



**CHULA VISTA
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
FAMILY HISTORY GAZETTE**



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

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Providing Genealogy Education in South San Diego County

April 2020

Wednesday, 29 April 2020, 12 noon

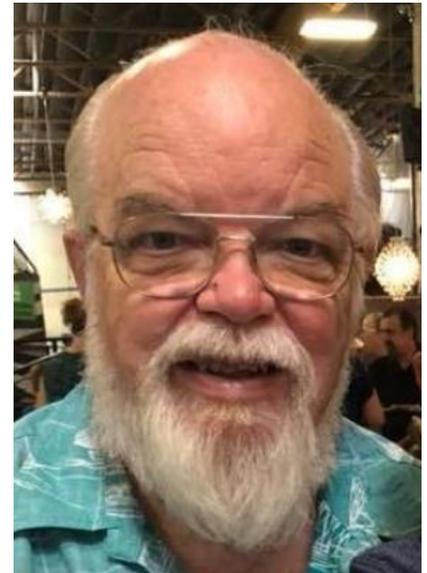
CVGS General Meeting

in a Zoom Video Conference Meeting

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

According to a newspaper article, George W. Seaver disappeared in May 1899 in Los Angeles. Where did he go? Who was his wife? Did he have children? Who were his parents? Did he have siblings? When was he born? Where did he die? What is his life story? With help from collaborators, George's life story surfaces through records found online from a number of sources, and the life of a Civil War soldier emerges.

Randy Seaver has 32 years experience in researching his family history, with a fine New England, English and German ancestry, with a little Dutch and French. He has served CVGS as Treasurer, Program Chair, President, Newsletter Editor, Research Group and DNA Group leader. Randy has given more than 200 genealogy presentations to CVGS and other genealogical societies all over Southern California for the last 27 years. In addition, he has taught the “Genealogy 101” course several times for CVGS and “Beginning Computer Genealogy” at OASIS since 2009. Randy writes the world renowned Genea-Musings blog (www.geneamusings.com), started in 2006 after he retired from Rohr.



This program will be held online using the ZOOM video conferencing platform for meetings and webinars. Please see the article on page 3 in this newsletter for how each CVGS member can watch this presentation on their computer from home on the date and time listed.

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President's Message – by Karen Smith



This is a difficult time for our nation, community, family and organizations like CVGS. We are social creatures and are missing those human connections. Solitude can be relaxing, but in big doses, it can feel isolating. I have found great pleasure in watching my church services on the internet and FaceTiming with family and friends.

CVGS could be facing several months without face to face meetings. We are hoping to ease that distance by trying a new technology. It is Zoom and I have just become acquainted with it. Yesterday my book club did a meeting on Zoom and today Randy Seaver and I connected on Zoom. Next week, I will use it for a church group and a women's group meeting. I heartily recommend that you try it. You will need to install it on a tablet, phone, or computer (see Page 3). Randy will be our host and guide you through the steps needed to participate.

Honestly, it is NOT HARD, but you do need an online connection, ideally with a microphone and web camera! Please adopt a spirit of adventure and join us for some Zoom get-togethers.

We will be able to have interest groups like Research or DNA. We can even do our general meetings on it with announcements and presentations, but not food-sharing or the raffle. You only need to wash your face, comb your hair, and put clothing on from the waist up! In fact, there is an audio only mode that allows you to come as you are ...

I hope to see or hear from you soon. Look for Randy's articles in this newsletter to learn more.

Member Services – Contact Carrie Holleron

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!

Carrie Holleron also 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: <https://chulavistagenealogysociety.wildapricot.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 <https://chulavistagenealogysociety.wildapricot.org/> on the "Members" tab.

Using Zoom.us For Society Meetings

Zoom and several other computer programs are used around the world to bring people, families and groups together using online video conferencing. The COVID-19 pandemic has forced many people indoors to avoid being sick, and these video platforms have enabled millions of people to share information with others, business managers and employees, and teachers and students to connect with each other on a regular basis. The Zoom Help site is <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us>.

You need to Register to use Zoom at <https://zoom.us/signup> with your email address. Participating in a meeting or webinar as an attendee is FREE. Long meetings and all webinars require a subscription plan to act as a Host for a meeting or a webinar. There is a limit of 100 attendees for a free Zoom Meeting.

The Zoom Client for Meetings program must be downloaded from <https://zoom.us/download> before it can be used by a Host or Attendee on a desktop or laptop computer, or on a smart phone or tablet. Once downloaded, it must be installed on your computer by clicking on the downloaded file in your computer files. See <https://edu.gcfglobal.org/en/basic-computer-skills/installing-software-on-your-windows-pc/1/> (for Windows) or <https://www.howtogeek.com/177619/how-to-install-applications-on-a-mac-everything-you-need-to-know/> (for MacOS). You can download the Zoom Cloud Meeting App to your iPhone or iPad from the Apple App Store, or to your Android phone or tablet from the Google Play Store.

The Host sets up a Zoom Meeting, scheduling a day, date, time, and approximate meeting length. Zoom provides an invitation that the Host can send to the attendees via email. The email contains the link to JOIN the meeting, along with a meeting ID and a password (which may be required to be used).

The invited attendees, with the Zoom program installed on their computer, can click on the link to the meeting, and the Zoom screen opens. The user must click on the “Open URL: Zoom Launcher” link, and the Zoom screen will open if the Host has started the meeting. If the Host has not started the meeting, then the attendee must wait for the start of the meeting. You should test your audio and video before opening the Zoom launcher.

The attendee can watch and participate in the Zoom Meeting in full screen (upper right-hand corner) or in partial screen (in View Options). When in Full Screen, the Participants and Chat boxes open in the middle of the screen. In Partial Screen, they appear on the right side of the screen.

The meeting screen will have a number of “controls” at the bottom of the screen. Roll your mouse over the bottom of the screen and the controls will appear. From the left side of the screen, the controls include:

- * **Mute** (ON or OFF) – if ON, you should be able to be heard. If OFF, you will not be able to be heard. If there is significant background noise in your computer room, please Mute yourself when not speaking.
- * **Video** (ON or OFF) – if ON, the host and attendees can see what your web camera is showing. If OFF, you will not be seen, but your name will be shown. If you have to leave for a minute, switch your video to OFF.
- * **Participants** – you can click on the button and see the names of Participants in a list on your screen.
- * **Chat** – you can click on the Chat button and see the messages that the attendees share using the field at the bottom of the Chat box. You can add text in that field and hit Enter and your message will show in the Chat.
- * **Share** – you can click on Share and select which screen you wish to share. This is used for documents, web sites, or presentations. The Host can control how many people can share at one time – usually they choose One.
- * **Record** – the Host can record the video and save it to their computer or to an online video site.

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/2020/04/genealogy-news-bytes-friday-3-april-2020.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 March genealogy news items:

- [New TV Show "Roots Less Traveled" Starts on Saturday, 4 April](#)
- [Ancestry® Unveils 75 New Communities for Members with Ties to Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean and More](#)
- [MyHeritage Education Knowledge Base Adds Content for April](#)
- [Because of the CoronaVirus, Genealogical.com is Making 750 eBooks Available Online](#)
- [A FREE Legacy Family Tree Webinar Each Day during April 2020](#)

- [Announcing “Ask The Expert” Webinars Conducted by MyHeritage](#)
- [Randy Majors Releases Another FREE Tool Do the Location Work for You as You Search on Ancestry.com or FamilySearch.org](#)
- [FREE ACCESS to 24-Hour Genealogy Webinar Marathon Videos!](#)
- [RootsMagic 7 Now Available for macOS 10.15 \(Catalina\)](#)

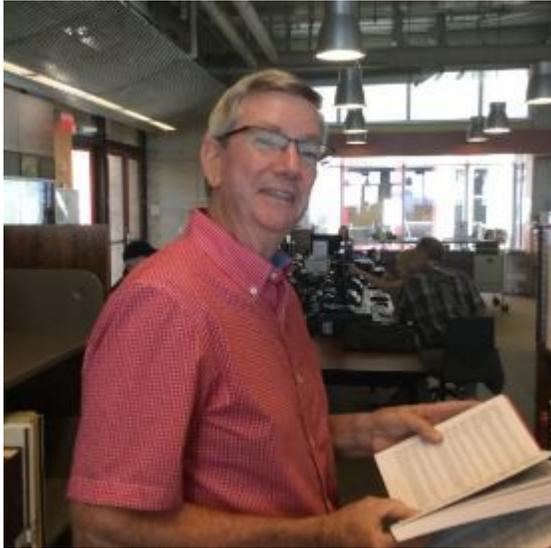
Useful Genealogy Blog Posts for March

- [Version 4.0! March 2020 Update to the Shared cM Project!](#)
- [MyHeritage In Color™ is Now Free and Unlimited for One Month!](#)
- [Free Access to All U.S. Census Records on MyHeritage](#)
- [Free At-Home Education Resources From Ancestry® and Access to Nearly 500M National Archives Records](#)
- [Genealogy during Quarantine: 5 Things to Do When the Library Is Closed](#)

- [5 Genealogy Tasks When You're Stuck at Home](#)
- [Fun Genealogy Activities for Trying Times](#)
- [5 Resources For Finding Digitized Historical Books Online](#)
- [Dear Randy: What Do You Add To Your Family Tree For DNA Matches?](#)
- [Dear Randy: "What is the Best Way to Refresh My Online Trees?"](#)

- [Genea-Catnip -- AncestryDNA ThruLines Are Updating Every Week](#)
- [Use WATO to Explore DNA Match Relationships](#)
- [Automated Tree Building with Genetic Affairs](#)

Spotlight on Sam Lee Seat, Jr. by Patricia Diane Godinez Researcher and A True Southern Gentleman



Sam Seat is the son of Samuel Lee Seat Sr., who was born in Nashville, Tennessee and Helen Virginia Riley, a native of Hardin County, Tennessee. Sam was born in Nashville and is an only son. His wife Terri is also an only child and was born in Santa Monica, California. They have two sons by the names of Andrew and Mathew. Sam and Terri are the grandparents of Ariel Jaén, 11 years and Azaríá 10 years, who were students of the Enrique Camarena Elementary School and participated with the swim and polo teams. Sam's wife is a member of the Chula Vista Genealogical Society but previous to COVID-19, she was usually at home with the grandchildren on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Times have changed for all of us and because of the pandemic and the worldwide restrictions that have been placed upon us. The picture of Sam shows happier times when he and other members of our Family History Group would take field trips. Sam was caught looking at a book on the ninth floor of the San Diego Central Library. Sam has expressed a desire to get back to the library and hopefully plan other trips by either sharing rides or going on the trolley.

Sam also has been quoted as saying, "Yes, we are planning to host the annual picnic again this year!" Maybe that will be done for the whole group or maybe with visuals of yummy summer foods that we have all enjoyed in the past.

Sam's family lines are to be found primarily in Tennessee with the paternal names of Seat, Bassow, Gaines, and Mitchell. For his mother's side, he looks for Riley, McCullar, Hardin, and Cherry. However, those families, through early migrations, can also be found in Virginia, Kentucky, North and South Carolina, Georgia, and Texas.

In the early years of Sam's life, from grades 1-12, he was educated in DeKalb County, Georgia. He attended West Georgia College, which is now the University of West Georgia and got a BA in Geography. He went to 2 years of college and then quit to work three years as a Paramedic/EMT for Metro Ambulance Service in Atlanta and surrounding counties. "I went back to West Georgia to finish my degree, then enlisted in the US Navy as a Naval Flight Officer. Upon retirement from the Navy, I had four jobs, all in the golf/construction industry." He has been retired since 2010.

In regards to being in the CVGS, Sam says he was always interested in Family History. After he retired, he and Terri were on a historic home tour of Chula Vista and in one of the homes was a booth which gave out information about the club. He and his wife joined and he started to attend meetings. Sam has served as Treasurer and on a number of different committees.

Sometimes our spouses have really interesting family background, and Sam has commented at Research and DNA meetings about Terri's background. It seems branches of her maternal line migrated to the California gold country and Fremont, California in the mid 1800's. So this Spotlight ends but another, featuring Terri, is coming in the future. Stay tuned.

March 7th Saturday Workshop Review by Cindy Teysko

Our group of 10 attendees met at Anna's Family Restaurant for lunch and a presentation by Susi Pentico, "Court Records, etc." Our current meeting room is a cozy place to enjoy good food located at 8099 Broadway, Lemon Grove 91945, (619) 462-9295. Anna's online menu and prices are listed at <https://annasfamilyrestaurantsd.com/35461>.

Court records can be a gold mine of family history. These are public legal documents that may be difficult to locate and most are not digitized. These are some of the available records: Marriage, death, adoption, guardianships, wills, deeds, tax and criminal records, citizenship, and (before 1776) oaths of fidelity and support.

Good family research practices are important to sustain focus and success. Here are some tried-and-true suggestions:

- Choose one person/family to track and follow the correct family lines
- Begin in one location and search surrounding counties/states and remember 'boundaries and place-names change'!
- There are county, state, and federal courts. Locate where the records you seek are located and don't miss searching the National Archives
- Searches can always begin online if traveling is not an option; local libraries, genealogy/historical societies, women's groups, Grange meetings; Because I have Civil War ancestors I have had luck researching the GAR (Grand Army of the Republic) and the WCTU (Woman's Christian Temperance Union)
- It is fascinating to map your ancestors movements and follow them from country-to-country and between states; Before beginning my genealogy quest I assumed 18th and 19th century families settled in one place and remained there for life; I. Was. Wrong.
- Last but not least, share your ancestors with family (especially the young ones) and make sure the fruits of your work make it to a library or society where others can marvel at the resources you have cited and give thanks for your masterpiece.

Lastly, Susi shared the Five W's of Genealogy—What, Who, When, Where, Why, along with a collection of her books including *The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy* (a must-have).

During our time together we shared family stories, brick walls, problems, successes, and tips.

Online Genealogy Lessons From April

April on the [Digging Up the Dirt on My Dead People](#) blog has a series of lessons for persons new to online genealogy. These are "bite-sized" tasks that can be done in sequence. The first 12 are:

- [Online Genealogy Lessons #1-5](#)
- [Online Genealogy Lesson #6](#)
- [Online Genealogy Lesson #7: The 1940 U.S. Federal Census](#)
- [Genealogy Lesson #8: Following that same line into the 1930 U.S. Federal Census.](#)
- [Genealogy Lesson #9: Moving Back a Generation in the 1920 Census](#)
- [Genealogy Lesson #10: Reflection on U.S. Census 1940, 1930, and 1920](#)
- [Genealogy Lesson #11: The 1910 U.S. Federal Census Maternity Questions](#)
- [Genealogy Lesson #12: The 1900 U.S. Federal Census Uniqueness](#)
- To be continued!

Please Note: All CVGS Events at Chula Vista Library Are Canceled Until Further Notice!

The Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library and the other branches of the library are closed until the embargo on meetings of groups of people and distancing from others are lifted.

Consequently, all CVGS in-person meetings are canceled. We will try to have Zoom online video conferencing meetings for the Board of Directors, the Research Group, the DNA Interest Group, and the General Meetings with a speaker. See page 3 for Zoom program details.

Unfortunately, the pandemic precautions mean that this Newsletter will only be sent by email to CVGS members. If you have a CVGS member friend that receives the newsletter by postal mail, please call them and let them know about upcoming events and society news. If they can receive it by email, have them email randy.seaver@gmail.com to get on the email distribution list.

Hospitality Committee Needs YOU!!

Do you enjoy the treats we have after the CVGS General Meeting? We need a member to volunteer to be the Hospitality Chair. The task entails signing up two volunteers to bring refreshments at each general meeting, organize the Annual Picnic and Holiday Luncheon food, and attend the Board meeting each month. Contact President Karen Smith (619-656-0996 or email at freelady72000@me.com). Thanks for your help with this!!

Book Review: "The Sterling Affair" by Ana Castro

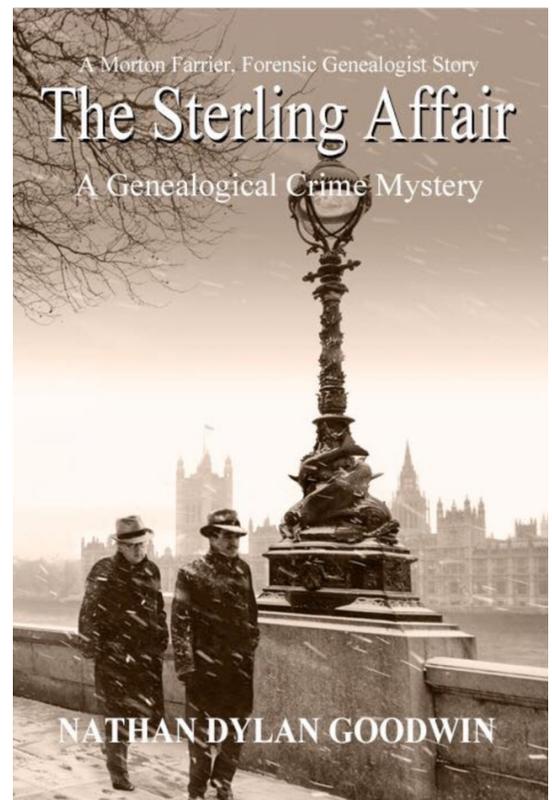
As I shelter in place, I have found time for many activities I had not given myself time to do. During these times of unforeseen circumstances as we find ourselves in, I first count my blessings and when I need comfort I tend to my rose trees. The first roses are starting to bloom, and they bring pure joy.

Since there are no minutes to approve or share, I am writing about a book Randy S. recommended. The book is, *The Sterling Affair*, written by Nathan Dylan Goodwin. It is listed as a genealogical crime mystery.

The story is about Morton Farrier, a Forensic Genealogist. I love crime mysteries and consider myself a novice genealogist, so it was the perfect book to read. The story kept me glued to the research and analytical thinking of Morton as he tries to find a family member for a client. Trace the steps of a genealogist from internet searches, requesting records, visiting archives and contacting relatives. Like all intriguing stories there are always more twist and turns which keep the reader wanting more. Morton's character is very realistic and likeable. I enjoyed the book and highly recommend it.

Thank you, Randy, for a great recommendation.

You can find the book on Nathan's website – www.nathandylangoodwin.com, or on Amazon at <https://www.amazon.com/Sterling-Affair-Forensic-Genealogist-Book-ebook/dp/B083ZJP7JC/>



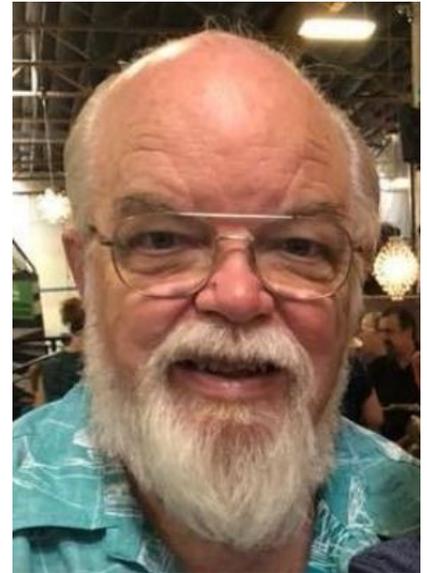
March 11th Research Group Review

The March 11th Research Group meeting had 12 in attendance. In the first hour, Randy discussed:

- **RootsTech 2020 SLC in photos and stories.**
- **A Newspapers.com demonstration**
- **Ancestry World War II Draft Registration collections**
- **MyHeritage aggregated City Directories collections**
- **Family Tree Webinars 24-hour Marathon on March 12-13**
- **Randy's Richman research in Wiltshire**

In the second hour, the attendees shared some of their genealogy-related activities:

- **Gary made individualized, 500+ page, ancestry books for his five grandchildren for Christmas – all the way back to Charlemagne – using the MyHeritage book creation option.**
- **Patricia Diane reported on a fellow who was very stingy with giving her not much of anything definite about her Canadian mother and his knowledge of her. Who could he have been? In his latest email, he said he and his wife grew up in California and had recently returned there after being 15 years in Memphis, Tennessee and 3 years in Concepción, Chile. He said his wife's grandmother was from Ashland, Kentucky. This did not help at all. Can't research without knowing surnames. But she is very lucky and she remembered the name of Revelett in Kentucky. Diane came home after the research meeting and found some of that surname in Muhlenberg, and then in Beechcreek, Kentucky. She found the name of Martha Thasel Anderson, sister to George Ezra Anderson. She had lived in George's home in 1964. Thasel was the wife of Lance Revelett and they were early members of her Church. There is lots of information about them AND Aunt Thasel is her half siblings' great aunt. But for now, Diane is working on her own.**
- **Susan shared making a chart of ancestors, their age, how they died, and if any had cancer. Her son is seeing a medical geneticist as part of his colon cancer diagnosis. While going through stuff from her parents home, she came across some interesting records. She found original land deeds of ancestors dating back to 1857 and 1861.**
- **Marshall wondered: "Am I related to my wife?" His wife was born in Winnipeg. His great-grandparents were born in Ontario. He has joked for several years that his wife and he are probably cousins. This month he found a person who shares DNA with both him (~11 cM) and his wife (~12 cM). Now his job is to figure out HOW they are related.**
- **John has been working on his AncestryDNA ThruLines.**



The next Research Group meeting will be on Wednesday, 8 April at 12 noon in a Zoom online video conference hosted by Randy Seaver. See Page 3 for Zoom information.

Next DNA Interest Group Meeting

The next DNA Interest Group meeting will be on Wednesday, 15 April at 12 noon in a Zoom online video conference hosted by Randy Seaver. See Page 3 for Zoom information.

Welcome New Members

Current Membership (as of 4/1): 76

Karyn's Caring Corner

Cards were sent to:

Meeting Host Volunteers

TBD

We Need a Hospitality Chair!
Please volunteer!

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	Open
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

**All Events Are
Canceled Until
Further Notice!**

Upcoming Conferences

*National Genealogical Society 2020
Family History Conferences*

**May 20-23, 2020
Salt Lake City, Utah**

Registration:

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

GENEALOGY DAYS IN CHULA VISTA

- **Wednesday, April 8, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting**, at Zoom video meeting
- **Wednesday, April 15, 12 noon – DNA Interest Group Meeting**, at Zoom video meeting
- **Wednesday, April 29, 12 noon – General Meeting: Randy Seaver on “Discovering George W. Seaver's Life Story”** at Zoom video meeting
- **Saturday, May 1, 1 p.m. – Saturday Workshop: Susi Pentico: “TBD”**
- **Wednesday, May 13, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting**, at Zoom video meeting
- **Wednesday, May 20, 12 noon – DNA Interest Group Meeting**, at Zoom video meeting
- **Wednesday, May 27, 12 noon – General Meeting: TBD on “TBD”** at Zoom video meeting
- **Saturday, June 6, 1 p.m. – Saturday Workshop: Susi Pentico: “TBD”**

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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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