



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 10

Providing Genealogy Activities in South San Diego County

October 2014

WEDNESDAY, October 29th PROGRAM MEETING

from 12 noon to 2 p.m.

At Bonita-Sunnyside Library Community Room (4375 Bonita Road)

Annette Hubbell – “Witness to Gettysburg”

The pursuit of family history includes the desire to carve out a place for one's family in the larger historical picture, a sense of responsibility to preserve the past for future generations, and a sense of self-satisfaction in accurate storytelling.

It is that last point, storytelling, which brings Miss Hattie to our October meeting. Behind the discovery of dates and family lineage are the stories of family. Miss Hattie Elizabeth Turner was a witness to the Battle of Gettysburg. Inspired by the diary of Hattie Elizabeth Unangst, Miss Hubbell spent nearly two years researching and writing this performance after spending time in Gettysburg in 2007. Miss Hubbell also draws upon the words and experiences from other witnesses to the war's fearful struggle, weaving a compelling story of American grit and determination that cannot help but leave one with a renewed appreciation for the sacrifice our forefathers made to preserve the ideals of this Country. The women, the soldiers, the boys who found themselves in uniforms, and how the sheer number of the war's dead forever changed our burial customs and traditions is told.



Writer and actress Annette Hubbell takes us back to Gettysburg and its frightful aftermath. Thousands of soldiers converged, fought, and just as suddenly left, leaving 30,000 casualties. Just what does a town of 2,400 do when suddenly faced with this calamity? “Witness to Gettysburg” opens on the eve of the battle and ends with President Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. “I love to tell her story,” Annette says. “It is one of courage and conviction and character.”

(Continued on page 7)

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President's Message – by Virginia Taylor



The year is beginning to wind down but that doesn't mean that the society is winding down. There are still many things planned. I hope that as many of you as possible will participate.

This month our general meeting will be given by Annette Hubbell. She will present a first person depiction of "Witness To Gettysburg." This is the 151st anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg so this program is very appropriate. Don't forget that this month we will be meeting at Bonita-Sunnyside Library. The auditorium at Civic Center will be turned into a haunted house by that time.

In November we will again have Georgie Stillman come do our "Heirloom Discovery Day." If you have something you would like Georgie to appraise, please contact Ralph Munoz (munoz1951@cox.net 421-7251). Georgie can appraise 10-12 items so get your request in early to be sure you are included.

December will feature our annual Christmas luncheon at the South Branch Library. It will be held on Thursday, December 11. Details will follow next month both in the newsletter and from the phone tree. This year we will be installing a new slate of officers to serve for the next two years and will also be honoring many of our long time members. As is our tradition we will be collecting canned goods and new, unwrapped toys for the Salvation Army. Susi Pentico had a great idea. From now until December 10, whenever you go to the grocery store, pick up one extra nonperishable item to be given to the Salvation Army. Just think what an impact that can make for our less fortunate neighbors in South Bay. Don't forget to pick up a few toys for babies up through teenagers. Unfortunately the teenagers are the ones who seem to get forgotten. We would like to make this one of our best donation years ever.

Lastly, I want to thank all the people who worked so hard to put on the successful workshop this past weekend. The attendance was not what we had hoped for but those who did attend, I think, got several good ideas to get their families involved in family history without them even knowing that was happening.

Nametags – by Wanda Brock

Please contact Wanda Brock at a meeting or via email (wanda@cyber.net) if you need a name tag.

Membership Dues for 2015

The membership dues for calendar year 2015 are \$30 for returning members, with a \$5 discount if submitted before 31 December 2014. A second member in a family is only \$10.

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

2014 Season of *Finding Your Roots* Continuing on PBS

The PBS Series *Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates, Jr.* started on Tuesday, September 23, at 8 p.m. for its second season. The 10-part series explores the heritage and ancestry of 30 of today's leading entertainers, athletes, chefs, and media personalities, including Ben Affleck, Jessica Alba, Khandi Alexander, Tom Colicchio, Tina Fey, Sally Field, Derek Jeter, Stephen King, Nas, Anna Deavere Smith, Sting, and Courtney Vance.

Here is the remaining schedule for Season 2 (on PBS, 8 p.m., Tuesdays):

7 October 2014

Our American Storytellers

Ken Burns, Anderson Cooper and Anna Deavere Smith

14 October 2014

Roots of Freedom

Ben Affleck, Khandi Alexander and Benjamin Jealous

21 October 2014

The Melting Pot

Tom Colicchio, Aarón Sánchez and Ming Tsai

28 October 2014

We Come From People

Angela Bassett, Valerie Jarrett and Nas

4 November 2014

Our People, Our Traditions

Alan Dershowitz, Carole King and Tony Kushner

11 November 2014

The British Are Coming

Deepak Chopra, Sally Field and Sting

18 November 2014

Ancient Roots

Tina Fey, George Stephanopoulos and David Sedaris

25 November 2014

Decoding our Past Through DNA

Jessica Alba, Anderson Cooper, Valerie Jarrett, Governor Deval Patrick, and more

You can read more and also watch the available Season 2 videos at <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/finding-your-roots>, with other videos available at <http://video.pbs.org/program/finding-your-roots>.

Obtaining a Social Security Application Record

You can obtain the Social Security Application of a deceased person from the Social Security Administration for a fee. More information in <http://www.geneamusings.com/2014/09/obtaining-social-security-application.html> on the Genea-Musings blog.

Lemon Grove Research Group News

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. Contact Susi Pentico (619-690-1188, SusiCP@cox.net) for more details. All are invited to attend. Beginners are welcome! Upcoming programs include:

- **Wednesday, October 15, 6 to 8 p.m. Program: “Preparing for the Holidays” with Susi Pentico.**
- **Wednesday, November 19, 6 to 8 p.m. Program: “Updating Your Tree, Do You Keep It Current?” with Susi Pentico**

Next Computer Group Meeting

The next Computer Group meeting will be Wednesday, 15 October 2014 in the Computer Lab at the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library (365 F Street in downtown Chula Vista, Calif.).

Research Trip to San Diego Central Library

John Finch will lead a Research Trip to the San Diego Central Library (330 Park Blvd., San Diego) on Wednesday, 22 October. As, we have done before, we will meet at the Chula Vista parking structure off F St. and car pool, leaving at about 11:30 am. The library opens at 12 noon. Return time will be about 3 p.m. Instead of using the trolley for this trip, John thought it might be helpful if everyone learned how to access that \$3.00 a day parking in the Padres tailgating parking lot. Please contact John at jan27@cox.net to save your seat in the car pool.

Unfortunately, the SDGS docents will not be available, but the library staff will help patrons with questions and problems. There are a number of computers to use with several commercial genealogy databases for those who want to do online research.

Not all of the books that were in the SDGS Library have been catalogued at the Central Library. Check the SDGS Research Catalog web page (<http://casdgs.org/libraryRecords.php>) before you go and ask to have the items of interest pulled for you by library staff when you are at the library.

Barbara Zaragoza Book Signing on 18 October

Casa Familiar is hosting a book signing for CVGS member Barbara Zaragoza's book, [San Ysidro and the Tijuana River Valley](#), at THE FRONT Art Gallery, 117 W. San Ysidro Blvd, on Saturday, October 18th from 12 Noon to 4 p.m.

Please stop by for fun stories, a book signing, and an exhibit of old San Ysidro pictures. Barbara will also want to take the opportunity to thank so many of you who contributed photos and stories for this work.

In addition, please consider bringing your old photos to be scanned for our San Ysidro History Archive Project, a digitized collection that will be available to present and future researchers and students. The project is a collaboration between Barbara and Casa Familiar. Our research into the border town of San Ysidro continues!

October 4th Workshop Highlights, by Susi Pentico

The “Engaging Your Family in Your Family History” workshop at Bonita-Sunnyside Library had 20 attendees, including 4 visitors.

We were happy for those who came and shared and shared and cared. We all went home happy and tired but felt that the attendees were really getting what we were attempting to share with them. Research is always easier when you can share and cross-check and discuss the potentials of information. It can be regionally, locally or distantly - it makes a difference to share.

Much credit goes to the Chart Chick, Janet Hovorka of Family ChartMasters, for her ideas and thoughts and the charts she provided.

The first session (of five) was “Create a Keepsake” led by Susi Pentico. A society tablecloth was signed by the attendees. If you signed it, just think - your name is going to kick around for quite some time. A suggestion was for small families to use a pillow for the signatures. Wedding gifts, family reunions, baby shower gifts, birthday party gifts could use the same theme idea.

The second session was “Storytelling.” Each attendee told a family story about their own life or that of an ancestor. As one person said, “if we did this question every four years, the stories would change.” It would almost be like a running diary of their growing up and living life from a small child to an adult.

After lunch, the third session, “Design a Family Crest,” was led by Karen Yarger. She talked about heraldry, and then demonstrated how to inspire family members to make a family crest, based on their interests and creativity.

In the fourth session, Karen demonstrated “Pictures With Captions.” Everyone had great fun adding funny captions to sample family photographs using “speech bubbles” and “thought balloons.”

The fifth and last session was “Family Genealogy Charts,” led by Susi. The handout packet contained five helpful genealogy charts – a pedigree chart, a family group sheet, a census chart, a research log, and a record type list. In addition a large multi-generational family tree chart, provided by Janet Hovorka, was given to each attendee.

I am hoping the 20 attendees will share in January how these ideas helped to get the family to think a little more about family history and how we lived in the past. Even if the past was only 20 years ago, it makes a difference.

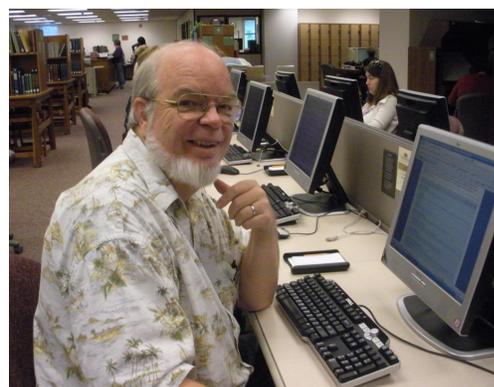


Research Group Meeting Review – 10 September 2014

The September 10th meeting of the CVGS Research Group had 21 attendees.

In the first hour, Randy reviewed upcoming CVGS meetings, the SDGS seminar on 27 September, and noted that the FamilySearch Obituary Collection now includes GenealogyBank obituaries.

He described helping CVGS member Dorothy, who is going to Denmark in late September, with her Danish genealogy research. After writing a post on his blog, there were several helpful comments from readers and Facebook members, including offers for help from researchers in Denmark. The blog post provided a list of websites to check for Denmark resources. See <http://www.geneamusings.com/2014/09/help-me-crowdsource-dorothys-denmark.html>.



In the second hour, the research challenges, questions and successes were highlighted by some of the attendees, including:

- * **Jean** asked for help finding probate records of Nehemiah Tompkins, who died in Ontario County, N.Y. in 1836. Randy showed how to find this record in the New York Probate Records collection on FamilySearch, but there was no entry for him in the Probate record index.
- * **Sally** wanted help finding information for the ancestors of her husband's second great-grandfather, Julius Schaefer (1866-1968). She had a 1966 Wichita, Kansas newspaper article celebrating his 100th birthday. The article said his birthplace was Schramberg in West Germany. The group suggested finding all possible records in the United States that might name his parents, such as a death certificate, the Social Security Application, a passenger list, and a naturalization record. Then look for church records in Germany on FHL microfilms.
- * **Diane** found a family coat of arms and wondered what the difference was between a crest and a coat-of-arms. Karen explained that the crest was part of the coat-of-arms. A Wikipedia article was found to explain it.
- * **Helen** is still researching her Burleson family in Arkansas. She found land records in Clark County, Arkansas in 1858. A recently found correspondent has more records to share with Helen.
- * **Sylvia's** great-grandfather immigrated in 1857, resided in Fargo, N.D., and then moved to Tulare, Calif. She found a naturalization record in Tulare, but it was not the declaration of intent. She asked if there might be more records. The group suggested checking the National Archives branch near Fargo to determine if one is available.
- * **Ana** asked if FamilySearch has removed record images from some of their collections. The group noted that every collection has contractual obligations, and some contracts expire. The removed images might be available on microfilm at the FamilySearch Library.
- * **John** was contacted by a lady in Spokane who had been adopted. Due to a change in records access law for adoptees, she found out her birth mother's name, and found it in John's Ancestry Member Tree. After she contacted him through Ancestry, John's response to her was "I'm her brother, and I've been waiting for your call for a long time." John's family knew about the baby that his sister had as a teenager. He has shared more family information and is looking forward to meeting his niece sometime soon.

The next Research Group meeting will be on Wednesday, 8 October at 12 noon in the Conference Room at the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library.

September 24th Program Review - "California and the Mexican-American War – Part 2"

Part 2 of Ceasar Castro's presentation on "California and the Mexican-American War From a Genealogical Point of View" was attended by 30 CVGS members and guests on Wednesday, 24 September at the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library.

Ceasar noted that historians want to highlight leaders and events, but genealogists want to find information about individuals - not only the leaders, but the soldiers and residents also.

In this talk, Ceasar provided a detailed historical timeline of the events that covered the second capture of Alta California in late 1846, the battles in Baja California, and the end of the war in California in mid-1848.

In San Diego County, Colonel Stephen Kearny and his dragoons fought the Californios at the Battle of San Pasqual in December 1846, arrived in San Diego, and soon went to Los Angeles. In the meantime, Major John Fremont moved south from Monterey to meet Kearny in Los Angeles. Commodore Robert Stockton also moved from San Diego to Los Angeles to quell the Californios. The last battle for Alta California was in early January 1847, and the Treaty of Cahuenga was signed with the Californios on 13 January 1847.

Kearny claimed command of California at the end of hostilities, and had a rivalry with Stockton. Fremont was named Governor of California, but was succeeded by Kearny as Governor in Monterey on 1 March 1847.

In the mean time, other military units arrived overland and by sea to help in California, and were soon directed to the southern tip of Baja California, traveling by sea. There were battles at San Jose del Cabo, La Paz and Mulege, with the Americans eventually subduing the Mexicans. The Battle of Todos Santos ended the fighting on 30 March 1847.

The fighting in Mexico ended in early 1848, and the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo was signed in Queretaro on 2 April 1848. The treaty made Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California part of the United States, and Mexico received \$15 million. Mexican residents of the captured territories were free to remain or go to Mexico, their property rights and land grants were respected. Some Baja California residents were granted transportation to Monterey and the right to make property claims in late 1848.

During this presentation, Ceasar highlighted the names of many of the members of the American forces who served in the different military units, and the Californios who fought with them.

Ceasar's handout was a general description of his two presentations, with a bibliography of published books and local places of historical interest.

"Witness to Gettysburg" (concluded from page 1)

Annette reinvented herself, acting and writing after retiring as General Manager from a San Diego North County water district. Currently she is performing in *Witness to Gettysburg* (over 120 performances) and as Eleanor Roosevelt in *Tea with Mrs. Roosevelt*. *Witness to Gettysburg* is also available on DVD. Adapted from the stage play, the film adds music and original photographs to this dramatic story. The DVD will be available at the meeting for a special performance price of \$10.00.

How Do I Plan to Preserve My Family History for Posterity? By Randy Seaver

On the [22 September Hangout On Air of Mondays With Myrt](#), Cary Bright asked this question which didn't get answered during the session. She added: "...I have started uploading for public access to [FamilySearch.org](#) for tree info/documents/photos. Those that need it will have access and hopefully the next family generation that HAS a family researcher can have access. It is sad, but true reality."

I think it's a great question, and I want to share my opinions on it. The key issue here is longevity - what media will probably be around long after I'm gone. Like Cary, my family doesn't seem interested in my research. What I am doing is this:

- 1) Like Cary, I am adding or editing persons in my ancestral families to the [FamilySearch Family Tree](#), including source citations, person notes and event notes, and some photos and stories. This works well until I get back to where the persons are Individuals of Unusual Size (IOUS) that cannot be merged or edited.
- 2) I upload a new Ancestry Member Tree every year or so with all of my RootsMagic database information, including attached media and person Notes. Unfortunately, the Notes are not observable by anyone but the owner or the editors of the Member Tree.
- 3) I have created PDF documents of a lot of my genealogical research, using the report features of RootsMagic and Legacy Family Tree. I have put these reports on the free site, www.Scribd.com. The reports include my research with sources, but not with Notes. My reports are at http://www.scribd.com/randy_seaver. The purpose here is to provide a website that can be searched using search engines that contains my research information. I need to update the reports on an annual basis.
- 4) Some people write "genealogical wills" in hopes that their heirs and descendants will carry out their wishes. I will leave a "When I Pass Away" document on my computer (and probably send to them via email before I pass away) that, hopefully, my daughters will read and carry out. This will include my usernames and passwords for Ancestry and other websites, my Scribd website, my blog archives, etc. I also want them to print off a copy of my Scribd reports and send them to a number of repositories (e.g., the Family History Library, the New England Historic Genealogical Society, Allen County Public Library, Library of Congress, San Diego Central Library, etc.) so that the research content will be on a bookshelf somewhere.
- 5) My genealogy blogs should survive for awhile since they are on Google. If Google decides to sunset unused blogs at some point in time, then this archive of my genealogical research may go away. I may use the blog archives to create family story books for some of my ancestors for whom I have photos and stories. I may also create MyCanvas type of coffee table books and pass them to my daughters and brothers, but I haven't done it yet.
- 6) I plan to create beautiful wall charts that show my daughters and grandchildren and their Seaver-Leland ancestors. A chart with 6 to 8 generations of ancestors (with photos) should be sufficiently large to dominate a wall. I haven't done this yet. In the worst case, my daughters can probably create them from my computer file and work with the chart maker to customize them.

None of that is 100% sure of being carried out, especially if there is a significant catastrophe that wipes out the Internet, or civilization, as we know it.

Welcome New Members

Linda Espino
Susan Hakala

Current Membership (as of 10/1): 91

Karyn's Caring Corner

Cards were sent to:

JoAnn Bonner

Meeting Host Volunteers

October 29: Joan Largey, Mary Patterson
November 26: Jane Strawn, Karen Smith

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	Jane Strawn/Jo Ann Bonner
Librarian	Dorothy Alvord/Wanda Brock
Newsletter Editor	Randy Seaver
Research Group/Queries	Randy Seaver
Seminars	Susi Pentico
Ways and Means	Open
Webmaster	Gary Brock

San Diego Genealogy Events

Saturday, October 11th, 10 a.m. To 12 noon
SAN DIEGO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
FAMILY HISTORY SEMINAR

Speaker: Randy Seaver

“Probate Records – My Favorite Revord Type”

“Genealogy Is Fun! Seriously.”

at St. Andrews Lutheran Church
8350 Lake Murray Blvd., San Diego

Info: Paul Hawthorne

(paulhawthorne@gmail.com)

Tuesday, October 14th, 10 a.m.

NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY GEN.
SOCIETY

COGG Speaker: Gena Philibert-Ortega

“Finding and Using Digitized Newspapers”

contact: Pam Boyle

(boylepam@gmail.com)

Saturday, October 18th, 9 a.m.

COMPUTER GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF
SAN DIEGO Annual Mini-Fair

Gary Hoffman: “Cloud Genealogy 2014”

Judy Jiru: “Open-Source Genealogy
Software”

Dona Ritchie: “Photo Scanning”

TBD

contact J. Paul Hawthorne

(jpaulhawthorne@gmail.com)

Tuesday, October 28th, 10 a.m.

NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY GEN.
SOCIETY

Speaker: Connie WaltonMoretti

“Where to Look When You Don't Know

Where to Look”

contact: Jean Tempke

(jtempke@roadrunner.com)

2015 Regional and National Events

February 12-14, 2015

ROOTSTECH 2015 and
FGS CONFERENCE

Salt Lake City, Utah

Info: www.rootstech.org and www.fgs.org

See all upcoming San Diego genealogy
programs online at

<http://www.cgssd.org/events.php>

GENEALOGY DAYS IN CHULA VISTA

- **Wednesday, Oct. 1, 12 noon – CVGS Board Meeting,** at CVCCB Library Auditorium
- **Saturday, Oct. 4, 10 a.m. To 4 p.m. – CVGS Workshop: “Engaging Your Family in Your Family History”** at Bonita-Sunnyside Library (4375 Bonita Road)
- **Wednesday, Oct. 8, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting,** at CVCCB Library Conference Room
- **Wednesday, Oct. 15, 12 noon – Computer Group Meeting,** at CVCCB Library Computer Lab
- **Wednesday, Oct. 22, 10 a.m. – Research Trip to San Diego Central Library**
- **Wednesday, Oct. 29, 12 noon – Program Meeting: Annette Hubbell, “Witness to Gettysburg,”** at Bonita-Sunnyside Library (4375 Bonita Road)
- **Saturday, Nov. 1, 12 noon – CVGS Workshop: Susi Pentico “Maryland Research,”** at Bonita-Sunnyside Library (4375 Bonita Road)
- **Wednesday, Nov. 5, 12 noon – CVGS Board Meeting,** at CVCCB Library Auditorium
- **Wednesday, Nov. 12, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting,** at CVCCB Library Conference Room
- **Wednesday, Nov. 19, 12 noon – Computer Group Meeting,** at CVCCB Library Computer Lab
- **Wednesday, Nov. 26, 12 noon – Program Meeting: Georgie Stillman: “Heirloom Discovery Day”** 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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