



CHULA VISTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



P.O. Box 3024

Chula Vista CA 91909-3024

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

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

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

Volume 23, Issue 12 *Providing Genealogy Activities in South San Diego County* December 2013

WEDNESDAY, December 11th HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

At Chula Vista South Branch Library Conference Room (389 Orange Avenue)

The annual Holiday Luncheon will have turkey, ham, and drinks provided by CVGS. The pot luck breakdown for the rest of the meal will be coordinated by JoAnn Bonner (phone 619-421-3628, email jabonner13@gmail.com) and Dorothy Alvord (phone 619-469-3483, email dja1224@cox.net)— please contact them by 12/9 to coordinate potluck dishes. The potluck schedule is:



- A to F Surnames: Snack trays, Condiments, Olives, Pickles, Cranberry Sauce, etc.
- G to K Surnames: Potatoes (Irish or Sweet), Veggies, Casseroles
- L to P Surnames: Desserts
- Q to Z Surnames: Salads, Rolls, Butter

There will be a free door prize drawing, and a gift exchange (\$10 limit). Attendees are requested to bring canned food and/or unwrapped toys for donation to the Salvation Army.

2014 Membership Renewal is \$30 for the Year

Please See Membership Chair Barbara Ibaibarriaga to Renew
or Mail to CVGS, P.O. Box 3024, Chula Vista CA 91909-3024

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President's Message – by Virginia Taylor



We are fast approaching the end of another year. It is time to assess what we accomplished in 2013 and look ahead to what our goals are for 2014.

As genealogists we have our own version of New Year's Resolutions. It is "What do I want to accomplish next year?" Maybe you plan to work diligently to find that one elusive ancestor, the one who really doesn't seem to want to be found. Maybe you want to take your family tree back one more generation. How about getting your files organized? Are you ready to leave the paper world and put everything in the cloud?

I know one of the first things I need to do is to get my computer room organized. Right now I have papers and books lying around everywhere. It is an adventure when I need to find that 'very important paper.' That is my plan for January after I get all of my Christmas decorations put away for another year.

Maybe putting it in writing will give me the incentive to really do it.

Now is also the time to make plans to attend our Spring Seminar on March 29. Jean and Butch Hibben will be our speakers. More about their topics will be coming out in the next few weeks. We have been given a very nice basket filled with beautiful kitchen items. There is a mixing bowl, a platter with a sugar cookie recipe on it, cake decorating set, measuring cups and much more. It is going to be a special raffle at the seminar. We will start selling tickets at all of our activities from now until the seminar. We encourage all of you to take a book of tickets and sell them to your friends and family. They will be \$1.00 for one ticket or \$5.00 for six tickets. You will not have to be present to win but I encourage you to attend and support your genealogical society.

I hope to see all of you at our Christmas Luncheon next week. That will be our last activity for this year.

2014 CVGS Membership Renewals are \$30

It's time to renew your CVGS membership for 2014. Please give a \$30 check or cash to Membership Chair Barbara Ibaibarriaga, or to Treasurer Sam Seat, at the regular meetings. Or mail a check to CVGS, PO Box 3024, Chula Vista CA 91909-3024. Note that there is no \$5 discount for early renewals this year. Members who don't renew will have their services ended on 1 February 2014. CVGS depends on your membership dues to bring you programs, seminars, workshops, and more every year!

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>

CVGS Board and Program Meeting Minutes

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

November 27th Program Review - "Heirloom Discovery Day"

The 8th annual "Heirloom Discovery Day" of the Chula Vista Genealogical Society was Wednesday, 27 November 2013. Once again, Georgie Stillman, ASA, provided historical background, discussed the manufacturing process, and the approximate value of family heirlooms brought in for appraisal by 12 CVGS members and guests.

Georgie noted that she continues to do appraisal work for victims of the 2007 San Diego wildfires, and has worked quite a bit on the 2012 Sandy hurricane claims in the New York City area. She reminded us that the value of artifacts and heirlooms depends on what the market, in terms of collectors at auctions, will pay for them, and that perceived "status" items sought by wealthy persons have the highest value. Background knowledge for the heirlooms - the family story - is important in establishing a value.



The heirlooms brought and evaluated included:

- * Carole S. had a beautiful long, thin, cloth sash, made in about 1870 and worn by her grandfather in parades and lodge events.
- * Diane V. brought a "business speller" book from England from about 1930. Georgie explained that it was intended to help standardize spelling in business circles.
- * Ralph and Debbie M. displayed a two-foot tall statue that Debbie's uncle, who was a well-known artist, handed down to Debbie's father. Georgie said that it was cast with a metal alloy, and was of a Victorian, romantic and sentimental genre.
- * Virginia T. showed an orange art glass bowl, which was her mother's catch-all. Georgie indicated that it was 1930s carnival glass designed for the middle class.
- * Gerry M. brought a small scale with weights that had been her grandmother's and was used in their store from 1875 to the 1920s.
- * Fran C. brought a large yellow bowl that the wedding cakes of her grandmother and mother had been mixed in. Georgie said this hand-turned and glazed terra cotta "yellow ware" was a luxury item, probably made in the 1860s in Pennsylvania or Ohio.
- * Joanna's guest had a World War II dagger handed down in her husband's family. Georgie noted that it is now illegal to own and sell items with ivory made before 1971, but the handle was plastic not ivory. She doesn't evaluate edge weapons - some other appraisers do.
- * Joanna W. had several items - a pencil holder from 1930s Germany, a small Depression era glass piece, and a small porcelain sailing ship salt and pepper set from Japan.
- * Barbara I. brought a low-fired porcelain painted vase that her grandmother gave to her mother. Georgie said it was made in England, but looks Japanese, and was made to appeal to Americans.
- * Susan Z. brought a 2' x 5' carpet runner from the late 19th century from her friend's parents. Georgie said it was machine made, but not valuable, and that museums and historic houses would love to have every day items like this.
- * Susi P. received her mother's box of items after her death - including grandfather's ephemera (notes, cards, letters); a 19th century photo album; a single English late 19th century decorated plate.
- * Jim H. showed a sterling silver shell-shaped serving dish from the Benbough House in San Diego. Georgie said it was a Gorham plate from the 1920s, weighed about 20 ounces, and was not a collectors item, but was worth the price of silver. Jim also displayed a heavy glass bowl obtained from a relative married to a countess. Georgie said it was a beautiful hand-made American cut clear glass from the 19th century, but was not sought now by collectors.

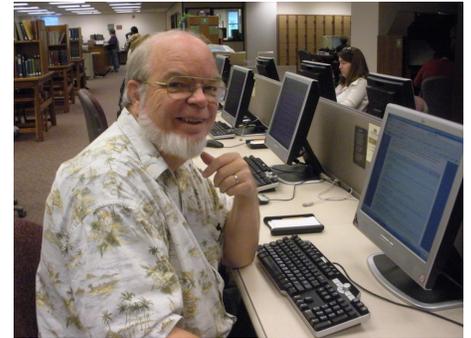
As always, Georgie dazzled the audience of 35 with her knowledge, stories, appraisals and her sense of humor.

CVGS Research Group Review – by Randy Seaver

There were 15 attendees at the CVGS Research Group meeting on Wednesday, 13 November 2013.

In the first hour, Randy described a recent research problem and used it as a challenge for attendees to suggest research tips and techniques.

His friend, John, asked Randy to find a death date for his grandfather, John Louis Burr Powell of Oklahoma, who may have died after 1941, perhaps having been attacked by another person. Randy found a 1930 US census record for Louis Powell with his wife and three children (including friend John's mother), and a 1920 U.S. census record with Louis Powell and his mother and siblings, and a death date in a possible Find A Grave record. The group suggested requesting a death record, looking for an obituary or a cemetery record, etc. Randy described the help he got from his blog readers, including newspaper articles of the attack and an obituary that mentioned the wife and children of Louis Powell.



His second challenge was to figure out how to find the maiden name and ancestry of Louis Powell's wife, named Ethel (born in about 1899 in Indiana). John mentioned that his grandmother had married again and lived in Illinois. The group suggested requesting a marriage record or a death record. Randy used the 1920 U.S. census in Creek County, Oklahoma to identify all of the Ethels born in about 1899 in Indiana. He found three candidates. A blog reader helped Randy find Oklahoma marriages online in a state database, which gave her name as Ethel Hall, who was the most likely candidate from the census record.

The third challenge was to identify John's other grandmother, identified only as R.A. Collins (born 1899 in Illinois) in the 1920 U.S. census in Jasper County, Illinois, with one child born in 1918. Apparently she died before 1930 because John's grandfather was married to a Mamie then. They were too young to be married in 1910. The group suggested searching the 1910 census records for the county with an R female name, using given names like Ruth, Rachel, Rose, Rebecca, Ruby, Rita, Rhonda. Randy solved this problem by looking in Find A Grave for persons named Collins who died in the county between 1920 and 1930.

There was a Ruby A. Collins who died in 1922, and there was an Illinois Death Index entry on FamilySearch for her that provided her parents names, her spouse's name, her birth date and her death date.

In the second hour, attendees discussed their research challenges and successes, including:

- * Diane G. manages a 23andMe DNA account for a young friend and found that the friend's husband's uncle was related to her, and that another friend was also a 4th cousin to her husband. This was suspected before, but the family had not told them.
- * Diane D.'s cousin went to Sicily on vacation and found church records and took gravestone photographs for the great-grandparents on both sides of the family.
- * Bobbie's niece went to Bavaria on vacation and met a cousin, found records and a house address, then went to the neighborhood and interviewed neighbors. Three of the neighbors had Boehner ancestry in photo albums. The niece took pictures of the area, but the house in the records was no longer there.
- * Bethel found a naturalization record for an ancestor that said he was renouncing his allegiance to the Emperor of Germany. She also wrote to the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis to obtain her grandfather's World War I military records.

(continued on page 6)

Genealogy Field Trips, by John Finch

John Finch has arranged another research trip on **Wednesday, 22 January 2014 to the Family Search Library in Mission Valley.**

We will meet, 9:30 a.m. at the downtown Chula Vista parking structure, 2nd level, off F street/3rd Ave. near Marie Callender's. for car pooling. Please contact John Finch at jan27@cox.net for further information and to confirm your attendance.

Library Assistance Every Wednesday

CVGS member **John Finch** is providing genealogical research assistance and advice in the Family Research section of the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library (on the south side of the library, past the Library Help desk and the CD/DVD section, near the collection of genealogy books and periodicals).

John will be there on **Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 12 noon** to help members and guests. Wi-fi Internet is **usually** available in this area, so bring your laptops or mobile devices.

Next Computer Group Meeting on Wednesday, 20 November 2013

The Computer Group has expanded in order to accommodate two more hours of instruction and usage. At 10:30 a.m., there is a one-hour class in the Library Computer Lab on "Basic Windows Computer Usage" with Gary Brock. Bring your laptops in order to practice.

After a break for lunch (bring your own, or go out), the group will reconvene at about 12:30 p.m. in the Library Computer Lab for Internet work, led by Shirley Becker. This meeting features hands-on use of the library's Windows 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) or Gary (gary@brocksystems.net).

Scholarship Fund Basket, by Shirley Becker

The Chula Vista Genealogical Society will be raffling a basket of kitchen ceramics for our Scholarship Fund. The basket holds ceramic goodies such as measuring cups, a mixing bowl, and a platter with a sugar cookie recipe on it.

We will start selling tickets at the Christmas luncheon and continue through 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 luncheon and we hope each member will attempt to sell 10 tickets.



“Education Chair Notes” by Susi Pentico

Greetings all: as the Education Chairperson of this society, some things need to be said for the benefit of our society and for it to continue to grow. Our economy has obviously affected our budget and we are more cautious, hurray for that. Having given talks two to three times a month for our members to garner information and learn more about how and what and where to research, a question was recently asked: “Where are the attendees?” These events are put on to help you with your research. The topics used are the various ones asked for by the members on the questionnaire that we send out to help plan the year's events.

Throughout the year at the General Meetings, I ask "What would you like more Information about?" This is for your benefit. It saves you from hiring some one, having to travel away from home ground to learn and less traffic to contend with. The new year is starting - my hopes are that we can increase our attendance at these events so we are a more caring and sharing society.

My hopes are to do some Research Topics per Region of the US, and Per Region of Europe and maybe other areas of the world. The Board approved having paid speakers once in a while for the Saturday Workshops, but I need to know what the needs are of the members. Please share with me where you're researching? The time period you're researching? What do you think will help you the most?

Thank You. Susi Pentico at SusiCP@cox.net or 623-5250

CVGS Research Group Review (concluded from page 4)

- * Karen Y. went on the CVGS research trip to Carlsbad last weekend, and found entries in Baltimore City Directories for 1857 to 1923 on Fold3.com (free at the library). She made a table for names, occupations and addresses to sort out different families.
- * Karen S. also went to Carlsbad, noted that they had two paid staff just for the genealogy floor, and used the library guides for how to research using their resources. She asked the group how she could find other resources. The attendees suggested the FamilySearch Wiki for country, state and county resources, Cyndi's List for research topics, and the USGenWeb for user-contributed information for states and counties.
- * Virginia searched for her grandfather's name and found a family Bible page in an Ancestry.com submitted by cousins. The Bible had more family information about her grandfather's siblings.
- * Joanna also went to Carlsbad and found a record for her ancestor John Ward in a census record as a child residing in an orphanage. She asked how she should research that person to find his parents. The group suggested birth, marriage and death records, a newspaper obituary, or perhaps a probate record that names a guardian.

There will be no Research Group meeting in December - the annual Holiday Luncheon will be held at the Chula Vista South Branch Library on Wednesday, 11 December starting at 11 a.m. The next Research Group meeting will be Wednesday, 15 January 2014 in the Conference Room at the Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library.

Nametags

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

Spring Seminar is on March 29th 2014 – Save the Date!

The CVGS Spring Seminar will be on Saturday, 29 March 2014 at the Chula Vista Golf Course, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be a served luncheon at this event. The fee for CVGS members will be \$40, and \$45 for non-members. **The theme for the seminar is “Recipes for Genealogy”** and the speakers will be Jean Wilcox Hibben, PhD, MA, CG, with Butch Hibben They will share one talk, and Butch will be working the “Legacy Stories” program with attendees. Jean will give three more talks. The topics to be presented are:

1. **This is not Your Grandma's Genealogy**
2. **Elizabeth**
3. **Lesson's learned from Genealogy Roadshow**
4. **Up Close and Personal**

Watch the CVGS Newsletter, Web Page and Blogs for more information.

January 4th Workshop at Bonita-Sunnyside Library

The January 4th CVGS Workshop at Bonita-Sunnyside Library (375 Bonita Road) is from 12 noon to 3 p.m. in the Community Room. Susi Pentico will present “Review Your Files, The New Year Begins.”

Lemon Grove Research Group News – by Susi Pentico

The **Lemon Grove Research Group** meets twice a month at the **Lemon Grove Branch Library** (note NEW location at 3001 School Lane in Lemon Grove) from 6 p.m. to 7:50 p.m. Contact Susi Pentico (619-690-1188, SusiCP@cox.net) for more details. All are invited to attend. Beginners are welcome! Upcoming programs include:

- Wednesday, December 18, 6 to 8 p.m.: **“Holiday Party: Sharing What You You Have Learned This Year”** led by Susi Pentico
- Wednesday, January 1: **There is no meeting this evening due to it being a holiday.**
- Wednesday, January 15, 6 to 8 p.m.: **“Our Past, Our Present, The Future”** discussion led by Susi Pentico. We will discuss, what we have done in the past, the success it brought, what we are doing currently, and the joy that it has brought. We will then discuss what we are going to do this next year and possibly beyond. We will be talking about goal making and it's usage in Genealogy. See <http://www.genealogywise.com/profiles/blogs/new-year-is-coming-are-your-goals-set> and http://ancestorseekersbytherootbound.blogspot.com/2013_12_01_archive.html

SDGS Family History Seminar Is Saturday, 11 January 2014

The **San Diego Genealogical Society** Family History Seminar is on Saturday, 11 January 2014 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Captain's Room at Marina Village, 1936 Quivira Way on Mission Bay in San Diego. Registration starts at 8 a.m. The featured speaker will be **Lisa Louise Cooke**, world famous Family History Author, Speaker and Media Producer. Her topics will be:

- * **Google Search Strategies for Common Surnames**
- * **Inspiring Ways to Capture the Interest of Non-Genealogists**
- * **Get Your Scoop on Your Ancestry With Newspapers**
- * **How to Save Your Research From Destruction and Ensure Its Future**

A Welcome coffee/tea/Danish, a Box Lunch, and Door Prizes are included in the \$40 (members) or \$45 (non-members) registration fee. There is an online registration system at <http://casdgs.org/files.php>.

Genealogy Class at Southwestern College

The Southwestern College Continuing Education catalog has this entry for the Spring 2014 quarter:

Class Title: *Genealogy: Find Your Roots* CS271-50

Instructor: Barbara Pescar

Dates and Time: Saturdays, 8-10 a.m., 25 January-8 March, (no class 2/15)

Place: Room 1683, campus

Fee: \$50.

Description: Beginning explorers! Come and join us on this exploration to your family pathways and learn to map your family history. Find valuable resources to archive generations of historical treasures while discovering information that can lead you on a journey of memories. Learn how to retrieve and store this information in order for future generations to continue your legacy.

Genealogy News for November

- **Legacy Family Tree Version 8.0** was released in late November – buy (\$29.95) and/or download it at <http://www.legacyfamilytree.com/DownloadLegacy.asp>. The FREE Standard Version can also be downloaded, but has some features crippled for users.
- **Ancestry.com** unveiled the [Fold3 Honor Wall](http://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2013/11/07/the-fold3-honor-wall/) to honor ancestors who were in the military - see the announcement at <http://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2013/11/07/the-fold3-honor-wall/>. It is free to create a memorial for your military ancestor.
- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued a warning letter to the popular **23andMe** genealogy testing company concerning that company's popular Personal Genome Service (PGS). The warning concerns the health information provided by 23andMe, but not the genealogy information. 23andMe has suspended the health analysis portion, but people can order it for the genetic/genealogy portion for \$99 for each test kit.
- The **National Genealogical Society (NGS)** 2014 Family History Conference will be held in Richmond, Virginia from May 7th to May 10th, 2014. The program is now available in a sixteen-page Registration Brochure at <http://goo.gl/KwHTix>. Conference registration opened on 1 December 2013 at <http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/event-registration/>. A number of special events have limited seating, so register on 1 December or as soon as possible thereafter if you plan to attend these events.
- [Ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) has a collection of data from Associated Press news articles. The collections include a name index to AP stories (1905-1990), a subject index to AP stories (1937-1985), and AP stories and news features (1937-1985) that were selected by news libraries as being "of national or international importance." The latter two collections are searchable by keyword.
- **Harvard University** is launching a Colonial North America project to digitize some of the 30 million pages of 17th- and 18th-century manuscripts in its libraries. They include journals, Harvard administrative records, student notebooks and more.
- Historical newspaper subscription site [GenealogyBank](http://www.genealogybank.com) has a new, free ebook download, "How to Search Obituaries to Find Ancestors and Trace Your Family Tree." [Click here to get your free copy.](#)
- What should genealogical societies offer to their members? Randy Seaver has 11 suggestions in <http://www.geneamusings.com/2013/11/what-should-genealogical-societies.html>.

Welcome New Members

Current Membership (as of 12/1): 100

Karyn's Caring Corner

Cards were sent to:

Meeting Host Volunteers

January 29: JoAnn Bonner and ????

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 Ibaibarriaga
Treasurer Sam Seat
Secretary Karen Yarger

Committee Chairs

Computer Group Shirley Becker
Education Susi Pentico
Historian Susan Zimmer
Hospitality Dorothy Alvord/Jo Ann Bonner
Librarian Wanda Brock
Newsletter Editor Randy Seaver
Research Group/Queries Randy Seaver
Seminars Susi Pentico
Webmaster Gary Brock

San Diego Genealogy Events

Saturday, January 11th, 9 a.m. To 3:30 p.m.

***SAN DIEGO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
FAMILY HISTORY SEMINAR***

Speaker: Lisa Louise Cooke

- “Google Search Strategies for Common Surnames”
- “Inspiring Ways to Capture the Interest of Non-Genealogists”
- “Get Your Scoop on Your Ancestry With Newspapers”
- “How to Save Your Research From Destruction and Ensure Its Future”

at Captain's Room, Marina Village
1936 Quivira Rd., San Diego
\$40 Members, \$45 Non-Members; Reservations
Required.

Info: Del Ritchhart (dritchh1@san.rr.com)

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2014 Regional and National Events

February 6-8, 2014

ROOTSTECH 2014 CONFERENCE
Salt Lake City, Utah (<http://www.rootstech.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

- **Wednesday, Dec. 4, 11 a.m. – CVGS Board Meeting**, at CVCCB Library Conference Room
- **Saturday, Dec. 7, 12 noon – CVGS Workshop: “Computer Help Workshop”** at Bonita-Sunnyside Library (4375 Bonita Road) – bring your laptop or tablet for one-on-one computer help
- **Wednesday, Dec. 11, 11 a.m. – CVGS Holiday Luncheon**, at Chula Vista South Branch Library (389 Orange Avenue) – see notice on page 1.
- **Saturday, Jan. 4, 12 noon to 3 p.m. – CVGS Workshop: Susi Pentico on “Our Past, Our Present, The Future”**
- **Wednesday, Jan. 8, 12 noon – CVGS Board Meeting**, at CVCCB Library Conference Room
- **Wednesday, Jan. 15, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Library Conference Room
- **Wednesday, Jan. 22, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. – Field Trip to FamilySearch Library** in Mission Valley (contact John Finch, jan27@cox.net)
- **Wednesday, Jan. 22, 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. – Computer Group Meeting**, at CVCCB Library Computer Lab
- **Wednesday, Jan. 29, 12 noon – Program Meeting: Susi Pentico on “Follow the Path”** 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>

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

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