



STANISLAUS RESEARCHER

Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County

March 2014

Volume 36, Number 3

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March Program

March 18, 2014

7:00 PM Millie's Minutes Millie Starr
7:10 PM Family Research expanded and Family Tree 102
Robert Givens
Highly knowledgeable in all things Family Search, in March Mr. Givens will be expanding upon the resources that are available through Family Search – specifically geared to those heading to Salt Lake City or other research centers in the coming months. Learn what is available to assist you in your research.
Note Meeting location change!

MEETING LOCATION CHANGE – COVELL HALL – MARCH and APRIL South Side of the Church

A WORD FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Greetings:

I'm looking for my replacement. If you are interested in picking up and running with the torch for the Society for the next year or two now is the time to make your interest known. Please contact me or any member of the Board of Directors and let them know you are interested.

On March 29th we will have a Genealogical Training Workshop at the El Vista LDS Stake. The focus will be upon using LDS Family History Center and Library resources to conduct your family history research. I encourage all of you to attend and gain more knowledge about these fine genealogical research aids with instruction by the people who use them regularly. The cost will be only \$5.00 for some excellent instruction.

We are still looking for a couple of volunteers from the general membership willing to assist with planning and organizing field trips to NARA, Sutro Library and other locations of genealogical interest.

Have an idea for a study group? Please let me know so that we can connect you to others in our society who have a like interest. You can make some real progress when you team with others with a like interest.

Respectfully,

Lewis M. Ruddick

March Program

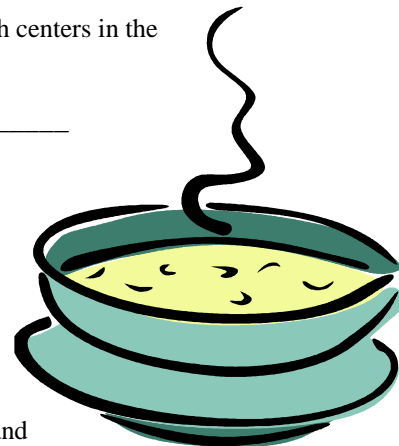
Professional genealogist Robert Givens will be returning again in March for the second part of his two-part presentation on Family Search resources. Highly knowledgeable in all things Family Search, in March Mr. Givens will be covering all the resources that are

available through Family Search – specifically geared to those heading to Salt Lake City or other research centers in the coming months. Before he returns in March you should consult his bright yellow handout.

Early American Cookery

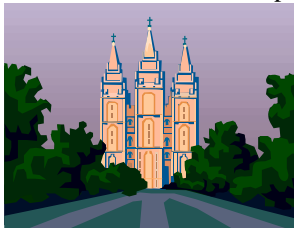
Chicken Soup

Clean and wash a large fat chicken, put it on to boil in about 4 quarts of water, to which add 1/2 a teacupful of rice, 1 onion cut fine, 4 or 5 turnips pared and cut into small pieces, 1 dessert spoonful of white sugar (a little sugar, not more than a tablespoonful to 3 or 4 quarts, may be added scorched brown, to any soup while boiling, with advantage), a little sweet marjoram, with salt and red-pepper to taste. After boiling over a slow fire for rather more than an hour put in 6 white potatoes, pared, washed, and cut in quarters, which, as soon as done, add a little parsley minced fine. When done, if not sufficiently seasoned, more may be added. Place the chicken on a dish, which garnish with sprigs of double parsley, the soup in a tureen, and send to table hot!



MEMBERSHIP

If you have a fellow member quiz you about receipt of a newsletter because they haven't gotten theirs chances are that they haven't renewed their membership OR we have an error in our membership list. Please ask them to contact [Maybelle Allen](#) so that corrections can be made and we can have our list as accurate as possible.



Salt Lake City Family History Library Research Trip

We will have a group of 26 making the Salt Lake City Trip this year. The group will take a bus to Sacramento and from there will fly to Salt Lake City to begin their week long research in the LDS. Family History Library. We hope that all return with new discoveries and tales to share with the

membership. Your editor will be joining the group this year and hopes he will be able to find all items on his quickly growing research list.

Library Background

- Founded in 1894 to gather genealogical records and assist members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints with their family history and genealogical research
- Largest library of its kind in the world
- Open to the general public at no charge
- An estimated 1,500 daily visits
- Currently 100 full-time and part-time professional staff
- Approximately 700 trained volunteers

GSSC Member Regina Ann Weber quietly passes

January 7, 1939 - November 22, 2013

Regina Ann Weber, 74, of Escalon, died Friday, November 22, 2013.

She was born to the late Frank and Julia Hallenberger, January 7, 1939, in Danville, Illinois. Regina graduated from Schlarman High School in 1957 and attended Danville Community College. She married Hans Lorenz Weber in 1960. They raised their family in Newark, CA, and retired in 1994 and moved to their Walnut Ranch in Escalon.

Regina was a member St. Patrick's Catholic Church of Ripon and the German Club of Sonora. She was a wonderful role model for all. She lived a life full of joy and happiness and welcomed all into her life with unconditional love and friendship.

Regina is preceded in death by her son, Hans Francis, in 1987, and survived by her husband, Hans and daughter, Heidi (Barry Sheldon, husband). She also is survived by three wonderful granddaughters, Siena, Alexa and Sofie, her sister, Theresa and brother, Michael (wife Marlene Hallenberger). In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting that donations be made to the "Make a Wish Foundation". Funeral arrangements were entrusted to Deegan Funeral Chapel. She was laid to rest on November 26, 2013 She will be missed by all.

GSSC Member Charleen Marie Renteria who was to join the research group to SLC has passed away

MERCED, Calif. • Former county librarian, Idaho native and Merced, Calif., resident, Charleen Marie Renteria passed away Thursday, Feb. 13, 2014, at the age of 68 from complications related to breast cancer.

She was born in Sioux Falls, S.D. on Feb. 5, 1946, to parents Charles Jasper Orr and Cathleen Marguerite O'Connor Orr (both deceased). Charleen moved to Idaho when she was 5 years old and lived in various rural locales in south-central Idaho, including Dietrich, Eden and Hazelton. She attended area schools and graduated fourth in her class at Valley High School before heading off to Idaho State University in Pocatello.

While enrolled at ISU in pursuit of a Bachelor of Arts in English, she worked as a library assistant in the university library for notable intellectual freedom champion, Eli Oboler. While working in the library, Charleen decided to heed her mentor's advice. She enrolled in the Library and Information Science Program at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, where she graduated with a master's in library science. Upon completing graduate school, Charleen returned to Idaho and worked as a librarian at the Twin Falls Public library for two years before setting out for the great unknown and a serendipitous new job in Merced, Calif., in 1971.

Over the course of the 34 years she worked for the Merced County Library system, Charleen rose through the ranks and eventually become county librarian. During this period, she met her husband (a co-worker and future librarian), made numerous friends and helped keep the library afloat during the financial crisis of the mid-1990s. Charleen was a modest soul and an avid reader of political, Revolutionary War and NASA-related nonfiction titles. As such, she particularly enjoyed "mucking with the books." Her proudest accomplishment during her tenure as county librarian was automating all of the branches in Merced County with the help of her loyal staff.

After retiring from the library world, Charleen spent her days sleeping in past noon, reading, watching ice skating, attending local plays, knitting and obsessively researching her family's genealogy. As a dedicated genealogist and member of the Merced County Genealogical Society, Charleen was capable of reciting familial names and important dates at the drop of a hat to anyone with ears. She was particularly thrilled by the birth of her granddaughter, Esmeralda, the embodiment of 10 generations of documented mitochondrial DNA. Charleen liked to pepper her conversations with flavorful German and Spanish phrases and loved to ask questions. She never learned to avoid talking to strangers, so she lived a life in which everyone was a friend and rarely if ever spoke an unkind word about anyone. She only swore at computers. She was truly one of the kindest and gentlest souls to grace this earth.

She is survived by her husband of 40 years, Philip Renteria; and his siblings; mother-in-law, Bertha Tovar of Merced, Calif.; daughters, Roxanne Marie Renteria of Twin Falls, Idaho, and Alexandra Cathleen Renteria of Twin Falls, Idaho; granddaughter, Esmeralda (Emmy) Marie Renteria Romero of Twin Falls, Idaho; brothers, David (Linda) Orr of Hazelton, Idaho, Charles Orr Jr. of Buhl, Idaho, and Donald (Terri) Orr of Hailey, Idaho; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Please join family and friends in remembrance of Charleen. Dual memorial/celebration of life ceremonies will be held at 4 p.m. Saturday, March 1, at the Merced County Library, 2100 O St., Merced, CA 95340; and at 4 p.m. Saturday, March 8, at Rosenau Funeral Home, 2826 Addison Ave. E., Twin Falls, Idaho. Charleen will be interred with her ancestors at the Hazelton Cemetery in Hazelton, Idaho.

The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at <http://www.eogn.com> February 24, 2014

Alice Herz-Sommer, Oldest-Living Holocaust Survivor, Passes Away at the Age of 110

Alice Herz-Sommer, who at 110, was known as the oldest-living Holocaust survivor and the subject of the Oscar nominated short subject documentary *Lady in Number 6: How Music Saved My Life*, died yesterday in London.

Herz-Sommer survived a Nazi concentration camp and used music to empower herself and others. She was a concert pianist, who initially was mentored by her sister and went on to study with the noted pianist Vaclav Stephan. The story about Herz-Sommer and her uplifting philosophy about how to live a happy life despite enduring pain was made into a film directed by Malcom Clarke and produced by Nicholas Reed. The film, which was shot over the past two and a half years, was nominated for an Oscar last month. You can learn more about her life at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alice_Herz-Sommer.

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FamilySearch Adds More Than 4.5 Million Indexed Records and Images to Collections from Brazil, China, Ghana, Italy, Netherlands, Philippines, and the United States

February 12, 2014

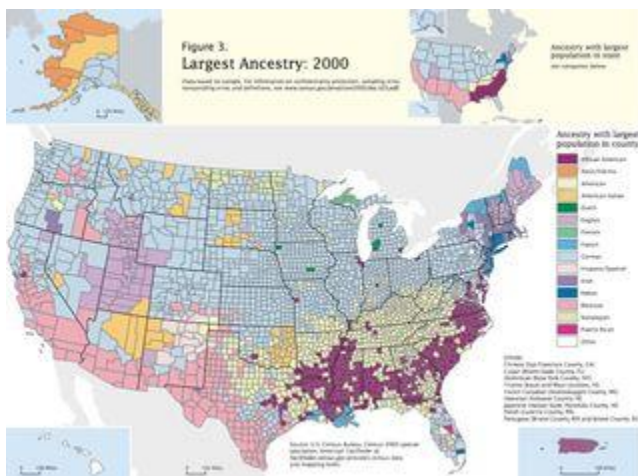
FamilySearch has added more than 4.5 million indexed records and images to collections from Brazil, China, Colombia, Ghana, Italy, Netherlands, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Spain, and the United States. Notable collection updates include the 1,165,725 indexed records from the [U.S., West Virginia Marriages, 1780–1970](#), collection; the 469,903 images from the [Ghana Census, 1984](#); and the 415,997 indexed records from the [United States Census, 1860](#). See the table below for the full list of updates. Search these diverse collections and more than 3.5 billion other records for free at FamilySearch.org.

Searchable historic records are made available on FamilySearch.org through the help of thousands of volunteers from around the world. These volunteers transcribe (index) information from digital copies of handwritten records to make them easily searchable online. More volunteers are needed (particularly those who can read foreign languages) to keep pace with the large number of digital images being published online at FamilySearch.org. Learn more about volunteering to help provide free access to the world's historic genealogical records online at FamilySearch.org.

FamilySearch is the largest genealogy organization in the world. FamilySearch is a nonprofit, volunteer-driven organization sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Millions of people use FamilySearch records, resources, and services to learn more about their family history. To help in this great pursuit, FamilySearch and its predecessors have been actively gathering, preserving, and sharing genealogical records worldwide for over 100 years. Patrons may access FamilySearch services and resources for free at FamilySearch.org or through more than 4,600 family history centers in 132 countries, including the main Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah.

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Map of US Ancestries by County



The U.S. Census Bureau has a map and a lot of text information that may interest many people who are beginning to research family history. It shows the top reported ancestries in the United States, as provided by the 2000 census. Areas with the largest "American" ancestry populations were mostly settled by some English, French, Welsh, Scottish and Irish; but by an overwhelming majority of Scots-Irish.

Obviously, this doesn't prove that your ancestors settled in these areas after arriving in the U.S. as there were many exceptions. However, it does show many of the more likely locations where you might start your search for records. I also find it to simply be very interesting for most all Americans to show "where we came from."

A small image of the map is shown above. You can click on it to see a larger version. You can also see the same map and a lot of detailed text information about immigration on the Census Bureau's web site at <http://www.census.gov/prod/2004pubs/c2kbr-35.pdf>.

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Naval Archivists discover Trove of Previously Unknown Photographs from Spanish-American War of 1898



A wooden box recently found at Washington Naval Yard storage space contained 150 glass plate photos showings scenes from Manila, Philippines, during the Spanish-American War. The wooden box was filled with 150 original glass plate photos, individually wrapped in tissue paper, including full captions and dates, which were likely prepared by the photographer, Douglas White.

The cache of 116-year-old glass plates showing scenes from the various theaters of war was uncovered in an archival storage space at the Washington Naval Yard as staffers Dave Colamaria and Jon Roscoethe were laying the groundwork for a major upgrade of their collection.

You can read more in an article by Snejana Farberov in the Daily Mail at <http://goo.gl/inWcPk>.

My thanks to newsletter reader Scott Phillips for telling me about this article.

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Ancestry.com to Add a New Sliding Control to Searches

The [Ancestry.com Blog](#) has a new article that describes a feature to be implemented soon: a sliding control to quickly broaden or narrow your search results. Quoting from the article:

Don't see the search results you were expecting? Simply drag one or more sliders from left to right to quickly modify your results. The slider position shows how closely your search terms should be matched. With all the sliders to the left, your results are matched at the broadest level, and moving one or more sliders to the right will display more exact matches.

You can read the full article and see screenshots of the new sliding control at <http://goo.gl/02qvH5>.

Editor's Note: As one who has struggled with ancestry.com's terrible search engine for years I certainly hope this is an improvement.

MEETING LOCATION CHANGE – COVELL HALL – MARCH and APRIL South Side of the Church

GSSC 2014 Budget

Gross Income		Planned	Expenses	Planned	
Category	Sub-Category	Income	Category	Sub-Category	Expense
Bank Interest	BofA checking interest	1.00	Acquisition Committee		100.00
	<i>BofA cds #1 & #2 interest \$50.00</i>		Administration Expenses		
	<i>Advisory only</i>			Bank Fees (safe deposit box)	52.00
Donations Received				Copies & supplies	200.00
	NARA	50.00		Insurance	1500.00
<i>\$709 available</i>	Special Collections	0.00		Internet	170.00
				P.O. Box Rental & Postage	220.00
Dues		3000.00		Rent	760.00
Miscellaneous	<i>includes query income</i>	500.00	Donations Made	Contingency	100.00
Unrestricted					
Research Trips				NARA	80.00
	Salt Lake City			<i>Special Collections</i>	0.00
	h Sutro/Archives	1000.00		Other Donations	55.00
Fund Raising			Four Generation Charts		80.00
	Books	0.00	Historian		0.00
	Misc Merchandise	0.00	Membership Committee		60.00
	Combined Sales	600.00	Memorial Day Committee		25.00
Seminar		1000.00	Mentor Committee		0.00
Social Events		0.00	Newsletter		
Workshops		450.00		Printing	100.00
Additional from General Fund		0.00		Supplies	50.00
				Postage	300.00
Total		6601.00	Other Society Memberships		
				CA Alliance	40.00
				FGS	70.00
			Programs		400.00
			Publicity Committee		0.00
			Queries		10.00
			Refreshments		
				General Meetings	200.00
				Other Events	50.00
			Registrar		0.00
			Research & Publication		0.00
			Research Trips		
				Salt Lake City	
				Sutro/Archives	1000.00
			Sales Expense		50.00
			Seminar		500.00
			Social Events		0.00
			Special Collections Room		0.00
			Sunshine Committee		10.00
			Taxes & Filing Fees		
				Sales Tax	100.00
				State Filing Fees	50.00
			Workshop		269.00
				Total Expense	6601.00

Membership Information

- Dues: Single membership, \$20.00 per year Family membership, \$27.50 per year
- Stanislaus Researcher Published 10 times per year by Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County, P. O. Box A, Modesto, CA 95352-3660. **\$5.00 additional for hard copy** otherwise delivered via email. Submit articles for publication to the editor via email: lruddick@ix.netcom.com by the **15th of each month**.
- Address changes: Send address, email and phone number changes to Maybelle Allen at:
 US Mail: Maybelle Allen c/o GSSC, P. O. Box A, Modesto, CA 95352-3660
 Email: gssc@att.net
 Telephone: 209-523-0593 (Maybelle Allen)
- GSSC web page: <http://www.cagenweb.com/lr/stanislaus/gssc.html>.
 The newsletter is posted at this website, along with other interesting society-related items.
- General meeting: 7:00 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, except July and December at the Trinity Presbyterian Church at 1600 Carver Rd., Modesto, CA.
- Board meeting: 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Monday of each month the Trinity Presbyterian Church at 1600 Carver Rd., Modesto, CA.

2014 Officers		2014 Standing Committee Chairs	
President	Lewis M. Ruddick	Acquisitions	Ellen Reesh
1st Vice President	Bev Johnson	Audit	David Wolff
2nd Vice President	Jeff Wells	Budget	Sharon Hawley-Crum
Secretary	Cyndy Bray	Four Generation Charts	Donna Burleaud
Treasurer	Sharon Hawley-Crum	Historian & Sunshine	Judith Welch
Director at Large	Jay Mirza	Membership	Maybelle Allen
Director at Large	Pamela Atherstone	Memorial Day	Janet Lancaster/Millie Starr
Director at Large	Cleda Lane	Mentor	Janet Lancaster/Marilyn Belleville
Director at Large	Angela Kraft	Newsletter	Lewis M. Ruddick
Director at Large	Linda Oneth	Planning	Lewis Ruddick/Beverly Graham
Past President	Vicky Wolff	Program	Bev Johnson
		Publicity	Ellen Reesh
		Queries	Charlie Tieman
		Refreshments	Jackie Niemeyer
		Registrar	Dorothy Winke
		Research & Publication	Millie Starr
		Research Trips: Sutro/Archives	vacant
		Research Trips: Salt Lake City	Lisa Bruk
		Seminar & Workshop	Jeff Wells
		Special Collections Room	Marilyn Belleville
		Social Media	Angela Kraft
		Greeter	Marge Scheuber

Updated 2-25-2014

We have 125 members for 2014



Genealogical Society of
Stanislaus County
P.O. Box A
Modesto, CA 95352-3660



**Meeting Location Change for
March & April**
Covell Hall on the South Side of the Church