



# San Joaquin County Genealogical Society

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

[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com~sjgs/index.htm](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com~sjgs/index.htm)

Volume 34 Number 3

March 2013

## Executive Board Members

President  
**Lori Calhoon**

Vice President  
**Sheri Fenley**

Librarian  
**Virginia Kranz**

Secretary  
**Sylvia Perez**

Treasurer, Membership  
and Webmaster  
**Barry Wood**

Historian/Pub  
**Jim McWilliams**

Books/Projects  
**Betty Mathis**

Surname List  
**Melinda Lambaren**

Research  
**Charlie Lambaren**

Newsletter  
**Jacqi Stevens**

## MEETINGS

Board Meeting: Monday,  
March 4, 7 p.m.,  
at the home of Virginia  
Kranz, 6 West Loretta,  
Stockton

General Meeting  
**Thursday, March 21**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
**Troke Library**  
502 W. Benjamin Holt  
Stockton

*Something New: Interactive Learning!*

*Thursday, March 21, 2013*

*6:00 p.m.*

*Margaret Troke Library*

*502 W. Benjamin Holt Drive, Stockton*

## Let's Break Through Our Brick Walls Together!

Everyone who has spent any time researching family history eventually comes to that one ancestor whose story seems impossible to trace. We call those instances our "Brick Walls."

For our March meeting, we are taking a new approach: using the power of collective effort, we'll pool our resources to break through those brick walls. Through informal small round table discussions, we'll use these challenges to help each other find answers to our most challenging research problems.

Come meet and help your fellow SJCGS members! Share experiences and techniques you've used to find elusive ancestors. It does not matter if you are a beginner, a seasoned genealogist, or haven't even found a "brick wall" yet (you will!). We can all learn something from each other, while also getting to know each other.

Bring any information you might already have about your mystery ancestor, his or her family and descendants—this might provide some clues. If you have a particularly difficult research challenge, you may *send your question ahead of time* to **Sheri Fenley** at [sherifenley@gmail.com](mailto:sherifenley@gmail.com) or **Lori Calhoon** at [garycalhoon@comcast.net](mailto:garycalhoon@comcast.net) before the March 21 meeting. Or you may call Lori at (209) 474-6448.

A short membership business meeting will precede the discussion. Refreshments will be served. Join us—and bring a friend!

## Become a Library Volunteer

.Do you want to meet new people? Do you want to learn about others' family history? Do you have research skills? There is no better way to hone your research skills than to serve as a SJCGS volunteer at the Chavez Library.

Several years ago, SJCGS initiated a program at Chavez to help other persons who are interested in tracing their family histories. Every Tuesday, a team of our members is present from ten a.m. to two p.m. We congregate on the second floor where the genealogical books are housed. Packets containing an ancestry chart, family group sheets, a list of popular websites, and general instructions on how to begin research are distributed. There are no particular talents or requirements to become a volunteer, except for the painless process of having one's fingerprints taken.

We help library users become acquainted with using [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) on the computer, either on the library computers, or you may bring your own laptop, if you prefer. We also introduce library patrons to various sections of the genealogical books available for public use. Over the past fifty years, more than 3,500 publications have been donated to Chavez Library by the SJCGS.

There is always a need to add more persons to our volunteer lists, and it is a very rewarding experience to serve as a SJCGS volunteer. Please let us know if you can spare a few hours of your valuable time each month.

Virginia Kranz, SJCGS Librarian  
209 477-0634  
[r.kranz@comcast.net](mailto:r.kranz@comcast.net)

## Workshop Volunteers Meeting For Orientation and Training

Thursday, March 14  
6:30 p.m.

Venetian Gardens Clubhouse  
1555 Mosaic Way, Stockton  
(north of March Lane, west of Pershing)

The SJCGS needs additional volunteers to help with our upcoming spring genealogy workshops, starting with the Saturday workshops to be held on March 16 and March 23 at the Margaret Troke Library in north Stockton.

Participants attending these workshops will need help on their individual research projects—mostly through basic Internet resources on the library computers, such as the library version of Ancestry.com.

While we will be working with, mostly, beginners, there may be those who need more specialized guidance, and we should be prepared to address these needs, also.

This orientation meeting on the evening of March 14 focuses on showing you, as SJCGS workshop volunteer, how to guide workshop participants in **“how to find it”—the basics of good research practices**. You will *not* need to have a genealogist's vast knowledge for this!

Please join this rewarding community service effort. Call SJCGS President Lori Calhoon for information on how you can participate as a workshop volunteer, and for directions to the training meeting location. 209 474 6448.

***Help Spread the Word About Our  
March Workshops by distributing the  
enclosed fliers or forwarding [this link](#)  
to interested friends.***

# From Our President

I imagine that you are looking forward to spring and renewal, as much as I am! The SJCGS certainly has many new and continuing activities for you to enjoy and participate in this spring.

I am pleased to announce we will be having monthly membership meetings at the Troke Library on Thursdays, 6-7:45 on March 21, April 18, May 23. In June, we will most likely have a picnic or other social event, with an interesting theme, to be announced.

Our first of seven free genealogy workshops for beginners will be at the Troke Library on March 16 and 23 from 11 to 3 p.m. Our committee and presenters will have some engaging topics and offer individual help in the afternoon. We would be thrilled to have you join this committee and lend a hand.

Our Executive Board members are doing an outstanding job and we need to appreciate what they do. Below is a summary of what these hard working people do.

**Sheri Fenley** is scheduling excellent speakers such as February's Del McComb, for our general meetings. She is also coordinating the [California State Genealogical Alliance](#) seminar, which the SJCGS is hosting. To be held in Stockton in February, 2014, it will be free and open to the public, will have nationally known genealogy speakers, and should draw a large crowd. Sheri is instrumental in the proposed bylaw revision that will be presented to the membership for a vote this spring. She is working on many more SJCGS projects as well as being Regent of the El Toyon DAR. She is doing an amazing job.

**Sylvia Perez** is our new Secretary, taking on the task of taking and writing the minutes of some very involved Board meetings.

**Barry Wood** is continuing as Treasurer, entrusted with maintaining necessary financial records of the Society, collecting dues, and enrolling new members. In addition, he is in charge of keeping the membership list updated, as well as our website on [rootsweb.ancestry.com/~sigs/](http://rootsweb.ancestry.com/~sigs/). He is now the SJCGS delegate to the [Federation of Genealogical Societies](#).

Our Library Genealogy Volunteer Help committee, under the guidance of **Virginia Kranz**, is continuing to teach library patrons how to do accurate genealogical research at Chavez library on Tuesdays, 11-2. Virginia also heads our Book Purchasing committee, which has donated over 3500 books to the Chavez genealogy reference section over the years. As Librarian, she also houses the newly purchased books, for exclusive membership use, before they are given to the library.

**Betty Mathis** and her Projects committee is continuing with transcribing and digitizing records from the Casa Bonita mausoleum—records from 1928 through 1972. She has transcribed many local records and published many record books over the years for the Society.

**Charlie Lambaren** is heading the effort of researching local genealogy queries, often involving some fascinating adventures in finding cemetery, probate, vital records, legal records and obits.

**Melinda Lambaren** has volunteered to chair the new Membership committee, with the main purposes of finding ways to meet the needs of members, get them involved in activities, and to encourage new members to join. She is also in charge of the surname lists.

**Jacqi Stevens** is doing an incredible job as newsletter editor and we are lucky to have her professional writing and editing skills and creativity at our disposal.

**Jim McWilliams** is off to a good start, putting together the Historian scrapbook of our activities and is doing a good job as new Publicity Chairman as well.

**Marilyn Rauzi**, our Past President, has served for several years as our President, and dedicated many years to other Board and society roles. She continues on the Board as our advisor.

Let's appreciate these hard working Board Members!

Lori Calhoon

SJGS President, 2013

[garycalhoon@comcast.net](mailto:garycalhoon@comcast.net), 209-474-6448

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

### ***March***

**Saturday, March 16:** Free workshop conducted by SJCGS members for library patrons. Topics presented will include Use of Military Records to Glean Family Information, World War I Draft Cards, Finding Family Through Immigration Records and Passenger Lists. Participants are welcome to bring their own lunch for the brief lunch break. Afternoon session: one-on-one and individual question-and-answer sessions. Location: Margaret Troke Public Library, 502 W. Benjamin Holt Drive, Stockton. Time: 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Thursday, March 21:** Monthly meeting at the Margaret Troke Library in north Stockton. "Let's Break Through Our Brick Walls Together" features small group round table discussions. The evening meeting begins at 6:00 and adjourns at 7:45.

**Saturday, March 23:** Free workshop conducted by SJCGS members. Topics will include "Organizing, Preserving and Storing Your Genealogical Documents, Photos and Papers," and a discussion on ideas for displaying your family history trees, memorabilia and heirlooms. Location: Margaret Troke Public Library, 502 W. Benjamin Holt Drive, Stockton. Time: 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

### ***April***

**Thursday, April 18:** General membership meeting at the Margaret Troke Library from 6:00 p.m. until 7:45 p.m. Topic to be announced in the April newsletter.

### ***May***

**Thursday, May 23:** General membership meeting at the Margaret Troke Library from 6:00 p.m. until 7:45 p.m. Topic to be announced in the May newsletter.

## Membership List For 2013

Each year, the SJCGS membership list is provided to our current members. The list includes all new members for the current calendar year, in addition to all continuing members who have renewed their dues by March 1 of the current year. You will receive your copy in a separate attachment following this newsletter.

Please advise our Treasurer, Barry Wood, of any corrections or additions which may need to be made.

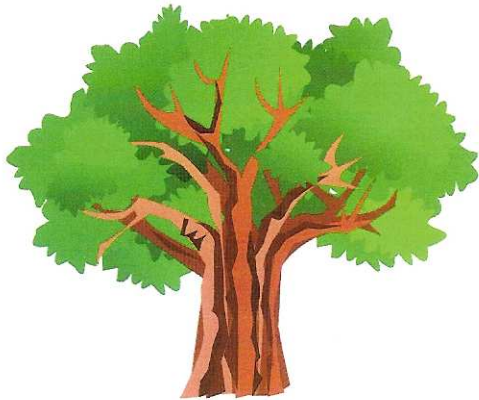
## Newsletter Copy Deadline

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

Upcoming copy deadline is **March 20, 2013**. Guest submissions pertaining to topics of *specific interest* to the San Joaquin County Genealogical Society are welcome. Please submit articles to [afamilytapestry@gmail.com](mailto:afamilytapestry@gmail.com).



# Teen & Adult Program



## Who Do You Think You Are?

### A Free Genealogy Workshop for Beginners

Saturday, March 16, 2013

11 a.m.—3 p.m.

Come to this workshop and listen to volunteers from the  
San Joaquin Genealogical Society talk about  
how to research immigration and military records.

11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Welcome and Setup

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Informative presentations by volunteers from the  
San Joaquin Genealogical Society

1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Brown Bag Lunch

**\*\*1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.\*\***

**Volunteers will help individuals research their  
own family histories through Internet Resources**

Space is limited. Pre-registration is required. Register or  
sign up at the Troke Branch Library's Information Desk.  
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.stockton.lib.ca.us

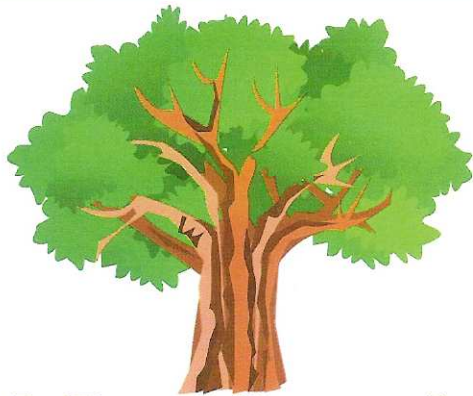
Fan and Follow SSJCPL



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



# Teen & Adult Program



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11 a.m.—3 p.m.

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San Joaquin Genealogical Society talk about:

- Organizing, preserving, and storing your genealogical documents, photos, and papers
- Displaying family trees, photos, memorabilia, and heirlooms!

11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

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## San Joaquín County Genealogical Society

Dues are for the year – January to December 2013

\$10 per member – or – \$15 per family

*We appreciate your support through your 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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