



CHULA VISTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY FAMILY HISTORY GAZETTE



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

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Wednesday, 27 May 2020, 12 noon

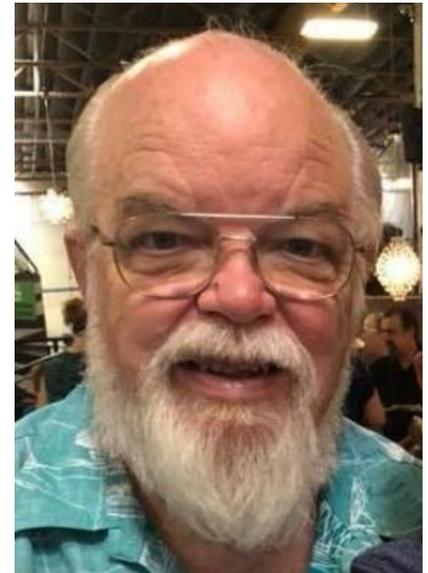
CVGS General Meeting

in a Zoom Video Conference Meeting

Randy Seaver on "Using Collaborative 'BIG' Family Trees"

Not "your tree," not "my tree," but "our tree!" Each historical person should have one profile in a collaborative tree, and the goal should be to make that profile complete and accurate with sources, notes discussions, and media. In these trees, any registered user can add, edit or delete content and a reason for doing so. This presentation discusses the features, use, benefits, and drawbacks of WikiTree (free), Geni.com (\$\$), and FamilySearch Family Tree (free).

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.

Table of Contents

May 27 th General Meeting	1	Upcoming Family Tree Webinars	6
President's Message	2	CVGS In-Person Events Canceled	7
Register for Meetings on CVGS Website	2	Hospitality Committee Needs You!	7
Using Zoom.us for Society Meetings	3	April 29 th Program Review	7
Genealogy Bargains	4	April 8 th Research Group Review	8
Want Up-to-date Genealogy News?	4	April 15 th DNA Interest Group Review	8
Useful Genealogy Blog Posts for April	4	CVGS Society Information	9
Spotlight on Carole Sobke	5	San Diego Area Genealogy Events	9
Online Genealogy Lessons	6	Genealogy Days in Chula Vista	10

President's Message – by Karen Smith



These two little girls (on the right) were my father's sisters. Both died seven years before he was born. I found this photo pasted into my grandfather's Bible, along with the obituary notice. Also pasted on the flyleaf page is a letter the oldest, Reuel, wrote to the local newspaper. Lucile and Reuel were five and seven years old at their death. They died within two days of each other. It is difficult to



imagine the grief that my grandparents experienced. Five years later, they lost a three-year-old boy, Jim.

When I found this information, many years ago, I had three young children and was immediately grateful that it was the late 1970s and not the late 1800s. It moved me deeply, as I never knew my grandparents or these precious little ones. Today I thought of it and decided to scan the photo. Once again, reading the obituary and the letter, I was struck by the times we are living through today.

We don't have a vaccine or a cure. We have an anti-viral that mitigates COVID-19. The testing is in woefully short supply. But we are armed with medical expertise that would surely have saved these two children. We have ventilators, antibiotics, sterile procedures, and amazing health professionals. We know that sheltering in place slows contagion.

If you have pursued your family tree back very far in time, you have stories like those of Lucile, Reuel, and Jim Smith. These diseases often took the lives of young children and some adults before their time. It reminds us of how fortunate we are today. In spite of the restrictions we are encountering, we have much for which to be grateful. This is one more lesson genealogical research teaches us.

To all of you members, stay well!

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/2020/05/genealogy-news-bytes-friday-8-may-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 April genealogy news items:

- [Ancestry® Announces Virtual Memorial Day “Parade of Heroes” for Monday, May 25](#)
- [New: Colorization Settings for MyHeritage In Color™](#)
- [British Museum Makes 1.9 Million Images Available for Free](#)
- [The Evolution of the American Census](#)
- [The Genetic Detective: ABC News Series Follows Investigative Genealogist](#)
- [Reclaim the Records Wins Long-Running Lawsuit for Missouri Birth Index and Death Index](#)
- [Forgotten Treasures: NYPD Unearths Over 100 Years Of Photos Documenting NYC’s History](#)
- [How Epidemics of the Past Changed the Way Americans Lived](#)

Useful Genealogy Blog Posts for April

- [Learning from home...videos, webinars, blogs, podcasts, and more!](#) by Teresa.
- [Connecting the Dots: What Constitutes Genealogical Proof?](#) by Kate.
- [Combine DNA Tools to Calculate Unknown Relationships](#) by DiAnn Iamarino
- [Free MyHeritage Video – Top Tips for Triangulating your DNA Matches](#) With Roberta Estes
- [Concepts: Chromosome Browser – What Is It, How Do I Use It, and Why Do I Care?](#) by Roberta Estes
- [AncestryDNA Adds DNA Match Tree Icon to Ancestry Member Tree Profiles](#) by Randy Seaver
- [Find Centuries of Ancestors in Germany's Village Genealogy Books!](#) by Jim Beidler
- [Historical US Counties on Google Maps enhanced to match Census dates, adds townships](#) by Randy Majors
- [Book Review: "Your DNA Guide the Book, Step by Step Plans to Connect with Your Family Using Your DNA"](#) by Diahann Southard by Cheri Hudson Passey
- [Native American DNA by Roberta Estes – Favorite RootsTech 2020 Class](#) by Nicole Dyer
- [Ideas for Inspiring Children to Love Family History](#) by Shenley Puterbaugh
- [Pie in the Sky Musing: A Restricted Collaborative Tree](#) by Ryan Ross.

Spotlight on Carole Jean Sobke by Patricia Diane Godinez **Researcher and Forever Young!**

Carole, our CVGS Chair of Ways and Means, is a 4th generation San Diegan. The first of her ancestors arrived in San Diego in 1888. She is also a sixth generation Californian!

Carole is the daughter of Gerald William Heilbron (German side) and Nadine Ruth Renwick (Scottish side). She has an older sister named Joan. They grew up in Point Loma and Carole graduated from Point Loma High School in 1961. She attended San Diego City College and San Diego State.

In regards to work experience, Carole did bookkeeping for her father's appliance business, Heilbron Electrical Company. She also worked in the Technical Services Department at the Grossmont College Library for many years.

She married at 20 years and had her only child, Matthew Lang Sobke, whose middle name was inspired by an old Dick Van Dyke television show. "Lang" is made from the first initials of his grandparents; Lois, Arthur, Nadine, and Gerald. Matthew thinks his middle name is great and if he ever gets knighted and uses his full name, he will be known as Sir Matthew Lois Arthur Nadine Gerald Sobke!



Carole has retired and is happily single. She spends her leisure time reading, cross-stitching greeting cards, and researching family history. She has written mini biographies of most of her ancestors, of which several have been published in various genealogical society publications. Her first venture into genealogy was in the late 1960's, when she made a family tree of ancestor photographs. Her grandparents were still alive, so it was the perfect time to do it. It wasn't until 15 years ago, when only Carole's generation was still alive, that she really got involved in family research.

In speaking about family, Carole say, "My great aunt Dr. Louise Heilbron founded the San Diego Parlor, Native Daughters of the Golden West in 1915, of which I am currently the financial secretary. Her brother, my grandfather, Carl Heilbron, was very active in the 1915-16 and 1935-36 expositions in Balboa Park and thanks to eBay, I have become a collector of the exposition memorabilia from those years."

"Both 23andMe and Ancestry DNA have delved into my genes. My greatest DNA match came a couple of years ago. My paternal great-grandmother came to the United States as an orphan in 1863 at the age of ten. In the 1970's one of her sons wrote about some things she had told him years earlier. That is where I found out she had an older half-brother who lived in Buffalo, New York. After much research I contacted a man who was descended from the only person who could have been his half brother. He did his and his father's DNA and we are a match! I had never thought my great-grandmother had any siblings since she was an orphan. There is a 17-year age difference between the two. There may be more siblings out there (I do think I found another brother, but alas, no one out there so far to compare notes with). This just goes to show that you always must read between the lines and through the paper(s) to see what is on the backside."

Online Beginning Genealogy Lessons

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. Lessons available to date 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](#)

- [Genealogy Lesson #13: The 1890 U.S. Federal Census](#)
- [Genealogy Lesson #14: The 1880 U.S. Federal Census](#)
- [Genealogy Lesson #15: The 1870 U.S. Federal Census](#)
- [Genealogy Lesson #16: The 1860 U.S. Federal Census](#)

- [Genealogy Lesson #17: The 1850 U.S. Federal Census](#)
- [Genealogy Lesson #18: End of Working with the Census and Introducing Vital Records](#)
- [Genealogy Lesson #19: Vital Records: Death Certificates](#)
- [Genealogy Lesson #20: Vital Records: A Different Death Index](#)

- [Genealogy Lesson #21: Vital Records: A Different Death Index](#)
- To be continued!

Upcoming Family Tree Webinars

These webinars are sponsored by Legacy Family Tree, and are FREE to watch live, and are FREE 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.

- Tuesday, 12 May, 11 a.m.: [Leveraging MyHeritage's German Resources Effectively](#), by Jim Beidler
- Wednesday, 13 May, 5 p.m.: [The Ultimate Family History Interview](#), by Nicka Smith
- Friday, 15 May, 11 a.m.: [Fridays in May: Your Questions Answered LIVE -- DNA with Diahn Southard](#)
- Tuesday, 19 May, 5 p.m.: [Discover the Holdings of German Archives](#), by Teresa Steinkamp McMillan

- Wednesday, 20 May, 11 a.m.: [Timesaving Apps for Busy Genealogists](#), by Lisa Alzo
- Tuesday, 26 May, 11 a.m.: [Enlightened Design with the MyHeritage Chart Creation Tool](#), by Janet Hovorka
- Wednesday, 27 May, 11 a.m.: [Mistrust Transcriptions: And Here's Why](#), by Dr. Bruce Durie
- Friday, 29 May, 11 a.m.: [Fridays in May: Your Questions Answered LIVE—More Tech with Thomas MacEntee](#)

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!!

April 29th Program Review

On 29 April 2020, Randy Seaver presented “Discovering George W. Seaver's Life Story” in a Zoom meeting with 19 in attendance. The presentation started with a short discussion on Descendancy Research, which he has been performing since 2017 for his 4th great-grandparents in order to help find the links to relatives and DNA matches.

Then it was on to discussing the life story of George W. Seaver. According to a newspaper article, George W. Seaver disappeared in May 1899 in Los Angeles. He took his horse and his dog and a gun. Where did he go? What happened to him? Did he marry and 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, including Civil War service, is discovered through records found online from a multitude of sources. Online newspaper records played a very important part in this research.

George W. Seaver was born, probably in May 1847 in Wisconsin, enlisted in 1863 in Massachusetts, musters out in 1865, enlists in the Army in 1866, and is discharged in 1867. He is found in records from Maine to California and he enters the United States Soldier's Home in Santa Monica California in 1893. His next-of-kin entry in that record leads to his mother's name (Lauraetta Pease), and then to her parents, siblings, spouses, daughter, and death. The 1892 death record of the daughter of Lauraetta (Pease) Seaver led to identifying George's father, Heman Seaver (1814-????) from New Hampshire.

George married his wife - Lida J. (Baker) Crocker - in Yuma in 1898, after her divorce from her first husband. He left Lida in May 1899, took a train and a steamship to Portland, Oregon, but got back together with Lida, and their daughter was born in November 1899 in Oakland. Lida left George by 1902, married again and died in 1941. George's daughter married and had children in Oregon. George died in 1918 in Santa Monica and is buried in the National Cemetery there.

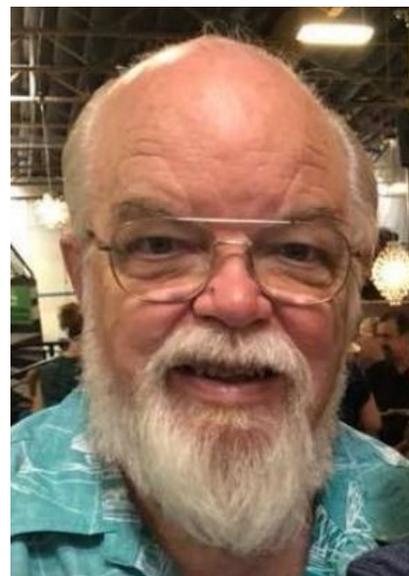
April 8th Research Group Review

The April 8th Research Group meeting on Zoom had 11 in attendance. In the first hour, Randy discussed:

- MyHeritage In Color feature
- Upcoming webinars on FamilyTreeWebinars, the GeneaWebinars calendar, the MyHeritage 24-hour marathon.
- MyHeritage Education page, Ancestry Academy and YouTube channels
- Ancestry Card Catalog, searching and saving record images
- His Richman in Wiltshire, and Whittle in Lancashire research.

In the second hour, the attendees shared some of their genealogy-related activities. Unfortunately, Randy didn't make good notes and forgot to ask attendees to provide a summary.

The next Research Group meeting will be on Wednesday, 13 May at 12 noon in a Zoom online video conference hosted by Randy Seaver. See Page 3 for Zoom information.



April 15th DNA Interest Group Review

The April 15th DNA interest Group meeting on Zoom had 12 in attendance. In the first hour, Randy discussed:

- The Shared cM Update (Version 4) chart – see [“Version 4.0! March 2020 Update to the Shared cM Project!”](#) or check out the Shared cM Tool at <https://dnainter.com/tools/sharedcmv4>. The chart and the tool will help you determine possible relationships of each of your DNA matches; however, the averages and ranges are not exact for any DNA match.
- An overview of the features and capabilities of AncestryDNA, MyHeritageDNA, 23andMe, FamilyTreeDNA, and GEDmatch. Features discussed included ethnicity estimates, DNA match lists, family tree interactions, chromosome browsers, clusters, uploading or downloading raw data and match segments, etc.



In the second hour, the attendees shared some of their DNA-related activities. Unfortunately, Randy didn't make good notes and forgot to ask attendees to provide a summary.

The next DNA Interest Group meeting will be on Wednesday, 20 May 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 5/1): 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!

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Upcoming Conferences

**National Genealogical Society 2020
Family History Conference**

May 20, 2020
Virtual Conference

Registration:

<https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/covid-19/>

Live:

<https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/ngs-2020-live/>

On Demand:

<https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/ngs-2020-on-demand/>

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**Federation of Genealogical Societies
2020 Family History Conference**

September 2-5, 2020
Kansas City, Mo.

Registration:

<https://fgs.org/conferences/registration/>

GENEALOGY DAYS IN CHULA VISTA

- **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: Randy Seaver on “Using Collaborative 'BIG' Family Trees”** at Zoom video meeting
- **Wednesday, June 10, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting**, at Zoom video meeting
- **Wednesday, June 17, 12 noon – DNA Interest Group Meeting**, at Zoom video meeting
- **Wednesday, June 24, 12 noon – General Meeting: TBD on “TBD”** at Zoom video meeting

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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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