



**CHULA VISTA
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
FAMILY HISTORY GAZETTE**



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

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

Volume 29, Issue 10

Providing Genealogy Education in South San Diego County

October 2019

Wednesday, 30 October 2019, 12 noon

**CVGS General Meeting at South Chula Vista Library
(389 Orange Avenue, Chula Vista CA 91911, in the Marketplace)**

Speaker: Randy Seaver on “Researching in Historical Newspapers”

Newspapers are a vital historical resource for genealogy researchers. However, they are an underutilized resource, even with more newspapers coming online as searchable digital images. Newspapers offer all sorts of gems for genealogy and family history researchers. We can use them to unlock the stories of our ancestors, as well as learn more about the time and place in which they lived.

In this presentation, Randy will describe the information types that can be found in historical newspapers; where you can find information about which newspapers have been published in a specific locality; and where you can find historical newspapers in print, on microfilm, or in digital image collections. He will describe how he has solved some of his genealogy mysteries using historical newspapers.

Randy Seaver is a San Diego native, a graduate of San Diego State, and a former aerospace engineer at Rohr in Chula Vista. He started chasing dead ancestors in 1988 and has built a family tree with about 55,000 persons. He has been a member of CVGS since 1992, and is currently a member of NEHGS and SDGS. He has written several books about his own family history, and blogs about his genealogy world daily on Genea-Musings (www.geneamusings.com).

NOTE that the location for this meeting is the South Chula Vista Library!

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President's Message – by Karen Smith



October has always been one of my favorite months because I love the cooler weather and I love Halloween. I can still recall the many costumes my mother made - the gypsy, the princess, the pirate - all improvised with a little sewing, rummaging through her costume jewelry and her make-up. I know I am dating myself when I say there were no store-bought costumes. There were masks, and hats, maybe some other accessories, but nothing like today. When I went to Costco recently, I was greeted by huge racks of factory made costumes ready for Halloween. There is a definite lack of creativity in those costumes, since they have fifty princess costumes that are identical. A great deal of the fun in my Halloweens was coming up with an original costume that I would not see anywhere on my trek around the neighborhood. However, times and social conditions have changed. My mother never worked and most of today's mothers do work. The economic demands of this era almost require that both parents work.

October also brings back all of the superstitions that we keep in mind. Black cats crossing your path, walking under ladders, or breaking a mirror all bring bad luck, supposedly. In our community, many celebrate the Day of the Dead. While Halloween is full of trick or treat and mischief, Dia de los Muertos is a way for folks to show love and respect for their deceased loved ones. It is a cultural heritage and combines pre-Hispanic religious rites and Christian feasts. It is believed to have begun several thousand years ago. Altars are made to welcome back the dead and they have drink, food and other items, such as a toy for a deceased child. One wonderful thing about this celebration is that they view death as a part of life. The other is that they honor their dead, just as we genealogists do. We don't build altars, we build family trees. And to quote Randy Seaver, "We collect dead ancestors." It is our way to show respect for those who have preceded us.

Membership Address Changes

Members: if you move, or change contact information such as your email address or phone number, please notify our Membership Chair, Carrie Holleron, at mncinc@cox.net . This way we can keep information coming to you!

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.

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 – 2 November 2019

The November 2nd Saturday Workshop will be “Lost Ancestors” with Susi Pentico and a “Preserving Family Photographs” video by Maureen Taylor, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. at Anna's Family Restaurant (8099 Broadway St., Lemon Grove, Ca 91945).

Please note that we have to order something to eat in order to meet at Anna's for free. We can eat like at a Seminar and enjoy the knowledge shared at the same time. Many of our group have eaten here before. The prices are reasonable and they have a great senior menu – soup, sandwiches, small meals, breakfasts served all day, great pies, and good service and food. Of course, they have full course meals too. The menu is online at <http://www.annasfamilyrestaurantsd.com>.

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.

CVGS Fundraising Suggestions

CVGS is always looking for ways to generate funds, which can add to our ability to provide quality presentations to you, our members, and to enable us to continue funding scholarships to students in the Sweetwater Union High School District.

We believe we have found an excellent fund-raiser. Applebee's has two fundraisers that we are exploring. In one, we ask you to invite friends and family to eat at Applebee's on a certain date and the restaurant donates 25% of the profits back to our society. In the second, we sell tickets to a wonderful breakfast, which includes pancakes, syrup, scrambled eggs, sausage, crispy potatoes, orange juice, and coffee. We have to sell 100 tickets and 10-12 of us need to volunteer as servers. The tickets are \$10 each. The gross profit is \$1000 and we would earn \$500 of that. This sounds like a great way to build team spirit. Please think about both of these options and share your thoughts with us at the next general meeting.

CVGS Member Nancy Yates Passed Away

Our longtime CVGS member, Nancy Yates, died on September 17th, at 98 years old. Her daughter said that she celebrated her birthday with her family the previous weekend, and was happy and cheerful. Nancy joined CVGS in about 1991, and enjoyed attending the general meetings, the Computer Group, the Research Group, and going on research trips to local libraries. Nancy could always find something interesting to study and review every time we took a road trip, and she went on almost all of them.

To celebrate her life, there will be services at Glen Abbey Memorial Park in Bonita at the Chapel of the Roses on Saturday, 12 October at 1 p.m.

Spotlight On A CVGS Member, by Patricia Diane Godinez **Karen Polk: CVGS Researcher and the Cat's Meow!**

Karen Polk is new to the formal researching part of her family tree which she started online after joining the Chula Vista Genealogical Society in 2017. She currently serves as our Treasurer. However, she says she has been interested in genealogy since she was 10-12 years old. All her knowledge up to 2017 came from conversations with family.

This past June, at the SCGS Jamboree Conference, Karen talked to the DAR Group. Then she met a San Diego County member in September, who helped her look online. After discussing the family and with information from the family Bible, Karen was able to find her 7th great grandfather, Thomas Holt.



Karen's DNA says she is Scandinavian-Swedish-Scottish with a smattering of European (like a lot of other people). Her oldest son, has done Living DNA and Ancestry DNA. The second son doesn't want to because he feels it will give the government access to his personal data and life. He has, however, given Karen two granddaughters, Elise and Sarah. Her oldest granddaughter Brittany, is from Karen's daughter, who has done AncestryDNA.

Norma Karen Peterson Polk was born in Joliet, Illinois, to Norman and Zalita Peterson. She arrived with her parents, two younger brothers, and their dog Coco, in Chula Vista on 13 July 1950. She attended the Methodist College under President Rust, at what is now Point Loma Nazarene. Karen met her husband, Carl Albert Polk Jr., at the First United Methodist Church in National City, when he was in the Navy. They married in that church on Saturday, 25 June 1960. Carl died 29 August 2017 and is buried at Miramar National Cemetery.

She retired on 3 January 2016 from FRCSW Naval Aviation Depot, North Island, San Diego as an Electronics Engineer. She had been there 44 years and 3 months. Previous to that, she had worked for the Bureau of Labor Statistics as a Census Bureau enumerator for three years. Now Karen is involved in genealogy research, church, and other "fun" things.

Want to be a CVGS Member in the Spotlight?

You too can have a short genealogy autobiography published in the CVGS Newsletter for FREE! If so, please send your one-page genea-biography to Diane Godinez (godinezenriootay@yahoo.com). A photograph of you doing genealogy research would be great also!

CVGS Holiday Party is Wednesday, 11 December

It's almost time for our annual Christmas luncheon/Holiday Party, on Wednesday, December 11th, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Due to space constraints at the Chula Vista South Library, where we normally hold our event, it will be held in the clubhouse of our President, Karen Smith. The address is 1050 Buena Vista Court, Chula Vista, 91910. It's near Southwestern College.

Please plan on attending and bring a dish to share. There will be further details in future newsletters.

September 18th DNA Interest Group Review

The CVGS DNA Interest Group meeting was on 18 September at the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library in the Conference Room. 8 members were present.

In this meeting, Randy highlighted:

- **DNA.Land** is going commercial, all previous accounts will be deleted. Users can upload their raw DNA data to the new site for free.
- FamilyTreeDNA's home page was revised.
- The Leeds Method to group matches process was reviewed.
- Randy experimented by changing the father of his 2nd great-grandmother Sophia Newton (183?-1923) to her mother's first husband (who died in 1834), and received AncestryDNA ThruLines with the first husband's parents and grandparents.



In the second hour, the attendees discussed:

- Diane sent around a report on Ramon's 2nd Cousin, 7 generations removed. The name was Padre Miguel Hidalgo and he shouted a call to arms, El Grito, on 16 September 1810. He was a priest and his followers were in Dolores, Guanajuato, Mexico. Their plan, which was discovered before they were ready for implementation, was to free Mexico from Spain. They wanted their Independence. He was a colorful person in Mexican History and is revered and remembered today. This was part of my contribution for Hispanic Heritage Month which runs each year from 15 September to 15 October.
- Ralph reported that his wife Debbie received a bone marrow transplant from her brother, and now they have identical DNA.
- Virginia has tested with Living DNA now and is awaiting information.

The next DNA Interest Group meeting will be on Wednesday, 16 October at 12 noon in the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library Conference Room.

Randy's Tip of the Month

Probate records (wills, administrations, inventories, distributions, guardianships, letters, accounts, etc.) are extremely useful in identifying the heirs of an individual. While they are in court files in every county in every state in the country, the original papers are very difficult to obtain, and often require traveling to the specific county.

Many probate records created before the 1920s are available online. Ancestry.com has an entire set of State Wills and Probate records – see the list at <https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/catalog/?title=wills%20and%20probate>. These records are indexed and searchable, but they are not complete as some records were not digitized and/or indexed. In addition, the Ancestry indexing was imperfect – many records are not indexed. Ancestry indexed the records from FamilySearch microfilms.

FamilySearch has the same records available on digital microfilm, but they are cataloged by the county and/or state in the Family History Library Catalog (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog>). Enter your county of interest in the search form, and scroll to the Probate records. Then look for digital records in specific record sets on the Probate list. These records are not searchable – you have to browse them.

Upcoming Family Tree Webinars

- [50 Records that Document Female Ancestors](#) by Gena Philibert-Ortega, October 9
- [Civil Law Records in Genealogical Research: Notarial Records](#) by Claire Bettag, CG, October 15
- [Italian Civil Registration \(Stato Civile\): Going Beyond the Basics](#) by Melanie D. Holtz, CG, October 16
- [Privacy: How to Protect Your Information Online](#) by Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL, October 22
- [Top Tech Tips for the Technologist and the Genealogist: 2019 edition](#) by Geoff Rasmussen, October 23
- [Decoding Secret Societies: Finding Your Female Fraternal Ancestors](#) by Michael L. Strauss, AG, October 25
- [Seven Steps to Manage Digital Files](#) by Denise May Levenick, October 30

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 1,000 webinars at any time.

MyHeritage Live 2019 Conference Videos

MyHeritage has made the MyHeritage Live 2019 Conference Genealogy and DNA track sessions available for all to view online for FREE. The link to the videos is in the MyHeritage blog post at <https://blog.myheritage.com/2019/09/myheritage-live-2019-lectures-now-online/>.

Want Up-To-Date Genealogy News?

Randy Seaver publishes “Genealogy News Bytes” every Tuesday and Friday with links to genealogy news articles, new or updated online record collections, genealogy education opportunities (webinars, podcasts, video), genealogy bargains, DNA success stories, and more. See an example at <https://www.geneamusings.com/2019/10/genealogy-news-bytes-4-october-2019.html>.

Dick Eastman publishes genealogy news and technology articles daily on his Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter – check daily at <http://www.eogn.com>.

Useful DNA Research Blog Posts

- [23andMe's Family Tree Beta](#)
- [23andMe Automatically Creates Tree Using New Technology – Relationship Triangulation](#)
- [Who is In a Cluster?](#)
- [Can DNA Determine Who My 3rd Great-Grandfather Is?](#)
- [MyHeritage DNA documentary - “The Missing Piece”](#)

Interesting Genealogy Blog Articles

- [GenealogyBank Offers Historical Newspaper Search for FamilySearch Family Tree Ancestors](#)
- [New Collection on Ancestry.com - Newspapers.com Obituary Index, 1800s to Current](#)
- [Genealogy 101: Understanding Terms Found in Land Records](#)
- [Why Doesn't My Navy Grandpa's Discharge Show All His Stations/Units/Ships?](#)
- [Lineage Society Requirements: Requirements and DNA](#)

September 7th Saturday Workshop Review, by Cindy Teysko

The group met at the Bonita-Sunnyside Library Conference Room for a wide-ranging discussion and a second eye-opening film presented by Susi Pentico. There were 16 in attendance including those newer to the world of ancestor research. We began with introductions and shared our genealogy experience and current research questions. Susi shared her life-long curiosity and research about her extended family, their stories, her ancestors, and history in general. She also shared helpful advice for the newbies as well as reminders for the old-timers such as an overlooked resource (www.WorldGenWeb.org) and the importance of learning the history of the places our ancestors lived.

We watched the film “The Trail of Tears—Black Indians” (Part 2) and came away with lots to think about. This is the last time this year (and into 2020) that we will be meeting at the Bonita-Sunnyside location due to reconstruction.

Genealogy Bargains

Thomas MacEntee publishes a list of genealogy-related bargains – subscriptions, books, classes, DNA, etc – free, discounted, etc.) every day on <https://genealogybargains.com/>. There is always something genealogical for sale!

News From the Genealogy World – September 2019

- [Launch of New Genealogy Education Subscription Site: Genealogy Guys Learn](#)
- [Family Tree Maker 2019 Released - FTM Celebrates 30th Birthday](#)
- [Announcing Genea – Your Personal Genealogy Notebook For Apple’s iOS and iPadOS Devices](#)
- [Findmypast Announces Launch of Tree-to-Tree Hints](#)
- [Justice Department sets rules for using genealogy sites to solve crimes](#)
- [“A New Leaf,” A new Television Series by Ancestry® to debut on NBC this Fall](#)
- [RootsTech 2020 SLC Registration is Open](#)

“A New Leaf” Television Series Starts Saturday, 5 October

“A New Leaf” will be included in the Saturday NBC morning programming block, *The More You Know*, beginning October 5, 2019. Please check your local listings.

Each week “A New Leaf” will follow people on the cusp of key life inflection points, who using family history, genealogy, and sometimes AncestryDNA analysis will go on a journey of self-discovery and learn from the past while looking to the future. In partnership with Ancestry, Fuentes will join families as they learn the importance of appreciating and understanding their family history and ancestors in order to make important life decisions.

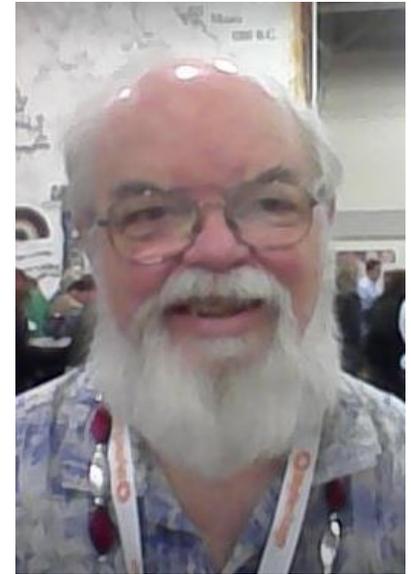
“Finding Your Roots:” Season 6 Starts Tuesday, 8 October

Season Six of “Finding Your Roots, with Henry Louis Gates, Jr.” begins on Tuesday, 8 October, probably at 8 p.m. on KPBS in San Diego (check the TV listings). Discover the surprising ancestral stories of 27 fascinating guests in these episodes, including Jeffrey Wright, Sigourney Weaver, Melissa McCarthy, Sterling K. Brown, Jordan Peele, Nancy Pelosi, Gayle King, Norah O’Donnell, Queen Latifah, Jon Batiste, Diane von Furstenberg, Zac Posen, Jeff Goldblum, Anjelica Huston, Isabella Rossellini, Terry Gross, Eric Stonestreet and more.

CVGS September 11th Research Group Review

The September 11th Research Group meeting had 13 in attendance. In the first hour, Randy discussed:

- MyHeritage Live 2019 Conference videos are available.
- The Board for Certification of genealogists videos are available on Family Tree Webinars.
- RootsMagic Version 8 is being unveiled on the RootsMagic blog, but it is not released yet.
- His “Who is the Biological father of Sophia Newton (183?-1923)?” quandary. Sophia's mother's first husband died 5 months before she was born, but all records indicate the second husband is the father.



In the second hour, the attendees discussed:

- Diane reported on an Ancestry DNA contact who is currently living in Wyoming. At first, she thought the connection was going to be one of Ramón Godinez's Ramirez ancestors. The contact had Susie Ramirez, born in 1913, as an ancestor. After more research, Diane found Susie's parents names, and found that Susie was actually Maria Jesus Ramirez born in La Barca, Jalisco, who was the granddaughter of Antonia Godinez. With a little more checking using marriage records, she found the parents of Antonia, who was the daughter of Ramon's Godinez and Orozco ancestor cousins. She can't wait to share many more Godinez names with the new-found cousin in Wyoming.
- Paula Jo spoke on Find-A-Grave. If you have proof your ancestors or current family are buried in a particular cemetery, and it's not on Find A Grave, you can add the information yourself. Also you can contact the submitters of an interment to please take another picture. Also you can contact Find A Grave to make corrections. You can add pictures, documents and tie family members in the same Cemetery. Find-A-Grave is looking for people to help read tombstones.
- Jo Ann noted that her brick wall is her great-grandfather, Martin Sadler, born in Ireland around 1827. His mother and wife were both named Mary, born in Ireland. His oldest son, John, born in Warwickshire, England in 1852, married Mary Ann Stockford. Jo Ann can find a Martin Sadler in the English census for 1851 and 1861 in the right area of England but she doesn't know if it's the correct person.
- Susi commented on putting Shirley Becker in touch with another Wright researcher that has a DNA match to her lost Wright family. Susi mentioned that she found John and Benjamin Hoffman sourced information in Hampshire County, Virginia in a book on Virginia Publick Claims. It has been hard to find information on John, the father of our Hoffman line.
- Karen P. mentioned finding her 7th great grandfather with help from the DAR and my family Bible.
- Virginia asked about the MyHeritage Theory Of Family Relativity. She has two DNA matches on the Theory Of Family Relativity.
- John spoke about the book, *Founders and Patriots, Founders of Early American Families*, by Meredith B. Colket (in the CVPL collection, call # 929.2097) and the number of families from his line that appear in the book and the author's disclosure of available biographical materials.
- Tammy noted that the names in the Colket book are on the [www.FOUNDERSPATRIOTS.org](http://wwwFOUNDERSPATRIOTS.org) website.

The next CVGS Research Group meeting will be on Wednesday, 9 October at 12 noon in the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library Conference Room.

Welcome New Members

Current Membership (as of 10/1): 79

Karyn's Caring Corner

Cards were sent to: Carole Sobke

Meeting Host Volunteers

October 30: Lynn Wright and Karen Smith
November 27:

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 Ana Castro

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, October 12th, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

SAN DIEGO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY PROGRAM

Speaker: Julianne DeWalt Adamik on
“Starting at the Very Beginning - Genetic Genealogy for the Beginner”

and

“Using DNA as a Supplement to Traditional Genealogy Research”

at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
(8350 Lake Murray Blvd, San Diego)

Contact: Cynthia Ehrlich

cynthia.ehrlich13@gmail.com

Tuesday, October 23rd, 9:30 a.m.

NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Speaker: Jeanette Shiel on
“The Tax Man: Using Tax Records in Genealogy”

at Carlsbad City Council Chambers
(1200 Carlsbad Village Dr., Carlsbad)

Contact: Jim Jacobson (lj2001@cox.net)

Upcoming Conferences

RootsTech 2020 SLC

February 26-29, 2020

Salt Lake City, Utah

Salt Palace Convention Center

Register at <https://www.rootstech.org/salt-lake>
(\$169 early bird price ends on 11 October)

GENEALOGY DAYS IN CHULA VISTA

- **Wednesday, October 9, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Conference Room
- **Wednesday, October 16, 12 noon – DNA Interest Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Conference Room
- **Wednesday, October 30, 12 noon – General Meeting: Randy Seaver: “Researching in Historical Newspapers”** at South Chula Vista Library (389 Orange Avenue) in the Marketplace.
- **Saturday, November 2, 1 p.m. – Saturday Workshop: Susi Pentico: “TBD”** at Anna's Restaurant (see page 5)
- **Wednesday, Nov. 13, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Conference Room
- **Wednesday, Nov. 20, 12 noon – DNA Interest Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Conference Room
- **Wednesday, Nov. 27, 12 noon – General Meeting: CVGS Members “Show and Tell”** at Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library in Auditorium.
- **Saturday, December 7, 1 p.m. – Saturday Workshop: Susi Pentico: “TBD”** at Anna's Restaurant (see page 5)

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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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