



# GENIE



Vol 1 Iss 10

Your Magic Lamp to the Santa Maria Valley Genealogy Society

October 2018

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## President

Deanna Baker

## Vice President

Marilyn Riesbol

## Secretary

Brenda Brownlee

## Treasurer

Shirley Brady

## Membership

Sandy Peterson

## Public Relations

Deanna Baker

## Program Director

Pat Park

## Committees

### Website

Dan Ardoin

### Newsletter

Mike Farris

## Website

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

## eMail

[Roots@smvgs.org](mailto:Roots@smvgs.org)

## Contact Us at the

SM Public Library

Member Meetings

Jan-Jun, Sep-Nov

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday monthly

2-4pm

Family History Center

908 Sierra Madre,

Santa Maria

**NEXT MEETING**

**2-4pm Oct 18, 2018**

**Family History Center**

## Next Board Meeting

Oct. 11, 2018, 2:00pm

FHC

## Library Docent

By appointment

**Kent Lee Pusser** of Santa Maria passed away peacefully at the age of 86. He was the husband of Nancy Pusser, with whom he shared 62 years of marriage.

Kent was born June 8, 1932 in Long Beach, California, to Millard and Irene Pusser. He graduated from Santa Ana High School in 1949 and continued his education at Santa Ana Junior College, graduating in 1951.

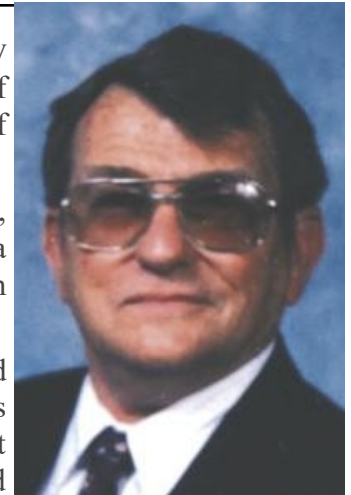
Kent served in the U.S. Army from 1953-1955 and was stationed in France as an Ordinance Parts Specialist. Upon discharge from the Army, Kent married Nancy Brock in 1956. In 1964, Kent and Nancy moved their growing family to Santa Maria and started work as a petroleum salesman. In 1968, he started working for the Southern California Gas Company as an automotive mechanic, retiring in 1992.

Kent and Nancy were avid square dancers, belonging to the Valley Whirlers for many years. They also enjoyed camping, loading all seven members of their family in their station wagon, with travel trailer in tow, and hitting the road to various parts of the country.

Upon retirement, Kent took an interest in genealogy, tracing his family roots back to the American Revolution.

Kent will always be remembered for his sharp sense of humor, vast knowledge of trivia, and ability to fix just about anything mechanical anyone asked him to.

Kent is survived by his wife, Nancy, children Mary Kahn, Steven, John, Aaron, Wendy (Rick) Miles, sister Jeanne Palmer, grandchildren Jennifer Kubica, Tom Kahn, Nicole Pusser, and two great granddaughters. He was predeceased by his Father, Mother, and brother Gordon Pusser.



## President's Message For October 2018

One of the topics in the topics in the SMVGS Quarterlies I have been reviewing got me to thinking. And it has stayed with me for several weeks. Perhaps you would be interested in pursuing this subject yourself. And that is: where is your research going when you pass on? And further, what is the shape of your research?

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# Genie 1st Anniversary Issue



## President's Message

(continued from page 1)

Is there someone in your immediate or distant family that would be interested in preserving or continuing your research? Would local genealogical societies, historical societies, or public libraries be interested in acquiring all of your research? Will they be able to understand the system you are using?

Having seen several friends acquire "boxes" of genealogy materials from relatives, I realize the task of wading through all of it is rather daunting, not to mention time consuming.

The one saving grace that we have in this day and age is the computers (can't say enough about living in this time period). Online genealogy trees, such as Ancestry.com, FamilySearch.org, MyHeritage.com, are an invaluable place to store our trees, plus memories. What a wonderful way to preserve all those family photos, videos, audios, and documents. How many times have you heard someone who has been through a fire, flood, earthquake, etc., say, "I am so sad I lost all our irreplaceable family memories"? Online "clouds" and drop boxes can help preserve and retrieve those memories in case of a disaster (or a computer crash).

Here are a few things I am trying to do, as time allows: Add that research to those trees. Scan those pictures and memories to online sources. Clean up those miscellaneous notes, pieces of paper with notes-to-self that no one else would understand. Heck, if I get rid of one piece a day, that would be 365 in a year, right? And last, I have those neat little family binders for each surname, but I have started to include a statement of where I left off, what remaining mystery needs further investigation and research. If you have any ideas to enlighten the rest of us, let me know, and we can print them in the next newsletter.



### Family History Center Activities

All of our October activities will be held at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 908 Sierra Madre, Santa Maria. Our entrance is at the southwest corner of the larger church building, facing Concepcion Ave.

13 Oct (Sat), 4:00pm - 7:00pm, "Celebrate the Music of Family," Family Discovery Day, Santa Maria Stake Center, fun for the whole family! Invite friends!

16-17-18 Oct (Tue-Wed-Thu), 8:00am - 5:00pm, 3-Day Intensive Advanced Genealogy Course, webcast from Los Angeles, FHC (RSVP required, limited seating)

18 Oct (Thu), 2:00pm - 4:00pm, Making Photo Books with Shutterfly and other companies, SM Valley Genealogical Society Mtg, FHC (Primary Room)

25 Oct (Thu), 7:00pm - 8:30pm, Scanning Photos & Documents for Family History, bring a photo or document to scan, FHC (RSVP required, limited seating)

Most of the above classes or activities require you to RSVP because of our limited number of computers in our Family History Center. Please mail [ca\\_santamaria@ldsml.net](mailto:ca_santamaria@ldsml.net) to reserve your seat. Another option is to call 805-478-2328, but sending an email is best.

# Genie 1st Anniversary Issue



## Genie Says



Let's all wish Genie a Happy Birthday. One year ago this month, she started providing us with information: date, time and location of meetings; events at the Family Research Center and at other near-by societies; and more. In her short life, she has seen us lose two members and gain a new member in the next generation. She has provided us with a laugh or two and more than two handfuls of interesting web sites. And, with your help, she has provided us with a magic lamp full of genealogical knowledge. I hope that everyone is looking forward to her second year and the information she can bring. —editor

## Bulletin Board

The Bulletin Board contains announcements, help requests, family names that you are researching and odds-and-ends that anyone wants to submit. There are no hard-and-fast rules: if you have something you want everyone to know about, post it on the Bulletin Board. —editor

## Upcoming Meeting Programs

Oct 18: At October's SMVGS meeting, there will be a joint presentation about creating photo albums, primarily with Shutterfly. Word documents and Powerpoint were created using Microsoft Office. Bring a flashdrive, and a copy can be downloaded for you, or, printouts of the Word documents will also be available. *If you have created an album, please bring it to share with the group!*

Nov 15: Meet at the Historical Society for a tour and introduction to the collection.

## Site of the Month



When we think of great genealogy web sites, let's not overlook the obvious. This month's Site of the Month has been around for a long time...and for a reason: it is a great resource site.

<http://www.usgenweb.org/>

If you aren't using genweb for basic research, what are you waiting for? This is what they have to say about themselves:

The USGenWeb Project is a group of volunteers working together and having fun providing free online genealogy help and information for every U.S. state and county. Our national site provides links to state sites, which, in turn, provide gateways to the counties. We also sponsor important Special Projects, gathering useful data you can access for free. I'm proud of the variation you'll see in site style and content across our many web sites. It shows the wonderful diversity of our volunteers!

# Genie 1st Anniversary Issue



## SMVGS 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 1968-2018

This is the third Installment of the Review of the Society Quarterly Publication, beginning with Spring 1989 and continuing through Winter 2003/4. This review is by Deanna Baker, President.

### Past Presidents

1989	Kathryn Brown	1997	Mary Munding
1990	Nancy Converse	1998	Mary Munding
1991	Florence Kohrn	1999	Maureen Morrow
1992		2000	Maureen Morrow
1993	Bob Choate	2001	Nancy Converse, VP presides during the President's vacancy
1994	Bonnie Hawkins	2002	Nancy Converse, VP presiding
1995	Bonnie Hawkins	2003:	Bonnie Hawkins
1996	Mary Munding		

Here are some of the features I found interesting. I hope you do too. Since I have listed what I felt was of interest to most of you, you will have to review these quarterlies yourself to learn if your interests are different from mine.

Excerpts from early weekly newspaper - Santa Maria Times  
Beginning with Sept 1909: Births, Marriages, Marriage Licenses issued, Deaths

**Spring-Summer 1989:** Pioneer Profile: JOHN JENKINS 1900-1978: & JOHN PRELL 1837-

**Fall -Winter 1989:** Pioneer Profile ROSENBLUM Family

A List of Pioneers of Foreign Birth living in the Santa Maria Valley

The publications continue to have Book Reviews on new acquisitions to the Library; and lists of the Periodical Exchanges across the United States.

**1990** (one issue for all four quarters):

Included a Topical Index for SMVGS & L Quarterlies 1968-1989

Pioneer Profile on THOMAS SANDS BROWN & THOMAS ARCHER BROWN

**1991** (one issue for all four quarters):

p. 6 "The Santa Maria Times Dec 17, 1904 has biographies of varying lengths for more than 40 business men and pioneers of the area with photographs, on not only their faces but many houses, business buildings and street scenes. The SMV Historical Society has the original so that it might be possible to reproduce from that rather than the film, should anyone desire. Other valuable issues are the April 19, 1902, and December 8, 2909."

Santa Maria Valley Pioneer, the TOY family, the GEORGE FOSTER family, and the HOBBS family.

**Spring 1994:** Pioneer Businessmen: DOANE (of the Doane Building Company); BOWERS, PARNELL, and STOKES.

Santa Maria Times Obituaries, Alphabetical B-Fr, rather than chronological, 1890s -1900.

**Summer 1994:** Pioneer: BATTLES family, McPHAUL family

Santa Maria Times Obituaries Fu- St, 1885 - 1908

## Genie 1st Anniversary Issue



## SMVGS 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 1968-2018 (cont.)

**Fall 1994:** Pioneer: MORRIS family

Santa Maria Times Obituaries St- Z, 1884- 1908

List of members of the Knights of Pythias, Santa Maria Lodge No 90, 1924-1949, includes names BP, BD, DD Occupation and Residence

**Winter 1994:** Pioneer: DRUM/DRUMM family

**Summer 1995:** Pioneer SCOTT family

**Fall 1995:** Pioneer NICHOLSON family

Marriages from The SM Times: Ables to Harris (Grooms Surnames) 1890 - 1908

**Winter 1995:** Pioneer WHEAT family plus, WELLS, WOON, FORRESTER, ROBERTS, & ATKINS

SM Times: Marriages: Harris to Yungling 1890- 1908

**Spring 1996:** Confirmations St Patrick's Church, Arroyo Grande, April 1886 -1908 listed Alphabetical by surname

Pioneer ADAM family and FLECK family

**Fall 1996:** Pioneer Families: ELVIDGE, CHAFFIN

SM Times 1909 Births, Marriages, Deaths

**Winter 1996:** Began a new professional printing format

Pioneer Families: GATES, WAITE, BRADLEY, STURGEON

**Spring 1997:** Danish Issue (I googled Solvang and learned it was founded in 1911)

Danish Pioneers ABELOE, and JENSEN

**Summer 1997:** Pioneer Families: MORRISON, RUNELS, & SWAIN.

**Fall 1997:** Another Pioneer SRI Strugeon Family, relation to the EDWARD STURGEON family mention in Winter 1996, possible but no connection found to date.

**Winter 1997:** The Ahnentafel Chart of local members the PINARDS.

Plus many Additions and Corrections to previous Pioneer Families: Sturgeon, Runels, Abeloe, Jensen, Waite, Turek, Elvidge, Chaffin, Bunce, McBane, Fox, Wise, Adam, Fleck, Wheat.

**Spring 1998:** Additions and Corrections to previous Pioneer Families: Nicholson, Foster, Scott, Hopper, Garrett, Logan, Drum/Drumm, Norris, Battles, McPhaul, Doane, Bowers, Stokes, Earl, Jessee, Orand, Twitchell, Hobbs, Stowell.

Who's Who in Santa Maria 1930

**Summer 1998:** Pioneer Family: Haas-Whitney

Santa Maria Times Jan to March 1910 Births, Marriages, Deaths, Deeds and Land Sales. Additions and Corrections, Pioneer Stowell family, Snow family

**Fall 1998:** Santa Maria Resident, YOUNG family

Santa Maria Times April - June 1910 Births, Marriages, Deaths, Deeds and Homesteads. Additions and Corrections, Pioneer Toy family, Brown family

**Winter 1998:** Pioneer Family: DAVIS

Additions and Corrections, Pioneer Runels family, Turek family

# Genie 1st Anniversary Issue



## SMVGS 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 1968-2018 (cont.)

**Spring 1999:** Dudley Hoffman Mortuary Burials 1916-1925

**Summer 1999:** Dudley Hoffman Mortuary Burials 1916-1925 continued

Santa Maria Times Extracts 1912

**Fall 1999:** Additions and Corrections, Pioneer Family: Davis, Runels, Chaffin, Drum/Drumm. Dudley Hoffman Mortuary Burials 1916-1925 continued.

Pioneer Family: of Calif Central Coast Ganoung. Santa Maria Times Extract 1916

**Winter 1999:** Pioneer Family of Calif Central Coast: MILLER.

Santa Maria Times Extract 1916 continued

**Summer 2000:** Pioneer Family: Captain ELLIOTT MORE.

Santa Maria Times Extract 1916

**Fall 2000:** Pioneer Families: ZABRISKIE and ZERFING.

Plus an interesting article on the Orphan Trains. Did you realize 150,000 were relocated between 1854-1929?

If you suspect one of your ancestors was among them, you can contact the Orphan Train Heritage Society of America, Inc., at PO Box 496, Johnson AR 72741-0496 and include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

**Winter 2000:** A reminder that we need to share stories with our grandkids both verbally and in writing.

**Spring 2001:** Pioneer Family of Calif Central Coast: STEPHENS

**Summer 2001:** Santa Maria Valley Pioneers: BARTRON, BONILLA-LUKEMAN, DODGE

**Fall 2001:** Pioneer of the Central Coast: PHILLIPS

**Winter 2001:** Pioneer of the Central Coast: FORRESTER

**Spring 2002:** Pioneer Family: McNEIL

**Summer 2002:** Pioneer Family: ABBOTT, ABERNATHY, TRAVERS

**Fall 2002:** Pioneer Family: BAKER, BLOSSER, addition to TRAVERS

**Winter 2002:** Pioneer Family: CLEMENTS, CLEMONS

Mention of a California state grant for a new library.

**Spring 2003:** Pioneer Family: DAVISSON, DeNISE

**Summer, 2003:** Pioneer Family: Edmands

**Winter 2003/4:** The quarterly finally switches from typewriters to computers.

Pioneer Family: GRAY

The charts for all the Pioneer Families of the Central Coast and Santa Maria are quite lengthy, with births, marriages, deaths dates, spouses, and children. Most are accompanied with a chart of surnames listed. It must have taken an inordinate amount of time to type them. I am sure that anyone who is related to one of these pioneers would be very appreciative for the information. [Note: these charts are included essentially verbatim in "California Central Coast Families," a book by the SMVGS&L and available from Janaway Genealogy Books of Santa Maria ([www.janawaygenealogy.com](http://www.janawaygenealogy.com)) –editor]

## Genie 1st Anniversary Issue