

YVGS FAMILY FINDERS



Yucaipa Valley
Genealogical Society

Established 1982

YUCAIPA VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

www.yvgs.org

P.O. BOX 32, YUCAIPA, CA 92399-0032

Sponsored by The Yucaipa Branch Library

August 2011—VOLUME 29 NO. 8

President's message:

After our first meeting at the of the membership likes it at the Church. It is a little drive from members and closer for others. with enough space and tables to me know one way or the other

It is August, and we are summer. I would like to few minutes for a special project.

Get some paper and a prefer), find a quiet place and be comfortable. Think of one summer get together, maybe when you were young. Choose one person, grandparent, aunt, uncle, etc. Where were you? Outdoors, indoors (what was the weather like?), how many people were there, was it a potluck or wedding?...write about it. Then think about this person you chose. Describe his/her relationship with you—how you related to them: a favorite aunt, bigger than life grandpa, fun uncle. Describe how they looked, size, age, clothing, voice.

Then think about what happened at that event that made them stand out in your memory. Maybe it was grandpa and he shared something special—a memory of his childhood, how to whittle a stick into a whistle, etc. Maybe it was the grandma who let you help her set the big table for all the family; describe the table setting. Wrap it up with a short summary (a sentence or two), and you have just created a mini-biography that can go in that person's notes. These are just ideas to get you going, make it your own. Many of us committed to try these after our speaker a couple of months ago. A summertime family gathering might be a good place to try writing one.

This month's workshop at 12:00 is planned to be member discussion in problem solving. I did not get much in way of questions so we will wing it and take questions from the floor.

Please bring your plans for September show and tell. I need four things: the title, what your presentation is about, and the approximate time you need, and what kind of table space you will need. We are planning to use both the workshop time at 12:00 and the speaker time at 1:00 this year, so let's have a lot of things to share.

Floyd K. Ferguson
President, YVGS



new location, it seems that most Prince of Peace, Lutheran downtown, further for some The hall and kitchen are great hold our meetings. Please let how you like it. coming close to the end of the challenge each of you to take a

pencil (or computer if you get together, maybe when you were young. Choose one person, grandparent, aunt, uncle, etc. Where were you? Outdoors, indoors (what was the weather like?), how many people were there, was it a potluck or wedding?...write about it. Then think about this person you chose. Describe his/her relationship with you—how you related to them: a favorite aunt, bigger than life grandpa, fun uncle. Describe how they looked, size, age, clothing, voice.

2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ELECTED OFFICERS

President	Floyd Ferguson
Vice President	Juanita Marshall
Secretary	Jamie Daniel
Treasurer	Marg Polich

APPOINTED CHAIRS

Parliamentarian	Jamie Daniel
Corresponding Secretary	Jamie Daniel
Librarian	Ruth Bishop
Editor	Jamie Daniel
Hospitality	Sue Wolfe
Welcome	Terry Brown
Membership	Marg Polich
Publicity	VACANT
Sunshine	Barbara Thomas
Historian	Barbara Cogorno
Ways and Means	VACANT
Website	Betty Marcum

The Yucaipa Valley Genealogical Society, Inc. meets at 1:00 P.M. on the SECOND Saturday of each month at the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Yucaipa. YVGS annual membership fees are \$20.00 for individuals or \$25.00.00 for families. This amount includes the monthly newsletter and free query privileges. \$10.00 will have our newsletter mailed to another society or individual out of the area. The Editor and Society assume no responsibility for statements made by contributors. Misstatements of fact will be corrected upon receipt of proof of error.

What you missed!

**Yucaipa Valley Genealogical Society
General Meeting Minutes
Saturday, July 9, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 P. M. by President Floyd Ferguson. The pledge of allegiance was led by Juanita Marshall.

The minutes of the June meeting were approved as read.

Treasurer, Marg Polich, gave her report. It was approved for audit.

The working Balance : \$ 499.47. The checkbook balance: \$2503.86

The Treasurer's report will be filed with the minutes, and is always available for the membership to see at the meetings, or by contacting Marg Polich.

The membership approved the meeting place as Prince of Peace Lutheran Church at a cost of \$30.00 per month. Terry Brown moved to pay for the church at three month intervals, and after a second by Sue Wolfe, the membership approved the motion.

The September meeting will by our annual Show and Tell. Ideas were discussed for various presentations, and a sign-up sheet was passed around.

Workshop ideas for the next few months were discussed. Floyd welcomes any new ideas.

Sue Wolfe asked for volunteers to provide refreshments for the November meeting.

Barbara Thomas won the 50/50 drawing and she donated it back to the society.

Kerry Bartels, archivist for the National Archives in Perris gave a very informative talk on what is available for genealogists at the archives. The members of the Society agreed to a possible field trip to Perris the 1st Saturday in October.

Meeting adjourned at 3:10 P. M. by President Floyd Ferguson.

Respectfully submitted by

Jamie Daniel

Secretary YVGS

COMING EVENTS

1. Saturday, August 13, 2011
Yucaipa Valley Genealogical Society
Workshop and Meeting at Prince of Peace
Lutheran Church
Workshop: Problem solving: Members
helping members.
Meeting at 1:00. Speaker: Douglas
Wesfield. Topic: Pioneers of the Civil War.
Come join us!
2. Sunday, August 28, 2011 at 7:00 P.M.,
Family History Research Class at the
Redlands Family History Center, Wabash
and Fifth (Stake Center High Council Room)
Topic: FamilySearch Indexing
Speaker: Michael Luszeck



Don't forget!

We're selling **Stater Bros.**
gift cards at the meeting.

The Society receives a percentage back from
Stater's...and everyone needs groceries!
The money we make from the cards is paying our
bills for the society: meeting place, speakers,
printing, coffee, etc.



Family History Center

Located at 5th and Wabash in Redlands

Hours:

Tuesday - Saturday
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday and Wednesday
6:00p.m. to 9:00p.m.

FHC Telephone Number: 909.794.3844



52 Weeks to Better Genealogy

Editor's note: 3rd in a series I came across while doing research on the Internet. It is written by Amy Coffin, who has a blog called The WeTree Genealogy Blog (<http://wetree.blogspot.com>). I was intrigued by her series, Jump Start Your Genealogy Blog; I contacted her about using her material. It turns out her series 52 weeks to Better Genealogy is a better fit for us (very few of us maintain a blog), so I am sharing this with you instead. I will publish 4 or 5 challenges a month until we have all 52.

Amy Coffin's motto:

If genealogy is boring, you're doing it wrong!

Challenge 33

Monitor genealogy information on [Twitter](#) at least twice a day for seven days. To do this, go to Twitter.com and type #genealogy in the search box. Examine the information being shared and exchanged. Twitter is a web site for sharing information in a format that allows only 140 typewritten characters. Much of the information on Twitter is useless (kind of like television). The trick is to control the information coming to you and ignore the rest. By indicating that you are interested in genealogy, you'll get only information that contains the word genealogy. Check this #genealogy Twitter feed (not the regular Twitter feed) for a week. Notice the genealogy "tweets" that are posted. What type of information is being shared? Authors of genealogy blogs can write about their impressions of using Twitter for genealogy. Active Twitter-using bloggers can describe the benefits/drawbacks of the micro-blogging service to their readers.

Challenge 34

Browse [Flickr](#). This is a photo-sharing web site allowing users to upload their photos, tag them with specific keywords and share them with the public if desired. Images pertaining to your genealogy research interests may be on this site. For example, one user has photographed and compiled a set of [Texas Historical Markers](#). Experiment with Flickr for this week's challenge. Use different search terms related to locations, surnames and cemeteries. Notice how people label their photos. If you have a genealogy blog, describe what you find, or how this tool can benefit genealogy researchers.

Challenge 35

Examine the Daughters of the American Revolution® [Genealogical Research System](#) (GRS). Even if you aren't a member of DAR, you can benefit from this wonderful database. Look at the page and enter some test searches. If you know of a Patriot in your line, try that name in the search box. If you don't have a Patriot name, use John Smith. Explore the results and see the type of information you uncover. Bloggers are encouraged to share their knowledge of this great research tool with their readers.

Challenge 36

Check out the [Family History Library catalog](#). In terms of its library collections, there are no rivals. From this web page, you can search by place, surname, keyword, title, film/fiche, author, subject, and call number. Try all of them. Don't do actual research with this exercise. Instead just click links and see all the catalog has to offer. Many of these items can be rented for a small fee and viewed at your local [Family History Center](#). You do not have to be a member of the LDS Church to utilize this service. If you write a genealogy blog, tell readers what you found during this exercise, or describe the types of materials you've received through this genealogy tool.

Challenge 37

Watch [Roots Television](#). This is a wonderful web site that has the look and feel of a genealogy television channel online. You can watch episodes on various genealogy topics right on your computer. Your challenge this week is quite easy. Watch Roots Television and enjoy. The goal is to practice continuing genealogy education through video. If you're a blogger, write about one or more of the episodes. What did you learn? Did the video touch on an aspect of your own genealogy research?

Genealogy Tip of the Day

I know not everyone uses a research log, but at least try and leave yourself an audit trail or enough breadcrumbs to retrace your research steps. It can be exciting to be finding new information, but to go back later and remember "why" something was obtained or "how" this "new" person fit can be difficult. Type notes, send yourself emails, but do something to record why you were doing what you were doing as you were doing it. Sometimes the reasons are obvious, but other times they are not.

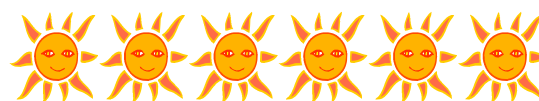
~ Michael John Neill



Surveying Mt. San Gorgonio Memorial Park

Would you like to help survey, take photographs and transcribe the local cemeteries? The Society is now in the process of trying to survey the Summit Cemetery District in Riverside County. We are now adding the pictures taken by Dee Reich to findagrave, and Sue Wolfe and friends have begun a monthly trip to the cemetery to take pictures.

Please contact Jamie Daniel or anyone on the YVGS Board if you are interested. Just one morning taking pictures would be wonderful. We could use your help!



If you know of anyone who needs a little sunshine, or someone who would benefit from a card, please contact Barbara Thomas, our Sunshine Chair. She cannot do her job without our help!



*Rest is not idleness, and to lie
sometimes on the grass under trees on a
summer's day, listening to the murmur
of the water, or watching the clouds
float across the sky, is by no means a
waste of time.*

~J. Lubbock



Thank you Tricia Beuler and Barbara Thomas for the delicious refreshments you brought to the July Meeting.

Sue Wolfe and Paula Messer will provide the refreshments for the July meeting.

Sue Wolfe, Hospitality





Megan Smolenyak, Genealogy expert:
 Author, *Who Do You Think You Are? The
 Essential Guide to Tracing Your Family*

History

Summer Genealogy Reads

Though they rarely use the g-word, I've noticed a trend in recent years of books with a genealogical bent, and you probably won't be surprised to hear that I wouldn't object if this pattern were to become even more pronounced. I'm constantly telling anyone who will listen that there's no such thing as a boring family, and many writers are discovering that their own families are a surprisingly rich source of material.

With many about to embark on summer vacations, I thought now would be an appropriate time to share a few books I've read that share this family history element. Depending on your interests, maybe you'd like to add one of these to your lounging-by-the-pool, reading list.

Nothing Daunted: The Unexpected Education of Two Society Girls in the West

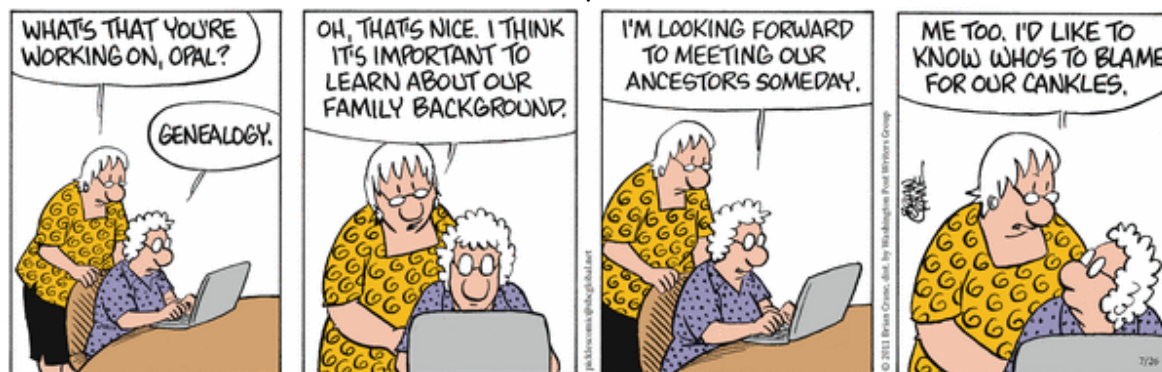
What happened when Dorothy and Ros, college-educated women from the East, moved to the wilds of Elkhead, Colorado to teach the children of homesteaders in 1916? As Dorothy Wickenden, granddaughter of the elder Dorothy discovered, everything from kidnapping to matrimony. Sparked by a packet of old letters found tucked in the back of a drawer, Wickenden dug deeper and eventually came to understand why this one year would prove to be so pivotal in both women's lives. Readers are apt to come away impressed by the adaptability of these fish-out-of-water friends, and perhaps a greater appreciation for just how easy we have it today.

The Hare with Amber Eyes: A Hidden Inheritance
 Potter and ceramic artist, Edmund de Waal, ventured into the world of writing long enough to write an award-winning narrative about his extraordinary family that begins in Odessa and meanders around the globe. To give you a sense, four siblings born in Vienna would eventually scatter to England, Mexico, Japan and the U.S. But what makes this family history even more intriguing is de Waal's choice to unravel the tale by following that path of an unusual heirloom, a collection of 264 Japanese netsuke. With a family that's left too many traces rather than not enough, this curious focus is the perfect GPS to guide readers through what could have otherwise been an unwieldy tome.

The Time Traveler's Guide to Medieval England: A Handbook for Visitors to the Fourteenth Century

Admittedly, this isn't a family history in the classic sense, but it does allow you to see how your forebears lived, provided they came from England. But even without having a single drop of English blood, I found myself fascinated by Ian Mortimer's detailed account of life in the 1300s. Though meticulously researched, he writes in a straightforward and engaging manner about food, religion, clothing, law, housing, health, character (for instance, those who didn't rein their children in with the occasional beating were frowned upon) and everything else you might have wondered about. As with Wickenden's *Nothing Daunted*, I defy you to read this and not be impressed by your ancestors. I hope you'll pick one or two of these to get your summer reading started, and I'd welcome your genealogically-tinged suggestions to add to my own list.

Pickles by Brian Crane



Today I Visited Yesterday

Today I visited yesterday, and walked among the graves
Of family and friends from long ago, whose memory had begun to fade.

The graves were unattended as were my thoughts of them
When a vision of the ages past brought back my sense of kin.

The vision showed the church lawn on a crisp summer day
The table spread, the food prepared and friends who would break bread.

All my relatives were there. Both young and old;
Grandma and I walked hand and hand sharing stories never told.

We laughed and cried and shared our thoughts.
And I found the friend I thought I'd lost, as the sun began to fade...

The church bell rang out clear. Grandma and the others slowly disappeared.
Today I visited yesterday, and now the memory is strong.

Of the family from whence I came AND NOW BELONG...

By Pat Conner Rice

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FIRST CLASS

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