

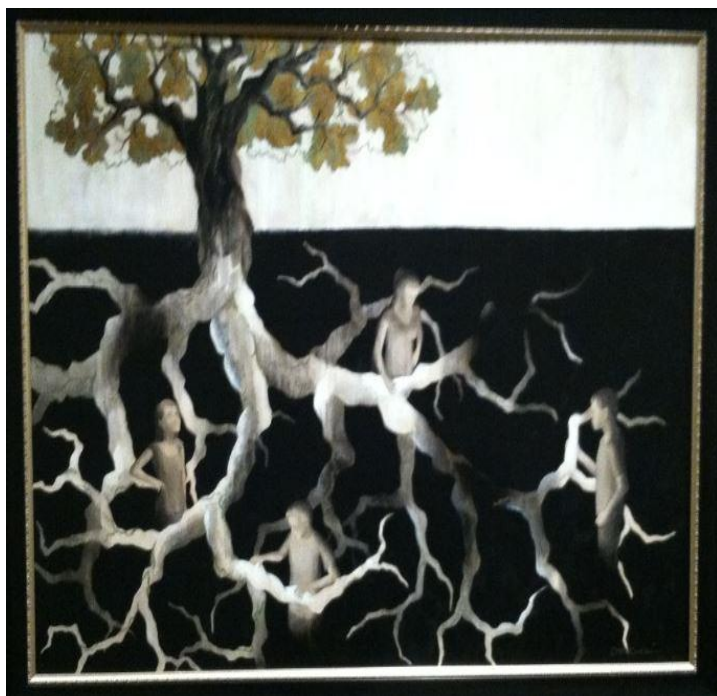


Director's Message by R. Wayne Stoker

Our Youth as a Family History Resource

Last Week I had the opportunity to view entries in the International Art Competition – “Arise and Shine forth”, on exhibit in the Church Museum in Salt Lake. It focused on artistic expressions by the Mutual aged youth of the Church. The extent of the talent displayed, and the depth of understanding and testimony expressed in their descriptions of their works, was indeed touching. I am convinced our future is in good hands.

One impressive painting, “They Without Us Will Sit in Darkness”, shown below, focused on a family history theme. The acrylic on wood painting was submitted by 16 year old Chris McConkie of Utah. The artist explains, “In the October 2011 general conference, Elder David A. Bednar spoke about our duty as youth to do family history work. The tree in this painting is smaller than the root structure because most of the members in a family line have already passed on, and they become part of the roots and strength of their family. The roots that fade in and out of the background represent missing family history data, and the youth are searching for their hidden roots. We can arise and shine forth to fulfill our duty and assist in the eternal progression of our ancestors”.



Our youth are very strong. We need them working here at the FamilySearch Library. There are many opportunities for the youth to serve. Young people have the familiarity with computers and other devices that make them particularly

adept at helping the older generation work through the problems of editing and correcting their Family History information on the new FamilySearch Family Tree. We could also use a few good young people on each shift to help patrons and workers understand how to use the other electronic resources available to us, which we sometimes fail to use because we are uncertain as to how to use them. They can help us use the FamilySearch resources available on Twitter and Facebook and other new media formats, for both research and communication. I-Pads, iPods, Androids and other such things! We can use their nimble fingers to teach us.

Time available between high school graduation and pending mission calls, could well be spent helping out here at the FamilySearch Library. The experience would help them use Family History to teach the gospel and to strengthen the new members they will be working with.

We encourage parents and grandparents to introduce their children and grandchildren to the work. Bring them here to the Library, introduce us, and let them enjoy the spirit of working here. They will be touched and we will be uplifted by them. Send us your young people!

Mark Your Calendars

- Italian Indexing Classes 10AM May 6
 1PM and 6PM May 7
- National Genealogical Society
2013 Family History Conference 8-11 May 2013
- CC Gen. Society guest speaker 1 - 3PM May 23rd
Breaking Down Brick Walls (LV FamilySearch Library)
- BYU FH Conference 30 Jul- 2 Aug 2013
<http://ce.byu.edu/cw/cwgen/>
- LV FamilySearch Library Closed 4 Jul 2013
- LV FamilySearch Library Closed 2 Sep 2013
- Sandstone Stake Jamboree 28 Sep 2013

LVFSL Training

Las Vegas FamilySearch Library May Classes

https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Las_Vegas_Nevada_FH_C/Class_Schedule

Helpful Websites from Sandy Jackson

Directory of Online Newspapers

This site has links to free and not-so-free online newspapers in the United States Online Historical newspapers:

<https://sites.google.com/site/onlinepapersite/Home/usa>.

Don't forget about the online newspapers at the Library of Congress at http://www.loc.gov/rr/news/cunom_us.html.

Source: Michael John Neill, Genealogy Search Tip of the Day, posted 28 Nov 2012

Research Techniques by Maureen Lake

Where were your ancestors from? You probably know the towns, cities and villages, but can you visualize the areas? Do you know the geography of the area? Do you know how that geography would have affected your ancestors? Do the locations still exist? Try mapping the locations through a family's lifetime, or over several generations. There are any number of mapping options – Google Maps, Mapquest, Google Earth, Animap and others. You can save custom maps on these programs. At least the Google programs and Mapquest will give you a satellite view, and the Google programs will give you a street view, right down to the house currently on the site. You can see the topography and start to put your family into its geographic context. And if the town doesn't exist anymore, try Wikipedia!

Tech Tips by Dayne Lake

Computers are marvelous tools, but they ARE just tools. They will only do what you ask of them. The programs are just a series of instructions. There is nothing anyone can do as a casual user to damage the information out there. Watch where you go on the internet. Don't download anything from a source you don't know. Once a month run a deep scan anti-virus. Then don't be afraid to poke around. Anything you do can be repaired. Family Tree is a prime example; if we can't fix it, the team at FamilySearch can! Don't be afraid of technology.

What's New at LVFSL

The Bad news: France has recently refused access of government records to organizations that wish to index them. The Good news: The government of Italy has allowed The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints index most of their government records! This project was started last year and Italy required us to have 500,000 names indexed by the end of 2012. By the end of the year, however, the church had indexed over 1 million names. But to be good partners with the Italian government, we still have a long way to go with hundreds of thousands of documents remaining to be indexed. No, the indexing isn't done just by those that speak Italian but by people just like you. But you may need a little help and there is help on the way. We have an instructor coming from Salt Lake City to the library in May. She will hold 3 class/workshops on Italian indexing. They will be held at 10 AM on May 6 and 1PM and 6PM on May 7. There will be a handout to assist you later when you're on your own.

We are also having a guest speaker from the Clark County Genealogical Society on Thursday May 23rd from 1PM - 3PM. His topic, Breaking Down Brick Walls, is a problem most of us face from time to time and this could be the solution to breaking through your brick wall. Don't miss it.

Indexing Info by Tom Jackson

Did you know the "key" words for Italian births indexing are: "del di" or "del giorno" for the date of birth; "e

comparso" for the father's name and "da" for the mother's name. I have a short eight step cheat sheet that simplifies the search for the proper data that needs to be entered. Contact me at tomsan1971@cox.net or at the library and I will get a copy to you promptly. I also offer one on one training by appointment. Hope this helps. It is short and sweet just like me, lol.

Indexing Benchmark Reached

We keep our volunteer workers quite busy at the FamilySearch Library. When they are not helping patrons or working on their own family history, they keep busy indexing records. Over the last eighteen months we have kept track of the total number of records indexed or arbitrated by our workers. This month, the total records indexed or arbitrated by our Las Vegas FamilySearch Library workers reached the one and one half million mark. Now thousands, if not hundreds of thousands, of families will now be able to extend their family lines to include individuals now identified in the records.

Art in the Las Vegas FamilySearch Library

To help make the library a more pleasant place to work we have recently added artwork from prominent LDS artists. The stories behind the pieces are also displayed to help patrons appreciate the work on display.

The works of two local Nevada artists are included. "**The Brother of Jared**", a Six by Ten foot painting by Betty Reynolds, a convert to the Church, was originally displayed in the 32nd Ward Chapel in Las Vegas. "**The Presidents of the Church**" a series of portraits of the first thirteen Presidents of the Church, were painted by Melita Coombs, a former worker at the Family History Center.

Also included in the collection are prints of four James Christensen fantasy paintings, "**Court of the Faeries**", "**Waiting for the Tide**", "**Once upon a Time**", and "**Two Angels Discussing Botticelli**". Each of these rendering can be interpreted to have a Family History tie.

The C. C. A. Christensen painting, "**The Handcart Company**", is the most frequently requested painting for publication or loan from the Church Museum collection and is perhaps the most famous painting ever done on Latter-day Saint history.

Clark Kelley Price's "**Blessed are the Pure in Heart, For They Shall See God**" portrays the burial of the painter's great grandfather in a shallow grave during the Martin Handcart Company immigration.

A lithograph, "**Map of the City of Nauvoo**" by J. Childs, including the Maudsley's profile portrait of Joseph Smith, was released to the public one month before the assassination of the Prophet.

"**The Prayer at Valley Forge**" painted by Arnold Friberg for the 1976 Bicentennial, portrays George Washington seeking divine guidance in the Winter of 1777-1778.

The final painting in the collection, "**Genealogy**" was painted by Theodore Gorka, a convert to the Church. It depicts a contemporary father and son with images of prior generations. We hope you will take time to enjoy these pieces during your next visit to the Las Vegas FamilySearch Library.