



CHULA VISTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY FAMILY HISTORY GAZETTE



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

We Dig Our Ancestors Editor: Randy Seaver (619) 422-3397, randy.seaver@gmail.com

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

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

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Providing Genealogy Education in South San Diego County December 2019

Wednesday, 11 December 2019, 11 a.m.

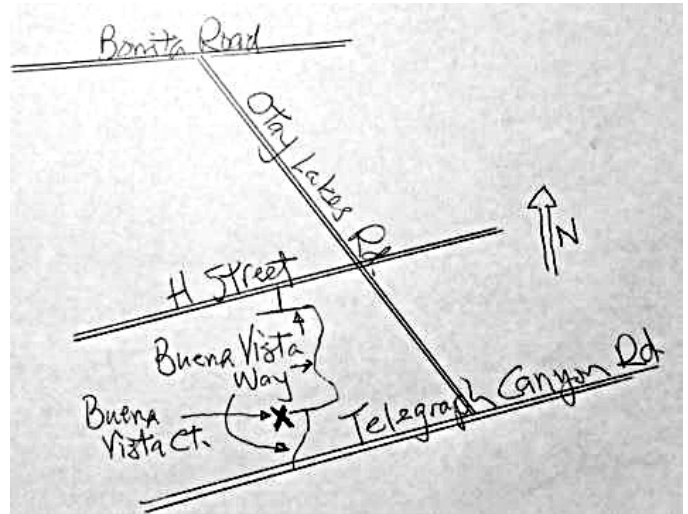
CVGS Annual Holiday Luncheon

(1050 Buena Vista Court, Chula Vista CA 91910)

The CVGS Annual Holiday Party potluck will be on Wednesday, December 11th from 11:00 am to 2:00 p.m.

This year the party will be at the Bonita Terrace Clubhouse. The address is 1050 Buena Vista Court, Chula Vista, CA 91910 (see map). If you have not signed up, please contact Jo Ann Bonner at jabonner13@gmail.com or 619-892-2478 (by Sunday, 8 December). The food assignments are as follows:

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



Hospitality will provide ham with a cherry sauce and turkey with gravy, bottled water, Crystal light punch, coffee and hot water for tea. We will also provide beverage cups, paper plates, napkins, plastic utensils and a few extra serving spoons. A \$5 donation is requested to cover rental of the clubhouse and providing the meat dishes.

The theme this year is sharing "A Favorite Christmas Memory" (only one, 5 minutes maximum). There will be door prizes, a gift exchange if you wish to participate (bring one, take one, limit \$10), We will also be collecting toys and canned food for donations to the Salvation Army.

Table of Contents

December 11 th Holiday Luncheon	1	Useful Genealogy Blog Posts for November	5
President's Message	2	November 13 th Research Group Review.....	6
Membership Address Changes	2	November 27 th Program Review	7
Member Services	2	Upcoming Family Tree Webinars	8
December Saturday Workshop	3	Genealogy Bargains	8
January Saturday Workshop	3	Want Up-to-date Genealogy News?	8
CVGS Fundraising Suggestions	3	CVGS Society Information	9
Register for Meetings on CVGS Website	3	San Diego Area Genealogy Events	9
Spotlight on a CVGS Member	4	Genealogy Days in Chula Vista	10
November 20 th DNA Interest Group Review	5		

President's Message – by Karen Smith



As I considered this month's newsletter message, I thought about what makes this season so memorable to most of us. Our theme for the Christmas luncheon is our favorite Christmas memory, so that lit a little fire in my tired old brain.

Growing up, I was not allowed to believe in Santa Claus. My father ruled the house and wanted everyone to know that the gifts came from his hard work and thoughtful shopping. In every other way, my dad was a wonderful father. But my greatest memories of Christmas came when I was able to create for my own children the Christmas I had missed as a child. It was staying up until they finally passed out from exhaustion on Christmas eve, getting those Santa presents under the tree and making sure someone ate the cookie and drank the cocoa they left for Santa. It was watching their Christmas morning smiles and shining eyes, even if it was 6 A.M. and I really just wanted to sleep a little longer. Fortunately, that gift just kept giving as my three children had their own children and repeated the magic for those five grandchildren. The best part of Christmas is the magic of belief, whether it is in our faith, in a magical fellow flying over the world leaving presents, or in the importance of family coming together. The hard part is keeping the magic throughout the year.

I wish each of you and your families a magical Christmas full of family, fun, and food. My New Year's wish for you is that you keep some of the magic in 2020.

I hope to see you at our Christmas luncheon party on December 11 at 1050 Buena Vista Court, Chula Vista, 91910.

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.

December Saturday Workshop – 7 December 2019

The December 7th Saturday Workshop will be “Christmas/Holiday Newsletters and Timelines” with Susi Pentico from 1 to 4 p.m. at Anna's Family Restaurant (8099 Broadway St., Lemon Grove, Ca 91945). We will talk about Timelines and Christmas/Holiday News letters. Timelines are so important to fill in the blanks and pick up the pieces we miss when looking for answers to Brick Walls. Some of the Genealogical Programs have Timelines on their systems. Virginia said recently she never thought of her working calendar as a Timeline. It has saved my hide/brain more than once. Hope to see you there.

January Saturday Workshop – 4 January 2020

The January 4th Saturday Workshop will be “Recording Your Event” with Susi Pentico from 1 to 4 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>.

No Research Group or DNA Interest Group Meetings in December

There will not be a Research Group meeting on 11 December or a DNA Interest Group meeting on 18 December due to the Holiday Luncheon and the holidays.

The next Research Group meeting will be on 15 January and the next DNA Interest Group meeting will be on 22 January 2020.

CVGS Fundraising Suggestions

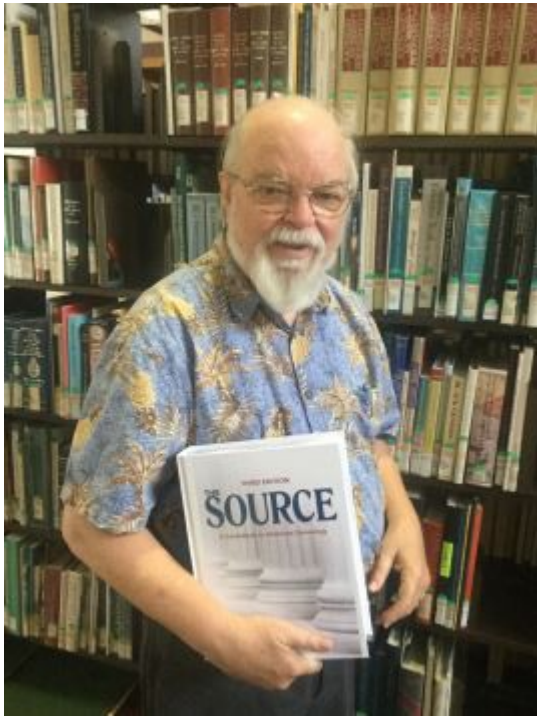
CVGS is always looking for ways to generate funds, which can add to our ability to provide quality presentations to you, our members, and to enable us to continue funding scholarships to students in the Sweetwater Union High School District.

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 \$1,000 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.

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.

Spotlight On A CVGS Member, by Patricia Diane Godinez **Randy Seaver: Researcher and Guru to Fellow CVGS Members**



Randy Seaver has been building his family tree and doing genealogy research since 1988 when he needed an intellectually stimulating avocation. He has a large colonial New England ancestry on both sides of the family, along with a significant German ancestry on his mother's side, and a significant English ancestry on his father's side. In addition, he researches the ancestry of his wife Linda and their grandchildren, plus several surnames (Seaver, Carringer, Auble, Vaux, etc.)

In the Chula Vista Genealogical Society, Randy joined in 1992, and has been Treasurer, First Vice-President, President (2007-2008), Newsletter Editor (since 2009), Queries/ Research Chair (since 2005), and DNA Interest Group Leader since 2018. He has given over 40 programs and workshop presentations, about 160 research/DNA group talks, three all day seminars, and 4 beginners' class series at CVGS since joining in 1992. He has taught "Beginning Computer Genealogy" classes at OASIS since 2009, and has made numerous presentations and seminars at other genealogical societies and local libraries, at regional and national conferences, along with several online webinars.

Randy has been blogging at www.GeneaMusings.com since 2006 (over 13,000 posts), writing two to four posts a day about his own research, genealogy news, software, education and other topics, and curating genealogy news (e.g. Best of the Genealogy Blogs, Genealogy News Bytes) for his readers. The blog has over 4,000 online readers and over 3,000 email readers each day. He started the blog because he knew that writing about his genealogy research would improve his research and writing abilities and his readers could contribute information to help him. Genea-blogging "took off" and he is now Facebook genealogy friends with hundreds of other genealogists from all over the world. Randy enjoys going to regional and national conferences to consult with genealogy companies and enjoys sharing time with his conference friends.

The monthly CVGS Research Group and the monthly DNA Interest Group are intended to help other researchers with their own research with Randy being a teacher, a resource provider, and (hopefully, he says) a good example of best practices and opportunities to learn about traditional and genetic genealogy subjects.

In his "real life," Randy was born in National City and grew up in San Diego, in Burlingame south of North Park. He attended San Diego High School and studied aerospace engineering at San Diego State. After working at Rohr Industries in Chula Vista for 35 years as an Aerodynamics engineer and Aero/Thermo engineering manager, he retired in 2002. He has traveled all over the USA and Europe on business while working with jet engine and aircraft customers, and attending aerospace conferences.

Randy met his wife Linda in a bowling alley in 1968. They married in March 1970 and made their home in Chula Vista. They enjoy attending Padres games, watching baseball and football on TV, attending church functions, eating out occasionally, and seeing their family. They have 2 daughters and 5 grandchildren. Randy hasn't yet found the "genealogy heir," but he has hope!

November 20th DNA Interest Group Review

The CVGS DNA Interest Group meeting was on 20 November at the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library in the Conference Room. 12 members were present.

In this meeting, Randy highlighted:

- DNA Central newsletter announcements.
- AncestryDNA updated Ethnicity Estimates, new ThruLines features, and new DNA Match headings.
- Living DNA updated their Ethnicity Estimates, but they have instituted new features that cost money.
- FamilyTreeDNA has a new family tree feature.

In the second hour, the attendees discussed:

- Arlene is working with AncestryDNA matches putting them into groups.
- Gary asked about finding Ancestry Record Hints for a specific collection.
- Jo Ann received a DNA match with a great-uncle in England.
- Diane brought a problem of two people connecting as 3rd cousins through DNA testing with 23andMe but none of the names from the Whiting and Downing families were the same. How can that be if....Defendants Lie, Plaintiffs Lie, Fathers Lie, Mothers Lie but DNA Never Lies! Only more research will tell the Truth.



The next DNA Interest Group meeting will be on Wednesday, 22 January 2020 at 12 noon in the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library Conference Room.

Useful Genealogy Blog Posts for November

- [Tuesday's Tip: Wills and Probate Records on Ancestry.com](#)
- [Tuesday's Tip: Use the "Find A Grave" Web Site to Find Burial Records](#)
- [Tuesday's Tip: Use MyHeritage "Compilation of Published Sources" - FREE!](#)
- [Tuesday's Tip: Research in Massachusetts, Birth Records, 1841-1915 Collections](#)
- [Tuesday's Tip: U.S. World War II Draft Cards Young Men, 1940-1947](#)

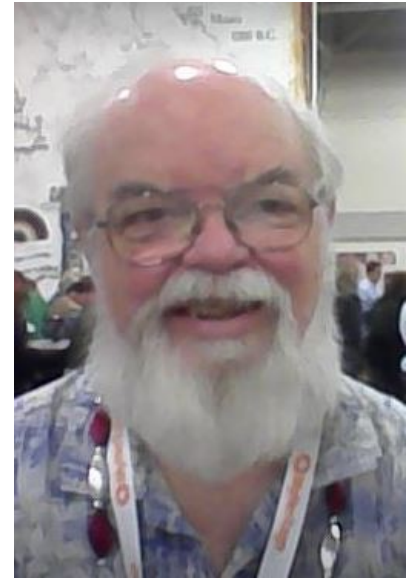
- [Tuesday's Tip: Use the U.S. World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918](#)
- [Tuesday's Tip - Use the Ancestry.com Collection for U.S. Social Security Applications and Claims](#)
- [Have you tried AncestorSearch on Google Search for searching for ancestors \(or living people\) lately?](#)
- [Preparing Your Family History Records For Hand Over in the Future](#)
- [A Look at Seven Steps to Manage Digital Files](#)

- [How To Use Social Media In Your German Genealogy Research](#)
- [Tips for Navigating Civil Registration Records from England and Wales](#)
- [Vertical Files in the Archives – A Valuable Genealogy Resource](#)
- [What Will Happen Over the Next Three Generations?](#)
- [The Lure of the Land: 4 Types of Land Records That Can Help Solve Genealogy Brick Walls](#)

CVGS November 13th Research Group Review

The November 13th Research Group meeting had 18 in attendance. In the first hour, Randy discussed:

- Automated indexing of Newspapers.com obituaries on Ancestry works really well.
- Weekly Tuesday's Tip posts highlight one useful online record collection.
- How to "mine" specific Ancestry record collections for your tree people.
- MyHeritage announced their Education page which has helpful articles and free webinars.
- American Ancestors (NEHGS) was free to access from 11/12 to 11/19,
- You can order England and Wales Birth and Death certificates online at <http://gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates> as a PDF for 7 pounds via email.



In the second hour, the attendees discussed:

- Diane is interested in the Mudgett sisters' great grandfather, Robert Louis Vernon. His daughter, Viola Vernon, was born in Hackney, London, England in 1895. Are the Vernons part of Diane's English line? She was trying to see if Robert was her distant connection with the sisters by viewing Viola's birth record which Randy had ordered. Robert is truly a mysterious man and he might have been born with the name of Reuben T. Phillips, in Frederick, Maryland, in April 1844. Diane also showed two posters that were about the Mudgett family and a son of Robert's, his second child with Jeanette Vesta Stone. That son was Robert Louis Vernon Jr. and he was lost at sea during World War II.
- Gary talked about his new study of the Capt. William Knowlton family which is in Wanda's lineage and in Randy's too. There are many mysteries and controversies surrounding this family in the area of Canterbury, Kent in England back in the time frame of 1500-1640. There are also several questions as to who is who and what the family's activities were after their settling in the area of Ipswich in what is now Massachusetts after their voyage to America in 1632-4.
- Bobbie found out more about Mrs. Gary Scott, who donated Mary Dwelly Petrie's items to the Research Center in Lilac Cottage in Waukegan, Illinois. She was the granddaughter of Mary, and she and her husband took care of Mary for the last twelve years of her life. One of Mary's donated items contained the hard-to-find death date of Adolph Petrie, Mary's father-in-law.
- Paula Jo was privileged to attend a DAR marking of an American Revolution era grave marker, held in Nashville, Tennessee last month. This graveyard had been abandoned and forgotten and now it's restored. This is a great result of genealogy research. Honor your ancestors!!
- Karen S. commented on her descendancy work from her third great-grandparents and stated that she is just finishing up with the first third great-grandparent. She also posed a question as to how she might locate living descendants versus dead ones.
- Karen P. submitted her DNA samples to 23andMe and to MyHeritageDNA. She is waiting for the results.
- Jo Ann recently got the results from her latest DNA test from Living DNA. It said she is 100% English and Irish, even breaking down the percentages from different areas such as South Wales, Cumbria, London, etc. She also discovered another ancestor who fought in the American Revolution, Jonathan Parker. **(continued on page 8)**

November 27th “Show and Tell” Program Review

The General Meeting on Wednesday, 27 November was our annual “Show and Tell” program – this year the topic was “**Your Most Unusual or Mysterious Heirloom.**” There were eight CVGS members as presenters, accompanied by a slide show created by Gary that showcased the heirlooms on the screen. The heirlooms presented included:

- Paula Jo brought a brick that they found on a Beach on Block Island, Rhode Island, near where her husband's ancestor, William Cahoon, had a brickmaking business in the 1600s.
- Bobbie shared the Alfred LaMagdaleine (1861-1962) gravestone in Waukegan, Illinois, and shared some of the family history.
- Ceasar showed several old cameras, including a Polaroid camera, from his collection. He also brought a new “toy” camera and took a polaroid type photo of the attendees.
- Randy displayed a pot of some sort that his grandmother used in the garden. He doesn't know if it was initially a chamber pot, a burial urn, a flower/garden pot, a candle holding pot, or what.
- Sue put a leather “tool” on her hand that was used by her forebears to shuck corn husks.
- Ana displayed several clothing items made by her mother when Ana was a child and young woman.
- Diane showed her shot glass collection in a photograph, giving a little history of each shot glass and where she obtained them.
- Daryl displayed photographs of famous people from her aunt's collection, including Eleanor Roosevelt and aviatrixes Jacqueline Cochran and Amelia Earhart.



Upcoming Family Tree Webinars

- Tuesday, 10 December, 11 a.m.: [A Year in Review: New Records and Features in MyHeritage](#), by Daniel Horowitz
- Wednesday, 11 December, 5 p.m.: [Grandma's Obituary Box: The Use of Obituaries in Genealogical Research and Their Role in American Culture](#), by Pam Stone Eagleson
- Tuesday, 17 December, 5 p.m.: [Marriages Here, There, and Nowhere: Finding Gretna Greens and Borders](#), by J. Mark Lowe
- Wednesday, 18 December, 11 a.m.: [How to trace your UK ancestry](#), by Kirsty Gray

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 1,100 webinars at any time.

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!

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/2019/12/genealogy-news-bytes-tuesday-3-december.html>.

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

Here are some of the significant November news items:

- [We're Losing Generations of Family History Because We Don't Share Our Stories](#)
- [Tom Hanks Surprised by Ancestry® Discovery That He's Related to Mr. Rogers, His Onscreen Character](#)
- [USCIS Proposes Fee Increases for Genealogy Records](#)
- [Ancestry.com: Your Privacy is our Top Priority](#)

Research Group Review (Concluded)

- Ann is looking for information on her mother's sister, Elizabeth Schneider (Snyder), who died from the Spanish flu in 1918. She was 4 or 5 when she died. They lived in the Springfield, Massachusetts area - father John and mother Margaret; they were Catholic.
- Raoul noted that Mexican church and civil records often have bad handwriting which makes them difficult to read.
- Sylvia's nephew placed wreaths on cemetery graves for Veterans Day.

The next CVGS Research Group meeting will be on Wednesday, 15 January 2020 at 12 noon in the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library Conference Room.

Welcome New Members

Current Membership (as of 12/1): 79

Karyn's Caring Corner

Cards were sent to:

Mary Pentico Nelson
Susan McClure

Meeting Host Volunteers

January 29: Ana and Ceasar Castro

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, Jan. 18th 2020,
9 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

SAN DIEGO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY SEMINAR (\$60)

Speaker: Warren Bittner on
“Meyer's Gazetteer: Gateway to Germany”
“German Maps and Territories”
“German Marriage Laws and Customs”
“The Fisherman Who Wanted to Marry the Executioner's Daughter. Stories you Missed from German Marriage Resources”

at Marina Village, Captain's Room
(1936 Quivira Way, San Diego CA 92109)

Contact: Cynthia Ehrlich

cynthia.ehrlich13@gmail.com

Tuesday, January 21th, 9:30 a.m.

NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Speaker: TBD on
“TBD”

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

- **Saturday, December 7, 1 p.m. – Saturday Workshop: Susi Pentico: “Christmas/Holiday Newsletters and Timelines”** at Anna's Restaurant (see page 3)
- **Wednesday, December 11, 11 a.m. – CVGS Annual Holiday Party**, at clubhouse at 1050 Buena Vista Court, Chula Vista, 91910, near Southwestern College (see page 3)
- **Wednesday, December 18, 12 noon – DNA Interest Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Conference Room
- **Saturday, January 4, 1 p.m. – Saturday Workshop: Susi Pentico: “Recording Your Event”** at Anna's Restaurant (see page 3)
- **Wednesday, January 8, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Conference Room
- **Wednesday, January 15, 12 noon – DNA Interest Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Conference Room
- **Wednesday, January 29, 12 noon – General Meeting: Gena Philibert-Ortega on “Researching Maiden Names”** at Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library in Auditorium.
- **Saturday, February 1, 1 p.m. – Saturday Workshop: Susi Pentico: “TBD”** at Anna's Restaurant (see page 3)

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All CVGS Program Meetings are held, unless otherwise noted, at the
Chula Vista Civic Center Branch (CVCCB) Library, 365 F Street, Chula Vista
Contact Virginia Taylor (irishdoll@cox.net) for program details.

Visit our **Web Site** – <http://www.CVGenealogy.org>

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

Chula Vista Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 3024
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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