



CHULA VISTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



We Dig Our Ancestors

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CVGS Web Site: <http://www.CVGenealogy.org>
CVGS Blog: <http://CVGenCafe.blogspot.com>

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Providing Genealogy Education in South San Diego County

November 2018

Wednesday, 28 November 2018, 12 noon

Virginia Taylor hosting “Member Show and Tell”

at Bonita-Sunnyside Library (4375 Bonita Road, Bonita) in Community Room

NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE: Due to the parking problems at Civic Center Library, our November general meeting will be held at Bonita-Sunnyside Library, 4375 Bonita Road in Bonita, starting at 12 noon in the Community Room.

This meeting will be our annual “Member Show and Tell.” Please bring the oldest antique that you own. If it is too large to fit in your car you may take a picture of it to share. Tell us about it – what is it, when was it created, how did you obtain it, etc.

Please send Virginia Taylor (irishdoll@cox.net) a picture of your antique and a brief description no later than November 18 so she can get them to Gary to have ready to put up on the screen so everyone can see them. There might be a little prize for the one who brings the oldest antique.

During the meeting, the slate of 2019-2020 Board of Directors Officer nominations will be presented, voted on and, hopefully, approved. We need at least 25 members in attendance, so please come. See page 6 for the slate of nominees for the Board of Director Officers. There will be great refreshments too!

Save the Date: Wednesday, 12 December 2018 for Annual Holiday Luncheon

The CVGS Annual Holiday Luncheon will be on Wednesday, 12 December 2018 starting at 11 a.m. at the Chula Vista South Library (389 Orange Avenue, Chula Vista 91911). See page 6 for more information. Sign up for the pot-luck dish at any of the November programs.

Table of Contents

November 28 th General Meeting	1	October 17 th DNA Interest Group Review	5
President’s Message	2	Board of Directors Officer Nominations	6
Membership Address Changes	2	Annual Holiday Luncheon on 12 December	6
Register for Meetings on CVGS Website	2	November 1 st Saturday Workshop Review	7
Member Services	2	Want Up-to-Date Genealogy News?	7
Next Saturday Workshop	3	October 31 st Program Review	8
Next Lemon Grove Meeting	3	October Lemon Grove Program Review	8
Next Research Group Meeting	3	CVGS Society Information	9
Next DNA Interest Group	3	San Diego Area Genealogy Events	9
Help Wanted	3	Genealogy Days in Chula Vista	10
October 10 th Research Group Review	4		

President's Message – by Ceasar Castro



This is my last year as president of the CVGS. I will be passing the tiller to the next president.

However, there is a big problem. No one wants to be the CVGS President, why? I have been asking myself that question and I have not come up with a good answer.

The President has to come up with an agenda for the monthly CVGS board meetings. One also needs to conduct the monthly board meetings which are just an hour, two hours at the most. S/he also has to conduct the monthly general meetings. And one has to produce a monthly newsletter article. The rest of the Board of Directors do the rest of the work. So one will need to spend 4 to 5 hours every month, which is not a lot of time.

At the November CVGS General meeting we will be presenting and voting on the officers for 2019.

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.

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 General Meeting minutes are now posted on the CVGS website. Check them out at <http://www.CVGenealogy.org> on the “Members” tab.

Next Saturday Workshop – 1 December 2018

The December 1st 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 “TBD” presented by Tim Williams.

Next Lemon Grove Meeting

The Lemon Grove Research Group will meet at the Lemon Grove Public Library on:

- Wednesday, 21 November, 6 p.m.: “TBD” moderated by Susi Pentico.

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

Next Research Group Meeting – 14 November 2018

The next CVGS Research Group will be on Wednesday, 14 November 2018 at 12 noon in the Conference Room at the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library. Please bring your genealogy research questions, challenges and successes to share with the group.

Next DNA Interest Group – 21 November 2018

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, 21 November at 12 noon in the Conference Room at the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library. Randy Seaver moderates this group, which will consist of a short presentation on an aspect of DNA testing, analysis and/or research, and then the attendees will discuss their questions, successes and challenges.

We Need You!!

Several of our senior Board members are retiring from their positions as committee chairs, or need assistants. 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, and working with the Wild Apricot management system. Tech expertise is requested, but training is available. Also, we need an **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 Cesar Castro (ceasarcastro@gmail.com)

i4GG International Genetic Genealogy (DNA) Conference

December 8-9, 2018 in San Diego, Calif.
at Sheraton Mission Valley Hotel.

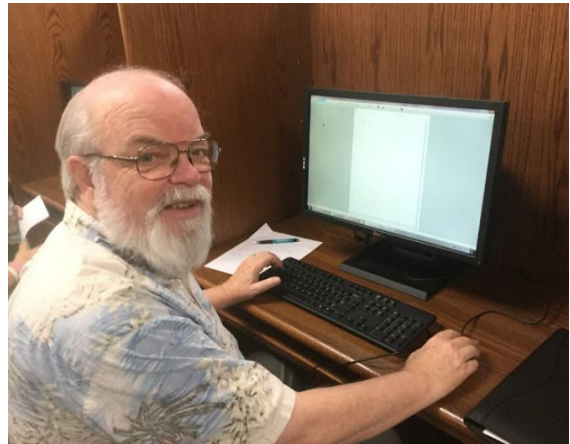
Information and Registration at <https://i4gg.org/event-information/>

October 10th Research Group Review

The October 10th Research Group meeting had 16 in attendance.

In the first hour, Randy discussed:

- The “County and Adjacent County” filter on Ancestry.com searches does not work correctly. Be careful!
- There is a new Family Tree Maker 2017 version available to download for free for FTM 2017 subscribers.
- The MedBetter DNA Chrome extension can make your AncestryDNA notes show up on the DNA match list.



In the second hour, the attendees shared:

- John shared that he was examining his DNA Matches at Ancestry in hopes that he could solve some brick walls and widen some family lines AND that he was looking forward to the launch of the DNA SIG to learn how to best use that DNA data.
- Karen S. spoke about an Ancestry DNA match that she found in a round about way from a Y DNA test her nephew did. She asked if the 32 cM they share could indicate that they share a second great grandfather.
- Gonzalo spoke with his female cousin, the daughter of his recently deceased maternal aunt. His aunt left some good advice for the family before she died and had some heart to heart talks with the cousin. They will be talking again and be keeping in contact in the future. Hopefully, there is more family information.
- JoAnn found out just how well DNA testing works. Her son and daughter were contacted by a half-sister they knew nothing about. She had recently hired a company called The Locator Team and in less than 48 hours they had found two DNA matches, her son and daughter. She also had the opportunity to travel back east and renewed a connection to a cousin in Maryland. Their grandmothers were sisters from England, who emigrated with another brother and sister, to the US shortly after WWI. She hadn't seen Barbara since 1959 when she was 13 years old.
- Karen P. mentioned that she has been working with her 2nd Cousin, a local Chula Vista resident, on her maternal side (Holt-Jardine). They are reviewing and working from a Family Tree generated by one of her 2nd Uncles, a medical doctor, who had time and money to travel around the world and generated the current Family Tree they have in their possession.
- Susan M. discussed finding a 1650's Connecticut witch in her ancestry who was not hung. She is also using RootsMagic.
- Helen S. is locating and attempting to collect items from her husband's military career to put in a format to pass down to the children and grandchildren. She presented an item from Seal Beach with his picture.
- Virginia is reviewing family photographs from a family reunion.
- Shirley has made contact with a Clancy relative – her grandfather was adopted.
- Gary has two first cousin DNA matches on 23andMe from his father's line.
- Susi is corresponding with distant cousins about Squanto's daughter.
- Mary showed newspaper articles about a cousin who had Lou Gehrig disease (ALS).

NOTE: I take very poor notes at this meeting, so it behooves attendees to send me an email describing what they contributed to the meeting. Only 7 of the 15 attendees sent an email this month.

October 17th DNA Interest Group Review

The October 17th DNA Interest Group had 29 attendees – we filled up the Conference Room at the library.

In the first hour, Randy presented the science portion of his Autosomal DNA talk at Family History Day. He emailed the handout for the entire talk to the email list before the meeting.

The second part of the meeting was a polling of the 29 attendees as to how knowledgeable and experienced they were, and which testing companies they had used. The results were:

1) How knowledgeable and experienced are you in autosomal DNA testing:

- * Novice -- 17 (59%)
- * Basic -- 9 (31%)
- * Advanced -- 3 (10%)
- * Expert – 0 (0%)

2) Which testing companies have you tested with (can be more than one)?

- * AncestryDNA -- 21 (72%)
- * 23andMe -- 14 (48%)
- * MyHeritageDNA -- 7 (24%)
- * FamilyTreeDNA -- 5 (17%)
- * Living DNA -- 4 (14%)
- * None -- 2 (7%)

Neither poll surprised him, and reinforced his perception that CVGS needed to educate and help their members with autosomal DNA testing and analysis issues.

The third part of the class was to request issues that the attendees would like to see addressed in future monthly meetings. We didn't get to all of the attendees, but the issues they raised fell into several categories:

- * How do I find ethnicity estimates and DNA matches on the website?
- * How do I find common ancestors of close matches?
- * My relative was adopted, how do I find the birth family?
- * How do I download my raw data from one company and upload it to another company?
- * How do I use GEDMatch?
- * How can I use a spreadsheet in my DNA analysis?

Here are some online articles and tutorial aids to shorten the learning curve:

- * Getting Started with GEDMatch: <http://blog.kittycooper.com/2018/06/getting-started-with-gedmatch/>
- * Help for Adoptees: <https://blog.kittycooper.com/dna-basics/help-for-adoptees/>
- * Ancestry Step by Step Guide: How to Upload-Download DNA Files: <https://dna-explained.com/2018/08/15/ancestry-step-by-step-guide-how-to-upload-download-dna-files/>
- * MyHeritage Step by Step Guide: How to Upload-Download DNA Files: <https://dna-explained.com/2018/09/18/myheritage-step-by-step-guide-how-to-upload-download-dna-files/>

CVGS 2019 - 2020 Board of Director Officer Nominations

The Nominating Committee (Karen Smith, Ana Castro, Ralph Munoz) recommends this slate of CVGS members for the 2019-2020 elected Board of Directors Officer positions.

- **President:**
- **First Vice-President (Programs):** **Virginia Taylor**
- **Second Vice-President (Membership):** **Karen Smith**
- **Treasurer:** **Karen Polk**
- **Secretary:** **Karen Yarger**

The election will occur on Wednesday, 28 November 2018 at 12 noon during the General Meeting at the Bonita-Sunnyside Library (4375 Bonita Road in Bonita) in the Community Room. Members are encouraged to attend the meeting because a quorum is required to hold the election.

Nominations from the floor for Board Officers will be accepted, but the nominator must have the approval of the proposed nominee to be nominated. A secret ballot will be used if there are more than one nominee for an office.

Annual Holiday Luncheon on Wednesday, 12 December 2018

The Annual Holiday Luncheon will be on Wednesday, 12 December at the Chula Vista South Library (389 Orange Avenue in Chula Vista in the Conference Rooms at the west end of the building). Enter the parking lot from Orange Avenue east of Fourth Avenue and park at the west end of the parking lot. There is a side door near the Conference rooms.

Turkey, ham and drinks will be provided by CVGS. The potluck breakdown for the rest of the meal will be coordinated by JoAnn Bonner (phone 619-892-2478 and email jabonner13@gmail.com) and Karen Polk (phone 619-972-7251 and email karenpolk66@yahoo.com). Please contact them by 5 December to coordinate the potluck dishes. The schedule is:

- **A to F Surnames:** Salads, Rolls, Butter
- **G to K Surnames:** Appentizers, Condiments, Snack Trays
- **L to P Surnames:** Potatoes, Vegetables, Casseroles
- **Q to Z Surnames:** Desserts

There will be a free door prize drawing, opportunity drawings for table decorations, and there will be 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. Attendees are also requested to wear their best ugly Christmas sweaters.

The program will be the installation of the newly elected 2019-2020 CVGS Board Officers.

November Saturday Workshop Review, by Cynthia Teysko

Our group met on November 3rd at the Bonita-Sunnyside Library. There were 16 eager participants. Susi Pentico introduced our intrepid genealogist **Randy Seaver** who spoke on **“Using Family Search Digital Microfilm to Find Genealogical Records.”**

What is Digital Microfilm? Microfilming is a way of photographing images and reducing these images to such a small size that optical assistance (microfilm reader with light and magnification) is required to read/visualize them. Before the digital revolution, this was the way huge amounts of genealogical documents and records were photographed and stored by the LDS Family History Library. The process is now outdated and FamilySearch is digitizing all of the 2.5 million microfilm records currently located at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City.

Historical Record Collections – At the www.familysearch.org home page, click on “Search.” Below the map, click on “Browse all published collections.” That opens the “Historical Record Collections” page (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/list>) with about 2,400 collections in alphabetical order. You can begin with a search of locality, date range, type of record, or Collection Title in the “Filter” field. I found that using the site frequently for a variety of searches taught me how to best find what I was looking for. There is so much information here! When browsing lengthy collections, such as probate records, familiarize yourself with how the records are arranged; chronological, alphabetical, or randomly. Estimate where the surname you are searching might be in the thousands of images in the record, for example: in the example Randy presented, the surname was Vaux. This name will occur near the end of an alphabetical listing. There will always be some browsing to do, so don’t be discouraged.

Don’t forget to utilize the Family Search Wiki (<https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/>), which contains over 88,000 articles. Search by place or topic. I searched for “U.S. Civil War” and got 4,870 results.

Family Search Catalog – At the home page, click on Search, and find “Catalog” in the drop-down menu. Here there is a link: “Learn more about the catalog and how to access materials.” The Catalog (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/search>) can be searched by place, surname, title, author, subject, and keywords. I searched for “Wheeling, West Virginia.” It gave me nine topics to choose from; I picked “Newspapers,” clicked on the only paper listed with publication dates “Civil War 1861-1862.” These turned out to be individual clippings from various dates related to the war! I expected to find complete newspapers. I like surprises and will review these clippings with the intention of adding stories of interest to my ancestors’ timelines.

The examples given in class of actual genealogy problems (probate, land, vital records, church records, town records) to be solved were helpful to our understanding of how to use these online digital resources. It takes practice and time to use these resources effectively. Give it a try.

Want Up-To-Date Genealogy News?

Randy Seaver publishes “Genealogy News Bytes” on Tuesday and Friday with links to news articles, new online databases, genealogy education opportunities, bargains, DNA success stories, neat stuff, and more. See an example at <https://www.geneamusings.com/2018/11/genealogy-news-bytes-9-november-2018.html>.

Randy also publishes a weekly “Best of the Genea-Blogs” with excellent genealogy writing and blogging - see a recent issue at <https://www.geneamusings.com/2018/11/best-of-genea-blogs-week-of-28-october.html>

October 31st Program Review – Judith Helton

CVGS Member Judith Helton presented “Hidden in Plain View” to an audience of about 33 at the Chula Vista Library on 31 October. She noted that “Quilting is a wonderful hobby” and displayed three of the quilts created by her mother and both grandmothers. The talk was about how the Underground Railroad used a code of symbols on quilts to communicate to slaves (“passengers”) using the Railroad. There was no indication of which way to go, nothing was written down (and many slaves could not read), and the quilt codes helped them progress on the way to freedom in the North and Canada.

Quilt symbols used were Jacob's Ladder (to indicate direction), Monkey Wrench (gather tools), Wagon Wheel (follow a path), Carpenter's Wheel (help from Jesus), Bear's Paw (follow tracks), Basket (gather provisions), Crossroads (travel to safety), Log Cabin (safe house), Shoo-Fly (person who helps), Bow Tie (dress well), Flying Geese (go northeast), Birds in the Air (go where birds go), Drunkard's Path (move in staggering manner), Sail Boat (look for a boat) and North Star (guiding light).

Judy recommended books by Jacqueline Tobin and Raymond G. Dobard (*Hidden in Plain View*) and William Still (*The Underground Railroad – Authentic Narratives and First hand Accounts*) for more information.

Lemon Grove Research Group Review by Cindy Cox Teysko

The group met on Wednesday evening, October 17, at the Lemon Grove Library with 6 in attendance.

Susi Pentico took us on a digital tour of the website “GenealogyWise” (www.genealogywise.com). It describes itself as “the genealogy social network.” We visited the live chat room where like-minded genealogists discuss surnames, locations, ideas, ask/answer questions, etc. The text chats are not recorded so take notes! One must be a member of the site to join in the conversation. Sign-up is free.

Next we visited the Groups section, specifically the surname groups. I was able to look over the surnames and read comments without signing in. Only members can add comments. The surnames are in alphabetical order. Click on a name and a message board comes up. There were no matches to several of my family names, at least not yet.

We then discussed the importance of sharing our raw DNA data to alternate websites. For example, it is a simple matter to upload this information from ancestry.com to GEDmatch and go to the “one-to-many” section to find matches. I came up with 116 matches today filtered by >20 cM (centimorgans). The matches include names (some are initials only) and email addresses. It is very important to read the information at the top of this page to learn the guidelines and how best to utilize the matching info.

Finally, Susi recalled a family story that taught her the importance of ancestry research related to medical conditions that might be shared between family members of the same or future generations. This is definitely something to keep in mind as we research our ancestors.

Our meetings take place on the third Wednesday of the month, 6-8 pm at the Lemon Grove Library, 3001 School Lane, Lemon Grove 91945. Join us!

Welcome New Members

Ray Velchek
Dave and Judy Helton

Current Membership (as of 11/1): 89

Karyn's Caring Corner

Cards were sent to:

John Finch, Mary Pentico Nelson

Meeting Host Volunteers

November 28: Virginia Taylor, Karen Polk

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, November 10th, 10 a.m.

*SAN DIEGO GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY*

**Speaker: Gena Philibert Ortega on
“Wives, Girlfriends, Widows, Spinsters,
Exes and Mistresses: Documenting
Women's Relationships” and
*Her Name was Not Unknown: Finding
Female Ancestors ”**

at St. Andrews Lutheran Church
(8350 Lake Murray Blvd, San Diego)

Contact: Cynthia Ehrlich
cynthia.ehrlich13@gmail.com

Tuesday, November 27th, 9:30 a.m.

*NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY*

**Speaker: Randy Seaver on
“Discovering George W. Seaver's Life
Story”**

Carlsbad City Council Chambers
(1250 Carlsbad Village Drive)

Contact: Jim Jacobson (lj2001@cox.net)

Upcoming Conferences

**i4GG International Genetic Genealogy
(DNA) Conference –
December 8-9, 2018 in San Diego, Calif.
at Sheraton Mission Valley Hotel.
<http://i4gg.org/event-information/>**

GENEALOGY DAYS IN CHULA VISTA

- **Wednesday, November 14, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Conference Room
- **Wednesday, November 21, 12 noon – DNA Interest Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Conference Room
- **Wednesday, November 28, 12 noon – General Meeting: CVGS Member Sharing: “Your Oldest Antique”** at Bonita-Sunnyside Library in Community Room.
- **Saturday, December 1, 1 p.m. – Saturday Workshop: Tim Williams: “TBD”** at Bonita-Sunnyside Library in Community Room.
- **Wednesday, December 12, 11 a.m. To 2 p.m. – CVGS Holiday Party and Installation of Officers**, at Chula Vista South Library (389 Orange Avenue in Chula Vista)
- **Wednesday, December 19, 12 noon – DNA Interest Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Conference Room
- **Saturday, January 5, 1 p.m. – Saturday Workshop: Susi Pentico: “Lost Ancestors Review”** at Bonita-Sunnyside Library in Community Room.

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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
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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