



STANISLAUS RESEARCHER

Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County

November 2011

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November Program

November 15 7:00 PM Ancestors Night David Wolff

Happy Thanksgiving!



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

The month of November is a very special time. It is Ancestors Night, where members of GSSC share some of their family history in story, artifacts and pictures, etc. You will also meet the founding fathers of the Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County. They will share with us how our society was started and share in some of the history of our organization.

Our Sutro and Archives Bus Trip last month was cancelled because of lack of interest.

We had a booth at the National Heritage Festival here in Modesto at the Gallo Center on October 1, 2011. It was a huge success! We ran out of hand-outs and candy and everything we brought to share. There were twice as many people this year as last participating in this fantastic event. The monks had a sand sculpture that they worked on while the festivities were taking place and after all their hard work on the beautiful sculpture the audience walked with them to dump the sand into our Stanislaus River as part of their religious ceremony. It was a spectacular event. The entertainment was ongoing both inside Gallo Center and outside on the stage. It was wonderful to see all the different heritages sharing in their costumes and customs. If you missed it this year, plan to attend this spectacular event next year. It is always the first Saturday of October, so mark your calendars now to participate .

November is also election of officers. Please see a proposed slate of officers for this year and at the November meeting we will be taking nominations from the floor. Installation will take place prior to sharing of our ancestor’s items.

I wish to thank everyone for your participation in our society this year and hopefully next year we will be able to participate in more genealogical endeavors and have lots of interesting programs seminars and workshops.

Keep attending anything you can to further your genealogical knowledge. Good hunting for those elusive ancestors. They will eventually turn up where you least expect them.

“Life is lived forwards, but understood backwards”

Vicky Wolff, President

Proposed Slate of Officers for 2012

By Bev Johnson

The nominating committee chaired by Bev Johnson, has a slate of officers for the 2012 year. All individuals listed on this slate have consented to have their names in nomination for the November meeting.

President: Vicky Wolff
 1st VP: David Wolff – Programs
 2nd VP: Jeff Wells – Seminar and Workshop
 Secretary: Cyndy Bray
 Treasurer: Sharon Hawley-Crum

Board of Directors:

Donna Buhler
 Bev Johnson
 Marge Shuber
 Sid Loshier
 Ellen Reesh



Early American Cookery

Out-of-This-World Pumpkin Pie (Makes one 9-10 inch pie)

From The Craft of the Country Cook by Pat Katz, Hartley & Marks Publishers

2 cups pureed pumpkin or winter squash	1 ¾ cups light cream, or evaporated milk
½ cup honey, or ¾ cup brown sugar	3 eggs and 1 yolk, lightly beaten
2 tablespoons molasses	1 egg white, lightly beaten
1 teaspoon cinnamon	single 9 – 10 inch pie shell
1 teaspoon ginger	1 nut topping recipe, below
½ teaspoon cloves	
½ teaspoon nutmeg	
¼ cup bourbon whiskey, rum, or brandy	



Mix the pureed pumpkin or winter squash, honey or sugar, molasses, spices, whiskey or other liquor, and the 3 eggs and yolk. Beat till smooth. Brush the bottom and side of the pie shell with the egg white. Pour in the pie filling. Put in a hot, 450 degrees F oven and bake 10 minutes. Then reduce the heat to 325 degrees F, and bake from 30 to 40 minutes more, till the pie has set. Make a small slit with a knife to test for firmness. Serve in small slices – it is very rich.

Let the pie cool completely, then add the following topping.

Nut Topping:

2/3 cup brown or grated maple sugar	½ cup pecans, walnuts, hickory nuts or butternuts, chopped nut halves, optional (For garnish)
3 tablespoons butter, melted	
1 tablespoon heavy cream	

Mix all topping ingredients, except nut halves. Spread the mixture on the cold pie. Arrange the nut halves on top. Put under a broiler about 3 inches from the heat. Broil till the topping is bubbly and lightly brown, about 2 to 3 minutes. Watch closely because it will easily burn. (If the phone rings do not answer it!)

Ancestry Day in San Francisco 2011 Saturday, November 5, 2011

Ancestry.com and the California Genealogical Society are pleased to bring you Ancestry Day in San Francisco 2011, a day to discover and celebrate your family history. This exciting event can help you start or hone your genealogical skills with informative classes, expert consultations and more. Our venue, the Hyatt Regency San Francisco, is located on the Embarcadero waterfront near the historic Ferry Building.

\$52 - to attend this all-day event.

Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register

Choose from 16 classes covering a wide range of topics like:

- Getting started in family history
- Organizing & sharing your family tree
- Breaking down brick walls
- Getting the most out of your Ancestry.com membership
- Using maps, city directories, newspapers and repositories
- Finding your family in emigration & immigration records
- Using Ancestry Library Edition
- Ways to find living family members online

British Naming Patterns

In the 18th and 19th centuries, British families tended to name their children in a specific pattern as follows.

Males:

First-born son---father's father

Second born son---mother's father

Third born son---father

Fourth born son---father's eldest brother

Fifth born son ---father's second oldest brother
or mother's oldest brother

Females:

First born daughter – mother's mother

Second born daughter – father's mother

Third born daughter - mother

Fourth born daughter – mother's eldest sister

Fifth born daughter – mother's second oldest sister

(From the Jackson County, Iowa Genealogy Library and found in the Whittier Area Genealogical Society WAGS newsletter)

Irish Naming Patterns

And for those of you with Irish Roots the following are the naming patterns from Ireland:

Irish traditions of selecting children's names may prove to be a useful tool for anyone trying to research Irish family history. Children within a family were traditionally named according to the following pattern:

Males:

First son after father's father

Second son after mother's father

Third son after father

Fourth son after father's oldest brother

Fifth son after mother's oldest brother

Females:

First daughter after mother's mother (or father's mother)

Second daughter after father's mother (or mother's mother)

Third daughter after mother

Fourth daughter after mother's oldest sister

Fifth daughter after father's oldest sister

The **Scotch-Irish** Naming Tradition

First son - named after father's father (Paternal Grandfather)

Second son - named after mother's father (Maternal Grandfather)

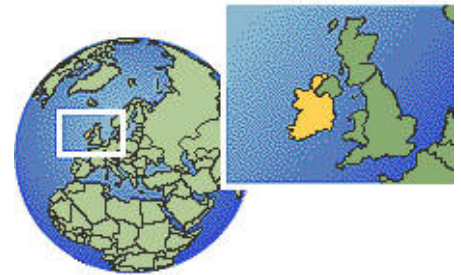
Third son - named after father

First daughter - named after mother's mother (Maternal Grandmother)

Second daughter - named after father's mother (Paternal Grandmother)
 Third daughter - named after mother

Irish Community Identification Tool

Looking to identify an Irish community? The following website just might assist you in the identification of that elusive Irish community. **The IreAtlas Townland Data Base** <http://www.seanruad.com/> Before you can identify a community in Ireland you must learn that the country is not divided into governmental units as we know them here in the United States. You will need to carefully educate yourself and to expect duplication of community names. This website tool should assist you in locating that "lost" community in Ireland. Remember that the usual smallest geographical unit in Ireland is the **townland**. There are currently **61,402** named townlands in Ireland, covering the whole island, many with duplicate names. In my research I found a ploughland leased by a member of my line that was named and it had a different name than the surrounding townland.



Irish Research Tools

By Lewis M. Ruddick

Anyone who is researching in Ireland needs to spend some serious time learning about Ireland's history. To do so will provide you with the informational tools necessary to assist you with your Irish research. Just to look at the key major cities in Ireland will be about as valuable as looking for "Uncle John Smith in Los Angeles". First you must have some basic knowledge of the surname you are seeking. What is its origin? Ireland was repeatedly invaded and occupied. In many cases the invaders liked the country and formed their own communities which over time were blended into the surrounding Irish communities. Were your ancestors of these invaders? That information may point you to the location where your lines are found in Ireland. During Cromwell's invasion of Ireland the "Old English" who took the Royalist side of the conflict ended up being displaced by the New English who were the victors thus even confusing the English lines. This also causes great difficulty in tracing your ancestors.

Information regarding the two major churches also will provide you with clues to be used in the search for your ancestors. Do not assume that because your line might be of English origin that they were members of the Anglican Church. I have found members of my line who were Roman Catholic. Also a number of my line became Quakers. To that end I highly recommend that you download and use the **Guide to Church Records** published by the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) http://www.proni.gov.uk/guide_to_church_records.pdf In my opinion this publication is invaluable in identification of what is where in the church records of Ireland and should be in the hands of anyone researching their Irish genealogy.

Findmypast.ie Launches Online Irish Family History Forums

Findmypast.ie has announced the launch of one of the first online forums solely dedicated to those researching their Irish family history. The forum is an online community for the Irish diaspora to discuss everything from researching Irish family history and Irish geography, to success stories and what it means to be Irish. Free to all registered users, it represents the findmypast family's first foray into community based chat.

The forums are divided into six different message boards, and any registered user can start a new discussion on the boards. It also allows users to add responses to topics which have already been posted by other users. The six message board topics include General Discussion, Using the Records, Tracing Specific Ancestors, Places and Geography in Ireland, Your Finds and Success Stories and What Does it Mean to be Irish? <http://www.findmypast.ie>

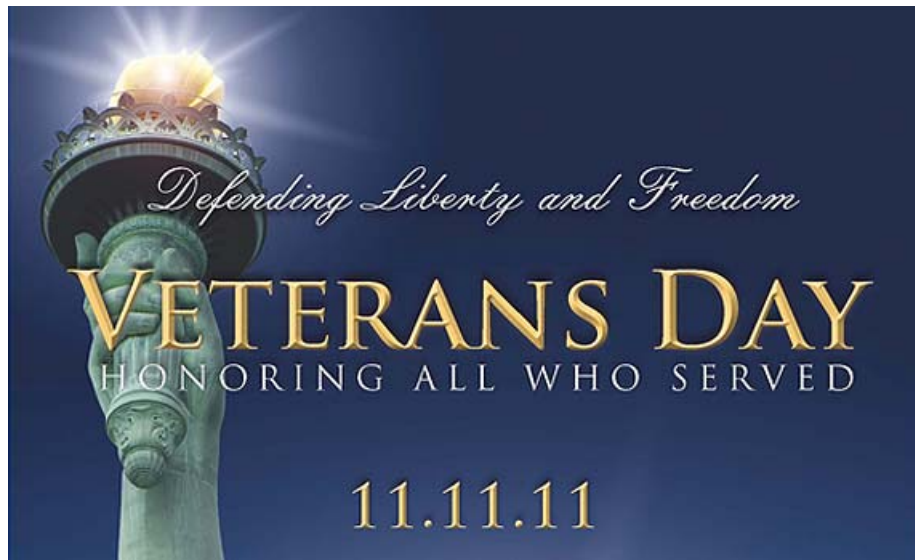
Special Collections Room

Do you use the Society's **Special Collections Room** library resources at the Stanislaus County Main Library, 1500 I Street, Modesto? Marilyn Belleville has a crew of members of our society who volunteer and are present at the room every Monday to assist you with your research. We have a huge supply of resources that are available for your use and you have experienced researchers to assist you. This is one of the benefits of your society membership.

Renew your GSSC Membership now!

Going to Salt Lake City? We need you to sign up as soon as possible!

Take this opportunity to honor your ancestors who have served our Country. Remember them and what they have done for us.



National Veterans Day Ceremony

The Veterans Day National Ceremony is held each year on November 11th at Arlington National Cemetery. The ceremony commences precisely at 11:00 a.m. with a wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns and continues inside the Memorial Amphitheater with a parade of colors by veterans' organizations and remarks from dignitaries. The ceremony is intended to honor and thank all who served in the United States Armed Forces.

The Veterans Day National Committee also selects a number of regional sites for Veterans Day observances throughout the country. From stirring parades and ceremonies to military exhibits and tributes to distinguished veterans, these events serve as models for other communities to follow in planning their own observances.

History of Veterans Day

World War I – known at the time as “The Great War” - officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles outside the town of Versailles, France. However, fighting ceased seven months earlier when an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918, is generally regarded as the end of “the war to end all wars.”

In November 1919, President Wilson proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day with the following words: "To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations..."

The original concept for the celebration was for a day observed with parades and public meetings and a brief suspension of business beginning at 11:00 a.m.

The United States Congress officially recognized the end of World War I when it passed a concurrent resolution on June 4, 1926, with these words:

Whereas the 11th of November 1918, marked the cessation of the most destructive, sanguinary, and far reaching war in human annals and the resumption by the people of the United States of peaceful relations with other nations, which we hope may never again be severed, and

Whereas it is fitting that the recurring anniversary of this date should be commemorated with thanksgiving and prayer and exercises designed to perpetuate peace through good will and mutual understanding between nations; and

Whereas the legislatures of twenty-seven of our States have already declared November 11 to be a legal holiday: Therefore be it Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), that the President of the United States is requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the officials to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on November 11 and inviting the people of the United States to observe the day in schools and churches, or other suitable places, with appropriate ceremonies of friendly relations with all other peoples.

An Act (52 Stat. 351; 5 U. S. Code, Sec. 87a) approved May 13, 1938, made the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday—a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as "Armistice Day." Armistice Day was primarily a day set aside to honor veterans of World War I, but in 1954, after World War II had required the greatest mobilization of soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen in the Nation's history; after American forces had fought aggression in Korea, the 83rd Congress, at the urging of the veterans service organizations, amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word "Armistice" and inserting in its place the word "Veterans." With the approval of this legislation (Public Law 380) on June 1, 1954, November 11th became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

Later that same year, on October 8th, President Dwight D. Eisenhower issued the first "Veterans Day Proclamation" which stated: "In order to insure proper and widespread observance of this anniversary, all veterans, all veterans' organizations, and the entire citizenry will wish to join hands in the common purpose. Toward this end, I am designating the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs as Chairman of a Veterans Day National Committee, which shall include such other persons as the Chairman may select, and which will coordinate at the national level necessary planning for the observance. I am also requesting the heads of all departments and agencies of the Executive branch of the Government to assist the National Committee in every way possible."

On that same day, President Eisenhower sent a letter to the Honorable Harvey V. Higley, Administrator of Veterans' Affairs (VA), designating him as Chairman of the Veterans Day National Committee.

In 1958, the White House advised VA's General Counsel that the 1954 designation of the VA Administrator as Chairman of the Veterans Day National Committee applied to all subsequent VA Administrators. Since March 1989 when VA was elevated to a cabinet level department, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs has served as the committee's chairman.

The Uniform Holiday Bill (Public Law 90-363 (82 Stat. 250)) was signed on June 28, 1968, and was intended to ensure three-day weekends for Federal employees by celebrating four national holidays on Mondays: Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Columbus Day. It was thought that these extended weekends would encourage travel, recreational and cultural activities and stimulate greater industrial and commercial production. Many states did not agree with this decision and continued to celebrate the holidays on their original dates.

The first Veterans Day under the new law was observed with much confusion on October 25, 1971. It was quite apparent that the commemoration of this day was a matter of historic and patriotic significance to a great number of our citizens, and so on September 20th, 1975, President Gerald R. Ford signed Public Law 94-97 (89 Stat. 479), which returned the annual observance of Veterans Day to its original date of November 11, beginning in 1978. This action supported the desires of the overwhelming majority of state legislatures, all major veterans service organizations and the American people.

Veterans Day continues to be observed on November 11, regardless of what day of the week on which it falls. The restoration of the observance of Veterans Day to November 11 not only preserves the historical significance of the date, but helps focus attention on the important purpose of Veterans Day: A celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

Veteran's Day is a significant day to your editor. My paternal grandfather was a veteran of World War I and my father and all of my uncles, paternal and maternal were veterans of World War II. My uncle Lt. Harry N. Alexander was shot down in his B-24 and lost over Germany on November 26, 1944. He is buried in Plot H Row 18 Grave 27 at the Netherlands American Cemetery and Memorial in Margraten, The Netherlands.



Entrance to the Netherlands American Cemetery and Memorial in Margraten, The Netherlands

I am certain that all of you have some memories of wars. These are mine and why this is an important patriotic holiday for me. Lewis M. Ruddick, Editor

Membership Information

- Dues: Single membership, \$20.00 per year Family membership, \$27.50 per year
- Stanislaus Researcher Published 10 times per year by Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County, P. O. Box A, Modesto, CA 95352-3660. Submit articles for publication to the editor via email: lruddick@ix.netcom.com by the **15th of each month**.
- Address changes: Send address, email and phone number changes to Maybelle Allen at:
 US Mail: Maybelle Allen c/o GSSC, P. O. Box A, Modesto, CA 95352-3660
 Email: gssc@att.net
 Telephone: 209-523-0593 (Maybelle Allen)
- GSSC web page: <http://www.cagenweb.com/lr/stanislaus/gssc.html>.
 The newsletter is posted at this website, along with other interesting society-related items.
- General meeting: 7:00 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, except July and December at the Trinity Presbyterian Church at 1600 Carver Rd., Modesto, CA.
- Board meeting: 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Monday of each month at El Vista Chapel (LDS) at 731 El Vista Ave., Modesto, CA.

2011 Officers		2011 Standing Committee Chairs	
President	Vicky Wolff	Acquisitions	
1st Vice President	David Wolff	Audit	Lewis M. Ruddick
2nd Vice President	Diana Loomis	Budget	Sue Hinrichs
Secretary	Jeff Wells	Four Generation Charts	Donna Buhler
Treasurer	Sue Hinrichs	Historian	Judith Welch
Correspondence Secretary	Sheri Jones	Membership	Maybelle Allen
Director at Large	Lewis M. Ruddick	Memorial Day	Vicky Wolff
Director at Large	Carmen Pedrioli	Newsletter	Lewis M. Ruddick
Director at Large	Donna Buhler	Planning	Beverly Graham
Director at Large	Bev Johnson	Program	David Wolff
Director at Large	Marge Shuber	Publicity	Beverly Graham
Past President	Jeff Wells	Queries	Charlie Tieman
		Refreshments	Jackie Niemeyer
		Registrar	Dorothy Winke
		Research & Publication	Millie Starr
		Research Trips: Sutro/Archives	
		Research Trips: Salt Lake City	Lisa Bruk
		Seminar & Workshop	Diana Loomis
		Special Collections Room	Marilyn Belleville
		Sunshine	Judith Welch

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We have 173 members



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