

# CVGS RESEARCH GROUP NOTES – 14 June 2023

## by Randy Seaver

### A) Upcoming CVGS Events

- 1) CVGS DNA Interest Group Meeting – Wednesday, 21 June, 12 noon PDT on Zoom. Hosted and moderated by Randy Seaver. Please register at <https://chulavistagenealogysociety.wildapricot.org/event-5286588>. Zoom links will be sent to registrants on Sunday and Tuesday before the event.
- 2) CVGS Education Chair Meeting – Tuesday, 20 June, 1 p.m. PDT at Bonita-Sunnyside Library in Bonita CA (4375 Bonita Rd). In-person meeting hosted by Susi Pentico. The topic is “**Sharing Five Generation Chart Data.**” No Zoom coverage.
- 3) CVGS Annual Picnic – Wednesday, 28 June, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in-person at home of Sam and Terri Seat (1639 Oak View Terrace in Bonita CA 91902. Program is “**Genealogy Jeopardy Bingo**” hosted by Karen Smith. \$5 registration fee requested to cover provided food and supplies. Please register at <https://chulavistagenealogysociety.wildapricot.org/event-5286595>.
- 4) CVGS Newsletter published and sent to Members via email on Sunday, 11 June. It is not available yet on the CVGS website.

### B) Recent Genealogy News

- 1) [The 1931 Canadian Census Is Now Online](#) . Library and Archives Canada digitized the census pages, and Ancestry has indexed them using [Handwriting Recognition Technology](#) (sharing the index with LAC and FamilySearch).
  - 2) [RootsMagic Released Version 9.0.3](#), correcting WebSearch for Ancestry, fixing errors, etc. Later, they released Version 9.0.4 and 9.0.5 correcting more problems.
- 1) [Introducing Reimagine: An Innovative Photo App by MyHeritage](#) – A Mobile App to scan whole photo album pages, create a photo image of each photo on the page, save it to MyHeritage Photos, and use MyHeritage Photo tools (repair, enhance, colorize) to improve the photos. After a free trial, subscriptions are \$7.99 per month, or \$49.99 per year.
  - 4) Artificial Intelligence can be used to write articles, but AI tools like ChatGPT and Google Bard may not be accurate, especially concerning sources (there are many examples of AI tools making up book, legal, and other sources). Two of the best blog posts are:
    - [Genealogy and AI: Google Bard](#)
    - [Using AI Effectively for Genealogy Research](#)

## C) Randy's Work

1) Used the MyHeritage "Reimagine" mobile app to scan photo album pages from four albums plus several single pictures. Wrote about it in [Rabbit Holes With Randy -- Scanning Album Photos With Reimagine](#). Added about 350 photos to the MyHeritage Photos collection, enhanced and colorized many of them, then saved them to my desktop computer with captions as file names. I still have at least 20 more photo albums and hundreds of loose photos to scan.

2) Found a number of photographs and artifacts in the albums and loose photos that I don't recall seeing before. I wrote blog posts about several of them:

- [Early 1860s Photograph of 3rd Great-Grandparents John and Rebecca \(Hill\) Rich of Hilperton, Wiltshire -- Post 771 of \(Not So\) Wordless Wednesday](#)
- [Treasures in the Closet -- My Grandfather's Housing Rental Books](#)
- [Treasures In the Closet - My Mother's Childhood Scrapbook and Art Portfolio](#)
- [Treasure Chest Thursday - Treasures in the Closet - Part 2: Fred Seaver Bowling Photos](#)
- [Rabbit Holes With Randy - Treasures in the Closet - Part 1](#)

There are more Closet Discoveries to write about as time goes on.

3) Made a major effort, with help from my daughters, to clean out the boxes and papers on the floor of the genealogy cave, and the closet adjoining (which mainly held my daughter's pre-marriage stuff, family papers to be shredded, and genealogy books and papers, trying to separate stuff into keep, donate and trash piles. I made the decision to throw out all of my paper files for conference and webinar syllabi, plus CVGS newsletter paper copies, and the paper copies of ancestral probate and land records (which I have transcribed into RootsMagic and posted on my blog). I haven't touched the 70 family surname binders yet, but there is a lot of useless material in many of them (e.g., Ancestral File, IGI lists, book pages, periodical articles). I haven't done anything with 15 linear feet of the periodical collection (RootsTech, Jamboree and NGS conference syllabi, NEHGRegister, NGSQuarterly, The Essex Genealogist, American Ancestors, NGS Magazine, Family Tree Magazine, Internet Genealogy Magazine, SCGS Searcher, and SDGS Newsletters) from 1990 to the present (some runs incomplete). Many of these periodicals are now digitized online, but not all. Many of these need a good genealogy home – I would prefer to give all of the issues I have of a certain periodical rather than deal with them one issue at a time.

## D) Group Questions and Challenges:

1) What "Treasures" have you found hiding in your photo and artifact collections? Have you asked your siblings, children or cousins for family photos you don't have?

- Gail shared about finding her father's Army Air Corp WW2 "Pilot Log," and also her mother's "Pilot Log" from the 1930s, which she never knew about.
- Susi shared about receiving names of persons on photos from family contacts at a family reunion.

2) HOMEWORK for next month: "How are you saving family photos and artifacts for your descendants?"

3) If you have ideas for research topics, brick wall challenges, etc., please contact Randy by email ([randy.seaver@gmail.com](mailto:randy.seaver@gmail.com)).

### **E) Useful Genealogy Blog Posts:**

- [Introducing Reimagine: An Innovative Photo App by MyHeritage](#) by Erica on [MyHeritage Blog](#).
- [Rabbit Holes With Randy -- Scanning Album Photos With Reimagine](#) by Randy Seaver on [Genea-Musings](#).
- [Having a Good Research Question](#) by Cari Taplin on [Genealogy Pants](#).
- [FamilySearch Updates, Tools, and Features: New Home Page!](#) by Diane Henriks on [Know Who Wears the Genes in Your Family](#).
- [Blogger Research Toolboxes: 2023 Edition](#) by Linda Stufflebean on [Empty Branches on the Family Tree](#).
- [5 Records for Finding French Canadian Ancestors](#) by Michael J. Leclerc on [Family Tree Magazine](#).
- [The Importance of Joining and Supporting Genealogy and Historical Societies](#) by Shelley Viola Murphy on [Family Tree Girl](#).
- [Genealogy and AI: Google Bard](#) by Margaret M. McMahon on [A Week Of Genealogy](#).
- [An Expert's Secrets For German Genealogy Research](#) by Jessica Taylor on [Legacy Tree Genealogists](#).
- [3 Digital Collection Resources for New York](#) by Gena Philibert-Ortega on [Legacy News](#).
- [4 Awesome Genetic Genealogy Tools I Can't Live Without](#) by Elizabeth Swanay O'Neal on [Heart of the Family](#).
- [Tutorial: Use The Internet Archive for Genealogy](#) by Sunny Jane Morton on [Family Tree Magazine](#).
- [Make Ancestry Find the Relationship](#) by Kitty Cooper on [Kitty Cooper's Blog](#).
- [5 Reasons You MUST Look at Original Records](#) by Lisa Louise Cooke on [Lisa Louise Cooke](#).
- [What Really Happens to Your DNA Sample After You Swab?](#) by Jim Brewster on [FamilyTreeDNA Blog](#).
- [Ancestry's New DNA Compare Feature!](#) by Diane Henriks on [Know Who Wears the Genes in Your Family](#).
- [So, You Want to Become a Professional Genetic Genealogist](#) by Roberta Estes on [DNAeXplained - Genetic Genealogy](#).
- [Mother Knows Best, But Do You Really Know Her? Ancestry Survey Reveals Americans Know Little About Moms' Past—and She Wants to Tell You](#) on the Ancestry Blog.
- [Five good and bad ways to use ChatGPT for genealogy](#) by Yvette Hoitink on [Dutch Genealogy](#).
- [Prince William has American ancestors — Dating to the Revolution](#).
- [Rabbit Holes With Randy - Treasures in the Closet - Part 1](#) by Randy Seaver on [Genea-Musings](#).

For more, read Randy's Best of the Genea-Blogs weekly series at <https://www.geneamusings.com/search/label/BestofGeneaBlogs>.