



# San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society



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San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

Vol. XXXI No. 5 November - 2015

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**THIS MONTH – November 17, 2015**  
**“Online and On-Site German Genealogy Sources”**  
**Presented by: JAMES M. BAKER**



This presentation discusses the unique characteristics of doing German genealogy. It covers the ten (or so) most useful internet sites for German research (in both the US and in Germany), and discusses the major genealogy sources in Germany: church, civic, and property records – and German genealogy forums.

Mr. Baker has been an active genealogist for the past 15 years. In 2011, he completed the Board for Certification of Genealogists (BCG) requirements to become a Board-Certified Genealogist, with a specialty in German genealogy research. He also specializes in Midwest U.S. and early American genealogy research.

He was an officer of the Sacramento German Genealogy Society (SGGS) and has contributed numerous articles to its quarterly publication, *Der Blumenbaum*. He also has written articles for the National Genealogical Society (NGS) Magazine and the NGS Quarterly. He has also done many Webinars at the FHL, the Southern California Genealogy Jamboree and BCG communities. He is a member of NGS, BCG and SGGS. ■



**From the October Meeting**  
**“Using OneNote or Evernote in Genealogy Research”**  
**Presented by: Cheryl Teare Reporter: Russ Erickson**



OneNote copies from the internet including the web address of the item desired. It becomes a repository for information; an electronic binder. It allows cut and paste from internet text, pictures, and even videos and audio. Moving items up and down pages in a file is quick and simple. There is a search engine in the pro-

gram so you can easily find items you download. It is a part of Microsoft office, is found free on Google Play and for Macs, on the icloud. You can easily send a OneNote item by email. It will search text, and even audio. For easy access, place OneNote on your task bar or Dock (Apple). It is easily used with a split screen with OneNote ►

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## President's Message

By Ted Shapas



(Photo by Nancy Alexander)

### Cheryl Teare

and internet sites. Learning the OneNote menu is recommended (as well as short cut keyboard commands generally). There is a 10 minute education session for it on youtube.com and its own Help file. ■

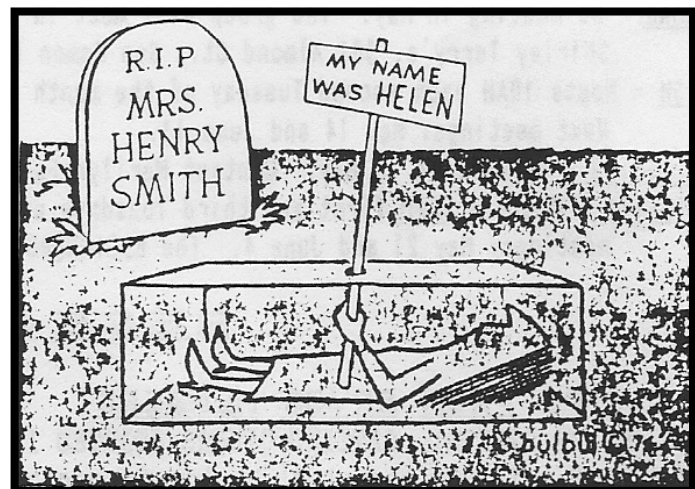
### Annual Holiday Cooking Exchange

Once again this year, in place of our monthly Board meeting, your society will be holding it's annual cookie exchange. All members are invited to participate. Just bring a batch of your favorite holiday cookies to share, to sample what others have brought and maybe even bring home a few choice samples prepared by others.

The exchange will take place starting at 10:00 am on Tuesday, December 1 at the home of Francie Lloyd in Danville (Find her address in the Society Handbook). Come and enjoy some great confections while socializing with your fellow society members. It's a great way to kickoff the Holiday Season. ■

One of the fastest changing (and more complicated) aspects of genealogy today relates to DNA testing. The field continues to evolve as more people have their DNA results added to various databases. But this is no longer only about finding relatives through matches. Indications of new directions this field is heading come from a story in *GenealogyInTime Magazine: Ancestry* just announced that 1. they have launched ancestryHealth, a service that allows subscribers to match their personal health information with their family trees; and 2. Ancestry has sold portions of their database (and your DNA results) to Google's *Calico*, a project relating to human longevity. So, the future Ancestry might be as much about the present as the past.

This month's general meeting program is about German genealogy, but even if you don't have some relatives from that part of the world, such programs always contain some learning gems that pertain to anyone's family history. For example: not long ago, during a session about immigrants who came from Germany by ship, I learned about the great little website Die Maus, which lists details about immigrants who sailed from Bremen. In it, I found information about 3 relatives who immigrated from their tiny village in Lithuania to Argentina during the 1920's, the first I'd heard of them. My lesson was: you never know where you'll find the next clue. ■





## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### SRVGS CALENDAR

#### November 2015

- 3 **Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.** A Board meeting was held at the home of Frances Lloyd.
- 17 **Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.** The General Meeting will be held at the LDS Church on Stone Valley Road at Smith Road, in Alamo.

#### December 2015

**Our Society will not meet in December.** Enjoy the Holiday season and look forward to meeting again in January 2016. The next Board meeting is to be held on Tuesday January 5, 2016.

### SRVGS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

**NOTE:** For San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society Special Interest Group contact information and schedules, you may also visit the web site at <http://srvgensoc.org/sig.htm>. Please **note** some activities take place early in the month, before our newsletter is issued. Be sure to check with the SIG coordinator if you have a particular interest.



**ANCESTRY/FAMILY TREE MAKER** – This group focuses on how Family Tree Maker interacts with Ancestry.com. The November meeting will have been held on **November 2<sup>nd</sup>** (the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday) at **1:15 pm at the Danville Family History Center, 2949 Stone Valley Road**. Susan Rush is the coordinator for this group.



**FAMILYSEARCH / FAMILY TREE** - This Special Interest Group will meet **Monday November 9<sup>th</sup>** (the second Monday) at **1:15 pm at the Family History Center on Stone Valley Road**. The topic for the ►

meeting will be; "*FamilySearch Apps*". This group learns step by step procedures for using the many features of Family Tree on the FamilySearch web site. Bill George is the coordinator and contact person for this group



**IRISH** - This special interest group will meet **Wednesday November 11<sup>th</sup>** (the second Wednesday) at **10:00 am., at the home of Russ and Patty Erickson** in Pleasant Hill. Patty Erickson is the contact person for this group.



**GERMAN** – The German Group will meet **Wednesday November 18<sup>th</sup>** at **10:00 am., at the home of Helen Odegard** in Alamo. **Please note that this group is meeting one week early** due to the Thanksgiving Holiday. The coordinator for this group is Helen Odegard. Please contact Helen if you plan to join the group.



**PUBLISHING** – The publishing group will meet **Thursday November 19<sup>th</sup>** (the third Thursday) at **10:00 am at the home of Frances Lloyd** in Danville. This informal Group invites you to monthly **third Thursday** meetings. Members share advice, encouragement, and suggestions to preserve their genealogy project, big or small. Members share their projects as they progress to a hoped for completion. Society members interested in joining should let Francie, the group coordinator, know that they plan to attend.



**LEGACY SOFTWARE** – This is a **genealogy software** users group. This group is for beginners as well as experienced Legacy users. Everyone learns how to make sure your genealogy information in Legacy has good documentation, and where to put the information so you don't have to keep track of paper "stuff". This group will meet **Monday November 23<sup>rd</sup>** (the fourth Monday) from **1:15 to 3 pm at the Family History Center on Stone Valley Road in Alamo**. They work on "*tailor made items*" at their meetings as members ask for problem solving issues. If anyone is interested in joining this group, please contact Sharon Clay, the group coordinator at [sharonclay@comcast.net](mailto:sharonclay@comcast.net) ■

**CALENDAR OF OTHER EVENTS**

7 **November Saturday 8:30 am to 3:30 pm** An all-day Family History Seminar with over 30 classes will be held at the Sacramento Regional Family Search Library, 2745 Eastern Avenue in Sacramento. For details of classes, go to [sacfamilysearchlibrary.org](http://sacfamilysearchlibrary.org) The keynote speaker will be: Bryan Austad, Director of User Experience and Research at familysearch.org.

7 **November Saturday 9 am to 3 pm** The San Mateo County Genealogical Society will hold a fall seminar about DNA. It will be held at the Menlo Park LDS Church, 1105 Valparaiso Street in Menlo Park. The featured speaker will be Angie Bush, Genetic Genealogist, MS (Biotechnology), BS (Molecular Biology). There will be a program of four lectures:

- Y-DNA & mtDNA Testing
- Understanding Autosomal DNA
- Using mtDNA for Genealogical & Adoption Research
- DNA and the Genealogical Proof Standard

For more information, go to: <http://www.smcgs.org/programs/seminars>

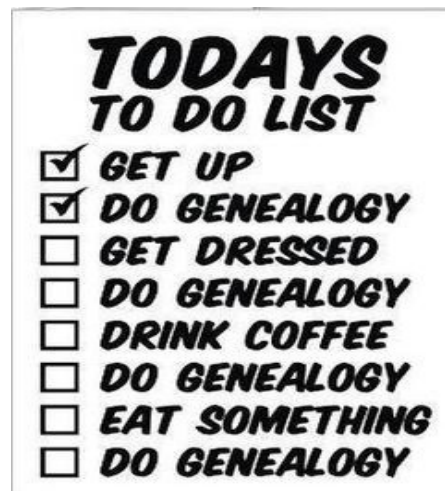
9 **November Monday 7:30 pm** The Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society will hold one of its regular meetings on the second Monday at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court in Pleasanton. Susan Goss Johnston will speak about “*More Adventures in Source Citations.*” You may also go to; <http://www.l-ags.org> for further society information.

12 **November Thursday 7 pm** The Contra Costa County Genealogical Society holds their regular meetings on the second Thursday at the LDS Building, 1360 Alberta Way in Concord. Pamela Erickson will tell that “*Indentured Servants have* ▶

*Genealogies Too*”

17 **November Tuesday 6 pm** The Santa Clara County Historical and Genealogical Society will hold one of its regular meetings in the Margie Edinger Room of the Santa Clara Central Park library, 2635 Homestead Road in Santa Clara. Jonna Baker’s presentation will be about the Works of the Society of the Pioneers of Santa Clara County which was established in 1875. She will cover past projects, current projects and the museum on Lincoln Avenue in San Jose. Jonna Baker is a lifetime resident of Santa Clara County and is a Volunteer Coordinator for her Society. You may also visit [www.scchgs.org](http://www.scchgs.org) for further society information.

20 **November Friday 1:30 pm** The Mt. Diablo Genealogical Society will meet in the Club Room at the Creekside Clubhouse in Rossmore. They meet on the third Friday of each month. A big change is coming in January 2016 when meetings will begin at 10:00 a.m. and the location will be in the Fairway Room at the Creekside Clubhouse. Lisa Gorell, the November speaker, will provide tips to attendees on how to glean the most information in building a family tree through the use of City Directories. Lisa Gorell is a local Genealogist, Recording Secretary for the California Genealogical Society & Library and past President for the Contra Costa Genealogical Society. ■



## EDUCATION

*By: Kathy Javdani*



The California Genealogical Society (CGS) [www.CaliforniaAncestors.org](http://www.CaliforniaAncestors.org) once again this month is providing a variety of learning sessions.

- On Sat., Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>, the **Introduction to Genealogy** class will be held from 1-3. Another session will meet on Sat. Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> from 1-3. Register online.
- On Sat., Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> from 1 - 3 **Hitting the Mother Lode: Adventures in Discovering Genealogical Gold** presented by Teresa Parham. Register online.
- On Sat, Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>, the new **Family Tree Maker SIG** will meet from 1-4 pm. Register online.
- On Sat., Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>, from 10:30 - 12 there will be a Pennsylvania Learning Exchange. Come share in the round table discussion. Register online.

For more upcoming events from Santa Cruz to Sacramento check the CGS "San Francisco Bay Area General Calendar" at <http://sfbagenealogy.blogspot.com>



In November the Oakland Family Search Library, <https://familysearch.org>, has numerous offerings. Note: there is occasionally a small fee to cover the cost of handouts for these sessions. Pre-registration is required because classes may be cancelled if there is insufficient enrollment. Pre-register at [fhcakland@gmail.com](mailto:fhcakland@gmail.com) or at 510-531-3905.

- On Fri., Nov 6<sup>th</sup>, from 1:30 - 3 there will be a class on **Using GEDCOM to Import or Export Data in Roots-Magic**. This class will also be held on Tues., Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 - 12. Each session is limited to 6 participants. Register in person at the Resource desk in advance. ►

- On Sat., Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> from 11 - 12:30 there will be a class in **Beginning Swedish Research**. Another **Beginning Swedish Research** class will be held on Sat., Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> from 11 - 12:30. To register contact Wade at: [wolofson@yahoo.com](mailto:wolofson@yahoo.com).
- Also on Sat., Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 - 3 there will be an **Introduction to Roots-Magic** session. The class is limited to 6 participants. Register at the Resource desk in advance.
- On Fri., Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> from 11 - 1 Janice Sellers will present **They Wouldn't Put It on the Web if They Didn't Want Me to Use It!** – copyright issues for genealogy.
- On Wed., Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> from 6 - 8 the African American Research Workshop will meet.

### Enjoy learning from home?



You can check the Family Search website <https://familysearch.org> for tutorials, wikis, discussion forums, and Webinars.



The Southern California Genealogical Society (SCGS) [www.scsgsgenealogy.com/webinar/overview.html](http://www.scsgsgenealogy.com/webinar/overview.html) continues to offer free webinars. Register in advance on line. This month it will be presenting:

- On Sat., Nov., 7<sup>th</sup>, from 10 – 11 Cyndi Ingle will present **Building a Digital Research Plan**.
- On Wed Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> from 6 - 7 Nicka Smith will present **Back Away From the Computer: You'll Find and Have More Fun Offline**.
- On Sat., Dec., 5<sup>th</sup> Debbie Mieszala will present **The Curious Case of the Disappearing Dude**.

SCGS also offers the following Webinars at their website for free to the public. ►

- “National Archives Website Microfilm Catalog, Archival Databases and Guides” by Kerry Bartels with downloadable notes.
- “Military Records at the National Archives” by Kerry Bartels with downloadable notes.
- “How to Get the Most Out of a Genealogy Conference” by George Morgan.



The Illinois State Genealogical Society ([ilgensoc.org](http://ilgensoc.org)) continues its webinar series. The initial presentation of each webinar is free to the public.

- On Tues., Nov 10th, at 8 pm Central Janet Hovorka will present **In-Laws and Outlaws: The Bylaws of Talking About the Family Skeletons**. To register go to <http://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1041320337723100418>



The New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) [www.Americanancestors.org/education/online-classes](http://www.Americanancestors.org/education/online-classes) has a growing Online Learning Center that offers educational resources for both guest users and NEHGS members. It contains subject guides on a variety of genealogical topics, informative videos, webinars, online courses, and more. If you have questions or feedback, contact Online Education Coordinator Ginevra Morse at [gmorse@nehgs.org](mailto:gmorse@nehgs.org). [EDUCATION](http://www.Americanancestors.org/education/online-classes).

- On Thurs., Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> at 12 PST Rhonda R McClure will present **French Canadian Resources at NEHGS**. Register online at <http://www.americanancestors.org/education/learning-resources/watch>
- On Thurs., Dec., 10<sup>th</sup> at 12 PST David Allen Lambert will present **Atlantic-Canadian Resources at NEHGS**. Register online at <http://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1841366785819363330>

Unable to attend the live broadcast? A ►

recording of the event will be posted to the NEHGS website the following day.

Ancestry.com has recently launched FREE courses at the Ancestry Academy. More than a half a dozen courses are FREE, while others require a subscription.



- You can READ about it at <https://academy.ancestry.com/academy>
- And at <https://academy.ancestry.com/academy/courses>
- Also at <https://academy.ancestry.com/academy/courses/skills>



From an article by Gena Philibert-Ortega here are some other webinars and lectures that are online:

- Legacy Family Tree Webinars <http://www.familytreewebinars.com/>
- Extreme Genes: Family History Radio <http://extremegenes.com/>
- The Genealogy Guys Podcast <http://genealogyguys.com/>
- Genealogy Boot Camp [http://broadcast.lds.org/elearning/fhd/community/en/community/thomas%20jay%20kemp/genealogy\\_boot\\_camp/player.htm](http://broadcast.lds.org/elearning/fhd/community/en/community/thomas%20jay%20kemp/genealogy_boot_camp/player.htm)

### Save the Date:

- On Nov. 7th from 9 to 3 the San Mateo County Genealogical Society will present the Fall 2015 Seminar: Digging into DNA with Angie Bush at the Menlo Park LDS Church at 1105 Valparaiso. Go to [SMCGS.org/programs/seminars](http://SMCGS.org/programs/seminars)
- On Nov. 7th from 8:30 – 2:15 the 2015 Seminar with a variety of classes will be held at the LDS Church at 2745 Eastern Ave., Sacramento. Go to [sacfamilysearchlibrary.org/seminar-2015.html](http://sacfamilysearchlibrary.org/seminar-2015.html) ■

## German SIG Held Their Annual Oktoberfest Luncheon

The German Group would like to thank their member Carol Huvane for hosting their annual Oktoberfest luncheon again this year. We all enjoyed good food consisting of a variety of German Sausages, German Potato Salad, Red Cabbage, Lentil Soup, Apple Strudel, etc. and of course German Beer.

This year we are celebrating our 20th year as a group so have enjoyed many delicious Oktoberfests and plan to have many more.

Thanks to all our members for their cooking and baking.

Helen Odegard

German SIG Leader

## Would They be Proud of You?

If you could see your Ancestors  
all standing in a row,  
Would you be proud of them or not  
- or don't you really know?  
Some strange discoveries are made  
in climbing family trees  
And some of them, you know,  
do not particularly please.

If you could see your ancestors  
all standing in a row,  
There might be some of them perhaps  
you wouldn't care to know.  
But here's another question  
which requires a different view:  
If you could meet your Ancestors,  
would they be proud of you?

Author Unknown

Sequoia Genealogical Society, Inc. Nov 2015  
Newsletter

## HOW TO REACH THE BOARD MEMBERS

**President:** Ted Shapas  
[president@srvgensoc.org](mailto:president@srvgensoc.org)

**1st V.P.** Russ Erickson (Acting)

**2nd V.P. Programs:**

Suzanne Johnston  
Wayne Mortensen  
Carol Satterthwaite  
[programs@srvgensoc.org](mailto:programs@srvgensoc.org)

**3rd V.P. Membership:**

Gay Scott  
[membership@srvgensoc.org](mailto:membership@srvgensoc.org)

**Recording Secretary:**

Lynnet Keihl  
[recsec@srvgensoc.org](mailto:recsec@srvgensoc.org)

**Corresponding Secretary:**

Barbara Shapas  
[srvgs@srvgensoc.org](mailto:srvgs@srvgensoc.org)

**Treasurer:** Steve Watty  
[treasurer@srvgensoc.org](mailto:treasurer@srvgensoc.org)

## NEWSLETTER TEAM

**Coordinator:** Bob Venter  
[editor@srvgensoc.org](mailto:editor@srvgensoc.org)

**Calendar Coordinator:**  
Vern Segelke  
[srvgs@srvgensoc.org](mailto:srvgs@srvgensoc.org)

**Mailing:** Lucy Carver

*Deadline to put information in the Newsletter is  
the Last Thursday of the month.*

Members are encouraged to submit articles for the Newsletter by mail or email to the Coordinator.

## INDIVIDUAL HELP

Do you need individual help in overcoming a "brick wall" in your research? Go to the SRVGS web site at: <http://srvgensoc.org/>, click on RESOURCES, then click on INDIVIDUAL HELP FOR SRVGS MEMBERS.

**Danville Family History Center***2949 Stone Valley Rd. Alamo*

Phone: 925-552-5920

**Monday:** 1:00pm - 4:00pm**Tuesday:** 7:00pm - 9:00pm**Wednesday:** 10:00am - 4:00pm

and 7:00pm - 9:00pm

**Thursday:** 10:00am - 1:00pm

Closed on Holidays and the month of August

**FHC Director:****Taressa Earl** [jntaress@hotmail.com](mailto:jntaress@hotmail.com)**Subscription Sites Available For Free at FHC:**

- Ancestry.com
- Fold3.com
- Heritage Quest
- MyHeritage.com
- Origins.net
- Proquest Obituary Listings
- Godfrey Memorial Lib.
- Newspaper Archive
- World Vital Records
- Findmypast (UK)

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**San Ramon Valley  
Genealogical Society  
P.O. Box 305  
Diablo, CA 94528-0305**

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