



CHULA VISTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



P.O. Box 3024

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We Dig Our Ancestors

Editor: Randy Seaver (619) 422-3397, randy.seaver@gmail.com

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

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

Volume 25, Issue 2

Providing Genealogy Activities in South San Diego County

February 2015

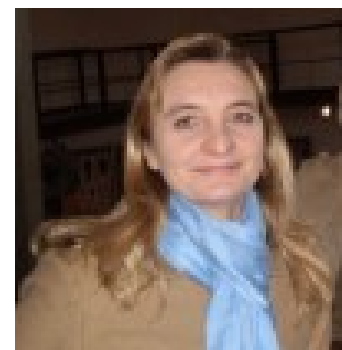
WEDNESDAY, February 25th PROGRAM MEETING

from 12 noon to 2 p.m.

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

Barbara Zaragoza on “San Ysidro and the Tijuana River Valley”

San Ysidro and the Tijuana River Valley by Arcadia Publishing traces the history of the border region through a large collection of photographs. In 1851, surveyors placed a marble obelisk on a mesa overlooking the Pacific Ocean, which demarcated the United States-Mexico boundary line. Tourists flocked to the region alongside land speculators who envisioned upscale hotels, resorts, and spas. Tia-juana, at the time, was a small town, which existed on both the American and Mexican side. Two decades later, an East Coast journalist, William Smythe, established a utopian agricultural colony in what is today San Ysidro. The colony was washed away by the 1916 flood and after that, Border Barons lived there while earning their living through the flourishing Vice Tourism industry in Tijuana. The presentation will include pictures of the San Diego-Tijuana border from the 1880's onward, stories of the man who drank one bottle of whiskey per day, the controversial rumor that Seabiscuit was boarded in the Valley, and a private picture of Bobby Kennedy in San Ysidro one day before his assassination.



Author Barbara Zaragoza, with her master's degree in history from Harvard University, has used extensive interviews of community members as well as photographs from private and public collections to capture what it has meant to live in this small border community. She is a freelance writer who resides in Chula Vista, California. Barbara will have her books to sell for \$20 each.

Table of Contents

February 25th Program Meeting	1	Genealogy In Time Top 100 Websites	5
President's Message	2	Geneapalooza Comic Strip	5
RootsTech 2015 Livestreamed Videos	2	January 14 th Research Group Review	6
March 7 th Workshop	3	January 28 th Program Review	7
Next Computer Group Meeting	3	Top 10 Most Searched FamilySearch Databases	8
Lemon Grove Research Group News	3	Rob Cardwell's Genealogy Video	8
March 21 st NSDCGS Seminar	3	CVGS Society Information	9
DearMYRTLE Beginning Genealogy Group ...	3	San Diego Genealogy Events	9
March 7 th Escondido Family History Fair	4	Genealogy Days in Chula Vista	10
Who Do You Think You Are? Information	4		

President's Message – by Virginia Taylor



I am sure all of you have a bucket list of things you want to do or see before you leave this great earth of ours. I also have a list and next week I will be checking one more thing off my list.

I will be going to Salt Lake City. I am going under the guise of attending the FGS Conference but my real reason is to spend as much time as possible in the Family History Library researching my ancestors. There are several sessions at the conference that interest me so I will not spend all my time in the library. I am working on a long list of questions I want to find answers to. Most of them concern my 2nd great grandfather, Robert Dunlap. As many of you know he has been my major brick wall for several years. I hope to find his naturalization papers, names of his parents, any siblings of his, and his birthplace in Ireland. If I am lucky I will also find the ship manifest of when he came from Ireland. If I am lucky to find these answers there are plenty more questions for me to try and answer.

Am I excited about this trip? You bet. I am sure this will just whet my appetite and I will soon be planning another trip to Salt Lake City.

If you have never been to Salt Lake City I do hope it is one of the things on your bucket list and that you can make a trip in the near future.

The big thing coming up in the next month a little closer to home is the Escondido Family History Fair on March 7. It is always a fun day and you get to hear some great speakers for free. All it will cost you is lunch if you decide to purchase one. We will have a society table set up and if you plan to attend you might want to consider giving an hour to sit at the table and talk to people. Always a fun thing to do. Many of us carpool so if you are interested in going let us know and we will get you set up to ride with someone.

RootsTech 2015 Streaming Video Presentations

The RootsTech 2015 Conference in Salt Lake City is February 11 to 14. As in years past, RootsTech will have live, streaming video of the Keynote presentations and several more presentations on Thursday (2/12), Friday (2/13) and Saturday (2/14). These are free to access on www.RootsTech.org. This is a fantastic learning opportunity for those interested in seeing quality presentations on genealogy and technology topics. After the conference is over, the videos will be put on the RootsTech site on a separate page. The RootsTech 2014 Conference streaming videos are still on the Videos page – <https://rootstech.org/video/3609934281001>. They may be removed soon.

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

March 14th Saturday Workshop

The Saturday, March 14th Workshop at Bonita-Sunnyside Library (4375 Bonita Road) is in the Community Room from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Gary Brock and Sam Seat will lead the discussion on “**CVGS Wild Apricot Website.**” Come to see what our new website can do and how you can make it better.

Next Computer Group Meeting – February 18th 2015

The next Computer Group meeting will be on Wednesday, 18 February 2014 in the Computer Lab at the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library (365 F Street in downtown Chula Vista, Calif.).

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, February 18, 6 to 8 p.m.:** Program: “Mississippi and Southern Research” with Susi Pentico
- **Wednesday, March 18, 6 to 8 p.m.:** Program: “Genealogy Societies on Facebook” with Susi Pentico

NSDCGS Seminar – March 21st in Carlsbad Features Judy G. Russell

The North San Diego County Genealogical Society all-day seminar is on Saturday, March 21st, from 9:30 a.m. To 3:30 p.m. At the Carlsbad Senior Center (799 Pine Street, Carlsbad CA 92008). A flyer with registration information is online at <http://nsdcgs.org/site/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/2015-flyer.pdf>. The non-member fee is \$30 for the seminar and \$10 for the lunch.

The featured speaker will be Judy G. Russell, a retired attorney, a prominent conference speaker and genealogy blogger ([The Legal Genealogist](http://www.thelegalgenealogist.com)). Judy's topics will be:

- **The First Trip to the Courthouse**
- **The Fair Court: The Records of the Chancery Courthouse**
- **The Ties That Bond**
- **Dowered or Bound Out: Records of Widows and Orphans**

For more information, contact Jean Tempke (jtempke@roadrunner.com, (760) 532-0416) and for reservations contact Carolyn Hoard (gchoard@gmail.com, (760) 729-1983). Reserve early because seating is limited.

DearMYRTLE's “Beginning Genealogy Study Group”

DearMYRTLE (AKA Pat Richley-Erickson), “Your Friend in Genealogy,” has an ongoing weekly “Beginning Genealogy Study Group” that is broadcast live on Wednesday mornings at 9 a.m. on the Internet as a Google+ Hangout On Air. You can watch archived episodes at DearMYRTLE's YouTube Channel – <https://www.youtube.com/user/DearMYRTLE>. The group started on 7 January, and there have been five episodes to date. You can watch the first episode at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UskxuqHfJ4I>.

Save the Date: March 7th is Escondido Family History Fair

The 2015 Escondido Family History Fair will be on Saturday, March 7th from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Escondido California Stake. Registration starts at 8 a.m. This annual all-day event is FREE to attend, with speakers on genealogical subjects in a number of tracks, plus a small exhibit hall. CVGS will have an exhibit there. A box lunch can be obtained for a \$3.70 fee.

Go to <http://www.escondidofhc.com/family-fair/> and click on the REGISTRATION link. Just type in your name and email address. They will send your ticket to your email address within a couple of minutes. You can order the \$3.70 (!) lunch with PayPal. While you're on that first page, click at the top on "History Fair Notes" for access to last year's handouts and syllabuses - good stuff there.

The keynote speaker is the "Barefoot Genealogist" Crista Cowan from Ancestry.com. Watch her educational and entertaining videos on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/user/AncestryCom>). Other speakers include [Michaela Burris](#), [Wendy Zuegschmidt](#), Dee Sallenbach, [Jean Wilcox Hibben; PhD, CG](#), [Butch Hibben](#), and [RootsTech Streaming](#).

CVGS will run a carpool to the Family History Fair, leaving Chula Vista at about 7:15 a.m. from the downtown parking garage. An email will be sent in late February to organize it.

Who Do You Think You Are? Returns to TLC on Sunday, 8 March 2015

The 2015 season of *Who Do You Think You Are?* starts on Sunday night, 8 March on the TLC Network at 10 p.m. ET, MT, PT, and 9 p.m. CT. You can watch a short video about the show at <http://www.tlc.com/tv-shows/who-do-you-think-you-are/first-look/>.

There are 8 episodes in this season with the celebrity subjects being:

- March 8 – Julie Chen
- March 15 – Josh Groban
- March 22 – Angie Harmon
- March 29 – Sean Hayes
- April 5 – Tony Goldwyn
- April 12 – America Ferrera
- April 19 – Bill Paxton
- April 26 – Melissa Etheridge

"Beginning Computer Genealogy" Class at OASIS, March 9, 16, 23 and 30

OASIS, the senior adult learning center in Macy's Mission Valley, has a "Beginning Computer Genealogy" class scheduled for Monday mornings, March 9, 16, 23 and 30, from 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. The class is taught by Randy Seaver three times a year. The fee is \$56 for the 4-session, 8-hour class, which includes over 40 pages of handouts. The class covers genealogy software and online research.

The San Diego OASIS website is at <http://www.oasisnet.org/SanDiegoCA.aspx>. They publish a catalog of educational classes, lectures, and activities each trimester. The current catalog is for January to April 2015 and is online at <http://www.oasisnet.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=mx0o6zoEM3E%3d&tabid=1267>. You can sign up at <http://www.oasisnet.org/SanDiegoCA/HowtoRegister.aspx>.

Sign up as soon as possible, seating is limited, and there is often a waiting list.

Genealogy in Time Magazine Top 100 Genealogy Websites

GenealogyInTime Magazine (a digital magazine, are you receiving it weekly?) published their Top 100 Genealogy Websites for 2015 in January. The top 20 genealogy websites, in terms of Internet traffic, are:

Rank	Website	Category	Country	Free Pay	2014 Rank	Address
1	Ancestry.com	records	USA	pay	1	http://www.ancestry.com/
2	FamilySearch	records	USA	free	3	https://www.familysearch.org/
3	Find A Grave	cemetery	USA	free	2	http://www.findagrave.com/
4	Ancestry.co.uk	records	UK	pay	6	http://www.ancestry.co.uk/
5	MyHeritage.com	family tree	USA	pay	4	http://www.myheritage.com/
6	GeneaNet	family tree	France	free	7	http://www.geneanet.org/
7	Geni.com	family tree	USA	pay	5	http://www.geni.com/
8	Genealogy.com	records	USA	pay	9	http://genealogy.com/
9	Ancestry.com.au	records	Australia	pay	17	http://www.ancestry.com.au/
10	FindMyPast UK	records	UK	pay	18	http://www.findmypast.co.uk/
11	Newspapers.com	newspapers	USA	pay	26	http://www.newspapers.com/
12	Archives.com	records	USA	pay	8	http://www.archives.com/
13	Ancestry.ca	records	Canada	pay	15	http://www.ancestry.ca/
14	Family Tree DNA	DNA testing	USA	pay	14	http://www.familytreedna.com/
15	WikiTree	family tree	USA	free	21	http://www.wikitree.com/
16	Genealogy Bank	newspapers	USA	pay	10	http://www.genealogybank.com
17	RootsChat	forum	UK	free	23	http://rootschat.com/
18	AncientFaces	forum	USA	free	12	http://www.ancientfaces.com/
19	Cyndi's List	links	USA	free	37	http://cyndislist.com/
20	Mocavo	search engine	USA	pay	28	http://www.mocavo.com/

GeneaPalooza Comic Strip

I love genealogy humor, and really enjoy the Geneapalooza blog (<http://geneapalooza.blogspot.com/>) written by Esto Frigus. The header on the blog says "Exposing the world of genealogy, every Monday/Wednesday/Friday, one panel at a time." I recommend starting at the beginning of the strip, the archive is at <http://geneapalooza.blogspot.com/p/strip-archive.html> in publication order (oldest first).

Research Group Meeting Review – 14 January 2015

The 14 January 2015 Research Group meeting had 21 attendees, almost a record! In the first hour, Randy discussed:

* CVGS program and membership surveys need to be filled out and returned. They will be available at the computer group and program meeting also.

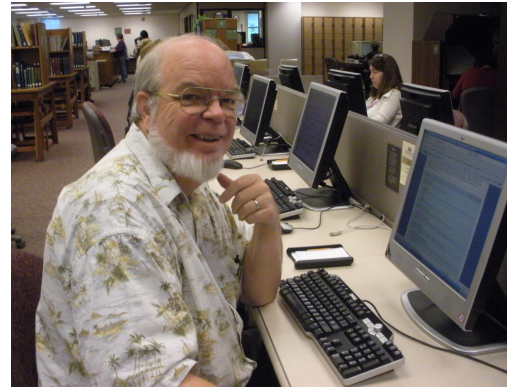
* Did you watch the first episode of *Genealogy Roadshow*? The videos are available at <http://video.pbs.org/program/genealogy-roadshow/>. It is on Tuesday nights at 8 p.m. on PBS (KPBS, Channel 11) through February 17th.

* The FGS and RootsTech Conferences are February 11-14 in Salt Lake City. Look for free live-streaming videos. Randy will attend, and John will lead the 11 February Research Group meeting.

* The CGSSD meeting on Saturday, 17 January will feature DearMYRTLE via a live Hangout On Air. This is a cost-effective way for quality speakers to present to genealogy societies from a distance.

* Family discussions over the holidays included helping his granddaughter make a family tree, telling a story from his own childhood to another granddaughter, and providing a chart to his grandson showing his relationship to President Obama.

* The home farm of 4th great-grandfather Simon Gates in Gardner, Mass. was described in an 1803 probate record. Randy plotted the land boundaries, and found the location on a topographical map.



In the second hour, several attendees discussed their research challenges and successes, including:

* Bobbie reviewed her two-year goals, and found that she satisfied the one on her mother's side - finding descendants in Louisiana that connect back to Acadia. She also found a book on *Acadian-Cajun Genealogy*. Her new goal on her mother's side is to find another Native-American ancestor. Her goal on her father's side is to find the German home of her 2nd great-grandparents.

* Shirley has been finding interesting texts on the Internet Archive website (www.archive.org). She recently browsed through the Columbia University collections.

* Bethel contacted a 4th cousin. She passed around a relationship chart to help folks determine a relationship. She also brought cookies and muffins to share at the meeting! Yum!

* Diane attended the SDGS seminar with Josh Taylor, and enjoyed the four presentations. She did a migration list for all of her surnames - where did the families live in what time frame? More 23andMe autosomal DNA test kits will go to her husband's relatives in an effort to discern paternity of his uncle.

* Carole found a 1919 newspaper article and picture about her great-grand aunt, who made a float for the Rose Parade using the family roadster, and came in second place. She's trying to obtain a better copy of the photograph from the Rose Parade folks.

* Susi described her research problem - John Myers was born in 1809 in Dauphin County, Penn., son of Valentine Myers, and died in 1865 in Illinois. His children put information in the family Bible that may be wrong. Valentine died in 1822; the 1820 census for Valentine shows 3 male and 6 female children, but no other children besides John are known. What should she search for? The group suggested probate, land, church, tax, and military pension records.

* Gary discussed the revamped CVGS website (use www.cvgenealogy.org) and noted that members can add their surnames and ancestral localities.

The next CVGS Research Group will be on Wednesday, 11 February 2015 starting at 12 noon in the Auditorium of the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library (365 F Street in downtown Chula Vista). John Finch will lead this discussion since Randy will be at RootsTech 2015 in Salt Lake City.

January 28th Program Review

Steve Andres was the featured speaker at the January 28th program meeting - his topic was the "U.S.S. Midway Museum." There were 35 in attendance. Steve discussed the history of the ship and the features of the current museum anchored in San Diego Bay (see <http://www.midway.org/>).

The U.S.S. Midway (CV-41) is a "retired" aircraft carrier - commissioned in 1945, built in Newport News in 18 months, refitted several times, and decommissioned in 1991. It was brought to San Diego in 2004 to be a museum on San Diego Bay rather than being destroyed.

The Midway was the first steel-deck carrier. It started as a 45 thousand ton warship without an angled deck, and was refitted in 1955 with an angled deck, and again in the 1960s to bring it up to a 75 thousand ton warship. The U.S.S. Midway was homeported around the world, including Norfolk, Virginia, Yokosuka, Japan, and Alameda, California. It played a major role in the Viet Nam War (including the evacuation after the fall of Saigon), Cold War, Desert Storm, and humanitarian missions, especially in the Philippines (after the Mt. Pinatubo eruption). The Wikipedia article about the Midway is at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Midway_\(CV-41\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Midway_(CV-41)).

As a museum, it is supported by museum members, gate ticket receipts, and donations. There are many volunteers who act as docents, providing information to visitors and as tour guides, in addition to maintaining and improving the ship and the onboard aircraft. There are 60 exhibits, 27 aircraft, movies, and more. Visitors can take a self-guided audio tour to learn about the U.S.S. Midway. The attendance has increased each year, and the museum had 1.2 million visitors in 2014.

The Midway Museum has several educational programs - overnight sleepovers, day programs for 2nd to 8th graders, and evening programs for adults, with dinner attendance up to 5,000 persons.

This was an interesting slide presentation, and Steve's humor and information was excellent. He answered many questions about the ship's history and the features of the U.S.S. Midway Museum.

Genealogy Do Over

Thomas MacEntee has a 13-week program for researchers to do a Genealogy Do-Over, essentially starting from scratch again in order to implement best practices and correct all of the mistakes that researchers make when they start out. It's also a good tutorial for beginning genealogy researchers.

The Genealogy Do-Over Schedule of Topics page is at <http://www.geneabloggers.com/genealogy-doover-schedule-topics/>. Each week, there are several tasks to perform – click on the links for each week to see a more complete discussion of the tasks. Many veteran genealogists have chosen to take part in this – either totally all-in really starting over, or partially by reviewing their research information and updating their database or reports.

You don't have to stick to the schedule. Consider these tasks as sequential – you can do them over any number of months or years. If you follow the plan, your result will be an excellent genealogy research compendium.



Top 10 Most Searched FamilySearch Databases

Of FamilySearch.org's 1,920 free online historic records collections, the top 10 most searched collections in 2014 included the [free US Censuses](#), public records, vital records, and military records. The popularity of U.S. historical records can probably be attributed to the fact that the United States is a country of immigrants. The hundreds of millions of descendants today are curious about their ancestral origins—which many of us will eventually extend to other countries. In fact, only half of FamilySearch.org's monthly patrons hail from within the U.S. The other half of its online family history seekers are from dozens of countries from Europe, Central, and South America.

Rank	Country	Database
1	USA	United States Censuses 1790 to 1940
2	England	England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975
3	USA	United States Public Records, 1970-2009
4	USA	United States Social Security Death Index
5	USA	United States World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917- 1918
6	Germany	Germany Births and Baptisms, 1558-1898
7	USA	Ohio, Deaths, 1908-1953
8	USA	Texas, Deaths, 1890-1976
9	USA	Ohio, County Marriages, 1789-1997
10	USA	Pennsylvania, County Marriages, 1885-1950

“Most of the US population today probably can't imagine living within just a few square miles of 400 years of their family's history, which can be the norm in other places of the world,” said Jennifer Kerns Davis, a project manager in FamilySearch's Records Division. “In fact, Americans today are probably in the minority if they live in the same state where their parents and both sets of grandparents were born. We are an actively migrating nation within our own borders.”

The remainder of the top ten list includes collections from England and Germany. This might have something to do with the fact that these countries experienced large volumes of emigration historically, and descendants today are actively tracing their roots into and out of those countries and regions. There are billions of free historic records from over 200 countries to search. And millions more are added monthly. To explore your ancestry, simply go to [FamilySearch.org](#).

Rob Cardwell's Genealogy Video

Rob Cardwell is a TV News reporter for CBS 6 in eastern Virginia. He produced a video several months ago full of genealogical information and a lot of fun as part of his reporting - you can watch it at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QBYIDIAFpkk>.

Welcome New Members

Ramon Godinez

Current Membership (as of 2/1): 86

Karyn's Caring Corner

Cards were sent to:

none this month!

Meeting Host Volunteers

February 25: Jane Strawn, Karen Smith
March 25: Jo Ann Bonner, Ana Castro

Contact Jo Ann Bonner to sign up!

Telephone Tree Volunteers

Page 1 – Dorothy Alvord – 619-469-3483
Page 2 – Jacque 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	Jane Strawn
Second Vice-President, Membership	Karen Smith
Treasurer	Gary Brock
Secretary	Karen Yarger

Committee Chairs

Computer Group	Shirley Becker
Education	Susi Pentico
Historian	Susan Zimmer
Hospitality	Jo Ann Bonner/Ana Castro
Librarian	Dorothy Alvord/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

Tuesday, February 10th, 10 a.m.
*NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY GEN.
SOCIETY COGG*

Speaker: Dorothy Miller on
“Family Tree Maker, Revisited”
at Carlsbad City Council Chambers
contact: Pam Boyle (boylepam@gmail.com)

Saturday, February 14th, 10 a.m.
SAN DIEGO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Speakers: Yvette Porter-Moore on
“Blogging Your Family History”
and Jean Moss on
“My Adoption Search”

at St. Andrews Lutheran Church
(8350 Lake Murray Blvd., San Diego)
contact: 858-279-7347

Saturday, February 21st, 9 a.m.
*COMPUTER GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
OF SAN DIEGO*

9 a.m.: User Groups
10:30 a.m.: Hal Horrocks on
“Colonial Genealogical Records –
And How To Find Them”
at UCSD-Robinson Hall
contact cgssd-board@ucsd.edu

Tuesday, February 24th, 10 a.m.
*NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY GEN.
SOCIETY*

Speaker: Mary Ann Vincent on
“Civil War Prison Camps”
at Carlsbad City Council Chambers
contact: Jean Tempke
(jtempke@roadrunner.com)

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

2015 Regional and National Events

May 13-16, 2015
*NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
CONFERENCE* in St. Charles, Mo.
Info: <http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/>

GENEALOGY DAYS IN CHULA VISTA

- **Wednesday, Feb. 4, 12 noon – CVGS Board Meeting**, at CVCCB Library Auditorium
- **Saturday, Feb. 7, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. – CVGS Workshop: Susi Pentico: “Mississippi Research”** at Bonita-Sunnyside Library (4375 Bonita Road)
- **Wednesday, Feb. 11, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Auditorium
- **Wednesday, Feb. 18, 12 noon – Computer Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Library Computer Lab
- **Wednesday, Feb. 25, 12 noon – Program Meeting: Barbara Zaragoza: “San Ysidro and the Tijuana River Valley”** at CVCCB Library Auditorium
- **Wednesday, Mar. 4, 12 noon – CVGS Board Meeting**, at CVCCB Auditorium
- **Wednesday, Mar. 11, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Library Auditorium
- **Saturday, Mar. 14, 1 p.m to 4 p.m. – CVGS Workshop: Gary Brock/Sam Seat: “Using the Wild Apricot Website,”** at Bonita-Sunnyside Library (4375 Bonita Road)
- **Wednesday, Mar. 18, 12 noon – Computer Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Library Computer Lab
- **Wednesday, Mar. 25, 12 noon – Program Meeting: Jamie Mayhew: “Across the Prairie: Land Records in the Public Land States”** 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 Jane Strawn (jstrawn2@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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