



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 5 *Providing Genealogy Activities in South San Diego County*

May 2014

WEDNESDAY, May 28th PROGRAM MEETING

from 12 noon to 2 p.m.

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

Genealogy Research Panel: "Stump the Chumps"



This will be a panel of four of CVGS's best researchers (from the left, Shirley Becker, John Finch, Patricia Diane Godinez, and Randy Seaver) who will take research problems and questions submitted from the audience. The panel will be moderated by President Virginia Taylor. Six to eight entries will be selected (time permitting). Each selected entry will be presented by a primary panelist who will have performed some preliminary research on the entry. A full panel discussion will follow, including audience participation.

If you have a problem or are stumped in an area of your research, please obtain an entry form from any panel member or President Taylor, fill it in and submit it to Virginia on or before Wednesday May 21. This is important to give the assigned panelist time to prepare a response.

So get your entry in early and see if you can "Stump The Chumps."

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President's Message – by Virginia Taylor



Serendipity – The faculty of making fortunate discoveries by accident. A few days ago on Ancestry, I had a Recent Member Connect Activity for one of my ancestors. I wrote to the member and indeed we are related. We share a 3rd great grandfather. They live in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania where many of my ancestors settled. In corresponding with them they commented that they enjoy touring cemeteries. I wrote back and asked if, when they are out and about in cemeteries, they could keep an eye out for my great great grandparents, Robert and Elizabeth Dunlap. I told them where Elizabeth is buried. Turns out my cousin has a great-grandmother in that same cemetery. They were already making plans to go visit her grave, so they will look for Elizabeth's grave when they are there and if they find a tombstone, they will take a picture for me. They will keep an eye out for Robert as they visit other cemeteries. It is exciting to me that I may actually get a picture of Elizabeth's tombstone. I just hope there is still a stone standing, considering that she died in 1878 at the age of 90. I can only hope. They have offered to give me a tour of Westmoreland County if I ever get back to Pennsylvania. I guess I now have the incentive to make plans and save my money to make a trip.

I want to thank all the members who brought extra goodies for our general meeting this week. Looking at the groaning table I think we could have fed almost all of Fredericka Manor residents. If anyone went away hungry it was their own fault.

For our next two General Meetings to be successful your help is needed. Our May meeting will be a panel discussion about solving your brick walls. If you have an elusive ancestor you'd like some guidance researching, send an e-mail to Randy Seaver (rjseaver@cox.net) for the form to fill out. The panel will be able to help with 6-8 problems so will be on first come, first serve basis.

Our June meeting will be our annual picnic at the Brock's home. Our theme this year is "Our Military Ancestors." I am sure all of us have at least one military ancestor and want to hear about their military service. It will be a pot luck with more information on that to follow in the next few weeks.

Library Report, by Wanda Brock

The Library Committee has a meeting scheduled for May 16th. During the next several months, Dorothy Alvord will be my Co-Librarian. You can call either of us if you have any questions or requests. Please contact Wanda if you need a name tag.

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

April 5th Saturday Workshop Review, by Randy Seaver

The April 5th Saturday Workshop meeting at the Bonita-Sunnyside Library featured two discussions about "New York Research."

In the first hour, CVGS Member Shirley Becker provided a historical overview of New York, along with a discussion of county formation and record jurisdictions during the colonial and early statehood periods. She was born in New York and has worked on her family history for over twenty years, and has done extensive research at the local, county and state level.

Perhaps the most important concept is record jurisdiction - the state, county and towns or cities have unique records, and it is important to understand where to find specific records. Then there are villages and hamlets. In their early history, counties often divided into several smaller counties, and original towns often divided into several more smaller towns, so knowing when counties and towns were formed is critical. Each town has a town historian who should know what town records are available, and where they can be accessed.

In the second hour, CVGS Member Randy Seaver provided a quick look at online resources for New York genealogical research. He visited and demonstrated use of these websites (and his handout had many more links to online resources):

- * [New York Wikipedia article](#) for basic history and demographic information
- * [Cyndi's List page for New York](#) for links to New York resources
- * [FamilySearch Research Wiki for New York State](#) for information about New York genealogy
- * [FamilySearch List of Online New York Resources](#) with links for New York online databases
- * [Family History Library Catalog](#) to search for place names
- * [Ancestry.com Family History Wiki for New York](#)
- * [Ancestry.com Card Catalog](#) - put "new york" in the Title or Keyword fields
- * [Steve Morse's One-Step Web Pages](#) has N.Y. immigration and vital records
- * [New York Land Records, 1630-1975](#) collection on FamilySearch - need to browse this collection.
- * [New York Probate Records, 1629-1971](#) collection on FamilySearch - need to browse this collection.
- * [U.S. Dutch Reformed Church Records, 1660-1926](#) collection on Ancestry.com has some church records.

Randy spent quite a bit of time explaining how to get to the actual records for the land and probate collections, since the collections are not indexed and must be browsed, using "waypoints" to find records for a specific person. In general, the waypoints are the County and then a number of "books" in each county. Index books can be used to find book volumes and page numbers for deeds or probate records, and then the specific volume needs to be searched to find the digital image with the specific page.

Ancestry.com Subscription Discount is 30% For AARP Members

Ancestry.com is offering a 30% discount on its annual subscriptions for AARP members. This applies to new Ancestry subscribers and existing subscribers. See <http://www.ancestry.com/cs/us/aarp>

The US Deluxe retail cost is \$200 per year and World Explorer retail cost is \$300, so this is a significant discount. You do have to provide your AARP member number.

Next Computer Group Meeting on Wednesday, 21 May 2014

The Computer Group will meet from 12 noon to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, May 21st in the Library Computer Lab for Internet work, led by Shirley Becker. This meeting features hands-on use of the library's new Windows 7 computers, or your own laptop (but the library wi-fi doesn't work well in that room). For more information, please contact Shirley Becker (clanroots@cox.net).

Lemon Grove Research Group News – by Susi Pentico

The Lemon Grove Research Group now meets once a month at the Lemon Grove Branch Library (location is 3001 School Lane in Lemon Grove) from 6 p.m. to 7:50 p.m. The first Wednesday meetings have been canceled until further notice due to a meeting room conflict at the library. Contact Susi Pentico (619-690-1188, SusiCP@cox.net) for more details. All are invited to attend. Beginners are welcome! Upcoming programs include:

- **Wednesday, May 21, 6 to 8 p.m.** Program “Evernote” and roundtable discussion. Bring your questions and enthusiasm. Evernote is a program to help coordinate some of your research between devices and programs. Roundtable is the sharing of your names, places and times for research assistance between members.
- **Wednesday, June 18, 6 to 8 p.m.** Program: “Attending Major Events, Costs and Rewards” with Susi, Virginia, and Shirley. Jamboree, Seminars, and special events to enhance your research. We will be discussing the pros and cons of these events.

June 14th Workshop at Bonita-Sunnyside Library

The June 14th CVGS Workshop at Bonita-Sunnyside Library (4375 Bonita Road) is from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Community Room. Susi Pentico and a guest will lead the discussion on “Iowa and Illinois Research, Are You Keeping Your Genealogy Programs Updated?”

Seminar Committee Report by Susi Pentico

The Seminar Committee meeting had many topics to discuss and think about for the future of holding Seminars. A nice thing said by one member is that, with 71 Scholarship Applications, we are reaching out to the community more than we realize.

One goal not on agenda was to work at increasing our membership, which the scholarship makes more people aware of us and workshops, held on Wednesday evenings and Saturdays, are attempting to reach the working community that can not attend our week day events.

Comments were: is the Seminar worth the effort? Not part of the topic but brought up and I personally think that if we touch one other person's life, then we have made a dent. We do reach more people than some realize. Sometimes success does not show up in our face until a little farther down the road. We are a non-profit organization and we do need to watch what we spend, but if we can help our community by helping its' students, in time it will come back to us.

We are looking at these topics to make things more profitable if possible. Do you know of another facility that could accomplish what we have had for less with quality? We need to look at room sizes, sound system, deposits, cancellation fees, food brought in, catered, sack lunch, parking space, raffles and allowing us to charge for attending.

We are looking at doing a single paid seminar, and one large workshop versus two seminars, possibly to be held late October, or early November, versus in the Spring. This could coincide with Family History Month (October).

“San Diego Central Library Research Trip Review” by Karen Yarger

On Wednesday, April 23rd, a small band of CVGS adventurers, led by John Finch and Karen Yarger, began their trip to the downtown San Diego Central Library. All were armed with info sheets on the library and tips for riding the trolley and doing research in the ninth floor's genealogy collection (if you'd like a copy, please email Karen khy13@hotmail.com).

We met at our usual spot on the second floor of the parking structure on Third Avenue. It's a good thing we carpoled because the first challenge was finding parking spaces at one of the trolley stations. All of the Chula Vista station lots were under construction, a problem which hopefully will be remedied by the time you read this. Buying a senior trolley ticket (\$1.25 one way) was a new experience for some, but with laughter and eagerness we boarded the Blue Line trolley, got off at the Park & Market stop, and walked about two blocks to the library. Did you notice that the windows are shaped like open books?

Karen gave a brief tour of the lobby and first floor and the wonderful Sanford Children's Library, with its 16' Dr. Seuss murals. It offers everything from displays of vintage favorites like *The Wizard of Oz* to the newest kid-friendly iPads and computers, and over 56,000 volumes in several languages.

A quick note of the copy stations on the 2nd, 4th and 8th floors, and off we headed to the ninth floor with its domed-shaded terrace and sweeping views. SDGS's Chris Christensen met us and gave a personalized tour of the Hervey Rare Book Room with its centuries-old books, manuscripts and art. Steps away, he gave us a tour of the genealogy collection (that's why we came!) and showed us the computers with access to Ancestry.com. Then he turned to helping some of our members with their research.

There's never enough time to do research, is there? Before we left at 3pm, we learned of a \$3 parking lot across the street (not on Padre game days; it's the Tailgate lot) and vowed to return soon. Now that we know our way around this fabulous resource, we can spend all our time in the stacks. It's a great way to spend the day!

Southern California Genealogy Jamboree is June 6-8, 2014

The Southern California Genealogical Society is proud to announce the 45th Annual Southern California Genealogy Jamboree. The popular conference will be held at the home of Jamboree, the Los Angeles Marriott Burbank Airport Hotel, 2500 Hollywood Way, Burbank, CA, from Friday through Sunday, June 6 to 8, 2014.

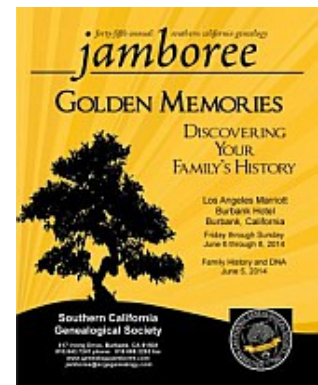
Jamboree combines [speakers](#), [exhibitors](#), [class sessions](#), and [special events](#) to create an exceptional event. Reservations are now open at the [Marriot Burbank Hotel](#). Jamboree will again offer a mobile app to help you manage the event. Details will be announced as we draw closer to June.

The theme of the 2014 Jamboree is *Golden Memories: Discovering Your Family History*. Our heritage focus will be on European ancestors. Class sessions are scheduled for German, Irish, English / UK, Scotland, Eastern Europe, Italian, Mennonite, Swedish, and Russian, as well as African-American and Jewish classes.

JamboFREE: Friday morning, JamboFREE makes genealogy available at no cost to genealogists at all experience levels. Beginner classes (first steps and next steps); Genealogy World small-group discussions; and orientation for new SCGS members and first-time Jamboree attendees are just three of the free sessions. 2014 will also feature a professional-level Librarians' Genealogy Boot Camp and Workshop for Genealogical Societies.

Sessions: Fully half of the 150 sessions at Jamboree will directly address the use of technology in family history research. Other sessions will focus on methodology, organization; record types. Sessions for all experience levels will be available. Sunday's schedule includes several family history writing classes.

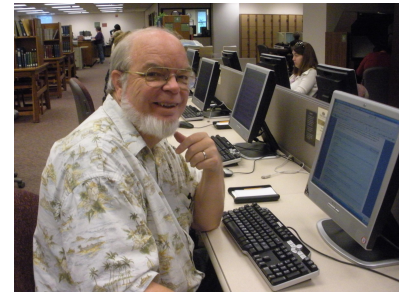
You can see more details at <http://genealogyjamboree.com/>. Hotel reservations are filling fast.



Research Group Meeting Review – 9 April 2014

The April Research Group Meeting had 21 in attendance at the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library.

In the first hour, Karen Yarger and Diane Godinez made several announcements, and then Randy Seaver discussed how to access and use the FamilySearch record collections, since only some of them are indexed, and some are not indexed. The latter must be browsed, and there are many "genealogy gems" hiding in those unindexed collections, including probate and land records for several states. He used New York Probate Records as an example, and demonstrated finding the "waypoints" and locating a specific record in a digitized book of Estate papers for one of his ancestors. He also highlighted the www.CreateFan.com website to create a number of colorful and useful family tree charts based on information from the FamilySearch Family Tree.



In the second hour, research questions and problems were posed and addressed by group members. For instance:

- * Laura asked how she should try to find her ancestor, James Craft (1810-1880), who moved from Maryland to Pennsylvania to Illinois to Iowa during his lifetime. She has only census records for 1850 to 1870, and cannot find his parents. The group suggested identifying the places that he lived and looking for military, land, church, cemetery, tax and probate records on microfilm or on FamilySearch.
- * Sally is just starting her research, and a family story is that James Russell was a Revolutionary War soldier, and she wanted to know how to prove that. The group recommended that she confirm her ancestral line back to him by working backwards, using vital, census, military and other records, family by family. For Revolutionary War soldiers, the DAR has a useful database, there should be a Compiled Military Service Record for the soldier, and there may be a pension file for him.
- * Jane is also starting her research, and has been working on FamilySearch. She wondered if she should invest in subscriptions for Ancestry.com and Archives.com. The group suggested that she should use the free sites, including Rootsweb.com, USGenWeb.org, FindaGrave.com and the Rootsweb WorldConnect family tree database, to find more leads before investing in a subscription site. She also asked about immigration sites, and the group suggested EllisIsland.org, CastleGarden.org and FamilySearch, and that Ancestry.com had passenger lists for all ports in their collection.
- * Shirley bought some of the Rhode Island Roots periodicals at the book sale at the CVGS seminar and has found some helpful items for her ancestor, Samuel Tillinghast.
- * Helen asked if some one with the first names of "Ayres Marie" could be an "Iris Marie" in other records. The group thought so. She said that autosomal DNA tests show a possible cousin has an "Iris" in their tree.
- * Hazel wondered how accurate FamilySearch Family Tree data is. The group thought that from any families in the 19th and 20th century, the information was accurate since it was based on family papers and genealogical research. When you get back into the 18th century and before, the information may not be as accurate because of the lack of records and duplicate entries for persons and events.
- * Bobbie displayed the 150th Anniversary book for her local church in Lake County, Illinois, which has articles submitted by descendants and members, including her own. This is an example of what you might find at local libraries and historical societies when you visit an ancestral location.

The next meeting of the CVGS Research Group will be on Wednesday, 14 May 2014 at 12 noon in the Conference Room at the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library.

April 30th Program Review - "The Orphan Train"

Paul Erickson, a local Chula Vista resident, provided his "The Orphan Trains" lecture to a crowd of about 35 CVGS members and 20 guests, many of whom came from Fredericka Manor. Paul's mother was one of the estimated 250,000 orphaned, abandoned or homeless children who were placed in homes all over the United States between 1854 and 1929. There were two large organizations that did this – the Children's Aid Society (started in 1853) and the New York City Foundling Home (started in 1859, about 100,000 babies over the years). The groups wrote to small towns looking for families to take the children. The families could request children by gender, eye and hair color, etc. Special train cars carried 40 to 50 children at a time, with several chaperones.

Each child had their name on their collar, and the destination family name on their jacket or coat. Boys usually wanted to go to farms, and girls usually wanted to be mother's helpers. When they arrived at their destination, the prospective parents met the child and the sponsoring group. The child could be rejected and would then be taken to the next stop for another possible placement. Not all placements worked out. The *Orphan Train* book has stories about 40 to 50 Orphan Train riders.

Paul's handout had an advertisement that included this information:

TERMS ON WHICH BOYS ARE PLACED IN HOMES ALL APPLICANTS MUST BE ENDORSED BY THE COMMITTEE

Boys fifteen years old are expected to work until they are eighteen for their board and clothes. At the end of that time they are at liberty to make their own arrangements.

Boys between twelve and fifteen are expected to work for their board and clothes until they are eighteen, but must be sent to school a part of each year, after that it is expected that they receive wages.

Boys under twelve are expected to remain till they are eighteen, and must be treated by the applicants as one of their own children in matters of schooling, clothing and training.

Should a removal be necessary, it can be arranged through the committee Or by writing to the Agent.

The Society reserves the right of removing a boy at any time for just cause.

We desire to hear from every child twice a year.

All Expenses of Transportation are Paid by the Society.

Paul's mother was living in an orphanage in 1901 in New York and was sent to Missouri to find a home. She had no idea why she was abandoned. She loved the farm and school, graduated from high school and business college, married and raised a family in Independence, Missouri. Later in life, she hired a tracer of lost relatives, who found a record of a child with her first name and birth date in New York City, the parents marriage date, and the birth of another child in a Presbyterian Church record. After she died, Paul wrote to the brother, Walter, who wrote back saying he had been told his little sister had died. Walter visited Paul, and said "You look just like my dad."

There is a National Orphan Train Complex in Concordia, Kansas in a historical landmark building of a Union-Pacific train station (see www.orphantraindepot.org) for more information.

Shaking the Family Tree Family History Fair Review by Karen Yarger

A Community Family History Fair, sponsored by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, was held at the Chula Vista Stake Center on Saturday, April 12. The best part? It was Free! Of the approximately 100 in attendance, seven were CVGS members. In fact, our member Diane Godinez presented two of the talks, focusing on Hispanic genealogy.

The keynote speaker was Mary Hill, author of *Paper Dolls, A Family History*, a memoir of the women in her family. She spoke of the importance of family stories, as she shared a few of her own – some touching, some humorous. Sometimes a family story need be no more than a few sentences to capture a treasured moment.

While some of the talks were presented in person, such as “Deciphering Difficult-to-Read Handwriting” by Mark Donnelly, most of the others were informative video talks from RootsTech 2014. You can find some of them on <https://rootstech.org/about/videos/>. Two of our favorites were “5 Ways to Do Genealogy in Your Sleep” by Deborah Gamble and “Top 10 Things I Learned About My Family From My Couch” by Tammy Hepps.

We took a break from all this learning with a nice sack lunch – also free! Computers were set up around the large hall with volunteers prepared to help with our personal research, and there were tables with some software companies. A few impressive family tree displays by some of the members had us “oohing” and “ahhing” (and a little jealous).

This was the first family history fair for the Chula Vista Stake Center. All agreed it was a success, so hopefully we can plan on seeing this as an annual event.

May 3rd Saturday Workshop Review

There were 14 RootsMagic users at the May 3rd Saturday Workshop, led by Randy Seaver, who discussed and demonstrated using RootsMagic 6, including:

- * Overview of Menus, Views and Help function
- * Starting a new tree - basic steps to enter/edit names, relationships, events, dates, places, notes, etc.
- * Adding Source citations using *Evidence Explained* source templates
- * Adding Media to persons and events
- * The WebSearch feature - searching online, and adding more sites to the WebSearch
- * FamilySearch Family Tree interface - access and add/edit information to or from the Family Tree

If you want a PDF of the one page handout. Please contact Randy at rjseaver@cox.net.

SCGS Genealogy Jamboree 2014 App And Syllabus Are Online

Information about the SCGS Genealogy jamboree 2014 can be found at www.genealogyjamboree.com, and the syllabus materials can be read and downloaded at <http://app.core-apps.com/scgs2014>. Click on the “Classes” icon, and then “Browse by Day.” Clicking on each class title will show the “Resources” tab option to download the handout for that class.

Welcome New Members

Maryvette Cabrera

Current Membership (as of 5/7): 85

Karyn's Caring Corner

Cards were sent to:

Meeting Host Volunteers

May 28: Sunny Van Cleaver, Marta Brown

June 26: Annual Picnic!

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 Ibaibarraiga
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, May 10th, 10 a.m. To 12:30 p.m.

SAN DIEGO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Speaker: Gena Philibert-Ortega

“Hit the Books! Utilizing Digital Books Online”

“Read All About It! Your Ancestors in Newspapers”

at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
8350 Lake Murray Blvd., San Diego

Info: Paul Hawthorne

(paulhawthorne@gmail.com)

Tuesday, May 13th, 10 a.m.

NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY GEN. SOCIETY

COGG Speaker: Jean Wilcox Hibben

“Need Direction? Try a Directory”

contact: Tom Gordinier

(tgordinier35@gmail.com)

Saturday, May 17th, 9 a.m.

COMPUTER GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO

Speaker: Edward Grant Ries

“Military Records and Pensions”

contact J. Paul Hawthorne

(jpaulhawthorne@gmail.com)

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Tuesday, May 27th, 10 a.m.

NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY GEN. SOCIETY

Speaker: Gena Philibert-Ortega

“Cemetery Research”

contact: Jean Tempke

(jtempke@roadrunner.com)

2014 Regional and National Events

June 6-8, 2014

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY GENEALOGY JAMBOREE

Airport Marriott Hotel, 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

- **Saturday, May 3, 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. – CVGS Workshop: Randy Seaver: “RootsMagic Software Workshop”** at Bonita-Sunnyside Library (4375 Bonita Road)
- **Wednesday, May 7, 12 noon – CVGS Board Meeting,** at CVCCB Library Auditorium
- **Wednesday, May 14, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting,** at CVCCB Library Conference Room
- **Wednesday, May 21, 12 noon – Computer Group Meeting,** at CVCCB Library Computer Lab
- **Wednesday, May 28, 12 noon – Program Meeting: “Genealogy Research Panel”** with Shirley Becker, John Finch, Patricia Diane Godinez, and Randy Seaver at CVCCB Library Auditorium
- **Wednesday, June 4, 12 noon – CVGS Board Meeting,** at CVCCB Library Auditorium
- **Thursday, June 12, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting,** at CVCCB Library Auditorium
- **Saturday, June 14, 12 noon – CVGS Workshop: Susi Pentico “Iowa and Illinois Research”** at Bonita-Sunnyside Library (4375 Bonita Road)
- **Wednesday, June 19, 12 noon – Computer Group Meeting,** at CVCCB Library Conference Room
- **Wednesday, June 26, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. – Annual Picnic, “Our Military Ancestors,”** at Gary and Wanda Brock's home.

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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>

Chula Vista Genealogical Society
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