



We Dig Our Ancestors

CHULA VISTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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



Editor: Randy Seaver (619) 422-3397, rjseaver@cox.net

Web Site: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~cacvgs2/>

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

Volume 19, Issue 6 *Providing Genealogy Programs for South San Diego County* June 2009

CVGS Essay Scholarship Awarded To Amy Hocza

By Susi Pentico

Amy Hocza, a Senior at Chula Vista High School, was awarded the first annual Chula Vista Genealogical Society Essay Scholarship (\$250) on Thursday, 4 June 2009 in an assembly at her school.

A panel of four CVGS board members judged the contest, which was based on an essay titled “How has doing family research affected me?”

Welcome New Members

Pat Boudreau
Ruth and Tony Himan
Jean Moss
Jerome Warren

TABLE OF CONTENTS

General Meeting Program – June 24.....	1
CVGS Essay Scholarship Awarded	1
President’s Message	2
CVGS Bylaws Revision	2
May 27 Program Review	2
Research Group News	3
Computer Group News	3
Research Trip News	3
General Society Meeting Minutes, 5/27/09.....	4
Board Meeting Minutes, 6/3/09	4
Lemon Grove Library Events	4
Computer-Related Genealogy News	5-6
La Vista Cemetery Project Making Progress	7
Fredericka Manor Program Review Summary	7
Saturday Seminar Summary, 4/25	8
San Diego Genealogy Events	9
Future CVGS Programs	10

Did They Really Come on That Ship?

With Joan Lowrey

General Meeting Program

Wednesday, 24 June 2009

12 noon to 2 p.m.

Chula Vista Civic Center Library Auditorium

Joan Lowrey has been researching her family since 1957, and has been a professional genealogist since 1990. She specializes in Germany and the U.S., and does extensive research in San Diego County. She has a Bachelor’s degree in mathematics with a minor in German from Chestnut Hill College, Philadelphia, and worked with analog and digital computers as an engineer in the guided missile department at RCA in New Jersey.

A charter member of the German Research Association, she served as president 1989– 1992 and editor of its quarterly newsletter, *The German Connection*, 1989–1993.

In 1986, she started a Personal Ancestral File user group and in 1988 founded the Computer Genealogy Society of San Diego, of which she is a past-president. She led the PAF User Group in CGSSD until 2000, and was editor of CGSSD’s quarterly newsletter, *COMPU.GEN* for 13 years.

Joan’s first book, *The Green Family - the Descendants of Barzilla Green and Susan Elizabeth Boyt*, was self-published in 1971. She was the author of the *Personal Ancestral File Users Guide* (1990–1997), co-author of *A Guide to Selecting Genealogy Software*, and co-author of the *Guide to Genealogy Software*.

Since 1985 she has compiled the “Family History—Upcoming Events, Classes, Opportunities” column for the *San Diego Seagull*, a monthly flyer and posts this information online at www.cgssd.org.

Joan is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists and numerous local genealogical societies. She speaks on German genealogy and computer genealogy topics nationally, and makes presentations at genealogical societies in Southern California.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Gary Brock

I had the honor and pleasure to attend the Cap and Gown Scholarship Assembly at Chula Vista High School this past week and I must say it changed my attitude for the future.

Looking into the faces of these beautiful young people of the class of 2009 and hearing about some of their accomplishments already, gave me a feeling that we will be in good hands in a few years as they take the reins of control and become our leaders.

I was in attendance to present the Society's first of what I hope will be an annual scholarship award. There was considerable interest by the students in our "High School Essay Scholarship" program. Each contestant was asked by the Society to submit an essay about "how has doing family research affected me?"

The winner of this year's \$250 prize was Amy Hocza. Amy is a delightful young lady, full of energy and enthusiasm and a very accomplished student. She is headed to UCLA for her undergraduate work and aspires to become a neurosurgeon. I asked Amy to come and speak to us at one of our future general meetings and she graciously accepted. Congratulations to Amy and to the entire Class of 2009 at CVHS.

CVGS BYLAWS REVISIONS

The Board-approved revisions to the Bylaws of the Chula Vista Genealogical Society were published in the May 2009 newsletter.

The revisions were not brought to a vote at the May 27 General Meeting because they had not been available to the membership for 30 days, as required by the Bylaws.

The Bylaws revisions are on the CVGS web page – see <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cacvgs2/page08.html>.

The Bylaws revisions will be voted on at the June 24 General Meeting.

NEW FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT - PROGRAMS!

CVGS has a new First Vice-President - Programs!

Barbara Ibaibarriaga volunteered to take the open position which was being handled by John Finch on an interim basis. The major task of this position is to arrange for speakers, provide publicity and introduce the speaker at the monthly Program Meetings. Please thank Barbara for taking on this position.

PROGRAM REVIEW

24 May 2009

Newspaper Archiving
presented by Peter Rowe

Peter Rowe presented "**Newspaper Archiving**" at our May Program meeting. Peter is a staff writer for the *San Diego Union-Tribune* newspaper. Peter is also the newspaper's Archivist.

Peter started the program by noting that he likes Chula Vista, but fears that after his talk that it will climb higher on the Forbe's "[America's Ten Most Boring Cities](#)" list.

He provided a short history of archiving at the *San Diego Union* (and *Union-Tribune*) over the years:

- From 1868 (when the *Union* was first published) into the 1970's, cut out articles were put in large envelopes by subject, and were kept in the newspaper office library. The envelopes were consulted often by reporters and the librarians.
- In the 1970's, the newspaper ran out of storage space, moved to a new building, and the envelopes with all of the cut-up stories were placed in the [San Diego Historical Society](#) collection in Balboa Park. The separate newspaper Photo Archives were also placed at the society.
- In 1984, digital archives were started for the newspaper and the practice of cutting up articles and putting them in the envelopes was discontinued. However, the "digital archives" are not available to the public on the newspaper web site.
- In 2000, the www.SignOnSanDiego.com site was started, and [the online archives](#) cover this time period, but are available only to newspaper subscribers through the web page. There is a Search box on the home page of the newspaper, but it does not always provide accurate results.

In response to a question, he noted that there were no digital archives for San Diego newspapers before 1984 on any historical or current newspaper web site.

The [San Diego Public Library](#) has microfilms of the complete run of the *San Diego Union* (1868-1992), *San Diego Evening Tribune*, *San Diego Union-Tribune* (1992 - present) and other San Diego newspapers in the second floor Newspaper Room of the downtown library (820 E Street, San Diego).

Peter suggested using <http://assignmenteditor.com/> to find the current newspaper in a specific area. To find newspaper articles in other cities, he recommended contacting the local libraries and historical societies to determine the extent and availability of their collections.

For searches of living people, he said that he used www.Pipl.com, www.Anywho.com and the Superior Court records (available for San Diego at www.sdcourt.gov).

RESEARCH GROUP NEWS

The Research Group meeting on 10 May had 10 persons contributing. There were some interesting problems.

Ann (a visitor) is doing research for a friend, and was looking for a McNabb born in about 1892 in Texas in the census records. She found him in the 1920 and 1930 census with his family, but couldn't find him in 1900 and 1910 with his parents. The group suggested trying different last name variations - McNabb, MacNabb, M'Nabb, Nabb, etc. And to use wild cards for both names, and birth year and birth place to narrow the search.

Mary has an interesting challenge - her mother was raised by her father, and Mary has looked for what happened to her mother's mother without much success. The grandmother's maiden name was Esther Fletcher, and after she left her first husband (mother of her mother, born in 1912 in Quebec) in Maine, she married a Sprague and a Marks and lived in Toronto, Ontario. The group suggested looking for an Ontario death record, obtaining a death certificate, finding an obituary, etc.

Ruth had an interesting problem too - her great-grandfather, John C. Hayley born in 1872 in Tennessee, ran off from his family at age 14 when his step-father put him down a well (who could blame him for running off?). She thinks that John C.'s father was Johns W. Hayley (1829-1874) who died in Tennessee, and left no land or probate records. Her question had to do with the father of James W. Hayley - was it James W. Hayley who died in 1842 in Madison County, Tennessee? Ruth has James W.'s will and John W. is not mentioned. The group suggested looking for other Hayley's in the area in the 1840 time frame (census, land, probate, tax records) and pursuing records of John W.'s death (obituary, county history) which might provide clues to his parentage.

Dearl decided to clean up some of his older file folders, and found that he had many more records than he recalled from his early years of researching. There's a good lesson here for everybody - check your previous work before doing more on a family.

Marcia followed up on some of the ideas from the April seminar, and found another Timothy Leahy descendant in Ireland, and they are corresponding. In the mean time, she found her Corkery family in Iowa, and found cousins on the Internet along with some family trees. We recommended getting death records and obituaries for the siblings of her Corkery, and to check the county history books also.

Pam is still chasing her Benjamin Sherman in Connecticut. She's going to step back from finding new records and try to sort out what she already has before charging off for more new information. She's planning to find a book by Roy V. Sherman using Inter-Library Loan.

Gary wondered where he could find information about the history of La Vista Cemetery in National City for a Memorial Day project. We suggested the National City library's Local History Room which has the Star newspaper indexed in a card file and has many books and pictures about National City history.

John sent an email to one of Randy's Facebook Friends and received a packet of information about two North Carolina families, including land records and the will of a John Leeper in 1796. He was surprised that the wife's name was Elizabeth, and now wonders if he started with the wrong information from an online family tree.

Dick has a problem with Family Tree Maker 2009 - he downloaded the update and now cannot open the program. He will contact the FTM customer service to see what needs to be done. We assured him that his databases were fine, and he could uninstall and reinstall the program, or anything that FTM sends him, and use his database with it.

There wasn't much time for Randy, who briefly described how the War of 1812 pension file index is not name indexed on Ancestry.com, and that he had found 15 databases like that on Ancestry.com.

Several people wanted to know about how to obtain the Social Security for a relative, and we pointed them to Rootsweb where they write the letter to the SSA for you.

COMPUTER GROUP NEWS

We had a full house of 12 researchers at the May Computer Group meeting held in the Library Computer Lab.

We had hoped that the laboratory computers had been upgraded with new hardware and software, but only some of them were. Therefore, we could not go to some of the genealogy web sites like FamilySearch Record Search, footnote.com or the BYU Family History Archive (of books) that use the Flash program, which is not installed on these computers.

Shirley Becker led the group on searches through the Rootsweb WorldConnect family tree database at <http://wc.rootsweb.com> and the United States GenWeb site at www.USGenWeb.org. Several persons found family members and ancestors on these sites.

RESEARCH TRIP NEWS

The next CVGS Research Trip will be on Saturday, July 25 to the Carlsbad Library in Carlsbad. Mark your calendars and join us on this trip to a wonderful genealogy collection.

CVGS GENERAL SOCIETY MEETING MINUTES – MAY 27, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Gary Brock at 12:30 PM

Officer Reports:

President Gary Brock reported that the program at Fredericka Manor went really well; Pam Journey presented information on how to begin work on genealogy, and people were very interested. Gary believes that mentoring the residents at the Manor would be a great community outreach opportunity for our group, getting some of the residents to record their stories for their families.

Secretary Ann Stevens requested that minutes from the April general meeting be approved as published. Minutes for April were approved as published; motion by Bob Page; second Dick McNulty.

Treasurer Paul Price requested that the treasurer's report for April be accepted as published. Treasurer's report approved with motion by Ann Stevens, second Phyllis Learned.

Vice-President (Membership) Virginia Taylor (absent) Wanda Brock reported: 31 members + 3 guests present; membership = 83.

Acting Vice-President (Programs) John Finch talked about upcoming programs: Wed, June 24: Joan Lowrey on Immigration-“Did they really come on that ship?”;

New Business:

Amendments to the CVGS Bylaws: Gary indicated that we needed to approve the amendments to the CVGS bylaws; however, it has been only 28 days from the last meeting where they were discussed and this meeting for the vote (the bylaws say 30 days are needed). Gary did say that the revisions have been available for 17 days in the newsletter, and they were on the website even earlier than the last meeting. A motion was made by Phyllis Learned to postpone consideration of the amendments to the bylaws until the June meeting; seconded by Eleanor Hedencamp. Discussion followed; motion carried. Item will be on the agenda for the June general meeting.

Lemon Grove Library Events By Susi Pentico

On the first Wednesday of every month we have general chat and share sources and situations. On the third Wednesday of the month, I present major data of some nature. This month's presentation will be on migration trails in the USA pre-1812 and the effect the War of 1812 had on our country. We meet at 6 pm until 7:50 pm at the Lemon Grove Library near Anna's Restaurant and across from St. John The Cross Catholic Church.



CVGS BOARD MEETING MINUTES -- MAY 6, 2009

Meeting called to order by President Gary Brock at 12:10 PM. Present were Barbara Ibaibarriaga, Virginia Taylor, Paul Price, Shirley Becker, Dearl Glenn, Susan Zimmer, Wanda Brock, Bernice Heiter, Randy Seaver, Susi Pentico and Bob Page. Absent: Ann Stevens.

President's comments: Gary welcomed Virginia back from surgery; Margaret Kasner, interim library director, introduced herself to Board. Gary appointed Barbara Ibaibarriaga as Vice-President (Programs); appointment confirmed by the Board.

Secretary (Ann absent; Susan Zimmer): May meeting minutes approved, motion by Shirley, second by Susi Pentico.

Membership (Virginia): 4 new members; membership at 90.

Treasurer (Paul): balance forward \$2228.73; expenses \$50; income \$117.50; bank balance \$2296.23; less cemetery project \$137.15; operating capital \$2159.08. Report accepted, motion by Randy, second by Dearl.

Programs (Barbara/John): Wed, June 24: Joan Lowrey on Immigration “Did they really come on that ship?”; Wed, July 29: Melissa Trew from the Gaslamp Quarter Historical Foundation; Wed, Aug 26: picnic at Elks Lodge; Larry Schulteis working on approval from the Elks.

High School Essay Scholarship Project (Susi): Two applications were read by Susi, Shirley, Wanda, and Virginia. Check for \$250 to winner Amy Hocza; Gary and Susi will attend the awards program at CVHS. Barbara made a motion, seconded by John, to add \$50 to award the second person a “first runner-up” award; motion failed. Virginia made a motion, seconded by Susan Zimmer, to continue the genealogy scholarship for \$250 next year; motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 1:20 PM. Respectfully submitted, Susan Zimmer (for Ann Stevens, Secretary)

Note: The Board agreed with the Newsletter Editor's suggestion to publish only motions and officer reports in the Newsletter. The full general and Board meeting minutes will be available on the CVGS web site.

COMPUTER-RELATED GENEALOGY NEWS

New Web Sites Coming Soon!

Keep an eye out for three new web sites coming soon:

- www.GenSeek.com – links to the Family History Library Catalog, online databases, and more.
- www.WorldHistory.com – provides maps, events, people – link your folks to world history.
- www.MyGenShare.com – a collection of knowledge-based articles, videos, and podcasts to help educate researchers.

Genealogy Software – Legacy Family Tree Videos

The list of Legacy training videos on CDROM, and links to several **free** videos, are at <http://www.legacyfamilytree.com/Videos.asp>. The **free** training videos are:

- [What's New in Legacy 7.0 - New for Version 7!](#) - a PowerPoint presentation
- [Legacy Family Tree: an Overview](#). Part of a live seminar presented to the Hemet-San Jacinto Genealogical Society on May 16, 2009.
- [Legacy Family Tree: Tips and Tricks](#). Part of a live seminar presented to the Hemet-San Jacinto Genealogical Society on May 16, 2009.
- [Legacy for Beginners](#) - a PowerPoint presentation. The Source citation process is discussed very well. These videos are very well done and will be very helpful for someone that wants to learn how to use Legacy Family Tree 7 effectively.

Genealogy Software -- RootsMagic 4 Competitive Upgrade

If you are a user of Personal Ancestral File (PAF), Family Tree Maker, Legacy Family Tree, or The Master Genealogist, you can buy RootsMagic for the upgrade price of \$19.95 (that's \$10 off the regular price). This competitive upgrade price will expire August 31, 2009. To receive the competitive upgrade discount, visit: <http://www.rootsmagic.com/upgrade>

New or Updated Databases at Ancestry.com (\$\$)

- Alabama State Census, 1820-1866
- US World War II Draft Registrations, 1942 updated
- Historical Postcards Collection, 1893-1960 updated
- US City Directories, updated
- US Obituaries collection, updated
- Many English, Canadian and German books

New or Updated LDS FamilySearch.org Indexing (Free)

These databases are available for FREE at <http://pilot.familysearch.org/> - the LDS site for volunteer-indexed and browseable databases -- recently added or completed projects:

- Florida Deaths, 1877-1935 (no images)
- Indiana Marriages, 1811-1959 (no images)
- New York State Census, 1865 (images only)
- Davidson County, NC Vital Records, 1867-1984
- South Carolina Deaths, 1944-1955 (images only)

New or Updated Databases at Footnote.com (\$\$)

- Dawes Enrollment Cards, 1898-1914 (46% complete)
- West Virginia Southern Claims Commission

New or Updated Databases at NewEnglandAncestors.org (\$\$)

- Early Maine Wills and Deeds
- *The Connecticut Nutmegger*, Volumes 17-21
- *The American Genealogist*, Volumes 8-22
- *New Netherland Connections*, Volumes 1-11
- Cemetery Records of Barnstable, Massachusetts, 1683-1898
- Cemetery Transcriptions from NEHGS Manuscripts (updated)

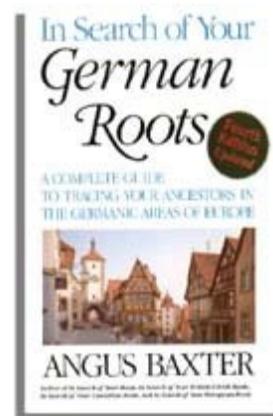
COMPUTER-RELATED GENEALOGY NEWS

Interesting Articles from Genealogy Blogs (links work in PDF edition)

- [Protecting your Heirlooms: Adding a Codicil to your Will](#) by Gena Philibert Ortega on [Gena's Genealogy](#) blog. Gena provides an excellent example of a genealogy-specific codicil for a will - do you have one of these yet? If not, you should!
- [Finding out if an ancestor is African American or Native American](#) by Lorine Schulze on the [Ask Olive Tree Genealogy a Question](#) blog. Lorine answers an intriguing question and has suggestions for further research for her queryst. Did you click on the link to her article about sources? Well done!
- [Sleuthing for Treasures at the National Archives](#) by Bonnie Lynn Cary on the [GenealogyandFamilyHistory.com](#) blog. Bonnie's article tells you everything you need to know about how to find information at the National Archives in Washington DC.
- [San Diego County Vital Records - you gotta pay to see them!](#) by Randy Seaver on the [www.Geneamusings.com](#) blog.
- [Search Strategies for Finding Ship Passenger Lists 1820-1940s](#) by Joe Beine on the [Genealogy Roots Blog](#). Joe provides a comprehensive summary of ship passenger lists for the 1820-1940 time period.
- [Amateur vs Professional](#) by Arlene H. Eakle on the [Arlene Eakle's Virginia Blog](#). Arlene is great at researching and telling stories - it's called experience - and has some interesting advice - in this post about traditional resources.
- [What Attracted Our Ancestors to the New World](#) by Dick Eastman on [Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter](#) blog. Dick has a wealth of experience and knowledge and I appreciate it when he writes original work like this for his readers.
- [The Census Explained](#) by Craig Manson on the Geneablogie ([www.geneablogie.net](#)) blog. Craig posts a newspaper article about census taking for the 1890 census. Good catch! Fascinating!
- [What Did Your Ancestors Leave You?](#) by Jeffrey A. Bockman at <http://www.jeffbockman.com/gatj>
- [Everton's Genealogical Helper is MOST LIKELY About to be Sold](#) by Leland Meitzler at [www.genealogyblog.com](#).

Book Review: *In Search of Your German Roots*

I recently received the updated Fourth Edition of the book *In Search of Your German Roots, A Complete Guide to Tracing Your Ancestors in the Germanic Areas of Europe* by Angus Baxter. The 127-page book (\$16.95 retail in the USA) was published in 2008 by Genealogical Publishing Company, and is an update of the 2001 Fourth Edition.



This book was a very pleasant surprise. I expected that it would be full of information about doing research in Germany and other nearby countries, but quite a bit of the book is about general genealogy, repositories and Germans in the United States and Canada.

The most interesting part of the book for me was the chapters about Germans in the United States and Canada. These two chapters provide an excellent history lesson - the who, why, when, where and how of emigration from Germany to North America over the years - from the late 1600s to the 20th century.

The most useful part of the book for genealogists just starting their research on German ancestors is the Records in Germany chapter. This is the longest chapter in the book, and is chock full of information about the Evangelical (Lutheran, Reformed and United) and Catholic church records. The chapter includes information about the calendar change, passenger lists, official records, archives, and genealogical associations in Germany. Addresses and web sites are provided for the church offices, government offices, associations, etc.

Amazingly, there is only one map in this book - a map of modern Germany opposite the title page. Maps of Germany, and the surrounding countries, at different historical stages would be very useful. I was puzzled that there was no description of the old German script or a list of common German words used in genealogy research.

This is the kind of book that would be popular on the genealogical section book shelves at the library - it is easy to read, full of information, addresses research in North America and Europe, and is not overwhelming to the beginning genealogist.

LA VISTA CEMETERY PROJECT MAKING PROGRESS

CVGS is transcribing the burial records at La Vista Memorial Park in National City and plans to publish the information for society members and local libraries.

Anyone interested in helping us with the project we are doing at La Vista Cemetery is invited to send their e-mail address to Wanda Brock at Wanda@cyber.net.

Each weekend we will contact those who are interested to see what days and times they would be available to help and then send out the replies to our e-mail list to advise when people will be working. Our days are usually Tuesday and Fridays. If other days work better for you, let Wanda know. If you do not have e-mail and want to be contacted by phone, call Wanda at (619) 972-4055.

If you are unable to contact Wanda, you can also contact Susan Zimmer who is the project coordinator.



CVGS PHOTO GALLERIES

There are photograph collections on the CVGS web page at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~cacvgs2/page11.html> for:

- The December 2008 Holiday Luncheon
- The November 2008 Heirloom Discovery Day with Georgie Stillman
- The August 2008 Picnic at the Elks Lodge
- The May 2008 meeting Snack Table

If you have other pictures of CVGS meetings, please pass them to Gary Brock, the Webmaster.

SHIRLEY BECKER'S PRESENTATION AVAILABLE AS PDF

Shirley Becker's April 29th presentation on *Digital Documentation* is available on the CVGS web site – see http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cacvgs2/Articles/Misc/document_digitization.pdf

FREDERICKA MANOR GENEALOGY PROGRAM REVIEW 12 May 2009

About 25 CVGS members and family attended a very nice program meeting, luncheon and guided facility tour at Fredericka Manor in Chula Vista on Tuesday, 12 May from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event was hosted by Betsy Keller, Marketing Manager of Fredericka Manor, which is a senior retirement community in downtown Chula Vista.

The idea was for CVGS to introduce Fredericka residents to starting genealogy and family history research and the genealogy society, and for Fredericka Manor to introduce their facility and services to CVGS members. It may be the start of a symbiotic relationship! About 25 CVGS members and family attended, and about 40 Fredericka Manor residents attended the program.

The program meeting started with a sign-in, a snack and drink. Betsy Keller welcomed everybody and held the first 15 door prize drawings. Gary Brock, President of CVGS, summarized the CVGS activities and introduced some of the members in attendance. Pam Journey of the San Diego Genealogical Society gave a wonderful lecture on Beginning Genealogy Research, with a six page handout that included a pedigree chart and family group sheet. Besides talking about the "how-to-start-your-genealogy," she addressed why people do family history research and the family, educational and social benefits of it. After the talk, there were more door prize drawings.

Then it was off to lunch in the Fredericka Manor dining room, hosted by staff people who answered questions and made sure that everyone at their table was well fed. The menu was a salad, spaghetti with meat sauce, garlic bread and bread pudding and/or ice cream. After lunch, we were shown six different living accommodations in the facility from a one room studio to a 1,500 square foot two-bedroom detached house. Some of the units are detached on the property, and some are in the seven-story tower building. The tour lasted about 30 minutes and was very well done.

We were quite pleased with the event, and hope that some of the Fredericka attendees will come to our society meetings. We already have several residents in our society.

This event pointed out that meetings with community groups and businesses can have mutual benefits. CVGS can provide speakers at social, church and service clubs and businesses, like Fredericka Manor, could partner with CVGS to the mutual benefit of both.

SATURDAY SEMINAR REVIEW

25 April 2009

Finding Your Elusive Ancestors – a Reasonably Exhaustive Search

Presented by Randy Seaver

The fourth annual Spring Saturday Seminar on 25 April was held at the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. There were 40 genealogists in attendance, including 12 non-members of CVGS.

The first part of the program was an 80 minute presentation by CVGS member, past-President and current Newsletter editor **Randy Seaver on "Doing a Reasonably Exhaustive Search."** The PowerPoint presentation was in two parts - an educational segment about the Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS) and then a Case Study illustrating the elements of doing a reasonably exhaustive search, and where that search led him in his pursuit of life events of his second great-grandfather, Devier J. Smith.

In the first segment of the talk, Randy defined the terms Data, Information (Primary or Secondary), Source (original or derivative), Evidence (direct or indirect), and Proof. He then described the Genealogical Proof Standard developed about ten years ago by the professional genealogy community. The first item in the GPS is to perform "a Reasonably Exhaustive Search for all Pertinent Information." The rest of this segment of the talk was concerned with:

- What records should be found -- home, vital, burial, legal, government, directory, military, immigration, newspaper and published material.
- Where should the search be performed -- libraries, societies, court houses, town halls, churches, other repositories, and online.
- Web sites for online record and family tree searches -- subscription databases, free databases, user-submitted data, message centers, book collections, and search engines.
- Perils of online searches -- emphasizing that not all genealogy data is online, and never will be, that online data can be unreliable and should be used only as a finding aid, and that there never will be a "mother of all genealogy databases."
- Five favorite search techniques combining online, repository and distant locality research.
- Eight general search strategies for effectively and efficiently doing research
- Using cluster research techniques to find associates of the target persons to research.

This is information that most professional and experienced genealogists know about and understand, but the great majority of local society members have rarely heard about, especially the Genealogical Proof Standard and the techniques used in its' application.

The second segment of the talk was a Case Study showing what Randy has found to date about Devier J. Smith (1842-1894), who was born in Jefferson County NY, grew to manhood in Dodge County WI, married to Abigail Vaux there, sired five children, moved to Iowa, Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska while raising his family, and died in Red Willow County, NE and is buried there. Randy showed the family Bible pages, papers written by Devier's wife, census records, business items from a family scrapbook, his obituary, funeral parlor bill, etc. He then asked the question: "Have I done a reasonably exhaustive search?" Everyone that raised there hands said "yes" and no one said "no."

Having gathered a fine consensus of opinion, Randy showed just what information had not been found yet (including probate, land, church, tax, more newspaper records). To the shock of almost everyone, he proceeded to describe how he found evidence that Devier J. Smith was actually the adopted son of Ranslow and Mary (Bell) Smith, and his birth name was Devier Lamphier. The net result was that Randy has lots more research to perform to find the birth parents of Devier, plus he lost about 50 ancestors of Ranslow and Mary (Bell) Smith in the process, and relearned some lessons about getting ahead of one's self in researching ancestors.

The final portion of the second segment was a summary of how Randy has searched for records of the birth and/or parents of Devier Lamphier. He was unable to find any record in online databases for the birth or even the existence of Devier Lamphier. Using census records for 1820-1860, and listing entries in guardianship, probate, and deed records in Jefferson County NY (using FHL microfilms), he is compiling a list of potential parents of Devier Lamphier.

All that in 120 slides in 80 minutes left Randy breathless and the audience thinking about how the information and his experience applied to each of them. Randy's purpose, of course, was to inform about the subject matter, to introduce the principles of the Genealogical Proof Standard, and to demonstrate by examples how it can be used to find elusive ancestors. Randy had a three page handout that covered the first segment of his presentation - you can obtain a copy by emailing him at rjseaver@cox.net.

After this session, the group filed through the Conference Room, picked up sandwiches, fruit, chips, dessert and water and took them out to the nearby park for lunch and conversation in the sun.

REFRESHMENT STORAGE By Susi Pentico

I am looking for sealable containers to store our supplies in at the library. We were offered the use of the refreshment area adjacent to the library Conference Room to store some of our supplies so I am looking for items not too large so that I can keep a certain amount of items combined and sealed. I am suggesting 6" by 20" by whatever. I am mainly concerned about the plates, cups, napkins, and plasticware that are opened. I have two smaller containers that we keep the tea, sugars and other items in now that we can continue to use.

Telephone Tree Volunteers

Page 1 – Marcia Mautner – 619-227-2733

Page 2 – May Stone – 619-585-3395

Page 3 – Betty Hampton – 619-423-2415

Alternate: Barbara Ibaibarriaga – 619-477-4140

Refreshment Hosts

June 24: Sunny Van Cleave, Bobbie Lane

July 29: Betty Hampton, Susi Pentico

CVGS Society Officers

President:	Gary Brock
First Vice-Pres. Programs	Barbara Ibaibarriaga
Sec. Vice-President, Membership	Virginia Taylor
Treasurer	Paul Price
Secretary	Ann Stevens

Standing Committees

Cemetery Steering Committee	Susan Zimmer
Computer Group	Shirley Becker
Historian	Susan Zimmer
Hospitality	Susi Pentico
Librarian – Books	Bernice Heiter
Library Liaison	Dearl Glenn
Newsletter Editor	Randy Seaver
Research Group/Queries	Randy Seaver
Parliamentarian	Bob Page
Ways and Means	Bob Page
Public Relations	John Finch
Webmaster	Gary Brock
Estate Papers	Gary Brock

San Diego Genealogy Events

Saturday, June 13 – 12 noon to 2:30 p.m.

SAN DIEGO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

12 noon: Program: *Geographic Finding Aids* and
Understanding Land Records by **Connie Moretti**

Location: St. Andrews Lutheran Church
8350 Lake Murray Blvd, corner Jackson Dr.

[\(http://www.rootsweb.com/~casdgs/\)](http://www.rootsweb.com/~casdgs/)

0-0-0-0-0

Tuesday, June 9, 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon

**NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY -- COGG**

9:30 – Social Hour

10:00 – Program: *County Websites – an
Overlooked Resource* by **Jean Wilcox Hibben**

Location: City Council Chambers
1250 Carlsbad Village Dr., Carlsbad

[\(http://www.cagenweb.com/nsdcgs/\)](http://www.cagenweb.com/nsdcgs/)

0-0-0-0-0

Saturday, June 20, 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon

**COMPUTER GENEALOGY SOCIETY
OF SAN DIEGO**

9:00 – User groups – **Family Tree Maker,
Macintosh, New Gen. Websites SIG**

10:15: Announcements,

Program: *Genealogy in the Cloud*
by **Gary B. Hoffman**

Location: Robinson Auditorium complex at
UCSD San Diego (see map at www.cgssd.org)

0-0-0-0-0

Tuesday, June 23, 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon

**NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

9:30 – Social Hour

10:00 – Program: *Wives Names* by **Wendy Elliott**

Location: City Council Chambers
1250 Carlsbad Village Dr., Carlsbad

[\(http://www.cagenweb.com/nsdcgs/\)](http://www.cagenweb.com/nsdcgs/)

0-0-0-0-0

Friday-Sunday, June 26-28

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GEN. SOCIETY
JAMBOREE 2009**

Burbank Airport Marriott Hotel & Convention
Center. 100 lectures. Exhibit Hall.

[\(http:// www.genealogyjamboree.blogspot.com.\)](http://www.genealogyjamboree.blogspot.com)

0-0-0-0-0

See all upcoming San Diego genealogy programs
online at <http://www.cgssd.org/events.php>

GENEALOGY DAYS IN CHULA VISTA

- **Wednesday, June 3, 12 noon – CVGS Board Meeting, Library Conference Room**
- **Wednesday, June 10, 12 noon - Research Group Meeting, Library Conference Room**
- **Wednesday, June 17, 12 noon – Computer Group Meeting, Library Computer Lab**
- **Wednesday, June 24, 12 noon – General Society Meeting, Library Auditorium**
Topic: *Did They Really Come on That Ship?* – Joan Lowrey

- **Wednesday, July 1, 12 noon – CVGS Board Meeting, Library Conference Room**
- **Wednesday, July 8, 12 noon - Research Group Meeting, Library Conference Room**
- **Wednesday, July 15, 12 noon – Computer Group Meeting, Library Computer Lab**
- **Saturday, July 25, 9 a.m. – Research Trip to Carlsbad Library**
- **Wednesday, July 29, 12 noon – General Society Meeting, Library Auditorium**
Topic: *The History and Culture of San Diego's Gaslamp Quarter* – Melissa Trew

All CVGS Program Meetings are held in the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library, 365 F Street, Chula Vista. Contact John Finch, jan27@cox.net, 619-426-4906 for details.

Visit our Web Site – <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cacvgs2/>

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

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Postage

Label