



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 28, Issue 4

Providing Genealogy Education in South San Diego County

April 2018

Wednesday, 25 April 2018, 12 noon

CVGS Program Meeting

**Carole Sobke on “A New Family Tree to Plant or How
My Hobbies Have Branched Together”**

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



This is a Power Point presentation about Carole's hobbies and how they relate to her genealogy. There is a little German and Scottish ancestry, but mostly San Diego and Sacramento family history. It was just something I put together for fun! It won't be necessary to take notes and there is no handout.

Carole is a native San Diegan and "root bound" as she have never lived more that 10 miles from where she was born - Mercy Hospital! Many years were spent as a bookkeeper and library technician.

She has dabbled in family history off and on for about fifty years but didn't get really get "hooked"

until she took Randy Seaver's OASIS class. During one session, she discovered an insane asylum record for a 2nd great-grandmother! That did it - the "skeletons in the closet" began to appear - and she has found many!



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President's Message – by Ceasar Castro



I hope you attended our joint meeting with the South Bay Historical Society on 24 March. The speakers were Connie Rascom Gunther, Victor Contreras and Joaquin Blanco. They all did a great job of providing an entertaining and informative presentation. The audience enjoyed each presentation. Conversation and questions were asked of the speakers after the meeting during the social mixer.

Every year the Chula Vista Genealogy Society donates \$500 to the Friends of the Library. The photo on the left shows Virginia and myself presenting the \$500 check to Chula Vista City Librarian, Joy Watley.

Membership Address Changes

Members, if you move, or change contact information such as your email or phone number, please notify our Membership person, Karen Smith, at freelady72000@me.com. This way we can keep information coming to you!

Please Register for Meetings on the CVGS Website

Please register for the General Meetings, the Saturday Workshops, and the Research 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.

Member Services – Contact Karen Smith

Karen Smith is our Membership Chair and reports on Member Services. If you know of a CVGS member with an illness or hospitalization, please contact Karen at freelady72000@me.com so we can get a card to that member.

Want Up-To-Date Genealogy News?

Randy Seaver published Genealogy News Bytes on Tuesday and Friday with links to news articles, new online databases, genealogy education opportunities, bargains, neat stuff, and more. See example at <https://www.geneamusings.com/2018/04/genealogy-news-bytes-6-april-2018.html>.

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 – 5 May 2018

The May 5th 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 program will be “More Lost Ancestors: Pennsylvania” presented by Virginia Taylor.

CVGS Computer Group is on Hiatus

Until further notice, the Society's Computer Group meetings is on hiatus, due to a lack of interest and low attendance. The meetings will be reinstated in the future if members express enough interest.

Next Lemon Grove Meeting

The Lemon Grove Research Group will be at the Lemon Grove Public Library.

- Wednesday, 18 April, 6 p.m.: “Are Your Plans Working For Your Research?” moderated by Susi Pentico.

Contact Susi Pentico (619-690-1188, SusiCP1@gmail.com) for more details.

We Need You!!

Several of our senior Board members are retiring from their positions as committee chairs. We are in desperate need of volunteers to fill these vacancies. Can you help by lending your expertise? Most only require a modicum of your time. Here are the positions we need to fill:

*** **WEBMASTER CO-CHAIR** - Aids Gary Brock in maintaining and updating our website www.cvgenealogy.org, working with Wild Apricot. Tech expertise is requested, but training is available. Also, AUDIO-VISUAL ASSISTANT to help set up mikes, equipment, etc. for presentations.

*** **WAYS & MEANS CO-CHAIR** - Assists Carole Sobke with raffles and other fundraising activities.

*** **CEMETERY COMMITTEE ASSISTANT** - Works with Historian Susan Zimmer in collecting and organizing data from La Vista Cemetery, Glen Abbey Cemetery, and others as needed to make the information available to genealogists and families.

For more information, please contact President Ceasar Castro (ceasarcastro@gmail.com)

Scholarship Donations Welcome, by Karen Smith

Our society awards college scholarships each year. The amount, and number, of scholarships can increase if we have unexpected revenue, such as donations. Recently a Board member said that if every member donated \$5 once a year, we could give an additional \$500 scholarship that year. It made me think about my weekly (or twice weekly) Starbucks habit. So instead of getting a Starbucks every week, I can contribute and help a deserving 17 or 18 year old pay some college expenses. I plan to think about that and donate to the scholarship fund regularly. Next time you come to a meeting, look for a container marked for scholarship donations. Please help us! Any amount is welcome.

DearMYRTLE YouTube Videos

Pat Richley-Erickson (DearMYRTLE) has many useful genealogy videos on her YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/user/DearMYRTLE>.

Upcoming Family Tree Webinars (www.familytreewebinars.com)

- Tuesday, 10 April, 11 a.m.: MyHeritage speaker on [“Genealogy for Advanced Users: Grow Your Family Tree Online”](#)
- Wednesday, 11 April, 5 p.m.: Rorey Cathcart on [“Georgia: Gateway to Westward Expansion”](#)
- Friday, 13 April, 11 a.m.: Tessa Keough on [“Researching Your Oregon Ancestors”](#)
- Tuesday, 17 April, 5 p.m.: Patti Lee Hobbs on [“Better Together: Making Your Case with Documents and DNA”](#)
- Wednesday, 18 April, 11 a.m.: Judy G. Russell on [“Lincoln's Laws and the Records of War”](#)
- Tuesday, 24 April, 11 a.m.: Daniel Horowitz on [“Get the Most from the MyHeritage Search Engine for Historical Records”](#)
- Wednesday, 25 April, 11 a.m.: Marian Pierre-Louis on [“Verifying Information You Find Online”](#)
- Wednesday, 2 May, 11 a.m.: Gilad Japhet on [“Special Appearance by the Founder and CEO of MyHeritage”](#)
- Tuesday, 8 May, 11 a.m.: MyHeritage speaker on [“Discover Your Family in School Yearbooks”](#)
- Wednesday, 9 May, 5 p.m.: Cyndi Ingle on [“The Hidden Web: Digging Deeper”](#)
- Friday, 11 May, 11 a.m.: Angela Walton-Raji on [“A Checklist of African-American Resources”](#)
- Tuesday, 15 May, 5 p.m.: Paula Stuart-Warren on [“Good Research Habits”](#)
- Wednesday, 16 May, 11 a.m.: Blaine Bettinger on [“The First 5 Things To Do With Your New Test Results”](#)
- Tuesday, 22 May, 11 a.m.: MyHeritage speaker on [“How to Use the Smart Matches & Record Matches MyHeritage Technologies”](#)
- Wednesday, 23 May, 11 a.m.: Peggy Clemens Lauritzen on [“Quaker Migration Into America”](#)
- * Wednesday, 30 May, 11 a.m.: Luana Darby on [“The Palatine Immigrants: Tracing and Locating 18th Century German Immigrants Online”](#)

These webinars are sponsored by Legacy Family Tree, and are FREE to watch live, and for a week after the live event. You must register to view them live at www.familytreewebinars.com. Membership of \$49.95 per year enables the member to view any of the over 600 webinars at any time.

Southern California Genealogy Jamboree 2018

The 2018 SCGS Genealogy Jamboree Conference is **May 31 to June 2 at the Los Angeles Burbank Airport Marriott Hotel** (2500 Hollywood Way, Burbank CA 91505, near Burbank Airport). The registration, hotel and parking information is on the <http://genealogyjamboree.com/> web page.

There are four separate conferences on the three days:

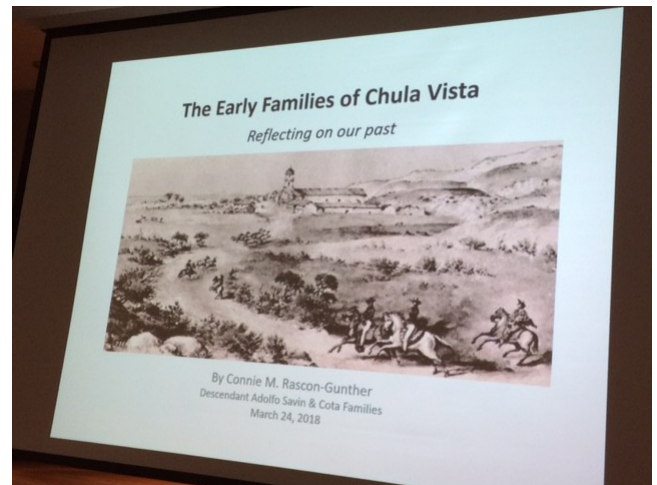
- Thursday, 31 May: JamboFREE 2018 – no fee, 3 sessions between 8:30 a.m. And 6 p.m.
- Thursday, 31 May: Family History Writer's Conference – registration required, fee, 10 speakers.
- Thursday, 31 May: Genetic Genealogy 2018 – registration required, fee, 25 classes
- Friday-Saturday, 1-2 June: Jamboree 2018 – registration required, fee, 100+ classes
- Expo Hall (FREE!) is open at 12:30 to 6 p.m on Thursday, 9 a.m. To 5 p.m. On Friday/Saturday.

Register at <http://genealogyjamboree.com/registration-faqs/> – fees depend on which conferences you choose. Early-bird registration ends on Saturday, 14 April. The last day to pre-register is Saturday, 12 May. You will need to register for the Conference before reserving a hotel room at the Marriott hotel. The room block is selling out fast.

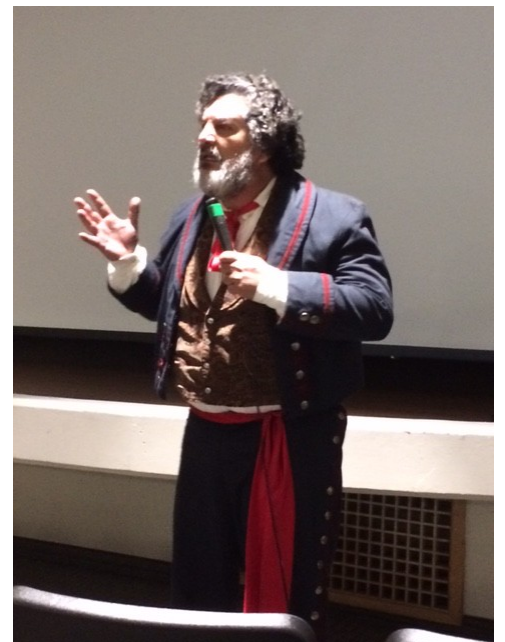
March 24th Program Review

The March 24th CVGS Program Meeting was a Joint Meeting with the South Bay Historical Society. There were 26 CVGS members and about 40 guests at the meeting. There were three speakers:

- 1) **Connie Rascon Gunther is the President of Descendants of Early San Diego** (www.DESDstory.com), and she discussed **“Early Chula Vista Families – Reflecting On Our Past.”** She is a descendant of the Cota and Savin families from Baja California, and a Cota ancestor was a Spanish soldier with Father Junipero Serra when he founded San Diego in 1769. Adolfo Savin was from France, and owned title to the Juan Bandini house in Old Town San Diego in the 1800s. Connie mentioned that Chula Vista was incorporated as a city in 1911, and is now the 14th largest city in California. The Spanish and Mexican land grants, which included 30 in 1784 to 1821 from Spain, and 270 from Mexico between 1833 and 1846, created ranchos with water rights. Otay (6,658 acres in 1829), Janal (457 acres in 1829) and Nacion (26,632 acres in 1845) were the major South Bay ranchos. The latter was granted to John Forster in 1845 and bought by the Kimball brothers in the 1860s and became National City. The Estudillo and Arguello families were Otay rancho owners. The land in Chula Vista was great for growing lemons and other citrus fruits.



- 2) **Victor Crosthwaite Contreras presented a theatrical interpretation, in a period costume, of “Bonifacio Lopez: A California Rancher of the 1800s.”** Victor is a descendant of early Spanish soldiers who came to explore and establish the missions of California. He is a professional actor, writer, historian and educator.
- 3) **Joaquin Blanco discussed “Generations – Life and Farming in the Otay Valley.”** Joaquin grew up in Chula Vista, and his grandmother lived on Anita Street and Broadway in Otay, farming celery, squash, tomatoes, corn and beans. He described life in Baja California in the 1700s in Mission Santiago. The families of Santiago migrated into Alta California, settling in San Diego, Los Angeles and San Francisco. In the late 1800s and early 1900s, many of his ancestral families settled in the Otay Valley to raise crops that fed all of the San Diego area. The descendants of the early Otay Valley families are spread all over the world, many identify as Americans with Mexican heritage, and there is a unique mix of Anglo, Mexican, Filipino and Native heritage. Joaquin and CVGS President Cesar Castro are second cousins.



This was an interesting review of South Bay local history by persons with ancestors associated with that history interested in keeping the history alive.

Useful and Interesting Genealogy Blog Posts

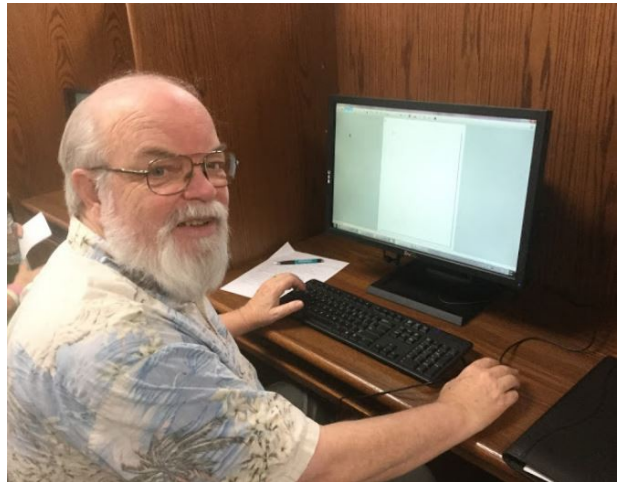
- [Introducing the Witches of Massachusetts Bay Website](#) by Robin C. Mason on the [Genealogy Ink](#) blog.
- [Three Mistakes Researchers Make Researching Female Ancestors*](#) by Gena Philibert-Ortega on [The In-Depth Genealogist](#) blog.
- [DNA Painter – Chromosome Sudoku for Genetic Genealogy Addicts](#) by Roberta Estes on the [DNAeXplained - Genetic Genealogy](#) blog
- [How you may be sabotaging your search for ancestors...and how to fix it!](#) by Randy Majors on the [RandyMajors.com](#) blog.
- [Finding Unidentified Photographs in Archives](#) by Melissa Barker on the [A Genealogist in the Archives](#) blog.
- [Are You Using the Right Search to Find Your Ancestors?](#) by Amy Johnson Crow on the [Amy Johnson Crow](#) blog.
- [Put it in a Table: Understanding and Organizing Research Findings](#) by Diana Elder on the [Family Locket](#) blog.
- [Three Genealogy Shortcuts That Aren't Cheats](#) by Jennifer Dondero on [The Occasional Genealogist](#) blog.
- [How to Prepare for Your Visit to Your Ancestor's Hometown](#) by DiAnn Iamarino on the [Fortify Your Family Tree](#) blog.
- [Tips for Learning to Read Old Handwriting](#) by Cari Taplin on the [Genealogy Pants](#) blog.
- [How I Solved It: Death Investigation: Was It a Railroad Accident?](#) by Vanessa Wieland on the [RootsFinder](#) blog.
- [The Ten Best Genealogy Websites for Beginners*](#) by Will MoneyMaker on the [AncestralFindings.com](#) blog.
- [So, You Took a DNA Test?](#) by the author of the [Genealogy Drips and Drabs](#) blog.
- [Ancestry DNA -- Compiled Family Trees](#) by Marcia Philbrick on the [Heartland Genealogy](#) blog.
- [Aiming for the Gold Standard](#) by Linda Stufflebean on the [Empty Branches on the Family Tree](#) blog.
- [Footnotes, Endnotes, Sources, Citations, and Attachments: What Works, What Doesn't](#) by James Tanner on the [Genealogy's Star](#) blog.
- [Dear Randy: Why Do You Write About Your Personal Genealogy Research?](#) By Randy Seaver on the [Genea-Musings](#) blog.

March 14th Research Group Review

We had only seven attendees at the CVGS Research Group meeting on 14 March in the Civic Center Library Auditorium. Several regular attendees were sick.

In the first hour, Randy highlighted:

- He attended RootsTech 2018, which had 17,000 paid attendees. He spent most of his time there in the Expo Hall, which was big and busy. He attended several DNA classes. The videos of the Keynote addresses and a number of classes are available to watch for FREE at <https://www.rootstech.org/rootstech-2018-videos>.
- MyHeritage announced several advancements, including a 1 to 7 person chromosome browser tool, a DNA match segment download capability, the building of a big online tree from existing MyHeritage trees, online collaborative trees, and significant records, and more.
- 23andMe is improving their autosomal DNA Ethnicity Estimates by using more reference groups.
- There is a new FREE online personal family tree - RootsFinder (at www.RootsFinder.com). Users can start a tree, upload a GEDCOM file, or capture data from the FamilySearch Family Tree.
- Randy highlighted new data for George W. Seaver (1847-1918) that proved his parents' names and added more information to his timeline. He is a cousin, not an ancestor, but there was no information for him before this study.



In the second hour, the attendees discussed:

- Karen Y. highlighted the 28 April seminar in Carlsbad sponsored by the North San Diego County Genealogical Society. She also shared the website that had immigration timelines, which puts a historical perspective on our ancestors coming to America. It also has other timelines of historical interest, such as places and events. Immigration Timelines for America: <http://www.datesandevents.org/us-immigration-timelines/>.
- Diane G. reported that through her AncestryDNA results that a Burton family uncle/cousin and his wife were arriving in San Diego to meet her for the first time on 14 March. Bernie and Jane traveled from their winter snowbird home in Texas. Bernie was born in Ontario, and is a 3rd cousin to Diane's father, and Jane is from Toronto. The Thomas Burton line goes back to 1816 in Hampshire, England, while his wife, Ellen Houghton, has a line back to 1733 in Hampshire.
- Linda questioned how to use AncestryDNA results to help find paternal ancestors. I had tried to remember something I read about Ancestry having Y chromosomes, but got it wrong. I found my reference, it was from ISOGG.org. It said Ancestry autosomal test includes 1,691 Y snps and are labeled "chromosome 24" (not 34 as I remembered wrongly). Now I'm not sure how much this can help since AncestryDNA does not have a chromosome browser so how can you find what is on chromosome "24". Later, Randy noted that Linda could download her DNA raw data and upload it to the Free GEDMatch.com site which has a chromosome browser, including X matches, and may find DNA matches for her that others have uploaded.
- Karen S. spoke about a third cousin who found her through an AncestryDNA match. He was searching for his paternal grandfather. Through some research coming forward in time, Karen found the most probable person and wrote to this cousin, explaining how she traced his grandfather. She also told him his father had three half siblings and suggested he might want to reach out to them very carefully.

(continued on page 8)

March 14th Research Group Review (concluded)

- Virginia discussed two DNA contacts through 23andMe. One is a 1st cousin once removed on her dad's side. Her grandfather and Virginia's dad were brothers. She grew up not far from me in Indianapolis and I remember playing with other children at her grandfather's house so I assume we played together as children. She is now living in Arizona. The other contact is through Virginia's Woodruff line. She found his ancestor, Hannah Woodruff-Rardin, but has not figured out the direct connection. She is sure they are cousins.
- Sam didn't have anything new to report. He is still working on the eight names of his great-grandparents. Currently, he is working on the McCullar family, who immigrated in the 1870s from Antrim, Ireland to Georgia. After several moves, Sam's branch of the family settled in McNairy County, Tennessee.

The next CVGS Research Group meeting will be on Wednesday, 11 April 2018 at 12 noon in the Auditorium of the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library (365 F Street, Chula Vista CA 91910).

World War II Research and Writing Center Announced

Jennifer Holik, a World War II records expert, has announced the formation of The World War II Research and Writing Center <http://wwiirwc.com> (email info@wwiirwc.com). This is a new educational website. WWII Education, which will provide users access to online courses, webinars, and more!

They are excited to announce the release of our first course, [Finding the Answers Through WWII Writing](#). The Course Description is:

“Stories have the power to transform us. Throughout our lives, the stories we have heard may shape our identity. They may shape the perspective we have on life, the past, present, and future, ourselves, and those we love. Stories may raise questions about the war, family secrets, those who were lost, and things we discover through our research.”

For more information, see <https://www.geneamusings.com/2018/04/world-war-ii-research-and-writing.html>.

Celtic Connections Conference is August 10-11 in Boston

Registration is now open for the Celtic Connections Conference, “Pathways to our Past,” to be held on August 10-11 at the Boston Newton Marriott Hotel. This is the 3rd biennial conference co-sponsored by TIARA (The Irish Ancestral Research Association) and IGSI (the Irish Genealogical Society International).

An impressive slate of speakers from Ireland, Scotland, England, Canada and the U.S. will present lectures about Irish, Scots-Irish, Scottish and Welsh genealogy, DNA, and culture. You'll learn about exciting new ways to discover and interpret your family history and ancestral roots.

Early bird registration is discounted until June 4, 2018. Lodging is available at a special conference rate at the Boston Newton Marriot Hotel, Newton, MA. The 2014 and 2016 conferences drew attendees from across the U.S. and Canada and received rave reviews. No other conference offers this focus on Celtic ancestry and heritage, or such a stellar list of international presenters. Early registration is advised.

For schedule and program information and registration see: www.celtic-connections.org.

Welcome New Members

Rob and Pat Case

Current Membership (as of 4/1): 90

Karyn's Caring Corner

Cards were sent to:

Ana Castro, Jo Ann Bonner,
Barbara Ibaibarriaga, Jean Taylor

Meeting Host Volunteers

April 25th: Karen Polk

May 30th: Susan Zimmer and Karen Yarger

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
Family History Day	Ana Castro
Historian	Susan Zimmer
Hospitality	Jo Ann Bonner/Karen Polk
Librarian	Ann Stevens
Newsletter Editor	Randy Seaver
Research Group/Queries	Randy Seaver
Ways and Means	Carole Sobke
Webmaster	Gary Brock

San Diego Genealogy Events

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

Speaker: Debby Warner Anderson on
“Follow Up: The Carrie Letters”

at St. Andrews Lutheran Church
(8350 Lake Murray Blvd, San Diego)
Contact: Cynthia Ehrlich
cynthia.ehrlich13@gmail.com

Tuesday, April 24th, 9:30 a.m.
NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Speaker: Francie Kennedy on
“Your Million Volume Library: Finding
and Using Online Books ”

Carlsbad City Council Chambers
(1250 Carlsbad Village Drive)
Contact: Jim Jacobson (ljj2001@cox.net)

Upcoming Conferences

National Genealogical Society 2018
Family History Conference

2-5 May 2018

Grand Rapids, Michigan

Register at:

<http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/register/>

Southern California Genealogical
Society (SCGS) Genealogy Jamboree

31 May – 2 June 2018

Burbank, California

Register at:

<http://genealogyjamboree.com/>

GENEALOGY DAYS IN CHULA VISTA

- **Wednesday, April 11, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Conference Room
- **Wednesday, April 18, 12 noon – No Computer Group Meeting.**
- **Wednesday, April 25, 12 noon – Program Meeting: Carole Sobke on “A New Way to Plant Your Family Tree”** at CVCCB Auditorium.
- **Saturday, May 5, 1 p.m. – Saturday Workshop: Susi Pentico: “More Lost Ancestors: Sharing of Names and Places”** at Bonita-Sunnyside Library.
- **Wednesday, May 9, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Conference Room
- **Wednesday, May 16, 12 noon – No Computer Group Meeting.**
- **Wednesday, May 30, 12 noon – Program Meeting: Diane Godinez: “Finding Home From Here to There – A Guide to Canadian Resources”** at CVCCB Auditorium.
- **Saturday, June 2, 1 p.m. – Saturday Workshop: Susi Pentico: “TBD”** at Bonita-Sunnyside Library.

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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>

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Chula Vista CA 91909-3024

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