

PastFinder Bulletin

Volume 5, No. 8

PastFinder Bulletin, © 2008 Silicon Valley Computer Genealogy Group

August 2008

Notice

In order to simplify the distribution of the *Pastfinder* and the *PastFinder Bulletin* by e-mail, We are changing the distribution method. Beginning next month, You will receive an e-mail from SVC GG (siliconvalleygroup@earthlink.net) with a link to the URL where you will find your newsletter. You can then download the newsletter and store or print it as you wish. The new procedure will solve several problems at our end maintaining the mailing list, and it will also avoid problems with your e-mail when the file size becomes too large. Hopefully we can avoid problems with filters that block junk mail too.

Spiderwebs

British History Online

British History Online is a library of books on medieval and modern history of the British Isles. It was created by the Institute of Historical Research and the History of Parliament Trust. An update list contains the most recent additions to the library. The titles can be browsed by region, time period (11th to 19th century), and by subject. There is also a search engine which will search for text, or do an advanced search. The library has almost 1000 titles, many of which are manuscripts, correspondence or records. There are no genealogies, but the records may mention specific individuals, especially prominent

persons. To visit the site, go to: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/Default.aspx>

Irish Genealogy

The Irish Genealogy Web site has a variety of helps for those doing research on Irish ancestors. The site has links to other sites with Irish data, a brief Irish history, a section of northern Irish genealogy, a map of Ireland, and more. The site has an ongoing project called *Discover Your Irish Heritage*, which is a collection of articles about the origins of the various Irish surnames. A new article is added each week. The site also has a free weekly newsletter about Irish genealogy. Visitors can register to receive it on the Web site. To visit the site, go to: www.irish-genealogy.com

Free Genealogy Online

Free Genealogy Online is a Web site that specializes in records of interest to genealogists about Wales. There are many records that are quite useful in family history research. Following is a partial list of the records available:

- Carmarthenshire records 1813-1837
- Cardiganshire records 1813-1837
- Pembrokeshire records 1813-1837
- ardiganshire Wills Index 1564-1858
- Carmarthenshire Wills Index 1564-1858
- Pembrokeshire Wills Index 1564-1858
- South West Wales & Gower Marriage Bonds & Index
- Pembrokeshire Mayors

- Pembrokeshire Directory 1793-1798
 - Haverfordwest Census Digital Images
 - 1881 Census Index: Pembrokeshire
 - 1881 Census Index: Cardiganshireshire
 - History Of Carmarthenshire : Volume I
 - Pigots Directory 1822-1823 South Wales
- To visit the site, go to: www.free-genealogy-online.net/

Of Interest

DNA Patent Challenge

A patent battle that has been going on in the U.K. for several years was recently settled. DNA Heritage announced a low cost DNA testing service and was challenged by a competitor on the grounds of patent infringement. The patent in question is about the use of surnames and Y-chromosomes to establish a family connection. Alastair Greenshields, the principal owner of DNA Heritage, claimed that the patent in question was not valid because it lacked invention. In other words, there was no product or process using the invention mentioned in the patent. The UK Intellectual Property Office (UK IPO) announced their formal opinion stating that the relevant claims regarding the patent are all invalid.

The infringement challenge came from the patent assignees, Oxford Ancestors. DNA Heritage asked the UK IPO to re-evaluate the claims made in the patent in the light of work by previous researchers. After considering

submissions from both parties, an Opinion released on the 8th April 2008 (followed by a 3 month review period) found that each of the four claims that were contested were invalid because they lacked an inventive step and that one of the claims also lacked novelty. Earlier research by others had already shown that there was a relationship between the Y-chromosome and surnames. The companies can now go continue sending home DNA kits to participating individuals and enter the results of DNA tests on the returned cheek swabs into a genealogy database from the Y-chromosome.

The results of such testing show a strong correlation between the Y-chromosome markers of people with the same surname indicating that they descend from the same male ancestor. The court opinion should keep testing costs low both at DNA Heritage, and for other companies offering similar testing.

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.

Indiana Conference

The Indiana Historical Society will host *Midwestern Roots 2008*, a Family History and Genealogy Conference on August 15-16 at the Indianapolis, Indiana.

Speakers include Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak, Charles F. Kerchner, Roberta J. Estes, Stephen Morse, Susan Kaufman, Beau Sharburg, Dick Eastman, James Madison, Christine Rose, David Lifferth, Curt Witcher, Betty Warren, Alan January,

Nancy Massey and Scott Sander. For more information, go to: www.indianahistory.org/midwesternroots.

Jewish Genealogy Conference

An International Conference on Jewish Genealogy will be held on August 17-22 at Chicago, Illinois. Sixteen Special Interest Groups (SIGS) will host sessions concerning their research focus such as German-Jewish Genealogy, Ukraine, Poland, and Litvak Jewish Genealogy research. A number of specialists or archivists from Europe or Eastern Europe will be in attendance to make presentations and advise attendees about resources available in their country. Some of the SIGS will hold luncheons with a featured speaker. For more information, go to: www.chicago2008.org

Florida Expo

The Tallahassee Genealogical Society will host its annual genealogy expo on August 23 at Tallahassee, Florida. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, go to: www.talgen.org

FGS 2008 Conference

The Federation of Genealogy Societies will hold its 2008 conference on September 3-6 at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. For more information, go to: www.fgs.org/2008conf/FGS-2008.htm

UGS Fall Conference

The Utah Genealogical Association will hold their 2008 Fall Family History and Genealogy Conference on September-12-13 at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City,

Utah. For more information, go to: <http://www.infouga.org/site/index.php>

Florida Conference

The Fall Conference of the Florida Genealogical Society will be held on September 13 at Tampa, Florida. The featured speaker for this event is Paula Stuart-Warren. For more information on this event go to: <http://fgstampa.org>

Idaho Workshop

The Idaho State Historical Society has announced an all-day workshop "True Stories: Practicing Oral History in Idaho" on September 13 at Boise, Idaho. The instructor is Kathy Hodges. For more information, e-mail Kathy Hodges at: kathy.hodges@ishs.idaho.gov

Illinois Family History Fair

The Crystal Lake Family History Center and the Buffalo Grove Family History Center and the Buffalo Grove Illinois Stake of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will host a Family History Fair, "Family History: A Journey of Discover," on September 13 at Buffalo Grove, Illinois. The keynote speaker will be Carole Magnuson. For more information or to register, e-mail: familyhistoryjourney@gmail.com

Texas Seminar

The East Texas Genealogical Society will hold a seminar on September 13 at Tyler, Texas. Desmond Walls Allen will be the keynote speaker. For more information, go to: www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txetgs/meetings.html

England Family History Fair

The National Family History Fair will be held at the Gateshead International Stadium at Gateshead, England on September 13. For more information, go to: www.nationalfamilyhistoryfair.com/index.htm

Ontario, Canada Conference

The British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa (BIFHSGO) will host their 14th Annual Family History Conference, "Celebrate Your Anglo-Celtic Roots" on September 19-21 at Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. The Special Focus on England. Program includes: 18 presentations by more than a dozen experts in family history research and genealogy. A pre-conference course, workshop, and tour of Library and Archives Canada will also be offered as well as consultations with experienced researchers; research room with free access to genealogy data bases, and a marketplace of related products and services. The keynote speaker: Sherry Irvine, CG, FSA Scot. Sherry is an author and recognized specialist in English, Irish and Scottish family history, and a Past President of the US Association of Professional Genealogists. For more information, go to: <http://www.bifhsgo.ca/Conference2008.htm>

Illinois PGSA Conference

The Polish Genealogical Society of America will be hosting their 30th annual conference *Honoring Our Ancestors* on September at Rolling Meadows, Illinois. Guest speakers will include Jonathan Shea, Orvill Paller, James Pula, Matthew Rutherford, Dris Rzepczynski and Beau Sharbrough. For more

information, go to: www.pgsa.org.

Minnesota Conference

The Minnesota Genealogical Society will hold the Minnesota Star of the North Genealogy Conference on September 19-20 at Saint Paul, Minnesota. Christine Rose and Paula Stuart-Warren are the featured speakers. For more information, go to: www.mnsgs.org

Montana Conference

The Montana State Genealogical Society will hold a conference on September 19-20 at Butte, Montana. The speakers include Michael John Neill, Ellen Crain and Christy Leskovar. For more information, go to: www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mtmsg's

Oxford, England Open Day

The Oxfordshire Family History Society Open Day will be held on September 20 at Kidlington,, England. The event will include an assortment of visiting Societies, publishers, dealers in second hand books and postcards, and the like. The Oxfordshire Family History Society library, search services, and a beginners' helpdesk are available to attendees. There are also computing demonstrations, which include genealogical software and the Internet. For more information, go to: www.ofhs.org.uk

Massachusetts Conference

The Friends of the National Archives-Pittsfield, MA will host a Genealogy Conference, "Life in the Past Lane V," on September 20 at Williamstown, Massachusetts. Speakers include Jean Nudd, Gregory Pomicter, Horace Waters and Linda Blaser. Complete program details and registration forms can

be found at www.narafriends-pittsfield.org/calendar.htm

Indiana Symposium

The Genealogy Center at the Allen County Public Library will hold a military symposium on September 26 at Fort Wayne, Indiana. Marie Varrelman Melchiori, CG, CGL. Ms. Melchiori will discuss National Archive records for the Civil War, and research sources for Confederate and Federal soldiers. Curt Witcher will highlight the Our Military Heritage website at Friday evening's dinner. On Saturday afternoon there will be individual consultations on research challenges. For more information, go to: www.acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy/Military%20Symposium.pdf

Illinois Seminar

The Fox Valley Genealogical Society will hold a seminar on September 27 at Naperville, Illinois. Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak will discuss "Unraveling Genealogical Puzzles." For more information, go to: www.rootsweb.com/~ilfvgs/index.htm

Iowa Conference

The Iowa Genealogical Society Annual Conference will be held on October 2-4, 2008 at Des Moines, Iowa. Featured speakers include Meldon J. Wolfgang III and Galin Berrier. For more information, go to: www.iowagenealogy.org/events_activities/index.htm

California Seminar

The Kern County Genealogical Society will host a seminar on October 4 at Bakersfield, California. Jean M. Wilcox Hibben is the featured speaker.

For more information, go to:
www.rootsweb.com/~cakcgs

Utah British Institute

The International Society for British Genealogy and Family History has announced its 8th Annual British Institute on October 6 -10 at Salt Lake City, Utah. Four courses will be taught by leading authorities: David Rencher,CG,AG,FUGA who will teach *Finding the Place of Origin for Your Irish Immigrant*, David McDonald,CG who will teach *Ecclesiastical Records in British Research*, Barbara Baker,AG who will teach *Scottish Research Basics* and Diane LoosleAG who will teach *Using Family Search to Find Your British Ancestors*. For more information, go to: www.isbgfh.org.

West Coast Summit on African American Genealogy

The 8th Annual West Coast Summit on African American Genealogy "Family History-Putting the Pieces Together" will be held on October 10-11 at Bellevue, Washington. The featured speaker is Quintard Taylor. For more information telephone 206-784-0337 or 206-927-5039 or e-mail BGRG92@aol.com. Please note there is no walk-in registration for this event.

California SVCGG Seminar

The Silicon Valley Computer Genealogy Group (That's Us) will hold a Seminar on October 11 at Santa Clara, California. Barbara Renick will be the featured speaker. For more information, go to: www.svcomputergenealogy.org

Kansas Conference

Kansas Genealogical Society will hold its annual conference on October 11 at Dodge City, Kansas. Arlene H. Eakle will be

the featured speaker. For more information, go to: www.dodgecity.net/kgs/Upcoming.pdf

California Conference

The Monterey County Genealogical Society and the Monterey Family History Center will host *Heritage Harvest* on October 11 at Seaside, California. Geoff Rasmussen is the featured speaker. For more information, go to: www.mocogenso.org

Wisconsin Seminar

The Wisconsin State Genealogical Society will hold their Fall Seminar on October 11 at Janesville, Wisconsin. Craig R. Scott will be the featured speaker. For more information, go to: www.wsgs.org

California Seminar

The North San Diego Genealogical Society will host a one-day seminar on October 18 at Carlsbad, California. The featured speakers include: Wayne Anderson, "From Database to Book"; Phyllis Young, "Using a Short Run Publisher"; Larry Brooks, "Getting a Big Publisher's Attention"; Jan Mongoven, "Do-It-Yourself Publishing." For more information, go to: www.cagenweb.com/nsdcgs/falls/amina.html

Florida Seminar

The Imperial Polk Genealogical Society will host a one-day seminar on October 18 at Lakeland, Florida. The featured speaker is George K. Schweitzer. For more information, go to: www.ipgs.org/2008_flyer.html

Ohio Palentine Seminar

The Ohio Chapter of Palatines to America has announced its Annual Fall Seminar on October 18 at Brookville, Ohio. The guest speakers include Carrie Eldridge, Donald Bowman, Gale Honeyman. For more information, go to: www.oh-palam.org

Texas Event

The Houston Genealogical Forum will host "Colonial Virginia" to be presented by Barbara Vines Little on October 18 at Houston, Texas. For more information, go to: www.hgftx.org

Illinois Conference

The Illinois State Genealogical Society will celebrate 40 years as a society with a conference on October 18 at Elgin, Illinois. Featured speakers are D. Joshua Taylor, Beau Sharbrough and Loretto Szucs. Topics include:

- Discover and evaluate new Web sites, online databases and free tools on the Internet.
- Investigate Footnote, FamilySearch and NSDAR collections.
- Jumpstart your research with new techniques,
- Get organized using Word tools and explore easy procedures for scanning and restoring documents.

Harness the internet with a basic or intermediate hands-on computer session presented by Lori Bessler. There will also be computer lab classes in effective Web searching. For more information, go to: isgsconference@sbcglobal.net

Texas Conference

The Texas State Genealogical Society will host its 48th Conference on October 24-25 at Abilene, Texas. Thomas W. Jones will be the featured

speaker. For more information, go to:
www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txsgs/.

Oklahoma Conference

The Gregath Publishing Company will host a conference, "Land in America," featuring Mary Clement Douglass on October 25 at Grove, Oklahoma. For more information about this event, go to:
www.gregathcompany.com/workshop/2008

Nevada Seminar

The Clark County Genealogical Society will host a genealogy seminar to be held on October 25 at Las Vegas, Nevada. The featured speaker will be Beau Sharborough who will discuss:

- *Excel for Genealogists:* Spreadsheets can help researchers organize their information. They can be used to identify patterns that aren't obvious from other approaches.
- *Restoring Family Photos:* With an inexpensive scanner and some inexpensive software, as in free, anyone can make those old family photos come to life. In this presentation, you will see how to scan newspapers, prints and slides. And, when you're through, what to do with them. The options will be explored
- *Footnote.com:* One of the latest websites to come on line with access to millions of digitized, original documents of interest to the genealogists. This presentation will include a discussion related to the New.FamilySearch website.
- *Fetch, Rover! - The Good, the Bad and the Ugly of Automated Research tools*

For more information, go to:
www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nvccngs/fallseminar.html

Personal Historians Conference

The Association of Personal Historians (APH) will hold a conference on October 29 – November 2 at Salt Lake City, Utah. Presentations will help prepare a personal history, organize piles of family records and photographs, or create a video interview. The keynote address, "Oral History: Use It or Lose It," will be presented by nationally respected family historian, author and speaker Sharon DeBartolo Carmack. For more information, go to:
<http://personalhistorians.org/conference>

Washington Seminar

The Tacoma Pierce County Genealogical Society has announced its 2008 Seminar on November 1 at Puyallup, Washington. The featured speaker is Christopher Childs who will discuss researching in New England. For more information, e-mail Audrey Mills Roley, Seminar Chairman at laroley@rainierconnect.com

Maryland Seminar

The Maryland Genealogical Society will hold a fall seminar, "DNA and Family History - Exploring the 'Gene' in Genealogy,." on November 1 at Bowie, Maryland. Featured speakers include Thomas Shawker, Donn Devine, Robert McLaren and Alastair Greenshields. For more information, go to:
www.mdgensoc.org.

Washington Seminar

The Seattle Genealogical Society will hold a fall seminar on November 1 at Seattle, Washington. Topics will cover Native American, Swedish,

Chinese and Irish roots. For more information, e-mail:
sgsseminar@gmail.com

Arizona Seminar

The Arizona State Genealogical Society is sponsoring an all day seminar on November 8 at Tucson Arizona. John Philip Colleta, Ph.D. will discuss *How to Prepare for Successful Research in European Records, Lesser-Used Federal Records: A Sampling for Fresh Research Ideas, Using Original and Derivative Sources: How to Evaluate Evidence, and Hacks and Hookers & Putting Up Pickles: Snares of Yesterday's English*. For more information, go to:
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~asgs/>.

Texas Seminar

The 49th Annual Fall Seminar of the San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society will be held on November 8 at San Antonio, Texas. The featured speaker is Dick Eastman. For more information, go to:
rootsweb.com/~txsaghs2

Florida Conference

The Florida State Genealogical Society (FSGS) will hold its annual conference on 14-15 November 2008 at Maitland, Florida. The featured speakers include Jana Sloan Broglin, Ann Bergelt, Pamela J. Cooper, Amy Lerner Giroux, George G. Morgan, Donna M. Moughty, Mary P. Parker, Drew Smith and C. Ann Staley. For more information, go to: www.flsgs.org

North Carolina Event

The North Carolina Genealogical Society will host "This Land was Their Land" by Rick Sayre, Monica Hopkins, Larry Cates and A. Bruce Pruitt on November 14-15 at Raleigh, North Carolina.

For more information, go to:
www.ncgenealogy.org

Arizona Expo

My Ancestors Found will host a Family History Expo on November 14-15 at Mesa, Arizona. This event is for the beginning and experienced family history enthusiast. The keynote address and exhibit hall are free to the public. For more information, go to:
www.myancestorsfound.com

Indiana Workshop

The Genealogy & Local History Services Department of the Kokomo-Howard County Public Library will hold a workshop, "Genealogy on the Internet," on November 20 at Kokomo, Indiana. To register for the workshop, call (765) 457-3242.

2009 Events

Irish Genealogy Cruise

An Irish Genealogy Cruise will be held on January 10-18. The cruise departs from Fort Lauderdale, Florida. This cruise will focus on Irish research. All speakers have presented at national genealogical conferences and are recognized as knowledgeable in their fields. There will be two tracks. Track 1 will have lectures on basic resources and techniques for Irish research. Track 2 will focus on more advanced topics and is intended for those with experience in using Irish records.

The first thirty registrants will be given a one-hour private consultation with one of the professional genealogists on the program. For more information, go to: www.tiara.ie

Utah Institute

The 2009 Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy will be held on January 12-16 at Salt Lake City. There will be 10 courses taught by experts on various genealogy topics. For more information, go to:
http://www.infouga.org/site/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=103&Itemid=103

Australian Conference

The Australasian Genealogical Congress is held once every three years and will be held on January 16-20 at Auckland, New Zealand. It attracts more than 1000 delegates from around the world, with four days of genealogical conference sessions, lectures and exhibits. Watch the Web site for date, place and program:
www.affho.org/

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

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/

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.

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

2009 FGS Conference

The Federation of Genealogical Societies will hold its annual conference on September 2-5 in Little Rock, Arkansas. For more information, go to: www.fgs.org/

Michigan Seminar

-The Michigan Genealogical Council will host a seminar on October 15-17 at Midland Michigan. Thursday a tour of the Midland County Historical Society facilities is scheduled. On Friday and Saturday, sixteen instructors will teach 32 sessions covering 4 tracks of genealogy topics. For more details or to register, e-mail:
faeae@chartermi.net

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
 Richard Rands, President 650 969 6567
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 (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).

Please Contact:

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

Copyright Notice: *PastFinder* Bulletin © 2008 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.

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.

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 [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:	
www.FamilySearch.org	free

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: www.svcomputergenealogy.org
<i>Family History Documentation Guidelines</i>	\$10 + postage (see www.svcomputergenealogy.org 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