

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

January 2011—VOLUME 29 NO. 1



President's Message

A genealogist's framework is based on time. As I change the calendar to events into the record of our lives, my mind goes back to the many dates that genealogy brings to me. Sometimes a date is associated with great events, like the great ... grandfather that arrived in Philadelphia as a young man just in time to take up arms in a war that became known as the American Revolution. As the ship load of new immigrants disembarked, they were greeted by Ben Franklin. Other events happened in small steps over time and a single date cannot be pointed to, as in the case of the Cherokee ancestor that blended in to the community and did not take the Trail of Tears. Then again, I know the exact date that a letter was written from California to a friend in Iowa extolling the marvels of the Golden State. That Iowan was my great grandfather. He sold the home, the farm and most of their things, packed up the family and headed west on the new ribbon of steel that crossed the continent. Yes, we start a newly numbered date – 2011 – and I wish all of you a Happy New Year!

With a new meeting place the Yucaipa Valley Genealogical Society starts this year with some adventure, some challenges and many opportunities. Together we can make this a wonderful year for the society.

This year also starts the 150th anniversary of the War between the States, or the Civil War. How do we remember this milestone in American History? Groups are struggling with how to mark the events: do we recount the battles, or celebrate the victories? Do we remember the people left at home or in the path of war that had their lives turned inside out? May be it is that empty chair of a father or son that would never be filled again. Above all is the story of reconciliation as brothers reached across the bloody battlefields to rebuild a nation. As I have talked with our society members, I have been impressed by how many have ancestors that were involved in some way or another in the Civil War. Although we are geographically a long way from most of the events, I am suggesting a series of 5 or 6 workshops this year around researching the Civil War. This will include the lives and times of the 1860's, records of the period, daily life of the soldier and civilian, National Archives research, and Reenactment – how it helps us understand our ancestors. Each workshop may focus on the Civil War, but we will work with techniques that can be applied to many different situations. That brings me to an assignment for the January workshop. If you have one or more ancestors who fought on either side of the Civil War bring the name, and if known, the Regiment, State, Unit or Company as well as the date mustered in and the date of discharge of your ancestor. We will create a master list so that we can share information and guide the workshop discussions.

Yours with all the best for a New Year,

Floyd X. Ferguson,

President YVGS

2010 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ELECTED OFFICERS

President Floyd Ferguson
Vice President VACANT
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 VACANT

The Yucaipa Valley Genealogical Society, Inc. meets at 1:00 P.M. on the SECOND Saturday of each month at the United Methodist 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
December 11, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 P.M. by President Floyd Ferguson, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The slate of officers was announced by the nominating committee (Joe Swetich, Terry Brown and Juanita Marshall). The following slate was elected by unanimous vote after a motion to accept by Betty Marcum and a second by Barbara Firestone: Floyd Ferguson, President, Jamie Daniel, Secretary, and Marg Polich, Treasurer. The office of Vice President is vacant at this time.

The observation that the proposed budget for 2011 was incorrectly printed in the newsletter; and the proposed budget should NOT be printed in the newsletter was made. There will be no reprinting of the budget. The proposed budget will be available to members at any general meeting.

Arlene Allsopp moved to accept the revised 2011 budget. Jamie Daniel seconded. The revised proposed budget for 2011 was unanimously accepted.

The Financial Review Committee, consisting of Betty Marcum, Barbara Firestone, and Glenda Page will review the Treasurer's records and report to the general membership at the January meeting.

A general discussion followed regarding possible topics for workshops and speakers for 2011. The meeting was adjourned at 2:22 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Jamie Daniel
YVGS Secretary

COMING EVENTS

1. Saturday, January 8, 2011 Yucaipa Valley Genealogical Society Workshop and Meeting at United Methodist Church in Yucaipa, 35177 Beech Avenue 12:00 P.M.

Workshop: Civil War Ancestors. Please bring any information you have on ancestors who served (either North or South) in the War.

Meeting at 1:00. Please join us to discuss new projects and directions to be taken for ongoing ones. Program to be announced

2. Friday, January 14, 2011 at the Hemet Public Library. 10:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.

Topic: Emigration—Immigration—Passenger Lists. Naturalization and Declarations of Intent to obtain Legal Status



Who Do You Think You Are? New Stars Revealed for Season 2

Country music star Tim McGraw, comedian and activist Rosie O'Donnell, and pop-star Lionel Richie are among the celebrities who will star on Season 2 of the hit NBC series *Who Do You Think You Are?* according to the Associated Press. The new season of this U.S. show, based on the long running BBC series of the same name, begins January 21, 2011 and will air on Friday evenings. Other celebrities who will be tracing their roots this season include actors Kim Cattrall, Steve Buscemi, Vanessa Williams and Ashley Judd. The series is produced by Lisa Kudrow and Dan Bucatinsky of *Is or Isn't Entertainment*.



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!



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: This is a series I came across while doing research on the Internet. It is written by Amy Coffin, who has a blog (for the uninitiated, see the description of blogs at the end of this article) called *The WeTree Genealogy Blog* (<http://wetree.blogspot.com>). I was intrigued by her series, *Jump Start Your Genealogy Blog*, so 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. As a wonderful side note, it turns out Amy is a 5th cousin of mine. I hope to exchange family information with her this year. Nice to have a professional in the family!

Amy Coffin's motto:

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

Challenge 1

Go to your local public library branch. Make a note of the genealogy books in the collection that may help you gain research knowledge. Don't forget to check the shelves in both the non-fiction section and the reference section. If you do not already have a library card, take the time to get one. If you have a genealogy blog, write about what you find in your library's genealogy collection.

Challenge 2

Go to your local public library branch again. Examine the local history, archives and/or special collections section. Ask a librarian if you don't know if your library has special collections or where they are located. Be sure to check the reference section, too, as many of the newer and more valuable books are held in that area. If you have a genealogy blog, write about what you find in your library's local history and special collections.

Challenge 3

Assess yourself! You're great at researching everyone else's history, but how much of your own have you recorded? Do an assessment of your personal records and timeline events to ensure your own life is as well-documented as that of your ancestors. If you have a

genealogy blog, write about the status of your own research and steps you may take to fill gaps and document your own life.

Challenge 4

Learn about your local public library's inter-library loan (ILL) policy. Pick a genealogy-related book that you want to read that is not in your library's collection. Ask the librarian how to request the book from another library. Find the different library systems from which you can request books through your own library, as this can dramatically increase the number of genealogy books to which you have access. If you have a genealogy blog, write about your experience with requesting items through your library's ILL service.

Challenge 5

Play with WorldCat.org. WorldCat is a massive network of library content that the public can search for free (user name and password not required). Not every library is a part of WorldCat, but the vast size of the network makes it an important genealogy tool. If you are looking for a specific book or publication, enter the identifying information into the WorldCat search box and see which libraries hold the item. You may even find that you can get the item through your library's inter-library loan program. Don't forget to search for some of your more unusual surnames and see what comes up. The goal is to play with WorldCat and examine its possibilities for your own research. If you're already familiar with WorldCat, play with it again. The network and collection grow and change constantly. If you have a genealogy blog, write about your experiences with searching WorldCat for this exercise.

A **blog** (a blend of the term **web log**) is a type of website or part of a website. Blogs are usually maintained by an individual with regular entries of commentary, descriptions of events, or other material such as graphics or video. Entries are commonly displayed in reverse-chronological order. Blog can also be used as a verb, meaning to maintain or add content to a blog.

Most blogs are interactive, allowing visitors to leave comments and even message each other via widgets on the blogs and it is this interactivity that distinguishes them from other static websites.^[2]

Many blogs provide commentary or news on a particular subject; others function as more personal online diaries. A typical blog combines text, images, and links to other blogs, Web pages, and other media related to its topic. The ability of readers to leave comments in an interactive format is an important part of many blogs. Most blogs are primarily textual, although some focus on art (Art blog), photographs (photoblog), videos (video blogging), music (MP3 blog), and audio (podcasting). Microblogging is another type of blogging, featuring very short posts.



Don't forget to sign up to bring refreshments for 2011! Signup sheet will be available at the meeting.

Sue Wolfe, Hospitality



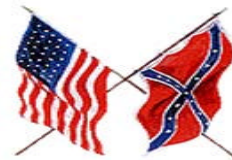
Don't forget!

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.



1st workshop of the Year
Civil War Workshop January 8, 2011
at 12:00 P.M. before the meeting



If you have ancestors either side

one or more who fought on of the Civil

War bring the name, and if known, the Regiment, State, Unit or Company as well as the date mustered in and the date of discharge of your ancestor. We will create a master list so that we can share information and guide the workshop discussions.



Genealogy Tip of the Day



Resolutions for 2011

Think about your genealogy resolutions for 2011. Pick one small one that you can reasonably obtain. Write it down on a post-it note and put it on your computer. If it won't fit on a post-it note, it's probably too long!

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. Please contact Jamie Daniel or anyone on the YVGS Board if you are interested. We could use your help!





Genealogy New Year's Resolutions

By Maureen A. Taylor



I'll admit it: I don't make the typical New Year's resolutions. Instead, I make a flexible list of goals for the new year. Posting that list where I can see it keeps me on track and reminds me of what's important. You can do the same with general goals or a few specific projects. Here are a few photo-related ones to keep in mind:

1. Learn your family's story one photo at a time.

Select a single image from your box of unidentified pictures, and try to solve its mystery using the photographic method, photographer's imprint, subjects' clothing and genealogical data as clues. Setting this reasonable goal will help you move ahead on your research checklist.

2. Listen to your pictures.

You know the old saying: A picture's worth a thousand words. Listen to the stories your photos tell about your family. Pictures of lost loves and family travels can lead to new discoveries about your family tree. Here are a couple to consider:

- Migration patterns: Lay out your photographs, and plot on a map all the places your ancestor had their pictures taken (based on the photographer's imprint). Use different-colored pins or stickers for each branch of the family, and hang up the map wherever you work on your genealogy. You'll have a visual reminder of your roots.
- Family celebrations: What traditions appear in your pictures? What can you discern from images of baptisms, marriages and other family events? Do they reveal beliefs or customs? Use family pictures to explore your heritage, start traditions or reintroduce old ones.

3. Carry your pictures with you.

Pictures can trigger memories, so carry a file of your unidentified images with you every day. That way, they'll be accessible the next time you visit a relative or unexpectedly connect with a cousin. You can photocopy your images and carry the copies with you. Or using today's technology, take along digitized versions in your personal digital assistant (PDA).

4. Be preservation-minded.

Don't forget to preserve your digital images. Be sure to back them up, and print them using preservation-

quality inks and papers. Store all images in an environment with a stable temperature and low humidity.

Don't worry about accomplishing everything on your list. These are just practical ways to make progress on your family history, tell a good story and be mindful of the value of your pictures.



Watch for more information on the Jamboree in coming newsletters.



They Came from Some Place Else.

Find them at the
42nd Annual Southern California

Genealogy Jamboree

Friday, June 10 through Sunday, June 12, 2011

Los Angeles Burbank Airport Marriott Hotel and
Convention Center

Burbank, California

Jamboree is the regional event that looks like a national conference, with over 50 speakers and over 130 different classes.

Last year's Jamboree was the second largest genealogical event in the United States, and we expect the 2011 version to be another record breaker.

Online registration for Jamboree will open on January 1, 2011.

Please meet the Jamboree 2011 speakers. Many of these speakers are long-time members of the Jamboree family, while others will be fresh faces. All bring their joy for genealogy, experience in teaching, and passion for sharing their knowledge with others.

Lisa A. Alzo; David Armstrong, MA; Ron Arons; Biff and Nancy Barnes; Kerry S. Bartels; Warren Bittner; Charlotte Bocage; Mike Booth; Jana Sloan Broglin, CG; Tony Burroughs, FUGA; Bruce Buzbee; Christopher Child; John Philip Colletta, FUGA; Lisa Louise Cooke; Rick Crume; Schelly Talalay Dardashti; William Dollarhide; Amy Fellner, JD; Tami Glatz; Bennett Greenspan; Jean Wilcox Hibben, PhD, CG; Janet Hovorka; David Lambert; Nancy Loe; Thomas MacEntee; Janis Martin; Margo McKinstry, AG; Leland Meitzler; Kory Meyerink, AG, FUGA; Anne Miller, PhD; George G. Morgan; Steve Morse, PhD; Joanna Mountain, PhD; Dave Obee; Gena Philbert Ortega; Chris Pomery; Geoff Rasmussen; Jennifer Shaw; Drew Smith, MLS; Lou Szucs, FUGA; Maureen Taylor; Carma-Lu Thompson; Cath Trindle, CG; Tom Underhill; Patricia Van Skaik; Sam Ward; Joel Weintraub, PhD

LAWS OF GENEALOGY

The document containing evidence of missing links in your research invariably will be lost due to fire, flood or war.

The keeper of vital records you need will just have been insulted by another genealogist.

Your great great grandfather's obituary states he died leaving no issue of record.

The will you need is in the safe on the Titanic.

The ancient photo of 4 relatives, one of whom is your progenitor, carries the names of the other 3.

Copies of old newspapers have holes occurring only on last names.

You learn that great aunt Matilda's executor just sold her life's collection of family genealogy material to a flea market dealer in New York City.

No one in your family tree ever did anything noteworthy, always rented property, was never sued, and was never named in any will.

Yours is the only last name not found among the 3 billion in the Mormon archives.

Ink fades and paper deteriorates at a rate inversely proportional to the value of the data recorded.

The critical link in your family tree is named "Smith."

The 37-volume, 16,000-page history of your county of origin isn't indexed.

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Floyd K. Ferguson, President

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FIRST CLASS

ISSN#1069-9333