



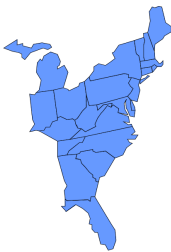
# San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society



www.srvgensoc.org

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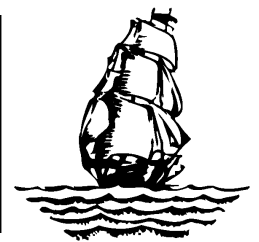
Vol. XXXII No. 3 September - 2016



**THIS MONTH – September 20, 2016**

**“Immigration to the United States before 1820”**

**Presented by: Christine Bell Green**



The 1819 Customs and Immigration Act regulated the number of passengers a ship could bring to the United States and stipulated criteria for caring for these passengers on the voyage. One important outcome of the act was the “Ship’s Passenger List” which stated the name, age and occupation of each passenger on board. These passenger records have made finding an immigrant’s arrival from 1820 onwards much easier than it was previously. In this presentation Chris will explore records that can be used to trace the arrival of immigrants from Great Britain and Europe into the United States prior to 1820.

Christine Bell Green has a professional learning certificate in Genealogical Studies from the University of Toronto. She is a graduate of the ProGen program, and an alumnus of the Salt Lake Institute, the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research and the Genealogical Institute of Pittsburgh where she studied advanced genealogical topics. She is the immediate past president of San Mateo County Genealogy Society and a professional researcher who teaches genealogy classes in Palo Alto. ■

## **From the July Mini-Seminar**

**“Her Name was Not Unknown: Finding Female Ancestors”**

and

**“That’s New to Me: Unfamiliar Websites for Your Genealogy”**

**Presented by: Gena Philibert-Ortega**

**Reporter: Russ Erickson**

Gena has an astounding resume and again gave us a very informative and entertaining talk. Those members who missed it passed by a worthwhile morning! Her goal: “for

us to learn one new methodology or source”, was well surpassed.

After the primary usual sources, seek unusual sources; “Women of the Civil War ►



(Photo by: Nancy Alexander)

### Gena Philibert-Ortega

Armies”, benevolent groups, religions, volunteer groups, mid-wives, husbands and siblings. Census is low hanging fruit and too often incorrect. Check city directories. Many in a census decrease their age to help get jobs and husbands, etc. Research the area and historical events. Look at voting records, from 1920 for USA, but from 1911 in California. Look at timelines and search archives with key words, especially places. Look at activities and events. Note all the ways a woman’s name could be listed-before and after marriage. Note spelling variations. Ask a teenager to spell the name! Every research project should have a timeline and SOURCES. That allows one to see missing elements more easily.

When searching, go beyond the home page; use blogs and newsletters. Always look for mangled spelling.

The Family Search (FS) catalog has more and more data; search periodically. Exhaust it before traveling in your searches. Check on data in regional libraries, look at FS Wiki. Look at ►

newspaper sources; there are 119 female newspapers, which even include pre-Revolutionary women in the news and women homesteaders. Check digitized books, both via FS and Google Books (if you search with an item in quotation marks, ONLY that item pops up.

Internet Archives has millions of free books, including the Allen County Library with 90,000 genealogy items. Genealogy Bank lists papers and dates--see if it contains your desired time and areas. In papers, one can check vital records, legal notices, marriages, divorces, births, anniversaries, advertisements, personal notes such as visitors, recipes, church auxiliary groups. Consider “Family Tree Problem Solver” book. Genealogy Bank items are 95% not found elsewhere. Newspapers.com has a larger number (Ancestry), some in Canada to 1700. “Chronicling America” is free from the Library of Congress with a news directory from 1600. U.C. Riverside library has a free site for California newspapers. “Find My Past” has some papers; if you subscribe, watch for specials. It centers on the U.K., but has increasing USA items.

Consider manuscript sources; items not published and not indexed. You might have to travel to these or hire a local researcher. Search by PLACE, not person, and look for poor spelling. Seek items such as women’s travel diaries. Harvard University library has working women from 1800-1930. ■

### Genealogy Research Assistance

**Do you need research Help?**

**Bring your questions to the**

**Danville Public Library**

**10:00 until noon**

**Monthly on the Fourth Tuesday.**

**Society Members will be available**

**to help you with your search.**



## President's Message

By Ted Shapas



Welcome back, everyone! I hope you had a nice summer break. I suspect that some of you used that time for family history-related travel, filling in your genealogy database, watching the Olympics, or (hopefully) just plain relaxing.

Speaking of working on those databases, a report just out indicates that sitting for a long time is bad for your health. Uh-oh! How can we search for all those relatives and their records, and make all those entries, if we don't sit in front of our computer screens? Like a lot of things, moderation seems to be the key, or simply put another way by a physician: "sit less, move more". For additional reading, click here: <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/even-if-you-exercise-prolonged-sitting-time-is-bad-for-heart-health/>.

And speaking of the Olympics, wasn't it great seeing all the countries and cultures coming together in one place to compete in so many different events? We tend to see mostly the events that US athletes participate in, a function mainly of TV network programming. A somewhat similar situation exists in the "sport" of genealogy - we tend to use resources that are US-based, even though just about all of our early ancestors arrived in the US from somewhere else. So besides the value that US-centric Ancestry and Family Search provides, MyHeritage, Geni and other non-US resources are rich with information and are more commonly used by people from other parts of the world. A case in point: I'd been looking for some time for relationship information on my family members still living in Lithuania, with little success. Just recently, however, a woman from my ancestors' village posted a family tree on MyHeritage containing *over two hundred* of my near and distant relatives. I'll now be happily spending a bit of time sitting in front of a computer (with exercise breaks, of course!) inserting these new relatives into my own database. ■



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### SRVGS CALENDAR

#### September 2016

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

#### October 2016

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

### SRVGS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

**NOTE:** For San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society Special Interest Group contact information refer to your Society Handbook. For schedules, visit our 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.

#### Special Note:

- The Family Tree Maker Group will be meeting on the third Monday this month because Labor Day is on the first Monday



**FamilySearch** - This SIG meets **Monday September 12<sup>th</sup>** (the second Monday) **1:15 pm – 3 pm** at the **Danville Family History Center**. This SIG shows how to search ►

records and study Family Trees on the FamilySearch.org web site. This month's topic will be "*How to do research on FamilySearch*" with emphasis on census records. **Bill George** is the SIG Leader.



**Publishing** – This SIG meets **Thursday September 15<sup>th</sup>** (the third Thursday) from **10 am – 12 pm, at the home of Francie**

**Lloyd** in Danville. This informal Group shares 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 attending should let **Francie Lloyd**, the SIG Leader, know they plan to attend.



**Ancestry/Family Tree Maker** – This SIG meets **Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup> 1:15 pm – 3 pm at the Danville Family History Center.**

We switched it to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday this month because the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday is Labor Day. This group studies how to search records and family trees using the Ancestry.com web site and shows how to use Family Tree Maker software. **Susan Rush** is the SIG leader.



**Azores Research** – The group will meet **Wednesday September 21<sup>st</sup>** (the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday) **1:15 pm – 3 pm** at the **Danville Family History Center.** This group will

help attendees solve some of their research issues & provide tips, specifically for ancestors from the Azores Islands. Large numbers of Azorean immigrants immigrated to the Bay Area and the Central Valley of California. **Diane George** is the SIG leader.



**Legacy Family Tree** – This SIG meets **Monday September 26<sup>th</sup>** (4<sup>th</sup> Monday) **1:15 pm – 3pm at the Danville Family History Center.** This group discusses how the Legacy genealogy program works and

is for beginners as well as experienced Legacy users. **Sharon Clay** is the SIG Leader and can be contacted at [sharonclay@comcast.net](mailto:sharonclay@comcast.net). ►



**German Research** – This SIG meets **Wednesday September 28<sup>th</sup>** (the fourth Wednesday) **This month the group celebrates**

**Oktoberfest with its annual potluck dinner at the home of Carol Huvane.** Please contact Helen if you plan to attend a meeting.

The **Danville Family History Center** is located at **2949 Stone Valley Road, Alamo, CA 94507, Phone: 925-552-5920.** Individual phone numbers and email addresses if not listed, can be found in the SRVGS Handbook made available annually to all members of the Society. ■

## EDUCATION

*By: Kathy Javdani*

It's back to school month and there are numerous learning opportunities for us.



This month the California Genealogical Society (CGS) [www.CaliforniaAncestors.org](http://www.CaliforniaAncestors.org) again offers a variety of learning sessions. For all the following activities, register online:

- On Sat., Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> from 1 - 3 p.m. there is the monthly gathering of **Introduction to Genealogy.**
- On Sat., Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> from 1 - 3:30 p.m., Linda Harms Okazaki will give a presentation on **Finding Japanese Roots.**
- On Sat., the 17<sup>th</sup>, the **San Francisco SIG** will meet from 10 - 11:30 a.m.
- In addition, on the 17<sup>th</sup>, the **Family Tree Maker SIG** will meet from 1 - 3 p.m.
- On Sat., the 24<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 - 12 noon Janice Sellers will present **Colonial Handwriting.**
- October will start with the **Introduction to Genealogy** class on Sat., Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 1 - 3 p.m. ►

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



This month the Oakland Family Search Library, <https://familysearch.org>, offers the following support:

- On Wed., Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>, our Bill George will lead the **Mac Users Workshop** from 7 - 8 p.m.
- On Wed., Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>, from 2 - 3:30 p.m. Dr. Robert Jackson will present **Archion.de – the German Lutheran Church Website**.
- Also on the 28<sup>th</sup>, from 6 - 8 p.m. Alvis Ward will lead the African American Research Workshop.
- On Thurs. Sept. 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29<sup>th</sup> 1 - 4 p.m. Beryl and Wade Olofson will provide individual assistance on **Swedish research**. No appointment is necessary.

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

### Enjoy learning from home?



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

- On Sat., Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10 - 11 a.m., J. H. Fonkert will present **Discover Family History in Historical Newspapers, Online and Off**.
- On Mon., Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> from 6 - 7 p.m., Elissa Scalise Powell will discuss **How Did My Pennsylvania Ancestor Get There? - Migration Trails West**.
- On Sat., Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> Mary K. Roddy will present **Trails West: Crossing the Continent 1840-1869**. ►

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., Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> at 8 p.m. Central, Amy Johnson Crow will discuss **Butcher, Baker, Candlestick Maker: Using Occupational Records**. Register at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5222129746649412097>



The New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) [www.Americanancestors.org/education/online](http://www.Americanancestors.org/education/online) - 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).

- On Thurs., Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> at 12 noon, Lindsay Fulton will present **Substitutes for pre-1880 New York Vital Records: Using New York State and Federal Censuses**. Register online.

Unable to attend the live broadcast? A recording of the free events will be posted to the NEHGS website the following day.



Ancestry.com has launched FREE courses at the Ancestry Academy. More than a half 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 Thurs., Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>, from 7 - 9 p.m., the Contra Costa County Genealogical Society, [ccgs.blogspot.com](http://ccgs.blogspot.com), will host its monthly meeting at the LDS Church at 1360 Alberta Way, Concord. System Susan Shoemaker will speak on **Super Filing System**.
- On Wed., Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> from 1 - 4 p.m. the Santa Clara County Historical and Genealogical Society will host **World War II Brides** at the Santa Clara Central Park Library
- On Mon., Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 p.m. Karla Henderlong and Madeline Yanov will present **The Tax Man Found Your Ancestors, Can You?** at the L-AGS, [www.l-ags.org](http://www.l-ags.org), meeting at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Ct., Pleasanton.
- On Fri., Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>, at 10 a.m. at the Mt. Diablo Genealogical Society, [mdgs.webs.com](http://mdgs.webs.com), begins with a

mini-presentation by Martha Whittaker on **U.S. Confederate Voluntary Exiles**. Then Pamela Dallas will present **Help the Courthouse Burned! Now I Can't Find My Family**.

- On Sat., Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> the Contra Costa County Genealogical Society will present its Fall Seminar with John Phillip Colletta discussing **Immigration and Naturalization**. For a flyer and to register, go to: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~caccgs/ccgs/events.html>.
- On Sat., Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> Cyndi Ingle will lead a day of classes at Preservation Park in Oakland. For registration and further details contact CGS at [www.CaliforniaAncestors.com](http://www.CaliforniaAncestors.com). Early registration closes on Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>.
- On Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 the Rootstech Conference [www.10times.com/rootstech](http://www.10times.com/rootstech) will be held in Salt Lake City.

### WELCOME — NEW MEMBERS

Let's all extend a warm Welcome to our newest member

**Mark McLaren**

Please look for Mark at our meetings and welcome he to our Society.

### COMING UP!

Your society Program Committee is pleased to announce that the following speakers will be appearing in the coming months:

- In October: **Janice Sellers** will be presenting "*Newspaper Genealogy Research*".
- In November: **Jeffery Vaillent** will be presenting "*Eastern European Research*"

## Everything you Ever Wanted to Know About the U.S. Federal Census

Here is a very interesting web site that tells you everything you ever wanted to know about the U.S. Federal census and more. One could spend hours exploring this site. Some interesting facts: another American is born every 8 seconds; one dies every 13 seconds; an new immigrant arrives every 28 seconds; this results in the population increasing by one every 11 seconds.

Go to: <https://www.census.gov/en.html> to start playing around. You'll be surprised what you will learn.

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### Conference of California Historical Societies *2016 Fall Symposium* *October 20-23, 2016*

You are invited to attend the CCHS Fall Symposium in the San Francisco East Bay area's Tri-Valley.

You will have the chance to visit and learn about the history of California through the lens of four outstanding museums:

- **The Museum of the San Ramon Valley** in Danville. A history museum with special California Indian and National Park Service Centennial exhibits with an Old Town Danville walk. Oct. 21 AM
- San Ramon's **Forest Home Farms Historic Park**: The former Boone Ranch headquarters includes the handsome restored 1877 Glass House. Oct. 21 PM
- Pleasanton's **Alviso Adobe Community Park**: The restored Alviso Adobe, bed-rock mortars and the reconstructed Meadowlark Dairy. OCT. 22 AM
- **Dublin Heritage Park and Museums**: The oldest wooden church in the Bay Area, pioneer cemetery, 1856 school house and the Kolb family's classic California bungalow and barns. Oct. 22 PM

More info at: [www.CaliforniaHistorian.com](http://www.CaliforniaHistorian.com)

### HOW TO REACH THE BOARD MEMBERS

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

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**2nd V.P. Programs:**  
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**Recording Secretary:**  
(Vacant)

**Corresponding Secretary:**  
Barbara Shapas  
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**Treasurer:** Steve Watty  
[treasurer@srvgensoc.org](mailto:treasurer@srvgensoc.org)

### NEWSLETTER TEAM

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

**Calendar Coordinator:**  
Bill George  
[srvgs@srvgensoc.org](mailto:srvgs@srvgensoc.org)

**Mailing:** Sally Germain & Mary Tom

*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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Genealogical Society  
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