

# YVGS FAMILY FINDERS



Yucaipa Valley  
Genealogical Society

Established 1982

YUCAIPA VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

[www.yvgs.org](http://www.yvgs.org)

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

Sponsored by The Yucaipa Branch Library

December 2011—VOLUME 29 NO. 12



## President's Message

Christmas Greetings to all.

The holidays are upon us; Thanksgiving has come and gone. Yule, Christmas and New Year's are just ahead. This is a time of excitement, sharing, and sometimes, it seems, way too much to do.

When family is together, it is a great time to share a little genealogy. Ask brothers and sisters about some memory of your parents. Ask a sister-in-law or brother-in-law about their first impressions of your parents. Do not forget to take the chance to ask the next generation about their early memories of Christmas. If you can create some sharing time, I will guess that cousins will start coming up with different memories so fast you cannot get it all written down, so—have a small tape recorder ready. If you have some pictures of Christmas's past, these are fun to share; again be sure the tape recorder is keeping track of all the memories. Remember, genealogy is not only recording our ancestors' past, but preserving the family memories of the present to pass on to family yet to come.

I look forward to getting together for our Christmas potluck.

*Floyd K. Ferguson*

President, YVGS

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

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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.

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Yucaipa Valley Genealogical Society
General Meeting Minutes
Saturday November 12, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 1:15 P.M by President Floyd Ferguson.

Marg Polich led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the October meeting were amended. Amendment: Meeting adjourned at 3:45 P.M.

Treasurer Marg Polich gave her report. It was approved for review.

Total Income and Profit : \$1,501.75
Total Expense: 997.74

Balance: 3/12/2011 : \$ 504.01
Checkbook/Bank balance: 11/12/2011 \$2322.70

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.

A motion was made by Marg Polich to send \$100.00 to Yucaipa Valley Welfare, Inc. Motion was seconded by Betty Marcum. Motion was passed by the membership.

A thank-you note from the Yucaipa Valley Welfare, Inc for the Last check that we sent for \$100.00 was read by Floyd Ferguson.

The December Meeting will be a Potluck at the home of Jamie Daniel.

Nominating committee report was read by Joe Swetich:
President: Floyd Ferguson
Vice President : Juanita Marshall
Secretary: Joe Swetich
Treasurer: Billie Wilkes

Bobby Dobbins Title gave a very interesting talk on her research in a Turkish Cemetery.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 P.M. by President Floyd Ferguson.

Respectfully submitted by
Sue Wolfe
For Jamie Daniel,
Secretary , YVGS

# COMING EVENTS

1. Wednesday, December 7, 2011 10:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. in the Hemet Public Library conference room. For more information inquire in the Heritage Room or call (951) 765-2372  
Topic: Military Records—All Wars, Draft Registrations, Prisoners of War

2. Saturday, December 10, 2011  
Yucaipa Valley Genealogical Society Annual Christmas Potluck at the home of Jamie Daniel 12:00 P.M. (map and directions later in the newsletter).

Come join us!

3. January 4, 2012 10:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. in the Hemet Public Library conference room. For more information inquire in the Heritage Room or call (951) 765-2372

Topic: Emigration—Immigration Passenger Lists; Naturalization and Declaration of Intent to Obtain Legal Status

4. Saturday, January 14, 2012  
Yucaipa Valley Genealogical Society Workshop and Meeting at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 31785 Yucaipa Blvd., Yucaipa 12:00 P.M. Workshop 1:00 P.M. meeting.  
Speaker: Rick Clark, President of the Inland Empire Mayflower Society

Come join us!



Thank you, Sandy Makovsky, for the delicious refreshments you brought to the November meeting. The December meeting is a potluck. Please bring a favorite dish to the home of Jamie Daniel.

Sue Wolfe, Hospitality



## 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 50

Week 50: Check out your regional archives. Last week's challenge had you checking out the genealogy-related web pages at the [National Archives](#). This week, your task is to explore the offerings at [regional National Archives facilities](#). Use the map to find the regional office close to you. Just like last week, click links and browse. What types of collections are at your regional location? Challenge participants outside the United States can explore their own regional government archives/records offices.

### Challenge 51

Week 51: Think about the goals you want to accomplish next year and write them down. What research steps do you want to take? What records would you like to find? Think about the brick walls you'd like knocked down. What things haven't you done yet and why not? This task doesn't have to be a resolution list unless you want it to be. Authors of genealogy blogs may share their lists with their readers if they choose.

### Challenge 52

Week 52: Based on the goals you made last week, make a list of the documents and research steps you need to accomplish them. The great way to start a new year is with a to-do list and a plan. What information do you want and where can you get it? If you have professional or educational goals in mind, consider drafting a timeline. This task is flexible, based on your goals. When you are finished, post your to-do list somewhere handy and pat yourself on the back. You just finished the **52 Weeks to Better Genealogy** Challenge!

*Editor's Note: This Letter to the Editor and answer originally appeared in the New York Sun in 1897, and has been reprinted countless times for more than one hundred years. I am happy to join with those who celebrate the spirit of Santa.*



## Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus

*New York Sun, 1897*

We take pleasure in answering thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

Dear Editor,

I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in The Sun, it's so." Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?

*Virginia O'Hanlon*



Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except what they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a

mere insect, an ant, in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

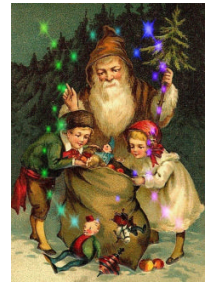
Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The external light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see

fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.



**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.



### Surveying Local Cemeteries

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 continuing to transcribe all the cemeteries (not just Mt. San Geronio) in our area, and post pictures and obituaries where we can find them.

Thank you to those who have volunteered to help. We would like to finish this project in 2012

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!



The following is the slate of officers to be voted into office at the December meeting:

President: Floyd Ferguson  
Vice President : Juanita Marshall  
Secretary: Joe Swetich  
Treasurer: Billie Wilkes



### The Funniest and Shortest Christmas Story

**Place:** The Newtown School nativity play

**Scene:** The inn at Bethlehem on Christmas Eve

**Joseph:** Do you have any room at the inn?

**Inn Keeper:** (Over-playing his role) Yes, plenty, come on in.

**Joseph:** [Jaw drops, speechless]

**Addendum:**

In the nativity play, the inn keeper is supposed to say 'There is no room in the inn', and this is how the baby Jesus came to be born in a stable.



### Family History Center

Located at 5<sup>th</sup> 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: 909.794.38



### Funny Christmas Statistics

- There are currently 78 people named S. Claus living in the USA, and one Kriss Kringle.
- December is the most popular month for nose jobs.
- Number of reindeer required to pull a 333,333 ton sleigh: 214,206, plus Rudolph.
- To deliver his gifts in one night, Santa would have to make 822.6 visits per second, sleighing at 3,000 times the speed of sound.
- At that speed, Santa and his reindeer would burst into flames instantaneously .
- Of the presents received, one in 10 will be broken by the New Year, only 40% will make it to March and just a quarter will be intact by next Xmas.



### Deadline for articles for the newsletter:

Thursday

**Before the first Saturday of the month. This next month (January), I need to have your articles by Thursday, January 5th.**

*If you have articles, pictures or essays you would like to contribute to the newsletter, please contact the editor, Jamie Daniel, at:*

[jamedaniel33@gmail.com](mailto:jamedaniel33@gmail.com)

or

909 792-2962


or


P.O. Box 32


Yucaipa, CA 92399-0032





### American Christmas Customs


 In the early days of the nation, gifts were exchanged on New Year's Day - not Christmas.


 December 25th was a special day of worship...a religious holiday and nothing else.

 But around the mid-1800s, gift-giving at Christmas became popular. It's been growing ever since, until today...well, just look at the crowds in the stores across the country. Millions of people are loaded down with Christmas packages for other people. So Christmas giving certainly is here to stay.

 Christmas cards didn't appear in the United States until the early 1900s. The first American card manufacturer was a German named Louis Prang of Roxbury, Massachusetts. And there's irony to this fact.

 It seems Massachusetts is the only state in the nation which once outlawed Christmas. Actually, Massachusetts wasn't a state but rather a British colony at the time. It abolished Christmas observance for 22 years...from 1659 to 1681. Anyone who didn't show up for work on Christmas Day was fined five shillings. Massachusetts didn't make Christmas a legal holiday until 1885.

 Then there's the mistletoe tradition. What's now a yuletide license for kissing used to be crushed and fermented into an intoxicating liquor by pagan tribes. The Norsemen regarded mistletoe as a sacred berry with great powers of healing.

 The custom of hanging Christmas stockings originated in Holland, where the children used their shoes to collect gifts. The wooden shoes were parked by the fireplace to be filled by their patron saint...St. Nicholas.





## Whittier Area Genealogical Society (WAGS) 29th ANNUAL SEMINAR

*Presents*

### George G. Morgan

Topics:

- *Bring 'Em Back to Life: Developing an Ancestor Profile*
- *Sidestep Genealogy*
- *The Genealogist as a CSI*
- *Postcards, Photos & Stereographs: Another View of Our Ancestors' Lives*

**Saturday, February 25, 2012**

**Masonic Lodge, Whittier, California**

**7604 Greenleaf Ave. at Mar Vista in Whittier**



**George G. Morgan** is president of Aha! Seminars, Inc. and author of eight genealogy books, including: *The Genealogy Forum on America Online: The Official User's Guide*; the award winning *Your Family Reunion: How to Plan It, Organize It, and Enjoy It.*; and *How to Do Everything with Your Genealogy* which is part of his highly successful *How to Do Everything Series*.

George has won numerous genealogy-related awards and is co-host with partner, Drew Smith of the *Genealogy Guys Podcast<sup>SM</sup>*, at <http://genealogyguys.com>, the longest running genealogy podcast in the world. He also has held leadership positions with several genealogical groups such as the Florida State Genealogical Society, Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS), and Association of Professional Genealogists (APG).

You can learn more about George at <http://ahaseminars.com/index.php>.

**~ It is now time to register!**

Contact Roger Mount, the Seminar Director: email: [wags.seminar@gmail.com](mailto:wags.seminar@gmail.com); phone: 562-693-2674; Check out our WAGS [Facebook](#) page. Or, contact Ray Ristic, WAGS President: phone: 626-919-1713 or email: [nerak2000@earthlink.net](mailto:nerak2000@earthlink.net).

#### SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY (Four 1-hour sessions)

<u>Morning</u>		<u>Afternoon</u>	
8:00	Doors Open / Registration Browse Displays / Sales Tables	12:00	Lunch. Visit Displays and Sales Tables
9:00	Welcome / Introductions	1:00	Door Prizes Awarded
9:15	<b>1. Bring 'Em Back to Life: Developing an Ancestor Profile</b>	1:30	<b>3. The Genealogist as a CSI</b>
10:15	Break. Browse Displays & Sales Tables	2:30	Break. Last chance to visit Sales Tables
10:45	<b>2. Sidestep Genealogy</b>	3:00	<b>4. Postcards, Photos, &amp; Stereographs: Another View of Our Ancestors' Lives</b>
		4:00	Adjournment

\***VALUABLE DOOR PRIZES**—Will be awarded at 1:00. Don't miss this! You need to be present!

\***REFRESHMENTS**—Will be available during the day.

\* **Deli lunches** of sandwiches, salad, dessert, and beverage may be ordered through pre-registration **only**.

\* **Other eating places** are within walking distance or you may bring your own lunch.

\***VENDORS SCHEDULED**

\* **George G. Morgan**—The speaker's book, *How to Do Everything Genealogy*, 3rd edition, will be available for purchase.

\* **Southern California Genealogy Society (SCGS)**—Many books and supplies will be available.

\* **Carlberg Press**—Well-known genealogist, Nancy Carlberg, will be available with a wide selection of her books, including some new titles.

\* **Whittier Area Genealogical Society (WAGS)**—Book sales and displays will be available.

\* **Creative Continuum**—Family History Publishing books.

\* **Daughters of the American Revolution**—Books provide an opportunity to research ancestors.

\* **Additional Vendors Are Pending. Check this website for a list of added vendors.**

\* **Vendor Donations:** ancestry.com World Membership; Footnote.com (now Fold3.com) Annual Membership; Family Tree DNA Test; Flip-Pal Mobile Scanner

\***ACCOMMODATIONS**

\* For accommodations at the Radisson Hotel, across the street from the Seminar location, call 562-945-8511 or see their website at <http://www.radisson.com/>

\***REGISTRATION**

Please make check payable to WAGS. Mail with the registration form (below) **NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 13, 2012** to

WAGS Seminar,  
P.O. Box 4367,  
Whittier, CA 90607-4367.

**NO REFUNDS**

**REGISTRATION FORM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ -- \_\_\_\_\_

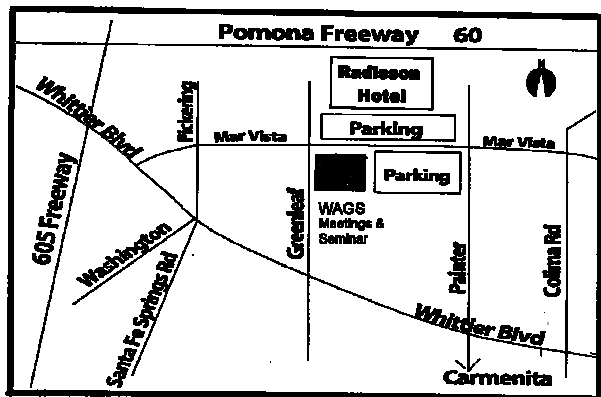
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

**DONATIONS**

Early registration for WAGS members (before Feb. 13, 2012)	.....\$32.00	\$ _____
Early registration for non-members (before Feb. 13, 2012)	.....\$37.00	\$ _____
Late registration for all (after Feb. 13, 2012) and at the door	.....\$40.00	\$ _____
Lunch reservations (by Feb. 13, 2012)	.....\$ 8.00	\$ _____

Total amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check Number \_\_\_\_\_



**Seminar Location Map**

**Masonic Lodge**  
7604 Greenleaf Ave  
Whittier, CA

**DIRECTIONS:** From the 605 freeway: exit at Whittier Blvd., go east, then left on Mar Vista street. From the 5 freeway: exit Carmenita Road, go straight north (the name changes from Carmenita Road to Painter Ave.) then west on Mar Vista. **Free parking** in Radisson Hotel garage. Reserved handicapped parking is behind the Masonic Lodge.



*The Christmas Potluck  
December 10, 2011 12:00 P.M.  
will be at the home of  
Jamie Daniel,  
333 Poppy Road, Redlands  
Bring your favorite potluck dish  
And join us for our annual meeting  
And fun.*

**Directions to 333 Poppy Road from I-10:**

Traveling from the West: After passing by the downtown area of Redlands, take the Ford Street off-ramp; turn RIGHT on Ford at the bottom of the ramp; follow Ford Street across Redlands Blvd.

Traveling from the East (from Yucaipa): Take the Redlands Blvd./Ford Street off-ramp; turn left on Ford Street at the stop light.

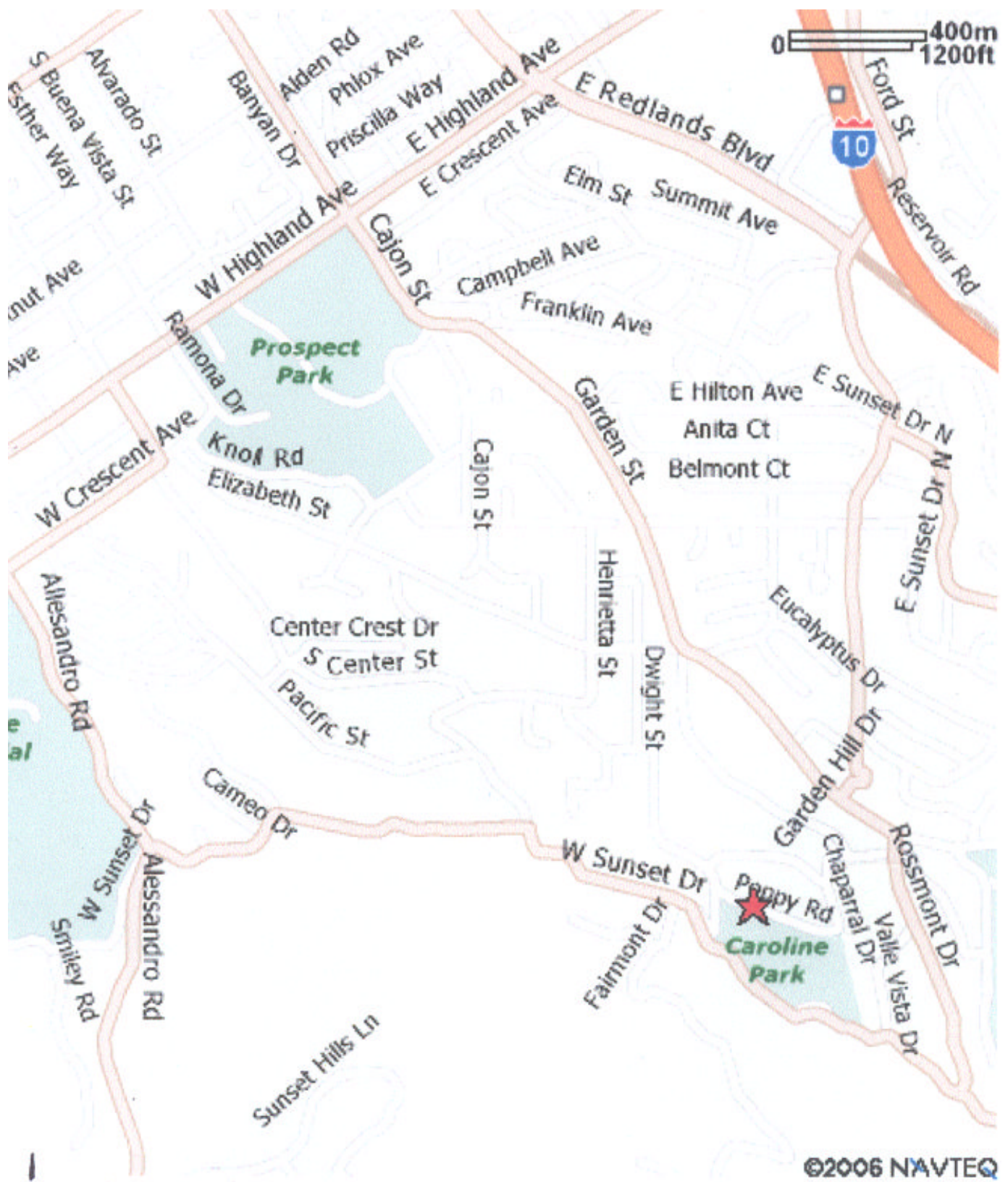
Continue up the hill. You will cross Sunset Drive at the crest of the hill. Continue on Ford, crossing South Street. There will be a Lutheran Church and Valley Preparatory School on your left. Shortly after passing the school and ascending a small hill, stay to the right of the street as it narrows and rises into Garden Hill, curving left down to Garden Street (two concrete pillar stand at the intersection). Turn LEFT onto Garden Street for a very short block. The Southside Fire Station will be on your right. Turn RIGHT on Rossmont by the station and RIGHT again on Mariposa directly behind the fire station. Follow Mariposa up a little hill and around a curve. Go almost STRAIGHT (and a little left) on Chaparral as Mariposa curves to the right. At the top of the hill on Chaparral, turn RIGHT on Poppy Road. 333 is on the left hand side of the street (the only house on that side of the street). The number is on the house and the mailbox.

From Cajon Street: Go south on Cajon to Garden street (Prospect Park will be on your right as you approach Garden—Cajon continues straight in front of you). Garden Street CURVES TO THE LEFT off Cajon. Follow Garden Street all the way to Rossmont. The Southside Fire Station will be on your right. Turn RIGHT on Rossmont by the station and RIGHT again on Mariposa directly behind the fire station. Follow Mariposa up a little hill and around a curve. Go almost STRAIGHT (and a little left) on (Chaparral as Mariposa curves to the right. At the top of the hill on Chaparral, turn RIGHT on Poppy Road. 333 is on the left hand side of the street (the only house on that side of the street). The number is on the house and the mailbox.

From Center Street:  
Follow Center Street south to the "T" that intersects Crescent. Turn LEFT on Crescent and make an almost immediate right on Elizabeth Street. Follow Elizabeth up the hill to Dwight Street where you are to turn RIGHT—just before Elizabeth Street starts downhill. Stay on Dwight (around several curves and down a short hill) until you reach Mariposa. Angle across Mariposa to Poppy Road. You will see a large concrete sign that reads CAROLINE PARK as you enter onto Poppy. 333 is more than halfway up the block on the right hand side of the street (the only house on that side of the street). The number is on the house and the mailbox.

**If you get lost, call 792-2962 and we'll talk to you up to the house.**





***Twelve Days of Christmas***  
**ON THE TWELFTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS,**  
**MY TRUE LOVE GAVE TO ME,**  
**TWELVE THIRTEENTH COUSINS,**  
**ELEVEN PHOTO ALBUMS,**  
**TEN FAMILY GROUP SHEETS,**  
**NINE DEEDS OF RECORD,**  
**EIGHT REAMS OF PAPER,**  
**SEVEN LANGUAGE LESSONS,**  
**SIX INDEXED CENSUS,**  
**FIVE STORAGE SHEDS,**  
**FOUR CD ROMS,**  
**THREE TIN-TYPES,**  
**TWO HUNDRED BUCKS,**  
**AND A CLUE TO THE FAMILY MYSTERY.**

*Yucaipa Valley Genealogical Society*  
*Floyd K. Ferguson, President*  
*P.O. Box 32*  
*Yucaipa, CA 92399-0032*

**FIRST CLASS**

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