



Director's Message *by Wayne Stoker*

We Can Do Hard Things!

Annually, on the Memorial Day weekend, our extended family occupies five or six campsites in a Pine Valley campground. A highlight of each annual visit is



attending sacrament meeting at the historic Pine Valley Meeting House. This year, as is usually the case, we had to sit outside on the lawn due to the large holiday attendance. I was impressed by this year's speaker who



reminded us "we can do hard things". She was speaking of the hardships and challenges that come to each of us at unexpected times.

As I pondered the speaker's phrase "We can do hard things", it occurred to me that sometimes our "hard things" might be caused by guilt, feeling obligated to do something when our time is extremely limited, or dread of tackling something we have not yet found interesting. For many of us, such might be the case with Family History.

We are constantly reminded by our leaders that we each have a responsibility to participate in Family History, to learn about our ancestors, and to provide saving ordinances for them. In the most recent issue of the Ensign Magazine there were no less than four articles dealing with one aspect or another of family history, including the Home Teaching message for the month! We also hear that great technological advances are being made, and most of our Family History work can now be done in our own homes.

But you might ask; "How do I find time to do Family History when there are so many other demands on my

day?" and, "How do I find something in Family History that is of real interest and meaning to me?"

May I suggest the following:

As to time - Recognize that although it may yet be a few years away, when the children are gone from the home, that you will have time to make Family History a "major effort", you can never-the-less find time now to do something! One hour each week, if truly dedicated and consistently followed, will produce amazing results. And as for children, rather than waiting until they are out of the home, why not involve them while you have them. Teach them to love their ancestors and enjoy the blessing of serving their family?

Finally, as to finding interest –There are many avenues to follow, finding ancestors for needed ordinance work is only one part of Family History. Perhaps indexing will speak most clearly to you, or maybe you will find adding stories and photos to the FamilySearch Family Tree is fun, and a little bit like eternal scrapbooking. An Ensign article demonstrates there are choices in how we do Family History– "Because so many of the temple ordinances had been done for my ancestors, I prayed to know what I could do. Writing stories of my ancestors came as an answer to my prayer. In the process of doing this, I have come to know, love, and cherish them" – Katherine Olson – June 2014 Ensign

In summary, doing Family History may be your "hard thing". But there is a way ... we can do hard things!

Mark Your Calendars

- **African American Research Study Group** 21 June 2014
Las Vegas FamilySearch Library 10:30am – 12:30pm
- **High Priest Group Leader Training** 25 June 2014
Las Vegas FamilySearch Library 6:30 p.m.
- **Family History Consultants Training** 26 June 2014
Las Vegas FamilySearch Library 6:30 p.m.
- **BYU Family History Conference** 29 Jul-1 Aug 2014
<https://ce.byu.edu/cw/cwgen/>
- **Las Vegas Family History Jamboree** 6 Sep 2014
- **2014 Family History Conferences**
http://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Upcoming_Conferences

LVFSL Training

Las Vegas FamilySearch Library June Classes

<http://www.lvfamilysearchlibrary.org>

The June class schedule is also attached to this email.

Helpful Websites *from Sandy Jackson*

The RootsTech 2014 syllabus material, the notes for more than 150 of the 200 classes presented at the conference are posted online at <https://rootstech.org/about/syllabus-materials/> and can be downloaded one at a time or else the entire collection all at once.

Who's Who at the LVFSL *by Scherry Lesanto*

Rose Ludwick was born in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. She spent the first 5 years of her life in a travel trailer since her father was working with the highway department running heavy equipment building roads. Later, they moved to a small town in Arkansas and her father opened his own business. She lived there until high school when they



moved to California. Rose loved being a cheerleader, singing in the a cappella choir, reading mystery stories and sewing which she still continues to do. She met the love of her life, Garth Ludwick in high school. He was a Mormon, she wasn't. She attended church with him several years, had the missionary discussions and joined the church. Soon after, they were married in the Salt Lake Temple in 1961. They have 4 sons, 12 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild. They retired and moved to Las Vegas area in 1999. They traveled extensively internationally after their retirement. Rose and Garth were temple workers in the Oakland and Las Vegas Temples. They both served as service missionaries in the Las Vegas Family History Center in 2005. In 2010 Rose became a widow and decided to spend more time on her own family history. She has enjoyed the story writing class and has been a great participant in that class. Rose and her beautiful smiling face can still be seen here at our Center serving another service mission.

Genealogy Insights *by Gail Gibbs*

Back in 1997 we started a branch family history center in Indiana, Pennsylvania. We used the multi-purpose room in our LDS meetinghouse and supplied it with 4 computers. We had 2 microfilm readers and a reader copier. When we opened in March 1997, we had front page coverage in the Indiana Gazette and most of our patrons were people from the community.

I remember one patron whose ancestors came from Italy. That was all Dave Durso knew and he had come to our center because his 6th grader was doing a unit about genealogy. We were able to determine about when his ancestor arrived in the U.S. and knew he had a social security number, so we

asked Dave to fill out the Social Security Administration's SS-5 form to request the original application for social security number that his ancestor had filled out. When he got the application back in the mail, sure enough, there on the application was his ancestor's birth place in Italy. He was so excited. Now he was able to further his research in Italy by ordering church records from that town.

Chances are if an individual worked in the United States after 1935, he or she applied for and received a Social Security number. The SS-5, Application for Social Security Number, contains the following information: Social Security number, full name (including women's maiden names), address at time of application, employer and employer's address (pre-1947 applications only), age at last birthday, date and place of birth, parents' full names (including mother's maiden name), sex, color, and whether the applicant had previously applied for Social Security or Railroad Retirement. It also contains the application date and the applicant's signature.

Are you stumped for a place of origin or an elusive maiden name? Maybe this resource will help you. You can learn more about this at [FamilySearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org)>search>wiki and typing SS-5 in the search box or by just googling it. There is a form letter you can fill out and print and mail it with the required money or credit card information. It is also possible to fill out an e-form and apply online. Until next time.

Indexing Info *from Tom Jackson*

Elder Scott Dyer has been called as the Director of Italian Indexing at the library, and with his wife, Sister Cindy Dyer, will be holding an Italian Indexing Workshop at the library every Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. They are also willing to come to your Ward or Stake to assist with the Italian Indexing efforts in your unit. We are happy to have them on board. We expect we will also soon be offering indexing workshops in Spanish. What with the Italian, Obituaries and Spanish there will be no lack of work for everybody.

On another note: It has been my privilege to work with Linda Isom on the cataloging project. We are getting so close to being done. It has taken us two years to do, but the satisfaction we get from knowing anyone can find out what we have and whether or not it is available online is incredible. "Hats off to Elder and Sister Ramage and Elder and Sister Belhausen, who have done most of the scanning. I am positive there are people behind the veil who are rejoicing because of the work we are doing.

Finally, remember, please remember when indexing obituaries; do your best not to assume. You can be logical but do not assume.

The church wide involvement of member indexing is jumping dramatically. Hats off to anyone who is indexing. We love you all.