



We Dig Our Ancestors

**CHULA VISTA
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
FAMILY HISTORY GAZETTE**

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CVGS Web Site: <https://chulavistagenealogysociety.wildapricot.org/>

**Wednesday, August 31, 2022, 12 noon
CVGS General Meeting (in a Zoom Video Conference)**

Melissa Barker

“10 Things a Genealogist Should Do Before Leaving a Library or Archives”

Have you ever gotten home from a genealogy research trip and said to yourself "I forgot to do that!" Learn the 10 things a genealogist should do before they leave a library and archives to make their research trip a success!



Melissa Barker is a Certified Archives Manager and Public Historian currently working at the Houston County, Tennessee Archives. She is affectionately known as “The Archive Lady” to the genealogy community. She lectures, teaches, and writes about the genealogy research process, researching in archives, and records preservation. She conducts virtual presentations across the United States and other countries for various genealogy groups and societies. She writes a popular blog entitled “A Genealogist in the Archives” and is a well-known published book reviewer. Melissa has been a Professional Genealogist for the past 17 years with expertise in Tennessee records. She has been researching her own family history for the past 32 years.

Register for Melissa’s presentation on the CVGS website and look for the email with the Zoom meeting link, on about August 28th. <https://chulavistagenealogysociety.wildapricot.org/>



President's Message – by Karen Smith

First, I would like to pass on a message from Danna Murphy, Gary Brock's daughter. I spoke with her recently and she said the condolence cards and notes received from our society members were very touching and much appreciated. Thanks to those of you who reached out to Gary's family.

My thoughts this month are about my research and the direction I have taken over the past years.

My parents were very different. My mother was quiet, unassuming, and rather private. My father, a larger than life Texan, was outgoing, a story teller, and very open to all. So when I began to research my family in the mid 1970s, I was very focused on my father's line. In 1979 I went into full time teaching and found that taking care of three children, two step-children, and working full time left little time for genealogy, so until I retired ten years ago, I did virtually nothing. But in retrospect, I find that when I again began to work on my family, the majority of my time was spent on the Smith side.

Now I have seen that my tree is lopsided. While I received quite a bit of information from my mother's aunt, I have very little beyond census records, marriage records and death records concerning my mother's ancestors. I don't have many photos or family stories. So I have set a new goal for myself, and that is to work on that side of the family, with a particular focus on the lives of these folks. I know there were more military veterans in my mother's line than there were in my father's. It is also a fact that my mother's family were largely farmers and coal miners, so they left less of a "genealogical footprint" than my dad's family.

My mother was, in her own way, an amazing testament to loss, deprivation, and persistence. She helped support her mother and brother, quitting high school after tenth grade to work two jobs. She and my uncle were abandoned by their father, whose greatest love was found in a bottle, not in his family. Yet, she survived, made a strong marriage and built a great life for herself. She cared for her own mother until her death. After my father died, she eventually moved to California to be closer to me and my family. She used to come to the house when everyone was at work or school and leave us delicious desserts, or to do the laundry and ironing for us. She was always there for me, unconditionally, 100% of the time.

Now it is her turn. I can't wait to see what I will find!

CVGS Member Gary Brock Passed Away

Gary Brock, the CVGS Webmaster, a former Treasurer and two-term President of CVGS, died at his son's home in San Jose on July 19th after a fall.

Gary joined CVGS in March 2004. He volunteered his services as Webmaster, and was elected CVGS President for the period 2009-2012. As Webmaster, he obtained and maintained the audio-visual equipment and attended almost all in-person meetings to help with the equipment. In addition, he helped teach the Computer Class with Shirley Becker for many years before 2016. Gary became the Wild Apricot expert, and developed the current CVGS website to its' current capabilities. Gary helped the Cemetery Committee to publish the Glen Abbey cemetery listings and was helping get the La Vista cemetery listings ready for publication. There was also the Estate Papers collection where he helped organize and scan the available papers. He also was the host and master griller for many CVGS Annual Picnics before 2020 at his home. Gary also developed slide shows for the CVGS Holiday Party for several years.

He was a friend to all, and was extremely helpful and patient with CVGS members and their concerns.

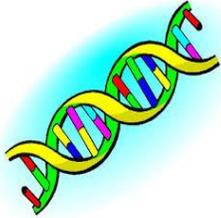
We will miss him. A special tribute to Gary will be published in the September Newsletter.

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DNA Interest Group Meeting will be on August 17, 2022

Hosted by Randy Seaver



The next DNA Interest Group meeting will be on Wednesday, August 17, 2022 at 12 noon PDT in a Zoom online video conference hosted and led by Randy Seaver. Join us and learn some basic DNA science and how it could help you in your genealogy research.

If you register for this event an email reminder containing a link to the meeting three and/or one days before the event will be sent to you. If you are not receiving the invitations, please contact Randy Seaver at: randy.seaver@gmail.com

Admission is free for up to 100 participants so register early.

A handout will be available after the meeting sent to all society members. Please email Randy if you attend the meeting and are not a CVGS member.

Stay up-to-date on CVGS Activities

Visit the CVGS Website: <https://chulavistagenealogysociety.wildapricot.org/>

The Board Meeting minutes, General Meeting minutes, Meeting handouts, and Meeting recordings will be posted on the CVGS website. Check them out at the website on the “Members” tab.

CVGS Education Chair Meeting

Hosted by Susi Pentico

Tuesday, August 16th at Bonita–Sunnyside Library

CVGS Education chairperson Susi Pentico will host the August 16th meeting at the Bonita-Sunnyside Library from 1 pm to 3 pm. Bring personal information you wish to share on the names you are researching. **The talk will focus on Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina.**

SusiCP1@gmail.com - Educational Chairperson

Spotlight on Susan Busing Zimmer ~ CVGS Member

By Patricia Diane Godinez

Spotlight on Susan Busing Zimmer CVGS Member, German Heritage, US Daughter of 1812 Susan Zimmer has done extensive research on her family tree which started when she was 12 years old. Her paternal grandfather, Gustaf / Gustave Carl Busing, born in Oldenburg, Germany, in 1872, drew a map of where he was from and she wanted to know MORE!



She has traveled to the Northern German village where her Grandpa lived with his family before they moved to Illinois in 1886. “He and my grandmother spoke German and English; the German they used for private conversations. My father was one of eight children and my mother was one of seven, so I had many aunts, uncles, and cousins.”

Susan’s parents, Donald Albert Busing and Cary Mildred Taylor, were both born in the central part of Illinois and had three daughters, with Susan being the eldest. Susan’s sisters still live in the Midwest so she says, “I have had many opportunities to visit relatives back there and explore cemeteries.”

It is on the maternal side of Susan’s family that the names of Taylor, Huggins, Downes, Wright, Kane, Edgar, Whittenberg, and House come into play with the states of Illinois, Tennessee, and Pennsylvania. “I haven’t made it to North Carolina yet, but I hope it will happen. My current brick wall is a death date for Mary Ann Martin Wright after 1900 in Illinois.”

In speaking about her parents, Susan said, “...they were big on education, and there were a lot of teachers in the family. I graduated from Illinois State University in 1968 and added a year of educational studies at University of Illinois.” At the latter, she added, ... it was where my high school friend introduced me to her fiancée’s office mate, Al Zimmer. We dated, we were married in 1969, and headed out to San Diego, where Al started a job with General Atomics. Soon I began teaching at Sweetwater High School, where I stayed for 30 years.”

In speaking about her husband and his family tree, Sue said, “Yes, Al has done DNA. He is German on his dad’s side and Slovak on his mother’s. Both grandparents immigrated from Europe

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and settled in Chicago. His grandfather, Gustave Matula died young, about age 40. His grandmother remarried twice more. I was able to find Gustave's gravesite in the Bohemian National Cemetery in Chicago, with Grandma's second husband beside his."

"My DNA shows Northern European and British ancestry, no surprise to me. My father's people were the Germans and my mother's family had English, Scots, Irish, and some German.

"However, the big roadblock in my mother's family was her grandfather, whom she believed was an orphan. After much research, I was directed to someone who had written a book about the family, and it turned out that great grandfather had not been adopted by strangers, rather he just had been orphaned and then taken in by an aunt."

"The well-researched book had family trees and everything, so many of my questions were answered. The author believed that my Revolutionary War ancestor had been a patriot, so as soon as possible, I connected with the DAR and sure enough, it was true.

"Since then I have joined DAR, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and US Daughters of 1812. To me, Thomas Taylor, the patriot, is probably my favorite because he died in such a mysterious way. He was accused of being a Tory and shot by another North Carolinian, at the end of the war. No one seems to know the exact details but I surely would like to know."

In regards to service to the CVGS, Susan replied, "John Finch asked me to head the Cemetery Committee, when he was the President. The Glen Abbey project had been started but was never published. My volunteers were able to get the book form printed up and Gary Brock made the CDs, which we can sell. Then we turned our attention to the La Vista Cemetery in National City, which began in the early 1880's. I have also served as the CVGS Historian. I find history fascinating and believe that keeping records and memories is important. I'm thinking of making a book for the younger generation of my family about the family farm, which is recognized by the state of Illinois as a Centennial farm, i.e. it has been owned by our family for more than 100 years."

Chula Vista Program Reviews of previous month's Programs

DNA Interest Group Review - July 2022 by Randy Seaver

Colin Whitney was our guest presenter at the 13 July DNA Interest Group meeting, which had 36 attendees (including 10 guests). Colin's presentation was "Finding Common Ancestors From Your DNA Matches."

There are several steps to the process of finding common ancestors, and the relationship, you share with your DNA matches. Here are Colin's ideas:

1. Identify Known Relatives - Examine Match List, who do we know?; Use Tree Search Tools to Identify Other Relatives; Manually Search Trees of Promising Matches.

2. Form Groups of Matches Using Organizational Tools - Leeds Method, Group by color dots, AncestryDNA ThruLines, MyHeritage Theory of Family Relativity, Genetic Affairs' AutoClusters, AutoTree.

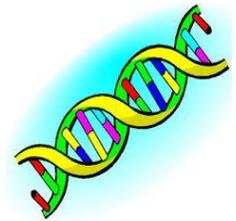
3. Evaluate Groups for Closeness and Good Trees - Prioritize Matches Trees; Build a Tree for a Match based on available information; If no tree, Google name, email address, username, and use Family Tree Now, Spokeo, BeenVerified, Intellius, Facebook to obtain more information; Build your tree down to meet matches tree; email the DNA match.

4. Search Trees using Tools and Manual Resources - Ancestry Member Trees, My Heritage Family Trees, FamilySearch FamilyTree, WikiTree, Geni, etc.

5. Build Trees - use Ancestry to help build a quick and dirty tree of a DNA match; use Record Hints (vital records, Find A Grave, online books) to add names, dates, places; Build your own pedigree in a spreadsheet or word table; use RootsWeb obituary search and WorldCat repository search; marriage and obituary articles from newspapers.com are very useful.

6. Record Relationships - Use a spreadsheet or word processing table; Include notes on DNA matches that indicate relationship, shared centimorgans, number of segments, known common ancestor or probable family group.

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7. Add Information to Your Tree - do descendancy research from a known common ancestor to your DNA match; add notes about the DNA match username, shared cMs, and relationship.

Colin's handout is from his presentation slides and was emailed to members after the presentation. Request it from Randy Seaver (randy.seaver@gmail.com). It will be added to the website in the near future.

The next CVGS DNA Interest Group meeting will be Wednesday, 17 August 2022, in a Zoom meeting hosted by Randy Seaver. Please register on the CVGS website (<https://chulavistagenealogysociety.wildapricot.org/event-4912793>) to receive the Zoom link on the Sunday and the Tuesday before the meeting.

Research Group Review - 20 July 2022 by Randy Seaver

CVGS member Linda Stufflebean presented her "Online Resources for Free Digitized Books" talk at the July 20th Research Group meeting, with 34 members and guests in attendance. Linda has been doing genealogy research since 1979, and writes an excellent blog called "Empty Branches on the Family Tree" (<https://emptybranchesonthefamilytree.com/>) which showcases articles about her own family research and about family history resources.

In her presentation, Linda discussed a number of websites, often with examples from her research, including:

***Note: If a link does not automatically take you to a website, copy the link and insert it into your internet address bar then click enter.**

- 1) Internet Archive Books: <http://www.archive.org/>
- 2) FamilySearch Books: <http://books.familysearch.org/>
- 3) HathiTrust: <https://www.hathitrust.org/>
- 4) Google Books: <http://books.google.com>
- 5) Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/>

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- 6) Genealogy Gophers: <http://www.gengophers.com>
- 7) Empty Branches on the Family Tree:
<https://emptybranchesonthefamilytree.com/county-histories/>
- 8) MyHeritage "Compilation of Published Sources" collection:
<https://www.myheritage.com/research/collection-90100/compilation-of-published-sources>
- 9) Making of America (University of Michigan): <http://quod.lib.umich.edu/m/moagrp/>
- 10) Making of America (Cornell University):
<http://ebooks.library.cornell.edu/m/moa/browse.html>
- 11) Genealogy Book Links: <http://www.GenealogyBookLinks.com>
- 12) Joe Beine's History Book Links:
<http://www.genealogybranches.com/countyhistories.html>
- 13) UPenn's The Online Books Page: <http://onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu/archives.html>
- 14) Free Irish Genealogy eBooks: <http://freeirishgenebooks.blogspot.com/>
- 15) WorldCat: <https://www.worldcat.org/>
- 16) Your Local Library: Interlibrary Loan (check your local library).

This talk provided many opportunities to find free digitized books, including almost all of the published genealogy and family history books before 1926. For publications after 1926, almost all digitized books are protected by copyright laws.

Thank you Linda for volunteering to make this presentation.

The next CVGS Research Group meeting will be Wednesday, August 10, 2022, in a Zoom meeting hosted by Randy Seaver. Please register on the CVGS website <https://chulavitagenealogysociety.wildapricot.org?event-4906064> to receive the Zoom link on the Sunday and Tuesday before the meeting.

July 27th General Meeting Program Review by Randy Seaver

Melissa Barker was our speaker for the July 27th General Meeting, which had 57 attendees. Her topic was "Researching in Libraries and Archives: The Do's and Don'ts."

She is known as "The Archive Lady" in the genealogy world. Her blog is <http://agenealogistinthearchives.blogspot.com/> and her Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/TheArchiveLady>.

She is the Houston County, Tennessee Archivist and has 32 years of family history research. At the beginning of her talk, she noted that "Statistics say that less than 10% of the world's records are online."

There are different types of repositories of records with different interests, guidelines and indexing systems. These include Libraries, Archives, Courthouses, Genealogical and Historical Societies, Museums and Universities.

The list of "Do's and Dont's" included:

- Do check the repositories website, if they have one, for any indexed or digitized records.
- Do plan and call or email the repository.
- Do ask about the availability of parking at or near the facility.
- Do ask about using electronics in the repository.
- Do ask in advance about any copy fees.
- Do make a "To Do List."
- Do ask about Vertical Files or Subject Files.
- Do ask about Manuscript Collections.
- Do ask the archivist to refer you to other repositories.
- Do cite your sources before you leave the repository.
- Don't show up at a repository without calling ahead to find out hours of operation.
- Don't be surprised if a repository staff member asks to search through your belongings.
- Don't be surprised if a repository requires you to put your belongings in a locker.
- Don't be surprised if a staff member asks you to put on gloves to handle documents, photographs, or artifacts.
- Don't tell the archivist about all your ancestors and all of your research.
- Don't expect to find every record collection indexed.
- Don't rearrange the order of documents that have been handed to you.
- Don't leave the area where you did your research and work messy.

This was an interesting, well-planned and helpful presentation!

Useful and Interesting Genealogy Blog Posts

- [What's the best way to keep genealogy research as a senior moves to assisted living?](#) by Kathleen Miller
- [5+ Clues You Might Be Missing in US Death Certificates](#) by Julie Cahill Tarr
- [Ancestry Breaks Down Your Ethnicity by Parent](#) by Kitty Cooper
- [My CG Renewal](#) by Jill Morelli
- [What's In Your Genealogy Research Bag?](#) by Gena Philibert-Ortega

- [In Search of...Vendor Features, Strengths, and Testing Strategies](#) by Roberta Estes
- [Ancestry Chromosome Painter Feature: How to Understand Results](#) by Mercedes
- [DNA Quest Helped Me Find My Birth Family — and a Whole Lot More](#) by Daniella
- [Six Tips for Excellent Writing](#) by Diana Elder
- [DNA: In Search of...What Do You Mean I'm Not Related to My Family? – and What Comes Next?](#) by Roberta Estes

- [Ireland's New Virtual Record Treasury is online!](#) by Sean Daly
- [Can we preserve the integrity of the FamilySearch.org Family Tree?](#) by James Tanner
- [A Genealogy Vacation or Nothing Compares To Being There](#) by Ellie
- [What's In Your DNA At MyHeritage – Theory of Family Relativity™ \(Updated\)](#) by Ellen Thompson-Jennings
- ["So you do genealogy, right?" How a Legacy Hint and MyHeritage solved the case](#) by Geoff Rasmussen

- [Tips & Tricks for Working with Theories of Family Relativity](#) by Roberta Estes

Keep Up-to-Date

Dick Eastman publishes genealogy news and technology articles daily on his Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter – check for updates at <https://eogn.com/page-18080>

Randy Seaver writes a weekly “Best of the Genea-Blogs” post every Sunday, which contains links to genealogy blog posts that he enjoyed and learned from, including several other “pick posts” by geneabloggers in Arizona, Canada and Australia. See an example in <https://www.geneamusings.com/2022/07/best-of-genea-blogs-week-of-26-june-to.html>

San Diego Genealogy Events

**San Diego Genealogical Society_* (www.casdgs.org)

All Meetings on Zoom

August 13th program:

Speaker: Allison Singleton

Session 1: Effective Use of the Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center

Session 2: Mining the Mother Lode: Using Periodical Literature for Genealogical Research

**North San Diego County Genealogical Society* (www.nsdccgs.org)

All Meetings on GoToWebinar

August 23rd program

Speaker: Mark Olson

Topic: What's New in Family Tree Maker Q and A Discussion

For Monthly Programs - Register at <https://nsdccgs.org/program-meetings/>

Southern California Genealogy Jamboree and DNA Conference (Virtual)

19-27 August 2022

Register at <https://next.scgsgenealogy.com/regjam1056/>

August 19-20: Genetic Genealogy Jamboree 2022 (\$\$)

August 26-27: Jamboree 2022 (\$\$)

August 22-24: JamboFREE 2022

About Chula Vista Genealogy Society

Karyn's Caring Corner

Cards were sent to:

Karen Polk

Family of Gary Brock

Welcome New Members

Current Membership (as of 8/1): 99

New Members:

Sandra Johnson

Peggy Hemplemann

Telephone Tree Volunteers

**Ana Castro
Carrie Holleron
Carole Sobke**

2022 CVGS Society Officers

President:	Karen Smith
First Vice-President, Programs	Terri Seat
Second Vice-President, Membership	Arlene Watters
Treasurer	Sam Seat
Secretary	Daryl Hern

Committee Chairs

Education	Susi Pentico
Historian	Susan Zimmer
Hospitality	Jane Furnish
Librarian	Carrie Holleron
Newsletter Editor	Randy Seaver
Research Group/DNA Group/Queries	Randy Seaver
Webmaster	Gil Leon-Guerrero
Member at Large:	Patricia Diane Godinez
Ways and Means:	Open

Upcoming Family Tree Webinars

These webinars are sponsored by Legacy Family Tree, are FREE to watch live, and are FREE for a week after the live event (times are Pacific).

You must register to view them live at www.familytreewebinars.com. A yearly membership of \$49.95 per year enables the member to view any of the over 1,800 webinars at any time.

- Tuesday, 4 August, 11 a.m.: Danish Research with Online Records at MyHeritage and Beyond, by Mike Mansfield.
- Wednesday, 10 August, 5 p.m.: Need help with grammar and punctuation? There's a tool for that!, by Cathie Sherwood.
- Tuesday, 16 August, 5 p.m.: Finding Fayette's Father: Autosomal DNA Reveals Misattributed Parentage, by Jennifer Zinck.
- Wednesday, 17 August, 11 a.m.: FamilySearch.org – 5 More Links You Have to Try, by Devin Ashby.
- Friday, 19 August, 11 a.m.: Tracing Your Alberta Connections, by Dave Obee.
- Wednesday, 24 August, 11 a.m.: Researching Oklahoma Roots, by Billie Stone Fogarty.
- Wednesday, 31 August, 11 a.m.: Direct Your Letters to San Jose: Following Ancestors' Migration Trails, by David W. Jackson.
- Friday, 2 September, 7:15 a.m.: 10 Best Self-Publishing Tips for Family Historians, by Lisa A. Alzo.
- Friday, 2 September, 8:30 a.m.: Changing Places, Changing Borders: Overcoming geographic challenges, by Dave Obee
- Friday, 2 September, 11 a.m.: Descendants of the Enslaved and Enslavers – Working Together to Discover Family, by Cheri Hudson Passey.
- Tuesday, 6 September, 7 p.m.: Shackles, shekels and shrapnel: the exodus to the Southern seas, by Michelle Patient.
- Wednesday, 7 September, 11 a.m.: mtDNA and YDNA in 2022, by Diahann Southard.
- Friday, 9 September, 7:15 a.m.: Delivering the Mail: Records of the United States Post Office, by Michael L. Strauss.
- Friday, 9 September, 8:30 a.m.: What's Next When You Are Told Those Records Were "Burnt up", by J. Mark Lowe.
- Friday, 9 September, 11 a.m.: Understanding and Using Scottish Kirk Session Records, by Paul Milner.

August 2022 Calendar

Chula Vista Genealogical Society (CVGS)

- **Wednesday, August 10 - 12 noon**
Research Group Meeting - in a Zoom video meeting
- **Tuesday, August 16 - 1 p.m.**
Education Meeting – in-person meeting at Bonita-Sunnyside Library, (4375 Bonita Road, Bonita, Calif.)
- **Wednesday, August 17 - 12 noon**
DNA Interest Group Meeting - in a Zoom video meeting
- **Wednesday, August 31 - 12 noon – General Meeting: Melissa Barker on “10 Things a Genealogist Should Do Before Leaving a Library or Archive” - in a Zoom video meeting**

All CVGS Meetings are held in online Zoom video meetings unless otherwise noted.

Please register on the CVGS website – go to:
<https://chulavistagenealogysociety.wildapricot.org/>
and click on the links in the “Upcoming Events” section.

The Funny

Failed TV Program Shows Family History Edition

Survivor: Ellis Island
Genealogists Gone Wild!
Last Researcher Standing
America’s Scariest Ancestors
Who Wants to Marry a Genealogist?
Suddenly Census
Not Without My Ahnentafels!
Touched by an Ancestor
Addicted to Genealogy Conferences
The Insatiable Family Historian
Forbidden Love:
Genealogy & Monster Trucks
The Secret Life of Genealogists
Dude, Where’s My Pedigree

