



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 26, Issue 8

Providing Genealogy Education in South San Diego County

August 2016

WEDNESDAY, August 31st, PROGRAM MEETING

from 12 noon to 2 p.m.

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

Speaker: Kitty Cooper on “DNA Testing for Genealogists”

This presentation will describe two personal success stories that demonstrate how DNA testing and analysis of the results can lead to breaking down genealogical research brick walls.

Kitty Munson Cooper is a well-known geneablogger on genetics and genealogy. She started <http://blog.kittycooper.com> in 2012 to keep track of her own family's DNA tests as well as her genealogical research. Then she added some tools she wrote for graphing DNA relationships. Between the tools and the simple step by step pictorial explanations written for her relatives, the blog soon became extremely popular. It currently gets several thousand visitors a day. Her popularity earned her a spot on the “Top Ten Rockstars” genetic genealogists list in 2015.

Most recently she traveled to Norway and visited many of the farms of her ancestors and finally met in person many of her 3rd, 4th, and 5th cousins, most discovered with DNA testing. Kitty started programming computers in 1966 while still in high school and currently has her own small web development business.

She has a cum laude degree from Harvard University and is also a World Champion Bridge player. Born and raised in New York City, she now lives in Lakeside, California (East San Diego County) with her husband Steve and their dog Navajo. They have over an acre and more than 20 fruit trees. Gardening is another hobby of hers.

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President's Message – by Virginia Taylor



What is a volunteer? According to Webster's dictionary a volunteer is one who enters into or performs of his own free will. Volunteers are the backbone and heart of any organization, including our society.

We currently have a committee planning for our Family History Day on Saturday, October 22. In order for the day to be successful we will need the help of many volunteers.

I can hear many of you saying I have nothing to contribute, or I have no talent, or I don't have time. Everyone has something to contribute, you just have to look for it. Everyone has talent somewhere and if you really don't we will be glad to help you find it. No time? Can you give even one hour on a Saturday? We will be glad to train anyone who is willing to help out.

We will be pretty much taking over the library for the day. There will be children's activities for all ages from pre-school up through high school. We will need many volunteers in that area.

If you know how to fill out a pedigree chart or a family group sheet then your talent will be to help people brand new to genealogy to fill out their first pedigree chart. Do you know a bit about genealogy websites? Then you might like to help in the computer lab.

We will also need people to act as guides to get people to the right place for what they want to do.

So you see there is a place for everyone. We are a society of 100 people and only about 1/4 of our members volunteer. We are a very active society but think what we could be if everyone would volunteer even a few hours a year. Please do not run the other way when one of the committee members approaches you to volunteer for Family History Day. It will be a lot of fun and very rewarding.

Please Register for Meetings on the CVGS Website

Please register for the Program Meetings, the Saturday Workshops, the Research Group and the Computer Group on the CVGS website – www.CVGenealogy.org. Log in with your member ID, then click on "Events" and the Register button for each event, and follow directions. This will help with meeting planning and speaker handouts.

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 "Members" tab.

Next Computer Group Meeting – 17 August 2016

The next Computer Group meeting will be on Wednesday, 17 August 2016 at the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library (365 F Street in downtown Chula Vista, Calif.). There will be a “Beginning Computer Genealogy” class at 10:15 a.m. in the Conference Room, followed by the regular “Computer Group” meeting in the Computer Lab from 12:30 to 2 p.m., both led by Shirley Becker.

Class will start at 10:15 a.m. in the Conference Room and go until 11:45 a.m. when we will break for lunch. It is called a “Beginning Computer Genealogy” group. If you have a laptop, you should bring it. Gary Brock will be demonstrating very basic computer tasks such as how to find tutorials and use them. We will move to the computer lab at 12:30 p.m. and stay until 2 p.m. Basic genealogy tasks are planned, such as going to a website, copying an item and placing that item in your database. We will use the lab computers at this point with a kind of fake database set up in Microsoft Word. We will delete those databases when we leave the lab. Hopefully, the attendees will have some basic knowledge at that point to follow on the computers. We want their input on what they would like to learn.

The expectation is that the attendees will follow up at home by practicing on things they will learn in class. In two months, if they practice we will try for more advanced things in the lab. If it doesn't work that way, we will answer requests for assistance and we will discontinue the extra class.

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, 17 August, 6 to 8 p.m.:** Liz Vagani (Branch Manager at Lemon Grove Library) will discuss “Using Library Resources for Genealogical Research”

Next CVGS Saturday Workshop – 3 September 2016

The September 3rd Saturday Workshop will be from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Community Room at the Bonita-Sunnyside Library (4375 Bonita Road). The subject will be “Family Tree Maker Review” with Ken Robison. Please bring your laptops with Family Tree Maker installed so you can follow along.

New CVGS Nametags Available for Sale

Jane Strawn has organized new nametags for the members: they have a pine green background with a white tree logo, Society name and member's name, and a magnetized back. If a minimum of 17 are ordered, the cost will be \$10 each, with \$2 of that going to the CVGS Scholarship Fund.

Order forms are available at the regular meetings, and the first orders have arrived. Please contact Jane (jstrawn2@cox.net) to order your new nametag and for more information.

July 27th Annual Picnic Summary, by Karen Yarger

The CVGS Annual Picnic was held in lieu of our monthly meeting on Wednesday, July 27, at the home of Wanda and Gary Brock in Bonita. Approximately 30 members and guests brought a delicious assortment of side dishes and desserts to accompany the hamburgers and brats served up by "Master Griller" Gary.

Under the shady canopy of trees and awnings, we relaxed around tables and listened to tales of misbehaving ancestors. This year's theme was "Digging the Dirt - Our Family Stories", and several members shared tales of revolt, philandering, and murder - certainly a spicy addition to a summer picnic!

- Myrna Goodwin shared the sensationalized news stories of her grandfather's 11-year old brother's accidental death, which was reported in lurid headlines of the '20s as a suicide.
- Bobbie Lane told of her French Acadian ancestors and their travails in the mid 1700's when the British forced them from their homes and into exile.
- Jane Strawn told of her Italian family's work in the shirt industry in Troy, NY and a great aunt's suicide.
- Diane Godinez's story of a bigamist and serial killer with Chula Vista ties had our eyebrows raised.
- Ana Castro told of her maternal grandmother raising seven children in Mexico when Catholics were persecuted, and going to jail for her faith.
- The brother of Sylvia Stare's great great grandmother ran Chinese slaves from San Francisco, and then got a mail order bride whom he sold to a Russian sea captain in Alaska (!).
- Randy related that his wife Linda had ties to a couple "ladies of the night", one of whom ran a whorehouse in 1860 Sacramento.
- Virginia Taylor's grandfather was a town marshall - who had a much-married daughter.
- Karen Yarger told tales of her colorful Irish ancestor, John "Jack the Buck" Geoghegan, a dandy who dueled, gambled and courted the ladies with equal panache.
- Gary Brock fondly recalled his grandfather's brother who mentored and protected him, even though he was a little "nuts" (the brother, not Gary).



(continued on page 8)

Genealogy Field Trip on Wednesday, August 24

John Finch has arranged a field trip to the big San Diego Central Library downtown for Wednesday, August 24. You'll remember the wonderful ninth floor genealogy collection and their free access to *Ancestry.com* and *HeritageQuestOnline*. We would normally drive and park in the 'tail gate lot' across the street, but there is a Padres game at 12:40 p.m., so we will take the trolley as we've done in the past.

We will meet at 9:30am at our usual place: the Third Avenue parking structure behind Marie Callender's - on the second tier. From there, we'll carpool to the trolley station at either E St. or H St. Remember to bring small bills and change - the senior one-way fare is \$1.25, and they won't change large bills. The change and small bills will also come in handy for the library's copiers.

You might want to bring a lunch or snack too. We plan to stay until about 2 p.m. and maybe stop at Marie Callender's when we return. But if you can't wait, there's a nice snack bar cafe on the library's patio.

Please register on our website www.cvgenealogy.org or contact John Finch at jan27@cox.net.

Save the Date: 22 October 2016 for "Family History Day"

Our "Family History Day" with the Chula Vista Library will be on Saturday, October 22, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The theme of the free community-wide event is "Ancestors Matter – What Do You Know? What Can You Find?" and will feature numerous activities for all ages. The day will showcase a genealogy TV-type event, "Who is Mayor Mary Salas?", hosted by Ceasar Castro. Jane Strawn and her committee meet regularly and report good progress. The event will be in lieu of our monthly general meeting for October, and volunteers are needed; Ana Castro is overseeing the volunteer list.

Save the Date: September 28th for "Stump the Chumps"

The September 28th meeting will be our annual "Stump the Chumps" panel program. The "Chumps" this year will be Ceasar Castro, Randy Seaver, Shirley Becker, and Ken Robison. Please start sending me your questions so the "Chumps" can start their research. Please make your questions specific to you but general enough for the entire audience. If you have questions on "Stump the Chumps" please email me. Thanks, Jane Strawn jstrawn2@cox.net.

Family Tree Magazine has Best 101 Genealogy Websites for 2016

Each year, *Family Tree Magazine* publishes the 101 Best Websites for family history to guide genealogists to the top websites where they can make family history research progress, and to honor the individuals and organizations who create those sites. This year, they took a fresh look at the list, adding more than 30 new, innovative and overlooked sites. For the "old favorites" on the list, they've highlighted new content and features.

This September 2016 issue is being mailed to subscribers and is available at www.ShopFamilyTree.com. It goes on sale August 16 at newsstands.

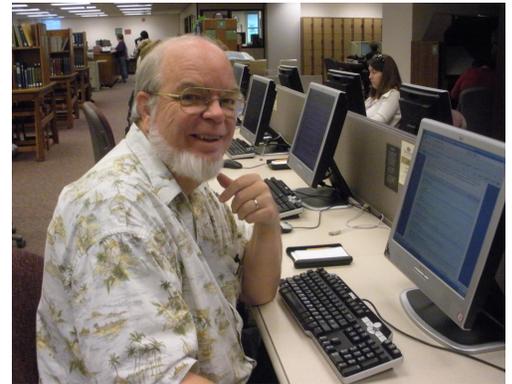
The full list of 101 Best Websites for family history can be found using the category links at <http://www.familytreemagazine.com/article/101-best-websites-2016>.

Research Group Meeting Review – 13 July 2016

There were 13 attendees at the CVGS Research Group meeting on Wednesday, 13 July at the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library.

In the first hour, Randy discussed these highlights from his month of genealogy work:

- * MyHeritage released their PedigreeMap which shows where your ancestors resided when they were born, married and died.
- * MyHeritage released their new Sun Chart, which shows names and photos of ancestors or descendants in a circular fashion. This may be useful for DNA matching.
- * He received five New Jersey vital record certificates for his Auble relatives from a colleague who visited the Archives in Trenton.



In the second hour, we went around the table and folks shared about:

- * Arlene has been working in MyHeritage and finding records. She also likes the "On Granny's Trail" channel on YouTube.
- * Gary has been working on his royal lines and is back into the 700s. He found a family box in his garage that had a big 1903 Bible, but the family pages were blank.
- * Shirley wondered how to search the Gallery in her Ancestry Member Tree. We found that Ctrl-F works but only on the current page. She is adding media to her Ancestry and MyHeritage trees when relationships and events are proved.
- * Susi and Mary had a breakthrough at the FamilySearch Center - they found books on the shelf for several ancestral towns in North Dakota, Iowa and Wisconsin and went back another generation. Susi thinks she has identified a wife's maiden name on her PA Higgins line.
- * Virginia found vital records for her siblings and grandparents in the Indiana certificate databases on Ancestry.
- * Jane has been working with Ana on their 50th high school reunion, trying to find death records and living person addresses.
- * Helen is working on her husband's genealogy, and found NJ and NY probate records that indicated there was an unknown stepson in one family.
- * Karen S. had a contact from a 4th cousin on Ancestry from her tree. She has a trunk of family treasures from her deceased aunt, which includes a 1916 scrapbook, letters to grandparents from a World War II son. She wondered how to save them. The group suggested scanning them to save them and pass them to family members, and to preserve them in an archival scrapbook or album.
- * John has had good luck finding useful information about families in Ancestry's "North American Family Histories" database. He has done his mitochondrial DNA on FamilyTreeDNA, and he and his wife also tested on AncestryDNA and have lots of matches.
- * Diane had a 23andMe DNA contact with a adoptee who lives in Carlsbad that connects with her son.

The next Research Group meeting will be Wednesday, 10 August 2016, at 12 noon in the Conference Room of the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library.

CVGS at the SD History Center's 'Free Tuesday'

On Tuesday, July 12, CVGS was a guest at the San Diego History Center's "Residents' Free Tuesday." Nearly everyone knows that the museums offer free admittance on various Tuesdays each month (see <http://www.balboapark.org/visit/tuesdays>). For this day, the SDHC invited us to set up a table display in their foyer, along with the North Park Historical Society, the Bonita Historical Society and the Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego. Karen Yarger and Jane Strawn manned the table, greeting guests and answering questions about CVGS and genealogy.

More than 300 visitors and tourists walked through, on their way to explore the SDHC's exhibits (see <http://www.sandiegohistory.org/>). We sat under a giant 17-foot orangutan, which heralded the Center's "100 Years of the San Diego Zoo" exhibit (don't miss this one!).

Many people just glanced our way, but a curious few stopped to see what we were about, or to examine our huge volumes of Glen Abbey's gravesite lists (this was a major project of the Society back in 2000 and very popular with people seeking family burial information). There were a few budding genealogists who wanted to share their own family histories, like the man with German roots or the woman whose grandfather had worked in the cemetery in what is now Pioneer Park. And we got the names of three potential members!

We'll be back to the SDHC when we join them for their annual Genealogy Day on Saturday, October 15th. Watch for announcements!

SDGS Fall Seminar is Saturday, 10 September: Maureen Taylor

The Fall Seminar for the San Diego Genealogical Society (SDGS) will be on Saturday, 10 September at Marina Village, Captain's Room, 1936 Quivera Way, San Diego, CA 92109, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. PDT.

The seminar speaker will be Maureen Taylor, the Photo Detective. Her biography is at <http://www.casdgs.org/resources/Speakers/MTBioLong.pdf>.

Maureen's four presentations will be:

- * Session 1: Identifying and Dating Family Photographs
- * Session 2: Preserving Family Photographs-1839 to the Present
- * Session 3: Buns, Beards, Bodices and Bustles; Understanding Ancestors Through Clothing
- * Session 4: The Perfect P.O.P. Photo Organizing Plan

The Early Bird price is \$45 for registrations paid before August 10, 2016. The price is \$50 for registrations paid after August 10, 2016. Welcome coffee and tea with pastries will be served in the morning. Lunch is included. Register at <http://www.casdgs.org/event-1910601/Registration>

Maureen Taylor will be doing some individual private photo consults on Friday, September 9 at a different location as well as a few consults at the main venue on Saturday. The price for the seminar does not include the consultation. If you are interested, please follow the following link for price, times and locations for the photo consultation. <https://sandiegogen2016.eventbrite.com>.

July Annual Picnic Review (concluded from page 4)

A little business was conducted - Jane Strawn collected orders for the new T-shirts we've had designed for our Society, and brought sample sizes. The green T-shirts will be \$15, with profits going to our Scholarship Fund. She will be taking orders to the end of August.

Jane also reminded members to "Save the Date" for our big Family History Day, a free community-wide event to be held with the Chula Vista Library on Saturday, October 22. She passed around a volunteer sign-up sheet and encouraged everyone to volunteer.

Our heartiest thanks to Ana Castro for her supreme organizing skills and hard work, to our busy photographer Diane Godinez, and to Gary and Wanda Brock for their splendid hospitality in hosting another successful - and fun - picnic.



Watch Legacy Family Tree Webinars for More Genealogy Education

Family Tree Webinars site 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 April and early May, the scheduled webinars are:

- Wednesday, 10 August, 11 a.m.: Beth Foulk on "The Battle for Bounty Land"
- Friday, 12 August, 11 a.m.: Bernice Bennett on "Homestead Act of 1862 – Following the Witnesses"
- Tuesday, 16 August, 5 p.m.: Shellee Morehead on "Another Kind of GPS: Navigation for Genealogy"
- Wednesday, 17 August, 11 a.m.: Amy Johnson Crow on "Successfully Applying to a Lineage Society"
- Wednesday, 24 August, 11 a.m.: Brian Donovan on "Using Findmypast to Unlock Your Irish Ancestry"
- Friday, 26 August, 11 a.m.: Luana Darby on "Finding French Ancestors"
- Wednesday, 14 September, 5 p.m.: Judy G. Russell on "The Treasure Trove in Legislative Petitions"

These 90-minute webinars are FREE to watch live at 11 a.m. Pacific time and for seven days after the live presentation on the website. 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 340 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.

Welcome New Members

Current Membership (as of 8/1): 99

Karen's Caring Corner

Cards were sent to:
J. Paul Hawthorne

Meeting Host Volunteers

August 31st: Jane Strawn and Karen Smith
September 28th: Ana Castro and Ceasar Castro

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

Telephone Tree Volunteers

Ana Castro – 619-781-8441
Karen Smith – 619-656-0996
Carole Sobke – 619-465-5286

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	Carole Sobke
Webmaster	Gary Brock

San Diego Genealogy Events

Saturday, August 13th, 10 a.m.
SAN DIEGO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Speaker: Debby Warner Anderson
"Carrie's Letters – Bringing
Ancestral Letters to Life"
at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
8350 Lake Murray Blvd., San Diego
contact: lbrady014@gmail.com

Tuesday, August 9th, 9:30 a.m.
**NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY GEN.
SOCIETY COGG**

Speaker: Jill Scott
"Seeing is Believing ... Bring
Your Story to Life With Photos"
at Carlsbad City Council Chambers
contact: Pam Boyle (boylepam@gmail.com)

Tuesday, August 23rd, 9:30 a.m.
NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY GEN. SOC.

Speaker: Jim Bregante on
"San Diego's Waterfront Through
the Eyes of a Child"
at Faraday Administration Center (1635
Faraday Drive, Room 173B, Carlsbad CA
92009)
contact: Jean Tempke
(jtempke@roadrunner.com)

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CONFERENCES

FGS 2016 GENEALOGY CONFERENCE

August 31 – September 3, 2016
Springfield, Illinois
<https://www.fgsconference.org/registration/>

GENEALOGY DAYS IN CHULA VISTA

- **Wednesday, August 10, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Library Conf. Room
- **Wednesday, August 17, 10:15 a.m. – Beginning Computer Genealogy class**, CVCCB Conf. Room
- **Wednesday, August 17, 12:30 p.m. – Computer Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Library Comp. Lab
- **Wednesday, August 31, 12 noon – Program Meeting: Kitty Cooper: “DNA Testing for Genealogists”** at CVCCB Auditorium
- **Saturday, September 3, 1 p.m. – Saturday Workshop: Ken Robison: “Family Tree Maker Review”** at Bonita-Sunnyside Library (4375 Bonita Road)
- **Wednesday, September 7, 12 noon – CVGS Board Meeting**, at CVCCB Library Conf. Room
- **Wednesday, September 14, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Library Conf. Room
- **Wednesday, Sept. 21, 10:15 a.m. – Beginning Computer Genealogy class**, CVCCB Conf. Room
- **Wednesday, Sept. 21, 12:30 p.m. – Computer Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Library Comp. Lab
- **Wednesday, September 28, 12 noon – Program Meeting: CVGS Members “Stump the Chump”**

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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>

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