

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

July 2010—VOLUME 28 NO. 7



President's Message:

Summer has arrived. It is a time that many put their genealogy aside because the days are long and the evenings short. Some societies even go dark during the summer months, but we will continue to have our meetings. Please note one change in September. The meeting will be held on the third Saturday, September 18 for this one month only. This is due to a scheduling conflict with the room at the library which is being used on our regular meeting time.

Summer -- what can we do with genealogy? Here are a few suggestions:

Those of us that are lucky enough to do a little traveling where some of our ancestors lived have a great opportunity. Even if you cannot spend time huddled in libraries or records archives, or you do not have gravestones to photograph, there are things to do. When you are in the cities and towns, look for buildings and landmarks that may have been there when your relatives were there and take pictures. Later, when you have time to look up local histories on the computer, you can verify any dates. So many times, we limit our stories to written or verbal histories directly from our direct ancestors. We can expand our understanding of their lives by including the history of the area when and where they lived; after all, local history would have affected their everyday lives. (Just remember to make specific notes as you take the pictures. Don't assume you will remember everything you see and hear).

For those of us that have a garden: take some time to speculate on what our ancestors did to tend to their garden. Would they have even had one? Do you have any stories of a flower garden or a food supply garden? Make some notes for follow-up.

Some of us may attend a family gathering or reunion. Dig for information and stories, or better yet, offer to put up a table with your display. Here is a quick idea. Set out half sheets of paper and ask people to write down a family members name and a few sentences of a memory or shared event. Have these put in a box and share them near the end of the gathering. Note: some advantages to this approach, the half sheet makes people comfortable that they can write just a few sentences. 'Put in box' means that you get them back now, not taken home and never returned. What you have in hand you can always expand on later, what gets taken home you most likely will not see again. Draw out of the box and share some of the stories. This may trigger more memories that will be put in the box before people leave. You can always contact people later to get more details. Remember to encourage people to include both those that have passed on as well as family members, even children, who are still living.

Do not forget to bring some of your experiences to the August Show and Tell meeting.

Have a great summer!

Floyd K. Ferguson

President

2010 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ELECTED OFFICERS

President Floyd Ferguson
Vice President Donna Hunter
Secretary Bonnie Brown
Treasurer Arlene Allsopp

APPOINTED CHAIRS

Parliamentarian Jamie Daniel
Corresponding Secretary Bonnie Brown
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 Earl Giddings

The Yucaipa Valley Genealogical Society, Inc. meets at 1:00 P.M. on the SECOND Saturday of each month at the Yucaipa Branch Library, 12040 Fifth Street, Yucaipa, California. 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

Workshop: 12:00 P.M. Starting Calendar Projects
Floyd will have hand outs at the next workshop in July.

GENERAL MEETING

President Floyd K. Ferguson called the meeting to order at 1:04 P.M. New member Joe Swekich led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Terry Brown welcomed two new members, Dolores Allender, Joe Swekich and guest Linda Coleton. 26 people were present.

The minutes of the last meeting were read by Jamie Daniel in the absence of Bonnie Brown, Secretary. They were approved as read.

The Treasurer's report was given by Arlene Allsopp. There is a balance of \$1,844.62 in the checking account. The report was approved for audit, and a copy of the financial report will be included with the minutes.

Committee Reports:

Donna Hunter, Programs, reported on future speakers. July speaker will be Brenda Dwightson. Her topic is "Up Close and Personal-On Site Research".

Jamie Daniel, Editor, reported the newsletter is being sent via 35 e-mails, 21 U.S. mail.

Sue Wolfe, Hospitality, asked for volunteers to fill three vacancies for the rest of the calendar year to bring snacks to the meetings.

Marg Polich, Membership, reported that we now have 37 members.

Earl Giddings, Website, reported on Desert Lawn cemetery and the postings on findagrave.com. The board has okayed the next cemetery project to begin with Sunnyslope Cemetery in Beaumont.

Barbara Thomas, Sunshine, reported sending a card to Barbara Firestone, whose son is to undergo extensive surgery this month.

Floyd Ferguson suggested that the Society has a great research library, located in the Yucaipa Branch Library reference section, and the members should be making use of it.

After the break, the 50/50 drawing was won by Karen Morlan, who donated the money back to the society.

Charlie Frye of ESRI gave a wonderful presentation of his work on mapping his ancestor's involvement in the Revolutionary War entitled "More than Dates and Places: Tracing the paths of Revolutionary War Ancestors with GIS"

The meeting was adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Daniel,
in the absence of Bonnie Brown, Secretary

COMING EVENTS

1. Saturday, July 10, 2010 at 12:00 P.M.
Yucaipa Valley Genealogical Society at the
Yucaipa Branch Library.

Workshop at 12:00 Calendar Projects
Meeting at 1:00 P.M. Speaker: Brenda
Dwightson

Topic: "Up Close and Personal: On Site
Research". Come join us!

2. Sunday, July 25, 2010 at 7:00 P.M.
Genealogy Research Class of 2009 at Family
History Center 5th and Wabash in Redlands.
Topic: "Organizing Your Genealogy"
Speaker: Liz Bequelin

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.
New Thursday Hours:
Groups by appointment only.

FHC Telephone Number: 909.794.3844



Those who
expect to reap
the blessings
of freedom,
must, like men,

undergo the
fatigue of
supporting it.

~Thomas Paine



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: speakers, printing,
coffee, etc.



**Liberty is always dangerous,
but it is the safest thing we have.**

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

This Month's Speaker:

Brenda Dwightson's talk will be "Up Close and
Personal: On Site Research". She is a teacher and has
taught for 17 years. She was been involved with family
history research for 32 years. She is a staff member of
the Corona Family History Center and has done
extensive research throughout the United States and
traveled to Europe to continue her search.

*Editor's note: Here is the seventh in the series of resolutions for
the New Year. I know that advice to join a genealogy society is
"preaching to the choir", but I thought the rest of the advice in
this article might be helpful.*

❖❖ Two Heads are Better Than One ❖❖

One of the best ways to further your research is to
join forces with other people researching the same
surname or in the same area. Join a genealogical or
historical society in an area in which you are
researching a primary family line and then get
involved in some way. You will meet fellow
researchers, benefit from members with years of
experience with the records and history of the area and
have many opportunities to help others by working to

preserve historical and genealogical documents, recording cemetery transcriptions and more. If you spend a lot of time online, then join a mailing list for your surname or area or participate in chats and/or forums with other genealogists with similar interests. I belong to several informal groups of researchers who work closely to piece together information on a particular family - all groups of people whom I have met online.

We've all been there...tracked down a family Bible only to learn that the distant cousin who possesses it won't let anyone else take a look, or discovered a possible genealogical connection on the Internet, only to find that your new "cousin" won't divulge their sources. Like any good story, however, there is more than one point of view.

As selfish as it may seem to you, there are any number of good reasons why an individual may be a bit wary of sharing their treasured family heirlooms or hard-earned genealogy research. The trick to encouraging these people to share is understanding their possible reservations and treating them in a polite and respectful manner.

➤**Offer something in return.** This may seem like just common sense, but the trick sometimes is to figure out what you can offer that will be useful. If you'd like to see your great-grandmother's Bible, offer to bring over a computer and scanner and scan the Bible in person. Your relative can even do all of the physical handling of the Bible if that makes her happy. Then create a CD with the digitized pages she can share with any other relatives who ask. This technique works well for family photographs and records as well. When requesting information from a fellow researcher, ask if there is anything on your family they might be interested in, or offer to do lookups for them in any related records or resources you own or have access to. Even if you have nothing unique to offer that particular researcher, you can still return the favor by helping others on mailing lists covering your mutual surname or geographical area of interest.

➤**Give credit where credit is due.** It may be frustrating to find someone who won't just send you a copy of their entire family file. Why not? It's your family tree too! It is quite understandable, however, when you consider that many genealogists have graciously shared their hard-earned research with a curious "cousin" only to find it plastered all over the Internet without credit or acknowledgement. For many of us, our personal research is the product of hundreds, even thousands, of hours -- not to mention the monetary cost -- and it can make us a bit cranky to see it used in such a cavalier manner. Anytime you receive

information from someone else, be sure to note them as the source of the information.

➤**Do your homework before asking for help.** It's amazing how many emails I receive from people researching the POWELL surname wanting to know if I have any information on their family. It may be my last name (and my married name at that), but do you realize how many POWELLS have lived in the world? You're not going to get very far on your family tree by expecting everyone else to do the work for you. Trace your own line back as far as you can, and make sure that any emails you send out or queries you post are at least related to your surname in the correct geographic area and time period. Include as many details as possible so that others can tell at a glance how your line might fit in with theirs.

➤**Make it personal.** As much as genealogists love everything having to do with family history, they are most interested in their own names, not yours. Instead of sending out a general request for information on your great-grandfather or your POWELL surname, consider wording your query in terms of how your great-grandfather or POWELLS might be related to their family line. It's not that other genealogists won't provide you with information on families or research that doesn't relate to theirs - genealogists, as a group, tend to be extremely nice and helpful. But genealogists also get busy, and emails or posts with subject lines that offer a potential link to their own research stand a greater chance of catching their eye.

➤**Respect the privacy of living relatives.** One of the quickest ways to alienate your relatives is to share or publish the personal information they have entrusted to your care without their knowledge and consent. It's fine to include it in your working genealogy file, but DO NOT publish it on the Internet or in a book, or otherwise share it without their permission. Older relatives, especially, are a bit overwhelmed by the Internet and its threat of identity theft. Before sharing a GEDCOM with a third-cousin or posting it to an online database, use the feature in your genealogy software program that hides information about living people, or use a GEDCOM filter to exclude all people born within the past 100 years. It can also be helpful to create a special field in your genealogy software program for information which living relatives have requested you keep private -- perhaps a story of a family feud or a child born out of wedlock -- and then exclude that field when creating GEDCOM files for sharing with others. If you want your relatives to feel comfortable sharing personal information with you, then you need to show they can trust you to keep it confidential when necessary.

*It is easy to take liberty for granted,
when you have never had it taken from you.*

*~ Author unknown,
sometimes attributed to M. Graudler*

This sign was posted outside a cemetery visited by our member Sue Wolfe. It just goes to show what some genealogists have to put up with to find ancestors!



*Liberty is always dangerous,
but it is the safest thing we
have.*

~Harry Emerson Fosdick



**Deadline for articles for the newsletter:
Thursday**

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

*If you have articles, pictures or essays you
would like to contribute to the newsletter,
please contact the editor, Jamie Daniel, at:
jamiedaniel33@gmail.com*

or

909 792-2962

or

P.O. Box 32

Yucaipa, CA 92399-0032

*Let freedom never perish
in your hands.*

~Joseph Addison



August Meeting

Well, it's not really like "Show and Tell" from elementary school...but our August meeting will be a time of sharing

for everyone.

We would like to have *everyone* participate in our Show and Tell (and we'd like to make it an annual event!). But we need to limit speakers to between five and ten minutes, depending on how many of our members want to participate.

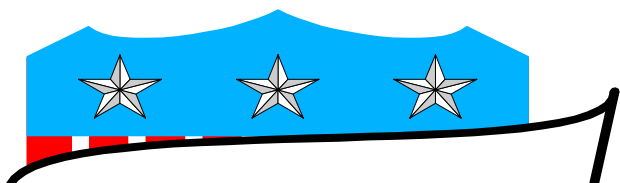
But Wait! You don't have to speak—you could bring a display of some kind. For instance, do you have interesting original (or copies of) documents you would like to show us? Do you have terrific pictures, textiles, or perhaps a collection of artifacts or antiques from your family that would be interesting for the rest of us to see? By all means, bring them. We had some wonderful displays last year, and we know there are many other members with something to share.

If you have something, anything, that you want to bring to the meeting, please contact one of the board members by **July 31st** (or talk to us at the July meeting). We would like to be able to coordinate this, and have tables set up for display.

Think about it...we all have interesting stories passed down. Wouldn't you like to SHARE?



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!



I prefer liberty with danger to peace with slavery.
~Author Unknown

If our country is worth dying for in time of war let us resolve that it is truly worth living for in time of peace.
~Hamilton Fish

Those who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves.
~Abraham Lincoln



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!



America is much more than a geographical fact. It is a political and moral fact - the first community in which men set out in principle to institutionalize freedom, responsible government, and human equality.
~Adlai Stevenson



Thank you, Donna Hunter and Arlene Allsopp for the goodies you brought to the May meeting. Terry Brown and Barbara Thomas will provide refreshments for our June meeting. Sue Wolfe, Hospitality



You have to love a nation that celebrates its independence every July 4, not with a parade of guns, tanks, and soldiers who file by the White House in a show of strength and muscle, but with family picnics where kids throw Frisbees, the potato salad gets iffy, and the flies die from happiness. You may think you have overeaten, but it is patriotism. ~Erma Bombeck



Take a look at the picture on the next page. It's amazing that this photo, taken so many years ago, actually still exists!

And now, someone has put it online for all of us to see.

This INCREDIBLE picture was taken in 1918.

It is 18,000 men preparing for war in a training camp at Camp Dodge, in Iowa.

EIGHTEEN THOUSAND MEN!!!!

What a priceless gift from our grandfathers!

FACTS ABOUT THE PICTURE ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE:

- Base to Shoulder: 150 feet
- Right Arm: 340 feet
- Widest part of arm holding torch: 12 1/2 feet
- Right thumb: 35 feet
- Thickest part of body: 29 feet
- Left hand length: 30 feet
- Face: 60 feet
- Nose: 21 feet
- Longest spike of head piece: 70 feet
- Torch and flame combined: 980 feet
- Number of men in flame of torch: 12,000
- Number of men in torch: 2,800
- Number of men in right arm: 1,200
- Number of men in body, head and balance of figure only:

2,000

Total men: 18,000





©

MOLER & THOMAS
915 MEDINAH BLDG.
CHICAGO, ILL.

HUMAN STATUE OF LIBERTY
18,000 OFFICERS AND MEN
AT
CAMP DODGE, DES MOINES IA.
COL. WM. NEWMAN, COMMANDING
COL. RUSH S. WELLS, DIRECTING.

STANDING TALL Titled "Human Statue of Liberty," this image was taken at Camp Dodge in Iowa and used eighteen thousand men.



Our Independence Day



With our first fourth on that seventh month began A declaration of how we would forge our life
In signature, John Hancock did lead by action The beginning of a nation which has firmly stood
As we stop to embrace our Independence Day We should reflect back from this sixth millennium year
Looking to the many trials we have faced as a country Most vividly, to that infamous September morn
We have never, and never will succumb to threat Our rigid foundation is of, by, and for the people
We heed the message of President John F. Kennedy It is what we do for our country that stands us tall
As good citizens we put our trust in God, and each other Under one flag we stand, united for all the world to see
Our Stars and Stripes form the Old Glory we so revere And how gallant are those who march with our colors
As Americans, we hold freedom as a certainty Our bravest have given their all to this end
If not for their willingness, we would not be The cost of liberty demands this commitment
So many have endured the precious loss of loved ones We must stay aware of the tragedy they live with
For they, more than any, feel the total cost of sacrifice Praise their fallen heroes, they left freedom for us
My Dear Americans, as we take time to celebrate This independence held so deep in our hearts
I hope that the following thoughts of America Bring forth emotion, for the USA that we love
We shall always be 'the land of the free' We shall always be 'the home of the brave'
We shall always hear 'God Bless America' We shall always love 'Mom and Apple Pie'

by Roger J. Robicheau

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FIRST CLASS

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