

*It's More Than Living... It's A Lifestyle!*

## SCOV Genealogy Club: Find the Butcher, the Baker or the Candlestick Maker in Your Family

by Holly Gibson

**W**ere your ancestors a butcher, a baker or a candlestick maker, or maybe a Revolutionary War hero or a Suffragette? Join the genealogy sleuths at the SCOV Genealogy Club and find out about the people who made you who you are.

What are you going to do with all those wonderful memories you have saved in photo albums, scrapbooks or just in



A boy from Denmark marries a girl from Missouri in 1880. Holly Gibson's genealogy research uncovered information about her great grandparents Jens and Elizabeth Holm.

that box that moves every time you do? Joan Allen relates how she became interested in genealogy. "I'd been interested in my family history since finding a partially filled out family tree in my baby book, but I didn't know anything about doing genealogy until I found our club when we moved here. It has been a wonderfully life-changing experience." Whether you just want to start labeling old photos, or collect family lore and legend into a publication, the Genealogy Club can help you arrange all those bits and pieces into a format you can pass on to your children and grandchildren.

"My husband's mother was born in Tucson in 1910. It's been an adventure tracing

her roots because she does not have a birth certificate since she was born at home. We're developing a better picture of Tucson in those early years," says club member, Sally Moya. Oro Valley, Tucson and Arizona are rich with history. Native Americans, Jesuit missionaries, gunslingers at the O.K. Corral or gold miners in the Oro Blanco region, are all part of the history of Arizona, and each of these men and women have stories to tell through genealogical research. Maybe one of these fascinating people is one of your ancestors.

The Genealogy Club offers something for everyone interested in learning about their family history. The club offers a beginners class each year to help those new to the hobby (or obsession, as some of us call it) get started. There are also special interest groups for members who want to learn more about specialized areas of genealogy such as DNA or build-

ing a family tree with software like Legacy. Are you interested in becoming a member of a lineage society such as Daughters of the American Revolution or Sons of the American Revolution? There are members of the club who can assist you with your research and membership application.

Long-time Genealogy Club member, and our own computer guru, Mike Carroll, tells a story about one of his ancestors. "My grandmother was a poor Irish farm girl who immigrated to New York City in 1899. For some reason she sailed to Boston. 'I wonder why?' I said to a Genealogy Club friend. Not missing a beat, she replied, 'She probably wanted to stop by Hyannis Port on her way down'" The stories about immigrating to the United States are enumerable, and the access the club provides to databases such as Ancestry.com provide the opportunity to find your parents, grandparents or great grandparents and beyond.

The Genealogy Club meets on the second Tuesday of the month, October through May, 1-3 PM in the Activity Center/ Navajo Room. Each meeting includes a speaker on topics related to the pursuit of those elusive ancestors. We welcome guests to our monthly meetings. The club maintains a



Barb Krecklow, Sue Huffer and Stephanie Consalvo (l-r) researching in the Genealogy Club computer lab.

genealogy library, complete with computers, books and journals to help you with your quest. No buying expensive computer programs or subscriptions to genealogy websites; the club has done it for

you. We have subscriptions to Ancestry for records, GenealogyBank for newspapers and Fold3 for military research, available to you in the club library. And better yet, we have volunteers who serve as monitors and mentors in the library who are willing to help you get started.

So, if you are interest in exercising your detective skills and learning more about the butcher, the baker or the candlestick maker in your family, join the members of the Genealogy Club at our next meeting. Maybe you will discover a long-lost cousin living next door. Or as club member Mitch Mitchell tells us, "My mother always told me we were related to Benjamin Franklin on my dad's side of the family. It took me a long time to sleuth this, but I eventually found I am a first cousin nine-times removed from old Ben."