



We Dig Our Ancestors

CHULA VISTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Happy
St. Patrick's
Day!

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CVGS Web Site: <http://www.CVGenealogy.org>

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

Volume 24, Issue 3 *Providing Genealogy Activities in South San Diego County*

March 2014

WEDNESDAY, March 26th PROGRAM MEETING

from 12 noon to 2 p.m.

At Chula Vista Civic Center Library Auditorium (365 F Street)

Carol Baird: "Postcards Collections and Genealogy"

Why study postcard collections for genealogical research? It is one of the most popular collecting hobbies since it started in the 1870s. Your ancestors may have sent postcards to their relatives showing their home, town, vacation, or passenger ship. In this talk, Carol will talk about the history of postcards, what you can learn from postcards, and how you can use postcards in your genealogical research.

Carol Davidson Baird is the only child of German survivors of the Holocaust and has researched her family for 42 years. She is past president of San Diego JGS and North San Diego County Genealogical Society as well as past editor for both society newsletters and has served on the Board of Directors of NSDCGS since 1999. She is past co-editor of *Stammbaum* and wrote the IAJGS manual on how to start a JGS in your hometown. She writes for journals and newsletters and lectures on German Jewish and Holocaust genealogy throughout California. Carol's many travels to Europe with her family included visits to archives, town halls and concentration camps. Carol has an archive room in her home.



CVGS Spring Seminar is Saturday, 29 March – See Page 3 for Details

Table of Contents

March 26 th Program Meeting	1	Hospitality Committee Needs You!	6
President's Message	2	Escondido Family History Fair Review	6
April 5 th Workshop	2	February 26th Program Review	7
Spring Seminar News	3	Lemon Grove Research Group News	8
Scholarship Fund Basket	4	More Research Tips for Beginning Genealogists	8
Research Group Review	5	CVGS Society Information	9
Next Computer Group Meeting	6	San Diego Genealogy Events	9
April 23 rd Genealogy Research Trip	6	Genealogy Days in Chula Vista	10

President's Message – by Virginia Taylor



I was pleased to see several of our members at the Family History Fair in Escondido on Saturday. I hope all of you enjoyed it as much as I did and that you learned lots of new things to help you in your family research.

If any of you attended any of Jean or Butch Hibben's lectures on Saturday, you know we are in for a treat when they come to our seminar on March 29. Their presentations for us will be completely different from what they gave at the Family History Fair. Their presentations for us will be just as informative and entertaining as what you heard on Saturday.

Now that you are excited about attending seminars, it is time to register for our seminar. If you register before March 8 you will save \$5.00 off your registration. Remember this is our major fundraiser for our annual scholarships. If you have a prior commitment for that day it would be appreciated if you can make a donation toward the scholarship. All of us should be contributing toward the scholarship fund.

We can use some help at the seminar. If you plan to attend and would like to help please contact Susi Pentico (susicp@cox.net or 619-623-5250). We especially need people to help with check-in, the raffles and book sales. None of those will take much time and you will not miss any of the program.

Remember Civic Center Branch of the library will be closed March 10th to the 16th for upgrade of the wiring. Therefore, there will be no Research Group this month, but it will resume in April. The upgrade should make it much faster to get on the internet in the conference room, computer lab and also the auditorium.

Speaking of upgrade. Those of us who attended the last Computer Group were pleasantly surprised to see new computers. We will now be working with Windows 7 instead of XP.

See you at the Seminar!

April 5th Workshop at Bonita-Sunnyside Library

The April 5th CVGS Workshop at Bonita-Sunnyside Library (375 Bonita Road) is from 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Community Room. Shirley Becker and Randy Seaver will lead a discussion of "New York Research."

Stay up-to-date on CVGS Activities

Visit the CVGS Website: <http://www.CVGenealogy.org>

Visit the Chula Vista Genealogy Cafe blog: <http://CVGenCafe.blogspot.com>

The Board Meeting and Program Meeting minutes are now posted on the CVGS website .
Check them out at <http://www.CVGenealogy.org> on the Resources tab

Spring Seminar is on March 29th 2014 (9 AM to 4 PM) – Register Now!

Chula Vista Genealogical Society Seminar

Saturday, March 29, 2014 - 9am to 4pm Check-in 8.30am
Chula Vista Golf Course - 4475 Bonita Road, Bonita CA 91902

“Recipe for Genealogy”

Guest Speakers, Jean Hibben w/
Butch Hibben - “Legacy Stories”

Seminar w/Catered Lunch
\$45 for CVGS Members
\$50 for non-members
Early Bird Registration
Discount - \$5 by March 8th.

Walk-ins Welcome

Donation Drawings
Door Prizes

Scholarship Fundraiser

Susi Pentico (619) 623-5250
Virginia Taylor (619) 425-7922
Limited Registration



Recipes

**This is NOT Your Grandma's Genealogy:
Making the Transition from Paper
to Electronic Record Keeping**

**Elisabeth: The Story of a
German Immigrant**

**Lessons Learned from
Genealogy Roadshow**

Up Close and Personal

Registration at: cvgenealogy.org

It's only days away now! Our Spring Seminar is open for reservations and we have an interesting 'menu' planned for you. **Please mark Saturday, March 29 on your calendar and plan to attend and learn all sorts of ways to improve your genealogy research, have some fun AND enjoy a catered lunch.** We'll have drawings for great prizes, vendors and expert speakers. Popular and knowledgeable Jean Hibben will offer four presentations, with additional talks by her husband Butch Hibben.

Jean's first talk will be **“This is NOT Your Grandma's Genealogy: Making the Transition from Paper to Electronic Record-Keeping.”** Are you a bit intimidated by the thought of organizing and storing all your research on the computer or 'in the cloud?' Are you still stuck with boxes and boxes of paper? Jean will give you tips to convince you that modern technology is, indeed, your friend. She'll discuss the advantages and disadvantages of computer over paper and will cover what you need to know to transition away from total paper record keeping. Butch Hibben will discuss how to use Smart Phone technology for those interested in portable genealogy. He will also present his popular *Living Legacy Project* and be available throughout the day to share more information.

(continued on page 4)

Spring Seminar is on March 29th 2014 (9 AM to 4 PM) (concluded)

The second morning session will be Jean's presentation of Elisabeth: The Story of a German Immigrant. Jean's novelization of her great great grandmother's life is full of drama, love and history. Her narrative is a compelling picture of American history and will deal with topics such as the Civil War, law, and immigration. The book will also be for sale at the seminar.

After lunch, Jean will present Lessons Learned from Genealogy Roadshow. Remember how the TV show made genealogical research look so easy? Jean shares with us how developing stories for a television show means having a minimum of time to gather together a wealth of family history, and how we can use those methods to make an interesting narrative of our family. How does one record lead to the next, and what alternate resources are available when one is unable to travel to other locations?

Jean's final presentation will be Up Close and Personal, a discussion of suggestions for doing research where our ancestors lived and died. This will include travel tips, hints for cemetery visits, contacting libraries and societies in advance, planning interviews of living relatives, and post-visit "debriefing" and organization. If there is time, attendees will be encouraged to share their personal experiences.

It will be an informative and entertaining day, so register now on our website (<http://cvgenealogy.org/>). You may pay by check or credit card - \$45 for CVGS members, \$50 for non-members – but there is a \$5 discount if you register by March 16th. So sign up now, before you forget! And remember, this is our big fundraiser for high school scholarships. We will have a drawing for a deluxe kitchen accessories basket too (have you bought your tickets yet?). Come join us for our "*Recipe for Genealogy*" seminar!

Scholarship Fund Basket, by Shirley Becker

The Chula Vista Genealogical Society will be raffling a basket of kitchen ceramics for our Scholarship Fund at the Spring Seminar on Saturday, March 29th. The basket holds ceramic goodies such as measuring cups, a mixing bowl, stirring utensils, and a cookie tray with a sugar cookie recipe on it. In addition, the large basket and a decorating kit are included.

We will be selling tickets at the program and workshop meetings and continue until the Spring Seminar. Hopefully, this will give our scholarship fund a real boost. You do not need to be a member to purchase a ticket or be present at the seminar when the numbers are called.

The Board is requesting that all members participate in selling the tickets, they can be picked up at the society meetings and we hope each member will attempt to sell 12 tickets.

Nametags, by Wanda Brock

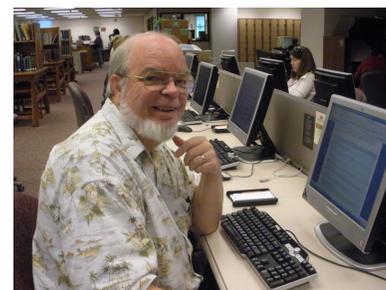
Wanda Brock notes that if anyone needs a new or replacement nametag, please e-mail her at wanda@cyber.net.



Research Group Review – 12 February 2014

The February meeting of the CVGS Research Group on 12 February was a lively affair with 22 in attendance, including two new members.

After introductions, there were announcements about the Escondido Family History Fair on 1 March 2014 - it's free but you need to register - and the CVGS Spring Seminar on 29 March 2014 with Jean Wilcox Hibben as the featured speaker.



In the first hour, Randy highlighted his experiences at RootsTech 2014, noting that the syllabus is still online for download at <https://rootstech.org/about/syllabus-materials/> and there are 17 online videos from the keynotes and selected classes at <https://rootstech.org/about/videos/>.

He attempted to show Judy Russell's keynote talk in the meeting, but the video was stalled by the relatively poor cell reception in the conference room. Instead, Randy showed his Flipboard magazine for "Randy at RootsTech 2014" at <https://flipboard.com/section/andy-at-rootstech-2014-bFpVfG>.

In the second hour, several attendees shared their recent experiences and research questions:

* Gary found several photos from his mother's estate that did not have persons identified on them, so he is trying to match faces from those photos to photos that do have names on them. For one photo, he put other photos of who he thought might be the same person on the same sheet of paper; the group thought that they were not the same person. For a second photo, he had five other photos of the known person, and the group thought they were the same person. The group noted that there are several websites that do face matching from photographs.

* Helen had a photo in her collection and didn't know who it was. She was checking Ancestry Member Trees for her 3rd great-grandfather, John Henry Winkle, and saw the same photo attached to another person's tree with the name.

* Felicia has a family story that her ancestor, Mary Gillham who married a Campbell, had been kidnapped by the Kickapoo tribe in the early 1800s, was found and ransomed in Illinois, and an Act of Congress granted land to her in 1815. She wondered if there are any records for the land grant. The group said that Acts of Congress should be available to review and to check the Library of Congress and the National Archives. Land may have been granted through the Bureau of Land Management - check the <http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/> website.

* Gerry's mother had German ancestry, and she wondered how to find more information about it. The group recommended finding as many records as possible (marriage, death, immigration, naturalization, obituary, cemetery, childrens births, etc.) that might identify where she was born and her parents, or siblings, names; then search for records for the parents and siblings also. Then check with the San Diego Genealogical Society German interest group, the San Diego FamilySearch Library in Mission Valley, and the www.GermanRoots.com website for research helps. Her mother's grandfather's name was Christian Floel, and we found that he had a Civil War Pension File that could be ordered from the National Archives for a fee.

The next meeting of the CVGS Research Group will be on 9 April 2014 at 12 noon in the Conference Room at the Chula Vista Civic Center Library (365 F Street). **THERE WILL BE NO RESEARCH GROUP MEETING ON MARCH 12th due to the Library wiring project.**

Next Computer Group Meeting on Wednesday, 19 March 2014

The Computer Group will meet from 12 noon to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, March 19th in the Library Computer Lab for Internet work, led by Shirley Becker. This meeting features hands-on use of the library's new Windows 7 computers, or your own laptop (but the library wi-fi doesn't work well in that room). For more information, please contact Shirley (clanroots@cox.net).

April 23rd Genealogy Field Trip – by John Finch

For our next Field Trip event, we are planning to meet at the new San Diego Public library on Wednesday, 23 April. Because parking fees in the area are high, we plan to take the trolley. Watch for notices for this field trip with times and additional information. We can arrange for a guided tour of the entire library and /or the genealogy section on the ninth floor. Contact John Finch or Karen Yarger for details.

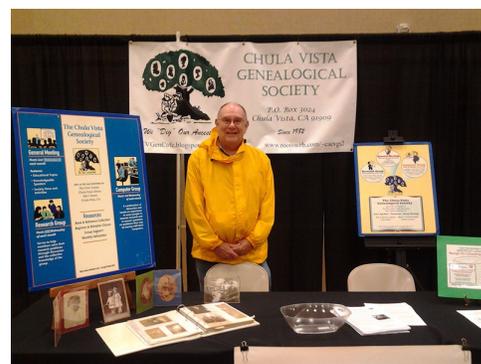
Hospitality Committee Needs You! by Jo Ann Bonner

We are still in need of hosts/hostesses for the following general meetings: July, August, September and November. If you are willing to be a host/hostess, please call or email Jo Ann Bonner at 619-421-3628 or jabonner13@gmail.com.

I would also appreciate it if someone would volunteer to assist me with the duties of the Hospitality Committee. I will store and bring to the meetings all the supplies needed by our hosts/hostesses but I need assistance picking up the coffee and hot water, cream, etc.. I do not like the smell of coffee and it upsets my stomach when I have to enter Starbucks. The Hospitality budget pays for the items so my co-chair will be reimbursed for expenses.

Escondido Family History Fair Review, by Karen Yarger

Eleven hardy souls from CVGS braved the heavy rains to attend the Escondido Family History Fair on Saturday. It was a lively and educational day! After a humorous keynote speech by Dan Poffenberger, approximately 350 attendees divided into class groups. There were five hours of classes, each with seven topics to choose from. Subjects ranged from "Scanning and Photo Retouching" to "Military Pension Records" to "Beginning Irish Research" to "Free Apps for Smart Phones" and "German Research When You Live in America and Don't Speak German" among others. Each speaker shared his or her expertise to the welcoming group and provided handouts.



At the noon break, we could visit the main hall where various genealogy and historical groups had booths - including our CVGS. It was a perfect opportunity to network and discover new resources. Boy Scouts sold box lunches to the attendees to stave off the hunger pangs. After the 90 minute lunch break, we returned for the final three hours of class. So much new information to absorb! Many of the speakers were familiar to us: Jean & Butch Hibben, Tom Underhill, Joel Weintraub, and Alice Volkert and others.

Special thanks to our booth volunteers and carpool drivers, especially John Finch. New friends, old friends - even the rain couldn't dampen our spirits!

February 26th Program Review - "Mexican-American War" by Ceasar Castro

The 26 February program presentation was "California and the Mexican War (1846-1850) from a Genealogical Point of View" by CVGS member Ceasar Castro.

Ceasar noted that historians want to highlight leaders and events, but genealogists want to find information about individuals - not only the leaders, but the soldiers and residents also.

In this talk, Ceasar provided a detailed history timeline of the events that led up to the Mexican-American War (1846-1848), not only in California but also in the United States and in Mexico.

California was explored in the 16th century by Cortez, Cabrillo and others, but it wasn't until 1697 when Spain granted permission to the Jesuits to settle Baja California in Loreto, and built a series of missions. Alta California was not settled until Jose de Galvez and Father Junipero Serra arrived in and built a mission in San Diego in 1769. More missions and presidios were built up and down the coast until the 1820s, when Mexico declared independence from Spain. The Spanish and Mexican governments conferred large land grants, called ranchos, on retired soldiers and their friends after independence.

The first U.S. citizen to settle in California was Thomas Larkin in Monterey in 1832 as a consul. Others followed in small groups, especially in northern California around the San Francisco Bay and along the California Trail through Sacramento and the Sierra Nevada.

John Fremont was tasked by the U.S. government to come overland in June 1845 to survey western North America, and he arrived at Sutter's Fort in the Valley and in Monterey and met Larkin. The U.S. Navy sailed along the coast and occasionally had conflicts in the ports. The catalyst for the Mexican-American War was probably statehood granted Texas in 1845, and increasing conflicts with Mexico. War was declared by Congress and President Polk in May 1846. Orders were given to capture California and small battles occurred in Los Angeles, Monterey, Sonoma, Vallejo and other settlements between U.S. settlers, soldiers and sailors and the Mexican soldiers and settlers.

U.S. soldiers under General Stephen Kearny, the 500-strong Mormon Battalion, and a group of New York Volunteers, headed to California overland and by ship around the Horn. Sonoma, Monterey and Yerba Buena (San Francisco) were captured by U.S. forces already in California, and Los Angeles was contested for months. The Bear Flag Republic was declared in Sonoma in June 1846. Los Angeles was recaptured by the Mexicans and Californios in September 1846.

Kearny's troops arrived in early December 1846 in eastern San Diego county, and found the Mexican and Californio defenders who had been alerted by residents on a nearby rancho. The Battle of San Pasqual ensued and Ceasar described it in significant detail. Both sides eventually claimed victory, but the U.S. side had more casualties.

Throughout the discussion, Ceasar presented lists of the known U.S. participants in the different movements and skirmishes. His handout provided a bibliography of historical books that discussed the military, political and social history of California in the 1840s. Ceasar will finish the history and have more information about California as it approached statehood in 1850 in a subsequent presentation in September.



Lemon Grove Research Group News – by Susi Pentico

The **Lemon Grove Research Group** now meets once a month at the **Lemon Grove Branch Library** (location is 3001 School Lane in Lemon Grove) from 6 p.m. to 7:50 p.m. The first Wednesday meetings have been canceled until further notice due to a meeting room conflict at the library. Contact Susi Pentico (619-690-1188, SusiCP@cox.net) for more details. All are invited to attend. Beginners are welcome! Upcoming programs include:

- Wednesday, March 19, 6 to 8 p.m.: Program: Roundtable and “Kentucky Research”
- Wednesday, April 16, 6 to 8 p.m. Program TBD.

More Research Tips for Beginning Genealogists, by Randy Seaver

5) A Genealogy Management Program is software for your computer that will help you organize all of your collected information – the names, dates, places, relationships, events, sources, document images, etc.

The most popular software programs for Windows computers are Family Tree Maker 2014 (www.FamilyTreeMaker.com), RootsMagic 6 (www.RootsMagic.com), and Legacy Family Tree 8 (www.LegacyFamilyTree.com). The latter two have free versions that can be tried out by downloading from their websites. For Mac computers, Family Tree Maker 2 for Mac (www.FamilyTreeMaker.com) and Reunion (www.leisterpro.com) are popular.

6) An online Family Tree website may also be used to organize all of your collected information.

An Ancestry.com Member Tree is free to create and add content to, but you will need a subscription to access records for your ancestor using their green leaf Hint system. You can invite family or friends to help you work on your Ancestry Member Tree. If you have the latest version of Family Tree Maker, you can synchronize your Ancestry Member Tree with your Family Tree Maker file.

MyHeritage has a free Family Tree system (up to 250 persons, subscription needed for more than 250 persons) and provides Record Matches for the persons in your tree to record collections if you have a MyHeritage Data subscription. They also provide FREE Family Tree Builder software to synchronize your desktop computer tree to the online tree.

The FamilySearch Family Tree is a FREE universal tree (one tree, that all registered users can contribute to – adding persons, names, dates, places, relationships, sources, stories, photos, and life sketches to the tree. Some software programs, like RootsMagic and Legacy Family Tree, can synchronize with the FamilySearch Family Tree to add content to either the software database or the online tree.

[Watch RootsTech 2014 Recorded Session Videos at](https://rootstech.org/about/videos/)

<https://rootstech.org/about/videos/>

[RootsTech 2014 Syllabus is Available for Download at](https://rootstech.org/about/syllabus-materials/)

<https://rootstech.org/about/syllabus-materials/>

Welcome New Members

Tim Williams

Current Membership (as of 3/5): 78

Karyn's Caring Corner

Cards were sent to:

Barbara Ibaibarraiga

Meeting Host Volunteers

March 26: Dorothy Alvord
 April 30: Bethel Williams
 Contact Jo Ann Bonner to sign up!

Telephone Tree Volunteers

Page 1 – Dorothy Alvord – 619-469-3483
 Page 2 – Jacquie Goodman – 619-482-0350
 Page 3 – Pam Buchan – pbuchan@cox.net
 Page 4 – Diane Godinez – 619-429-8880

CVGS Society Officers

President:	Virginia Taylor
First Vice-President, Programs	Ralph Munoz
Second Vice-President, Membership	Barbara Ibaibarraiga
Treasurer	Sam Seat
Secretary	Karen Yarger

Committee Chairs

Computer Group	Shirley Becker
Education	Susi Pentico
Historian	Susan Zimmer
Hospitality	Jo Ann Bonner
Librarian	Wanda Brock
Newsletter Editor	Randy Seaver
Research Group/Queries	Randy Seaver
Seminars	Susi Pentico
Ways and Means	Bethel Williams
Webmaster	Gary Brock

San Diego Genealogy Events

Saturday, March 8th, 10 a.m. To 12:30 p.m.
SAN DIEGO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Speaker: Denise Levenick on
“Organize Your Family Archive: Caring for
Keepsakes” and
“Digitize Your Family History: The Paperless
Genealogist”

at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
8350 Lake Murray Blvd., San Diego
Info: Paul Hawthorne (paulhawthorne@gmail.com)

Tuesday, March 11th, 10 a.m.
NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY GEN. SOCIETY
COGG Speaker: Anne Miller, PhD
“Evaluating Your Genealogical Evidence”
contact: Pam Boyle (boylepam@gmail.com)

Saturday, March 15th, 9 a.m.
COMPUTER GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF
SAN DIEGO

Speaker: Alice Colby Volkert on
“Yours, Mine, and Ours”
contact J. Paul Hawthorne
(jpaulhawthorne@gmail.com)
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Tuesday, March 25th, 10 a.m.
NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY GEN. SOCIETY
Speaker: Dawn Thurston
“Honoring the Legacy of the Greatest
Generation: Learn How to Research
and Record Their Stories”
contact: Pam Boyle (boylepam@gmail.com)

2014 Regional and National Events

June 6-8, 2014
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY GENEALOGY JAMBOREE
Airport Marriott Hotel, Burbank, Calif.
(<http://www.genealogyjamboree.org>)

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

GENEALOGY DAYS IN CHULA VISTA

- Saturday, Mar. 8, 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. – CVGS Workshop: Susi Pentico on “Kentucky and Carolina Research”
- Wednesday, Mar. 5, 12 noon – CVGS Board Meeting, at CVCCB Library Auditorium
- Wednesday, Mar. 12, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting - NO MEETING!
- Wednesday, Mar. 19, 12 noon – Computer Group Meeting, at CVCCB Library Computer Lab
- Wednesday, Mar. 26, 12 noon – Program Meeting: Carol Baird on “Postcard Collections and Genealogy” at CVCCB Library Auditorium
- Wednesday, Apr. 2, 12 noon – CVGS Board Meeting, at CVCCB Library Auditorium
- Saturday, Apr. 5, 12:30 p.m. – CVGS Workshop: Shirley Becker and Randy Seaver on “New York Research”
- Wednesday, Apr. 9, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting, at CVCCB Library Auditorium
- Wednesday, Apr. 16, 12 noon – Computer Group Meeting, at CVCCB Library Computer Lab
- Wednesday, Apr. 23, 10 a.m. – Research Trip to San Diego Public Library
- Wednesday, Apr. 30, 12 noon – Program Meeting: Paul Erickson on “The Orphan Trains” at CVCCB Library Auditorium

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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 Ralph Munoz (munoz1951@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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