

# PastFinder Bulletin

Volume 6, No. 3

PastFinder Bulletin, © 2009 Silicon Valley Computer Genealogy Group

March 2009

## Spiderwebs

### Australian Irish Convict Immigrants

Many early Australian settlers were convicts sent there to lighten the burden on the English prisons. Many of the convicts were Irish, some there for serious and some for rebellion against the British rule of Ireland. The first Irish came to Australia in 1788. Almost 30% of the Australians have an Irish ancestor, and the majority of the early immigrants were convicts. For help with Australian-Irish ancestry, go to: [www.irish-genealogy.com/australian-irish-genealogy-history-convict-roots.php](http://www.irish-genealogy.com/australian-irish-genealogy-history-convict-roots.php)

## Of Interest

### Cologne Archive Collapse

The Historical Archive of the city of Cologne, Germany, suddenly collapsed on March 3, leaving a huge pile of rubble covering one of the largest collections of German historical documents. Two individuals are missing and presumed to be dead. Hundreds of firefighters and rescue workers were on the scene looking for survivors.

The loss is far more than the loss of life and the building. The Historical Archive at Cologne was the only major archive in Germany to survive the bombing of World War 2 completely intact. It was the largest archive in Germany. Its walls were lined with more than 18 kilometers of shelves (about 13 miles) which were filled with records dating back to the early history of the city.

Cologne was first called Colonia about 2000 years ago when it

was a Roman City along the Rhine River. During the middle ages, the city became a prosperous trading center. It was a gateway between France and Germany as well as being strategically located on the Rhine River. At one time, Cologne was the largest metropolis in Germany.

Many historically significant documents were housed in the archive. A few important documents include the founding charter of the University of Cologne which was signed in 1388 and documents which established Cologne as a free imperial free city at the time of Friedrich III in 1475. Two of four manuscripts handwritten by Albertus Magnus, considered to be Germany's greatest theologian of the Middle Ages, was kept in the rare books section of the Archive. Historians feel it a great tragedy to lose the tens of thousands of receipts issued by the city from 1350 to 1450, or the 358 volumes of minutes and decisions of the Cologne City Council which cover the past 700 years. The Archive also had personal papers of almost 800 prominent German authors, politicians, and music composers. These include Nobel Prize winner Heinrich Böll, opera composer Jacques Offenbach, and first post-war chancellor Konrad Adenauer. Also, somewhere in the rubble are 500,000 photographs of Cologne and its citizens, and more than 100,000 architectural drawings and plans.

Many of the documents were so old and brittle that the archivists fear that the documents have been ground into dust by the collapsing concrete. Post-war documents, which are numerous, were never microfilmed, and there is no backup of these

records. Many of the pre-1945 documents were microfilmed and stored in a bunker in the Black Forest, but the microfilm quality is of poor quality, and may not be readable.

The building was built in 1971, and had thick concrete walls with narrow slits for the windows. From the outside, the building looked like a large bunker. Architects considered the design as a model for archives and referred to the style as the Cologne model. The thick concrete was supposed to keep the inside at a constant temperature, suitable for preservation of the documents. Unfortunately, the temperature did not remain cool as planned. During the hot summers of 2003 and 2006, the temperature inside the Archive exceeded 85 degrees. This was not acceptable for preservation of historic documents and their brittle paper and wax seals. The archive had carried on with a meager budget. The 26 employees shared a single low-cost Internet connection. Any discussion of additional money for better air conditioning and other improvements went unheeded, and nothing was done to alleviate the problems. The storage filled up over the years, and the archive was forced to rent nearby storage space for the continuing arrival of new documents, making the budget even tighter.

As firefighters searched for survivors immediately after the building collapse, volunteers began retrieving documents from the rubble. By the end of the next day after the disaster, the group had salvaged about 9000 documents. More documents probably remain in spaces beneath the rubble that could be recovered. Workmen are pumping cement into spaces in

the rubble to stabilize the area so that workers can work safely to recover more of the documents. Officials are not sure what caused the building to collapse. It has been suggested that the construction of a subway beneath the street in front of the Archive may have damaged the building. In any event, officials in Cologne have remained focused on retrieving documents that can be saved. Unlike documents destroyed in a fire or by bombing in wartime, many documents still lie intact under the rubble. We hope archivists and others will learn from this event, that our history may be safely preserved for generations yet to come.

## Genealogy Events

The events listed here are some of the major events that may be of interest to our members who may be traveling, vacationing, live nearby, or who may want to attend a special event.

### Texas Event

The Houston Genealogical Forum will present "Ante Bellum Military Records" with Craig Scott as speaker on March 21 at Houston, Texas. For more information, go to: [www.hgftx.org](http://www.hgftx.org)

### North Carolina Workshop

The North Carolina Genealogical Society and the Craven County Genealogical Society Will sponsor a workshop on March 14 at New Bern, North Carolina. Craig Roberts Scott, CG, will provide a four-part workshop:

- Service Not Found: Finding Your Ancestor in the Military
- Maiden Name Not Found: Finding Your Female Ancestors
- Land Not Found: Finding Your Ancestor on the Ground

- Where Oh Where: Using the Internet to Solve Brick Wall Problems.

For more information, go to: [www.ncgenealogy.org](http://www.ncgenealogy.org)

### Massachusetts Lecture

The Essex Society of Genealogists will host a lecture on March 21 at Lynnfield, Massachusetts. David Allen Lambert, Online Genealogist, NEHGS, will discuss *Beyond the Grave: Researching Stanton W. Green, Ph.D.*, Professor of Anthropology, Monmouth University. He will speak on "Ireland's Prehistoric Landscape." For more information, e-mail: [pfurbush@rcn.com](mailto:pfurbush@rcn.com)

### Arizona Event

The Family History Society of Arizona will hold their annual meeting on March 21 at Fountain Hills, Arizona. The speaker is Ross Berg, who will discuss Scandinavian Research and the great influence the Vikings had on us today. For more information, go to: [www.fhsa.org](http://www.fhsa.org)

### Arkansas Workshop

The Village Genealogical Society will host a Family History Workshop on March 21 at Hot Springs Village, Arkansas. The featured speaker is Michael John Neill M.S. Topics of the all day workshop will be "Researching the Entire Family", "Problem Solving Applied to Genealogy", "I Found it; Now what?" "Tried and Tested Tidbits." For more information, go to: <http://pages.suddenlink.net/hsvgs>

### Michigan Conference

The Kalamazoo Valley Genealogical Society will host a day long conference on March 28 at Kalamazoo, The speaker is Paula Stuart-Warren. She will

give four lectures: *NUCMC & its Cousins: Keys to Lost Ancestral Records; Tho' They Were Poor, They May Have Been Rich in Records; Organizing Your Genealogical Materials; and Finding Ancestral Places of Origin.* For more information, go to:

[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mikvgs/spring\\_conference.html](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mikvgs/spring_conference.html)

### California Webcast

The Computer Genealogy Society of San Diego will have a live Webcast on March 21 at San Diego, California. The speaker will be the *Digital Photo Guy*, Lee Otsubo, who will discuss Digital Imaging and Editing. For more information, go to: [www.cgssd.org](http://www.cgssd.org)

### Tennessee Panel

The Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society will host a panel discussion on March 21 at Nashville, Tennessee. The panel will discuss *Pioneer Land Grants, Traces, Roads and Pioneer Stations in the Tennessee Central Valley of the Cumberland River.* Panelists include David Britton, Doug Drake, Irene Griffey, Jack Masters, Bill Puryear. For more information, go to: [www.mtgs.org](http://www.mtgs.org)

### Connecticut Lecture

Carla Bue, State Historian and associate member of DAR Simsbury charter, will discuss handmade quilts and how they can relate to family history on March 21 at East Hartford, Connecticut. For more information, e-mail: [csginc@ctfamilyhistory.com](mailto:csginc@ctfamilyhistory.com)

### Oklahoma Lecture

First Families of Oklahoma will host a lecture on March 21 at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. James E. "Jake" McNiece, 90-year-old author, will entertain

with tales of the 101st Airborne's legendary squad of combat paratroopers known as "The Filthy Thirteen". The men fought in the European campaign in World War II. Many believe this unit provided inspiration for the movie "The Dirty Dozen" which starred Lee Marvin. For more information, go to: [www.okgensoc.org](http://www.okgensoc.org)

### Ontario Canada Workshop

The Family History Center (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints) will host a workshop on March 21 at St. Thomas, Ontario. It's all about Land" is part of the series "Digging for your Roots in Ireland". Nuala Farrell-Griffin, of Diversity Family History is the speaker. For more information, e-mail: [nufarr24@gmail.com](mailto:nufarr24@gmail.com)

### Oklahoma Seminar

The Oklahoma Genealogy Society will hold a seminar on March 21 at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Kelvin L. Meyers, professional genealogist, will reveal some of his secrets as a forensic genealogist. Meyers knows how to locate unknown or missing heirs, find owners of unclaimed property, testify as an expert witness, evaluate kinship evidence, and research family lines. For more information, go to: [www.okgensoc.org](http://www.okgensoc.org)

### Washington Seminar

The South King County Genealogical Society will host a seminar about DNA genealogy on March 21 at Kent, Washington. Emily D. Aulicino will speak on: Introduction to Genetic Genealogy: DNA Your Paper Trail, and Comparing DNA: Apples, Oranges and Bananas. Emily D. Aulicino, is the Regional Coordinator and Speaker of the International Society of Genetic Genealogists (ISOGG) for the states of

Oregon, Washington and Idaho For More information, go to:

[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~waskcgs/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~waskcgs/)

### Michigan Seminar

The Genealogical Society of Monroe County, Michigan will host a seminar on March 21 at Monroe, Michigan. John Humphrey, current president of the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society and a past vice president of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania, will be the speaker. His topics include The "www" of German Genealogy, Researching Pennsylvania Ancestors, Documentation, It's Essential!, and Using Church Records in Germany and the U.S. to Climb the Family Tree. The Genealogy by Computer Society of Toledo OH will be present, with computers. For more information, e-mail: [larry@dundee.net](mailto:larry@dundee.net)

### Virginia Conference

The Virginia Beach Genealogical Society will hold a conference on March 28 at Virginia Beach, Virginia. The conference will feature John Philip Colletta, Ph. D. - author, publisher, lecturer, workshop leader & teacher with NARA, the Smithsonian Institution, universities & institutes, radio & TV guest and genealogical authority. [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~vavbgs/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~vavbgs/)

### New Jersey Event

The Genealogy Society of Bergen County, New Jersey will host a presentation by Stanton W. Green, Ph.D., Professor of Anthropology, Monmouth University on March 23 at Ridgewood, New Jersey. He will speak on "Ireland's Prehistoric Landscape." For more information, go to: [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~njgsbc/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~njgsbc/)

### Gene-O-Rama 2009

Ottawa Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society and the Ottawa Public Library presents the 26th GENE-O-RAMA on March 27-28 at Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Speakers include Louise St Denis, Dr. Bruce Curtis, Mel Wolfgang and Terry Findley. Gene-O-Rama will include Marketplace, an Internet Search Room with free internet searching of library resources, including Ancestry.com (provided courtesy of the Ottawa Public Library), a Computer Demonstration Room with informal access to CD collections, databases, and genealogy software packages. Assistance will be available in all computer rooms. For more information, go to: <http://ogsottawa.on.ca/geneoram/a/>

### Oklahoma Seminar

An all-day seminar will be held on March 28 at Tulsa, Oklahoma. Christine Rose, CG, CGL, FASG will speak on the following topics:

1. Addicted to Courthouses
2. The "Rites" of Inheritance
3. Leaping to Erroneous Conclusions
4. Solving the Problem in 25 Hours or Less

For more information, e-mail: [khuber@tulsalibrary.org](mailto:khuber@tulsalibrary.org)

### Michigan Conference

The Kalamazoo Valley Genealogical Society will hold a a day long conference on March 28 at Kalamazoo, Michigan. The conference speaker is Paula Stuart-Warren. She will give four lectures: NUCMC & its Cousins; Keys to Lost Ancestral Records; Tho' They Were Poor, They May Have Been Rich in Records; Organizing Your Genealogical Materials; and Finding Ancestral Places of Origin. For more information, go to:

[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mikvgs/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mikvgs/)

### Connecticut Event

Daniel Lynch, author of Google Your Family Tree and past vice-president of CSG, will not only discuss his recent best-seller, but will go beyond with Google on March 28-29 at East Hartford, Connecticut. For more information, e-mail:

[csginc@ctfamilyhistory.com](mailto:csginc@ctfamilyhistory.com)

### California Conference

The Sacramento Genealogical Society will hold an all day seminar of March 28 at Sacramento, California. Geoff Rasmussen of Legacy- Millennia Corporation will speak on the Legacy computer program. For more information, go to:

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

### Virginia Conference

The Virginia Beach Genealogical Society will host a conference on March 28 at Virginia Beach, Virginia. The featured speaker will be John Philip Colletta, Ph. D. - author, publisher, lecturer, workshop leader & teacher with NARA, the Smithsonian Institution, universities & institutes, radio & TV guest and genealogical authority. For more information, go to:

[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~vavbgs/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~vavbgs/)

### Ohio Conference

The Ohio Genealogical Society will hold their annual conference on April 2-4 at Huron, Ohio. The program features 38 speakers in 68 presentations and three workshops. The conference begins with the 50th Anniversary Banquet on Thursday evening, 2 Apr, and will also include inductions of new members into the three OGS lineage societies: First Families of Ohio, Settlers and Builders of Ohio, and the

Society of Civil War Families of Ohio. For more information, go to: More Info: [www.ogs.org](http://www.ogs.org)

### Wisconsin Event

The Wisconsin State Genealogical Society will host Gene-A-Rama on April 3-4 at Middleton, Wisconsin. Christine Rose will be the featured lecturer. She will discuss:

- Federal Land Records to Locate Ancestors
- Using Little Known and Neglected Records: A Potpourri
- Addicted to Courthouses!
- Genealogical Proof Standard: Building a Solid Case
- Illustrating Your Family's History (Banquet)

Also lecturing will be James Hansen, FASG

For more information, e-mail: [nancy\\_emmert@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nancy_emmert@sbcglobal.net)

### California Seminar

The San Mateo County Genealogical Society will host a seminar on April 4 at San Mateo, California. The keynote speaker will be Cath Madden Trindle, CG. Other speakers include Pamela Dallas, Gayle Simons, Rosemary Kennedy from the San Bruno National Archives, Deborah Osterberg and Janet Brigham Rands. For more information, go to: [www.smcgs.org](http://www.smcgs.org)

### Maryland Seminar

A one day conference will be hosted by Drott Lodge on April 11 at Rockville, Maryland. Speakers include: Stephen Morse, Kathy Meade, Leslie Bouvier, Rebecca Sharp, Rebecca Koford, and Lorraine Minor. Topics include: US Census researching, US passports and immigration, Swedish Church Records, using Stephen Morse's web searching

techniques. One on one consultations and translations are available. For more information, go to:

[www.geocities.com/drottlodge](http://www.geocities.com/drottlodge)

### Connecticut Event

Judy Johnson & Elizabeth Abbe will discuss all the resources (both old and new) at the Connecticut Historical Society on April 18 at Hartford, Connecticut. For more information, e-mail:

[csginc@ctfamilyhistory.com](mailto:csginc@ctfamilyhistory.com)

### Massachusetts Lecture

The Essex Society of Genealogists will host a lecture on April 18 at Lynnfield, Massachusetts. David Dearborn, FASG, Genealogist, NEHGS, will discuss *Using Torrey's N. E. Marriage Index*. For more information, e-mail:

[pfurbush@rcn.com](mailto:pfurbush@rcn.com)

### Virginia Conference

The Virginia Genealogical Society is holding its Spring Conference on April 18 at Richmond, Virginia. Barbara Vines Little is the featured speaker and she will give four lectures on Virginia research. For more information, go to:

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

### Oregon Seminar

Genealogical Forum of Oregon will host a seminar on April 18 at Milwaukie, Oregon. Larry Jensen is the featured speaker and he will talk about German research. For more information, go to:

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

### Pennsylvania Seminar

The Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society will hold a seminar on April 18 at Greentree, Pennsylvania. George K. Schweitzer, PhD, will be the featured speaker. Professor Schweitzer uses

historical reenactment to teach genealogy and has traced many of his ancestral lines back to the early 1500s. For more information, go to:

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

### Texas Workshop

An all-day preservation workshop sponsored by Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries, Inc. will be held on April 18 at Plano, Texas. Naomi Taplin and Alan Lefever from the Texas Baptist Historical Collection will discuss preserving our heirlooms. For more information, go to:

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

### Pennsylvania Seminar

The Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society will host a seminar on April 18 at Greentree, Pennsylvania. George K. Schweitzer, PhD, will be the featured speaker. For more information, go to:

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

### New York Event

The Jewish Genealogical Society, Inc. will host the IAJGS international conference on Jewish Genealogy on April 19 at New York City, New York. For more information, go to:

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

### New England Regional Conference

The New England Regional Genealogical Conference will be held on April 22-26 in Manchester, New Hampshire. Featured speakers will include Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak, Tom Jones and Jim Hansen. For more information, go to:

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

### Indiana Conference

The Indiana Genealogical Society will hold a conference on

April 25 at Indianapolis, Indiana. The conference theme will be "Honoring Our Warriors: Military Genealogy." Pamela K. Boyer, C.G., C.G.L. will be the featured speaker. She is Educations and Publications Director at the National Genealogical Society and has been a lecturer at National Genealogical Society conferences since 1997 and at Federation of Genealogical Societies conferences since 1999. Other speakers will be: Dr. Jack Early, Curt B. Witcher, Bennie J. McRae, Dr. Alan January, Kevin Flanagan, Dona Stokes-Lucas and Ronald L. Darrah. Topics will include military records, African American research, and Internet sources. The Society of Civil War Families of Indiana will also hold an induction ceremony for its newest members. For more information, go to:

[www.indgensoc.org/conference.html](http://www.indgensoc.org/conference.html)

### California Event

Christine Rose will be the featured lecturer, speaking on: Using Little Known or Neglected Records: A Potpourri on April 25 at Santa Clara, California. For more information, e-mail:

[ferman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ferman@sbcglobal.net)

### California Seminar

The Sonoma County Genealogical Society will host a seminar on April 25 at Santa Rosa, California. Lloyd de Witt Bockstruck will be the seminar speaker. For more information, go to:

[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~casgs/bockstruck.htm](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~casgs/bockstruck.htm)

### England Event

A one-day course, *The Poor, the Parish and the Land*, will be given April 25 at Chatham, Kent, England. Many people are familiar with parish registers and realize that before 1837 they are

vital in order to trace a family history. However, many are unaware of the great wealth of other records created by the local parish authorities often known as "Parish Chest Records" because they were originally housed in the parish chest. It is these which often reveal the real lives of our ancestors - both rich and poor. For more information, go to:

[www.heritagefamilyhistory.co.uk/events#The%20Parish%20The%20Poor%20and%20the%20Land](http://www.heritagefamilyhistory.co.uk/events#The%20Parish%20The%20Poor%20and%20the%20Land)

### Florida Fair

The Jacksonville Public Library will hold a free seminar and Genealogy Fair on April 25 at Jacksonville, Florida. The featured speaker is Jana Sloan Broglin will offer presentations on "Hookers, Crooks and Kooks: or Aunt Merle Didn't Run a Boarding House; "Hot Off the Press"; "When Johnny Comes Marching Home"; The Key to the Courthouse. For more information, go to:

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

### Kansas Conference

The Topeka Genealogical Society Annual Conference will be held April 25 at Topeka, Kansas. The featured speaker will be John Philip Colletta. For more information, go to: [www.tgstopeka.org](http://www.tgstopeka.org)

### Indiana Event

The Allen County Public Library will have Cynthia Theusch who will offer a WeRelate.org overview on April 25 at Fort Wayne, Indiana. WeRelate.org is the world's largest genealogy wiki where researchers can interact with other researchers online, For more information, go to:

[www.acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy/programs.html](http://www.acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy/programs.html)

### Scotland Genealogy Conference

The Aberdeen & North-East Scotland Family History Society will hold a conference on April 25 at Aberdeen, Scotland. For more information, go to: [www.anesfhs.org.uk/safhs2009.htm](http://www.anesfhs.org.uk/safhs2009.htm)

### Massachusetts Seminar

The Massachusetts Genealogical Council will host a seminar on April 26 at Waltham, Massachusetts. Speakers are sponsored by the New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) in Boston and include: Michael LeClerc, speaking on *Online Resources for New England Research*. Josh Taylor will give two presentations on Essential Tools for Genealogists: *What to buy and How to buy it!* and *Genealogical Networking in Today's World*. Ann S. Lainhart will give two lectures on State Census Records and Massachusetts Institutional Records at the State Archives. The program includes specialized topics such as *Researching Parish Records in Portugal* and *Recovering the Lost History of Annie Londonderry: An Idiosyncratic Search for the World's First Female Sports Star*. There are two lectures from New England History Festival founder John Horrigan including *Great American Fires of the 19th Century* and *Winters of the Revolution*. For more information, go to: [mbrophy@brophygen.com](mailto:mbrophy@brophygen.com)

### New Jersey Event

The Genealogy Society of Bergen County, New Jersey will meet on April 17 at Ridgewood, New Jersey. Steven Perkins, a member of the International Society of Genetic Genealogy

(ISOGG) and the New England Historic Genealogy Society, and a former academic lawyer, Law Library Director, and Professor of Law will speak on "Genes, Genetics, Genealogy and DNA." For more information, go to: [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~njgsbc/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~njgsbc/)

### Texas Seminar

The Austin Genealogical Society will host a day-long seminar on May 2 at Austin, Texas. The featured speakers are Pam Boyer Sayre and Richard G Sayre, Certified Genealogists. They will be speaking on Military Service Records, Territorial Papers of the United States, "Getting to Know You, Getting to Know More About You," and Google Earth for Genealogists. For more information, go to: [www.austintxgensoc.org/seminar.php](http://www.austintxgensoc.org/seminar.php)

### Florida Fair

The Alvin Sherman Library will host a genealogy fair on May 2 at Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Featured speakers are John Colletta, Ph.D., author of "They Came in Ships;" Roberta Estes, director the Lost Colony DNA Project; Matt Kaplan, Ph.D., geneticist for DNA Shoah Project; Rick Kittles, Ph.D., geneticist for PBS' African-American Lives; and Lynn Turner, AG, director Hispanic Records Division of the Family Search Indexing. For more information, go to: [www.nova.edu/library/genealogyfair](http://www.nova.edu/library/genealogyfair)

### England Fair

Family History Societies and related groups will hold a non profit event on May 3 at the Barbican Exhibition Center in London, England. For more information, go to: [www.fairpromtions.net](http://www.fairpromtions.net)

### Washington Seminar

The Seattle Genealogical Society will host a seminar on May 16 at Seattle, Washington. The featured speaker is John Philip Colletta, PhD, who will discuss four topics: Breaking through brick walls, Lesser used federal records, (Homestead Files, Passport Applications, Civil War Income Tax, Appointments of Postmasters, to name a few); How to assemble a reliable family history; and How to write a readable family history. For more information, go to: [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~seags/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~seags/)

### Idaho Conference

The Idaho Genealogy Society and the Idaho State Historical Society and FamilyTreeDNA will host a conference on May 10 at Boise, Idaho. This all-day DNA Conference addresses the subject, "Solving Mysteries through DNA", and will examine three types of DNA testing: tracing one's ancestors when a paper trail runs dry, genetic testing for health issues, and forensic DNA to solve crimes and help locate missing persons. Keynote Speaker is Emily Aulicino, a retired teacher from Portland, Oregon and family genealogist for over 35 years. Ms. Aulicino currently serves as the Northwest Regional Coordinator and Speaker of the International Society of Genetic Genealogists (ISOGG) for the states of Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. She manages eleven DNA projects through FamilyTreeDNA (FTDNA) including six surname projects, two genealogical society projects (financially benefiting the society) and three geographical projects, including the entire country of Ireland. For more information, e-mail: [Juvanne@earthlink.net](mailto:Juvanne@earthlink.net)

**NGS 2009 Conference**

National Genealogical Society Conference will be held on May 13-16 at Raleigh, North Carolina. For more information, go to: [www.ngsgenealogy.org](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org).

**Connecticut Event**

The CSG Annual Meeting will be held on May 16 at Berlin, Connecticut. The speaker is Irene Lambert, BS from Ryder University, Certified Graphoanalysis in 1985, Master Graphoanalysis certification in 1992 from International Graphoanalysis Society and recipient of the Graphoanalyst of the Year Award in 2005. She will discuss *Discovering the Personality Traits of Your Ancestors Through the Process of Graphoanalysis*. For more information, e-mail: [csginc@ctfamilyhistory.com](mailto:csginc@ctfamilyhistory.com)

**London Family History Tour**

NEHGS will host The English Family History Tour to London on May 17-24 to London, England. The tour will be based at the Society of Genealogists (SoG), where researchers will be offered daily classes providing historical context and research methodology tips for working with the extensive record collection of the SoG. The library's holdings include more than 120,000 books and microforms featuring census indexes; family histories; biographies; service, professional, and trade directories; an apprenticeship index (1710-1774), school and university lists, will and marriage license indexes; runs of Burke's Peerage and Landed Gentry; a large number of manuscripts arranged by surname; and a miscellaneous card index of 3 million references. For more information, go to: [www.newenglandancestors.org](http://www.newenglandancestors.org)

**Ontario, Canada Conference**

The Halton-Peel Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society will host the Provincial Conference on May 29-31 at Oakville, Ontario, Canada. There will be ten workshops plus the Houston Memorial Lecture on Friday, a plenary session and 20 lectures on Saturday, and 15 lectures on Sunday. The Houston Lecture will feature Mr. Kory L. Meyerink, BS, MLS, AG®, FUGA, Founding Director of the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy. For more information, go to: [www.ogs.on.ca/conference/index.htm](http://www.ogs.on.ca/conference/index.htm)

**Indiana Workshop**

The Marion Public Library in partnership with Ivy Tech Community College, Kokomo-Howard County Public Library, Howard County Genealogical Society, Indiana Genealogy Society and many others will present a one day workshop on May 30 at Marion, Indiana. Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak will present 5 sessions on Using DNA in Genealogy Research. For more information, go to: [www.marion.lib.in.us/departments/indianahistory/dna/dna\\_workshop.htm](http://www.marion.lib.in.us/departments/indianahistory/dna/dna_workshop.htm)

**Ontario, Canada, Workshop**

The Toronto Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society is offering a one-day workshop on June 13 at Toronto, Ontario, Canada. The workshop will highlight vital records (civil and church), census records and probates (wills), showing how to extract and evaluate data. It will also touch on secondary sources, with examples of how to use online newspaper indexes as finding aids and newspaper accounts to flesh out other data. For more information, go to: [www.torontofamilyhistory.org/courses.html](http://www.torontofamilyhistory.org/courses.html)

**Kansas Conference**

The Kansas Council of Genealogical Societies, Inc. and The Wichita Genealogical Society will hold their 2009 Conference on June 20 at Wichita, Kansas. The featured speaker will be Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak.



Her topics include: Trace Your Roots with DNA, Welcome to Roots Television, Reverse Genealogy, Find That Obituary: Online Newspaper Research. For more information, go to: <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/genweb/kcgs/>

**New Jersey Event**

Genealogy Society of Bergen County, New Jersey will host a lecture on June 22 at Ridgewood, New Jersey. Richard F. Veit, Associate Professor in the Department of History and Anthropology at Monmouth University is the speaker. A historical archaeologist by training, his research interests include colonial and modern grave markers, early American material culture, and vernacular architecture. He is the author of *Digging New Jersey's Past: Historical Archaeology in the Garden State* (Rutgers, 2002), and Mark Nonestied, Director of Exhibits=2 0 and Programs for East Jersey Old Town Village, a

project of the Middlesex County Cultural & Heritage Commission. He will present, "Stranger Stop and Cast an Eye," an informative lecture on the last four hundred years of New Jersey Cemetery and Tombstone design.

Historians Richard Veit and Mark Nonestied discuss the evolution of burial sites and grave markers from the seventeenth century to the dawn of the twenty-first century. Such topics as colonial gravestones, stone carvers, Victorian cemeteries, monuments, mausoleums, and ethnic and cultural burial are included. For more information, go to:

[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~njgsbc/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~njgsbc/)

#### **Newfoundland Research Tour**

NEHGS is sponsoring a research tour of Newfoundland on July 12-17 at St. Johns, Newfoundland.

Participants will join expert genealogists at St. John's premier facilities, including the Provincial Archives – "The Rooms," the Maritime History Archive at Memorial University, the Registry of Deeds, and A.C. Hunter Library. Together these repositories hold vital records, church records, all census records, voter lists, probate, and land grants the Keith Matthews collection (a list of all people who worked in fishery from 16th century to 1850), ship lists, crew lists, logbooks, Irish and English parish records. For more information, go to:

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

#### **Massachusetts Seminar**

The Massachusetts Genealogical Council will hold an annual seminar and meeting on July 18 at Waltham, Massachusetts.

The featured speaker will be Paula Stuart-Warren, a national known genealogy and historical researcher. Ms. Warren is a course coordinator for the Salt

Lake Institute of Genealogy and has lectured at the NGS and FGS conferences since 1993. Paula's topics for the day will include:

- Using the Resources of the Family History Library
- What Next? Developing Step-by-Step Research Plans
- Why Do I Descend from THESE Families?
- American Indian Research (Panel Discussion)
- Becoming a Professional Genealogist (Panel Discussion)

Highlights of the seminar will include updates on legislation affecting genealogists' access to records on a national and state level. Other topics will include DNA and genealogy, Irish Research, Internet research, and using the website of the New England Historic Genealogical Society. For more information, go to: [mbrophy@brophygen.com](mailto:mbrophy@brophygen.com)

#### **Ontario, Canada, Event**

The Ottawa Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society and La Société de généalogie de l'Outaouais will host the first Semaine de généalogie Genealogy Week on July 19-24 at Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Researchers will travel with the group to resource centers to participate in tutorials and lectures on specialized topics. The rest of the day will be devoted to your research. Evenings may be used for further research or allow you to enjoy the Ottawa/Gatineau sights. Registration is limited. For more information, go to:

<http://ogsottawa.on.ca/genealogyweek.php>

#### **Pennsylvania Jewish Genealogy Conference**

The 29th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy will be held on August 2-7 at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. French priest, author, and humanitarian, Father

Patrick Desbois, will be the keynote speaker. For more information, go to: [www.philly2009.org](http://www.philly2009.org)

#### **Virginia Seminar**

Wholly Genes, Inc. is sponsoring a Genealogy Conference and Land Cruise on August 26-30, Prompted by economic conditions, the company has dropped its annual conference on a cruise ship and is hosting this year's event at an historic hotel in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. Its proximity to Washington D.C. offers the opportunity to follow up the preparatory lectures with an all-day research trip to research repositories of the nation's capital. This years speaker list includes:

- John Philip Colletta, Ph.D. - a popular speaker, prolific author, and expert on research at the Library of Congress, among many other topics.
- Marie Varrelman Melchiori, CG, CGL - a full-time researcher for 30 years, an expert on the National Archives, military records, and other topics.
- Patricia O'Brien Shawker, CG - the Director of the National Institute on Genealogical Research, author, and an expert on research at the DAR Library and National Archives, among other topics.
- Craig Roberts Scott, CG - publisher, professional researcher for more than 23 years, and an expert on a wide variety of record types and resources, including colonial, Civil War, federal records, migration, military, Quaker, and government publications

For more information, go to:  
[www.WhollyGenes.com/conference.htm](http://www.WhollyGenes.com/conference.htm)

### England Conference

A family history conference will be held on August 28 at the East Midlands Conference Centre, Nottingham, England. Speakers will cover a broad spectrum of subjects of interest to family, local and social historians, the conference will include something for everyone, from the novice to the advanced: family historians, local historians, community history groups, one-name and one-place researchers. Speakers are representing The Galleries of Justice, King's College London, The Library & Museum of Freemasonry, The Media Archive for Central England, National Maritime Museum, The Royal Observatory, National Monuments Record, Parliamentary Archives, Royal Geographical Society, The National Archives, Society of Genealogists and The Women's Library. Other top speakers from the family history world include Paul Blake, Else Churchill, John Hanson, Sharon Hintze, Maggie Loughran, Derek Palgrave, Geoff Riggs, Mary Teviot and Alec Tritton. For more information, go to: [www.openthedoor.org.uk](http://www.openthedoor.org.uk)

### England Conference

A family and local history conference will be held on August 28 at Nottingham, England. The conference will bring together expert and celebrity speakers on subjects from buildings to exploration and the military to industrial Britain, and much else in between. Speakers are representing The Galleries of Justice, King's College London, The Library & Museum of Freemasonry, The Media Archive for Central England, National Maritime

Museum, The Royal Observatory, National Monuments Record, Parliamentary Archives, Royal Geographical Society, The National Archives, Society of Genealogists and The Women's Library. Other top speakers from the family history world include Paul Blake, Else Churchill, John Hanson, Sharon Hintze, Maggie Loughran, Derek Palgrave, Geoff Riggs, Mary Teviot and Alec Tritton. For more information, go to: [www.openthedoor.org.uk](http://www.openthedoor.org.uk)

### 2009 FGS Conference

The Federation of Genealogical Societies will hold its annual conference on September 2-5 in Little Rock, Arkansas. There will be more than 160 lectures, workshops, and other learning opportunities presented by speakers from all over the U.S. For more information, go to: [www.fgs.org/](http://www.fgs.org/)

### Germans from Russia Heritage Society 39th International Convention

The 39th Annual Convention of the Germans from Russia Heritage Society (GRHS) will be held September 9-13 at Rapid City, South Dakota. It will include workshops on genealogy, customs, history, cultural cooking and programs on using today's technology to bring your heritage to life. For more information, go to: [www.grhs.org](http://www.grhs.org)

### Massachusetts Conference

The Friends of the National Archives and Records Administration, Northeast Region, Pittsfield, MA, will hold a full-day genealogy conference on September 19 at Williamstown, Massachusetts. For more information go to: [www.narafriends-pittsfield.org](http://www.narafriends-pittsfield.org)

### Scotland Research Tour

NEHGS will conduct a research tour to Edinburgh on September 20-27. This weeklong intensive research program will be based out of Scotland's two premier genealogical repositories, The National Archives of Scotland (NAS) and the General Register Office for Scotland (GROS). Together these neighboring repositories house the major collections of government and vital records for more than 700 years of Scottish ancestry. The main holdings of NAS include records created by the government of Scotland beginning in the twelfth century, including records of the crown, parliament, legal registers, courts documents, and records of the Church of Scotland. Vital records including birth, marriage, and death from 1855 and parish registers from 1553 to 1854 are maintained by the GROS. For more information, go to: [www.newenglandancestors.org](http://www.newenglandancestors.org)

### Maine Conference

The Maine Genealogical Society will hold an annual conference on September 26 at Bangor, Maine. Featured national speakers include Marcia Melnyk and Joe Anderson. Workshop topics include: Deed Research, Taking an Oral History, Franco-American Research with Quebec Records, Immigrant Experience - Sailing to America, Maine's Early Churches, New Trends in Internet Research, Immigrant Research Strategies, Forms, Forms and More Forms, Breaking Through Brick Walls, Native American Genealogy in the Northeast and The Great Irish Potato Famine. For more information, go to: [www.maineroots.org](http://www.maineroots.org)

### New Jersey Event

The Genealogy Society of Bergen County, New Jersey will

host a lecture by Tom Riley, author of "Orphan Train Riders: A Brief History of the Orphan Train Era (1854-1929)" on September 28 at Ridgewood, New Jersey. His program will be Orphan Train Riders. From life in the ghettos of New York to the Children's Aid Society and the era of the Orphan Trains, Mr. Riley will take us on a journey through efforts to help children who were often found wandering the streets of New York. "The Orphan Train Era" In America during a seventy five year period (1854-1929) over 400,000 homeless children were relocated by means of what were known as "orphan trains." Placing children to live with people other than their parents has gone on from the beginning of time. Known by various names, placing-out has come to be known as "foster care" today. For more information, go to: [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~njgsbc/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~njgsbc/)

#### Michigan Seminar

***This event has been cancelled because of insufficient funds.***

The Michigan Genealogical Council will host a seminar on October 15-17 at Midland Michigan. [faeae@chartermi.net](mailto:faeae@chartermi.net)

#### Louisiana Seminar

The Southwest Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Library, (a branch of the Calcasieu Parish Public Library), Libraries Southwest, the Southwest Louisiana Genealogical Society, Inc, and Friends of the Calcasieu Parish Public Library will host a seminar on October 16 at Lake

Charles, Louisiana. The featured speaker will be Carolyn Earle Billingsley, Ph. D. Her topics for the seminar are Communities of Kinship: A New Theory for Genealogy; The Reality of Researching Your Indian Ancestors; Melungeons and Other Mixed Race Groups; and History Lost – History Found. For more information, e-mail: [gen@calcasieu.lib.la.us](mailto:gen@calcasieu.lib.la.us)

#### Michigan Seminar

The Western Michigan Genealogical Society will hold a seminar on November 7 at Grand Rapids, Michigan. The speakers will be The Genealogy Guys - George G Morgan and Drew Smith who will each teach 3 topics followed by a joint session with George and Drew where they will records one of their famous Podcasts. For more information, go to: [gotancestors.com](http://gotancestors.com)

#### New Jersey Event

The Genealogy Society of Bergen County, New Jersey will present a lecture by Dwight de Stefan on November 23 at Ridgewood, New Jersey. Dwight de Stefan, a practicing attorney and former mayor of River Vale, NJ, is the author, of "Emerson: From Basilicata to Etna," a history of the remote Italian province of Basilicata and cultural examinations of its people who settled in the tiny hamlet of Etna, now

Emerson, in the 1890s. His program, "Political and Cultural Events Causing Italian Immigration to USA from the Kingdom of Naples, 1790-1890," presents an overview of the modern history of the Kingdom of Naples from 1790 to 1890, focusing on the social conditions and political events that caused the massive emigration starting in 1890. For more information, go to: [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~njgsbc/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~njgsbc/)

## 2010 Events

#### 2010 NGS Family History Conference

The U.S. National Genealogical Society Conference will be held on April 29–May 1 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

#### Ohio Genealogical Society 2010 Conference

The Ohio Genealogical Society will hold their annual conference on April 22-24, 2010 at the Seagate Convention Center at Toledo, Ohio.

#### FGS 2010 Conference

The Federation of Genealogical Societies 2010 Annual Conference: *Rediscovering America's First Frontier* will be held on August 18-21, 2010, at the Knoxville Convention Center at Knoxville, Tennessee.

**OFFICERS AND STAFF**

Richard D. Rands	President
Janet Brigham Rands	Vice President
Wanda Levy	Secretary
Carleen Foster	Treasurer
Lesly Klippel	Membership Coordinator
Howard Bennion	Macintosh Leader
Janet Brigham Rands	Webmaster
Brian Smith	Education Coordinator
Leland Osburn	Education Administrator
Allin Kingsbury	<i>PastFinder</i> Editor
Pamela Erickson	Assistant Editor
Pauline Lee	<i>PastFinder</i> Distribution
Carleen Foster	<i>PastFinder</i> Mailing
Carol Harless	Honorary Life Member

# Silicon Valley Computer Genealogy Group

[www.svcomputergenealogy.org](http://www.svcomputergenealogy.org)  
Richard Rands, President 650 969 6567  
[rrands@earthlink.net](mailto:rrands@earthlink.net)

Please send inquiries, address changes, new memberships, and membership renewals to: SV-CGG, P.O. Box 23670, San Jose, CA 95153-3670 or [leslyk@comcast.net](mailto:leslyk@comcast.net) (408) 269 5484

SV-CGG meets monthly, except December, on the second Saturday of the month from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints building, 875 Quince Avenue, Santa Clara, CA. We offer classes and sponsor guest speakers at meetings to help family historians with computer technology and research techniques. Membership dues are \$15 per year (\$20 for Canada and \$25 for other international). Members are offered classes at meetings, mentor help, *PastFinder* (a monthly newsletter published each month there is a meeting).

Copyright Notice: *PastFinder* Bulletin © 2009 Silicon Valley Computer Genealogy Group. All Rights Reserved. No articles herein may be reproduced for profit or commercial purpose without the express written consent of the editor or the Silicon Valley Computer Genealogy Group. Other genealogy groups may republish articles but must include credits to the authors and the Silicon Valley Computer Genealogy Group.

**Please Contact:**

Membership	Lesly Klippel	<a href="mailto:leslyk@comcast.net">leslyk@comcast.net</a> (408) 269 5484
Newsletter	Allin Kingsbury	<a href="mailto:a.kingsbury@sbcglobal.net">a.kingsbury@sbcglobal.net</a> 408 257 8447
Classes	Brian Smith	<a href="mailto:bsmith4gen@yahoo.com">bsmith4gen@yahoo.com</a> 408 255 6663
Questions	Dr. PAF	<a href="mailto:rrands@earthlink.net">rrands@earthlink.net</a> 650 969 6567

*PastFinder Bulletin* is an official publication of the Silicon Valley Computer Genealogy Group, a nonprofit organization. Published monthly except December, *PastFinder Bulletin* is distributed to e-mail subscribers of the group. Members may elect to receive the newsletter by e-mail or by mail.

**The following can be ordered from [www.FamilySearch.org](http://www.FamilySearch.org) or at 1-800-537 5950:**

Personal Ancestral File 2.3.1 Macintosh (CD version)	US\$6
Personal Ancestral File 4.04(CD version)	US\$6
Personal Ancestral File 5.2.18 and 4 (Windows), PAF 3, & 2.31 (DOS), lessons and user guide, Personal Ancestral File Companion 5.2 evaluation (Windows) (2 CDs)	US\$8.25
Personal Ancestral File 4.04.18 and 5.2.18, PAF Companion Evaluation or PAF User's Guide (English, Spanish, French, German, or Portuguese) downloaded from: <a href="http://www.FamilySearch.org">www.FamilySearch.org</a>	free

Articles contributed by readers are welcomed. Articles may be submitted as a text file on PC compatible disk, CD-ROM, or as an e-mail attachment. The editors reserve the right to accept, reject, or otherwise edit articles for publication. Articles are not returned.

**The following can be ordered from SV-CGG:**

<i>PastFinder</i> back issues if available, per issue	\$1 (order by mail or purchase at meetings)
Videos of classes	for titles and prices see: <a href="http://www.svcomputergenealogy.org">www.svcomputergenealogy.org</a>
<i>Family History Documentation Guidelines</i>	\$10 + postage (see <a href="http://www.svcomputergenealogy.org">www.svcomputergenealogy.org</a> for multi-copy orders)
Stuck-on Sources Post-It note pads	Available at meetings and on Web site
Flash Drives with SVCGG logo and loaded with 9000 Internet genealogy sites	Available at cost on Web site and at meetings