



CHULA VISTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



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CVGS Web Site: <http://www.CVGenealogy.org>

CVGS Blog: <http://CVGenCafe.blogspot.com>

Volume 29, Issue 4

Providing Genealogy Education in South San Diego County

April 2019

Wednesday, 24 April 2019, 12 noon

Toni Perrone on “Prussia and Its Changing Borders”

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

Prussia was a historically prominent German state that originated in 1525 with a duchy centered on the region called Prussia. It became the most powerful Kingdom in Germany, as two thirds of German land was controlled by it, and Prussia contained three fourths of the German Population. Prussia included: Half of modern Poland; West Prussia; East Prussia; Brandenburg (including Berlin) ;Saxony; Pomerania; the Rhineland; Westphalia; Non-Austrian Silesia; Lusatia; Schleswig-Holstein ;Hanover and Hesse-Nassau. In this presentation, Toni will describe the many changes of border and jurisdictions over four centuries.



Toni's experience stems from researching her German and Italian ancestry, as well as 39 years of volunteering at the Immigrant Library in Burbank, California. She is the co-founder of the Immigrant Genealogical Society and of the Temecula Valley Genealogical Society. Presently she is the President of the Pommern Interest Group of the Immigrant Library. She served as Vice President and Program chairperson of the Temecula Valley Genealogical Society for two years and was an advisor to the board of directors. She has a life membership there.

Toni has been speaking to genealogical societies nationally since 1981. She was a speaker at the International German Genealogy Conference in 2017 in Minneapolis. She has also spoken in Utah and Illinois as well as California.

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President's Message – by Karen Smith



My interest in genealogy began with a discovery after a small inheritance. I had a wonderful aunt whom I referred to as my “Auntie Mame.” She was colorful, audacious and took a special interest in me, beginning when I was in my mid-teens. She was a highly functional alcoholic and as she drank, her tongue became looser and looser. She regaled me with family stories, as had my father, who was her sober brother. From the both of them I learned that their side of my family was descended from a pioneering cattleman who settled in east Texas.

In the late 1970s my aunt died and left me the contents of her tiny little house. It was a treasure trove of things, including some old trunks. Some things I gave to my brother and his children, but the letters, found in the trunks, seemed to be the best treasure of all. They went back to the 1880s and included everything from everyday greetings to love poems. It took months to read them the first time. I am reading them now for the second time. Some are written by the grandmother I never knew (she died when I was two years old) and others by my grandfather, who died in 1913. All in all, there are about 400 letters authored by different relatives.

This topic is meaningful because we definitely do not learn about our ancestor's inner lives from a census report or a marriage license. We only know the facts, not the feelings, intentions, pain, or faith when we look at a vital statistic.

I was not able to continue pursuing genealogy until I retired seven years ago. In a sense, that was a good thing. With age comes a lot of infirmity, but also a lot more understanding. I believe those letters are more meaningful to me now than they were to a 30 something.

How did you decide to pursue this area as a hobby? I sure would love to hear other members' stories.

Membership Address Changes

Members, if you move, or change contact information such as your email or phone number, please notify our Membership person, Carrie Holleron, at mncinc@cox.net. 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, the Research Group and the DNA Interest 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 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 – 4 May 2019

The May 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 program will be “**Discovering George W. Seaver's Life Story**” with **Randy Seaver**. This presentation is about using descendency research techniques and discovering the events in the life of George W. Seaver, including highlights of the research trail.

Future Saturday Workshop Topics, by Susi Pentico

June 1: John Finch will be presenting. “**DNA Dynamics, a look at outliers in our DNA Matches.**”

July 6: Patricia Diane Godinez will be presenting “**FamilySearch.**”

August 3, potentially Leslie Cordell, on “**Indian Research and the use of DNA.**”

I am also asking again for the Blank Walls for an upcoming activity. Would appreciate name, time period, place. Contact Susi at susicp1@gmail.com.

Next Research Group Meeting – 10 April 2019

The next CVGS Research Group will be on Wednesday, 10 April 2019 at 12 noon in the back of the Auditorium at the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library. Randy Seaver moderates this group. Attendees should bring their genealogy research questions, challenges and successes to share with the group.

Next DNA Interest Group – 17 April 2019

The next DNA Interest Group meeting will be on Wednesday, 17 April 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.

Hospitality Committee Needs a Co-Chair

The Hospitality Committee needs a co-chair. It's not a difficult or time-consuming job. An assistant is needed to help bring supplies to the meetings. Carrie Holleron has stepped in to help for April, but a permanent co-chair is needed because Jo Ann can no longer physically move and carry the items used at our meetings. If you're interested or if you have questions about the duties, please contact Jo Ann Bonner, at 619-421-3628.

Member Services – Contact Carrie Holleron

Carrie Holleron is our Membership Chair and reports on Member Services. If you know of a CVGS member with an illness or hospitalization, please contact Carrie at mncinc@cox.net so we can get a card to that member.

Help With Social Media

We need a few volunteers who are active on social media and can donate a little time to help us improve our social media image. Please let me know if this sounds like worthwhile fun to you! Contact Karen Smith at freelady72000@me.com or let any Board member know.

Spotlight On A CVGS Member, by Patricia Diane Godinez **Arlene Watters: Researcher and Mayflower Descendant**

Arlene Tway Watters has been working on her family tree since she was 12 years old. When she asked her maternal grandmother about the family, she was given a typed Pedigree chart which spoke of family in Ohio. This was something new for Arlene because she was born in California and grew up among her many teenage cousins in Mesa, Arizona.

Having Mayflower heritage (Haskell, Hastings, and Soule) is rather special but Arlene has other famous relatives. One was Francis Martin Pomeroy, who was born in 1822 in Connecticut. One night, he tied his belongings into a red handkerchief and left the hard work of his uncle's farm for a job as a sailor on a whaling vessel. He became an expert harpooner and captain. Six years later, his ship dashed against the rocks in Mexico and he was the only survivor. He swam ashore and was found by the son of a Castilian family. He went to live in their home for two years and learned to read and write Spanish. Then he headed to New Orleans and finally set off for Salem, Massachusetts.



Francis met and married Irene Ursula Hascall, the first of his three wives, when he was 22 years old. Irene, along with her parents, Ashbell Green Hascall and Ursula Billings Hastings, had recently been baptized into the Latter-day Saint Church. After thoroughly investigating the Mormon Church, Francis joined and all headed to Nauvoo, Illinois. Eventually, their home would be in the Great Salt Lake Valley, on a Cottonwood farm. Irene had 8 children, the last being a set of twins. She died and was buried in Salt Lake City. Arlene's great grandfather was John Haskell Pomeroy, child number four. Francis also married Sarah Matilda Colburn and Jassamine Elisabeth Rutledge, as plural wives, and eventually had 20 children. Wife number two and wife number three each had 6 children.

Francis Martin Pomeroy acted as a Spanish interpreter for Brigham Young, when a delegation sent by Benito Juarez, came to Salt Lake City. In his lifetime, he served in numerous occupations from Indian missionary, to partner in a sawmill, etc. Out west, he lived in California, Utah, and Idaho. In 1878 he moved to Mesa, Arizona, where he was one of the founding fathers, along with three other men. He died at the age of 60 years and is buried in Mesa.

Arlene spent many years in Mesa, Arizona, the daughter of George Willis Tway (related to golfer Bob Tway) and Maxine Morris. Later after going to Los Angeles, she became a kindergarten and 1st grade teacher, teaching for 32 years in schools in San Diego. After retiring, Arlene worked at Summers Past Farms, in their nursery and gift shop. She has also been a quilter for 30 plus years and is a member of a quilting group called The Old Crows.

Besides doing genealogy and using FamilySearch.org, Arlene has decided to upgrade to an Ancestry version which covers the World. She hopes to get more information on "the castle in England". Perhaps she will go all the way back to Adam and Eve, with the help of a book written by her maternal great, great uncle. In that, we wish her luck!

March 20th DNA Interest Group Review

The sixth CVGS DNA Interest Group meeting was on 20 March at the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library in the Auditorium. 18 members were present.

1) Randy discussed and demonstrated the new features announced by AncestryDNA and MyHeritageDNA at the RootsTech 2019 Conference in late February in Salt Lake City, including:

- **AncestryDNA “New & Updated DNA Matches:”** The user has to select this feature by clicking on the “Extras” tab, selecting “Ancestry Lab,” and selecting “Enable New & Improved DNA Matches.” Once selected, go to the “DNA” tab, select “DNA Matches,” and you will see your endless list of your DNA Matches. For each match, there is the user name, the predicted relationship, how many centiMorgans and segments you share, their tree size, if there is a known common ancestor, the groups the match belongs to, and the note you have added. Clicking on the user name provides the user's tree name, the common ancestors, the shared DNA matches, the ethnicity estimates, and the shared migrations. Clicking on the “Common Ancestor” name leads you to the family tree of you and the match from the common ancestor. The Common Ancestors are determined from your tree, your DNA match's tree, and other Ancestry Member Trees. On the “DNA Matches” page, the user can search for names and places, can choose filters, and include groups of DNA Matches to analyze. The user can name the groups, and then tag DNA Matches to a group.
 - **AncestryDNA “ThruLines:”** This replaces the DNA Circles feature (which can still be seen through a link on the “DNA Tab and selecting the “Your DNA Results Summary” link. On the Results Summary page, the “ThruLines” feature is on the right side of the page. Click on the “Explore ThruLines” button and you will be presented with individual cards of your ancestors, by generation, in your family tree, down to 5th great-grandparents. You may see a card with a “Potential Ancestor” designation – these are possible ancestors that Ancestry has selected from other user trees. Use these with care! Clicking on one of the cards will show you your descending line from that common ancestor and all other DNA matches who have that ancestor in their tree, along with the amount of shared DNA and relationship. Persons in the descendants line that have dotted outlines and a gray background mean that the information came from another Ancestry member tree. I have hundreds of ThruLines for my 54,000 AncestryDNA matches.
 - **MyHeritageDNA “AutoClusters:”** This feature groups your DNA Matches together, based on sharing DNA segments with other researchers. Theoretically, each cluster represents a common ancestor for a group of DNA matches. To activate the AutoCluster feature, go to the “DNA” tab and select “DNA Tools” from the dropdown menu. On the “Tools” page, select “Explore” on the AutoClusters image, and the AutoClusters page opens. To generate your AutoClusters, click on the “Generate” button. That starts the process, and you should receive an email within a few hours that provides you with the clusters in spreadsheet .csv format (which you can open in a spreadsheet and manipulate) and in HTML form, which you can open in your browser.
 - **MyHeritageDNA “Theory of Family Relativity:”** This feature uses MyHeritage trees, DNA Match trees, other trees, and historical records to find how you are related to some of your DNA Matches. To access it, go to the “DNA” tab on MyHeritage and select “DNA Matches” from the dropdown menu. There is a pink section for “Theory of Family Relativity.” Click on the “View theories” button and you should see the DNA Match with a common ancestor for each theory, and the lines of descent from that common ancestor to you and your DNA match. I have only 15 Theories for
- (continued on page 6)

March 20th DNA Interest Group Review (concluded)

my 6,190 DNA matches. For each DNA Match with a Theory, the list provides information about the DNA Match, the estimated relationship, the shared DNA information, the size of their tree, and shared surnames and places. On the right, there is a pink "View DNA Match" button that leads to the "Theory of Family Relativity" chart showing the common ancestor and the descent from that person to you and the DNA Match. In the upper right-hand corner is a link to "View full theory" that shows how they determined the descendency. There can be more than one "Theory" for each DNA match.

In addition, Randy discussed the necessity to distrust the information from other Ancestry and MyHeritage family trees. Several of his "Potential Ancestors" on the AncestryDNA "ThruLines" are wrong, as are several of the MyHeritage "Theory of Family Relativity" lines.

He also recommended joining and participating in the ["Genetic Genealogy Tips & Techniques" group](#) on Facebook for up-to-date information and discussion.

In the second hour, several attendees shared their DNA experiences over the last month, including:

- Paula Jo discussed a way to perhaps discover her husband's link for his grandmother who was an illegitimate child. There are lots of people who are possible connections .
- Jo Ann asked how long a DNA kit can be kept before being used and returned. Her brother has a kit she gave to him 4 or 5 years ago.
- Susan mentioned that by doing old fashioned sleuthing through her son-in-law's family tree, she discovered that his mother and she are 8th cousins and their married children are then 9th cousins. Too far back to get AncestryDNA matches; but cousins just the same. She noted that CVGS has advanced her further in my genealogy research in 10 months than the previous 25 years plus.
- John Finch wants "DNA success stories" for his June Saturday Workshop presentation. Please contact John at jan27@cox.net.

John Finch Wants Your DNA Challenge

For an upcoming talk in the June 1st Saturday Workshop at Bonita-Sunnyside Library, John wants to present case studies for various DNA mysteries that our members are encountering.

Do you have a mystery or an unusual situation that has come to light through your DNA matches? We are looking for those cousins that appeared, well, uninvited, and then the cousins that aren't matches, or the person that called you up and said, "Hi, I just got my DNA done and, guess what? You are my Grandpa!"

We want to know about your DNA mystery and how you have solved it. If not solved, maybe we can work on it. Submit your DNA mystery to John Finch at jan27@cox.net. As soon as you can.

Want to be a CVGS Member in the Spotlight?

You too can have a short genealogy autobiography published in the CVGS Newsletter for FREE! It might help connect you to another CVGS Member who might be a relative or someone who has ancestors in one of your locations. If so, please send your one-page genea-biography to the Newsletter Editor, Randy Seaver (call 1-619-422-3397 or email randy.seaver@gmail.com). A photograph of you doing genealogy research or with your family would be great also!

CVGS March 27th Program Review

Susi Pentico presented “In the Beginning” at the 27 March CVGS General Meeting. This was about the early history of the Chula Vista Genealogical Society from about 1982 to about 2000. In the early 1980s, 5 persons started meeting regularly in homes when the group was part of the Chula Vista Historical Society. Several members went to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City on trips sponsored by the San Diego Genealogical Society.

By 1985, the group had 38 members and was meeting in the Chula Vista Civic Center Library. Volunteers helped members and visitors with their research at the library in the area near the genealogy book collection. The group shared books, charts, research tips, and several members lectured about family history research. In 1989, the work at Glen Abbey Memorial Park started, five generation pedigree charts were filled out, and a card catalog of member surnames was started. In 1990, the Society was formed with election of officers, and a newsletter was started.

Over the years, photographs were taken at the annual Christmas parties at Sandy Palumbo's home in Bonita, and the attendees at this meeting tried to identify as many as possible. Susan Zimmer, the CVGS Historian, has several photo albums and Susi used those photos in her presentation. Sandy Palumbo attended the meeting and helped identify persons in the photos. Early members in the photos included:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| • June Dawson | * Sandy Palumbo | * Joy Voss |
| • Helen Thompson | * Mary Nelson | * Helen Devore |
| • Audrey Potterton | * Geni Powell | * Peggy Donovan |
| • Trudy and Paul Frank | * Nina Schultheis | * Janice Heller |
| • Bernice Claus Heiter | * Marci Cox | * Barbara O'Brien |
| • Ralph and Lorraine Zahn | * Leonard Reveal | * Dearl Glenn |
| • Phyllis Learned | * Shirley Becker | * Grace Lee |
| • Pat Postma | * Lee Whealdon | * Martha Flannery |
| • Mae Stone | * John Finch | * Helen Sauer |

I know I left some out – my apologies!

Upcoming Family Tree Webinars

- Tuesday, 9 April, 11 a.m: [Visualizing Ancestral Lines with DNA AutoClusters](#), by MyHeritage.
- Wednesday, 10 April, 5 p.m: [Plain Folk: Researching Amish and Mennonite Families](#), by Peggy Clemens Lauritzen
- Tuesday, 16 April, 5 p.m: [Transcribing Documents: There is More Than Meets the Eye!](#), by LaBrenda Garrett-Nelson
- Wednesday, 17 April, 11 a.m: [Boost Your Germanic Research: Understand Historical Jurisdictions](#), by Teresa Steinkamp McMillin
- Tuesday, 23 April, 11 a.m: [Censuses Around the World: What You Need to Know About Census Collections and Genealogy](#), by Mike Mansfield
- Wednesday, 24 April, 11 a.m: [Comparing the Genealogy Giants: Ancestry.com, FamilySearch, Findmypast and MyHeritage 2019 edition](#), by Sunny Morton

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. A membership of \$49.95 per year enables the member to view any of the over 900 webinars at any time.

CVGS March 13th Research Group Review

The March 13th Research Group meeting had 12 in attendance. In the first hour, Randy discussed:

- Accessing the RootsTech 2019 Conference videos and syllabus at www.RootsTech.org.
- Using the AncestryDNA “ThruLines” and MyHeritageDNA “Theory of Family Relativity” features.
- Sending in the FOREVER box (www.Forever.com) with 23 8 mm home movies to be digitized and provided on a flash drive and DVDs in one month.
- Accessing FamilySearch Family Tree profiles and charts.

In the second hour, the attendees shared their activities over the past month.

- Shirley found a Graves family photograph on the www.DeadFred.com photograph site.
- Jo Ann found a 1947 obituary for her grandfather Jack Sadler in the *Farmer's Advocate* newspaper on a website. She is trying to find information about her Irish 2nd-great-grandparents.
- Susan asked about the validity of royal lines that she traced back several hundred years with one ancestor. The response, from several members, was royal lines actually have good evidence records. So now I will go back and pay more attention rather than "just brush this off."
- Gary is going to a family reunion with four cousins in April back in Michigan.
- Helen wanted to know the best way to list her father's name, since his birth certificate did not match the name he used his whole life. The group suggested they put his birth certificate name in 'comments' or other applicable space, with information as to why it was not the same as the name he died using.
- Diane worked a bit on Shirley's family tree and sought new records on FamilySearch. She said it was helpful to have someone else look at your work in case something new appeared to them.

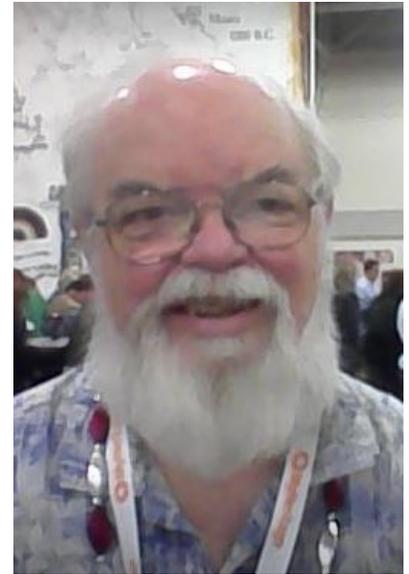
Several other members attended this meeting, but they did not submit their summary of what they shared and I didn't write it down.

The next CVGS Research Group meeting will be on Wednesday, 10 April at 12 noon in the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library Auditorium.

Randy's Tip of the Month

The FamilySearch Research Wiki (https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Main_Page) is a volunteer effort to gather genealogy and family history information in a curated space. There are over 89,000 articles on genealogy and family history subjects. A user can search for articles on countries, states, provinces, counties, record types, ethnic research, research processes, genealogy software, DNA tests and analysis, and many more topics.

On a state wiki page, there are links to each county, and there are links for getting started, research tools, online collections, and ask the community. For example, here is the [California, United States Genealogy](#) page.



Welcome New Members

Current Membership (as of 4/1): 81

Karyn's Caring Corner

Cards were sent to:

Meeting Host Volunteers

April 24: Susan McClure and ???
May 29: ???? and ????

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

Telephone Tree Volunteers

Ana Castro – 619-781-8441
Carrie Holleron – 619-421-8309
Carole Sobke – 619-465-5286

CVGS Society Officers

President:	Karen Smith
First Vice-President, Programs	Virginia Taylor
Second Vice-President, Membership	Carrie Holleron
Treasurer	Karen Polk
Secretary	Karen Yarger

Committee Chairs

Education	Susi Pentico
Historian	Susan Zimmer
Hospitality	Jo Ann Bonner
Librarian	Ann Stevens
Newsletter Editor	Randy Seaver
Research Group/DNA Group/Queries	Randy Seaver
Ways and Means	Carole Sobke
Webmaster	Gary Brock

San Diego Genealogy Events

Saturday, April 13th, 9:30 a.m.
SAN DIEGO GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY

Speaker: Kristi Sexton on
Session 1: "Digging in Find-a-Grave"
Session 2: "Hunting Your Heritage in
the Unknown Branches"

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

Tuesday, April 23rd, 9:30 a.m.
NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Speaker: Dr. Stephen Baird on
"Common Misunderstandings in the
Genetics of Genealogy"

at Carlsbad City Council Chambers
rogram(1200 Carlsbad Village Dr., Carlsbad)
Contact: Jim Jacobson (lj2001@cox.net)

Upcoming Conferences

National Genealogical Soc. Conference

8-11 May 2019

St. Charles, Missouri

Register at:

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

SCGS Genealogy Jamboree

30 May – 2 June 2019

Burbank, California

Register at: www.GenealogyJamboree.com

GENEALOGY DAYS IN CHULA VISTA

- **Wednesday, April 10, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Auditorium
- **Wednesday, April 17, 12 noon – DNA Interest Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Conference Room
- **Wednesday, April 24, 12 noon – General Meeting: Toni Perrone: “Prussia and Its Changing Borders”** at Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library in Auditorium.
- **Saturday, May 4, 1 p.m. – Saturday Workshop: Randy Seaver: “Discovering George W. Seaver's Life Story”** at Bonita-Sunnyside Library in Community Room.
- **Wednesday, May 8, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Conference Room
- **Wednesday, May 15, 12 noon – DNA Interest Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Conference Room
- **Wednesday, May 29, 12 noon – General Meeting: Gary Brock: “Places”** at Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library in Auditorium.
- **Saturday, June 1, 1 p.m. – Saturday Workshop: John Finch: “DNA Dynamics”** 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>

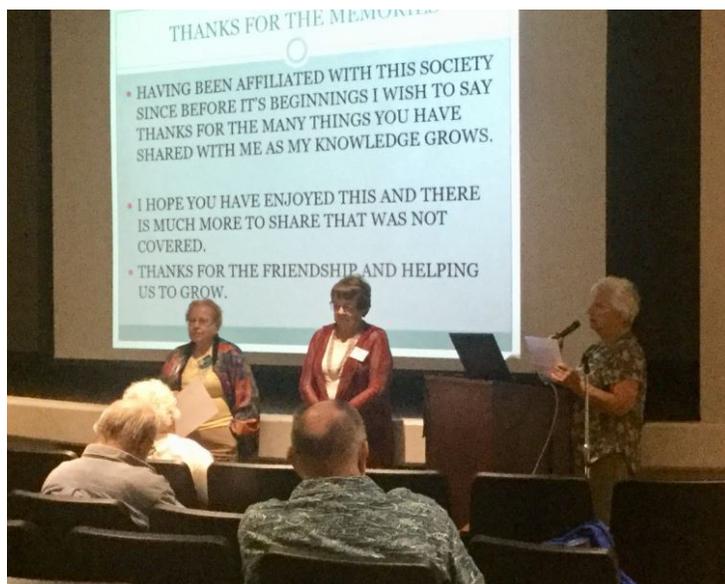
Visit the **Chula Vista Genealogy Café** blog – <http://CVGenCafe.blogspot.com>

Chula Vista Genealogical Society
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Label

Photos From Recent Meetings



Susi's 27 March "In the Beginning" Presentation – Christmas 1990 CVGS party at Sandy Palumbo's house.

Susi's 27 March "In the Beginning" Presentation – Closing slide, with Virginia Taylor and Karen Smith



Enjoying the Refreshments at the March 27 General Meeting – Gary Brock, Susi Pentico, Randy Seaver, and Sunny Van Cleave



The DNA Interest Group Meeting on March 20 in the back of the Auditorium

Thank you to Patricia Diane Godinez for taking photographs of society meetings!!