Preparing For the Exclusive Research Afternoon at the Los Angeles Regional Family History Center

JGSCV members are privileged to have an exclusive research afternoon at the Los Angeles Regional Family Center (LARFHC). This meeting is open only to current dues paid members. Anyone may join or renew their JGSCV membership by paying their dues at the door. Car-pooling is best, so ask your friends from JGSCV about sharing a ride. JGSCV itself is not organizing any car pools.

Directions: The LARFHC is located at: 10741 Santa Monica Blvd, in Los Angeles on the grounds of the LDS (Mormon) Temple. From the 405 freeway get off at Santa Monica Blvd. and go east to Manning Ave. Turn north on Manning Ave, make the first left into the LDS Temple compound, proceed right until reaching the Visitor's Center. Park along the fence or in the lot next to the Visitor's Center. The entrance to the FHC is on the right (east) side of the Visitor's Center. The library is on the lower floor of the FHC –there are stairs and an elevator from the first floor.

LARFHC has the largest holdings of any branch FHC. Take a look at their website: www.larfhc.org/ for a listing of the resources that are available. In addition to microfilms, microfiche, maps and books, they have about 50 computers (PCs not Macs) that have access to many genealogical sites at no charge. These sites include: Ancestry.com (full institution subscription); CastleGarden.org; Stevemorse.org, EllisIsland.org, Footnote.com, Godfrey Memorial Library (godfrey.org), Heritage Quest/ProQuest (Heritagequestonline.com), WorldVitalRecords.com and more!

At 1:30 P.M. there will be an introduction to the Los Angeles Regional Family History Center by Barbara Algaze, volunteer at the LARFHC and the Librarian for JGSLA. In addition to Barbara, there will be several volunteers from the LARHC to help you with the available resources applicable to your research. To make the best use of this experience you should prepare in advance and take your research papers with you.

Be sure to bring with you: copies of your family group sheets, documents, family timelines, and family trees. Prioritize your research lists: Foreign and state censuses, city directories, vital records (birth, marriage or death records), maps, naturalization records, WWI and WWII draft registration records.

For traditional methodology bring: Paper pads, post-it notes, pens, pencils and a magnifying glass.

For electronic methodology bring: laptop computer, genealogy program, USB storage drives, writable CD Rom, digital camera.

Visitors should bring quarters and dimes to facilitate making copies from microfilms and the use of the copy machines. If you plan to order microfilms from Salt Lake City (if the microfilm(s) you want are not located in the LARFHC), the cost is $6.05 per microfilm for a 30-day loan. For an extended loan, (microfilms, therefore, would be located at the LARFHC on a permanent basis so you can view them whenever you desired), the charge per microfilm is $17.96. Only exact change or checks will be accepted for ordering microfilms. For more information on ordering see: http://www.larfhc.org/microorderform.html

For the convenience of library visitors, there is a lunchroom available, with some vending machines, and where you may eat your brown bag lunch.

As with the regular operating days, the policy of the LARFHC is that everyone's bags (attaché cases, pocketbooks, laptop carriers) will be inspected when leaving, as nothing may be taken from the library.

Have a very successful research trip!