



We Dig Our Ancestors

CHULA VISTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



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CVGS Web Site: <http://www.CVGenealogy.org>

CVGS Blog: <http://CVGenCafe.blogspot.com>

Volume 24, Issue 2 *Providing Genealogy Activities in South San Diego County* February 2014

WEDNESDAY, February 26th PROGRAM MEETING

from 12 noon to 2 p.m.

At Chula Vista Civic Center Library Auditorium (365 F Street)

Cesar Castro: “California and the Mexican-American War
From a Genealogical Point of View”

Cesar Castro is a local boy. He graduated from Hilltop High School and San Diego State with a degree in Electrical Engineering. He worked at the Navy R&D Laboratory on Point Loma for 36 years before retiring.

Cesar started working on his genealogy in 2008 when his sister, who had started earlier, asked him for help. However, slowly he took over the research. He joined the San Diego Genealogy Society and the Chula Vista Genealogy Society to learn more about genealogy. All of his ancestors come from Baja California. In researching his Castro ancestors, he discovered that two of his great-granddaunts married Irishmen in Baja. This puzzled him - how did the Irishmen end up in Baja around 1850? This started him delving into the history of Baja and resulted in his research on the Mexican-American War.



When historians write about history, they are interested in who made decisions and the result of those decisions. If an army is involved, they may give the names of some of the officers but not of the common soldiers. They usually only give the number of soldiers. But we are genealogist; we seek the names of all the soldiers. That is because we are usually looking for a particular person(s). This presentation on the Mexican-American War is from that perspective; what were the names of all the people involved in the Mexican-American War in California.

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President's Message – by Virginia Taylor



The year is now 1/12th gone. Are your New Year's Resolutions still on track? Or have they faded away into a distant dream? If so maybe now is the time to make some new resolutions that will be more attainable.

One resolution might be to become more active in your genealogical society. The society is not run by your board. We are here to guide you and to help fulfill your research needs. This cannot be accomplished without your input.

Our Program Chair and Education Chair are trying very hard to present programs and workshops that you want and that will further your genealogical research. First, you need to let them know what you want presented. What states are you most interested in researching? Where overseas are you looking for ancestors?

Second, you need to attend the programs that are presented for you. Don't just attend the ones that you think pertain to your research. What applies to one state will also apply to other states. I have never attended a presentation or workshop where I did not pick up some new information that I can use.

Third, I'd like for all of you to become more involved in the running of the society. I know some of you are not physically able to attend meeting but you could make phone calls from home. Many of you work full time but there are activities on Saturday where we could use your help. Talk to any board member about where you would be interested in helping.

With the seminar coming up very soon we will need some extra help so please step forward and ask where you can be of assistance.

Our main need right now is a Hospitality Co-Chair. Dorothy Alvord has had to step down in order to give more time to the Library Committee. If you are interested please give Jo Ann Bonner (619-421-3628 jabonner13@gmail.com) or myself (619-425-7922 irishdoll@cox.net) a call. We will be glad to give you the details about the job.

Please go to the society web site (cvgenealogy.org) and register for the Spring Seminar. Registration is now open and we do have limited space available so don't wait and take a chance on being disappointed that we do not have room for you.

Stay up-to-date on CVGS Activities

Visit the CVGS Website: <http://www.CVGenealogy.org>

Visit the Chula Vista Genealogy Cafe blog: <http://CVGenCafe.blogspot.com>

The Board Meeting and Program Meeting minutes are now posted on the CVGS website .
Check them out at <http://www.CVGenealogy.org> on the Resources tab

Spring Seminar is on March 29th 2014 (9 AM to 4 PM) – Register Now!

Chula Vista Genealogical Society Seminar

Saturday, March 29, 2014 - 9am to 4pm Check-in 8.30am
Chula Vista Golf Course - 4475 Bonita Road, Bonita CA 91902

"Recipe for Genealogy"

Guest Speakers, Jean Hibben w/
Butch Hibben - "Legacy Stories"

Seminar w/Catered Lunch
\$45 for CVGS Members
\$50 for non-members
Early Bird Registration
Discount - \$5 by March 8th.

Walk-ins Welcome

Donation Drawings
Door Prizes

Scholarship Fundraiser

Susi Pentico (619) 623-5250
Virginia Taylor (619) 425-7922
Limited Registration

Recipes

**This is NOT Your Grandma's Genealogy:
Making the Transition from Paper
to Electronic Record Keeping**

**Elisabeth: The Story of a
German Immigrant**

**Lessons Learned from
Genealogy Roadshow**

Up Close and Personal

Registration at: cvgenealogy.org

It's not as far away as you think! Our Spring Seminar is open for reservations and we have an interesting 'menu' planned for you. **Please mark Saturday, March 29 on your calendar and plan to attend and learn all sorts of ways to improve your genealogy research, have some fun AND enjoy a catered lunch.** We'll have drawings for great prizes, vendors and expert speakers. Popular and knowledgeable Jean Hibben will offer four presentations, with additional talks by her husband Butch Hibben.

Jean's first talk will be "**This is NOT Your Grandma's Genealogy: Making the Transition from Paper to Electronic Record-Keeping.**" Are you a bit intimidated by the thought of organizing and storing all your research on the computer or 'in the cloud'? Are you still stuck with boxes and boxes of paper? Jean will give you tips to convince you that modern technology is, indeed, your friend. She'll discuss the advantages and disadvantages of computer over paper and will cover what you need to know to transition away from total paper record keeping. Butch Hibben will discuss how to use Smart Phone technology for those interested in portable genealogy. He will also present his popular *Living Legacy Project* and be available throughout the day to share more information.

(continued on page 4)

Spring Seminar is on March 29th 2014 (9 AM to 4 PM) (concluded)

The second morning session will be Jean's presentation of Elisabeth: The Story of a German Immigrant. Jean's novelization of her great great grandmother's life is full of drama, love and history. Her narrative is a compelling picture of American history and will deal with topics such as the Civil War, law, and immigration. The book will also be for sale at the seminar.

After lunch, Jean will present Lessons Learned from Genealogy Roadshow. Remember how the TV show made genealogical research look so easy? Jean shares with us how developing stories for a television show means having a minimum of time to gather together a wealth of family history, and how we can use those methods to make an interesting narrative of our family. How does one record lead to the next, and what alternate resources are available when one is unable to travel to other locations?

Jean's final presentation will be Up Close and Personal, a discussion of suggestions for doing research where our ancestors lived and died. This will include travel tips, hints for cemetery visits, contacting libraries and societies in advance, planning interviews of living relatives, and post-visit "debriefing" and organization. If there is time, attendees will be encouraged to share their personal experiences.

It will be an informative and entertaining day, so register now on our website (<http://cvgenealogy.org/>). **You may pay by check or credit card - \$45 for CVGS members, \$50 for non-members – but there is a \$5 discount if you register by March 8.** So sign up now, before you forget! And remember, this is our big fundraiser for high school scholarships. We will have a drawing for a deluxe kitchen accessories basket too (have you bought your tickets yet?). Come join us for our *"Recipe for Genealogy"* seminar!

Scholarship Fund Basket, by Shirley Becker

The Chula Vista Genealogical Society will be raffling a basket of kitchen ceramics for our Scholarship Fund at the Spring Seminar on Saturday, March 29th. The basket holds ceramic goodies such as measuring cups, a mixing bowl, stirring utensils, and a cookie tray with a sugar cookie recipe on it. In addition, the large basket and a decorating kit are included.

We will be selling tickets at the program and workshop meetings and continue until the Spring Seminar. Hopefully, this will give our scholarship fund a real boost. You do not need to be a member to purchase a ticket or be present at the seminar when the numbers are called.

The Board is requesting that all members participate in selling the tickets, they can be picked up at the society meetings and we hope each member will attempt to sell 12 tickets.

Nametags, by Wanda Brock

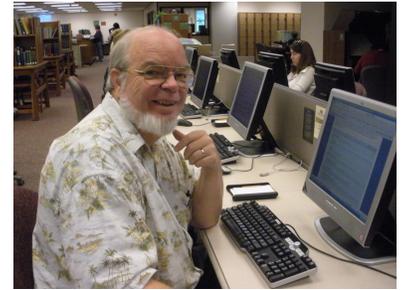
Wanda Brock notes that if anyone needs a new or replacement nametag, please e-mail her at wanda@cyber.net.



Research Group Review – 15 January 2014

The 15 January meeting of the CVGS Research Group had 15 family history enthusiasts, and it was a full two hours of sharing with each other.

In the first hour, Randy shared upcoming CVGS events (especially the Escondido Family History Fair and the FamilySearch Library research trip). He also reviewed the top news stories of 2013, provided a peek at Legacy Family Tree 8 software, and a look at Flipboard. He asked "why would you want to do a transcription of a record?" and showed his probate and deed transcriptions on his blog. Lastly, he showed the Dutch Reformed Church records on Ancestry.com, and the Norway parish registers online at Arkivverket. Randy also noted that he got an iPhone 5s for Christmas, and wondered what meeting attendees received for Christmas.



In the second hour, we shared around the table. Highlights included:

- * Delores has been putting up a website using The Next Generation of Genealogy Software (TNG).
- * Hazel visited the FamilySearch Library in Mission Valley recently for research.
- * Virginia's 2nd great-grandmother lived to be 100 years old. There was a green leaf Hint for her on the Ancestry Member Tree, and she found that it provided information about the grandmother's second marriage. She also had a 3rd cousin match on her 23andMe DNA test who was adopted, and is asking for help.
- * Helen's second great-grandmother's obituary was found in family papers with the last name spelled differently, and it provided the maiden name of the grandmother as Garmon. Then she found online a picture of this grandmother, and a number of relatives' family graves in Kentucky.
- * Gerry did all of her research before computers, so she is entering her information into RootsMagic and needs some help. She went to Michigan to see family for Christmas.
- * Connie's computer crashed before Christmas, and she has it back after repair. She wants to write a book about her ancestry, similar to the book her husband's daughter wrote over the past ten years and gave to descendants.
- * Jane and her sister went to Yosemite on a bus trip before Christmas. She bought a laptop with Windows 8, and needs help dealing with it.
- * Sylvia had a big family visit at Thanksgiving at her house. She bought a new laptop with Windows 8, and also needs help with it. The group suggested going to the CVGS Computer Group and have Gary help her.
- * Shirley gave herself a 6-month Ancestry.com US subscription to herself for \$49 for Christmas. She has been checking her green leaf Hints. She also found some of her Sebert/Siver records in the Dutch Reformed Church records.
- * Sam has been reviewing persons in his tree. He adds information to his Ancestry Member Tree on his Mac, and the tree syncs to Family Tree Maker on his desktop computer.
- * Diane is a genealogy docent at the San Diego Central Library, and loves using the free access to Ancestry.com there. She has connected to a close cousin on a DNA test, and passed around her fan charts from the FamilySearch Family Tree site.
- * Mary Lou noted the DAR record search, the DAR Bible Project, and the DNA offer by the DAR. She loves the FamilySearch digitized records.
- * John traveled to the Bay area over Christmas to visit family and sight-see. He's preparing for his next presentation.
- * Karen Y received her daughter's old smart phone, and a DAR *American Spirit* magazine subscription, for Christmas, and looked at 426 different apps. She went to the SDCL with her Colorado cousin to do research. Her father's nephew recently moved to San Diego, and brought 25 to 30 photo albums and is trying to write family stories. He's sharing the albums with Karen.

The next CVGS Research Group is at 12 noon on Wednesday, 12 February 2014, in the Auditorium of the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library (365 F Street in Chula Vista).

March 8th Workshop at Bonita-Sunnyside Library

The March 8th CVGS Workshop at Bonita-Sunnyside Library (375 Bonita Road) is from 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Community Room. Susi Pentico will lead a discussion of “Kentucky and Carolina Research.”

Next Computer Group Meeting on Wednesday, 19 February 2014

The Computer Group will meet from 12 noon to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, February 19th in the Library Computer Lab for Internet work, led by Shirley Becker. This meeting features hands-on use of the library's Windows computers, or your own laptop (but the library wi-fi doesn't work well in that room). For more information, please contact Shirley (clanroots@cox.net).

Genealogy Field Trip Review – by John Finch

On Wednesday, 22 January, eleven Society members and two guests met at the San Diego FamilySearch Library on Camino Del Rio South for a morning of research and an exploration of the many resources available there for genealogists. Most attendees car pooled from the parking structure at 3rd and F streets, but some chose to drive, independently, and were waiting our arrival.

Staff and volunteers at the FamilySearch Library met us and provided assistance, where needed, in our individual research pursuits. Some of us turned our attention to the large repository holdings, looking for our ancestors in such diverse places as Isle of Wight, Virginia to Placer County, California, while some looked for German Emigration records and vital statistics of Ontario, Canada. Some were successful in locating their objective, but none were disappointed in the vast array of available material to sift through. Other attendees took advantage of the many on-line resources available and spent time at designated computer stations focused on digital record treasures.

We concluded our scheduled field trip shortly after noon and, then, several of us gathered at Marie Callender's Restaurant for lunch and a time to discuss and share in our research and as a time to socialize with each other.

For our next Field Trip event, we are planning to meet at the new San Diego Public library on Wednesday, 23 April. Because parking fees in the area are high, we plan to take the trolley. Watch for notices for this field trip with times and additional information. We can arrange for a guided tour of the entire library and /or the genealogy section on the ninth floor. Contact John Finch or Karen Yarger for details.

FREE Escondido Family History Fair – Saturday, 1 March

The FREE all-day Escondido Family History Fair is on Saturday, 1 March, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Escondido LDS FamilySearch Center at 2255 Felicita Road in Escondido. Attendees need to register online at <http://www.escondidofhc.com/family-history-fair/>. There are five different sessions with a total of 35 presentations available. They are also offering a box lunch for \$9.75 to benefit a local Boy Scout troop. CVGS will be one of the exhibitors in the Exhibit Hall, along with several other genealogical and lineage societies.

CVGS will have a carpool to the Escondido Family History Fair. We will provide more details via email and the phone tree closer to the event. If you plan to go, please register for the Fair!

January 29th Program Review - "Following the Path" by Susi Pentico

The January 29th CVGS program meeting featured CVGS member Susi Pentico's presentation on "Following the Path." There were about 40 attendees for this program.

Susi said that there are Known Paths (documented by records you have), Unknown Paths (there may be records you don't have), and Hidden Paths (clues in records for other families and locations). She also noted that Indian Trails often lead the way, since many current highways are along those old trails. Early families followed the trails as they migrated south, and west over the decades. Learn the trails and study the tribes.



A researcher needs to make research plans and set goals, including:

- * Be organized by using and keeping updated pedigree charts, family group sheets, research logs, to-do lists, etc.
- * Learn and understand the proper research "ways" - methods, analysis, etc. Use books, websites, tutorials, etc. to learn methodology and available resources. Read every sentence in a record to make sure that you capture everything the record offers.
- * Go back and study what your parents, grandparents and other relatives told you. Are there clues there? Are there unfinished questions left by them? Find descendants of siblings of ancestors to see if they have family information.
- * Collect evidence to support or refute family stories. Find records and information about your persons by searching in the available resources, both online and in libraries or archives.
- * Ask the questions: What names did they use? Where did they come from? When did they come? Why did they come? Where did they go? What happened to them during their lives?
- * Use a timeline - note the date, names, and location of events that happened in your ancestor's family and lifespan. Consider associations, local and regional historical events, disasters, etc.
- * Is what you know correct? It may look right, it may fit, but is it right? You need to review your information for a person or family occasionally.
- * Genealogy research has changed - it's not the same now as it was 10 years ago, or 50 years ago. Many records are now available in online databases and websites. However, not everyone has computers, smart phones or tablets. Don't go too fast or you may lose track of what you have found.

Susi noted many different record types that may help you follow your ancestor's path, including:

- * Family records, such as Bibles, papers, scrapbooks, clippings, vital records, photos, books, etc.
- * The work of other researchers in books, periodicals, websites, and files in repositories and archives.
- * Historical records, such as census, vital, church, military, immigration, newspapers, cemeteries, probate, land, etc. that can be obtained online, in county offices and courthouses, and in local, regional or national archives or libraries.

Susi used her ancestor Henry Huffman as an example of following the path. He received land in Virginia in 1752 from his brother George, moved to Pennsylvania at some time, had four children in Greene County, Pennsylvania between 1800 and 1810, and died before his will was proved in 1812 there.

[Watch RootsTech 2014 Recorded Session Videos at](https://rootstech.org/about/videos/)

<https://rootstech.org/about/videos/>

Lemon Grove Research Group News – by Susi Pentico

The **Lemon Grove Research Group** meets twice a month at the **Lemon Grove Branch Library** (note NEW location at 3001 School Lane in Lemon Grove) from 6 p.m. to 7:50 p.m. Contact Susi Pentico (619-690-1188, SusiCP@cox.net) for more details. All are invited to attend. Beginners are welcome! Upcoming programs include:

- Wednesday, February 19, 6 to 8 p.m. **“Timelines to Assist You”** with Susi Pentico.
- Wednesday, March 5, 6 to 8 p.m.: **“Round Table/Brick Wall Sharing”** led by Susi Pentico
- Wednesday, March 19, 6 to 8 p.m.: Program TBD

Saturday Workshop Review, by Susi Pentico

At the 1 February Saturday Workshop, we worked on Tennessee with a small dose of Georgia and Kentucky. It was in Region 4, leaving us to still work on many other states. The list of Standard Federal Regions is here: [List of regions of the United States, from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.](#)

It was a first time experience, and way too many states, to cover in that short a period of time. So we will break it down further to give better coverage for each area. We will cover more of Kentucky next month, also bringing in North Carolina which was the creator of Tennessee. Kentucky was created from Virginia. The State of Franklin was located in present-day Tennessee prior to it's dissolution. Some states were created from other states. Some original counties were large and were broken up to create other counties. Many were created to give land to the Rev War Veterans who fought so bravely to give us a free country from the British.

I truly need the names of states that all of the members are researching. We had many working in Tennessee that had not known they were even working the same county for research. Sharing and working together really helps research.

More Research Tips for Beginning Genealogists, by Randy Seaver

3) Use the FREE FamilySearch Research Wiki (https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Main_Page) to find information about the recommended methods, research tools, or the resources (both in paper or digital format) for each country, state or county, or about specific record collections available on FamilySearch.

For instance, the United States wiki page is at https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/United_States. From there, you can click on a state to see what resources are available for the state; then click on a County to see what resources are available for that county.

4) Use the FREE Ancestry.com Family History Wiki (<http://www.ancestry.com/wiki/>) to see extensive information about:

- ***The Source: A Guidebook of American Genealogy, Third Edition.*** by Sandra Hargreaves Luebking (editor), Ancestry.com, 2006. This book discusses many American record types used in genealogy research.
- ***Ancestry's Red Book: American State, County & Town Sources, Third Revised Edition,*** by Alice D. Eichholz (editor), Ancestry.com, 2004. This book provides information about available state and county resources.

Welcome New Members

Current Membership (as of 2/5): 71

Karyn's Caring Corner

Cards were sent to:

Meeting Host Volunteers

February 26: Shirley Becker and Virginia Taylor
 March 26: Volunteers needed!
 Contact Jo Ann Bonner to sign up!

Telephone Tree Volunteers

Page 1 – Dorothy Alvord – 619-469-3483
 Page 2 – Jacquie Goodman – 619-482-0350
 Page 3 – Pam Buchan – pbuchan@cox.net
 Page 4 – Diane Godinez – 619-429-8880

CVGS Society Officers

President:	Virginia Taylor
First Vice-President, Programs	Ralph Munoz
Second Vice-President, Membership	Barbara Ibaibarriaga
Treasurer	Sam Seat
Secretary	Karen Yarger

Committee Chairs

Computer Group	Shirley Becker
Education	Susi Pentico
Historian	Susan Zimmer
Hospitality	Jo Ann Bonner
Librarian	Wanda Brock
Newsletter Editor	Randy Seaver
Research Group/Queries	Randy Seaver
Seminars	Susi Pentico
Ways and Means	Bethel Williams
Webmaster	Gary Brock

San Diego Genealogy Events

Saturday, February 8th, 10 a.m. To 12:30 p.m.

***SAN DIEGO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
 FAMILY HISTORY SEMINAR***

**Speaker: Sid Shapira on
 “Everyone Has a Story to Tell”
 and**

**Dona Ritchie on
 “Workflow for Genealogical Research”
 at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
 8350 Lake Murray Blvd., San Diego**

Info: Del Ritchhart (dritchh1@san.rr.com)

Tuesday, February 11th, 10 a.m.

***NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY GEN. SOCIETY
 COGG Speaker: Del Ritchhart***

**“Breaking Through My O'Malley Brick Wall”
 contact: Pam Boyle (boylepam@gmail.com)**

Saturday, February 15th, 9 a.m.

***COMPUTER GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF
 SAN DIEGO***

**Speaker: Barbara Renick on
 “Eleven Layers of Searches on FamilySearch”
 and “Think You Know How To Search Library
 Catalogs? Think Again!”**

**contact J. Paul Hawthorne
 (jpaulhawthorne@gmail.com)**

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Tuesday, February 25th, 10 a.m.

***NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY GEN. SOCIETY
 Speaker: Dr. Jeff Charles***

**“Making Technology Democratic: Inventions,
 Gadgets and Machines of the Greatest
 Generation”**

contact: Pam Boyle (boylepam@gmail.com)

2014 Regional and National Events

June 6-8, 2014

***SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GENEALOGICAL
 SOCIETY GENEALOGY JAMBOREE
 Burbank, Calif.***

(<http://www.genealogyjamboree.org>)

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**See all upcoming San Diego genealogy programs
 online at <http://www.cgssd.org/events.php>**

GENEALOGY DAYS IN CHULA VISTA

- Wednesday, Feb. 5, 12 noon – CVGS Board Meeting, at CVCCB Library Auditorium
- Wednesday, Feb.12, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting, at CVCCB Library Auditorium
- Wednesday, Feb. 19, 10:30 a.m. – Computer Group Meeting, at CVCCB Library Computer Lab
- Wednesday, Feb. 26, 12 noon – Program Meeting: Ceasar Castro on “California and the Mexican War from a Genealogical Point of View” at CVCCB Library Auditorium
- Saturday, Mar. 1, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. – Escondido Family History Fair (FREE, register at <http://www.escondidofhc.com/family-history-fair/>) at 2255 Felicita Rd., Escondido 92027.
- Saturday, Mar. 8, 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. – CVGS Workshop: Susi Pentico on “Kentucky and Carolina Research”
- Wednesday, Mar. 5, 12 noon – CVGS Board Meeting, at CVCCB Library Auditorium
- Wednesday, Mar. 12, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting, at TBD
- Wednesday, Mar. 19, 12 noon – Computer Group Meeting, at CVCCB Library Computer Lab
- Wednesday, Mar. 26, 12 noon – Program Meeting: Carol Baird on “Postcard Collections and Genealogy” at CVCCB Library Auditorium

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All CVGS Program Meetings are held, unless otherwise noted, at the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch (CVCCB) Library, 365 F Street, Chula Vista
Contact Ralph Munoz (munoz1951@cox.net) for program details.

Visit our Web Site – <http://www.CVGenealogy.org>

Visit the Chula Vista Genealogy Café blog – <http://CVGenCafe.blogspot.com>

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