



We Dig Our Ancestors

CHULA VISTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 3024
Chula Vista CA 91909-3024

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 12

Providing Genealogy Education in South San Diego County

December 2015

THURSDAY, December 10th GENERAL MEETING

from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

**At Chula Vista South Branch Library (389 Orange Ave.) in Conference Room
“Annual Holiday Luncheon”**

The annual Holiday Luncheon will have turkey, ham, and drinks provided by CVGS. The pot luck breakdown for the rest of the meal will be coordinated by JoAnn Bonner (phone 619-421-3628, email jabonner13@gmail.com) and Ana Castro (phone 619-781-8441, email crcastro@cox.net) – please contact them by 12/7 to coordinate potluck dishes. The potluck schedule is:

- **A to F Surnames: Desserts**
- **G to K Surnames: Salads, Rolls, Butter**
- **L to P Surnames: Snack trays, Condiments, Olives, Pickles, Cranberry Sauce, etc.**
- **Q to Z Surnames: Potatoes (Irish or Sweet), Veggies, Casseroles**



There will be a free door prize drawing, and an optional bring one/get one gift exchange (\$10 limit).

Attendees are requested to bring non-perishable food and/or unwrapped toys for donation to the Salvation Army.

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President's Message – by Virginia Taylor



We are fast approaching the end of another year. It is time to assess what we accomplished in 2015 and look ahead to what our goals are for 2016.

As genealogists we have our own version of New Year's Resolutions. It is "What do I want to accomplish next year?" Maybe you plan to work diligently to find that one elusive ancestor, the one who really doesn't seem to want to be found. Maybe you want to take your family tree back one more generation. How about getting your files organized? Are you ready to leave the paper world and put everything in the cloud?

I know one of the first things I need to do is to get my computer room organized. Right now I have papers and books lying around everywhere. It is an adventure when I need to find that "very important paper". That is my plan for January after I get all of my Christmas decorations put away for another year. Maybe putting it in writing will give me the incentive to really do it.

Another thing which I hope will be on your list of resolutions is to give more support to your society this next year. If you are one of the active ones I thank you very much. If you have been sitting on the sidelines now is the time to step forward and say "I want to help. What can I do?". We are a society of almost 100 people and we should have almost 100 people actively participating. We have a very vibrant society as it is but think what we can do if everyone helps.

Now is also the time to help your children and grandchildren to fill in the "dashes" in their family tree. As you gather as a family tell them the stories of your childhood Christmases and other holidays. I know some of them will just roll their eyes and yawn but sometime in the future they will remember those stories and be glad that they heard them. Even better after you tell them, write them down because once you are gone they will be lost forever.

I hope to see all of you at our Christmas luncheon next week. That will be our last activity for this year. If I don't see you next week have a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Happy New Year. See you in January.

Who's Due to Pay Dues? – by Karen Smith

Now that we are using the Wild Apricot service for our website, the program will keep track of our due renewal dates automatically. For example, if you paid your 2015 dues on December 12, 2014, you will get an email about 21 days before December 12, 2015, and also 7 days before, reminding you to pay your dues. Be on the lookout for these reminders. If you are curious about when your dues will be due, just fire an email to Karen Smith at freelady72000@me.com and she will give you the date. You can pay your dues either online with a credit card at www.cvgenealogy.org or by check at a CVGS meeting.

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.

CVGS Fall Seminar Review

The CVGS all-day Fall Seminar, titled "Over the Pond," was held on Saturday, 7 November 2015 at the Bonita Golf Course, with about 42 persons in attendance.

There were four presentations by two speakers - Judith Brooks and Toni Perrone. The talks and a brief description of them were:

- 1) **"High Road or Low Road -- How and Why the Scots Migrated" by Judith Brooks.** This talk was an historical overview of the Scots - the topography and history of Scotland, from early settlement to present day, with information about religious strife, mercenaries, Treaty of Union, period of enlightenment, and migration from Scotland to Ireland, England, South Africa, North America, and other countries. Reasons for migrating included civil strife, famine, adventurous spirit, religious turmoil, exiled as felons, prisoners or undesirables, trade prospects, and governments asking for colonists.
- 2) **"Italian Genealogical Research" by Toni Perrone.** Toni reviewed the different resources available to pursue Italian family history - oral histories, civil records, passenger lists, naturalization records, newspapers, census records, city directories, occupational records, vital records, cemeteries, etc. Local and national Italian genealogical and historical societies were mentioned. Many Italian immigrants to the U.S. were from the south of Italy because they were poorer and more crowded than the North, where more people owned land. The main ports of emigration were Genoa, Naples, Palermo, Messina and Marseilles. From 1880 to 1886, migration was mainly from the North, and from 1887 to 1915 they were mainly from the South. Chain migration was common - one person migrated initially, then family members and friends came. They usually lived in Italian communities in large cities.
- 3) **"Marriage and Inheritance Customs in Germany" by Toni Perrone.** This talk covered marriage customs and records - minimum ages, soldiers, bonds, dispensations, permission to marry, marriage inventory, marriage contracts, and more. It also covered Inheritance customs - types of impartible inheritance and partible inheritance, She also covered land terms and measurements.
- 4) **"Using Ancestral Religious Migratory Patterns to Find Church Records to Further Your Research" by Judith Brooks.** Topics included identifying where your ancestor lived, determining their religious denomination, factors affecting where they have gone to church, and then a review of many of the denominations and their records. Information about Roman Catholics, Anglicans, Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterians, Reformed, Huguenot, Congregational, Unitarians, Quakers, Baptists, Moravians, Mennonites, Amish, Brethren, Greek Orthodox, 7th Day Adventists, Mormons, and Jewish beliefs and practices were provided.

In the 15 to 30 minutes between each talk, the attendees checked the prize board - there were over 50 different door prizes and opportunity drawing prizes - including Ancestry, Newspapers, Fold3, MyHeritage, Findmypast, Mocavo, and GenealogyBank subscriptions; there were also RootsMagic, Legacy Family Tree, Family Tree Maker, and Family Tree Builder genealogy software also; plus many local business and attraction prizes.

The sit-down plated luncheon was satisfactory with chicken and beef, potatoes, broccoli and salad, with cookies for dessert.

Diane Godinez took many photographs of attendees and the setting, and I will include some photographs on page 5.

Next Computer Group Meeting – 20 January 2016

The next Computer Group meeting will be on Wednesday, 20 January 2016 in the Computer Lab at the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library (365 F Street in downtown Chula Vista, Calif.). Shirley Becker will lead this group and will visit some free genealogical resources.

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, January 20, 6 to 8 p.m.:** Program will be “Scanning” led by Gary Brock or “GEDCOM” led by Susi Pentico.

CVGS Saturday Workshop – 2 January 2016

The January 2nd Saturday Workshop will be from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. In the Community Room at the Bonita-Sunnyside Library (4375 Bonita Road). Gary Brock and other CVGS members will lead the discussion on “Scanning.” The types of scanning devices and software programs will be discussed, and help will be provided to help attendees learn how to scan items into their computer.

RootsTech 2016 is February 3-6, 2016 in Salt Lake City

The largest genealogy conference ever is planned in Salt Lake City from February 3rd to 6th at the downtown Salt Palace Convention Center. See www.RootsTech.org for registration information.

Watch Legacy Family Tree Webinars for More Genealogy Education

Family Tree Webinars continues to provide interesting and informative genealogy webinar presentations by notable speakers on a near weekly basis. The complete list of upcoming webinars can be found at <http://familytreewebinars.com/>. For December, the scheduled webinars are:

- Wednesday, 2 December 2015: Gail Blankenau on *Stories in Stone – Cemetery Research*
- Wednesday, 9 December 2015: Apryl Cox on *Thinking About Becoming an Accredited Genealogist?*
- Wednesday, 16 December 2015: Marian Pierre-Louis on *Pointing Fingers at Ancestors' Siblings – Breaking Down Brickwalls with Collaterals Researchers*
- Friday, 18 December 2015: J. Mark Lowe on *What Happened to the State of Frankland – Using Tennessee's Pre-Statehood Records*

These 90-minute webinars are FREE to watch live at 11 a.m. Pacific time and for seven days after the live presentation. After seven days, they are added to the Webinar Archive behind the Family Tree Webinars pay wall (\$49.95 for a one year subscription). There are over 270 webinars available in the Archive now. Most of them have an accompanying handout available only to subscribers. This is one of the best genealogy education bargains around.

CVGS Fall Seminar Photographs
(all taken by Patricia Diane Godinez)

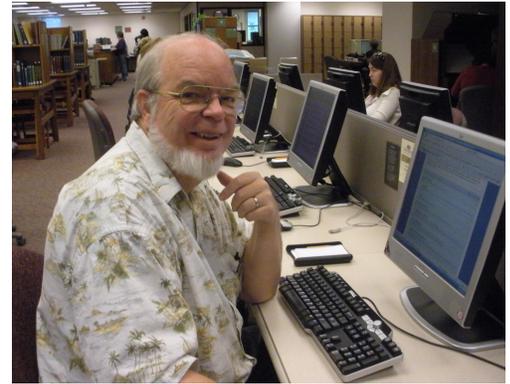


Research Group Meeting Review – 12 November 2015

The November meeting of the CVGS Research Group was on Thursday, 12 November with 10 attendees.

In the first hour, Randy discussed:

- * AncestryDNA Circles and shared DNA estimates.
- * GEDMatch.com, a third-party DNA analysis tool that reads the raw data provided by AncestryDNA, FamilyTreeDNA and 23andMe, and provides more analytical information, including a chromosome browser.
- * The FamilySearch Research Wiki (https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Main_Page) which has information about countries, states and counties, plus many record types.



In the second hour, the attendees discussed their research problems and successes:

- * Jane reviewed her trip to New York and Massachusetts to search for DelVecchio records. She joined CVGS in March 2014 and has made significant progress with her Italian research. Before her trip, she had found Jack via email, whose ancestor had married into Jane's family. In Troy, New York, Jane visited St. Mary's Catholic Church Cemetery and found the DelVecchio gravestone, and a plot map with names of those buried there. She also searched Albany diocesan records. She determined that the house where her great-grandparents lived was destroyed to build a bridge over the Hudson. Jane obtained death certificates for some of the family members, but the birthplace is listed only as "Italy." She also met cousins Jack and Albert and got to know them better.
- * Jean said that some of her ancestors remains were "removed" for a road. She wondered where the remains are at present.
- * Helen found an article on her Winkel family who traveled by wagon train to California in 1854. The father was lost in a Utah river.
- * Shirley's ancestor, Lucius Plue, was found in the 1865 New York state census residing with the Goff family - he was age 12 and adopted. That was a surprise for Shirley.

The next CVGS Research Group will be on Wednesday, 9 December, at 12 noon in the Conference Room in the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library (365 F Street).

Finding Your Roots Starts on PBS 5 January 2016

The PBS television series hosted and written by Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr., *Finding Your Roots*, returns on Tuesday, January 5, 2016. with four episodes. The featured celebrities include: Julianne Moore, Keenen Ivory Wayans, Senator John McCain and television producers Norman Lear and Shonda Rhimes.

November 25th Program Review – “Heirloom Discovery Day”

Georgie Stillman presented her "Heirloom Discovery Day" at the Bonita-Sunnyside Library on Wednesday, 26 November 2015, with 30 in attendance. See the description of Georgie's talents at [November Program is "Heirloom Discovery Day" with Georgie Stillman.](#)

Eight CVGS members brought heirlooms for Georgie to discuss, evaluate and appraise. They included:

* Virginia brought a homespun woolen blanket made by her great-grandmother in Indiana. Georgie said that these types of blankets, and quilts, were made in rural areas using thread obtained from trade routes. This blanket is typical from the 1830 to 1850 time period, is scarce and in beautiful condition, and may be valued at \$250 to \$350.

* Karen S. has her grandmother's necklace from the 1870s. Georgie indicated that it is "high Victoriana," has no marks, is gold plated, and very English in design and workmanship. She valued it at \$400 to \$500.

* Jane brought a candy dish, with a floral design, handed down from her mother. Georgie found a mark for MWC Co, which indicates it was made in Germany after 1923. She said it was good quality, but I didn't catch an appraised value.

* Joanna brought three rocking chairs from her family antiques. One was a handmade colonial revival chair which may be from the 18th century made into a rocker. The second was a machine made Grand Rapids rocker dating to about 1875. The third was an American Eastlake style Victorian rocking chair dating to about 1875. Georgie noted that none of these chairs were comfortable, and were mainly used to impress visitors. She appraised them at \$45 to \$75 each.

* John brought an eye-washing cup. His grandmother was a registered nurse in Idaho. Georgie said it was a curiosity piece of pressed glass, dating to the 1920s or 1930s, and was worth \$5 to \$20. John also brought a small magnifying glass that was his grandfather's in the early 1900s. Georgie indicated that it was German made from the mark on it.

* Susan Z. brought a photo of a Civil War era wrought iron headboard, which was obtained at a DUVCW meeting. It was subsequently donated to a Springfield, Illinois museum. Georgie said it was probably from the 1890 to 1920 time frame, and can't say it was from the Civil War era.

* Karen Y. brought an 1860 edition of the *Three Musketeers* book by Alexandre Dumas published in French. Georgie said that it was in poor condition, but that books in good condition are sought after and could be worth \$200.

* Diane D. brought a peanut or gumball dispenser. Georgie said it was made of wood and plastic, was probably from the 1930s, was a country store item, and may be a reproduction.

* Jean brought several silver spoons. Georgie said they were from the late 19th century.

During the program, Georgie noted that the current appraised values for any heirloom items greatly depends on the demand for the specific item, especially from wealthy buyers and investors. Some heirlooms are of no interest to these buyers, and are therefore of little value, except for sentimental value.



Program Meeting Schedule Changes, by Karen Yarger

In an effort to make our general meetings more efficient and less time consuming, and considering courtesy to our speakers, the Board has suggested the following program flow for general meetings:

- a) Welcome remarks and recognition of guests and new members by the President
- b) Brief announcements of upcoming events
- c) The speaker's presentation
- d) The raffle
- e) A shortened business meeting, noting that most items are on the website and in the newsletter
- f) Adjournment

Please Give Back to CVGS, by Karen Smith

Make it your New Year's Resolution to give back to the society and get to know some of the members better. Right now we have an opening for a caller. The job description: A caller reaches out to part of our members once a month to give them reminders and updates on CVGS activities. Callers often check in to see if members need a ride to a meeting or make sure they know how to log on to Wild Apricot. Callers provide the voice of CVGS. Contact Karen Smith if you are interested: freelady72000@me.com or [619-656-0996](tel:619-656-0996).

SDGS Family History Seminar on 9 January 2016

The [San Diego Genealogical Society](#) Annual Meeting and Family History Seminar will be on Saturday, 9 January 2016 in the Captain's Room at Marina Village (1936 Quivira Way on Mission Bay, San Diego CA 92109). Registration begins at 8 a.m. and the program starts at 9 a.m.

John Colletta, Ph.D. will be the featured speaker (more information about John at <http://genealogyjohn.com/html/about.htm>). He will present four talks on:

- * Session 1: U.S. Passenger Arrival Records, 1820-1930s: Sources and Strategies for Challenging Cases
- * Session 2: Erie Canal Genealogy: The Peopling of Upstate New York and the Midwest
- * Session 3: Discovering the REAL Stories of Your Immigrant Ancestors
- * Session 4: How to Prepare for Successful Research in European Records

The event includes morning coffee and tea with pastries. A box lunch will be provided.

The fees for this event are:

- * SDGS Member: \$45
- * Guest of SDGS Member: \$45
- * Non-SDGS Member: \$50

More information is available at <https://sdgs.wildapricot.org/event-2060503/>. You can register at <https://sdgs.wildapricot.org/event-2060503/Registration>. Payment can be made by PayPal, credit card online, or you can mail your check and registration form to the society.

Welcome New Members

Current Membership (as of 12/1): 97

none this month

Karyn's Caring Corner

Cards were sent to:

Mary Pentico Nelson

Meeting Host Volunteers

December 10th: Everyone!

Contact Jo Ann Bonner to sign up!
(619) 421-3628

Telephone Tree Volunteers

Page 1 – Ana Castro – 619-781-8441
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	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	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, January 12th, 9 a.m.

NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY GEN. SOCIETY COGG

Speaker: TBD on
"TBD"

at Carlsbad City Council Chambers
contact: Pam Boyle (boylepam@gmail.com)

Saturday, January 9th, 9 a.m.

SAN DIEGO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Speaker: John Colletta on
"US Passenger Arrival Records"
"Erie Canal Genealogy"
"Discovering the REAL Stories of Your Ancestors"
"How to Prepare for Successful Research in European Records"

at Captain's Room, Marina Village,
(1936 Quivira Way, San Diego CA 92109)
contact: 858-279-7347

Tuesday, January 26th, 9 a.m.

NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY GEN. SOC.

Speaker: TBD on
"TBD"

at Carlsbad City Council Chambers
contact: Jean Tempke
(jtempke@roadrunner.com)

ROOTSTECH 2016 CONFERENCE

February 3-6, 2016
in Salt Lake City (Salt Palace)
Information: www.rootstech.org

GENEALOGY DAYS IN CHULA VISTA

- **Wednesday, December 2, 12 noon – CVGS Board Meeting**, at CVCCB Library Conf. Room
- **Saturday, December 5, 1 p.m. – CVGS Workshop: Randy Seaver and Shirley Becker: “MyHeritage”** at Bonita-Sunnyside Library (4375 Bonita Road)
- **Wednesday, December 9, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Library Conf. Room
- **Thursday, December 10, 11:30 a.m.– Holiday Luncheon** at Chula Vista South Library in Conference Room (389 Orange Avenue, Chula Vista)
- **Saturday, January 2, 1 p.m. – Saturday Workshop: Gary Brock: “Scanning”** at Bonita-Sunnyside Library (4375 Bonita Road)
- **Wednesday, January 6, 12 noon – CVGS Board Meeting**, at CVCCB Library Conf. Room
- **Wednesday, January 13, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Library Conf. Room
- **Wednesday, January 20, 12 noon – Computer Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Library Comp. Lab
- **Wednesday, January 27, 12:30 – Program Meeting: Gena Philibert Ortega: “Remember the Ladies: Finding Your Female Ancestors”** at Bonita-Sunnyside Library (4375 Bonita Road)

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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
P.O. Box 3024
Chula Vista CA 91909-3024

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