



San Joaquin Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 690243, Stockton, CA 95269-0243

www.rootsweb.ancestry.com~sjgs/index.htm

Volume 34 Number 9

November 2013

Executive Board Members

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Sheri Fenley

Vice President/
Newsletter
Jacqi Stevens

Secretary
Sylvia Perez

Treasurer, Membership
and Webmaster
Barry Wood

Librarian
Virginia Kranz

Historian
Jim McWilliams

Books/Projects
Betty Mathis

Surname List
Melinda Lambaren

Research
Charlie Lambaren

Publicity
Susan Saunders-King

MEETINGS

General Meeting:
November 21
5:45 p.m.
Troke Library
502 W. Benjamin Holt
Stockton

Next Board Meeting:
January 6
6:30 p.m.
at the home of
Virginia Kranz

Thursday, November 21, 2013

5:45 p.m.

Margaret Troke Library
502 W. Benjamin Holt Drive, Stockton

Using Maps In Genealogy Research

Historical maps are fascinating to use in learning about places that existed in the past. They can be used to find the exact place your ancestors lived and to learn about the neighborhood or surrounding areas. Using historical maps with other sources such as vital records, censuses, city directories, tax lists, and land records can help you see your family's history from a different perspective.

In our November meeting, we look forward to hearing historical researcher and lecturer Teresa Costa Fraser provide an overview of historical maps that can be used in genealogy research and discuss how to find them in libraries, archives and on the Internet. She will share examples of how she found historical maps of places her ancestors lived in the Azores, Virginia, Illinois, Mississippi and California.



Our speaker owns and operates Retracing the Past, a genealogical research services firm based in the San Francisco Bay Area, and publishes [a blog by the same name](#). She and her husband, Barry, currently reside in Dublin.

As always, it's a good idea to come early to the meeting—not only to secure a good parking space, but to greet fellow Society members. We look forward to seeing you at this last meeting of 2013!

Elections to be Held at November Meeting

At the November general meeting, the Nominating Committee will report on their slate of candidates for the upcoming term of office. At the close of the committee's report, any further nominations from the floor will be accepted, after which point elections will be held.

The Nominating Committee has submitted the following slate of candidates:

President:

Sheri Fenley

Vice President for Programs:

Jacqi Stevens

Recording/Corresponding Secretary:

Sylvia Perez

Treasurer:

Jim McWilliams

Librarian:

Virginia Kranz

Installation of officers will follow at the January meeting at 6 p.m. on the 16th at UJ's Family Restaurant, 7628 Pacific Avenue. Watch for further details in your email.

October Beginner's Workshop With Sally Spenker Was a Success

The beginner's genealogical workshop on October 26 featured an engaging PowerPoint presentation by Sally Spenker on "Women: Immigration and Naturalization Process in the U.S." As a talented, retired high school history teacher, Sally challenged us with thought provoking facts, questions and period illustrations of immigrants, demonstrating how women immigrants were dealt with

in earlier times. We learned about how and where to find records of our female immigrant ancestors.

The workshop had an ideal balance, with eight attendees and eight volunteers from the Society to provide individual research assistance after the presentation. Most attendees were beginners who appreciated the individual help in navigating Ancestry.com, FamilySearch.org and other Internet resources.

Many thanks to Sally for her presentation and to our other volunteers, Susan Saunders-King, Sylvia Perez, Joan Bailey, Jim McWilliams, Melinda and Charlie Lambaren, who were wonderful in helping the attendees.

The Stockton-San Joaquin County Public Library staff appreciates our genealogical education community services, not only the workshops, but also the personal research assistance our volunteers provide at Chavez Library every Tuesday. Please consider helping us on either committee. We always need more help and ideas from our members!

One of the best ways to learn how to do your own genealogical research is to help teach others. Our volunteers work mostly with beginners, so you do not have to be an expert. We will teach you the fundamentals of how to help beginners in their research. Join us and contribute to a worthwhile service to our community! I guarantee you will also have a great time. Let any of the Board members know of your interest.

Register *NOW* for our
February Seminar
It's Free!

<https://sjgsseminar.eventbrite.com/>

From Our President

Happy November!

Can you believe that there are only two more months left of 2013? It seems the older I get, the faster time goes by.

There are three dates in November that I want you all to mark on your calendars and plan on attending.

1. **Wednesday, November 13**, 7:00 p.m. at home of Sheri Fenley, 1215 West Acacia: Planning meeting for the genealogy seminar in February 2014. Sixty people have registered so far. The venue holds 180 people and I expect that we will fill every seat as soon as the Holidays are over. We will need you—the membership—to help out to make this event a success. There is a job for everyone—for instance, working the check-in table or wearing a button that says "Ask Me!" and assisting people with directions and questions they may have. No experience is necessary.

2. **Saturday, November 16**, 11:00 a.m. at Troke Library: our November Beginners' Workshop. Details are inside the newsletter.

3. **Thursday, November 21**, 5:45 p.m. at Troke Library: Annual Business Meeting and Program. We will be electing officers for the 2014-2015 term. The program is "Using Maps in Genealogy Research" by Teresa Costa Fraser from the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society.

I hope to see all your smiling faces at one or more of these SJGS events!

Sheri Fenley
President
San Joaquin Genealogical Society
(209) 373-6847
sherifenley@gmail.com

Be Sure to Keep in Touch

Have you moved or changed your phone number or email address? Be sure to keep us up to date with your contact information so you can still receive all the benefits of Society membership in a timely manner.

Please send any contact changes to us by email to sjgensoc@gmail.com, or write the information and send it to the Society at P.O. Box 690243, Stockton, California, 95269-0243. We appreciate your helping us stay in touch!

Interested in Carpooling to Nearby Seminars?

If you spot an announcement for an out-of-town genealogy workshop you are interested in attending but are reluctant to drive to by yourself, send us the workshop information in an email to sjgensoc@gmail.com.

We'll be glad to help you connect with other SJGS members who are interested in carpooling to nearby workshops or seminars.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

November

Saturday, November 16: Beginners' Genealogy workshop at Margaret Troke Library from 11:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. **Sylvia Perez** will speak on "Researching Your Mexican Heritage."

Thursday, November 21: General membership meeting and annual election of officers at the Margaret Troke Library from 5:45 p.m. until 7:45 p.m.

December

No board meeting or general membership meeting scheduled. Happy holidays!

January

Monday, January 6: SJGS Board meeting at 6:30 p.m. All members welcome.

Thursday, January 16: Annual Dinner Meeting and Installation of Officers at UJ's Restaurant, 7628 Pacific Ave, Stockton. Watch your email for further details!

February

Monday, February 3: SJGS Board meeting at 6:30 p.m. All members welcome.

Saturday, February 8: Beginners' Genealogy workshop at Margaret Troke Library from 11:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 22: All-Day Seminar co-sponsored with the California State Genealogical Alliance and The Jacoby Center for Public Service and Civic Leadership at University of the Pacific. Register **soon** at <https://sigssseminar.eventbrite.com/> to reserve your seat.

Did You Know?

Since so many of our members who volunteer for our various programs have commitments with family members and friends over the holiday season, we take this opportunity to set aside our Society endeavors until the beginning of the New Year.

This includes our Board meetings, which will resume on January 6, 2014, as well as our regular monthly meetings. In addition, our Library Volunteer Committee takes a well-deserved break from their weekly commitment to assist Chavez library patrons every Tuesday. Best wishes to all for a pleasant holiday season!

Newsletter Copy Deadline

The San Joaquin Genealogical Society newsletter is published nine times a year: monthly from January through June and September through November.

Upcoming copy deadline is **December 26, 2013**. Guest submissions pertaining to topics of *specific interest* to the San Joaquin Genealogical Society are welcome. Please submit articles in either Microsoft Word or plain text format to the attention of the SJGS Newsletter Editor via email at sjcgensoc@gmail.com.

Committee Reports

Your Society's committee chairmen have focused on a number of year-end projects with the goal of fulfilling our organizational mandates:

- Promote interest in genealogy
- Preserve genealogically important records
- Teach and promote accuracy in research
- Provide community services related to genealogy

Here are latest committee reports:

Publicity:

Newly appointed Publicity Committee chairperson **Susan Saunders-King** has been working with 2013 Publicity Chairman, **Jim McWilliams**, in preparation for assuming his duties for the upcoming calendar year. We are grateful for her willingness to step up and offer her services and fresh ideas. Susan is currently working on redesign of our membership brochure.

Workshops:

The October Genealogy Workshop "Women: Immigration and Naturalization Process in the U.S." was presented by Society member **Sally Spenker** at Troke Library on October 26. Our last workshop for 2013 will be on Saturday, November 16, featuring **Sylvia Perez**. Sylvia will speak on "How to Research Your Mexican Ancestry" and will share her observations on her recent research regarding her Mexican ancestors and how she located distant cousins living here in California and gained the opportunity to collaborate with them in family history research.

Though the November Workshop pres-

entation will focus on how to research Mexican ancestry, we still need several volunteers to assist us with one-on-one counter are of a general nature in how to start research.

~Lori Calhoon

Library Volunteer Committee:

The Library Volunteer Committee will complete their service for 2013 at the Chavez Library downtown with their session on Tuesday, November 12 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. After that, we will take a holiday break and resume our schedule after New Year.

~Virginia Kranz

Book Purchasing Committee:

While acquisitions for the upcoming year will still be discussed at our January 2014 book purchasing meeting, the Society Librarian and Library Volunteer Committee members are still busily engaged with reception and cataloging of a large and generous donation of genealogical books to our collection from Betty Baker, for which we are extremely grateful!

~Virginia Kranz

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning balance 1/1/13	\$4906.16
Income year to date	2675.54
Expenses year to date	<u>2714.60</u>
Balance remaining 11/4/13	\$4867.10

Help Spread the Word!

Please share the enclosed flier for our November workshop with your friends, family and others interested in beginning their family history research. So many people are now interested in starting genealogy research. This is a great way to share the news about an informative workshop and the volunteer services our Society provides to the community.

Teen & Adult Program



Free Genealogy Workshop for Beginners

**Saturday, November 16, 2013
11 a.m.—1:30 p.m.**

HOW TO RESEARCH YOUR MEXICAN ANCESTRY

SJ Genealogical Society member Sylvia Perez will discuss researching your Mexican genealogy. She'll include her own experiences researching local records in locations where her ancestors lived and finding distant relatives still living in the area.

**After the presentation, volunteers will be available
for individual help in online research.**

Bring whatever data you already have: birth, marriage,
death dates of ancestors, where they lived, etc.

**Space is limited. Pre-registration is required.
Sign up at the Troke Branch Library's Information Desk or by
calling 937-8221. Participants may bring their own laptops.**

Troke Branch Library

502 W. Benjamin Holt Dr., Stockton
(209) 937-8221 or (866) 805-7323 (READ)



STOCKTON
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
**PUBLIC
LIBRARY**
www.ssjcpl.org

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This free program is provided
through the generosity of the
San Joaquin Genealogical
Society and Friends of the
Stockton Public Library

California State Genealogical Alliance To Co-Sponsor Free Seminar With Society

The San Joaquin Genealogical Society is pleased to announce that the **California State Genealogical Alliance** has asked your Society to co-sponsor their upcoming genealogical seminar, along with **The Jacoby Center for Public Service and Civic Leadership** on **February 22, 2014**. We will be hosting a line-up of four dynamic speakers sure to fill the auditorium at University of the Pacific—so don't wait to [sign up](#) and reserve your seat today!

“Family Stories: Genealogy Beyond Just the Dates” *Linda Serna*

Tell your family stories! Linda Serna shows how your documents and pictures can be supplemented with other information to round out the full story. Linda uses three examples to illustrate how you can do this: an ordinary family, a family who intersects with history, and an unusual life. As part of the research team for PBS's "Genealogy Roadshow" and Vice President of Programs for the [Orange County Genealogical Society](#), professional genealogist Linda Serna shares from her thirty years of researching and writing family stories.



“Researching Your Mexican Ancestors” *Letty Rodella*



Currently, over thirty percent of Californians claim Mexican heritage. While many of those ancestors left traces of their lives in documents located in the United States, eventually this genealogical quest leads to research in Mexico. Letty Rodella has spent thirteen years pursuing her Hispanic ancestry to findings dating from the 1500s. As President of the [Society of Hispanic Historical and Ancestral Research](#), she works to educate others in how to research their Hispanic roots.

“Fun Tools to Help Genealogists Work Smarter” *Tim Cox*

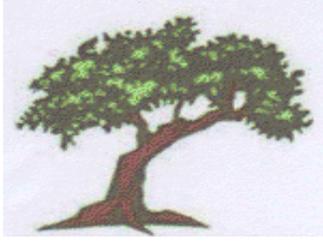
Maximize your use of available technology to organize your genealogy research with this informative and entertaining session by Tim Cox. Tim serves as Education and Events Coordinator for the [California Genealogical Society and Library](#) and has been a family historian and genealogist for more than twenty five years. An APG member living in San Francisco, Tim speaks frequently on technology and organization.



“Reconstructing Family Information When You Start With Almost Nothing: A Case Study” *Janice Sellers*



Who hasn't faced a dilemma like this? Professional genealogist Janice Sellers draws from her thirteen years on staff at Oakland FamilySearch Library and her focus on assisting genealogists with challenges of ethnic research to present this case study. With twenty years background in the publishing industry, Janice also serves as editor of *The Galitzianer*, a quarterly newsletter focused on Jewish research; *The Baobab Tree*, journal of the African American Genealogical Society of Northern California, and *ZichronNote*, journal of the San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society, as well as her own blog, [Ancestral Discoveries](#).



San Joaquin Genealogical Society

Dues are for the year – January to December 2014
\$10 per member – or – \$15 per family

We appreciate your support through early renewal of membership dues.

Circle Appropriate: Renewal New Member // Individual Family

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____

City and State _____ Zip code _____

Email Address _____

May we send your newsletters and announcements by email? Yes _____ No _____

I will help with the following (check all that apply):

_____ Research (Do research for those who request our Society's services)

_____ Projects (We always need transcribers and typists)

_____ Program Committee (Help set up programs and speakers for meetings)

_____ Volunteer work in the Genealogy Collection at the Chavez Central Library

Please mail dues to Barry Wood, 1910 S. Church St., Lodi, CA 95240

Make checks payable to San Joaquin Genealogical Society

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Stockton, CA 95269-0243