



Pomona Valley Genealogical Society

Newsletter

Volume 45, Issue 4

January 2017

Barbara Randall to Speak to PVGS On January 14th 2017 at 2:00 PM On Irish Genealogy



“Nil se’ Blarney (It’s Not Blarney)”

Barbara blames her addiction to genealogy on a close friend who dabbled in it for years. Her first lessons accompanied her first Jamboree conference and the passion was lit. Barbara is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, National Genealogical Society, New England Historical Genealogical Society, New York Genealogical & Biographical Society. She is the president and journal editor of the British Isles Family History Society-USA (BIFHS-USA) and a board member of the Southern California Genealogical Society (SCGS), participating in several interest groups at SCGS (including facilitating the Legacy Family Tree User Group). Barbara is a DAR volunteer genealogist/consultant. Barbara has 30+ years experience as a special education teacher/coordinator.

PVGS Board of Directors 2016-17

President — Pat Henny — president@pvgs.us
 1Vice President —Program Director — Connie Rodriquez — programs@pvgs.us
 2Vice President —Membership Director — Loretta Barker — membership@pvgs.us
 Secretary — Freddie Watson — secretary@pvgs.us
 Treasurer — Raul Rodriguez — treasurer@pvgs.us
 Director Collections/Archivist — Richard Piepho — publications@pvgs.us
 Director Hospitality — Valerie Greenbeck — hospitality@pvgs.us
 Director Ways & Means — Betty Goldberg— waysandmeans@pvgs.us
 Director Research — Ann Stutsman — research@pvgs.us

Also Elected Officials 2016-17

Nominating Committee — Karen McGuirk, Chairman,
 Members: Louise Melton, Bill Lemon

Appointments

Research Chairman — Ann Stutsman — research@pvgs.us
 Historian — Donna Zamora
 FaceBook Coordinators — Bill Lemon, Raul Rodriguez
 Webmaster — Bob Blair — webmaster@pvgs.us
 Newsletter Editor— Anne Larkin — newsletter@pvgs.us

**Welcome to New Member
 Leslie Ford**

*You don't have to be listed in
 Who's Who to know what's what..*

A kindness done is never lost;
 It gives many a boost.
 It travels 'til eventually
 It comes back home to roost.



Page 6.

Check these web sites for YOUR IRISHMEN

Ireland Reaching Out, often abbreviated as **Ireland XO**, is designed as a place to share a unique heritage with over 70 million people worldwide. It is about a shared cultural identity that is celebrated for its art, music, storytelling and, above all, for the warmth of its people. The goal of Ireland XO is to try to identify the townland, parish and county where your ancestors lived. Ireland XO says that it is not a genealogical service. However, the volunteers on the site offer advice when they can. As a result, it has become a valuable web site for genealogists seeking information about Irish ancestry.

**The Ireland XO web site offers a wealth of services,
Including:**

- Genealogy advice
 - Online **1901 and 1911 Census records**
 - Many Irish Church Records
 - Information about Ireland's Global Diaspora
 - A **Parish Finder** to locate the origins of your ancestors
-
- A **Parish Survey** that documents the emigrants who left your ancestors' community and trace their living descendants all over the world today
 - Lists of free online resources available on many different web sites
 - Active Message Boards



The **Ireland XO Chronicles** bring to life the heritage of a community by documenting the people, the buildings and the events that existed at any time in the history of the parish. (See the video at <https://youtu.be/q57BrRGGCeI>.)

- **Ireland XO People** – Ireland XO has dedicated an individual space for every person that ever lived or was associated with a parish, so that they can be recorded and remembered. Their stories and connections are an integral part of the heritage of a parish and can be preserved and built upon for today's generation and those of the future.
- **Ireland XO Buildings** – Ireland XO invites people all over the world to record the location and name of every building in the parish that has had people associated with it in the past. This will include where individuals lived at any one time and with whom.
- **Ireland XO Timeline** – Ireland XO enables events and happenings to be recorded at ANY time in the parish's history, creating a real timeline of the parish and allowing the transcription and preservation of the big, and small news of the time – for all times.

•
And much more...

If you have Irish ancestry but have not yet used this huge online *Ireland Reaching Out* resource, you need to visit <http://www.irelandxo.com> now! You also can learn a lot by reading the free *Guide for Users to Using the IrelandXO* available at <https://goo.gl/1gNR4M>.

Ireland XO

Quoting from the Ireland XO web site:

This genuine desire to connect is at the heart of Ireland Reaching Out. Our mission is to help people of Irish descent all over the world discover their place of origin and become a part of its global community. You may be surprised to learn that people still living in your ancestors' birthplace are also curious to hear the stories, and meet the descendants, of the people that left their community so many years ago.

All over the island of Ireland, people are looking to reconnect with descendants of Irish emigrants who are living all over the world. Time and geography may have separated us, but we all share a common heritage – a bond that cannot be broken and one that can now be rekindled and kept alive through modern technology.

Ireland Reaching Out is a FREE service. Our volunteers would be delighted to help you find out more about your Irish heritage and connect you with the Ireland of today. So why not awaken your Irish spirit – either by posting a message on the Community message board or by connecting with your Irish place of origin directly on their parish page on this website.



Court Records Research Tip: Two Types of Property

Most of us think of family homes when we think of deed records. But deeds can cover other more than our ancestors' houses. In courthouse records, you'll come across two types of property:

- **Real Property** is land and its permanent attachments, such as houses and outbuildings.
- **Personal property** is portable items beyond standard household goods: livestock, vehicles, some furniture, musical instruments, jewelry, specialized trade equipment and the like. Before the Civil War, this also included slaves.

Both types of property may appear in deeds, mortgages and tax records at the courthouse.

If the U.S. had 100 people: Charting Americans' religious affiliations

If the United States contained just 100 adults, 16 would be undeclared.

25 would be Protestants, 23 would be religiously unaffiliated and

21 would be Catholic, two would be Mormon, two would be Jewish

and just one would be Muslim,

Salt Lake City, Utah (29 September 2016)

You might discover new ancestors on your family tree this week at [FamilySearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org).

The nonprofit FamilySearch International, the largest genealogical organization in the world, released 141 million new hints in its online Family Tree today. The hints make use of the newest additions to FamilySearch's massive collections of worldwide historical records made searchable online by volunteer indexers.

"In essence, the FamilySearch.org search engine is constantly working to make re-search discoveries for you without your having to do much more than login, validate what it found, and accept the hints," added Kehrer. **The current addition enlarges the already published 1.5 billion hints from historical records in FamilySearch Family Tree.**

These hints can help in your research. Instead of searching for each ancestor separately, you receive the information in the form of a hint after FamilySearch has already searched the records for you. These hints can identify a possible ancestor to add to your individual tree, or they can provide rich additional sources for an ancestor already in your tree. The details from one historical record may lead to the discovery of another, and the added details of each ancestor's life can help weave together your family's story.

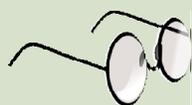
Kehrer said he is confident of the hints' accuracy because the historical records are being compared to all the rich information surrounding the ancestors in your family tree. In

fact, the results have been verified at a **98.5 percent average accuracy**. An exception can occur, for example, if your ancestor has a common name and not much differentiating information is attached to him or her. "If your ancestor is named John Smith and was born in New York in 1920 and there aren't many people associated with that ancestor, the accuracy won't be that high," he said.

These newest hints in the historical records arsenal come from many countries, but **particularly noteworthy are the 1851 and 1881 census records of England and Wales**. "A large number of family history buffs have ancestors from the British Isles and records from this relatively recent time can be a good way to start or build a family tree," Kehrer said. It's easy. Sign in to your free FamilySearch.org account. If you don't have an account, you can obtain a free account by going to FamilySearch.org. The hints, designated by a blue icon, can be located in multiple places, including the main page, the ancestor's person page, and an ancestor's entry in the descendency view of the tree.

Click the blue hint icon. If you agree that the record is a match, you can quickly and easily attach the record to that ancestor's profile in your tree.

You may find new hints any time you add a new person to Family Tree or you change the details in an ancestor's listing. FamilySearch adds historical records daily that are continually mapped to contributors' ancestors in Family Tree. And just as with today's announcement, periodically very large batches of new hints are added throughout the year—which means millions of fun, new family discoveries.



**Ever get to the point
where you wish you had
an extra set of eyes look-
ing at your research?**

Connie Rodriguez, our Program Chair is offering just that, a chance to have her work with you, one-on-one, for an hour-and-a-half, looking at your research, getting tips and suggestions on how to approach your family search!

The hour-and-a-half session can be scheduled at either the Pomona Public Library or the Covina Family History Center. The appointments are only available to PVGS members. With over 20 years of genealogy research experience Connie's personal interests are in New Mexico, Kentucky and Mexico.

This is a free service offered to current members of the Pomona Valley Genealogy Society. Contact Connie at programs@pvgs.us for an appointment.



“In Your Interest,” a television program that aired on Channel 48, once featured three PVGS members: **Roberta Sharp, Nancy Paige and Anne Larkin.** They were interviewed by April Bolin. The subject was **GENEALOGY.**

The program aired in December 1993. Among other things, we noted the amazing growth of our hobby in the *last three to four years.* It was the “hot hobby” of the 1990s!

Protect Your Genealogical Work!

Medieval scribes and book owners would write dramatic curses at the beginning or the end of books, threatening thieves with pain and suffering if they were to steal or damage these written treasures.



Looking for Czech Surnames? You are in luck!

Here is a web site, **Czech Surnames**, that gives a great deal of information about the origins of different Czech surnames, but also has a listing of the top 20 most popular surnames in the country for the years 1937, 1964, and 1996. I discovered that Kucera, which means “curly,” was and is the ninth most common surname in the country. For the research problem in the consultation this was not necessarily good news, but it substantiated the above premise.



Prague

However, since I never stop at the surface with any research I do, I found myself looking through the top 20 list for what other surnames meant. At the end of that list there was a link to another page with more surnames, again with their meanings. It was while I was browsing through this list that I was struck when I saw the surname of Krejci – not from my research preparation but from my interest in hockey. David Krejci currently plays for the Boston Bruins. In looking at the meaning of his last name, I discovered that it was an occupational surname meaning tailor.

This reminded me of how often I have seen the Anglicization of a surname that looks very dramatic, but in actuality is simply the English word for the occupational surname. So your TAYLOR ancestor who is from Bohemia may have started out as KREJCI. Your CARPENTER ancestor from Germany would likely be ZIMMERMAN and if Czech in origin it could be TESAR or TESARIK. Some are not as dramatic, such as the German surname FISCHER becomes FISHER. But if your ancestor was Czech the occupational surname for a fisherman could be RYBAR (in addition to the more traditional German variation also seen in the Czech Republic).

Here are some other occupation Czech surnames:

KADLEC – weaver ; **KOLAR** – cardwright; **KOVAR** – a smith; **SEDLAK** – farmer; **VOJAK** – soldier

One interesting aspect of some of the Czech surnames is that the artisans sometimes have nicknames derived from tools of the trade or something else associated with their business. For instance, someone with the surname **JEHLICKA**, which means needle, was likely a tailor, so **TAYLOR** would be the anglicized version of the name. The surname **ROHLICEK**, which means “a roll,” could change to **BAKER** once in America.

As in other localities, Czechs also have surnames derived from physical features or attributes, those derived from localities, regions, and foreign countries, or those representing plants and animals. One of the most interesting things about family history can be the surname, and in fact it is often the one item we spend the least time researching, especially when it comes to our immigrant ancestors. In addition to tracing the family back, we should definitely consider the implications of the origins of the surname. It could open a research avenue for American genealogists.

(Dick Eastman Online)

Business Name

Primary Business Address
Your Address Line 2



Pomona Public Library is at 625 S. Garey Ave (corner Garey and 7th Streets, just south of Mission). 909 620-2043. Parking is free in the lot and on 7th - both sides.

PVGS meets at the Pomona Public Library on the Second Saturday of each month—September-May in the public Conference Room.

Our Board Meetings are held at 1:00 pm.

Our General Meetings and Programs

