

# STANISLAUS RESEARCHER

**Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County** 

April 2014 Volume 36, Number 4

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# **April Program**

April15, 2014
7:00 PM Millie's Minutes Millie Starr
7:10 PM "...Like Footprints in the Wind": The Evolution of a Novel by Pam Atherstone. The saga of non-German-Russians in eastern Europe.

# ANOTHER MEETING LOCATION CHANGE – Telle Center – APRIL Back to our normal digs!

#### A WORD FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Greetings:

We are back to the Telle Center for our meetings. The activity at the church that necessitated our move has been cancelled.

Shortly a group of 27 of us will be bussing and winging our way to Salt Lake City to avail ourselves of the services of the LDS Library. We should all be well prepared for this trip. Between the last two monthly general membership programs arranged by Bev Johnson and the workshop put together by Jeff Wells on March 29<sup>th</sup> we all should have the tools necessary to make the trip a real success. If you were unable to make the trip, those very same research tools should bide you well for using any of the LDS Family History Centers and/or their Family Search website.

Personally I am hoping to have great successes to share with you upon my return

Respectfully, Lewis M. Ruddick

#### **April Program**

"....Like Footprints in the Wind": The Evolution of a Novel Pam Atherstone

Fellow GSSC member Pam Atherstone has written and published a fictional tale based on true facts about the experiences of people of German heritage in Russia just prior to WWII. Her program will show her family connection to these people; how this book came to be; why it was written; and why she feels the importance of introducing non-German-Russians to this saga through fiction. Few people know about the "Purge of the Kulaks" in Russia, as this is a suppressed part of history. In the back of her book, Pam has detailed the Manifesto of Catherine the Great, issued 250 years ago, that lured Germans into the fertile Russian territories of the Volga River and Black Sea, along with a short chronicle of how the people fared over the following centuries. To the uninitiated this is an eye-opening and resonant account of a relatively little-known part of world history.

Pam is the great granddaughter of German-Russian immigrants and an amateur genealogist focusing on Russians of German heritage. This is her first novel and she is currently working on a continuation of this story.

**Early American Cookery** 

# **Dutch Egg and Butter Sauced Asparagus**

(Use 2 – 3 pounds fresh asparagus)

2 tablespoons butter salt, optional 2 hard-boiled eggs asparagus spears Nutmeg, to taste



Warm 2 tablespoons of butter until almost melted. Stir in the other tablespoon of butter to make a creamy texture. Mash the eggs into the butter with a fork until they are finely minced. Add the seasonings.

Steam the asparagus spears until just tender, and serve them with the sauce

Note: Asparagus have been around for over 2,000 years

The Craft of the Country Cook by Pat Katz, Hartley & Marks, Publishers, 1988

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The following submitted by Millie Starr from her writing notes materials.

# By the way, are you looking for a lean and mean frontier diet? Try this 1728 diet on for size!

"Most New Englanders had a simple diet, their soil and climates allowing limited varieties of fruits and vegetables. In 1728 the Boston News Letter estimates the food needs of a middle-class 'genteel' family. Breakfast was bread and milk. Dinner consisted of pudding, followed by bread, meat, roots, pickles, vinegar, salt and cheese. Supper was the same as breakfast. Each family also needed raisins, currants, suet, flour, eggs, cranberries, apples, and, where there were children, food for 'intermeal eatings.' Small beer was the beverage, and molasses for brewing and flavoring was needed. Butter, spices, sugar, and sweetmeats were luxuries, as were coffee, tea, chocolate, and alcoholic beverages other than beer."

---A History of Food and Drink in America, Richard J. Hooker [Bobbs-Merrill Company:Indianapolis IN] 1981(p. 67)

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The following article is from Ask a Genealogist. It is re-published here with their permission. Provided by Ellen Reesh

# Family History Library's photoduplication service

Posted: 06 Mar 2014 07:17 AM PST

Did you know that the Family History Library (FHL) has a FREE photoduplication service? They will look up a document from microfilm for you and email you an image. This is a GREAT service! You must know the exact microfilm and the details needed to find that document quickly. The volunteers doing this will not do any research at all.

Limit of 5 lookups per month. They have to restrict the number because of how many requests they get. You can put all 5 on a single request.

You must have exact information, microfilm number, name and date of event.

Please check to make sure that the microfilm/record you need isn't already available on FamilySearch (FS) as a free image. FS releases new databases with image files all the time.

Here is an example of an appropriate request (and this is one that I just got back):

Microfilm #1463133

Marriage record of William Grantham and Louisa Watts 1861

Volume 1, page 397

I was able to get the actual volume/page from an index. If I had had the exact marriage date I could have gotten away with not having the volume/page.

# **Photoduplication Request Form**

Copyright © 201	14 Michele Silling	ons Lewis		

# **Kitchen Mystery**

By Karen Cox

My parents met during World War Two at an USO Dance at Chico State. My mom, Eloise, was enrolled in the university, partly to prove wrong a high school teacher who told her she didn't have what it takes to succeed in college. My dad, Doug, was happily tootling away one the tuba in the Air Force Band at Chico Air Force Base, which was a lot more fun than getting shot at overseas. They fell into love and got married, and my mom reluctantly postponed her plans to finish her education. She worked for a while packing parachutes to help the war effort, until required to stop working due to pregnancy. She became a fulltime homemaker, caring for three daughters who arrived over the next few years, and ended up living in Modesto in a house with a big back yard.

I was the youngest child, and while I was a toddler, my mom became seriously ill with Valley Fever. This is an often fatal respiratory disease which leaves the victim weak and exhausted for months or years. The doctor told my mom to take care of herself first and foremost, and to do an absolute minimum of cooking and cleaning. This "no housework – doctor's orders!" philosophy was eagerly embraced by my outdoor-loving mom, who had never really gotten any satisfaction out of cleaning house anyway, and it became a permanent way of life to "let it go". She spent many hours puttering around the large garden, and it was not uncommon for her to burn dinner or breakfast because she stepped outside for a minute to pick some flowers or to watch the birds, forgetting that something was boiling one the stove.

As we three girls got older. Mama discovered that Modesto Junior College offered all kinds of classes, and she decided to continue her interrupted education. It was a great way to satisfy her intellectual curiosity. As well as a perfect excuse for continuing to avoid housework. She took classes in California Indians, California wildflowers, California history, marine biology, interior decorating, landscaping, flower arranging, photography, wilderness survival, lapidary, and many other topics. She graduated from MJC with over 200 units, and then went one to earn a B.A. degree and an elementary credential from Stanislaus State. So much for that doomsayer high school teacher who said she needn't bother going to college!

This is all background for my story, which took place when I was about 13. I came home from school one day to find my moter gone, so I started looking around the kitchen. As I opened the refrigerator door, my twitching nostrils were assailed by an unpleasant odor. The refrigerator was overflowing with multitudes of containers of left overs of indeterminate age and unknown content, so I decided to try to locate the one that was the source of the stink, to get rid of it. After pulling out a number of containers that did NOT smell particularly bad, I seemed to be getting closer to the stench. Finally I reached far behind the other objects, and my hand closed around a thick sort of sausage shape, loosely wrapped in plastic. It felt slimy and squishy and heavy, and it was definitely the source of the foul odor. I could not imagine what it was, because my mother did not usually buy large fat sausages.

When I pulled the mystery object out of the refrigerator to find out what it was, I screamed and dropped it one the floor. It was a large snake, in a rather advanced state of decomposition. What was a stinking, rotting snake doing in my parents' refrigerator? Well, there was no room in the freezer, so my dad left it in the refrigerator until someone got around to making room for it, only then it got forgotten. Why did my dad want to put it in the freezer? Well, because of the taxidermy class my mom took. I remember when my mom, as our Girl Scout, took us one a field trip to a taxidermy shop. I thought it was a little creepy, seeing all those hard yellow eyes staring fixedly at us from a room full of inanimate corpses. Other Girl Scouts got to go on field trips to fun places like the zoo, but we got to see a bunch of spooky dead animals.

My mom's class project for her taxidermy class was stuffing a small mouse, which was not a complete success, because the tail, stiffened with a thin piece of wire, kept falling off, much to the amusement of our friends when we showed them the evidence of our mom's weirdness. Mama thought she might have better luck stuffing a larger animal – but where does one acquire recently deceased specimens? My father was was happy to help. His job at the t time involved a great deal of travel one county roads, as he was the music teacher at a number of small county schools. It was no trouble all for him to stp and collect any fresh road-kill he came across, cheerfully tossing the corpses in the back of his non-air-conditioned Volkswagen bug. He brought home rabbits, hawks, ground squirrels, raccoons, and yes, snakes. Anything to keep the little wife happy. He would put the carcasses in the freezer in the garage, but inevitably the freezer got full, along with the freezer portion of the refrigerator, and so this particular snake ended up past its prime

in the refrigerator. I spent the whole afternoon scouring and fumigating the inside of the refrigerator, my appetite for a snack rather diminished.

My mom never did make a second attempt at taxidermy. She was always wonderfully enthusiastic about beginning a project, but seldom did she finish anything. My dad, one the other hand, continued to bring home dead animals for her for many years, much like outdoor cats who present their owners with freshly killed rodents, as a token of affection. From time to time my sisters and I would attempt to remove the corpses from the freezer, but we always met with resistance, because Mama would not admit that she had given up the idea of becoming a taxidermist, and besides, the hawk was so beautiful. Time passed. My own three daughters brought their friends to Grandma's house, and told them about the road kill in the freezer, and showed their unbelieving eyes the evidence of their Grandma's weirdness.

What finally brought an end to the road kill collection was an extended vacation during which the electric bill did not get paid. With the electricity off, everything in the freezer thawed, and so I was able to throw out every single stinking carcass. After thoroughly scrubbing, sanitizing, and deodorizing the interior of the freezer, I was reluctantly willing to to let my parents use it again, but only for food. However, it had been so long since they had actually put food in the freezer, they had gotten out of the habit, sand so it sat unplugged for a while, and finally I persuaded them to let it go. We dragged the freezer out to the curb where it was quickly snatched up by scavengers. I wonder if the new owners would have been shocked to learn what sorts of wildlife had occupied it for so many years.

Note: Eloise Crary joined GSSC in 1975 and remains an inactive member today

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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 <a href="http://www.eogn.com">http://www.eogn.com</a> March 24, 2014

Editor's Note: Having just enjoyed St. Patrick's Day with my wife's great corned beef and cabbage I could not resist including this Irish Foods cook book article from Dick Eastman!

# Order the Food of Your Irish Ancestors for Home Delivery



With recipes and seasonings that were first produced in the 1960s in County Limerick, Ireland, Tommy Moloney's is famous near and far for its sausages and traditional Irish meats. The company delivers those products to anyone in the United States.

The available products include traditional Irish sausages, including Irish Whiskey Sausage, as well as Irish bangers, meat pies, Irish butter, Kerrygold Blarney Castle Cheese, corned beef, Irish brown bread, soda bread, Barry's Irish teas, Batchelors Baked Beans, shepherds pie, and black pudding. I'll skip the black pudding, thank you.

If you would like some food from the Emerald Isle, check out Tommy Moloney's web site at <a href="http://www.tommymoloneys.com">http://www.tommymoloneys.com</a>.

Another view of Family Search from a non-LDS source – Editor

# **FamilySearch**

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

FamilySearch is a genealogy organization operated by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It is the largest genealogy organization in the world. FamilySearch maintains a collection of records, resources, and services designed to help people learn more about their family history. FamilySearch gathers, preserves, and shares genealogical records worldwide. It offers free access to its resources and service online at FamilySearch.org, one of the most heavily used genealogy sites on the Internet.[2] In addition, FamilySearch offers personal assistance at more than 4,500 family history centers in 70 countries, including the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah.

FamilySearch cites as its motivation to provide genealogical information the "beliefs of the LDS Church that families are meant to be central to our lives and that family relationships are intended to continue beyond this life.

#### **History**

In 1894 it was founded as the Genealogical Society of Utah (GSU) and in 1938 GSU began microfilming records of genealogical importance. In 1963 the microfilm collection was moved to the newly completed Granite Mountain Records Vault for long-term preservation and then in 1995 after a controversy, a deal was struck between the Jewish and LDS communities to "Remove from the International Genealogical Index in the future the names of all deceased Jews who are so identified if they are known to be improperly included counter to Church policy."

In 1998 the FamilySearch/GSU began digital imaging of records and in about August 1998 the decision was made by LDS Church leaders to build a genealogical website. In May 1999 the website first opened to the public. It almost immediately went off-line, overloaded because of extreme popularity. In October 1999 they surpassed 1.5 billion hits. Then, in November 1999 240 million names were added, bringing the total number of entries to 640 million In 2001 work began on a replacement website, backed by a consolidated database, giving users the ability to edit data. (Later named 'New FamilySearch' and which is now known as the 'Family Tree feature' on the FamilySearch.org website.)

In November 2005 the new FamilySearch.org entered its first Beta test. Enough bugs were found, along with extensive user feedback and suggestions, that it took longer than expected to get to the second beta. In February 2007 the new FamilySearch.org entered Beta 2 testing. In June 2007 the new FamilySearch.org was made available for church members in some areas (by LDS temple district), increasing through the next several years. In 2008 The Vatican issued a statement calling the practice known as baptism for the dead "erroneous" and directing its dioceses to keep parish records from Mormons performing genealogical research. In early 2009 the new FamilySearch was available to church membership around the world, with the exception of Utah/Idaho and the five Asian temples. By mid-2009 the new FamilySearch gradually became available to church membership in Utah and Idaho. Then, in November 2009 the new FamilySearch was available to church membership worldwide, except for members in the five Asian temple districts.

Recently FamilySearch has announced partnerships with Ancestry.com, findmypast and MyHeritage which includes sharing massive amounts of their databases with those companies. Also they have a standing relationship with BillionGraves.com in which the photographed and indexed images are made available for search on FamilySearch.

#### **Features**

The FamilySearch.org website offers free access to digital images of genealogical records. These images can be searched along with a number of databases. FamilySearch.org also contains the catalog of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. The library holds genealogical records for over 110 countries, territories, and possessions, including over 2.4 million rolls of microfilmed genealogical records; 742,000 microfiche; 310,000 books, serials, and other formats; and 4,500 periodicals. The microfilm and microfiche can be ordered and viewed at over 4,000 library branches (called Family History Centers) worldwide. FamilySearch also offers research help through the FamilySearch Wiki and Forums.

Searching Holocaust victims or celebrities results in account suspension. FamilySearch does not allow users to input same-sex marriages or other unions.

# Digitization and indexing projects

#### Main article: FamilySearch Indexing

FamilySearch is in the process of digitizing its entire microfilm collection and making those images available online. The searchable indexes are created by volunteers using FamilySearch Indexing software developed by the LDS Church. To ensure greater accuracy, each batch of records is indexed by two separate indexers and any discrepancies are sent to an expert arbitrator. Indexing volunteers need not be members of the LDS Church and FamilySearch is currently working with genealogical societies all around the world to index local projects. At the end of 2010, 548 million vital records had been transcribed and made publicly available through the FamilySearch website.

# Classes and training

FamilySearch offers free lessons on FamilySearch.org to help people learn how to find their ancestors. The topics range from basic research to training on specific record types and are designed for both beginners and experienced researchers. Most of the classes come from research consultants in the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, but FamilySearch is also collaborating with partners such as the Mid-Continent Public Library in Independence, Missouri, to record and post classes.

#### Wiki and Forums

In 2007, it was decided to start a wiki to help FamilySearch users and others researching genealogy and family history to find and share information on data sources and research tips. The first version of the wiki was built on the Plone wiki software product, but it was soon discovered that MediaWiki software was much more suitable, so in January 2008 it was moved to the MediaWiki platform. In the intervening years it was rolled out in other languages, and as of February 2014 it was available in 11 languages. The other language wikis are found via links at the bottom of the wiki homepage. The wiki in English had over 76,000 articles and over 150,000 registered users as of February 2014.

In 2009 a forums site, which grew to include a variety of subject and topic categories, was started. Some of the extra features included social groups where people could discuss a particular surname or other topic related to genealogy. Help topics were also featured with discussions related to New FamilySearch (new.familysearch.org), FamilySearch Indexing, and some other products and site features. The forums were never linked from the homepage, but were accessible at forums.familysearch.org. Effective 31 December 2012 the forums were closed, although they remain available in read-only form.

#### New FamilySearch and FamilySearch Family Tree

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has released to the public a web application that makes users able to interact with very large, unified databases of connected genealogical information. It is in the current FamilySearch.org site and is called the Family Tree. Many of the FamilySearch databases are being combined into one database and all the records for each individual are being combined into folders. These folders are then being linked to pedigrees.

Some prominent features of the new website:

- Support for multiple assertions on facts, allowing people to "agree to disagree"
- Source citations, including links to source images. Documents scanned from the Church's 2.4 million rolls of microfilmed vital records, from around the world, will eventually be linked to individuals in the system. These films are currently being scanned and indexed.
- Several features specific to the membership of the LDS Church, facilitating temple ordinance work
- A one-world pedigree of linked families that will operate wiki style, with anyone able to add comments and information
- A mapping utility that maps locations where an individual has resided (a mashup of the new FamilySearch website and Google Maps showing pushpins for events in a person's life)

Initially, a system called 'New FamilySearch' was released to members of the LDS Church. According to an emailed newsletter sent to LDS Family History Consultants on 11 September 2012 this was expected to be retired in early 2013. By then it was to have been replaced by a newer system called FamilySearch Family Tree.

On November 1, 2012, a more active rollout of Family Tree began with a note placed on the New FamilySearch landing page, suggesting 'Try Family Tree.' This note was within a button that would take the user to the sign-in page. An early report sent to a mailing list within a couple hours of this change's happening also indicated that some functions in new FamilySearch, particularly that which allowed users to combine matching entries of ancestors ('duplicates'), had been turned off. This event signaled that a wider user base would begin using Family Tree.

On 5 March 2013, FamilySearch announced that Family Tree was now available to everyone, regardless of membership in the LDS Church or lack thereof. This was announced via a blog post on the FamilySearch website; the 'Family Tree' tab shows whether or not one is logged in. Clicking on the tab takes one to the login/create account screen; once logged in, the user can create a tree and find ancestors already on the tree. New FamilySearch is still available to members of the LDS Church, although those members have been strongly urged to begin using Family Tree in its place and features have been progressively disabled at the (older) New FamilySearch as the evolving system ceases to be compatible with it.

On 16 April 2013 FamilySearch completely revamped the site design generally, including new features on Family Tree. Some of the new features include an interactive fan chart and some printing capabilities. An improved color scheme for both the Family Tree and the rest of the site was also adopted, as some had complained that the colors of the previous site appeared 'washed out.'

#### Integration with BYU Family History Archive

Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, is digitizing copyright-free family histories and placing them online; they are available via FamilySearch. As of late 2009, this archive had nearly 50,000 digitized books, with approximately 5,000 new titles being posted online every two months on average.

In early September 2012, it was reported that about 1,200 to 1,500 books per month were being scanned, scanning having slowed slightly. The digitized books were moved from the BYU website they had been on and are now found under a 'Books' tab in the main FamilySearch search page. A blogger at FamilySearch is now posting a listing of the latest digitizations starting with the June 2012 report.

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#### **Mocavo Announces New Features**

Mocavo continues to "fine tune" its site by adding new features. Today, the company announced the following will soon be available:

**New Summary Search View** - being releasing in beta (and available exclusively to Mocavo Gold members) offers an entirely new way to view your search results. Summary Search View allows you to group your results by category and database title, making it easy to target the databases that spark your interest, and quickly avoid those that are irrelevant to your research. The First Transcribed Database Live and Searchable - this new technology decodes **HANDWRITTEN RECORDS** and converts them to computer-readable text.

Details may be found at <a href="http://blog.mocavo.com/2014/03/new-mocavo-features-coming-soon">http://blog.mocavo.com/2014/03/new-mocavo-features-coming-soon</a>.

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#### MobileFamilyTree version 7.1 is now Available

The folks at Synium Software have released a new version of MobileFamilyTree, a genealogy app that runs on Apple iPhone, iPad, and iPod Touch handheld devices. According to the company's announcement, "MobileFamilyTree 7.1 comes with a fully redesigned and iOS 7 inspired look, a new Interactive Tree for faster navigation and convenient data entry, Statistics Maps, a dramatically enhanced FamilySearch integration and AirPlay support to present your family tree on a TV or via video projector - these are just a few examples of Version 7.1's many awesome tweaks."



I have written about MobileFamilyTree before. You can find my earlier articles by starting at <a href="http://goo.gl/OjPLHa">http://goo.gl/OjPLHa</a>. The new MobileFamilyTree 7.1 can be purchased exclusively from the iTunes App Store or from the iPhone and iPad App Store and requires iOS 5 or later. You can learn more at <a href="http://www.syniumsoftware.com/mobilefamilytree/">http://www.syniumsoftware.com/mobilefamilytree/</a>.

With the onset of wind borne allergies nose problems are upon us in late March and April. The following from "Home Remedies From the Good Old Days" may (or may not) provide some relief

# **Alum Nose Wash**

Dissolve lump alum or powdered alum in water. Snuff up nose, holding head up, never down. Later, the clots will drop into the mouth.

After that you just might need to wash out your mouth. Try the following

# Sassafras Tea

Boil small pieces of sassafras roots (the more the better) in water until it changes color, then drink. This is good for congestion, honest, I have used it and it does work. - Editor



We're Back to the Northside of the church!

MEETING LOCATION CHANGE – Telle Center – APRIL

GSSC April 2014

# **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: <a href="mailto:lruddick@ix.netcom.com">lruddick@ix.netcom.com</a>

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: <a href="http://www.cagenweb.com/lr/stanislaus/gssc.html">http://www.cagenweb.com/lr/stanislaus/gssc.html</a>.

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	
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		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	
H. 1. 12.25.2014		Greeter	Marge Scheuber	

Updated 3-25-2014



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