGS, PO BOX 901, Livermore CA 94551-0901.



Left photo, on back: "Florence (a grandmother now) and Loretta Jane Stannek 5½ months old." [1938]. Right photo, on back "Taken on street in Stockton – Don't I look well!" [In another hand] "Florence Lampman about 1947"





G. R. O. W.

Genealogy Resources On the Web — The Page That Helps Genealogy Grow!

Compiled by Kay Speaks

NARA announces microfilm publications and original records digitized by Ancestry.com and Footnote.com. Site provides microfilm publication number, NARA microform publication title, partner, and record group. Click on column header to sort by topic. Read article for details.

<http://tinyurl.com/NARA-footnote-ancestry-list>

FamilySearch's "Pilot" - View all the collections found on the "pilot" FamilySearch website. Use this link and select "browse collections" or click on an area of the map. *Hint: To return to the home page, click on the FamilySearch logo in the upper left corner.*

<http://pilot.familysearch.org/recordsearch/start.html#p=allCollections&r=-1>

FamilySearch Wiki. This research tool provides many useful links for genealogy research. Type "David Rencher Irish" and view the results. Rencher is the Chief Genealogical Officer for FamilySearch and lecturers on Irish research. Read his "Chasing the Poor and Landless in Ireland" article as a Wiki search example.

https://wiki.familysearch.org/en/Main_Page

Ancestor Hunt - This free genealogy search engine provides many links to genealogy related websites. The site provides you with tools to locate genealogy related resources.

<http://www.ancestorhunt.com/>

North Dakota State University-Institute for Regional Studies & University Archives, Genealogy & Biography, has developed a number of searchable databases.

<http://library.ndsu.edu/archives/biography-genealogy/>

Family Tree Searcher (see Google tip this column). Enter your ancestor information just once to search family trees at five online tree databases. The free service creates the best family tree searches based on your entered ancestry knowledge and provides

tutorials for links for continuing your research. Your search results are retained. Review the "Free Advice" link to get free genealogy service advice that builds on the information you already know by asking specific questions. Your answers provide a customized plan for what you might do and where you might look to develop your research more fully. The five websites are auto configured to get the best results for your search. Some websites might require a subscription, while others are free. After the first search you can change the search criteria if you wish. Press the search buttons for results. Links are provided for "more hints."

<http://www.familytreesearcher.com/>

Failte Romhat - The personal Web site of John Hayes might not be the first place you'd expect to visit, but his site actually offers a surprising number of online Irish databases and transcribed documents, including Land Owners in Ireland 1876, Irish Flax Growers List 1796, Pigot & Co.'s Provincial Directory of Ireland 1824, cemetery transcriptions and photographs, and much more. Best of all, it is all free! [Lois Barber, L-AGS]

http://www.failteromhat.com/index_org.php

Fianna Guide to Irish Genealogy - In addition to excellent tutorials and guides for researching ancestry in Ireland, Fianna also offers transcriptions from a variety of primary documents and records. Free. [Lois Barber, L-AGS]

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~fianna/>

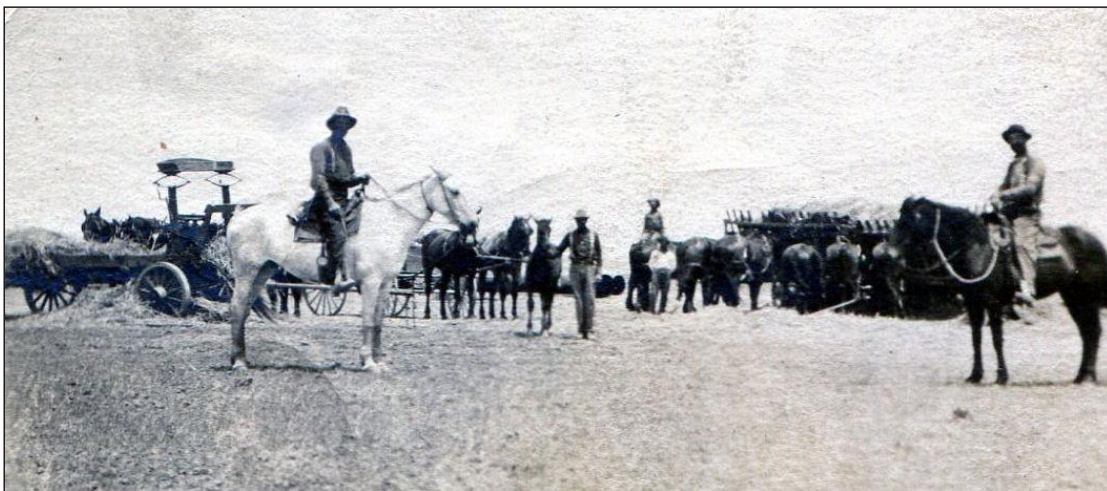
GOOGLE SEARCH TIPS: <http://www.google.com/> Featuring Google's "better than" search tool.

This is a useful Google search tip! In fact, I added the resulting website column above.

- In the Google search area, enter "better than [keyword]" for example:
"better than Ancestry.com"
- The result was Familytreesearcher.com. Read more about Familytreesearch.com above. This is another research website.

The Bagleys of Livermore and Tracy

By Shannon Bagley Ryan



*Rural Livermore Area Circa 1890
Daniel Bagley, Sr. on white horse*

Some years ago, when I was recuperating from a serious illness, I began making a family scrapbook with the few photos I had from my mother's side of the family. It was a great comfort to me at the time. It wasn't until last summer, when my father David Bagley handed me a box full of photos from his side of the family, that I became hooked on genealogy. I knew practically nothing, and my father could only give me tantalizing hints. But, armed with those few hints and some facts (and a subscription to Ancestry.com) I managed to recreate much of the family tree, with some generous help from L-AGS member Richard Finn.

While the research is far from finished, I've managed to discover fascinating details of Northern California in its early days.

The Bagley saga began with a young man of 20, John James Bagley, who left Ireland and made the long sea voyage via Cape Horn, landing in San Francisco in 1850 or 1851. Family lore states that he was an experienced horseman, possibly a jockey—he was that good. Family lore also states that he had some connection with Robert Livermore and his horses, but nothing is known for a fact. We do know that he must have found his new life very much to his liking. Within a year or two after his arrival in the Santa Clara valley, he had married Maria Elena ("Ellen" or "Helen") Aranzazu Mesa,

daughter of Antonio Mesa and Maria Dolores Higuera, both residents of Livermore with deep roots in the early history and exploration of California. (Richard Finn wrote about the genealogy of Dolores Higuera in the February 2006 issue of the *Roots Tracer* at http://www.l-ags.org/tracer/vol_26_1.html#Dolores..)

A land deed made in 1853, found in the History San Jose Archives, shows that John owned about 130 acres in what is now Milpitas, not far from Juan Alviso's adobe.

The only census to include John Bagley was for 1860 at Alviso Township/Milpitas Post Office, where he and "Helen" were living with their two children: Daniel Bagley (born 1857) and Margaret Bagley (born 1859).

Between 1860 and 1861, John vanishes without a trace. He had apparently died by 1861 because Maria Elena remarried that year. So far, no records have been found and no hint of how John died. But life was not easy in the "wild west" and John, who could neither read nor write, lived a laborer's hard life. An accident or disease could easily have caused his death.

Maria Elena's second marriage was to Manuel Altamirano of Livermore. They had several children: Frank, Louis, Manuel Jr., and Clara

Altamirano. Her children by John would have grown up in this California household and learned to speak fluent Spanish. Daniel Bagley Sr. spoke Spanish all his life, as did his eldest son Daniel Jr.

Daniel Sr. inherited his father's genes for horsemanship, as he was known all his life for his beautiful riding style and impressive bearing. As a young man, he would ride regularly from Mission San Jose to Banta. (During the early days of California there were very few roads or settlements.)

In 1878, Daniel Bagley married Caroline Altamirano, the youngest daughter of Juan Francisco Altamirano and Encarnacion Bernal, also residents of the Livermore area. As it happens, Juan Francisco was a brother of Manuel Altamirano, who was Daniel's stepfather. I would guess that Daniel grew up around the Altamiranos' extended family and fell in love with Caroline, whom he must have known for some time. The Altamirano family was close to Daniel's family, some eventually coming to live in Tracy. By 1879, Daniel's first son, Daniel Jr., was born in Livermore.

Farming was not a sure bet financially, owing to weather, price fluctuations, and life's surprises. On August 28, 1890, the *Daily Alta* reported that "Daniel Bagley, a farmer in Murray Township, is unable to meet his debts and has been compelled to file his schedule in insolvency. His liabilities amount to \$1170 and his assets consist of real estate worth \$4000 and mortgaged for \$3800. His creditors nearly all reside at Livermore." It must have been shortly after this period that Daniel moved to Tulare Township (later Tracy) where the rest of Daniel Sr.'s children were born. With nine children to support, he had to find steady work. During the 1890s, the *Oakland Tribune* reported that Daniel was in charge of 1400 head of cattle belonging to the Naglee Burke estate.

By the time of the 1900 census, Daniel Sr. had definitively settled in Tracy, though the majority of his mother's relatives continued to live in the Livermore area. Daniel's sister Margaret (Marguerita, or Maggie) had married Jacob Sachau in 1876. Jacob was well known in the Livermore area as a successful dairy farmer. Margaret and Jacob also had many children who became a vital part of the Livermore community.

Daniel Sr. had much better luck with farming in Tracy. According to his obituary, he was "associated closely with the development of Tracy...

moving to the district as manager of the Naglee-Burke ranch." In 1915, he planted 600 acres of sugar beets, one of the first to do so in the area, and was one of the several men instrumental in obtaining the sugar beet refining plant in Tracy.



*Sugar Beets, Tracy Circa 1917
Daniel Jr. and Daniel Sr.*

A fascinating detour in his life was the year he spent at Hearst's Babicora Rancho in Mexico in 1921, where Hearst owned vast amounts of land for raising cattle, and where Hearst was developing a special horse breed he called the "Morab"—a Morgan/Arabian mix.

Daniel continued farming throughout the rest of his very long life. Born in 1857, he died nearly 100 years later, in 1955. What changes he lived through—from the very beginnings of California statehood with vast stretches of uninhabited land, through all the rapid changes to California and the rest of the country by the 1950s. Daniel Sr. lived through the tenure of 21 US presidents. What stories he probably told—if only someone had been there to write them down.



*Four generations of Bagleys Circa 1947
Daniel Sr. (b 1857), Daniel Jr. (b 1879),
Daniel III (b 1909), David Bagley (b 1939)*

This Old House—My Ancestral Home in Frontier Kansas

By Mary Dillon

[Editor's note: In the February 2008 issue of the Roots Tracer, page 9, and in the May 2008 issue, page 15, Mary wrote about what she learned was "the most famous ranch in the American West in the early 1900s"—the 101 Ranch.]

August—what better time to visit the Mid-West! But I do it every year to attend the 101 Ranch Old Timers Association Reunion. The ranch belonged to part of my family and my dad grew up nearby in Blackwell, Kay County, Oklahoma. So even though I grew up in Los Angeles, I feel an affinity for the area. I've made a number of friends in the group, and now that I'm retired I take a week to visit and do genealogy research while I'm there. It's always fun.

In August 2009, my goal was to find out more about my great-grandfather, Joseph Joplin Carson and his coming from Kentucky to Oklahoma for the 1893 land run. I stayed in Ponca City, which has a lovely library with a good genealogy room. I spent several afternoons there and in nearby Newkirk, the Kay County seat. Among the items I found was the original land registration from 1893 and then the land patent from 1901. There were also several deeds from when my great-grandfather gave part of his land to my grandfather and one of his daughters—important pieces for putting together a picture of JJ Carson.

One of the biggest questions I had was about where he lived after he left Kentucky and before the Oklahoma land run opened. Online, I found a transcribed 1885 newspaper from Winfield, Kansas that had an ad for "JJ Carson Men's Clothier." I hadn't known that the family had come out that early; so I wanted to find out more. Since Winfield is only about 30 miles north of Ponca City, I drove up on a Sunday afternoon to explore the local museum and see what I could find. The friendly docent led me to the basement (not air conditioned!) and pointed me to the old city directories and also boxes of

old records. I spent the whole afternoon there, but found some wonderful things. One box contained all the old records of

the Winfield chapter of Grand Army of the Republic (GAR). The 1885 newspaper had mentioned that JJ Carson, a co-commander of the GAR, led the group in the 4th of July parade, but in the box I found only a brief mention of his name in a list of members.

As far as his business is concerned, I had known the address on Main Street of JJ's clothing store. (The original building had burned and been replaced in the 1940s.) In addition, however, I wanted to find where the family lived. I kept my fingers crossed as I looked at the shelf of city directories. Then I found it in the 1886 Winfield Directory: "JJ Carson, 1112 Manning Avenue." Now I had to find the address and see if the house was still standing. I had a map of Winfield, and the docent at the museum pointed me in the right direction—all of three blocks from the museum.

With the cross streets all numbered, it was easy to find the correct block of Manning, which was just one block off Main Street. There were only two houses on the east side of the street (a church and parking lot on the west). Each house sat on about a quarter-acre lot. Since it wasn't the modern house, I had to deduce it was the old two-story prairie style house. I was sure this was the house, but I couldn't



*JJ Carson's House
1112 Manning Avenue
Winfield, Kansas*

find the house number. The house looked to be from the right period and was in the correct spot. This had to be it, but I couldn't be sure. As I wandered around taking pictures a car pulled up, and a husband and wife got out. I quickly explained why I was taking pictures of their house. The wife spent the next hour telling me about the house—while we stood in 100+ degree heat! She didn't invite me in—guess I look like a terrorist. She was pleasant, however, and gave me lots of neat information.

It was indeed the house my great-grandfather had lived in. Since it sat on a corner, years ago the post office had changed the address around the corner to 12th Street, to make delivery easier. She and her husband had lived in the house for 27 years. She said it had been built in 1871. The old barn was still standing. It had been converted to a garage, probably sometime in the 1920's from the looks of it. There were huge trees in the parkway along the street; that made taking pictures a challenge. These



JJ's Barn



Osage Orange Trees

were Osage Orange trees. According to the woman, these Osage Orange trees were the oldest and largest in Winfield—possibly planted by my great-grandparents? As I left Winfield I was on cloud nine; what an exciting find; another piece of my family put in place.

On my next trip back I plan to visit Winfield on a weekday to see if I can find a deed for the house in JJ's name. That would put the frosting on the cake.

After returning home, while filing all my information, I came across a transcribed 1970 interview with my great-aunt Myra, daughter of JJ Carson. I remember being there when the interview was done. I knew I had the transcription, but I hadn't read it in years. Aunt Myra described the family's moving out to Winfield in 1885 to be near JJ's sister and brother-in-law, who eventually started the 101 Ranch. After a couple of years, the family moved to El Dorado, Kansas in the next county. After about a year in El Dorado, JJ's store burned, and he moved the family back to Louisville, Kentucky, near his wife's family. They lived there until JJ came back to his sister's home in Winfield in mid-1893 to make the land run into Oklahoma in September, 1893.

One of the stories Aunt Myra told was how, after JJ made his land claim on September 26th, he wanted to move his family out with him as soon as possible. Since trees were scarce in north-central Oklahoma and lumber was very expensive, he rode up to Wichita, Kansas where he bought a 6-room house. He had the house cut into pieces, loaded on wagons, and driven down to Blackwell where he had it reassembled. Once the house was livable, he wired his family to ship all the furnishings out to Winfield and take the train there and stay with his sister until he could pick them up.

When the family arrived in December at their new home on the Oklahoma frontier, they had a comfortable house with all their furnishings already installed. Sadly, the Blackwell house was torn down in the mid-1900's to make way for the Kay County Fairgrounds; so I never saw it. But at least I have pictures of their very first home in the "wild west."

This is what I love about genealogy, finding all the little pieces that tell you what your ancestors' lives were like. It makes them come alive and gives a much more complete picture than just dates and places. And there's always more to find.

No, We're Not Part of the Hatfield-McCoy Feud. Maybe!

By Donelle Bomben

Unlike my paternal grandfather, I never knew my maternal grandfather, William Harrison Hatfield. He was killed in the construction of a potato cellar on his homestead in Tulelake, California in late 1932. Though I never knew him, I did learn some things about Granddad Hatfield and his family in Tennessee through stories told by his children and by my grandmother, Zona Letitia Hatfield, his widow. My mother, Zona Delilah, the oldest of his children, told me many of those stories. She was just 11 when he died. I guess some mystery about Granddad Hatfield was what caused me to start with him when I found I was interested in following my roots. It probably helped that my grandmother had a copy of a Civil War discharge paper from the Union Army for Granddad Hatfield's grandfather, John H. Hatfield.

I wish I had started digging into my Hatfield roots before my grandmother, Zona Letitia (Wilson) Hatfield, (called Gram by all of us kids) died in 1981, but at that time I was knee deep in raising two sons and working full time as a single parent. Researching genealogy had to wait until retirement.



*Sergeant William Harrison Hatfield
in his US Army uniform*

I was always fascinated by my grandparents' story: They had met while in the Army during WWI. Gram was in the Army Nursing Corps, not officially US Army, but she was a Lieutenant, nonetheless. Granddad, William Harrison Hatfield, was a career Army cook, a Sergeant, who had seen duty on the US Border with Mexico chasing Pancho Villa in 1916 and in France with the American Expeditionary Force in 1917 and 1918. Gram met Granddad when he arrived at the infirmary after having been shot by another soldier who was cleaning his rifle in the barracks. The rifle "wasn't loaded." Fortunately, the wound was not too serious, but the relationship must have become so, as they both mustered out at Camp Zachary Taylor, near Louisville, Kentucky, and married shortly thereafter, in 1920. My grandfather's Army career was over.

Granddad was a multigenerational Tennessee farm boy who recognized that his future was not going to be on the family farm near Dunlap, Tennessee; so he and his new wife headed west to Pendleton, Oregon to work on the railroad. It was there that my mother, Zona Delilah, was born in January 1921. In 1923, Granddad won a homestead in a military veterans drawing in Tulelake, California; so the growing family moved there. I could write many stories about growing up in Tulelake, the history of the Basin, and the homesteading life there. My own father, John W. Pettigrew, won his own homestead there in 1949 through the same military veterans program; so the area is always dear to me. But, this is about my Hatfield kin.

Gram had kept good notes on Granddad's family, and I inherited some of them after my mother passed away. It got me off to a good start with my genealogical research. I learned that Granddad William Harrison Hatfield's father, David Bell Hatfield, had two wives, first, Delilah Ann Mansfield and second, Catherine Fannie McNabb. He had 17 children. My grandfather was the seventh oldest by the marriage to Delilah Mansfield. Maybe that was reason enough to leave Dunlap; all of his older brothers left also. The only work aside from farming was in the coal mines. Many of his brothers came back to Tennessee to die and be buried in the family cemetery on the farm—I guess they could not stay out of Tennessee forever. Gram's notes, typed on her old manual Olympia typewriter, in-

clude information on my great-grandfather, David Bell Hatfield, as well as, his father, John H. Hatfield, my great-great-grandfather. Her notes include their wives' and children's names as well. A good start for a beginner! I thought; "This is going to be easy." I did not realize that in Tennessee brick walls are thick and tall. Through Ancestry.com, Footnote.com, Tennessee GenWeb, and other sites, I found census and other records showing that my second great grandfather, John H. Hatfield, was in Sequatchie County, with a wife named Sarah Emeline Hatfield and two small children, Rhoda Jane and David Bell, in 1860. John H.'s stated age is questionable, and that mystery got deeper. It would be a lot easier if I were able to follow the trail of John H.'s wife, Sarah Emeline, as the records for her parentage have been studied more extensively and go back to the mid 1700s in Virginia.

In the 1880 census John H. states his age as 47 years. In 1900, he is listed as 65, yet his new tombstone has his birth date as 1 Jan 1840, and there are the military discharge papers which support the 1840 birth year. However, if he was born in 1840, he would have been barely 15 when his first child was born in March 1855 and his wife would be 4 years older than he was! In most of my genealogy searches I have not seen any other youngsters marrying that early; so I question his birth date even more. But more importantly, nowhere in my searching have I found any information stating who his parents might be. He seems to have come into adulthood fully formed.

Someone suggested that I obtain his NARA Civil War pension records, because applicants often supply family information when making application. When these arrived, I found that both my second great grandfather and his wife, Sarah, were illiterate and that his age changed each time he was interviewed. There is no official record of their marriage, but they were married by a "Minister of the Gospel" whom I did find in the census records of the county where John H. was born, Marion

County, Tennessee. (Sequatchie County was split from Marion County after John H. was born.) I also learned that he added the "H" to his name because there were so many other John Hatfields. However, there is no mention of parents' names or a birth date. His statements each time he was interviewed for a pension would indicate that he was probably born between 1833 and 1836—unless he just wanted to be older to qualify for the pension.

Lots of John Hatfields lived in this Tennessee County around the time of the Civil War. Four of them are buried in the family cemetery! Three, other than my second great grandfather, were also "Federal" soldiers, but there are no dates on the headstones of these three, though there is information about which military units they enlisted in. During the time I was digging into all of this, I spoke with my youngest Hatfield aunt, who told me that there is a family story that says we are not really Hatfields, but that John H. was orphaned young and reared by Jonathan Hatfield, who later became his father-in-law. Sounds plausible, but I did not want to spend all of my time chasing Hatfield kin who belong to someone else!



*William Harrison & Zona Letitia Hatfield
with my mother, Zona Delilah Hatfield*

Is a DNA test next? Yes. Fortunately, my mother has one brother, who has one son (with no children). I spoke with my uncle, ordered a DNA kit, and rushed off to spend a week with my uncle in Tulelake, California. Six weeks later we became *officially* Hatfields. So, Great-Great-Grandfather John H. possibly did marry his cousin, but which cousin? First cousin? First cousin once removed? How to know? Until I break through this Tennessee brick wall I won't know. I see a trip to Sequatchie County coming next year. Meanwhile I hope to do some interlibrary loan work to get into public records from the 1830s; I hope the public records may give some hints. However, the Marion County courthouse burned, losing some of the early records; so I may be out of luck. The mystery does draw me on.

The Diaries of Helen (Converse) Newton

[29 October 1868 -12 January 1913]

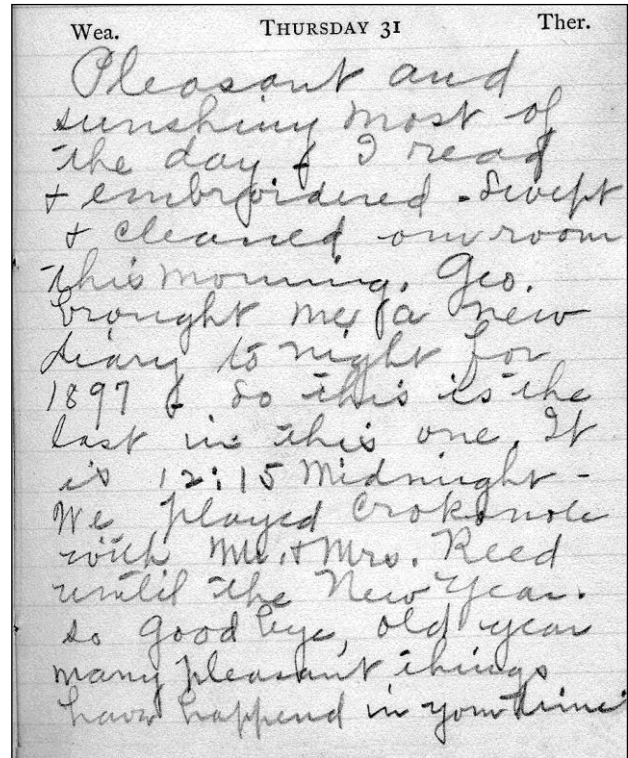
By Cindy Wheeler

It began with a conversation at Curves. Kathy Chase and I would often discuss our quest for the elusive ancestor while working out together, and one fall day in 2008 fellow exerciser Patti Fredericks overheard our discussion and asked if we could find descendants. She had found some diaries in her late husband's belongings, did not know of any family connection to the author, and wanted to get the diaries to a family member. I offered to help Patti locate a living family member, if possible, and she gave me the diaries to read.

Written by Helen Newton, the first diary began on January 1, 1896. Helen and her husband George lived at 690 Water Street, Portland, Oregon. Thus began the quest for Helen's descendants.

As I read the diaries, I captured clues to Helen's life. She recorded visitors, letters, books, churches and events. On January 18, 1896, Helen noted that it was "Father Newton's birthday, 53 years old," so he was born 18 January 1843. Here was the first clue; but who were all the other people Helen wrote about?

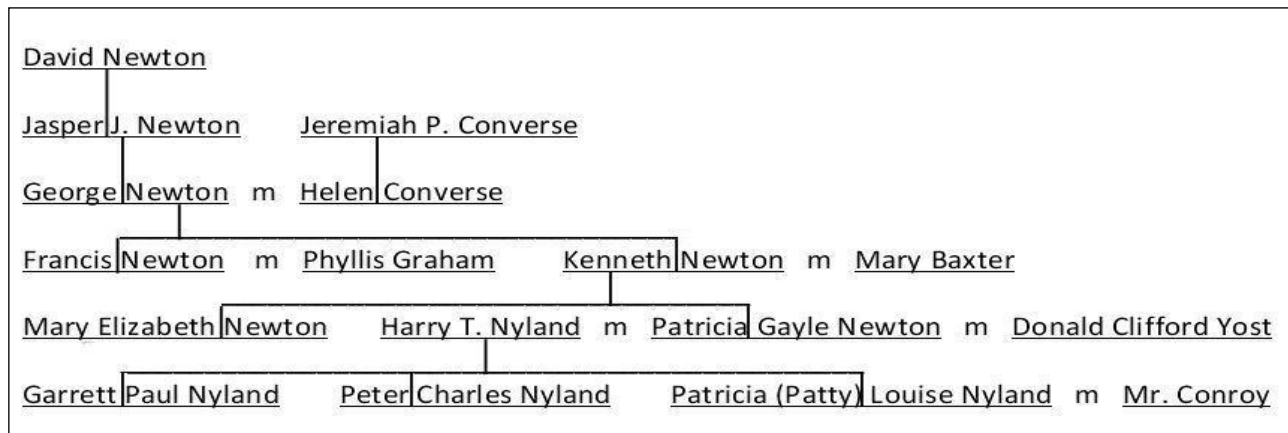
On March 8th George and Helen traveled by train to San Francisco and began living in Mrs. Gross' boarding house in Oakland; two weeks board was \$18. On May 14th Edd and Meliss were married in the parlor of the boarding house. June 15th was George's 26th birthday; he was born 15 Jun 1870. Helen and George celebrated their 2nd anniversary August 2nd [married 2 August 1894] and September 2nd was George's parent's 27th anniversary [married 8 September 1869]—more clues! Helen's birthday was October 29th. In the back of this dairy is an ad-



dress for "Mrs. J. J. Newton, 215 W. King St. Winaona, Minn."

On June 23, 1897 Helen wrote "Grandpa is 81 today;" he was born 23 June 1816, but whose grandpa was he? "September 14th was Meliss' birthday. On November 26th Father Converse visited." Was this Helen's father?

On March 26, 1898 George bought a house at 1522 Franklin Street in Oakland and they moved in May 1st. On May 17th Helen's sister Grace died. "Oh



how can I write it my darling sister has left us and gone home to Heaven -- Geo. & I arrived too late for her to know us." On October 1st Helen writes "two weeks over time to be sick -- guess I am going to have a baby sure." Addresses in this diary included Mrs. J. P. Converse, 2638 Highlands, W 27th Avenue, Denver or 2329 Emerson Street, Denver, Colorado.

On January 3, 1899 Helen wrote "Ernest and his wife came over this p.m." On the 5th, Helen wrote "Ernest -- Frankie went back to the city this P.M."—more clues. George and Helen moved to 415 Divisadero Street in San Francisco on January 26th; George's company is located at 131 First Street in San Francisco. On May 25th George wrote in the diary that "Helen took sick soon after 12 last night had awful pains, got Dr. Goss here about 3 am. Our dear little boy was born at 9:55 am... On June 23rd George's mother died." An address in this diary: Mrs. E. A. Newton, 929 O'Farrell Street, San Francisco, California/

On April 25, 1900 Helen wrote "Went to see Dr. Goss -- She says I am pregnant again, I am glad if only I can keep well and have a stronger baby than Francis is." George, Helen and Francis moved to a rented cottage at 939 Magnolia Street in Oakland. November 11th -- "Water broke at 7:30 am. Nurse Miss Kreiss arrived at 9:30 no pain Helen got up had dinner at 2 went out riding in pm took hot bath retired at 3:30. Pains came on at 12. Dr. arrived 3:30 am took chloroform. Plump baby boy arrived at 4:34 weight 7 1/2 lbs and Oh I am so glad to have it all over with. My pains were hard while they lasted." In this diary was a "calling card," the front printed "Miss Converse" and the back handwritten "With much love and best wishes for a Merry

Christmas to dear Helen from Mother and Florence."—so Converse is Helen's maiden name!

The first thing I did after reading the diaries was to look for George and Helen Newton in the 1900 census in Oakland, California on Ancestry.com. I located them at 939 Magnolia Street, Oakland Ward 4, in Alameda County, with their son Francis. George was born Jun 1870 in Iowa, Helen Oct 1870 in New York, and Francis May 1899 in California. In 1910 George and Helen were living at 11 Monticello Avenue in Oakland/Piedmont, with sons Francis and Kenneth, ages 10 and 9, as well as Bertha, age 20, listed as a daughter.

Had George been married before? Was Bertha really his daughter? I didn't think so because Bertha was listed in the 1900 census as daughter of George's widowed father, Jasper J. Newton, in Soda Springs, Oregon, along with her brother Harry, and her grandfather David Newton. Next door was Helen's father, Jeremiah P. Converse. By 1920 George was living at 100 Bonita Avenue in Piedmont with Francis and Kenneth, ages 20 and 19, but now married to Aris. I found that Helen died 12 January 1913 in Oakland [www.vitalsearch_ca.com/gen/ca/_vitals/cadeathm.htm] and located a notice of her funeral.

"The funeral service of Mrs. George F. Newton, an old resident of Oakland and wife of George F. Newton, who came to her death last Monday night following an operation, will be held at Grace Methodist-Episcopal church, at the corner of Thirty-fourth and Market streets, tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock. Rev. Geo. W. White of the First Methodist church will officiate.

"Mrs. Newton had a large circle of friends, who were shocked and grieved to hear of her untimely

1910 Census George Newton is fifth surname entry.
To read the census, use a magnifying glass or the enlarge feature on your browser.

death. She was prominent in social and club affairs. She was a member of the Ebell and the Home Clubs, in which she took an active part. She had recently returned from the Newton farm, near Los Gatos.

“Besides her husband, Mrs. Newton is survived by two young sons, Kenneth and Francis Newton. Death came at Fabiola Hospital.” [www.newspaperarchive.com, Oakland Tribune, 15 January 1913, page 3]

Helen was buried 16 January 1913 in Plot 48, Lot 89, Grave 1 at Mountain View Cemetery in Oakland. Also buried in Plot 48, Lot 89 are Mary Burckholter [buried 25 January 1930]; and the ashes of Harry David Newton [buried 29 May 1923], Edward Y. Burckholter [buried 21 October 1939], Kathryn Newton [buried 7 March 1967], Mae Burckholter Newton [buried June 1975], and Helen Newton Latimer [buried July 1992]. A search for Harry David Newton located him in the 1910 census. He was in Oakland Ward 3 living with his wife Mae, her parents Charles & Mary C. Burckholter, and her three brothers Charles W., Edward, and Robert. In 1920, Harry and Mae are still with Mae’s parents in Oakland and have a daughter Kathryn, age 1-10/12. In 1930, Mae is a widow in Oakland with two daughters, Kathryn (age 12) and Helen (age 9). A search in Newspaperarchive.com, finds a picture of Mae announcing her marriage to Harry December 8, 1909, along with a few articles regarding their wedding that include the fact that Harry’s nephews Francis and Kenneth are to be ribbon bearers. So, Helen’s brother-in-law, and his wife, two daughters, mother-in-law and brother-in-law were buried in the same plot as she was.

Tracking the two sons, Francis and Kenneth, I found a World War I Draft Registration Card for Francis Locke Newton on Ancestry.com that confirmed his birth date as 25 May 1899 and that as of 12 Sep 1918 his permanent address was with his father at 100 Bonita in Piedmont. In 1930 Francis and wife Phyllis (Graham) were located at 64 Ches-

lon Drive, Oakland. There was no indication of any children. The Social Security Death Index (SSDI) and California Death Index both confirm Francis’ birth date and showed that he died 17 Apr 1974 in Marin County. I did locate a “cousin” of Phyllis through Ancestry.com, but decided to continue looking for a direct descendent.

An article on page 56 of the August 23, 1925 Oakland Tribune announced the marriage of Kenneth Converse Newton, son of George F. Newton of Piedmont and stepson of Mrs. George Newton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry H. Sherwood of Piedmont, to Mary Baxter, daughter of George Perkins Baxter of Oakland, on August 15th. In 1930 Kenneth and Mary were located in Township 7 of Contra Costa County at 28 Sunset Drive, with daughters Mary E. (age 3 yrs 10 mos.) and Patricia G. (age 2 yrs 6 mos.).



Grave marker for Helen Newton

Following Kenneth’s daughters Mary and Patricia, Mary Elizabeth appeared to never have married or had children. I found Mary with her mother on a passenger list from Hawaii in 1931. In the Social Security Death Index, I found that Mary was born 10 May 1926 in Berkeley and died 4 Oct 1996 in Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo County. Patricia Gayle was born 26

September 1927 in Berkeley, and a search for tional information on Ancestry.com found that she married Harry T. Nyland [1924-2006] in 1948 and divorced him September 1972 in Sacramento County. Patricia then married Donald Clifford Yost [1924-2002] 23 March 1974 in Sacramento County. She died 6 June 2007 in El Dorado Hills, El Dorado County. So close! Patricia had died only three years ago! A search of the California birth records, 1905-1995, for children born with the last name Nyland and a mother’s maiden name Newton, located three children born after 1948 in Sacramento: Garrett Paul (born 5 June 1951), Peter Charles (born 27 December 1953) and Patricia Louise (born 12 February 1955). A search for additional information on the three children produced a marriage, child and residence for Garrett, a residence for Peter, and a marriage, child and residence for Patricia.

A search of white-pages.com only gave me Patricia's telephone number in El Dorado Hills. I left a message. Patricia (Nyland) Conroy, or Patty, called me back and was excited because they really didn't know much about that side of their family. It turned out that Kenneth and Mary divorced while the girls were young.

Patti Fredericks and I met Patty Conroy on June 14, 2010 in Vacaville. It was exciting to see Helen's diaries in her great-granddaughter's hands. Patty didn't have much from her grandfather, Kenneth, other than one letter and a few pictures of him, his wife Mary, and their two daughters Mary and Patricia. Patty told us that her Aunt Mary had actually been married three times, and had four children, each time taking back her maiden name, Nyland, upon divorce. Lesson learned: just because a woman appears in the Social Security Death Index under her maiden name, don't assume that she never married or had children!

We marveled over coincidences: Their names are Patti and Patty. Patti's daughter shared Helen's birth date. Patty named her son Charles Francis even though she had never known that her great uncle's name was Francis! We have not been able



Patti Fredericks and Patty Conroy

to find a connection between Patti's husband and Helen. Patti is curious as to how the diaries ended up in her husband's belongings; but is resigned to never knowing and is just thrilled that the diaries are in the hands of an interested descendant.

So now, Patty is getting to know Helen by reading the diaries. She plans to visit Helen's grave in Mountain View Cemetery and the homes where the family lived.

Wouldn't it be great if Patty could locate a picture of Helen?

How We Put Our Genealogy to Use in a Non-genealogy Club

By George and Harriet Anderson

We helped found the San Francisco Bay Area branch of an international organization called *The Friendship Force (FF)* in 1984. The purpose of the organization is to help, in a small way, to promote peace between nations by establishing person-to-person friendships between ordinary citizens of the nations.

We have traveled with groups of 20 to 30 members of the Bay Area FF club to New Zealand, The Netherlands, Chile, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan, in each place staying for a week in the home of a family of that country. We have hosted in our home visiting FF members from South Korea, New Zealand, Chile, The Netherlands, Germany, Indonesia, Russia, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan. Some of our club members have been on dozens of these

We sometimes feel like the mythical genealogist who was so addicted to the chase that he couldn't quit when he got to Adam and Eve.

trips. The visitors come not as tourists, but as guests learning about the daily life of the host family—the joys and troubles, the jobs, schools, daily chores—and sharing descriptions of their own corresponding activities. See <http://www.friendshipforce.org/>

What has this got to do with genealogy? Think fundraising. Our club has a custom of taking along about \$1000 to give to a worthy charity in the host country, as a goodwill gesture. To raise that money, the club has in recent years held a silent auction of items donated by members.

Harriet and I don't have a cabin at Tahoe or a beach house at Pájaro Dunes to donate a weekend at, or a season ticket to the 49ers to loan to a winner for a game, or the talent to cook a gourmet meal for six. What

we do have that is somewhat unique among our 100-plus members is long experience in genealogy. For the last four years we have offered to do five or more hours of genealogy research for a donation of at least \$50 to the club. Before this year we restricted it to one winner of the auction, but this year we relaxed that and are in the middle of helping two winners.

We stipulated that we would do online research only, because traveling to big libraries and conducting research by postal mail is too time-consuming. We do have the full-up Ancestry at home, and Footnote also. We realize that online data is only a small fraction of what is out there, but that fraction is growing rapidly.

Of the previous three research sessions, two were successful in our minds, but the third was a bust. That one had the challenge of locating the biological relatives of two young adults, brother and sister, who were adopted by American parents from an orphanage in Guadalajara, Mexico, and brought to the United States as pre-schoolers. As far as we could determine, online sources for that research do not yet exist. Interestingly, the young lady later traveled to Guadalajara and succeeded in tracking down cousins, and learning that she and her brother actually have the same mother but different fathers. The adoptive parents are members of our FF club

and sponsors of our research.

One of the FF research studies this year involves the ancestors and descendants of immigrants from Bohemia, later known as Czechoslovakia, and now known as the Czech Republic. Many of them settled in Linn County, Iowa, where the principal city is Cedar Rapids. We have some experience with Germanic languages—Danish, Norwegian, German—but Czech is a Slavic language, as dense to us as Polish and Russian. Google has come to the rescue for us again. It has a wonderful online dictionary for 57 languages, including Czech. Whole paragraphs can be pasted into the query box, and the English comes back instantly—a little fractured in some cases, but quite usable. We would appreciate hearing from any reader of *The Roots Tracer* who has experience in Czech genealogy.

We spend far more than five hours on each FF research assignment. The reason is the same as that for our library docents—we enjoy the challenge and the learning experience. We sometimes feel like the mythical genealogist who was so addicted to the chase that he couldn't quit when he got to Adam and Eve. We are happy that we have found a way to harness our genealogy addiction to a non-genealogy cause we believe in—furthering the goals of *The Friendship Force*.

Tracking down Great-great-grandmother's 1835 Quilt

By Lila Whitaker Smith, as told to Suzanne Van Fleet

[Editor's note: Suzanne Van Fleet, a new member of L-AGS, is a second cousin of Lila Whitaker Smith and Phyllis Walters Bishop - see the chart on page 17. She is descended from John Hewitt, shown in the middle generation. All three are great-great-granddaughters of the quilt-maker, Margaret Alter Hewitt.]

The story of Margaret's quilt began when I received a letter from Opal May Smith Craven on February 15, 1989. (Opal is the daughter of Emma Hewitt Smith. Emma's father was Isaac Hewitt.) Opal wrote that when her Grandpa, Isaac, went back to Ohio many years ago to visit his parents, Daniel and Margaret (Alter) Hewitt, he returned with two handmade quilts. One was for Opal's mother, Emma, and the other for Emma's sister, Dora Hewitt. Dora's quilt was red and white, and made by Margaret Alter. Emma's quilt was blue and white, and

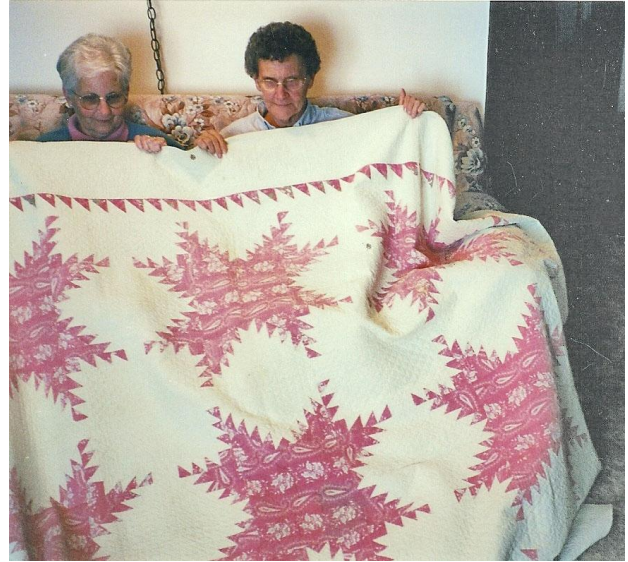
made by Margaret's sister. It is not known which sister, since Margaret had two sisters, Sarah and Levina (or Livinea). Opal had Emma's quilt, and wondered if I knew what happened to Great-Aunt Dora's quilt. I had eaten lunch with Great-Aunt Dora, a maiden lady, and Great-Uncle Dan, her bachelor brother, the first five years I was in elementary school. Although-Aunt Dora was a quilter, I remembered nothing about that quilt. Some time later, I mentioned this to my cousin, Phyllis (Walters) Bishop and asked if she knew anything about the quilt. She didn't.

In January 2002, I was talking on the phone with Phyllis and Jerry Bishop who live in Colorado. They told of a friend who had visited. Phyllis showed her quilts to the friend—including "this very old one." They had discovered the old quilt had a name and date worked into a side block.

Since I have a large amount of family genealogy, they asked if I knew anyone named Margaret Allen; they thought that was the name on the quilt. The date was 1835. I told them I would think about it. After hanging up the phone, it didn't take long for a light bulb to come on, and I wondered if that name was Margaret Alter, instead of Margaret Allen. A quick check of my records told me our great-great-grandmother was still Margaret Alter in 1835. She and Daniel Hewitt were married in 1836. I excitedly emailed Phyllis and Jerry and told them I believed they have the quilt that Isaac had brought back from Ohio, to Dora. A few days later, Phyllis called and said she forgot to tell me the quilt also says "Washington Co." and asked why it would say that. It only made it more definite because Margaret lived in Washington County, Pennsylvania in 1835.

How excited we both were to know this! Phyllis' mother was Ida Mildred Hewitt Walters, niece of Dora. After Great-Aunt Dora's death, Great-Uncle Dan had given the quilt to Mildred. Apparently he did not know where the quilt came from. Aunt Mildred had given the quilt to Phyllis some years ago. Aunt Mildred probably didn't know the origin of the quilt either.

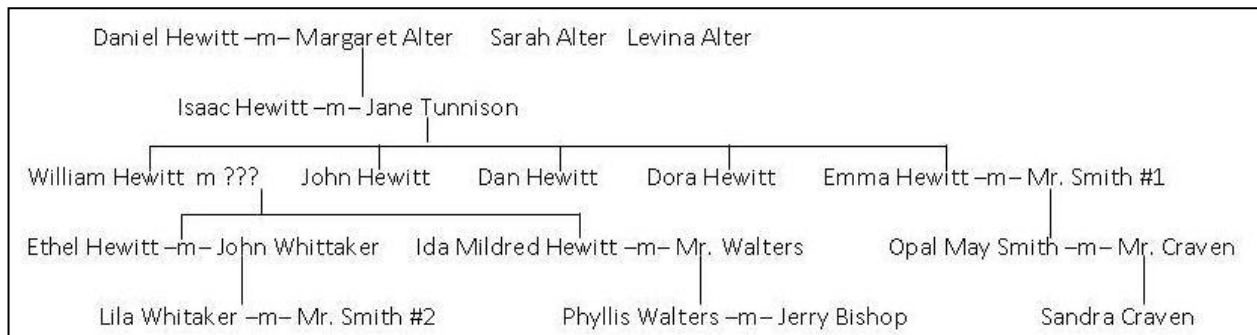
February 16, 2002, Phyllis and Jerry came and spent the day with us and brought "the quilt." The red is faded to pink now. There are patches on the back and a few holes completely through the quilt. Phyllis thinks her mother patched the quilt at some time. It had been greatly used. Using, washing, and hanging-to-dry on an outside-clothesline contributed to wear and fading. There is a sort of triangle border of small red and white alternating pieces. In one place, there are two red pieces back to back. Phyllis believes this is a quilt maker's intentional mistake. Phyllis also believes the pattern of the quilt is California Star. It was a special treat to get to see this old quilt that our great-great-grandmother, Margaret Alter Hewitt, made. We are all so glad to know it is still in our family. It's in its fifth generation.



Phyllis (Walters) Bishop and Lila (Whitaker) Smith holding quilt made by their great-great-grandmother in 1835

Another phone visit with Opal told me she has now given her blue and white quilt to her daughter, Sandra Craven Pendelton. Sandra has a daughter, Jennifer. Opal does not believe there is a name or date on Emma's quilt. I strongly suspect Margaret's sister who made the blue and white quilt was Sarah. (Sarah Alter married Daniel Hewitt's brother, John Hewitt.) Daniel and Margaret, and John and Sarah all migrated from Washington County, Pennsylvania to Kirkersville, Ohio. The two couples are buried in the same plot in the Kirkersville, Ohio cemetery.

Apparently "quilting genes" have run deep in the Hewitt family for many generations. Along with Margaret, I know of many of the family women who made many quilts. This quilt—its "history and story"—is special to Phyllis and me because we are both quilters, and to me because of its genealogical interest.



Our Library Docents

A Win-win Job: Happy Customers, Gratified Volunteers

[Editor's Note: Volunteers from L-AGS act as docents at the Pleasanton library on Wednesday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and in the same evening from 6 to 9. These articles demonstrate the value of visiting the local library to obtain assistance.]

By Lois Barber

Wow, it was a really busy evening. Gary and Linda were the first to arrive. Linda had several people she wanted to know more about. One was Mark, who was a well-driller. He was born in 1879 and died in 1949. The other was Mark's wife, Angie (Angelina), who was born in 1887 and died in 1927. Gary wanted to know the parents of Mark and Angie. Richard, I think that you might want to contact Gary and Linda regarding the Heritage Families Project. They will be happy to hear from you. Gary said that at some time his mother had talked with Gary Drummond. (Note: Richard Finn is making a record of the many families who lived in the Tri-Valley before 1900. Gary Drummond is Livermore's historian.)

Before I was finished helping Gary and Linda, Nicholas came by. He is researching a family in Hawaii. We did find a correction to the birth date for his grandfather in the Social Security Death Index. He thinks his family may be linked to Andrade Road in Sunol. His great-grandfather was Manuel Andrade, but that is all he knows. Because there are so many Andrade surnames, finding him will be a problem. Nicholas had brought his laptop with him and we were able to access Ancestry.com on both his and the library's computers.

At some point Kay Speaks arrived. She was able to help new L-AGS member, Suzanne.

By Mary Dillon

I was hoping for a quiet morning so I could transcribe my notes from yesterday's History Council meeting, so of course I was busy the whole 3 hours!

When I arrived, the librarian, Doreen Irby, said someone had called to see if a docent would be there today and she would call the woman back to tell her I was there. So my day started with Alberta, who was looking for a record that connected her father to her grandfather.

The family name was Tregea, unusual, but there

were quite a few in the United States census records. Alberta had quite a bit of information and had traced the family back into England in the early 1800's, but hadn't found the proof linking her grandfather, Isaac Tregea, to her father, Albert. She knew the grandfather had come from England, and had two sons born in New Jersey.

The family moved to Utah, and Albert eventually moved to Montana sometime around 1900 (we couldn't find him in the 1900 census). Both Isaac and Albert had been miners. I was able to go into Ancestry.com and find Isaac in a boarding house in Utah in 1900—probably housing at a mine site—and his wife, Jane, in Salt Lake City with a 15-year-old son named John M. Alberta knew of her father (Albert) and his brother Frank, but didn't know of a later brother.

We then searched the 1880 census and found Isaac and Jane with sons John E., Albert, and Francis living in New Jersey. Interestingly, John E. and John M. both showed up in Utah in 1900—John E. with a wife and daughter, and John M. as the 15-year-old with his mother. It was strange that they would name two sons John without the first one's having died. Anyway, Alberta found out that there were 4 boys in the family and had her document proving her father was the son of Isaac and Jane. She left with copies and a lot to think about.

Shortly after she left, Gabe Gutierrez, a former co-worker of Dick Finn's, came in. He will be presenting a program on researching Mexican ancestry for the L-AGS monthly program in August. He was very friendly, and we spent the next hour talking about where to look online. He had used the FamilySearch pilot site. We looked at Ancestry and found his father in the 1930 census at a boarding house in Los Angeles—enumerated as single. Gabe said his father had married in 1918 in Mexico, but had gone to Los Angeles for work and then brought his wife there about 1931. Gabe was born and raised in Los Angeles. I also showed him Cindy's List to check what she has for Mexico research. The time really flew by until 1 p.m. with two such interesting people to talk to.

Both Alberta and Gabe said they'd be back to work with docents again.

L-AGS Remembers - We were saddened to receive notice from Shirley Siems Terry, founding member of L-AGS and three-time president, that her husband, Wayne, died July 15th of Amyloidosis. We send sincere condolences to Shirley and her family on their bereavement.

New at the Pleasanton Genealogy Library

Courtesy of Julie Sowles, Administrative Librarian

Added to our library between April 22, 2010 and July 15, 2010

- *Unpuzzling your Past : the Best-Selling Basic Guide to Genealogy* / Emily Anne Croom. 929.1 CROOM.
- *Ships from Ireland to Early America, 1623-1850. Vol. II* / David Dobson. 929.373 DOBSON.
- *To Our Children's Children: Preserving Family Histories for Generations to Come* / Bob Greene and D.G. Fulford. 920.02 GREENE.
- *Legacy : The Scots Irish in America* / Alister McReynolds. 929.1072 MCREYNOLDS.
- *Evidence Explained: Citing History Sources from Artifacts to Cyberspace* / Elizabeth Shown Mills. 907.2 MILLS.
- *Schlegel's American Families of German Ancestry in the United States: Genealogical and Biographical, Illustrated*, 929.2 SCHLEGEL. Vol. 1.
- *Schlegel's American Families of German Ancestry in the United States: Genealogical and Biographical, Illustrated*, 929.2 SCHLEGEL. Vol. 2.
- *Schlegel's American Families of German Ancestry in the United States: Genealogical and Biographical, Illustrated*, 929.2 SCHLEGEL. Vol. 3.
- *Schlegel's American Families of German Ancestry in the United States: Genealogical and Biographical, Illustrated*, 929.2 SCHLEGEL. Vol. 4.
- *Chicago and Cook County : a Guide to Research* / Loretto Dennis Szucs. 026.929 SZUCS.

An Author's DNA Leads Him on a Heartwarming Journey

By Lois Barber

I would like to recommend a book if you are a reader and interested in DNA. The title is, *Meeting the Family, One Man's Journey through His Human Ancestry* by Donovan Webster. The dust cover blurb is a good description of the book:

“A simple swab inside his cheek became the first step in this three-continent journey taken by prize-winning author Donovan Webster to trace his genetic ancestry.

“Using information encoded in his DNA to chart his path, Webster started in Tanzania's Rift Valley,

then visited the ancient city of Baalbek, Lebanon; Samarkand, Uzbekistan; and Bilbao, Spain. At every turn the people he meets, the places he sees, and the life stories he encounters give rise to thoughtful meditations on the meaning of family, history, and humanity.

“It's a heartwarming journey narrated by a veteran story-teller who becomes a 21st-century Everyman, for in his quest to meet his family, he tells the story of all humankind.”

You know you are taking genealogy too seriously when your house leans slightly toward the side where your genealogical records are stored. www.Genealogydaily.com

Future General Meetings

Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton
Visitors are always welcome

September 14, 7:30 p.m.,

Kay Speaks

Passenger List Annotations

October 12, 7:30 p.m.,

Susan Johnston

*No Papers - the life of Uriah Stone,
Revolutionary War pensioner*

November 9, 7:30 p.m.,

Marge Bell

Updates to FamilySearch Pilot-Program

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