

# **T H E L I V E O A K**

May/June 2014

ISSN 0897 9839  
Oakland, California

## **MAY MEETING**

**ANNUAL SPRING LUNCHEON**  
**Wednesday, May 14, 2014 - Noon**  
**Pier 29 Restaurant**  
**1148 Ballena Blvd, Alameda**

We are hoping for a big turnout. Our luncheon afternoon is always a delightful gathering and we hope many of you will join us. Friends and guests are welcome.

Get your reservations in the mail soon, please. We have to give the restaurant the "head count" by May 12th. Reservation slips are on the last page of this newsletter.

### **Driving Directions:**

From Posey Tube continue on Webster Street to Central Avenue. Right onto Central to Ballena Blvd. (there is a stop light and left turn lane). Left onto Ballena Blvd. and keep to the right by the water until you arrive at the parking lot for the restaurant on your left.

From Fruitvale Avenue Bridge continue on Tilden Way, cross Park Street and continue - it is now called Lincoln Avenue. Turn left onto Grand Street and then right onto Central avenue to Ballena Blvd.

## **JUNE MEETING**

Wednesday, June 11, 2014 - 10 a.m. in the Oakland Family History Library Meeting Room

### **SWEDISH RESEARCH - Speaker, Wade Olofson**

Yah, help is on da vay to help find da Svedes!

Wade Olofson is a member of the staff at the Oakland Family History Library and is usually present every Thursday morning to help those researching their Swedish ancestors. We are fortunate to have him share his vast knowledge of Swedish records with us.

He will cover some basics in Swedish research and enlighten us with information on the comprehensive resources available for the Swedish researcher at the Oakland FHL.

### **Looking Back at March:**

Gay Scott's presentation on the Witches of Salem, MA was well attended. Amazing how many members were anxious to hear all about the witch hunts. It was a most interesting meeting.

### **Looking Back at April:**

Roger Howland shared his vast knowledge of what life was like in Early New England. It was obvious that besides being a gifted speaker, he is also an avid reader. We learned so much about New England prior to the Pilgrims arrival. Thank you Roger for such an educational and interesting presentation.

### **EBGS NEWS:**

It is time to renew your membership - if you have not already done so. Renewal form can be found on the last page of this newsletter. Thank you to those who have already renewed. We really do appreciate your support.

Registration form for the May Luncheon can also be found on the last page of this newsletter. Please come and enjoy the afternoon with us.

Thank you to everyone who took part in the questionnaire for future programs. We were pleased to have so many suggestions and will try desperately to fill your requests.

One member requested a program on Native American Records. On the list of "Resource Specialists" provided by the Oakland FHL I notice the following:

Tues & Thurs from 10 - 4 - Debbie Smith is available to help with N/A (Apache & Sioux)

Tues, Wed, Sat - Alvis Ward is available to help with N/A (Choctaw & Cherokee)

I hope this will be useful to you.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

**Oakland FHC** offers the following free classes/workshops on an ongoing basis. All interested are welcome to attend.

**MAC GEN Genealogy** meetings - website for more information on this group [www.macgen.org](http://www.macgen.org)

2nd Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.

4th Saturday of each month at 1:30 p.m.

**African-American Workshop:** 4th Thursday of each month at 6 p.m.

The following classes are free, though there may be a nominal charge for handouts.

Please make reservations by phone or email: 510-531-3905 / email: [fhcoakland@gmail.com](mailto:fhcoakland@gmail.com)

**Intro to RootsMagic (hands on)**

Friday, May 17 - 10:30 a.m.

Please bring flash drive if you have one

**Using Finding Aids for Jewish Research**

**to Help Research Non-Jewish Ancestors**/Janice Sellers Saturday, May 18, 1:30 p.m.

**Documentation in PAF**/Ken Miller

Tuesday, May 21 - 1:30 p.m.

**Documentation in RootsMagic**/Ken Miller

Friday, May 24 - 1:30 p.m.

## **ITEMS OF INTEREST:**

**Researching Early Massachusetts Records at the Mayflower Descendants Library:** You might be surprised to find that they have Vital Records of almost every town, with the exception of Boston. On their many shelves of Massachusetts reference material, there is a large collection of early town and county histories as well as family genealogies. See for yourself. The library is open every Monday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Friends of the Alameda Free Library Spring Book Sale:** May 2, 3, and 4. The sale is on Friday evening 6:30 - 9 p.m. (\$5 admission). Saturday and Sunday - admission is FREE. The hours are: Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday noon to 4 p.m. - sale day! On Sunday you can buy a bag of books for \$3 or a box full of books for \$5!

If you have never been to one of their book sales, you are in for a surprise and a treat. The volume of books available is almost overwhelming (they sort anywhere from 800 to 1,000 boxes of books for each sale) and the prices are quite reasonable. Sale is located at the DeWitt O' Club at Alameda Point. Google them for directions or more information.

**The Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island Foundation:** They are presently expanding the Ellis Island records to include the arrivals through the Port of New York/Ellis Island from 1925 to 1957 in their collection. That means over 40 million new passenger records will be added to their current archive of 25 million. The current archive has always been available FREE on their website and they hope to continue to do so when these new records are available by yearend. ([ellisland.org](http://ellisland.org))

If you wish to make a donation to support this project, you may do so by mailing your donation to: The Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island Foundation, Inc., 17 Battery Place, Ste 120, New York, NY 10004-3507.

**Polish Genealogical Research:** An excellent resource for information about Poles in Chicago is the Polish Genealogical Society of America (PGSA), based in Chicago and considered expert on Chicago Polonia. The group has a website at [www.pgsa.org](http://www.pgsa.org). One of the best features of the website is the database section, where one can find indexes to Chicago Catholic parish records and Jubilee Books, an index to obituaries published in the Chicago Polish newspaper, "Dziennik Chicagoski", gazetteers, and some indexes to Polish records from other Midwestern states. The website also features links to other Polish genealogical websites and digitized records, and much more. (excerpt from Monterey County Gen. Soc. Newsletter, March/April, 2014)

**Australian Research: CoraWeb-Websites for Genealogists - <http://www.corawebb.com.au/>**

The stated goal of this website is to help you trace your family history in Australia and elsewhere. There are numerous links on the opening page. I clicked first on Newspapers-Australia. The first on the list was Trove Digitized Newspapers. I have used this site many times with great results. There are links to ten newspaper collections here, some free and some paid sites. The Cemeteries link has a very long list of cemeteries all over Australia. Many of the cemeteries have links for a surname search. If any of your relatives were sent to Australia as convicts, then be sure to click on the Convicts link. Under military records, there are links to the National Archives of Australia, the Australian War Memorial and the Roll of Honor, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and much more. Be sure to check the link to Maps, Place Names and Land Records, as many searchable records can be found here. (excerpt from Santa Clara County Historical & Genealogical Society, March, 2014 - article by Ed Keelin "Genealogy Website Review")

**New York Emigrant Savings Bank 1850-1883:** <http://home.ancestry.com/> "I have not written about a subscription site in the past. I am making an exception this time because I just found family information in this database that I thought I would never find".... states Ed Keelin in his "Genealogy Website Review" column in the March, 2014 Santa Clara County Historical & Genealogical Society newsletter.

His articles continues... "The Emigrant Savings Bank was established by members of the Irish Emigrant Society in 1850. While the majority of emigrants in this collection will be Irish, you will find other nationalities as well. Not everyone listed will have the records I found with address, occupation, birth year, immigration year, ship name and parents' names complete with mother's maiden name. Even if you do not find that much information, there is still a lot to be found in this database. On the main search page, enter First Name and Surname. On the right side of the page, using the drop down box for Record Type, choose Index Book. On the results page, after locating a name, write down the Account Number. Now, go back to the search page, select Test Books, re-enter the name information and enter the Account Number in the box below. Check the Exact box and hit search. The Test Book image is the one that has the most information, sometimes even listing children. You may also find the actual Account Ledger showing deposits and withdrawals. Although there are well over 100,000 accounts in this database, only 58,000 Test Book images are available now." (Ed: If you do not find any helpful information for your surname, it would pay to revisit this site at a later date when more data has been added.)

**David Library of the American Revolution**

1201 River Road, Washington Crossing, PA 18977  
Mail Address: P. O. Box 748, Washington Crossing, PA 18977  
Ph: 215 - 493 - 6776

A specialized research library dedicated to the study of American history circa 1750 - 1800. Founded in 1959 by Sol Feinstone (1888-1980), a businessman, philanthropist and collector of Americana, and named after his grandson, David Golub who was born developmentally disabled. In order to secure the future of the foundation he established, Mr. Feinstone donated his extensive collection of Revolutionary war manuscripts, his 118-acre farm on which the library and auxiliary buildings are situated, and an endowment. In 1974 the present building was built and opened to the public.

Two things set the David Library apart from every other research institution that has materials on the American Revolution: concentration and convenience. Here you will find almost all the basic primary sources on the Revolution, including materials such as many documents microfilmed at the British Archives and found no where else in this country. You will find this material in one building, serviced by a small but highly knowledgeable staff that has no other objective than to assist its users in learning about the broad era of the American Revolution.

Google them and check out all aspects of their website. You can even browse the collection and some databases. To submit an inquiry by mail for research: Be brief and specific, include a SASE and money to cover whatever copies might result from your inquiry. And, of course, a donation is always much appreciated. Address your queries to the above P.O. Box address, Attn: Kathie Ludwig.

## "LITTLE HEATHENS: Hard Times and High Spirits on an Iowa Farm During the Great Depression" - by Mildred Armstrong Kalish

Book review by Carolyn Storm

The author relates her childhood growing up in a large extended, Methodist family on a rural farm in Iowa during the depression years. It is honest, humorous and a great read. Children were "seen, but not heard" and taught respect for their elders, the difference between right and wrong and were instilled with a strong sense of fairness, pride and propriety. In hard times, absolutely nothing was wasted. It boggles my mind to read of the ingenious resourcefulness these folks employed to make use of every scrap of cloth or food. How they would scoff at today's "throw-away society".

Leaves me thinking that, without the influence of television and all our modern media devices, rural people years ago had hard times but did not truly feel a sense of lacking many material things. They just made do with what they had, helped their families and neighbors and got by as best they could. There was a tremendous sense of pride and kinship.

### **Let's Look for Help - Not in all the Wrong Places - But Anywhere We Can!**

A few years ago I was contacted by someone who was browsing the net researching information on my mother's maiden name. Through some database she found an article in an issue of EBG's "Live Oak" that I had written about my mother. Being the editor, my email address appears on the back page. She contacted me. It turned out that our great, great grandfathers were brothers, and to our mutual surprise, we lived less than thirty miles away from each other! We met and exchanged quite a lot of genealogical information that helped both of us fill in some blanks in our research.

I don't know who or what entities compile these databases, perhaps Google and other search engines and some libraries, etc. I am by no means a "techy"! But it has occurred to me that since these various databases exist somewhere out in cyberspace, why not take advantage of them?

Does anyone out there reading this newsletter have a particularly pesky research problem? What is your particular "brick wall"? Why not write about it? Explain what the problem is and where you have searched and what you have or have not been able to find. Send it to me with your contact information and I will print it in an issue of this newsletter. Remember, *there are no stupid questions if you don't know the answers!*

You do not have to be a member of East Bay Genealogical Society - you can be anyone happening to be reading this and wishing to take advantage of this opportunity. Who knows what or who's database your information might end up being listed on and who might stumble across it, as my new-found cousin did. With a little luck, someone out there may have some good concrete suggestions to help you solve your problem or even have the information you have been seeking.

If you think it might be worth a try, give it a try!

Send your "Research Problem" to me, Carolyn Storm, at [c-kstorm@Juno.com](mailto:c-kstorm@Juno.com). Use "Research Problem" in the subject heading and be sure to include your contact information. Or, if you prefer, you can send the information to me snail-mail, addressed to EBG, Attn: C. Storm, P. O. Box 1648, Alameda, CA 94501.

I will print up to a page and a half in this newsletter and...who knows, you could get lucky!

Continuation of Marriage and Engagement Announcements From Local Newspapers 1985-2010

GROOM	BRIDE	E	V	E	D	A	T	E	PLACE
SWANN, Bryan Lee	TIMM, Linda Denise	mar	Jan,	1992					Cape Coral, FL
SWANSON, Adrian	BARGONES, Ronelle	eng	June,	1988					Alameda Co, CA
SWANSON, Ben	PEEK, Kathleen	mar	Dec,	1992					Alameda Co, CA
SWANSON, Ben	PEEK, Kathleen	eng	Dec,	1992					Alameda Co, CA
SWANSON, Dale	GARCIA, Adell	mar	Oct,	1991					Lake Tahoe, CA
SWART, Todd	DOHRMANN, Denise	eng	June,	1994					Contra Costa Co, CA
SWARTZ, Raymond	PARMALEE, Katina	mar	Nov,	1991					Alameda Co, CA
SWASON, C. Steven	LOYOLA, Elizabeth Durene	mar	Feb,	1992					Alameda Co, CA
SWIERS, Terry	BAITINGER, Gretchen	eng	Dec,	1991					San Ramon, CA
SWYERS, Paul	LAWRENCE, Barbara	mar	Oct,	1991					Alameda Co, CA
SYLVESTER, David A.	DeLISLE, Lisa Marie	mar	Aug,	1989					Alameda Co, CA
TABLER, Scott	VAN HECKE, Paulette	mar	Oct,	1988					Alameda Co, CA
TADDEI, Greg Edward	BROWN, Jennifer Michelle	mar	Aug,	1989					Sunol, CA
TADDEI, Jim	BROWN, Jan	eng	Jan,	1985					Alameda Co, CA
TADEVICH, Christopher E.	TEHENSKY, Susan Teresa	mar	June,	1988					Alameda Co, CA
TAEU, Frank Acosta	DOLAN, Tracy Michelle	mar	May,	1993					Alameda Co, CA
TAEU, Frank	DOLAN, Tracy	eng	Jan	1993					Alameda Co, CA
TAISLER, Tony	MARKS, Meranie Lynn Bundang	eng	May,	1993					Alameda Co, CA
TAKAHASHI, Antony Massao	RICE, Lynn Elliott	mar	Aug,	1989					Fredericksburg, VA
TAKAHASHI, Antony Massao	RICE, Lynn Elliott	eng	May,	1989					Fredericksburg, VA
TANNER, Michael Salvador	McCONNELL, Shannon Marie	mar	July,	1992					Alameda Co, CA
TANNER, Michael Salvador	McCONNELL, Shannon Marie	eng	July,	1991					Alameda Co, CA
TAPP, Millard "Pete"	BARBOUR, Caryn Marie	mar	April,	1990					Alameda Co, CA
TAPP, Millard "Pete" Filmore III	BARBOUR, Caryn Marie	mar	March,	1990					Alameda Co, CA
TARIN, Mohammad Qasim	WAHAB, Salma	mar	Dec,	1988					Alameda Co, CA
TARKINGTON, Thomas W. Jr.	GARRISON, Lesli Ann	mar							Alameda Co, CA
TASSIELLI, Jack	WASCHKOWSKY, Laura	mar	Jan,	1988					Contra Costa Co, CA
TAUBE, Donald Walter	KIRSCH, Christine Margaret	eng	May,	1988					Alameda Co, CA
TAVERNIER, Clayton Louis	CHEZ, Leslie Darlene	mar	June,	1985					Alameda Co, CA
TAYLOR, Alan Randy "Wade"	Miste MRIE Garcia	eng	July,	1994					Treasure Is, CA
TAYLOR, John F.	MOURGOS, Linda R.	mar	July,	1989					Alameda Co, CA
TAYLOR, Michael Lewis	FUKUSHIMA, Mitsi Jill	mar	Sept,	1992					Contra Costa Co, CA
TAYLOR, Rafael	BRYANT, Constance Dianne	mar	Aug,	1994					St. Helena, CA
TAYLOR, Scott	McGUINNESS, Amor	eng	Dec,	1993					Alameda Co, CA
TAYLOR, William V.	GALLAGHER, Lorraine Ann	mar	Aug,	1990					Alameda Co, CA
TEALE, Peter William Leslie	DeMONG, Charyl Darlene	mar	Sept,	1990					Brisbane, Australia
TEARE, David John	JOHNSON, Charlene	mar	Aug,	1996					Alameda Co, CA
TEETER, Johathon Mark	NESS, Brenda K.	eng	Oct,	1989					Denver, CO
TEETER, Johnahon	NEES, Branda K.	mar	March,	1990					Denver, CO
TEIXEIRA, Glenn Spencer	POGGI, Nancy Ann	mar	March,	1989					Alameda Co, CA
TELLES, Daniel F.	CUTTER, Tracey L.	mar	Nov,	198					Alameda Co, CA
TEMPLE, Myron Earle III	McCOLLUM, Ginger Marie	eng	Nov,	1987					Alameda Co, CA
TENNANT, Scott Douglas	PIERCE, Penny Ann	mar	May,	1995					Alameda Co, CA
TEPLITZ, Gary	MARCHESCHI, Linda	mar	Oct,	1991					Berkeley, CA
TESHIMA, Jeff	LIM, Julia	mar	Sept,	1991					San Francisco, CA
TESTERMAN, Steven R.	SILVEY, Mimi M.	mar	June,	1991					Alameda Co, CA
TEXEIRA, Eugene	KELLER, Angela	mar	July,	1992					Alameda Co, CA
THARP, Andrew Edward	AMEN, Felisa Anne	mar	Aug,	1987					Alameda Co, CA
THAU, Willard A.	KRESS, Florence	eng	May,	1972					Alameda Co, CA

**MEETINGS**

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday each month – 10 am  
Family History Center Library  
4766 Lincoln Avenue, Oakland, CA

**Visitors welcome!** Typically a speaker discusses genealogical record sources, research techniques, research tips.  
Occasionally, working meetings are held at sites of genealogical interest.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Membership is open to all...

Individual/Organization - \$18.00

Family - \$25.00

Foreign - \$20.00

Request an application by writing to: P. O. Box 1648, Alameda, CA 94501  
or download from our website.

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