



CHULA VISTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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

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 27, Issue 1

Providing Genealogy Education in South San Diego County

January 2017

Wednesday, 25 January 2017, 12 noon To 2 p.m.

General Meeting

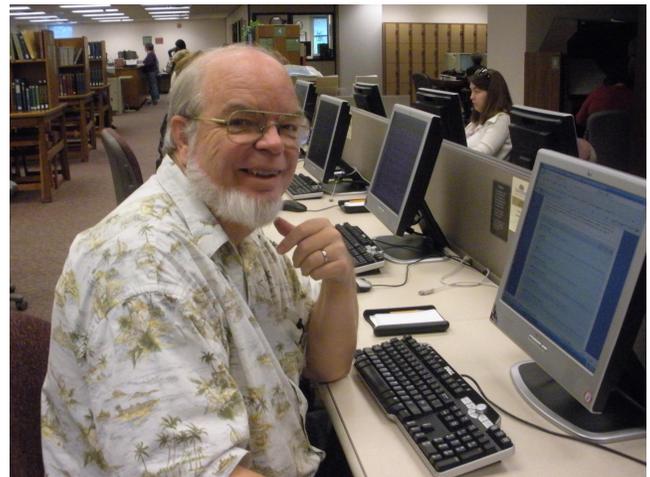
“Using FamilySearch Digital Microfilm to Find Genealogical Records”

by Randy Seaver

Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library (365 F Street, Chula Vista, CA 91910)

FamilySearch has over 2,180 record collections, and many of them are not indexed and cannot be searched using search fields. They are digitized from Family History Library microfilms. Think of them as "digital microfilm" - you have to browse these records (look through them, not search them). There are finding aids to help the researcher find records for their ancestors - waypoints, lists of volumes, volume indexes, etc.

This presentation will demonstrate how to find records for your ancestors in probate, land, town, tax and other unindexed records, using several record types – probate, land, town and Italian civil registry.

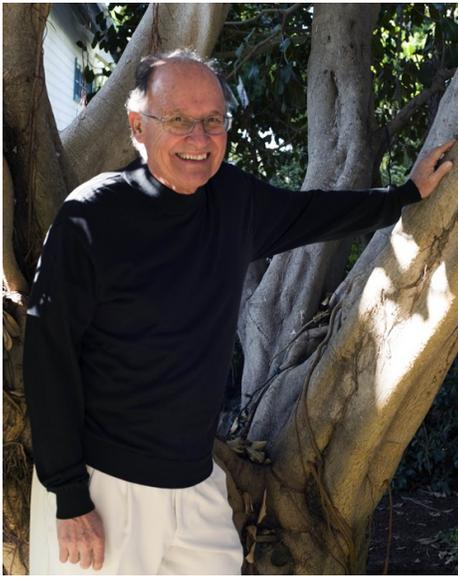


Randy Seaver has been pursuing his elusive ancestors for 29 years, and has been a member of CVGS since 1993. He is a CVGS Past President, and is currently the Newsletter Editor, and the Research and Queries chairman. He is also a member of NGS, NEHGS, SCGS and SDGS. Randy blogs daily at www.GeneaMusings.com and also on the Chula Vista Genealogy Cafe (<http://cvgencafe.blogspot.com>).

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President's Message – by Ceasar Castro



I have lived in the Chula Vista area all my life. I grew up in the community of Otay. We moved to Chula Vista when I was in high School and I graduated from Hilltop High School in 1961. I attended Southwestern College the first year it existed. I graduated from San Diego State with a Bachelor's degree in Engineering and attended Purdue University and received a Master's degree in Engineering.

I started my genealogy research in 2008 when my sister asked me to help her. She started the classical way by interviewing our relatives. Eventually, I took over the research. In the process of doing my research, I joined the San Diego Genealogical Society, the Chula Vista Genealogical Society, the Southern California Genealogical Society and the Genealogical Society of Hispanic America.

Two years ago the Los Angeles chapter of the Hispanic Genealogy Society asked me if I could start up a Hispanic genealogy group here in San Diego, which I did. It is supported by the San Diego Genealogical Society, the Hispanic Genealogical Society and the San Diego Central Library. We meet bi-monthly at the San Diego Central Library.

We have a very good board this year, with plenty of genealogy experience. At our first board meeting we had a lot of good discussions. One of our goals is to increase membership and participation. We discussed the possibility of having our monthly general meetings on Saturdays. People who work cannot attend our general meetings because they are on Wednesdays at noon. If you have any thoughts about moving the general meeting to Saturdays, let me know, it's on the table for discussion. Login to the CVGS webpage under forums and join the discussion on Saturday General meetings, share your thoughts.

I hope to see everyone at our next general meeting on Wednesday, 25 January at 12 noon.

Please Register for Meetings on the CVGS Website

Please register for the General 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.

Library News

Wanda Brock has given a bag of duplicate genealogy periodicals to Ana Castro to offer members at the January 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 “Members” tab.

Next CVGS Saturday Workshop – 4 February 2017

The February 4th 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 the “MyHeritage” website with record collections and separate family trees presented by Susi Pentico. This event is free for all to attend.

January 11th Research Group Meeting

The next meeting of the CVGS Research Group will be on Wednesday, 11 January at 12 noon in the Conference Room at the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library, moderated by Randy Seaver.

Next Computer Group Meeting – 18 January 2017

The next Computer Group meeting will be on Wednesday, 18 January 2017 at the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library (365 F Street in downtown Chula Vista, Calif.).

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. Shirley Becker and 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.

This month, Shirley will teach the attendees to copy text and images from websites and paste the text and images into documents or save them on their computers.

Lemon Grove Research Group News

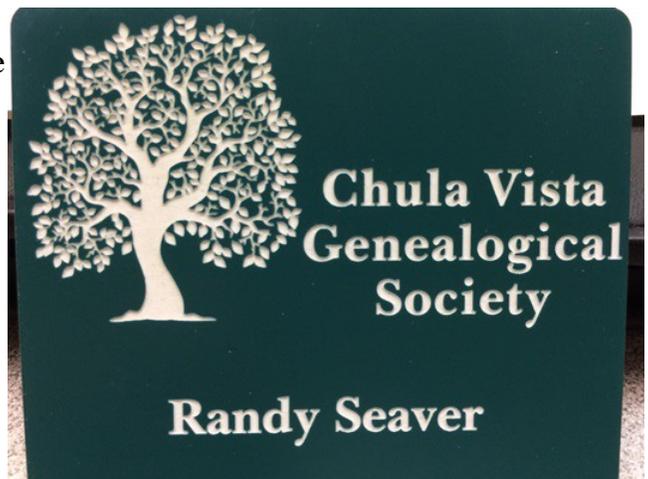
The Lemon Grove Research Group now meets once a month at the Lemon Grove Branch Library (location is 3001 School Lane in Lemon Grove) from 6 p.m. to 7:50 p.m. Contact Susi Pentico (619-690-1188, SusiCP@cox.net) for more details. All are invited to attend. Beginners are welcome! Upcoming programs include:

- * Wednesday, 18 January, 6 to 8 p.m.: Cancelled.
- * Wednesday, 15 February, 6 to 8 p.m.: “TBD” by Susi Pentico.

New CVGS Nametags Available for Sale

CVGS has 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. The cost is \$10 each, with \$2 of that going to the CVGS Scholarship Fund.

Order forms are available at the regular meetings, and the first nametags have arrived. Please contact Karen Smith (freelady72000@me.com) to order your new nametag and for more information.



2017 Hospitality Hosts Needed, by Jo Ann Bonner

We need hosts for the light refreshments for most of the months for 2017 at the general meeting. A sign-up sheet will be at the registration desk at the next few general meetings. Please volunteer!

Educationally Speaking, by Susi Pentico

Why are our members not using our website (www.cvgenealogy.org) to post their brickwall problems and where they are in need of help? This can be posted on our News page on the website. This is an ideal place to post current events and suggestions and ideas. We are paying for this website and I think our members should utilize it more.

If you have a brick wall and do not want to post it on our website, I am willing to post it on the Educational Blog (<http://ancestorseekersbytherootbound.blogspot.com/>) for the world to find you. I have recently had major success due to the blog.

We also need to get our 5 Generation Charts into the board members. We are all out of date with what is in our files.

Library Research coming up: March has 5 Wednesday's, and we need to prepare to go to the El Cajon Library on this date (22 March 2017), car pooling and sharing. We normally leave around 10 a.m. This library has many resources that they feel we will be excited to see and research. Please clear your calendar to go this date. Newspapers, local history books, etc. available. More next month.

I may be away for 3 weeks the rest of January, due to family health issues in Michigan.

CVGS Email Issues, by Randy Seaver

I have changed my Internet provider from Cox to AT&T. Consequently, I cannot send emails from my Cox account (rjseaver@cox.net), although I can still receive email there, but I don't know how long that will last. I have had three messages to the membership bounce back from all of the Cox email addresses on the CVGS email list. So, please check your email address book and change my email address to randy.seaver@gmail.com. Sending from the Gmail address to the CVGS email list seems to still be a problem. We may have to send the newsletter from the CVGS website rather than from my email address.

Our new President, Ceasar Castro, has had the same problem, and would prefer emails to ceasarrcastro@gmail.com.

If you have recently changed from Cox to another provider, or experienced problems with Cox, you can obtain a free Gmail account at Google – <https://www.google.com/gmail/>.

January Family Tree Webinars (www.familytreewebinars.com)

- Wednesday, 11 January, 11 a.m., **“Tips and Tricks for Organizing Your Genealogy”** by Shannon Combs-Bennett.
- Tuesday, 17 January, 5 p.m., **“Writing Up Your Research”** by Michael J. Leclerc.
- Wednesday, 25 January, 11 a.m., **“Playing Nice in the Genealogy Sandbox”** by Thomas MacEntee.
- Wednesday, 1 February, 11 a.m., **“Photography for Genealogy”** by Nicka Smith.

Food and Fun at Our Holiday Luncheon, by Karen Yarger

Twenty-seven members and guests gathered at the Chula Vista South Branch Library on Wednesday, December 14, for our annual Holiday Luncheon. As tradition, it was a potluck, with members bringing a delicious selection of salads, side dishes, condiments and desserts. The Society provided the baked turkey and ham and beverages (thank you Jo Ann Bonner and Ana Castro!).

Members were also asked to bring canned goods and unwrapped toys for the Salvation Army drive, and the overflowing boxes were a testament to our members' generosity.

The party's theme was "Ugly Sweaters", and members came in wild, but not necessarily really ugly attire. The four finalists – Virginia Taylor with a cat motif, Ceasar Castro sporting a Star Wars holiday shirt, Gary Brock in an indescribable black and maroon sweater, and Karen Yarger, who wore a 1950's mink scarf (the animals sported little Santa hats as they appeared to chase each other around her neck). Gary Brock took the prize, though, coming closest to the theme.

The party began at 11:30 when President Virginia Taylor welcomed the attendees and then asked for a moment of silence for two of our members who passed away this past year: Betty Hampton and Wanda Hartson. A Life Membership was to be awarded, but will be announced at a later date.

One order of business: The installation of the Society's officers, voted in at the November general meeting. Randy Seaver installed Ceasar Castro as the new President, Virginia Taylor as the new First Vice President/Program Chair, and Karen Yarger as Secretary. Sam Seat, who will be the new Treasurer, and Karen Smith, the Second Vice President/Membership Chair, were unable to attend and will be sworn in at the next board meeting. Board members for this past year received certificates of appreciation and a hearty round of applause.

[photos courtesy of Patrica Diane Godinez]

(continued on page 6)



December 14th Annual Holiday Luncheon Highlights, by Karen Yarger (concluded)

Gary Brock provided an entertaining slide show of the Society's various events this past year. The pictures are also posted on our website. Door prize and raffle drawings were next – a Santa figure, a pretty angel, and twelve poinsettia plants, which had decorated the tables, went to the winners. The raffle netted a whopping \$174 for our Scholarship Fund.

The day's final activity was the optional gift exchange. Those who wished to participate brought a wrapped gift, with a value of no more than \$10. The lovely and practical gifts caused smiles all around.

President Virginia Taylor ended the party at about two o'clock, but many stayed to chat and help with the clean up. Another fun party, and it helped get us into the holiday spirit, didn't it?



Family Tree Maker News

Software MacKiev, the owner of the popular Family Tree Maker 2014 or Mac 3 genealogy software, announced that a Free update to FTM 2014/Mac 3 is available to download from their website.

For any users needing a replacement for FTM 2014 or Mac 3, they have set up a completely automated online Replacement Center. Whether you've had a hard drive crash, are moving to a new computer, or just need to reinstall FTM but your activation code doesn't work anymore, you can use the Replacement Center 24 hours a day to get a fresh copy. Here's how:

1. Go to <https://support.familytreemaker.com>.
2. Click "for additional assistance" at the bottom of the page.
3. Click the Replacement Center tile.

The Replacement Center checks that you have a copy of FTM 2014 or Mac 3 registered with Ancestry and then provides you with a free fresh link by email. You will also be given an option to purchase a backup disc for \$10 or our new natural wood USB backup drive for \$14. Note that what you get will be a full free-standing installer, so it won't be looking for your old copy, a disc, or anything else.

After you have downloaded and installed the software, you can then convert your existing FTM data file to the new program format. Your attached media should still be attached to your tree persons.

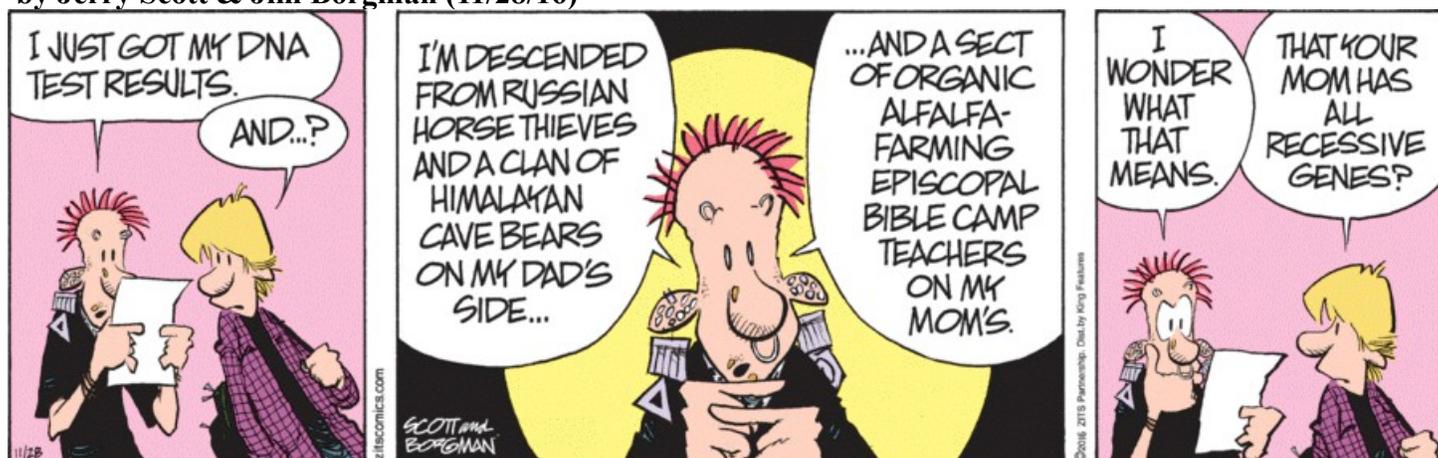
If you have never owned a copy of Family Tree Maker before, you can download a full edition from the online store for \$69.95 by going to www.familytreemaker.com and clicking the Store button. You can purchase a download with or without a hard copy on CD or on a USB drive. On startup, you'll get an offer for a 14-Day free trial you can use to search all US records on Ancestry.com.

The updated Family Tree Maker 2014.1/Mac 3.1 starts faster, loads your database faster, and has had many bugs fixed. At this time, the sync with an Ancestry Member Tree still works, although we don't know how long that will be the case. Ancestry released a new API to sync with Family Tree Maker and RootsMagic that will work sometime in early 2017.

An upgrade to Family Tree Maker 2014.1/Mac 3.1 will be released in 2017 with the new synchronization with Ancestry.com. All registered users will be apprised of this when it occurs.

A Little Genealogy Humor

by Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman (11/28/16)



Write Your Life Story in 2017 – the 52Stories Project

Maybe your New Year's resolution is to write your personal history to share with your family and leave for future generations. The task, however, can seem daunting. Where do you start? FamilySearch can help with its [#52Stories project](#).

Each week in 2017, FamilySearch, the world's largest genealogical organization, will publish topic questions designed to trigger your memories. You just need to focus on the topic and write a response.

It doesn't matter if you write a few paragraphs, a single page, or several pages. You can write in a journal or in a document on your computer, or you can make a video or audio recording. When 2017 concludes, you will have 52 stories about your life to enhance your personal history. "This 2017 personal history challenge, called the [#52Stories project](#), is an expanded version of a similar, very successful challenge offered by FamilySearch four years ago," said Wendy Smedley, FamilySearch project manager for social media. "This year, however, instead of having a list of only 52 questions, the writer can choose his or her 52 questions from a list of 144 questions."

You don't have to look far for a great series of memory triggers. The [#52Stories Project](#) has divided the year into 12 themes, from "Goals & Achievements" to "Education & School" to "Holidays & Traditions," providing 12 different questions for each theme. That's a total of 144 questions, giving you plenty of options to choose from as you build your library of #52stories. [The questions are available for download](#) in fun, colorful themed pages, and you'll also see a different question highlighted each week on Instagram ([@FamilySearch](#)) and the [FamilySearch Facebook Page](#).

January's theme is goals and achievements. Sample questions include:

- **What goals are you actively working toward right now?**
- **What was the greatest achievement of your life?**
- **What is something you taught yourself to do without help from anyone else?**
- **What role has failure played in your efforts to achieve your goals?**

Your 52 stories, or your ancestors' stories, can also be shared for free in a FamilySearch Memories profile, preserving these stories for future posterity. FamilySearch will not make these stories public while the person is living but will make them available for future generations after the person is deceased. New York Times bestselling author Bruce Feiler and faith leaders such as President Spencer W. Kimball of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have emphasized that recording and sharing glimpses of your life and your ancestors' lives is an invaluable aspect of building strong families.

Family stories are a great gift that helps build individual identity in children and children's children. These stories allow you to preserve and share the story of your life and your ancestors' lives, your triumphs over adversity, your recovery after a fall, your progress when all seemed bleak, and your rejoicing when you finally achieved your goals.

Genealogy Blogs You Need to Read

Here are some genealogy blogs that are helpful and interesting:

- [Genealogy Tip of the Day](#) by Michael John Neill.
- [Empty Branches on the Family Tree](#) by Linda Stufflebean
- [DNAeXplained – Genetic Genealogy](#) by Roberta J. Estes

Welcome New Members

Current Membership (as of 1/1): 93

Karyn's Caring Corner

Cards were sent to:

Karen Smith

Meeting Host Volunteers

Jan. 25: Jo Ann Bonner and Ana 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:	Cesar Castro
First Vice-President, Programs	Virginia Taylor
Second Vice-President, Membership	Karen Smith
Treasurer	Sam Seat
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	Open
Webmaster	Gary Brock

San Diego Genealogy Events

Tuesday, January 10th, 9:30 a.m.
NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY GEN.
SOCIETY COGG

Speaker: Delbert Richhart on
“My Heritage”

at Carlsbad City Council Chambers
(1200 Carlsbad Village Dr,
Carlsbad CA 92009)
contact: Pauline Ballentine
(paulineb@cox.net)

Saturday, January 14th, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
SAN DIEGO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
ANNUAL MEETING

Speaker: Thomas MacEntee on
“Genealogy Do-Over: A Year of Learning from
My Mistakes”

“Can I Use That in My Genealogy: What You
Should Know about Copyright”

“Facebook: A Tool for Genealogy Research”
“After You’re Gone: Future Proofing Your
Genealogy Research”

at Captain's Room, Marina Village
1936 Quivira Way, San Diego 92109
Contact: www.casdgs.org

Tuesday, January 24th, 9:30 a.m.
NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY GEN. SOC.

Speaker: Mary Van Orsdol on
“Recording Complex Families:
Understanding Numbering Systems and
Narrative Formats”

at Carlsbad City Council Chambers,
(1200 Carlsbad Village Dr.,
Carlsbad CA 92009)
contact: Jean Tempke
(jtempke@roadrunner.com)

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UPCOMING CONFERENCES

ROOTSTECH 2017 CONFERENCE

February 8 – 11, 2017
Salt Lake City, Utah
<https://www.rootstech.org>

GENEALOGY DAYS IN CHULA VISTA

- **Saturday, January 7, 1 p.m. – Saturday Workshop: Randy Seaver: “The Genealogical Proof Standard and Doing a Reasonably Exhaustive Search”** at Bonita-Sunnyside Library (4375 Bonita Road)
- **Wednesday, January 11, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting,** at CVCCB Library Conf. Room
- **Wednesday, January 18, 10:15 a.m. – Beginning Computer Genealogy class,** CVCCB Conf. Room
- **Wednesday, January 18, 12:30 p.m. – Computer Group Meeting,** at CVCCB Library Comp. Lab
- **Wednesday, January 25, 12 noon – Program Meeting: Randy Seaver: “Finding Your Ancestors on FamilySearch Digital Microfilm”** at CVCCB Auditorium.
- **Saturday, February 4, 1 p.m. – Saturday Workshop: Susi Pentico: “MyHeritage”** at Bonita-Sunnyside Library (4375 Bonita Road)
- **Wednesday, February 8, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting,** at CVCCB Library Conf. Room
- **Wednesday, Feb. 15, 10:15 a.m. – Beginning Computer Genealogy class,** CVCCB Conf. Room
- **Wednesday, Feb. 15, 12:30 p.m. – Computer Group Meeting,** at CVCCB Library Comp. Lab
- **Wednesday, February 22, 12 noon – Program Meeting: “CVGS Society Annual Meeting”** at CVCCB 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 Virginia Taylor (irishdoll@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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